

THE CANNON NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 2

Next Meeting: Monday, October 05, 2009

September 2009/October 2009

GREETINGS FROM THE COMMANDER

This newsletter is being written during the first week of September. As I look at the calendar, I can't help but wonder how everything that is scheduled for a particular week in September will fit within the confines of one week. As many of you know, on Monday mornings, I help out with Bingo at American Legion Post 10 where I am also a member. On Tuesday, September 15th, the Post is sponsoring a bus to Atlantic City. It will be open to the public and it is scheduled to depart at 0800hrs. The cost is \$40 with the casino providing \$25 in slots. My wife wanted to go on the trip. After I bought her, her ticket, she informed me that she also wanted me to accompany her on the trip, sooooo, I'm now going on the bus trip also. On Wednesday morning I help out with Bingo here at Post 7589. It is actually a fun time and you might consider coming out and helping if you're able to. I am probably mistaken, but I believe that Thursday the 17th is a relatively quiet day with nothing being planned. On Friday, I have an appointment at Martinsburg VA Hospital followed by us having not only our annual POW/MIA Day observance at the Manassas City Veterans Memorial at 1800hrs, but being followed immediately by a Spaghetti Dinner here at Post 7589 at 1830hrs and the Premiere of the World War II Bus Trip by our local WWII vets movie. Then on Saturday, Sept 19th, the Post is having a Recruitment Activity at an Antique Car Show starting at 0900hrs at the Manassas Museum. Also on Saturday, some of our members will be helping comrade Wolfgang Ortner at Applebee's on Liberia with another car show occurring at the same time. Then starting at 1700hrs at Old Dominion Speedway, another Recruitment Activity, followed by the inaugural debut of VFW Post 7589's own Color Guard prior to the races starting at 1900hrs Whew!!!! What a week that's going to be. Well, since writing this out, Thursday is no longer a "free" day for me.

Fall Jubilee will be here the first Saturday in October. A fun time is usually had by all participants. The VFW hands out Halloween bags which are a BIG draw on the kids. Consider coming out and helping out!!!!

I wanted to reiterate the following, the National Guard unit which we adopted, the 266th Military Police Company is currently expected home sometime in October. As some of you may have heard, several male soldiers have been charged with video taping some female members of the unit taking showers. This in no way lessens our support to the unit itself. I would encourage the members of the unit to hold their heads high for the hard work they've accomplished and the good work they've done. I've been trying to find out if they currently have a need for the Avon Bug Lotion. They are currently in transit from where they've been stationed in Basra to another location, in theatre. If we get the go ahead, we'll ship the bug repellent to them ASAP.

We started a new activity several months ago. We started having a drawing for those members present at the meeting, and the winner **wins a gift card** for a local restaurant at no cost to the Post. This month we're also having a drawing for a free haircut at SportsClip located in the new Target shopping center on route 28 across from Piper Lane.

Your Post Commander
Stephen A. Meade
cmdr7589@verizon.net

Newsletter Editors: Steve Meade—(703) 408-0875 & Valerie Nealey—(703) 368-7636

email: sameade@verizon.net or cmdr7589@verizon.net

This is your Newsletter, therefore your input is not only welcome, but encouraged.

Virginia District 8 as of Tuesday, September 08, 2009

Post	Life	New	Reinstated	Continuous	Total	Prior Year	Percent	Division	City	N/R LM
1177	0	3	0	11	14	103	13.59	8	LEESBURG	0
1811	0	1	0	0	1	183	0.54	6	MANASSAS PARK	0
2524	0	1	0	24	25	251	9.96	5	CULPEPER	0
3103	0	4	1	47	52	365	14.24	4	FREDERICKSBURG	0
7589	0	13	1	41	55	333	16.51	4	MANASSAS	0
7728	0	1	0	10	11	44	25	11	REMINGTON	0
8208	0	0	0	7	7	57	12.28	10	STANARDSVILLE	0
9835	0	1	0	7	8	57	14.03	10	WARRENTON	0
District Total	0	24	2	147	173	1393	12.42			0

DISTRICT MEETING - OCTOBER 25TH

The next District 8 Meeting is Sunday, October 25th at 1:00 PM at VFW Post 2524, Culpeper, Virginia.
Commander Stephen Meade

Virginia Department of Veterans Services

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services, has resumed their Itinerant Program at Post 7589. Any veteran needing to file for VA compensation, or needing help with an existing claim, can drop in for assistance. A Veterans Service Representative will be available the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month between 0900 and 1500 hours. This is an excellent opportunity for one to enlist the services of an agent who is proficient with the VA claims process and avoid hurdles that may otherwise impede prompt resolution. No appointment necessary.

