

THE CANNON NEWS

Volume 8, Issue 1

April/May 2008

GREETINGS FROM THE COMMANDER

At the April meeting, we will be electing officers for the upcoming year. The nomination committee proposed that those currently serving the Post as officers in elected positions, continue in their respective positions. There has been interest shown for several appointed positions. The positions of Trustees has the current Year Two Trustee moving up to One Year Trustee, and the Three Year Trustee moving up to the Two Year Trustee. This opens up the Three Year Trustee position to be filled by an individual. At the March meeting, we had two separate nominations for the Three Year Trustee position. The two individuals nominated for Three Year Trustee are Comrades Mike Guttman and Paul Purtell. Nominations for all elected positions will remain open until the elections are held at the next meeting.

The post is in very good shape financially, and we're currently sitting at 106.9% of our membership goal for the year. We are always looking for additional members to the Post. We recently held a membership recruiting drive in front of J. E. Rice but, due to the cold and rainy weather, we were unable to recruit any new members. Improvement is always needed in member participation in Post activities.

With sadness, I have to report the death of Comrade Leo Earhart. Leo was a long time member of the Post. He was responsible for the Post having both the Flag Pole and cannon in front of the Post. His wife Doris is a member of our Ladies Auxiliary.

Your Post Commander

cmdr7589@verizon.net

Stephen A. Meade

From the Quartermaster

Our post continues to be in good financial health. We continue to deposit \$1000.00 per month into a capital improvement account that will be used to finance expansion of the post home. The money is coming solely from Bingo proceeds for which we have approval from the Virginia Department of Charitable Gaming. As of this writing, we have \$8000.00 in this account.

We recently held our annual Patriotic Awards ceremony and awarded \$2300.00 in scholarships to our winners in the Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the Year programs. Our other charitable contributions included Sponsorship of a Manassas Little League team, donation to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Center, funding part of Post 8208's Walter Reed Hospital program and financial assistance to two local veterans in need.

Rick Raskin, Post 7589 Quartermaster

qm7589@verizon.net

703-361-5554

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.

SICK AND DISTRESSED

Comrades, if you know of a fellow Comrade who is ill or in need of help, please call either **Chaplain Ron Knowles @ (703) 368-4743** or **Commander Steve Meade @ (703) 408-0875**.

"We honor the dead, by helping the living."

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Executive Meetings are scheduled for the Monday the week prior to the regular Monthly meeting. The meeting is at 6:30 PM. See Calendar for dates. **Note: All officers are requested to attend, and any member is welcome to attend.**

DISTRICT MEETING - MAY 4TH

The next District 8 Meeting is Sunday, May 4th at 1:00 PM at VFW Post 3103, Fredericksburg, Virginia. Elections for District Officers will be held at this meeting. Current District 8 Commander and 8 time Post 7589 Commander Sam Nealey is running for District Commander. Comrade Ben Thomas of Fredericksburg Post 3103 is also running for District Commander. Every member of this Post is strongly encouraged to attend. As always, we meet at our Post no later than 1100hrs and Car Pool to the District Meeting.

POST 7589 WEB SITE

The Web Site has had a complete redesign and you should check it out. The web site contains information on both the VFW and the Ladies Auxiliary. The address is: www.vfwpost7589.org. Any questions pertaining to hall rentals can be directed to our Post Quartermaster at qm7589@verizon.net or call the Post and leave a message at 703-361-5554.

Scouting

Ron Knowles a member of the VFW National Scout Team held the annual judging for VFW Scout of Year at the Post Home on March 8, 2008

We had two Eagle Scout candidates to judge for Post Level Competition.

Eagle Scout Ryan Boone of Troop 924 in Gainesville won first place and will receive a check for \$300 from the Post.

Eagle Scout Preston Watkins of Troop 1185 in Manassas won second place and will receive a check for \$200 from the Post.

The checks will be presented to the Eagle Scouts on April 14, 2008 by Ron Knowles at the Bull Run Scout Roundtable meeting at Osbourn Park High School.

Chaplin Ron Knowles

VFW National Scout Team

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



RON KNOWLES
CHAPLAIN

For the moment, be still. Count the ways you are blessed. Be thankful. ♦ Be slow to quarrel. Search out a forgotten friend. Suspend suspicion, be trusting. Write a love letter. Share a treasure. Give a soft answer. Encourage youth. Show your loyalty in word and deed. Nourish a grateful attitude. ♦ Keep a promise. Find the time. Don't harbor a grudge. Listen. Apologize if you are wrong. Be understanding. Be slow to envy. Forgive. Think first of someone else. ♦ Show appreciation. Be kind. Count on miracles. Laugh more. Deserve confidence. Be gentle. Wage war against prejudice. Worship your God. Gladden the heart of a child. Decry complacency. Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth. Make every day a thanks giving. ♦ Speak your gratitude. Speak it again. Speak it still again. Speak it still once more.

