



# VFW POST 10256 TRIP WIRE



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824- 6160



November 2011

ISSUE 93

## Commander's Corner

*John Cardno*

Hello Comrades,

Well, I want to wish everyone a "Happy, Healthy and Safe Thanksgiving".

The Ladies will be collecting food for the Thanksgiving Food Baskets. If you are able, please bring in donations.

Another Oyster Season has begun. Good job Trent!

Thank you Comrade Chief Sanford for allowing the use of his house for the Yard Sale.

Yours in Comradeship

*John Cardno*

Commander, V.F.W. Post 10256

## Post Officers (2011-2012) Commander-John Cardno

SVC	Trent Needler
JVC	Marc Fischer
Quartermaster	Kim Hamilton
Chaplain	Sidney Byrd
Adjutant	Gordon Hope
Surgeon	Gerald T Pothier
Judge Advocate/ Svc Officer	Paul McHugh
3 Year Trustee- Louis Salem	
2 Year Trustee- RC Woodberry	
1 Year Trustee- Juan Perez	

## Ladies Auxiliary President

*Barbara Cardno*

Hi Everyone,

Hope everyone is doing well. I want to send out congratulations to Stacey Weaver for her outstanding job on the Halloween Party that was held Oct 29th. Stacey and several other people put together a "really fun party" and everyone had a "howling" good time.

## Ladies Auxiliary President

(Continued)

A Thanksgiving Food Drive is taking place now. Canned food donations are appreciated and a box will be placed in the lobby to put items in. Twelve dinners will be made up for Veterans and their families in need as well as people in our community who are also in need. The boxes will be distributed Nov 17th 2011. Please be generous.

Hospital Chairman, Tess Pothier, is planning a VA Hospital visit Monday, Nov 21, 2011. All are welcome to come on the visit to give out some Holiday Cheer to our Veterans. We will meet up at the Post at 1:30pm and be at the hospital from 2-3pm.

The Post Christmas Parties will be Dec 17th. The Children's Party will be from 2-4pm and the Adult Party will be start at 6pm. The Comrades are arranging the Entertainment, the Ladies are providing the finger food for the Adult Party and the Men's Auxiliary is handling gifts for the Children's Party. Dress is casual.

Congratulations to Tess Pothier. She is our new Conductress.

The beginning of the Holiday Season is upon us and I wish all of you a "Happy Blessed Thanksgiving". I am truly thankful for the freedom we have here in America. To all our Troops- God Bless each and every one of you!

Your Sister

*Barbara Cardno*

Ladies Auxiliary President

## Ladies Auxiliary Officers (2011-2012)

### President-Barbara Cardno

SVP	Kim Sparkman
JVP	Stacy Weaver
Treasurer	Annie Bain
Secretary	Claudia Hucks
Chaplain	Susan Hilton
Conductress	Tess Pothier
Guard	Toni Pineault
Patriotic Instructor	Beth Cosimano
3 Year Trustee- Michelle Stevens	
2 Year Trustee Janet Woodberry	
1 Year Trustee Beth Cosimano	

**VFW Urges 2 Million to Fight Benefit Changes**

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON October 18, 2011, 05:04 pm ET

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Veterans of Foreign Wars on Tuesday urged its 2 million members to plead with Congress to spare military and veterans' benefits as a special deficit-cutting panel looks to slash \$1.2 trillion from the federal budget. In a "call to action," the VFW said it opposes any changes to the programs and decried any congressional attempt to balance the budget on the backs of military retirees and disabled veterans. The organization implored members, their families and friends to contact lawmakers immediately.

"It is critical that our voices not be lost in the ongoing budget debate that seems to now equate national service and sacrifice with the size of health care premiums," said Richard L. DeNoyer, a retired Marine and head of the VFW. "The 'people programs' inside the (departments) are expensive because it takes people to fight our wars, and with less than 1 percent of our citizens currently in uniform, any degradation of these hard fought-for programs will break faith with those who sacrifice the most."

The plea was prompted by several recommendations to the so-called supercommittee that sent shock waves through the powerful groups of retired officers and veterans. Last Friday, the top Democrat and Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee suggested that the panel consider some of President Barack Obama's proposed cost-saving changes to health and retirement benefits for the military.

Sens. Carl Levin, D-Mich., and John McCain, R-Ariz., said they would support establishing an annual enrollment fee for TRICARE for Life, the health care program that has no fee for participation. Obama had proposed an initial annual fee of \$200.

McCain also urged the supercommittee to consider restricting working-age military retirees and their dependents from enrolling in TRICARE Prime, which has the lowest out-of-pocket expenses. The retirees could still enroll in other TRICARE programs. McCain pointed out that the Congressional Budget Office has estimated that such a move would save \$111 billion over 10 years. Active-duty personnel still would be enrolled in the program automatically.

McCain, who was Obama's rival for the presidency in 2008, also said he supported Obama's proposal for a commission to review military retirement benefits that should consider changes to the military compensation system. He said he agreed with Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, who said those currently serving in the military should be "grandfathered" in, so expected benefits aren't reduced.

**VFW Urges 2 Million to Fight Benefit Changes  
(Continued)**

Levin also backed creation of a commission, but suggested that it look at all elements of military compensation, including basic pay, allowances such as housing, incentive pay and the tax structure for military pay. He said current service members should be grandfathered in "to avoid breaking faith with the force."

Asked about the response from groups such as the VFW, McCain said Tuesday in an interview, "They're very worried and we want to assure them that we will protect present beneficiaries."

Another member of the Armed Services Committee, Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., expressed support for McCain's proposal.

Separately, the top lawmakers on the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs committees also sent a letter to the supercommittee that offered no specific recommendations on cuts but did describe cost-saving steps that Congress and administrations have taken in the past.

"In past times of fiscal restraint, thoughtful and measured areas of budgetary savings found within veterans' programs have advanced on a bipartisan basis," the lawmakers wrote. "We recommend that the Select Committee refer to these lists when making the difficult decisions ahead."

Signing the letter were Reps. Jeff Miller, R-Fla., and Bob Filner, D-Calif., and Sens. Richard Burr, R-N.C., and Patty Murray, D-Wash. Murray is co-chair of the supercommittee.

The Pentagon's health care costs have skyrocketed from \$19 billion in 2001 to \$53 billion, but lawmakers and various groups argue that members of the military and their families sacrifice far more than the average American, with a career that includes long and dangerous deployments overseas that overshadow civilian work. Health and retirement benefits help attract service members to the all-volunteer force.

**COLA for 2012**

This week with the announcement by the Bureau of Labor Statistics that the CPI-W had increased by 0.2 percent for September, the Social Security Administration announced that the Cost of Living Adjustment for 2012 would be 3.6 percent.

As of now this applies to Social Security and Military Retired Pay. Veterans Affairs pays which include Disability Pay and Survivor benefits have not been finalized. This week the Senate Veterans' Affairs passed their version of COLA increase for VA programs following the Social Security announcement. We believe this will prove to be no problem as the House passed their version in May and although there are several minor differences the bottom line is that both bills agree on the amount should be the same as the Social Security increase. We expect the differences to be worked out quickly, when the House returns next week and the bill to be sent to the President shortly after.

## Senators Voice Opinions on Defense Cuts

Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) Chairman Sen. Carl Levin (D-MI) and SASC Ranking Member Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) both have written letters to the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction (Super Committee). In his letter Chairman Levin agreed with SecDef Panetta that any cuts over the current \$450 billion would be disastrous. He does agree with the proposal to add a \$200 fee for TRICARE for life starting in 2013, but differed with the President's proposal by linking any further increases to the same index that controls TRICARE Prime future increases. He also said that he favors a "BRAC-style" commission to consider all aspects of military compensation including pay, allowances, retirement, special and incentive pays, healthcare and tax treatment of various components of military pay.

Sen. McCain also does not want any further increases in cuts to Defense spending. He also agrees with a proposed TRICARE for Life fee. He said that any future increases in pharmacy costs to beneficiaries needs to be coordinated with VA in order to bring the best possible prices that both systems can use. Additionally he agrees that a BRAC-style approach to all DoD pay and benefits is necessary. **NAUS Note: Neither Sen. Levin or Sen. McCain takes into account that if a TRICARE for Life Fee is put into place, those military retired members and their families, who depend on Medicare and TRICARE will be under a double jeopardy. They currently pay for Medicare Part B, which also goes up when a COLA happens. If this proposal happens they will pay increases twice, every year, for the same EARNED BENEFIT. Is this what we do to honor those who served and defended our country?**

**Service Officer / Judge Advocate**  
*Paul McHugh*

### **Veterans Day Discounts**

**Applebee's** will have six entrées from the menu to choose from. Proof of service required. Mil ID, Vets Organization card, or wearing a uniform in person is acceptable.

**Golden Corral** - November 15, 2010 will mark the 10th anniversary of Golden Corral's Military Appreciation Monday dinner.

**Home Depot** and **Lowe's** - Known to offer a 10% holiday discount to military members veterans and retirees. Both companies have announced these offers are available every day.

**Outback Steakhouse's** offers a **free Bloomin' Onion and beverage of choice (Laws permitting) on Veterans Day.**

**Sam's Club** -36,000 Hugo® Folding Canes free of charge beginning Nov. 10 and running through Nov. 12. Limited quantities will be available while supplies last

For more details on any of these and other offers, see <http://www.military.com/veterans-day/veterans-day-discounts.html>

Yours in comradeship  
Paul McHugh

**2011-2012**

**House Committee-**  
**Chairman- Marc Fischer (S)**

(E-1) Sydney Byrd	(E-2) Vacant
(E-3) Vacant	(A) Patrick Henshall
(A) Arlington Sanford	(A) Herb DeWell
Cmdr. John Cardno	QM Kim Hamilton
(A) Appointed	(E) Elected (S) Selected

**Canteen Manager**  
*Gordon (Mike) Hope*

Hello Comrades and Sisters,

Thanks to all who have helped with the Steak Nights. It is greatly appreciated. Keep supporting the Canteen. We are planning to raise the prices 25cents on Jan 1, 2012. As you know, all products have gone up so we have no choice but to raise the Canteen prices. There will only be one Steak Night in November and one in December. The November Steak Night will be on the 12th and December will be on the 10th. The Horseshoe Tournament will be at Ladson Post on the November 12th @ 1300. We still have the trophy and want to keep it. If you throw horseshoes, please come out and help us keep the trophy. The next Oyster Roast is November 19th starting @ 1400. October's Oyster Roast was great. Let's do it again this month!