Quartermaster Rick Raskin

New Service Officer for Post 7589

Hello to all VFW Post 7589 Members. My name is Steven Botello. I have been a Life Member of the VFW since 1994 and now a member of our Post since late last year. I served in the Navy from 1986 to 1993 as an EOD Assistant/Diver/Aviation Ordnanceman. During these past years in both the handling my own VA Claim and helping other veterans with their VA Claim's I've been lucky enough to learn a great deal about initiating, processing and successfully assisting fellow veterans with obtaining the VA benefits that they are entitled to and that they deserve. I am currently now working with various local veterans who are with our VFW Post 7589, the American Legion Post 10, VVA as well as others in their VA Claim process. I have recently been asked and I accepted the honor of assisting veterans and their families within our own Post 7589 as a Volunteer Service Officer to help our members with their VA Claims. This is my first posting in our newsletter and I hope I can help any veteran towards the goal of getting your VA Claim successfully awarded. My contact information is: Steve Botello Email: Steven.Botello@gmail.com or 1-703-335-9013. I look forward to meeting and serving each and every member of our Post 7589. Thank you, Steve

Report Cites Lack of Oversight

A new report by the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) says managers at the VA were aware of serious problems with a \$70 million project to replace its hospital appointment system several years before the VA dropped the program. VA announced the project in 2000 following complaints from veterans about long waits to make appointments, but the project was stopped this year. The report says managers did not take action in a timely and appropriate manner to address problems as millions of dollars continued to be put into the program.

Military.com—Week of September 04, 2009

Exclusive Blog for Military Community

CNN alum Jamie McIntyre brings his years of military reporting experience to a new national policy and news analysis blog at Military.com -- "The Line of Departure." Each day Jamie will offer his unique take on events affecting the military, giving readers a behind the scenes view of issues surrounding the wars and exclusive profiles of the newsmakers involved with them. Read one of his latest entries, "When Body Counts Count" -- When Gen. Tommy Franks famously remarked, "we don't do body counts" in 2002, at the beginning of the Afghan war, he wasn't being callous. He was making it clear he wasn't making the mistake of measuring battlefield success by the number of enemy forces killed.

Military.com—Week of September 03, 2009

Contribution and Fund-Raising Committee

During our membership meeting held on 31 August 2009, Commander Steve Meade appointed members of the Contribution and Fund-Raising Committee consisting of Steve Botello, Mike Guttman, and Pat Templeton. Also as ex-officio members, Quartermaster Rick Raskin, who is the chief financial advisor to the Post; Judge Advocate Ron Link, who is the chief advisor to the commander on the by-laws and procedures of the order; and Commander Meade.

The purpose of the committee is to review all contribution requests for monies and/or assets of the Post and to ensure they meet requirements of qualified charities set-forth by the membership and any guidance from Department and National. Also, the committee will review all fund-raising activities of the Post to ensure that all activities do not violate any policies of the VFW or state laws.

Any requests for contribution or ideas for fund-raising should be sent to the committee prior to the Executive Board meeting for discussion and presentation to the membership. The can be done in person or by contacting one of the members of the committee.

A report of the committee will be given at each membership meeting.

Judge Advocate Ron Link

Routine HIV Tests for Veterans

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) says it will be routinely offering HIV tests to veterans who receive care at its medical facilities. Under the new policy, veterans must verbally consent to the test. However, they can opt to decline being tested. The new policy follows recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), which advised that all patients should be offered HIV testing even if they are not considered at risk.

Military.com—Week of September 07, 2009

VFW 2009 EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

It's time again for the VFW Educational Awards. One important thing to remember:

Any student in Virginia can enter through Manassas Post 7589. It doesn't matter if your school or class is not participating, you can submit your entry to Post 7589. This of course includes all home-schooled students who can submit their entries directly to Post 7589. The address: VFW Post 7589, P.O. Box 10206, Manassas, Va. 20108.

E-mail or call me directly to get the entry forms: Peter MacLeod at jeanandpetermacleod@verizon.net, 703 220-4545 (cell) or 703 794-1103 (home). Or you can print out an entry form by going to the national website at www.vfw.org and following the "programs" link.

