



VFW Post 3285

-John R. Webb-

New Member Welcome Package

5901 Old National Pike

Frederick Maryland

301-663-3372

www.vfwpost3285.org

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Commanders' Welcome Letter:

Welcome to the John R. Webb VFW Post 3285,

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our post! Any Active Duty or Veteran who has deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, The Gulf War, Vietnam, Korea, or one of the many Operations where hazardous duty pay, or a campaign medal was awarded makes you eligible. In addition, we have a Men's and Ladies Auxiliary that would be available to eligible family members and we would love to have you join. If this is your first VFW Post or you are a transfer, it is our desire to make this your permanent "Home" as a Veteran.

I would like to invite you to attend a General Membership meeting as soon as you are able. Our Monthly General Membership meeting, is held the 1st Monday of each month, at 8:00PM. We will ask you for a brief introduction about your military experience, your family, and allow you to tell us about any goals you may have through our organization.

Uniquely, we have available to the membership the only 9 hole Golf Course at any VFW in the Nation and have a discounted membership for VFW Members. We also have a swimming pool and a lounge (canteen) and are looking forward to a new restaurant re-locating to our upper floor for dining. There is incredible activity in these areas and we are incredibly excited about the future.

If you are interested in a Sponsor/Mentor, please contact the Post at 301-663-3372 or email me at ddahlheimer@hotmail.com with VFW in the Subject line, and you will be contacted.

Respectfully,

DONALD P. DAHLHEIMER

Past Commander

VFW Mission and History:

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, with its Auxiliaries, includes 2.2 million members in approximately 8,100 Posts worldwide.

Its mission is to "**honor the dead by helping the living**" through veterans' service, community service, national security and a strong national defense.

The VFW traces its roots back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service: Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them, and they were left to care for themselves.

In their misery, some of these veterans banded together and formed organizations with what would become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. After chapters were formed in Ohio, Colorado and Pennsylvania, the movement quickly gained momentum. By 1915, membership grew to 5,000; by 1936, membership was almost 200,000.

Since then, the VFW's voice had been instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration, creating a GI bill for the 20th century, the development of the national cemetery system and the fight for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange and for veterans diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome. In 2008, VFW won a long-fought victory with the passing of a GI Bill for the 21st Century, giving expanded educational benefits to America's active-duty service members, and members of the Guard and Reserves, fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Annually, VFW members and its Auxiliary contribute more than 13 million hours of volunteerism in the community, including participation in Make A Difference Day and National Volunteer Week.

From providing \$2.5 million in college scholarships to high school students every year to encouraging elevation of the Veterans Administration to the president's cabinet, the VFW is there—honoring the dead by helping the living.

VFW Post 3285 History

- VFW Post 3285 received its charter from VFW National on April 18, 1935. This Post is located in downtown Fredrick on Market St.
- 1931 the Post purchases a 2 story building located at South St and Patrick St. Our primary source of income at this location was slot machines.
- Congressional Charter incorporates the Veterans of Foreign Wars on May 28, 1936.
- VFW Post 3285 became an official post of VFW National on May 3, 1945.
- On February 20, 1947 the Post purchases 52 acres from (Army Sgt.) Herman Brown which contains the golf course formally known as the Catoctin Country Club.
- February 12, 1951 The VFW Country Club is officially organized. Appointed as the original Corporate Directors are:

John R. (Jack) Slagle	G. Robert Whitmore
James V. Willard	George Slagle
Guilford S. Himes	
- On April 15, 1956 the Post became incorporated under Articles of Amendment which state in part, the name of the "Corporation" is the John R. Webb, Inc.
- A land grant from WFRE radio in 1993 added four acres of land to the rear parcel of the property. Total land owned at present is 56.12 acres.
- From 1947 to 2003 we used the previous Catoctin County Club building which was built in 1924 as our Post home.
- Over the years many ideas and possibilities were brought to the board's attention regarding upgrading our facility. The talks and planning culminated in a new building being built and the new Post home being opened in August 2003.

VFW Post 3285 Strategic Plan

Vision: To be the premier veterans support organization in Frederick County by providing current information on veteran's issues, advocating for veterans, providing support for veterans in need, and providing a place for fellowship.

Mission: VFW Post 3285 will provide comprehensive support and fellowship to veterans and their families by sustaining an organization that meets today's and future needs.

