

November 2025 Newsletter



POST 1481

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<https://www.facebook.com/vfw1481Aux>

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Cherie Freeman

FACEBOOK ADMINISTRATORS:

Cherie Freeman and Angus MacIver

Newsletter:

Nona Brown at nbrown534@gmail.com

FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK:

Veteran's Day is a chance to honor everyone that has served in the armed forces. VFW Post 1481 extends it's appreciation on Veterans Day to everyone who has worn the uniform in service to America. However, many of our veterans face challenges when they return home. Military service is by definition dangerous and stressful. Surveys show that a majority of our returning soldiers showed signs of mental health issues. The rate of veteran suicide is on the rise. If you know of a veteran who is having a hard time, please have him or her reach out to the veterans crisis line for help. Their number is 1-800-273-8255 and press 1. If we can help even one veteran through a crisis period, we will be making a difference.

Post 1481 is proud to host the marine corps ball on November 8th. It is truly an honor to welcome these fine warriors and their guest to our post. We have also scheduled another pool tournament on November 22nd at 2:00pm. Come and enjoy a fun afternoon.

Although we won't be open on Thanksgiving Day, Post 1481 would like to express its thanks to all our post members for the work you all have done this past year. We have always come together as family and that is what this holiday is all about. -- Larry Fox, Post Commander

***On our Website:**

Check out the military cartoon of the day.

Link directly to our Facebook page.

Read our post Newsletter.

Find Department and National VFW news.

Check out our photo gallery (more than in the newsletter!)



FROM THE AUXILIARY:

Our annual dinner for the Homeless Veterans Fellowship is scheduled for December 6th at 6pm. This will be a soup dinner. Please plan to bring a soup or dessert to share. The residents of the Fellowship dine for free. Everyone else pays by donation. Everyone is invited.

As in the past we will be doing 25 gift bags for the residents. Even if they don't come to the dinner we send one back to the facility for all 25. We will be collecting items for the bags and or monetary donations to help purchase the items. Checks can be made out to VFW 1481 Auxiliary and left at the post or mailed to the post. Please let Cherie Freeman know if you leave a check or cash at the Post. We also accept gift cards to be given to the Homeless Veterans Fellowship so they can purchase things as needed. They go to the facility director to use as needed.




For more updated information you can contact:

Cherie 303-827-9161

Tami 801-680-8297

Karin 801-690-0903

--Tami McCollum, Auxiliary President.




**National President
Lois Callahan's
2025-2026 Special Project**

**VFW National Auxiliary
Continuing Education Scholarships**

Continuing Education Scholarships are offered to assist members and their immediate family members who wish to further their education by pursuing a college degree or career direction at a vocational/technical school.
vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/continuing-education

Help our members and their immediate family members train for a career, learn new skills and improve their lives.
Your contributions increase the amount of awards available.

Select the "Make a Gift" tab and then
"National President's 2025-2026 Special Project in MALTA."
Or mail a check to National Headquarters earmarked
"National President's 2025-2026 Special Project."



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NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS



CONTINUING EDUCATION
This scholarship is open to any VFW Auxiliary member (who has belonged for at least a year), his/her spouse, son or daughter with a financial need.

YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST AND 3-D PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST
These contests are open to students, including home-schooled students, in grades 9-12. The National first-place winner of the Young American Patriotic Art Contest will receive a \$15,000 scholarship. The National first-place winner of the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest will receive a \$2,500.

PATRIOT'S PEN ESSAY CONTEST
This contest is open to all students, including home-schooled students, in grades 6-8. The national first-place winner will receive \$5,000.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AUDIO ESSAY CONTEST
This contest is open to all students, including home-schooled students, in grades 9-12. The national first-place winner will receive a \$35,000 scholarship.

SCAN THE CODE TO LEARN MORE OR VISIT VFWAUXILIARY.ORG

FROM THE CHAPLAIN:

One may not speak your language, so they may not understand, but the language of compassion can be felt in any land. When we see others suffer and they need a helping hand though we don't speak their language, their pain we understand. We can comfort and uplift them. With a smile or with a touch and by doing unto others. God will bless us very much. Jesus showed great compassion when he lived here on earth. He touched the blind and crippled, and to sin-sick gave new birth. No matter what the barrier, when a person has a need. Through the language of compassion, we can make true love succeed.

--Dora Lawson, Post Chaplain



FROM THE HONOR GUARD:

The main purpose of the VFW is to honor our veterans, both living and deceased. The Honor Guard of Post 1481 strives to achieve this goal by providing military honors to our fallen warrior brothers and sisters. The Firing of the Volley, Playing of Taps, Folding and Presenting of the flag to the next of kin is always emotional for us. Our veterans earned this honor for their service and dedication to Duty, Honor, and Country. We hope this brings some sense of closure to their grieving family.

If any VFW veteran is interested in helping us achieve our goal, please contact Honor Guard Captain Chuck Love, any Honor Guard member, or leave your contact information at the Canteen and you will be contacted.



FROM THE CANTEEN:

POST 1481 BREAKFAST BUFFET **on the 3rd Sunday of each month**

- *Bacon and sausage links
- *Scrambled eggs
- *Fancy scrambled eggs with ham pieces, red & green bell peppers, onions, and potatoes
- *Hash brown potatoes/O-Brian potatoes
- *Pancakes
- *Grits
- *Sausage Gravy and biscuits
- *White or wheat toast and English muffins.
- *The Breakfast buffet cost is \$12
- *Special orders can be made in the Canteen for \$15

Everyone is welcome and no membership needed!

Pool Tournament at
VFW Post 1481

Saturday, Nov. 22nd
at 2 pm

Straight 8 Ball

\$10 Entry Fee

\$5 Green Fee

It's Potluck so bring a
side dish.



From Scout Troop 1481:

JULIE: 801-710-0838 OR

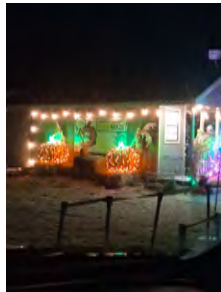
NONA: 801-917-0102

EMAIL: troop1481vfw@gmail.com



Boy Scout Troop 1481 is collecting aluminum cans all year long to raise money for troop supplies. Order of the Arrow is collecting the pull tabs off any cans for the Ronald McDonald House. Cans and tabs can be dropped off at the Post, before Tuesday Troop meeting night or contact Nona Brown. Thank You!

In October we worked on multiple merit badges, went to a corn maze, had a costume party, plus three of us participated in the VFW trunk-o-treat and the family movie night.



----Nona Brown - Scoutmaster



Happy Birthday to everyone with birthdays in November!

Calendar

- Nov. 1- Tribute 5k Run in Marriot Slaterville
- Nov. 3- Coast Guard Meeting 6:30 pm
- Nov. 4- Scout Leader UCM 6:00 pm
- Nov. 5- FRA (private meeting) 5:30pm
- Nov. 6- Poker Night 7:00 pm
- Nov. 6- Pool League 7:00 pm
- Nov. 7- Flags on Graves 9:00 am
- Nov. 7- Corn Hole 7:00 pm
- Nov. 7-9 - Western Conference
- Nov. 8- Layton City Veterans Parade 11:00am then ceremony at Veterans Wall
- Nov. 8- Private Marine Corp Ball
- Nov. 8th & 11th Buddy Poppies 10am-2pm
- Nov. 11- George Wahlen Flag Ceremony 11am
- Nov. 11- Scout Troop 1481 meeting 6:30 pm
- Nov. 12- Flags off Graves 9:00 am
- Nov. 12- Combined meeting 6:00 pm, Post and Auxiliary meetings 6:30 pm
- Nov. 13- Poker Night 7:00 pm
- Nov. 14- Corn Hole 7:00 pm
- Nov. 15- Operation Cuddles 1pm
- Nov. 15- District 3 Fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner at Layton Post 6pm
- Nov. 16- Post/ABATE breakfast 10am-1pm
- Nov. 18- Scout T-1481 Court of Honor 6:30 pm
- Nov. 19- Private Scouts Order of the Arrow meeting 6:00 pm
- Nov. 19- Private Bunco Game 6:00 pm
- Nov. 20- Poker Night 7:00 pm
- Nov. 21- Corn Hole 7:00 pm
- Nov. 21&22- VFW Auxiliary 8307 Fundraiser Boutique & Bake Sale (see the flyer in this newsletter for more info.)
- Nov. 22- Pool Tournament 2:00 pm
- Nov. 25- Scout Troop 1481 meeting 6:30 pm
- Nov. 26- **NO** Post Planning meeting (it's moved to Dec. 3rd)
- Nov. 27- VFW CLOSED for Thanksgiving Day
- Nov. 28- Corn Hole 7:00 pm

Every Monday -- Canteen Special! Free Pool and \$.50 chicken wings

Every Tuesday -- Troop 1481 meeting 6:30 pm (unless posted otherwise)

Every 3rd Sunday -- Post breakfast from 10:00am - 1:00 pm (Come in and enjoy a great breakfast with great company.)



re - BOOT CAMP

VFW Post & Auxiliary 1481

Fred J. Grant, CPL

Ogden, Utah



Comrades, November is the month that we have the privilege to remember and honor veterans of the United States armed forces. Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 making it an annual observance, and it became a national holiday in 1938. Sixteen years later, then-President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation changing the name to Veterans Day, declaring it a day to honor all those who served their country during war or peacetime. On this sacred day, the nation honors military veterans — living and dead — with parades and other observances across the country, including a ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. As members of VFW post 1481, we take this sacred obligation to remember and honor our veteran brothers and sisters very serious. Unfortunately, when we review the current census reports that account for veterans in the United States, we see that the veteran population in the US is rapidly declining. Below are the most current statistics available:

Most U.S. veterans are age 50 and older, with nearly half aged 65 and above.

Age demographics of U.S. veterans as of 2025:

- Over 65 years old: About 50% of all living veterans fall into this category, reflecting service in earlier conflicts like WWII, Korea and Vietnam.
- Ages 50–64: Roughly 25% of veterans are in this range, many of whom served during the Gulf War era or in the years following.
- Ages 35–49: Approximately 21% of veterans are between 35 and 54 years old. This group includes many who served post-9/11.
- Under 35: Only a small fraction is younger than 35.
- Female veterans are more concentrated in the younger age brackets, reflecting increased opportunities for women in the military since the 1980's.
- Utah has approximately 130,000 veterans as of 2023 according to the Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs. Of that 130,000, only 1260 are female. The largest group of these Utah veterans served during the Vietnam War/Era.

World War II

- Most surviving WWII veterans are now in their late 90s or older.
- California has the highest number, with around 5,094 veterans.
- Florida follows with 3,753, and Texas with 2,720.
- Alaska has zero surviving WWII veterans as of 2025.
- In 2000, there were about 5.7 million living WWII veterans.
- By 2030, projections estimate fewer than 8,000 will remain.

So, Comrades, with this rapidly declining population of American heroes, especially the WWII veterans, we need to stay focused and busy getting out into our community and honoring these men and women who honorably and faithfully served this nation. This eleventh day in the eleventh month of the year that has been federally designated as a day to remember and honor should *NOT* be the only day we as a VFW Post get out into the community to show our appreciation for our veterans. We need to be engaged in this kind of service every day, all year long. I think about the words our current national commander, Carol Whitmore, stated during her inauguration speech. She stated:

"But I was driven by a sense of duty, a desire to serve something greater than myself. And little did I know that decision would shape me in ways I could never have imagined."

Comrades, let's adapt that same Sense of Duty and Desire to Serve that Commander Whitmore spoke of and make sure that those veterans living amongst us and the families of veterans who have passed on know that they will always be heroes to us and never be forgotten. Let's **re-BOOT** our **Commitment to Action & Maximum Participation**



VETERANS FIELD GUIDE TO GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is committed to provide quality, consistent care and services to Veterans, families, Caregivers, and Survivors. VA's mission allows no exception to this standard even when operations are limited by the absence of appropriations (commonly known as a "Government shutdown").