"Voice of Democracy" - This year's theme: "Does America Still Have Heroes?"

This is a writing/speaking competition for any student in grades 9 to 12. You must record your 3-5 minute essay, in English, on a CD (record in .wav format) or standard cassette tape. The typed essay must be handed in with the CD or cassette and the filled out entry form.

"Patriot's Pen" – This year's theme: "When Is The Right Time to Honor Our Military Heroes?" This is an essay contest for students in grades 6-8. You must submit a 300-400 word typed essay in English. You must write your own essay! You must hand in the essay with a filled out entry form.

"VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award" - In this contest, you nominate a deserving classroom teacher. There are 3 divisions: Grades K-5, 6-8, 9-12.

Your nominee must go the "extra mile" for his or her students, must teach citizenship education in some form and promote America's history, traditions and institutions. You must fill out the nomination form and in 350 words or less describe why you feel this teacher should win the award. A tip: At the district level we must have a head and shoulder photo, one page resume, and up to five pages of documentation of teaching experience including news articles, previous awards, references, clippings, etc. The more of this, the better chance your nominee has.

The deadline for all three contests is midnight, November 1, 2009. Entries are then judged by a committee of teachers and the winners announced by the middle of November. The awards are presented at an awards night at Post 7589 in February. The Post 7589 winners advance to the district competition and then on to the state finals.

The local Manassas contest is organized and supervised by VFW Post 7589 and the Ladies Auxiliary.

Good luck to all and the Manassas area has produced many district winners the past several years. **Senior Vice-Commander Peter MacLeod, Education Chair, Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589.**

Some New GI Bill Delays

Several thousand veterans may get their monthly housing stipends under the New GI Bill later than expected. About two-thirds of the 67,000 remaining unprocessed claims were submitted only in the last 30 days. Claims take 28 days to be processed on average, and beneficiaries have been told to get them in at least a month ahead. However, 20,000 of the unprocessed claims are more than 30-days old. Currently, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) received 236,000 claims related to the Post-9/11 GI Bill and completed action on 169,000. For more information on the New GI Bill, visit the [Department of Veterans Affairs](http://www.va.gov) website.

Military.com—Week of September 07, 2009



LADIES AUXILIARY 7589 NEWS

Editor: Valerie Nealey - 703-368-7636 jvnealey@verizon.net

Message from Auxiliary President

Thanks to the following for their sponsorships and supporting the Wreaths Across America Fundraiser:

Robert G. Allen, PC
Jack & Joyce Battle
Pat Cornwell
David Crowder
Richard & Rochelle D'Arcy
Joe & Nancy Dazzo

Joseph Drago
Elanor Doczi
Carol French
Barbara Gilbert

Hainyard Horne

Edna Lucas
Sam & Valerie Nealey
Donald Pack

Jim & Bonny Skalecky
VFW Post 1811 (Manassas Pk)

I would also like to thank the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Unit 10 for obtaining sponsorships for us. During the past year we have been assisting each other with different projects.

As of this date, **46 wreaths** have been sponsored and we are hoping for at least 200 or more wreaths to place on Veterans' graves at Quantico National Cemetery. The deadline is **November 20, 2009**. There will be simultaneous wreath-laying ceremonies worldwide on **Saturday, December 12th at 12 Noon (EST)**. Please let me know if you wish to participate in the wreath-laying.

A Wreath Sponsorship Form is enclosed OR you can visit our web site www.vfwpost7589.org -- click on "Wreaths Across America", complete the form and print it. Sponsorships are \$15 per wreath. Please ask family, friends and businesses to sponsor a wreath. If you have any questions, please contact **Yvonne Sullivan** at 703 368-8621 or ysully@comcast.net.

The Auxiliary will be participating in the **Manassas Fall Jubilee** on **Saturday, October 3 from 10 AM to 5 PM**. This is an opportunity to make the community aware of our organization and also conduct a membership drive. A basket of goodies from local merchants will be raffled and proceeds will go to the Cancer Aid & Research Fund. If you are able to volunteer, contact me at aux7589.verizon.net or 703-368-7636.

Members are welcome to attend the **POW/MIA Ceremony** at the Manassas Veterans Memorial on Friday, September 18 at 6 PM. Afterwards, enjoy a spaghetti dinner at the Post followed by a video of the WWII vets visiting the WWII Memorial in Washington, DC.