**Canteen Manager**  
*Gordon (Mike) Hope*

**Men's Auxiliary**  
**President-Craig Schaffer**

SVP	Leonard Panessa
JVP	Steve Tolley
Treasurer	Tommy Manning
Secretary	Sam Cosimano (Acting)
Chaplain	Sam Cosimano
1 Year Trustee-	Derek Johnson
2 Year Trustee-	David Russell
3 Year Trustee-	Vacant

Brothers,

The Shotgun/Gift Card Raffle is going slowly. Dec 17th is coming upon us fast! We need to get out there and sell these tickets! The money will give us the ability to do more things for the Post. It's pretty sad when we only have 1 cook that volunteers to cook on Steak Nights. Again, this is really getting old, when we are grown men and can't stick to the commitment that we have made when we became Men's Auxiliary members. Some members have to be called to remind them of our meetings. C'mon guys! Get with the program!!!!

**Men's Auxiliary President**  
**Craig Schaffer**

**Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain  
Susan Hilton**

"Dear Lord",

You have cared for the earth, and have filled it with your riches. Abundance flows in your steppes, through the pastures and wilderness. You provide for our land, softening it with showers, bathing it in light, and blessing it with growth.

The hills sing with joy; the meadows are covered with flocks; the fields deck themselves with wheat; and together they glorify your name! On this occasion of our Thanksgiving, we as a nation take rest from our labors to consider your many blessings. We thank you for our freedoms, and for the opportunity to contribute our skills, our attributes and values toward the good of society.

We thank you for the mixture of our cultures, blending us into one people under God. Help us to be the light unto other nations, and to further the cause of freedom and justice all over the world.

Amen

"A Blessed Thanksgiving to All"  
Susan

**Ladies Auxiliary Secretary  
Annie Bain**

Hi Sisters,

It's time to pay your dues of \$20.00. Our Auxiliary needs a few more Sisters to pay and we'll be at 100%. We can receive an award from Department. Let's get your dues paid. If you have any questions, please call me.

Annie Bain  
116 Elaine Street  
Goose Creek, SC, 29445  
843-797-5545

**Ladies Auxiliary Secretary  
Claudia Hucks**

Does anyone remember where we purchased the perpetual plaque for the Ladies Auxiliary Life Members that hangs in the Post home? We are in need of more of the slide-in brackets that hold the names (see photo below). Please call or text me at 843-509-1453, e-mail me at [muggle@homesc.com](mailto:muggle@homesc.com), or write me at P. O. Box 3, Goose Creek, SC 29445.



Thank you,

Claudia Hucks  
Secretary, Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 10256

**FREE WILL**

**For Any Veteran**

*VFW Post 10256 sponsors a FREE WILL program for any veteran and/or members of their family. For details and to qualify, make a donation to the VFW Post 10256, by contacting Gerry Pothier:*

*cell: (843) 343-5478,*

*home: (843) 761-1301;*

*email: [gtpothier@homesc.com](mailto:gtpothier@homesc.com)*

*Simple Wills in the marketplace go for \$150.00 each. Make a donation for each Will in an amount determined by the Veteran. All VFW Post 10256 Free Wills are prepared by a licensed South Carolina attorney, who also supervises its signing, and are confidential. This is a fund raising project for VFW Post 10256. Help our Post as you save money and help yourself and your family.*



# VFW 10256

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843-824-6160



## November 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>WWII Veterans Appreciation Day</i>  <u>Men's Auxiliary Meeting @ 1900</u>  Darts	2	3 <u>Joint Meeting @ 1900</u>  Free Pool  Darts	4  Luck of the Draw	5
6 <i>Life Member Appreciation</i>	7	8  Free Pool  Darts	9  <u>House Committee Meeting @1830</u>	10  Free Pool  Darts  <i>Marine Corps 236<sup>th</sup> Birthday</i>	11 <i>Veterans Day</i>    Luck of the Draw	12  Steak Night
13 <i>Life Member Appreciation</i>	14  ***** <i>December Trip Wire Inputs Due</i> *****	15  Free Pool  Darts	16	17  Free Pool  Darts	18  Luck of the Draw	19    <i>Oyster Roast 1400</i>
20 <i>Life Member Appreciation</i>	21	22  Free Pool  Darts	23	24  	25  Luck of the Draw	26
27 <i>Life Member Appreciation</i>	28	29  Free Pool  Darts	30	31  Free Pool  Darts	<i>Heroes do not wear capes. Heroes wear Dogtags!</i>	



**Upcoming Events**

24November- Thanksgiving Dinner 3:00PM  
 17December- Children's Christmas Party 2-4pm  
 17December- Post Adult Christmas Party 6pm-??