VFW School Visit

4 members of VFW Post 7589 made the trip to Mayfield Intermediate School in Manassas last Veterans Day week to speak to students in the fifth and sixth grade. Ron Link and I are Vietnam Vets, Mike Guttman is a veteran of the continuing war in Iraq and Joe Dazzo took part in three major landings in World War Two.

Ron and Mike spoke to a class in the morning, Joe and I spoke to another class in the afternoon. I was going to bring a crossbow with arrows I had purchased at a Montagnard village in the Central Highlands then suddenly realized bringing a weapon into a school these days would earn me a trip to the Manassas jail. Joe was smart. He brought pictures of Hitler as an audio visual aid. So I dug out my old Army uniform and brought that.

Ms. Cyndy Mattia, a former VFW teacher of the year, was involved so these young students were well prepared. As a former teacher myself, I expected a very short attention span as we told our "war stories." But there was a surprise! Most of these students were really interested. They were especially fascinated by the trip thru History that Joe was able to give them. If you want the unvarnished truth, speak to a young person. They will give it to you straight minus any sugar coating. "Mr. MacLeod, what about drug use among soldiers in Vietnam?" "Mr Dazzo, did you meet Hitler?" "Mr MacLeod, how come we lost?" "Mr Dazzo, why did we let the Russians take part of Berlin?" Be ready for tough, but informed questions at all times.

But the real surprise came later. The students wrote thank you notes to all of us. We'll always keep these, they're so representative of the vast majority of really good young people in our schools today.

Damien Thomas wrote: "You guys are my heroes and inspiration, it makes me want to research the military. Have a Happy Veterans Day!" Austin wrote, " thanks for your wonderful stories about the war you have been in. You made history awesome." Austin's note was accompanied by a picture of a guy waving from a tank. Corey wrote this: " I am going to take all your influence and join the Air Force." His card had photos of returning Iraq War Vets and another picture of soldiers disembarking from a landing craft on D-Day (he must have been paying attention to Joe).

You get the idea. Its rewarding to speak to students about your experiences. If anyone would like to become involved in speaking to students in our Manassas area schools, please let me know.

Pete MacLeod, Senior Vice Commander, 703 220-4545

jeanandpetermacleod@verizon.net



LADIES AUXILIARY 7589 NEWS

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

April/May 2008

Election of Officers 2008-2009: National Bylaws Section 804 and 804A state that nominating committees shall not be permitted. No member shall be elected to office unless she is in attendance at the election or unless she submits in writing her willingness to be elected and hold office. Elections will be held at the **April 7th** meeting. Officers shall not assume their duties until the Department President is installed at the Convention which will convene on June 14. Officers will be installed at the May 5th meeting.

Elective Offices are President, Senior Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, Treasurer, Chaplain, Guard, Conductress and Trustee (One Trustee elected for a three-year period). **Appointed Offices** are Secretary, Patriotic Instructor and Historian which are appointed by the President.

The Auxiliary needs your support; please consider holding an office and/or becoming a Program Chairman. If you are interested and/or have any questions, please call me at 703-368-7636 or jvnealey@verizon.net.

Outstanding Achievement Citation for the Girl Scout Gold Award was presented by President Nealey to **Natalie Popsuy** on February 10 at her church. Also in attendance were members **Kathy Drummond** and **Pam Braithwaite**. The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award that a Senior Girl Scout can earn. We hope to present more of these citations in the near future.

Membership: Give our Auxiliary a "Pat on the Back" for becoming No. 1 in the District and No. 3 in the State with 117% in membership. If you know of anyone who is interested in joining our Auxiliary, please contact President Nealey.

Bakeless Bake Sale: The Auxiliary is having a Bakeless Bake Sale fundraising event through the months of April and May. All ladies are asked to contribute the amount they would have spent on ingredients, plus an amount for their time and skill. You don't need to burn your fingers or dirty a mixing bowl. Everyone is asked to contribute what you would have spent for a couple of pies, a loaf of bread, a plate of cookies, etc. There are no calories in it. All proceeds will be placed in our relief fund to be used for aid, relief and comfort of needy veterans and members of the Armed Forces and their dependents. **Mail your gift to Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589, PO Box 10206, Manassas, VA 20108.**

VFW National Home for Children Awareness Week – March 23 - 29: If you were a disabled veteran with a family, who could you turn to for help? How about if you were a single parent? Or maybe you are raising your grandchildren? The VFW National Home is there to help. Is there someone you know who could benefit from their programs? They have residential and outreach programs. The web address is www.vfwnationalhome.org. Keep these numbers handy to pass on - **Referral: 1-800-851-0238** - **General Information 1-800-424-9642.**

The Flower Gallery has generously donated a floral wreath for a raffle to benefit the VFW National Home for Children. The drawing will be at the close of the April meeting. If you are unable to attend the April meeting but are interested in buying raffle tickets, contact Pam at 703-568-2589 or mrsbapple@cox.net.

By the way, are you a life member of the Home? Feel free to call me if you would like information about the Home or Life Membership. Pam – 703-568-2589 or mrsbapple@cox.net

Veterans & Family Support: What have you done recently to help our veterans? Have you visited them in a nursing home, brought dinner to a veteran and his family or written to your congressman about veterans' rights? Tell us about your volunteer work and share your ideas with us.

Campbell Soup Labels - The VFW National Home is collecting Campbell's Soup labels to purchase a new van for use on campus. Please, continue to save the labels and give them to Pam Braithwaite. The Home needs the UPC with the banner boy.

Overseas Coupons - Thanks to all the ladies who have donated coupons for our Marine Base in Iwakuni, Japan. Recently, Pam mailed \$9,654.17 worth of coupons. Keep up the good work!

Memorial Day Activities – We will meet on Monday, May 26 at 8:30 am to place wreath at the Veterans Memorial (next to Manassas Museum) – immediately following, we will place poppies on graves at the Manassas Cemetery. We will hold a Poppy Drive on Saturday, May 24 (place and time to be determined).

A Fashion Show is being sponsored by Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 1503 – 14631 Minnieville Road in Dale City on Saturday March 29 at 1:00 PM. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the door. Proceeds go to the Cancer Aid & Research Fund. If you have any questions, please contact Betty Gimble 703-851-5819 or Mary Smart 703-580-1169.

State Convention will be held June 12-15, 2008 at the Sheraton Richmond West Hotel in Richmond. If you would like to attend, please contact President Nealey for more information.

If you would like to be reminded of auxiliary events via e-mail, send your e-mail address to President Nealey at jvnealey@verizon.net

If you know of any members or their families ill or in distress, please call **Chaplain Betty Knowles - 703-368-4743.**

2007- 2008 AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President	Valerie Nealey	Conductress	Kay Yeager
Sr. Vice President	Pam Braithwaite	Guard	Patsy Gough
Jr. Vice President	Jenn Nealey	Historian	Eleanor Doczi
Secretary	Pam Braithwaite	Patriotic Instructor	Yvonne Sutton
Treasurer	Angela Fromm	Trustee 1	Jo Drummond
Chaplain	Betty Knowles	Trustee 2	Polly Tibbs
		Trustee 3	Nancy Dazzo

WEB SITES

VFW Post 7589: www.vfwpost7589.org

Virginia Ladies Auxiliary VFW: www.vfwvaaux.org

National Ladies Auxiliary VFW: www.ladiesauxvfw.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Meetings:** Monday, April 7 - 7:30 pm – Nominations/Elections - May 5 - Installation
- Memorial Day:** Monday, May 26 – 8:30 am – Veterans Memorial – Manassas Cemetery
- District Meeting:** Sunday, May 4 – Post 3103 – Fredericksburg – Election of Officers

VFW 7589
FRANCIS CANNON POST
703-361-5554

<u>POST OFFICERS</u>					
Commander	Steve Meade	703-408-0875	Surgeon	Dick Lemmon	703-330-3376
Sr. Vice Cmdr	Pete MacLeod	703-794-1103	Off of the Day	Roy Kennedy	703-393-9632
Jr. Vice Cmdr	Sam Nealey	703-368-7636	Guard	Dallas Kennedy	703-393-9632
Quartermaster	Rick Raskin	703-369-2732	Service Officer	Sam Nealey	703-368-7636
Adjutant	Rick Raskin	703-369-2732	Historian	Mike Guttman	703-330-3925
Advocate	Norb Beville	703-361-7156	Trustee 1 year	Brad Bradshaw	703-754-9850
Chaplain	Ron Knowles	703-368-4743	Trustee 2 year	Joe Dazzo	703-361-6041
			Trustee 3 year	Bob Pace	703-680-1239

April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 BINGO	3	4	5
6	7 Post Meeting Post Elections 1930 hrs.	8	9 BINGO	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 BINGO	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 BINGO	24	25	26
27	28 Executive Board Meeting 1830 hrs.	29	30 BINGO			

May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 District Meeting 1300hrs Fredericksburg	5 Post Meeting 1930 hrs	6	7 BINGO	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 BINGO	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 BINGO	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day - Veterans Mem - Cemetery	27	28 BINGO	29	30	31
	Executive Board Meeting 1830 hrs.					

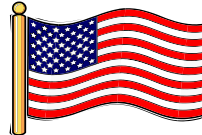
The Cannon News

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589

PO Box 10206

Manassas, VA 20108

Return Service Requested



Support our Troops

<p>Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Manassas, VA Permit No. 434</p>
--

April 2008 - May 2008

Inside This Issue

- ⇒ *Post Elections—VFW & Ladies Auxiliary*
- ⇒ *Our Website - www.vfwpost7589.org*
- ⇒ *Ladies Auxiliary News*