Pam Braithwaite is collecting current and expired **coupons** for veterans and their families stationed at the Marine Corps Base in Iwakuni, Japan. Military shoppers are able to use the expired coupons up to six months **past** the expiration date. Coupons are needed no later than two months past expiration in order to let the families have time to use them. Coupons for restaurants and specific stores are not eligible for the program. Please clip and separate into

food and non-food groups and total the money amount of the coupons. Bring coupons to a meeting, drop off at the Post or mail to **Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589, PO Box 10206, Manassas, VA 20108**.

Ladies, if you would like to receive reminders of auxiliary events, meetings, updates, alerts, etc., via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to aux7589@verizon.net

---Valerie Nealey, Auxiliary President

Yankee Candle Fundraiser -- Joanna Roberts, Chairman

The Auxiliary is conducting another fundraiser to replenish our funds so we may continue to assist our veterans and families, our community and youth.

The Yankee Candle 2009 Fall/Holiday Catalog contains affordable gift sets, pre-packaged and ready for gift-giving for the holiday season. For more information, please contact **Joanna** at **703-789-2700** or **joanna_roberts@comcast.net**.

You can also view the 2009 Fall/Holiday Catalog online at **www.yankeefundraising.com** and call Joanna with your order. Make your check payable to: Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589 and mail to 4740 Angus Drive, Gainesville, VA 20155

Hurry! The Sale ends September 27th — Delivery will be approximately November 2nd.

All orders and money must be returned NO LATER than September 27th.

Those members who were given a catalog packet at the last meeting, please contact Joanna to make arrangements about getting your order form and money to me by September 27th.

Buddy Poppy Drive -- Pam Braithwaite, Chairman

There will be a Buddy Poppy Drive on Saturday, November 7 from 10 AM to 2 PM. Locations will be announced at the October 5th Auxiliary meeting. Once again, we are trying to have enough volunteers to distribute the Poppies at two locations. Please contact Pam at **mrsbapple@cox.net** if you will be able to help.

.Cancer Aid & Research -- Yvonne Sullivan, Chairman

The Ladies Auxiliary VFW Cancer Aid & Research Program has three goals:

- ◆ Education – creating an awareness of the importance of early detection and treatment as a major way to eliminate cancer.
- ◆ Research – providing funding to promising cancer research throughout the U.S.
- ◆ Assistance to members who have cancer – providing small financial grants.

Cancer has affected each one of us through a family member, friend or personally. Please continue to support the fight against this deadly disease.

The American Cancer Society has identified 7 Symptoms which could be a sign of Cancer.

1. A change in bowel or bladder habits
2. A sore that does not heal
3. Unusual bleeding or discharge from any place
4. A lump in the breast or other parts of the body
5. Chronic indigestion or difficulty in swallowing
6. Obvious changes in warts or moles
7. Persistent coughing or hoarseness

If you experience any of these warning signs, you should see your doctor right away. It does not mean you have Cancer but it is a sign you should not ignore -- Research to find a cure is great but we must practice awareness.

The Ladies Auxiliary VFW designed and made available the **Cancer Grant**. The Grant is a financial gift to members who meet the eligibility requirements (See Guide enclosed). I pray you never have to apply for this Grant, but it is there if needed. If you have any questions about Cancer Grants please contact me at 703-368-8621 or your Auxiliary Treasurer Angela Fromm – 703-989-5502.

Membership -- Angela Fromm, Chairman

Our membership stands at 52. Notices for 2010 dues have been mailed to members who have not paid. Please mail your \$15 to **Treasurer, Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589, PO Box 10206, Manassas, VA 20108**. Make checks payable to "**Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589**".

This is a great time to reach out to friends and family who may be eligible for the Ladies Auxiliary.

Auxiliary VFW Members are Wives, Widows, Mothers, Foster and Stepmothers (who have performed the duties of parent), Grandmothers, Daughters, Granddaughters, Foster and Stepdaughters (who attained that status prior to the age of sixteen and for whom the duties of parent were performed...of persons who were or are eligible for membership in the VFW. Members must be citizens of the United States and at least 16 years old. Women who are eligible for membership in the VFW shall be eligible for dual membership in the Ladies Auxiliary. If you need membership applications, please contact me at **703-989-5502** or **angela-fromm@gmail.com**

Chaplain

If you know of any members or their families ill or in distress, please contact Auxiliary Chaplain Joanna Roberts at 703 789-2700 or **joanna_roberts@comcast.net**

VFW National Home for Children -- Sondra Burroughs, Chairman

Keep collecting Campbell's Soup Labels for VFW National Home for Children -- bring them to the next meeting, drop them off at the Post Home, or mail them to **Sondra Burroughs** at 11927 Appling Valley Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030-5701.

