

# The Patriot



## VFW - Action Corps

**Action Corps is the grassroots lobbying network of the VFW. Its mission is:**

- to inform and educate members and supporters on initiatives and policies that affect veterans;
- to communicate and promote the VFW viewpoint before Congress; and
- to encourage greater grassroots participation in the democratic process through increased communication with congressional officials.

Action Corps members help influence the passage or defeat of federal legislation based on the VFW's priority goals by visiting and writing congressional officials.

Also, Action Corps relies on its members to establish and maintain a relationship with their legislators, as well as to keep their lawmakers informed about key veterans issues and educate them on VFW's legislative agenda.

### **Action Corps - Contact**

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**Let your voice be heard!**

*....the editor*

### Monthly Quote

"Continuous effort -- not strength or intelligence -- is the key to unlocking our potential."  
*-Winston Churchill*

**Fort Mill VFW  
All American  
Post 9138™  
1442 Harris Rd.  
Fort Mill, SC - 29715  
803.547.5480  
[www.vfw9138.org](http://www.vfw9138.org)**

### **Inside this issue:**

Commander News	2
Quartermaster News	2
Ladies Aux. President	2
Men's Auxiliary	2
Monthly News	1, 2, 3, 4
Sponsors	3
Monthly Calendar	4

**House Committee:** Rob Elkin, Rich Gagnon, Wayne Howell, Howard Murray, Bill Trask, Ralph Best and Chairman, Art Courtemanche

<u>VFW Post 9138 Officers</u>	
Commander.....	Bill Trask
Sr. Vice Cmdr.....	Art Courtemanche
Jr. Vice Cmdr....	Richard Gagnon
Quartermaster.....	Ralph Best
Chaplin.....	Rob Elkins
Surgeon.....	Hal Rutter
Judge Adv.....	Bob Wiltz
3 Yr. Trustees... ..	Sam Griffin
2 Yr. Trustee.....	Glenn Harris
1 Yr. Trustee....	Jack Mac Allister
Membership.....	Bill Trask

<u>Ladies Auxiliary Officers</u>	
President.....	Anne Cash
Sr. Vice Pres. ....	Sarah Clinton
Jr. Vice Pres.....	Pam Elkin
Treasurer.....	Lori Gordon
Secretary.....	Carolyn Griffith
Chaplain.....	Frances Howe
Conductress.....	Danielle Jinks
Guard.....	Kathy Shirley
3 Yr Trustee.....	Dee Rutter
2 Yr Trustee... ..	Charlotte Podgorski
1 Yr Trustee.....	Suzie Rushing

<u>Men's Auxiliary Officers</u>	
President.....	Jerald Efirm
Sr.Vice Pres. ....	**Scott Collins
Jr.Vice Pres.....	Vacant
Treasurer. ....	Dan Rollins
Secretary.....	Dan Rollins
Chaplain.....	Russel Planer
3 Yr Trustee.....	Dave Podgorski
2 Yr Trustee.....	David Cash
1 Yr Trustee.....	Paul Skinner
** Scott passed away last month. He will be missed.....	



## A Note from the Commander

November has been a very busy month. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of those that turned out for and assisted in the Buddy Poppy Drive, Various Veterans Day activities and the Veterans in the Classroom functions that occurred over the Veterans Day weekend. For those of you that visited classrooms or participated in other events, please let us know as we are getting a report together for activities. I'll use this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in the many activities and events that were held. Special thanks go out to the cadets of the Fort Mill and Nation Ford High Schools Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps. Their efforts were tremendous and a complete success. I also wish to thank those that were involved in the coordination, collecting and judging of the core programs. We submitted entries to the District for Teacher of the Year, Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy, fulfilling our obligation to the community and the VFW. I wish to especially thank Pam Fleetwood for her help getting our Patriots Pen and Teacher of the Year entries. Well Done Everyone! Now that all the core programs are complete let's get membership out of the way too. We need 48 members to be 100% as of the time I write this. We are now in December and all 2009 membership cards expire at the end of the month. Please send in your dues. Either by mail, dropping them by the post or pay online at <http://emem.vfw.org> I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and I wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas. I hope to see you at the Christmas Gala Dinner / Dance on December 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 pm. We are having a sit down roast beef dinner and our bringing veterans over for the evening from one of the nursing homes. The cost for the dinner is \$7.00 per person.

Bill Trask: [wtrask@gmail.com](mailto:wtrask@gmail.com)

## From the Quartermaster

Thanks to all who helped with the Thanksgiving meal and the Post staff hopes that everyone had a good time. The post has quite a bit going on in Dec. and we hope all will take part in the different functions that will be going on. The post will be serving breakfast the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month and we will have a dinner on the 19<sup>th</sup> of the month and are selling the tickets in advance for the meal as we are planning on bringing some veterans from the nursing home over for the meal and their will be a DJ providing entertainment for this event. Anyone wishing to sponsor a meal for one of the nursing home vets please contact a post officer or the canteen staff on duty.

