



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.®

Post 10630

2022
A Year in Review



January

At our January 6, monthly membership meeting, we voted unanimously to adopt Boy Scout Troop 742. This was the first time that our Post welcomed a Troop into our fold and marked a major milestone in our efforts to reconnect with the local community following two years of isolation and social distancing efforts to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

February

For the second year in a row, our Post membership voted to support the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) support for our community.

March

In step with the National effort to combat food insecurity, we started collecting food as part of the VFW's "Uniting to Combat Hunger" campaign.

April

Post Elections – Commander – Jim Morris; Senior Vice Commander – Doug Willis; Junior Vice Commander – Mike Vazquez; Quartermaster – Bill Greene; Chaplain – Larry Jenkins; 3 Year Trustee – Roland Rochester; 2 Year Trustee – Wes McKelvey; 1 Year Trustee – Mark Arnett.

This tax season was huge. The VITA program provided low/fixed income individuals with free tax preparation and filing. This year we processed 32 federal and 30 state returns saving our residents over \$10k in fees. We were able to help individuals collect \$48,941 in refunds and over \$7,000 in recovery rebates.

May

We hosted a yard sale as part of Town cleanup day and the VFW Inaugural Day of Service. This first annual Day of Service event involved cleaning trash and other debris on Davis Street.

With support from VFW Post 670, American Legion Post 32, the Town of Hope Mills Veterans Affairs' Committee, Boy Scout Troop 742 and Venturing Crew 32, our Post hosted the annual Town Memorial Day remembrance at the Town of Hope Mills Veterans Memorial Park.



May Continued



Our Post presented Outstanding Achievement and Exceptional Leadership awards to Army JROTC Cadet Rheann Aguas at Southview High School and Navy JROTC cadet Jason Perry at Gray's Creek High School.



July

At the conclusion of the VFW National “Uniting to Combat Hunger” campaign, members of our Post collected and delivered over 500 pounds of food to the Alms House.



We hosted a memorial service for Comrade Jake Roth (November 11, 1931 – June 30, 2022). Jake served over 30 years in the United States Army retiring as a Sergeant Major. He was Prisoner of War in the Korean Conflict surviving the Tiger Death March. Later as a member of 5th Special Forces Group he served in Vietnam.

Hosted a Military Assistance Program grant at Smith Lake.

In spite of the intense heat, our Post was proudly represented in the Town's annual Fourth of July Parade.



August



7 Scouts from Boy Scout Troop 742 earned the rank of “Eagle” Scout. Award presentations were made over the course of several months.

Thanks to support from the District 8 Commander and VFW Post 670, we were able to provide Comrade George Stump with a new electric cart.



September



Honored Korean War POW Bud Wilson during our Post National POW/MIA remembrance.

November

Due to unprecedented weather patterns, a late season Hurricane passed dangerously close to our community forcing us to cancel (for safety reasons) our Towns annual Veterans Day remembrance.

Christine Shea from Saint Patrick Catholic School is our Teacher of the Year.



Christina Velez form Jack Britt High School is our Voice of Democracy winner.



Hannah Punzalan, Casimir Graham, Gabriel Lawhorn & Catherine Malone from Saint Patrick Catholic School were our Patriots Pen winners.



December

Our annual Christmas Banquet packed the house as we celebrated a successful year.

Our Post offered Service Officer Training for everyone in our District. Jay Wood from the Veterans Affairs office in Winston-Salem came down to conduct the training.

On December 17, 2022, members of our Post and Auxiliary participated in National Wreaths Across America Day at Adcock cemetery in Hope Mills, North Carolina. Over 60 wreaths were placed on the graves of Veterans buried there.



To finish the year, as part of the VFW National “Uniting to Combat Hunger” second campaign, our Post collected and delivered over 1,100 pounds of food to the Alms House and the Fort Bragg pantry.

In Memoriam

Michael J. Cronin, Jr., August 22, 1967 – April 11, 2022

Jacob G. Roth, Jr., November 11, 1931 – June 30, 2022

Ronald E. Cook, Sr., January 11, 1949 – July 2022

Lui Fatuesi, April 14, 1953 – August 1, 2022

Thomas P. Hudson, September 7, 1942 – September 12, 2022

Charles K. Grimes, May 27, 1949 – October 25, 2022