SERVICES TO VETERANS NOT IMPACTED:



VA Medical Centers, Outpatient Clinics, and Vet Centers will be open as usual and providing all services.



VA benefits will continue to be processed and delivered, including compensation, pension, education, and housing benefits.



Burials will continue at VA national cemeteries. Applications for headstones, markers, and burial benefits processing will continue.



The Board of Veterans' Appeals will continue decisions on Veterans' cases.



Call Centers: VA's primary call center (1-800-MyVA411) and the Veterans Crisis Line (Dial 988, Press 1) will remain open 24/7.



Suicide prevention programs, homelessness services, and caregiver support will continue.



HAVE A QUESTION? CALL US!

The one number all Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors can use to access VA resources 24 hours-a-day, 365 days-a-year.

1-800-MYVA411 (1-800-698-2411)



SERVICES TO VETERANS IMPACTED:



VA will cease providing transition program assistance and career counseling.



Call Centers: VA's GI Bill (1-888-GIBILL-1) and National Cemetery Applicant Assistance (1-800-697-6947) hotlines will be closed.



VA benefits regional offices will be closed.



Public Affairs and outreach to Veterans will cease, including social media, VetResources emails, and responses to press inquiries.



No grounds maintenance or placement of permanent headstones at VA cemeteries.

Applications for pre-need burial at VA cemeteries will not be processed.

No printing of new Presidential Memorial Certificates.



No outreach to state, county, tribal, municipal, faith-based, and community-based partners by VA Central Office.

In the event of a prolonged shutdown, VA will continue to review and update its plan in conjunction with the applicable legal requirements and circumstances. Please visit www.whitehouse.gov/omb/ or www.VA.gov for updated information.

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Download the VA Welcome Kit www.va.gov/welcome-kit/

Subscribe to #VetResources www.va.gov/vetresources/

Veterans Crisis Line: Dial 988, then Press 1

Call 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411) or visit <http://www.va.gov/contact-us/>

VFW Post 1481

Post Surgeon

With the current US Government shutdown, many veterans are concerned about how their benefits and care may be impacted.

Currently there are no major disruptions to veteran's medical care in UTAH.

US Government Shutdown and its Impact on Veterans Services

Services that will continue

- **VA Health Care (VHA):** All Veteran medical care and critical services will continue. This includes appointments, hospital operations, the Veterans Crisis Line (988 press 1), suicide prevention programs, homelessness programs and caregiver support.
- **Compensation and Pension Benefits (VBA):** The processing and payment of your monthly compensation, pension and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) benefits will continue. Education benefit claims processing and payments, as well as insurance and loan guaranty programs, will also continue.
- **Cemetery Services (NCA):** Interments, scheduling, eligibility determinations and processing of headstones and markers will continue as necessary.
- **Key Call Centers:** The MyVA411 and the PACT Act Contact Center operations will remain open.

Services that will be suspended or cease

While core benefits are protected, the shutdown will disrupt some critical support and outreach services.

- **Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E):** Veteran outreach, including VR&E (Chapter 31) and Personalized Career Planning and Guidance (PCPG/Chapter 36) services, will be suspended.
- **Education Call Center:** The VBA Education Call Center (GI Bill Hotline) will be closed.
- **Transition Assistance Programs (TAP):** The VA's Transition Assistance Programs for service members leaving the military will be suspended.

- **Cemetery Operations:** Routine grounds maintenance, new Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) processing and permanent headstone or marker installations by NCA employees will cease.

For more information on the VA's contingency plan during a government shutdown, please visit: <https://department.va.gov/contingency-planning/human-capital-contingency-plan/>

If you are a veteran or family member who needs assistance with obtaining VA benefits or services, please contact your nearest DAV service office at www.benefitsquestions.org.

Please be aware that our Congressional Representative (Rep. Blake Moore, Dist.1) is monitoring this very closely and is in constant contact with the Utah Department of Veteran's and Military Affairs