Ralph Best: [ralph.best@gmail.com](mailto:ralph.best@gmail.com)

## News from Ladies Auxiliary President

December is always a busy month with all the family and other functions that we have, but lets not forget our Veterans at Dorn Nursing home we will be doing the shopping for gifts for about 30 Veterans. We will need volunteers to help with gift wrapping. Once we have a schedule, we will let everyone know. Also we will be having a party for the nurses at the nursing home, they take such good care of our Veterans, if you could make some finger food, we would appreciate it. Our date to go to Columbia is December 19, at 11am. If you are helping with the dinner for the Veterans at the Post, that evening we will be back in time.

We have a disabled Veteran's that the Post and Men's Auxiliary has agreed to help us with Christmas, we took turkey, Boston butt, and gift certificate to their home for Thanksgiving, they think our VFW family is great, but so do I. I have list of the children (they have 6 that they have taken into their home) with sizes, ages, and some of their wishes, if you would like to help let me know. I hope that everyone has a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! See you at the Post.

Anne Cash: [acash09@yahoo.com](mailto:acash09@yahoo.com)

## News from the Men's Auxiliary

With the coming of the new year, it is important that all members renew your memberships for the 2010 fiscal year. You can leave your dues with any of the bartenders or any post officer. We currently only have about 40% of our members that have paid their dues for next year. Also, we meet the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm to plan future projects, please plan on attending to support your Auxiliary. Due to economic circumstances, it is necessary to replace our Secretary/Treasurer by years end. Any one interested in helping by volunteering for this position, please give your name to any Auxiliary officer for consideration. Your support is greatly appreciated and welcomed. On a personal note, I've really enjoyed my tenure in this position, and the interaction with all of our VFW members, however I'm having to relocate out of state by years end and will not be able to continue to perform these duties. Thanks for all your support over the past several years, and I'm looking forward to the day when I will be able to return.

Dan : [darwjr@yahoo.com](mailto:darwjr@yahoo.com)

## CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

We have several members of our VFW family that could use a call or card. Contact the Post for their names, telephone numbers and addresses. If you know any comrades or families in distress, please let us know. God bless our men and women in the military. .... Rob Elkins

### Breakfast at the Post

Monthly breakfast at Fort Mill VFW Post 9138 – second Saturday of each month. The next breakfast is to be held **December 12th** - 8 AM to 11 AM. Breakfast will include eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, orange juice and coffee for only \$6.00 per person. We plan to recognize a branch of our military service at each breakfast.

### Taps

This is a new section to honor those for their service and their contributions to our organization..

**Joseph Cain** served in WWII in the US Army. He was wounded while serving in France and was awarded the Purple Heart.

**Roland Viets** was a VFW life members and could always be found at his favorite seat in the canteen. Every Sunday you could find him there.

**Harry Flood** was a VFW life member and WWII Veteran.

**Charles Young** was a Korea Veteran and VFW life member.

### Men's Auxiliary

**Scott Collins** provided his leadership and was an unselfish volunteer at the Post. Scott was a Past President and charter member of the Men's Auxiliary.



Our common bond was the Fort Mill VFW, for this we are forever grateful.....You will be missed.

## Our Sponsors

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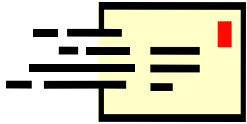
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The Post now has a Facebook Group  
<http://facebook.vfw9138.org>

[www.vfw9138.org](http://www.vfw9138.org)

“Honoring the dead by helping the living”



# December 2009



**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

HD-TV Sports	Support your Post	<b>1</b> Happy Hour 5-7pm	<b>2</b> Socialize with veterans And families	<b>3</b> HH 5-pm 1st weekly drawing-7pm	<b>4</b> Food & 2nd drawing-7pm	<b>5</b> HD-TV Sports
<b>6</b> HD-TV Sports	<b>7</b> Support your Post	<b>8</b> Happy Hour 5-7pm	<b>9</b> Socialize with veterans And families	<b>10</b> HH 5-pm 1st weekly drawing-7pm	<b>11</b> Food & 2nd drawing-7pm	<b>12</b> Breakfast 8pm-11pm
<b>13</b> HD-TV Sports	<b>14</b> Regular Meeting 7pm	<b>15</b> Men's Auxiliary Meeting 7pm	<b>16</b> Socialize with veterans And families	<b>17</b> HH 5-pm 1st weekly drawing-7pm	<b>18</b> Food & 2nd drawing-7pm	<b>19</b> Christmas Dinner & Dance-6pm
<b>20</b> HD-TV Sports	<b>21</b> Support your Post	<b>22</b> Happy Hour 5-7pm	<b>23</b> Socialize with veterans And families	<b>24</b> HH 5-pm 1st weekly drawing-7pm	<b>25</b> Merry Christmas We are open!	<b>26</b> HD-TV Sports
<b>27</b> HD-TV Sports	<b>28</b> Support your Post	<b>29</b> Happy Hour 5-7pm	<b>30</b> Socialize with veterans And families	<b>31</b> HH 5-pm 1st weekly drawing-7pm	<b>Happy New Year!</b>	HD-TV Sports