Goals/Objectives:

Goal 1: Establish and maintain a culture at the VFW Post 3285 where senior and junior Veterans, as well as the larger VFW community become an inclusive family- oriented organization.

Goal 2: Encourage and support sustained growth in VFW, Men's and Ladies' Auxiliaries and Social member organizations.

Goal 3: Build the businesses of the VFW Corporation by identifying strategies to make each profit center (e.g., Canteen, Golf Course, Swimming Pool) generate revenue to support the VFW mission.

Goal 4: Develop and maintain methods of communications that afford transparency for the VFW, Men's and Ladies' Auxiliaries, Social Members, and employees with the current financial state of the VFW Post 3285 and its strategic plans for the future.

Programs Summary

Our VFW Post No. 3285 members participate in VFW supported programs which includes but is not limited to:

AMERICANISM – promotes patriotism; donates flags to schools; cooperates with other organizations on veteran-oriented Holidays; and produces memorials, such as the major World War II, Korean and Vietnam memorials in Frederick's Memorial Park area.

COMMUNITY SERVICE – aids churches, schools and organizations, which serve the needy, provides monetary donations to support the hungry and homeless of Frederick.

LOYALTY DAY – furnishes materials to contestants who compete for best answers to questions on the U.S. Constitution awarding a U.S. Treasury Bond to the winner, and pays for his or her trip to the State and National finals.

VFW SCHOLARSHIP – Conducts essay (written and verbal) contests among students at the Post District and level who ultimately go onto the State and National finals.

YOUTH – Conducts swimming and golf tournaments for young men and women; provides golf course space for high school Cross Country runners; supports a Babe Ruth League baseball team financially.

CITIZENSHIP – There are numerous projects and services that VFW Posts and its Auxiliaries offer to promote citizenship in the local community and educational facilities.

BUDDY POPPY – Among all the flowers that evoke the memories and emotions of war is the red poppy, which became associated with war after the publication of a poem written by Col. John McCrae of Canada. The poem, "In Flander's Field," describes blowing red fields among the battleground of the fallen. For more than 75 years, the VFW's Buddy Poppy program has raised millions of dollars in support of veterans' welfare and the well being of their dependents.

Membership Meetings:

VFW General Membership

Eligibility: served or currently serving overseas during a conflict for which a expeditionary medal, a campaign medal or ribbon, or imminent danger/hostile fire pay is authorized. Membership is also extended to those who have received the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Combat Medic Badge, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Combat Action Badge, the Air Force Combat Action Medal, or Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon (with Gold Border). Additionally, service for 30 consecutive days duty in Korea or 60 days of non-consecutive duty in Korea confers eligibility.

Meetings: Meetings are held the 1st Monday of each month at 8:00pm. If the 1st Monday falls on a holiday, the meeting is normally held on the following Monday.

Ladies' Auxiliary

Eligibility: Wives, mothers, grandmothers, daughters, granddaughters, and sisters of any persons who were or are eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States are eligible for membership in the VFW Ladies' Auxiliary.

Men's Auxiliary

Eligibility: Husbands, fathers, grandfathers, sons and grandsons of any persons who were or are eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States are eligible for membership in the VFW Men's Auxiliary.



Post Officers and Duties:

COMMANDER James M. Matthews

Presides over all meetings and business of the Post

SR. VICE COMMANDER LOUIS “COACH” EICHELBERGER

Assists Commander and presides when Commander is not present

JR. VICE COMMANDER CRAIG RHODERICK

Assists Commander and presides over Post when Sr. Vice is not present

ADJUTANT HOWARD CYRUS

Produces official correspondence and maintains records of the Post

QUARTERMASTER LEE “SKIP” GUSTAFSON

Collects membership dues and conducts all financial transactions

CHAPLAIN DAN ROFF

Contacts sick members and presides over all religious functions

SURGEON TIMOTHY R. STRICKLAND

Promotes the health and wellbeing of Post's members

1ST YEAR TRUSTEE OPEN

Audits official records and financial transactions

2ND YEAR TRUSTEE OPEN

Audits official records and financial transactions

3RD YEAR TRUSTEE STEVE SMITH

Audits official records and financial transactions

SERVICE OFFICER BOB MAUCIONE

Assist members and relatives in attaining governmental benefits

JUDGE ADVOCATE BOB SANCHEZ

Provides legal research and assistance as required