



VFW POST 10256 TRIP WIRE



June 2009

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ISSUE 64

Post Commander's Comments

Hello Comrades,

I hope everyone is well!

I want to thank Comrade Pothier for putting on a fine Loyalty Day Program May 3rd and Comrade Lou Salem for filling in for me. Also, I would like to thank all of the Ladies that prepared food for the day.

As I write this final article, I want to thank all of the Comrades and Ladies that have supported and helped me for the past 3 years that I have served as your Commander. There is one Comrade that has been in office since I was Commander back in 2001 that has worked hard for post 10256 helping Comrades, Ladies, and their families, as Post Judge Advocate/Service Officer. I deeply want to thank Wheeler Tillman for a fine job and yes, he will serve in the same capacity here at the Post, for the next year.

I want to wish Commander Lou Salem and his Staff, a successful year and I hope everyone will give him their full support like you gave me.

The State Convention this year is June 26-28 in Columbia.

Again, Thank You All.
Yours in Comradeship
John Cardno

Ladies Auxiliary President

Hello Sisters,

I would like to thank all of the Ladies that have helped the Ladies Auxiliary the past month. Your help is always appreciated and it makes a big difference in Post events.

The food for Loyalty Day was outstanding as usual and you know that it was a success when it is all eaten. Once again a big THANK YOU!

The Yard Sale will be held on June 6th from 0800 to 1300. If you have any items that you wish to donate, please bring them to the Post or Sandra White's back porch, before the 6th. or you can bring them to the Yard Sale.

Remember Steak Night's for June are the 13th and the 27th. Come on out and enjoy a good meal.

The next meeting is June 4 at 1900. I hope to see you all there. Bring any money making ideas with you.

Your Sister
Ladies Auxiliary President
Anita Bennett-Hope

Post Officers (2008-2009) Commander- John Cardno

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|------------------|------------------|
| SVC | Louis Salem |
| JVC | Michael Sparkman |
| Quartermaster | R. C. Woodberry |
| Chaplain | David M. Medert |
| Adjutant/Surgeon | Gerry Pothier |
| Judge Advocate | Wheeler Tillman |

Ladies Auxiliary Officers (2008-2009) President- Anita Bennett-Hope

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|----------------------|------------------|
| SVP | Della Deatherage |
| JVP | Tracie Rabon |
| Treasurer | Annie Bain |
| Secretary | Vicky McHugh |
| Chaplain | Sandra White |
| Conductress | Janet Woodberry |
| Patriotic Instructor | Cathy Clifford |

Post Adjutant
Gerald T. Pothier

WELCOME ABOARD

The following new and transferred comrades joined as members of Post 10256 at the May meeting:

Tom Telleffsen
James R. Evans
Julia D. Farmer
Alejandro Colon-Robles

We hope to see you at our meetings on the first Thursday of each month as well as joining us and participating in the many events held in the Post Home for the fun and camaraderie.

VFW Honors Hero

On Sunday 3 May 2009 the Post Home was filled to capacity as members and guests recognized and honored a young hero. Michael Hayden Singletary, a seven year old first grade student at St. John's Christian Academy, was presented a Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander-in-Chief's Life Saving Award for his swift, decisive, and heroic action when he unhesitatingly dove into the family swimming pool to bring out his younger brother who had fallen into the pool.

Michael Hayden saw that his 16-month old brother, Drayton, was missing so he immediately went in search of him. It was in his family's swimming pool that he saw Drayton face down and lifeless. Michael Hayden dove into water over his head and swam to his younger brother. Michael Hayden brought Drayton to the edge of the pool, and carried his blue and non-breathing brother out of the water as he called for his father, Michael. As Michael Hayden ran into the house to call 911, his father began CPR on Drayton. Mother, Clarice, had taught her son how to use 911 just a few days earlier.

It took two attempts at CPR to get the water out of the youngster's stomach and lungs. EMS and police arrived to ensure his health and to provide comfort to the much relieved and thankful family. Michael Hayden Singletary is, indeed, a hero.

After the opening prayer by Post Chaplain David Medert, the Loyalty Day Celebration began with the posting of the colors by the State Honor Guard led by Captain Jim McClendon, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Post Senior Vice Commander Louis Salem welcomed all to the event, then introduced Post Loyalty Day Chairman Gerald T. Pothier who explained the background and meaning of Loyalty Day.

Salem and Pothier then presented commendations and certificates to individuals who had been selected by their peers for the honor. Supervisors of the recipients described the events which led to the selection of the honorees.

Honored recipients were:

Lance Corporal Steve P. Grainger (SC Highway Patrol)
Paramedic Barbara-Ann McMurry (Berkeley County EMS)
Eaton Aerospace Group (David Scheff, Plant Manager accepted)

VFW Honors Hero (continued)

Lieutenant Joshua Battista (Goose Creek Police Dept.)
EMT Monty Jenkins (Berkeley County EMS)
Corporal Tabatha Thomas (Berkeley County Sheriff)
Corporal Chris Collins (Berkeley County Sheriff)
VFW Commander-in-Chief's Life Saving Award to Michael Hayden Singletary

VFW State Loyalty Day Chairman Clarence Hammett gave some brief remarks and said the Goose Creek VFW Loyalty Day Celebration is the best he's seen in the state. Chaplain Medert gave the blessing before meals. Senior Vice Commander Salem closed the event and invited all to stay for the free buffet.

DID YOU KNOW

During a VFW meeting, one rap of the gavel calls attention or seats the body when standing. Two raps of the gavel call everyone to standing attention

Scholarship Programs

We are pleased to announce the following themes for the Veterans of Foreign Wars scholarship programs for 2009-2010:

Deadline for entries is November 1, 2009

[VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION](#)

"Does America Still Have Heroes?"

[PATRIOT'S PEN ESSAY CONTEST](#)

"When Is the Right Time To Honor Our Military Heroes?"

Yours in comradeship
Gerald T. Pothier

Post Chaplain

Comrades,

I hope everyone is doing well as we prepare for another glorious and probably very hot summer here in South Carolina.

At this time, we have a few members in distress. Comrade Sam Schaffer underwent quadruple bypass surgery not too long ago and I am pleased to report he is recovering well at home. Comrade David Kiger's wife has recently had quite a few hospital stays. Comrade Duprey has also undergone surgery. At this time, I am not fully aware of their condition, but my heart and prayers go out to them and their families as I am sure yours do as well.

I hope everyone tries to stay somewhat cool in the coming months and please do not forget your sunscreen!

Yours in the Lord and Comradeship,

D. Matthew Medert

Phone: 843-291-2654

E-mail chaplain@vfw10256.org or dirt1863@yahoo.com

Service Officer / Judge Advocate

Wheeler Tillman

Living Will

What is a "Living Will?" It is a document which only takes effect "near death" or when you are "permanently unconscious". Why have a "Living Will?" There are several purposes. First, it gives your doctors and nurses clear guidance on how to medically treat you when your death is imminent or when you are unconscious permanently. This can be quite important to the doctors if you have children who do not agree on your future medical treatment. Second, it relieves your relatives of "guilt" feelings about your care while you are at the end of your life or are permanently unconscious. Thirdly, but of lesser importance, it saves your family's assets for your loved ones who

How does a "Living Will" work? The basic and most important requirement to trigger the directions of a living will is that your death must be imminent within a short period of time and no further medical treatment will restore your health. Or, you must be in permanent state of unconsciousness. Either of these conditions must be certified and agreed upon by two doctors, one of whom must be your treating physician.

What medical procedures can be withheld under a "Living Will"? You can direct that your heart not be resuscitated if it stops beating. Why re-start your heart so you can live one more month and then die from cancer? You can direct that you not be put on a ventilator if you have difficulty breathing? Why mechanically relieve your breathing so you can live one more month and then die from kidney or liver failure?

What about food and water when you are terminal or permanently unconscious? Without a "Living Will" you most likely will be given food and water via a tube in your stomach, a tube in your upper chest, or through the nose down the esophagus. Is this necessary? You can direct that it not be done. Think about your relatives making the decision. Would they feel guilty making the decision denying you food and water at the end of your life? Make the decision for yourself and save them that guilt.

How much does a "Living Will" cost? Such a document costs about \$175.00 in the lawyer market place. It can only be signed by you if you are mentally alert and capable of making your life ending/or permanently unconscious decisions in advance of having such conditions. Doctors often refer to such document as an advance directive. The State Law is sometimes referred to as the "Death with Dignity" law. Your regular treating doctor gets an original Living Will; you keep an original Living Will; other medical providers get just a copy.

Upon hospital admission, the hospital staff always asks if you have a Living Will. The hospital will furnish you one upon admission; it's Federal Law. But, will you feel like filling out such a form given your urgent condition upon admission? Will you even be mentally alert enough for it to take effect? Retired military are able to get a Living Will from a near-by military legal office.

Wheeler Tillman

VFW Post 10256
Cell: 843.442.9435

House Committee

Chairman- Michael (Sparky) Sparkman

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|--------------------|--------------------|
| John Cardno | Mike Hope |
| Patrick Henshall | Rocky McIntire |
| Charles Engh | RC Woodberry |
| E -1 Vacant | E -2 Vacant |

- House Committee Chairman, Michael Sparkman (No Input)
- Quartermaster, RC Woodberry (No Input)
- Ladies Auxiliary Treasurer, Annie Bain (No Input)

Men's Auxiliary

President-Sam Cosimano

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| SVP- Leonard Panessa | JVP- David Russell |
| Treasurer- Chris Samples | Secretary- JR White |

Hello Brothers,

It's that time again. The Men's Auxiliary had another meeting on May 6th @ 1900 @ the Post Home. I think that is a new record for consecutive meetings.

We still need members, lots of members, so if you know of anyone that wants to join, please send them our way. There are some things that we want to do but, we need more people than 5 members. Not to complain. We are happy to have who we have but, we still have some Officer positions to fill.

I would also like to thank Post Adjutant, Gerry Pothier, and Mike and Anita Hope for their help and guidance as it is much appreciated.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3rd @ 1900.

Your Brother,
Sam Cosimano

Ladies Auxiliary to the Rescue

On April 23rd, Ladies Auxiliary Post 10256 heard of a Veteran in the V.A. Hospital that needed help. He was being treated for cancer and had a heart attack during his treatment. He had two young boys at home with no food or toiletries. The following Ladies gave food and the products needed to the home, which included an air conditioner which the hospital said had to be in place before he could go home: Tracie Rabon, Kim Martin, Anita Hope, Toni Pineault, Kim Sparkman, Claudia Hucks, and Sandra White. Also three non-members- Lisa Hancock, Patty Butler, and Ingrid Vinson. Roughly a total of \$1050.00 was donated to the family. A job well done by our Ladies

Gordon (*Mike*) Hope

"JUMBLED-UP" Puzzle

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Goose Creek VFW 10256


E-MAIL: tripwire@bellsouth.net

WEB SITE: vfw10256.org

843-824-6160



June 2009

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|-----------------|--|--|---------------------------|---|
| | 1 | 2 Free Pool | 3 <u>Men's Auxiliary Meeting @ 1900</u> | 4 <u>Joint Meeting @ 1900</u> | 5 Luck of the Draw | 6 <i>D-Day: Allied Invasion of Europe (1944)</i> |
| 7 <i>Life Member Appreciation</i> | 8 | 9 Free Pool | 10 | 11 Dart League Free Pool | 12 Luck of the Draw | 13 Steak Night |
| 14 <i>Life Member Appreciation</i> Flag Day  I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. <i>US Army Founded (1775)</i> | 15 ***** July Trip Wire Inputs Due ***** | 16 Free Pool | 17 <u>House Committee Meeting @ 1900</u> | 18 Dart League Free Pool | 19 Luck of the Draw | 20 |
| 21 <i>Life Member Appreciation</i> <i>Father's Day</i>  <i>Summer Begins</i> | 22 <i>Pledge of Allegiance Recognized by Congress (1942)</i> <i>GI Bill Signed Into Law (1944)</i> | 23 Free Pool | 24 | 25 Dart League Free Pool <i>Korean War Began (1950)</i> | 26 Luck of the Draw | 27 Steak Night |
| 28 <i>Life Member Appreciation</i> | 29 | 30 Free Pool | Events of Note: 74th VFW STATE CONVENTION 2009 JUNE 26 - 28, 2009 COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA <u>Radisson Hotel Columbia & Conference Center</u> 2100 Bush River Road Columbia, South Carolina Phone (803) 731-0300 REGISTRATION FEE: \$40.00 - send to: Department Headquarters DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: June 19, 2009 | | | |



Don't forget to visit the Website @ vfw10256.org