District 8 Meeting

Our District Meeting will be held at Post 2524 in Culpeper on Sunday, October 25 at 1:00 PM Our Department Representative will be Senior Vice President Betty Gimble. We will meet at our Post at 11:00 AM to carpool. Lunch is served after the meeting and don't forget to bring an inexpensive gift for the cancer raffle.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| September 18 | POW/MIA Ceremony - Manassas Veterans Memorial - 6:00 PM |
| | Post Spaghetti Dinner- WWII Memorial video - 6:30 PM |
| October 3 | Manassas Fall Jubilee - 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM |
| October 5 | Auxiliary/Post Meeting – 7:30 PM |
| October 25 | District Meeting – Culpeper – Post 2524 - 1:00 PM |
| November 7 | Buddy Poppy Drive - 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (place to be determined) |
| November 11 | Veterans Day Activities - 8:30 AM Manassas Veterans Memorial - continue to Manassas Cemetery to place flags and poppies on graves. |

**FRANCIS CANNON VFW POST 7589
703-361-5554**

9304 CENTREVILLE ROAD - MANASSAS, VIRGINIA 20110

2009-2010 POST OFFICERS

Commander	Steve Meade	703-408-0875
Sr. Vice Cmdr	Pete MacLeod	703-794-1103
Jr. Vice Cmdr	Mike Guttman	703-330-3925
Quartermaster	Rick Raskin	703-369-2732
Adjutant	Mike Guttman	703-330-3925
Advocate	Ron Link	571-921-9220
Chaplain	Ron Knowles	703-368-4743
Surgeon	Joe Dazzo	703-361-6041
Off of the Day	Rod Gillett	703-361-8358
Guard	Dallas Kennedy	703-393-9632
Service Officer	Sam Nealey	703-368-7636
Historian	Warren Ewell	
Trustee 1 year	Bob Pace	703-680-1229
Trustee 2 year	Pat Templeton	
Trustee 3 year	Steve Botello	703-330-3925

2009-2010 AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President	Valerie Nealey	703-368-7636
Sr. Vice Pres.	Pam Braithwaite	703-278-8076
Jr. Vice Pres.	Jenn Nealey	703-331-1214
Sec/Treasurer	Angela Fromm	703-330-3931
Chaplain	Joanna Roberts	703-392-3870
Conductress	Sondra Burroughs	703-791-6665
Guard	Patsy Gough	703-368-2697
Historian	Tonya Miller	703-730-0067
Patriotic Inst.	Debbie Baxter	703-791-7690
Trustee 1	Nancy Dazzo	703-361-6041
Trustee 2	Joanna Roberts	703-392-3870
Trustee 3	Lucindy Owens	703-754-4258

President Nealey and others manning Ladies Auxiliary Booth at Last Years Fall Jubilee



VFW Post 7589 and It's Ladies Auxiliary at Last Year's Fall Jubilee!

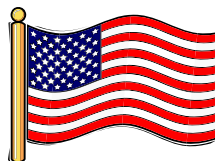


October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Fall Jubilee
4	5 VFW & Ladies Aux Monthly Meetings	6	7 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	8 VA Agent 0900-1500	9	10
11	12	13	14 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	22 VA Agent 0900-1500	23	24
25 District 8 Meeting Culpeper 1300hrs	26	27	28 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	29	30	31 Halloween

The Cannon News

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589
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 Manassas, VA 20108
www.vfwpost7589.org



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August 2009 - September 2009

Inside This Issue

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- ⇒ Adopt-A-Unit Update
- ⇒ POW/MIA Day and Movie Screening of World War II Bus Trip and Spaghetti Dinner 9/18/2009

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day Holiday	8	9 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	10 VA Agent 0900-1500	11	12
13	14	15 Atlantic City Bus Trip 0800hrs	16 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	17	18 POW/MIA Day + Movie Screening & Spaghetti Dinner	19 Antique Car Show Manassas Museum
20	21	22	23 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	24 VA Agent 0900-1500	25	26
27	28	29	30 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm			