

CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589
Manassas, Virginia
January 2019



Keynote speaker Paul Chase at our educational awards ceremony on December 2

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CANNON NEWS—2015 & 2018 National VFW Publications Silver Award
2013, 2014, 2015 and 2017 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for
Most Outstanding Post Publication/Newsletter, VFW Department of Virginia

Commander's Message



Wayne Moore

Comrades,

Post 7589 and I wish you and your families a sincere, healthy and prosperous New Year. 2018, is in our rearview mirror.

However, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post

7589 promises a continued commitment to its' members. Accessibility, outreach, and support for all veterans with a need remain our goals.

On the horizon:

As we enter the new year, the Post is beginning to review its Membership ledger in search of those members in need of renewal or nearing expiration. Individuals whose membership is about to expire please call Rick or me through the Post number or our personal numbers. Starting on the eve of January 14 we will be making phone calls as a reminder of membership expiration.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia Winter Conference will be held in Portsmouth, VA, from January 11-13,

2019. Any member with questions or concerns that need addressing please let us know as soon as possible.

As previously mentioned Post 7589 and 1811 are considering a pending merger. Votes of the agreement were taken by both Posts. While at the Winter Conference and following the chain of command meeting and input a timeline will establish the way forward.

We have gradually been increasing membership of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria veterans. They are the future of the organization as we age. I am dedicated to the pursuit of young and new blood to our membership. I ask the membership to actively participate in recruiting these young men and women, for the benefit of a sustained continuity, enhanced longevity, and quality of The Veterans of Foreign Wars future.

Congress ordered TRDP to end as part of the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act. All retirees were encouraged to enroll for the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) which was scheduled to open from Nov. 12 to Dec. 10. However, by law, Tricare is required to allow changes through Dec. 31 as the tail end of a series of major

system changes began rolling out January. 1 this year. Retirees who fail to comply with the deadline, must after January. 1, 2019 experience a "qualifying life event" to swap between the program's Tricare Prime and Tricare Select plans or wait until the next open season, scheduled for next fall. Members unable to use the Internet, please call Post for assistance.

Department Commander, Ken Wiseman has brought our attention to H.R. 299, The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act, passed unanimously out of the House on June 25, with a vote of 382-0. The legislation will extend disability benefits covering medical conditions associated with Agent Orange to Blue Water Navy veterans. The Agent Orange Act of 1991 excluded those who served on ships off the coast of Vietnam known as 'Blue Water' Navy veterans. H.R. 299 would extend these benefits to the Blue Water Navy veterans. However, the Bill failed in the Senate. Commander Wiseman is asking the membership to support an important cause by logging into link or info provided below:

<http://capwiz.com/vfw/utr/2/?a=80552661&i=146636923&c=>

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Auxiliary President



Mary Corkhill



During the holiday season, I trust you were surrounded by family and friends which provided enjoyment and celebration. We are now looking forward to the last half of the VFW/Auxiliary 2018-2019 year. The Auxiliary has more exciting events scheduled in order to achieve our mission of assisting our veterans and their families. At this time, I would like to welcome to our Auxiliary family two life members, Marshal Williams and Kylee Corkhill.

Their membership in this organization shows the love they have for our veterans and their families. Welcome aboard.

We want to congratulate the recipients of the Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the Year, and thank guest speaker, Mr. Paul Chase, retired U.S. Lt. Colonel of the US Air Force and a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Color Guard from Stonewall High School for a night of celebration. Our awards ceremony was held at Post 7589 on December 2. Thanks to Ellie Smith, Yvonne Sullivan, Jean MacLeod and Janet Raskin for assisting in welcoming our guests and with the refreshments.



Due to the heavy rain, the only individuals who attended Wreaths Across America (WAA) at Quantico National Cemetery on December 15, 2018 were Fran

Filippone, Jennifer Torres, Wayne Ince (a guest from Florida) and yours truly. The mission of WAA is to Remember, Honor and Teach. By coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at National and other cemeteries across the country, WAA strives to remember our fallen heroes and honor those who serve and teach our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms. This WAA annual event occurs every third Saturday in December. Thank you to everyone who supported the Auxiliary during their fundraiser for WAA. We participate because we think it is a great program and \$5 for every \$15 wreath sponsorship supports the Francis Cannon Auxiliary directly so we may continue to assist our veterans, their families and community. We hope you will be able to assist us again next year.

I would like to thank Lou and Fran

(Auxiliary President Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Filippone for putting together the Post Holiday Party at City Tavern on December 16th. We were honored to have two VFW Department Officers attend this event, Commander Ken Wiseman and Sr. Vice Commander Rick Raskin. A good time was had by all.

During the month of December, Yvonne Sullivan and I visited our adopted veteran, Carlos Ramos, to decorate his room for the holiday and assisted Santa with information as to what he needs. Thank you, Yvonne, for organizing and attending our annual Christmas visit at Birmingham Green so we could present the veterans their Christmas gifts on December 17th. Other attendees were: Patsy Gough, Wayne Ince, January and Erin Germain, Ann Mitchell, Ellie Smith, and me. One of the residents serenaded us with "O Holy Night". That was a real treat and a total surprise to all of us.

The Winter Conference will be held at the Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel, 425 Water Street, Portsmouth, VA from January 11-13, 2019. The weekend starts off on Friday night with the Council of Administration meeting. Saturday is the Auxiliary meeting and Saturday evening will be the banquet to honor the Department recipients for the Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teachers of the Year. If you plan to attend, please stop by the different tables that will be set up for fundraisers.

We have some deadline dates that you need to be aware of: The National VFW Auxiliary is pleased to offer the Continuing Education Scholarship to members and their immediate family. This scholarship is for those members who wish to further their education by pursuing a college degree or career direction at a vocational/technical school. This scholarship is due at National



Headquarters in Kansas City, MO by **February 15, 2019.**

There has been an addition to our Young American Creative Patriotic Art contest. There are now two different types of dimensional art that can be submitted by high school students. **Two-dimensional** art must be on canvas or paper. This dimensional can be done in watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen ink, oil marker or other media taught. What's new this year is **Three-dimensional** art which can be paper, papier-mâché, pottery, clay, metal work, fabric, etc. The **Three-dimensional** art cannot be more than 5 lbs. in weight. **Digital art, photography and jewelry are NOT ACCEPTED.** Please ask any Auxiliary member about these contests and we will provide you with more information or go to the National Auxiliary website www.vfwauxiliary.org under Scholarship/Patriotic Art. We look forward to this year's entries.

There are two events that have been scheduled for the upcoming months. The 8th District meeting on Saturday, February 16, 2019 at Southern Fauquier Post 7728. Lunch will be served at noon and the meeting will start at 1:00pm. The other event is the National Auxiliary Mid-Year Conference on March 14-17, 2019 in Tucson, AZ.

I would like to thank the annual members who have paid their dues before December 31, 2018. As you know, if your dues were not paid, you are not an Auxiliary member in good standing and this could jeopardize you getting a Cancer Grant or any benefits National offers. National has requested everyone to **PLEASE** go into the MALTA system to make sure all your information is correct. You will be able to pay your annual dues as well. If you need assistance, please forward your payment of \$20.00 to the Auxiliary Treasurer, Ms. Elanor Doczi, 7415 Roxbury Ave., Manassas, VA 20109. The National Auxiliary has provided benefits for all of us. Please check the National Auxiliary website www.vfwauxiliary.org under Join us/Receive Service Benefits for more



information. Thank you for choosing VFW 7589 Auxiliary as your home.

There are a lot of things happening at the National Home for Children. If you wish to learn more about this organization, their website is: www.vfwnationalhome.org. The cost of the life membership was increased to \$50.00 as of January 1, 2019. If you would like to become a life member and need an application, please let us know.

We have resumed our coupon project and our total since July is \$21,957.82. All donated coupons are good for six months after the expiration date. Please assist us with this project for our veterans overseas. You may bring your coupons to the Post or gave them to any VFW or Auxiliary member. Thank you so much for your support.

I just received some unfortunate news about Auxiliary member Ms. Doris Earhart who went to her heavenly home this past year. Please keep her family and other individuals or family members who are ill or hospitalized in your prayers.

*Have a very safe and successful
2019 New Year!!!!*

Respectfully,
Mary Corkhill
Auxiliary President



Youth News & Notes



Lou Filippone

The Youth Committee hopes everyone has had a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a Happy New Year.

2018 has come and gone and our Post has had a great year due to the hard work of the Post officers, Post members, and the Auxiliary. 2019 stands

to also be another great year as our membership grows and our level of involvement and volunteerism rises. December, for the Youth Committee, started out with the usual intensity, and ended quietly as expected. This was due to the essay contest activity which occurs during the first half of the month. By mid-December the contests are over and the judging, awards and reports are for the most part completed for both our Post and District 8. Since all our deadlines were met, our reports filed, and no issues were pending, the December Youth Committee meeting was postponed until January

We held our Annual Education Awards Night on Sunday, 2 December at the Post. It was well attended by students, teachers, family members, other guests and by Post and Auxiliary members. All our Post winners were announced in the December newsletter. We had 103 Patriot's Pen entries, 66 Voice of Democracy entries, and five Teacher of the Year entries. Our Post and Auxiliary awarded \$3250.00 in prizes to our award recipients. The level of talent for our participants was impressive which made judging quite difficult. Winning and losing entries were only a few points apart and many losing entries would

have been winners in previous years.

Post 7589 forwarded seven Patriot's Pen, five Voice of Democracy, and three Teacher of the Year candidates to the District 8 judging which took place on Sunday, 9 December. The following Post 7589 winners were also selected as winners at the District level:

Patriot's Pen—3rd Place:
John McDonald - Reagan Middle School

Voice of Democracy—2nd Place:
Juliette Orr -Seton School

Teachers of the Year:

- K-5 Jenny Smith - Mantua Elementary
- 6-8 Scott Cloud -Reagan Middle
- 9-12 Lt. Col. Daryl Robinson, USAF Ret. Stonewall Jackson High

We are proud of all our Post winners who advanced and won at the District level. The first place winner for Voice of Democracy, McKenna Christmas, a 12th grader from Post 3103 in Fredericksburg, is in the running at the Department level and is among the top three contestants at this time. If she wins, Post 3103 would receive the Clarence E Kelly Award for sponsoring her.

Some future events involving our Youth Committee:
Department Youth Awards Ceremony Saturday, 12 January, 2019 at the VFW Winter Council Banquet in Portsmouth, Virginia.
District 8 Annual Education Awards Ceremony Saturday, 16 February, 2019 at Post 7728 in Morrisville, Virginia.
Post 7589 January Youth Committee Meeting Thursday, 17 January 2019 at 7:00PM at Post 7589.
At this time I would like to thank all the Post and Auxiliary officers and members who

volunteered and sacrificed their time and energy working on the Youth Committee and all the events associated with it. A special thank you to Commander Wayne Moore, Department Senior Vice Commander Rick Raskin and his wife Janet, District 8 Quartermaster Ron Link, Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill, Past Commanders Jerry Martin and Ron Knowles. I would also like to thank Comrades Paul Chase, Roger Nicol, and Kelly Williams and his son Marshal, and all the members of the Auxiliary who participated in our activities. A very special thank you and acknowledgement goes out to Past Commander Peter MacLeod and his wife Jean for all their dedication and effort. Without their participation, sacrifice, and guidance I could not have done well at my job as Youth Chair. Peter was the man behind the scenes who did most of the work with the Manassas schools and I owe him a debt of gratitude. Lastly I would like to thank my wife Francine and my office manager Jennifer Little, both Auxiliary members, who deserve a lot of the credit for the success of our Youth Program. They spent countless hours sending emails, contacting schools, students, teachers, distributing and collecting applications, and notifying winners. Without all of you I would be incapable of running the Youth Program successfully.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting in the New Year and wish you all much health and happiness. Until then stay active and involved in your VFW. Our veterans appreciate all that you do. I hear it from them every day.

With best regards,

Lou Filippone
Youth Committee Chair

Department of Virginia Education Awards announced *Finalists will learn their ranking at the Winter Council banquet*

Teachers of the Year

K-5 grade level: **Janice E Ricci**
Ocean Lakes Elementary School
Virginia Beach, VA
District 2, Post 4809

6-8 grade level: **Fawn Papastavarou**
Admiral Richard E Byrd Middle School
Winchester, VA
District 7, Post 3123

9-12 grade level: **James W Eccleston**
Gloucester High School
Gloucester, VA
District 1, Post 8252

Voice of Democracy *State Finalists*

Olivia G. Boomer
Home schooled, Smithville, VA
(District 2, Post 8545 Smithfield)

McKenna S. Christmas
Stafford H.S., Stafford, VA
(District 8, Post 3103 Fredericksburg)

Benton P. McFadden
Dinwiddie H.S., Dinwiddie, VA
(District 4, Post 12145)

Patriot's Pen *State Finalists*

Mary Clymer
is an 8th grader and was sponsored by Post 3150 and the 10th District.

Arden Manson
is a 6th grader and was sponsored by Post 9835 and the 8th District.

Maria Turner
is a 7th grader and was sponsored by Post 8467 and the 5th District.

Merle Hancock honored at Manassas Ballet Theatre Salute to the Military

Salute on opening night of “The Nutcracker” is an annual event

Each year on the opening night of their Christmas season production of “The Nutcracker” the Manassas Ballet Theatre has a special Salute to the Military Ceremony.

This year’s honoree was Merle Hancock a Manassas resident and life member of Post 7589. Artistic Director Amy Grant Wolfe stated “We are so very honored to welcome him to the theater!”



Merle was born May 13, 1924 in St. Louis Missouri. He served as a technical sergeant in the Army Air Force and served as the top turret gunner and flight engineer on a B-17G Flying Fortress. On July 18, 1944, his 37th mission, his unit was attacked by 200 German fighter aircraft over Memmingen, Germany. “I shot down three German aircraft before our plane was hit.” he said. After a heroic defense of his aircraft, nicknamed “Bunkie”, he and his surviving crewmembers were forced to bail out. He parachuted from 23,000 feet over the vicinity of Ravensburg, Germany and passed out from lack of oxygen. He came to just before landing in a tree in a German forest. Captured, he faced interrogation by the Gestapo before being transferred to the Stalag Luft IV prisoner of war camp.

With the Soviet army advancing on the camp in February 1945, Hancock and the other prisoners were forced to undertake a grueling foot march, now known as the European POW Mud-Death March of February to May 1945. They were liberated in April 1945. “It was a long row to hoe,” he said. Merle had been credited with destroying 3 enemy aircraft and awarded the Purple Heart and Silver Star.

Through the efforts of Comrade and Past Post Commander Jerry Martin who suspected that Merle likely hadn’t received the Silver Star he earned, the long overdue honor was finally bestowed at a joint session at the Virginia Statehouse on March 7, 2014. His citation reads in part: “...Despite being seriously wounded about the legs, and in intense pain, Sergeant Hancock gallantly remained at his guns in defense of his crippled aircraft. He successfully destroyed three (3) of the attacking aircraft. Even with flames inflicting severe burns to his legs and hips, he remained at his post until ordered to bail out.”

Merle remained in the military for thirteen years and besides WWII, transitioned into the newly created Air Force in 1947. He also served in the Korean War.

Merle lives in Manassas and has two daughters, Deborah Hepburn and Cindy Hancock, three grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

District 8 Auxiliary President Sheila Hunter



Sheila Louise Yancey Hunter, 78, of Warrenton, passed away peacefully on Friday, December 21, 2018 at Gainesville Health and Rehabilitation Center. She was born September 4, 1940 in Alexandria to the late Thomas V. and Grace Bender Yancey.

She was the District 8 President of the Veteran of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary, and Warrenton Newcomers participant.

Sheila is survived by her husband Curtis Stanley Hunter Jr, and two sons Thomas Charles Delach of Springfield, Va, and Sean David Delach and his wife Bobbie of Bealeton; a brother David Yancey of Alexandria; and three grandchildren Samantha Delach, Jessica Delach and Luke Delach of Bealeton. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 9:30 AM at Moser Funeral Home, 233 Broadview Avenue, Warrenton, VA 20186. Inurnment will follow at Culpeper National Cemetery.

Post's 70mm field gun restored

The Japanese 70mm Type 92 Field Gun that has adorned the Post home has been restored to its original appearance. Historic Restoration Committee, a not for profit organization that seeks out and restores Japanese war relics offered to do the work for the cost of materials. The Post approved the project at the December meeting and the work was completed December 20.



As it appeared in 2009



2018 after restoration



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Type_92_battalion_gun

Type 92 battalion gun captured on Guadalcanal

Judge Jarvis to speak about the Prince William County Veteran's docket

American Legion Post 10 — January 19, 2019
10:00 AM — Open to all—

By Hon. William E. Jarvis

The Prince William County Veteran's docket was developed to give veterans who have been charged with a criminal or serious traffic offense the opportunity to seek and participate in service connected treatment or other services that address service connected issues which led to the current pending charges. Veterans would be allowed to participate in relevant services prior to final disposition of their charges.

The docket is operated on the assumption that meaningful participation in service connected treatment programs will ultimately lead to the best possible outcome of the pending charges. A mentor program staffed by veterans is being developed to help guide participants through the process.

William E. Jarvis is a district court judge for the 31st Judicial District in Virginia.

Utah Senator Stops Blue Water Navy Bill

An objection by Sen. Mike Lee (R-Utah) to passing H.R. 299, the *Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2018*, by unanimous consent on the Senate floor Wednesday has effectively doomed any chance of the bill being passed in the 115th Congress. Lee now joins Sen. Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.), who objected last week due to the bill's overall cost. Lee's objection was because he wants to wait and see more sufficient evidence. "We don't need more sick veterans to prove sufficient evidence," said VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence. "Agent Orange made Vietnam veterans sick, and science agrees that there isn't any reason to treat so-called Blue Water Navy veterans any different than their peers who served ashore or on the inland waterways of Vietnam," he said. "What both senators have done is fail thousands of veterans — many of whom reside in their home states. Their obstruction to this bill's passage forsakes our nation's promise to take care of those who were injured or made ill due to their military service. Their objections put cost above faithful and honorable service."

Greetings from Japan!

This is Yukari from KUENTAI-USA.

It is coming towards the end of the year, and I would like to express my appreciation to all of you who supported our mission this year to search the American fallen servicemen from WWII in the Pacific Theater.

I regret to say that the cooperation from the government was not present this year either.

But we will continue what we need to do and hope it will be more productive and fruitful year in 2019.

We wish you a Merry Christmas, and have a happy New Year!

2018
Wish You a Happy Holiday
and a Joyful New Year!



*Kuentai-USA was instrumental in helping to repatriate the remains of Richard Bean and Richard Murphy. See **CANNON NEWS** October 2014 and December 2018. See more at: <http://kuentai-usa.com/archivement.htm> — Ed*

U.S. Navy Scraps an Age-Old Penalty No More Bread and Water

Changes to the U.S. Navy's Uniform Code of Military Justice from January 1 will mean that sailors can no longer be fed bread and water as a non-judicial punishment for minor offenses on board.

The New York Times notes that, in its current form, the practice is limited to a maximum of three days, but in years gone by, it could have been up to 30 days and was used as a more humane punishment than flogging.

Congress outlawed flogging in 1862, but naval commanders could still call for a sailor to be shackled whilst on bread and water rations. In 1909, the 30 day limit was reduced to seven days, and the option of shackles was banned. By the 1980s, reports The New York Times, a medical examination was required before the sentence could be imposed. Sailors are also allowed three unlimited servings of bread each day.

The punishment, although controversial, has been used in recent times. Under the command of Captain Adam M. Aycock, several sailors on board the *USS Shiloh* reportedly received the punishment in 2015 and 2016 for offenses that included curfew violations and underage drinking. The ship became known informally as the USS Bread and Water.

The U.S. Navy and Coast Guard call non-judicial punishment captain's mast or admiral's mast - from the days when it could involve being tied to the mast and flogged. The term mast can also refer to when a commanding officer makes themselves available to hear complaints or requests from the crew. Traditionally, on a naval vessel, the captain would stand at the main mast of that vessel when holding mast. The crew, who by custom did not speak to the captain, could do so at these times. In modern times, a meritorious mast refers to the commanding officer praising a member of the crew.



Sport Clips Haircuts Just Donated \$1.35 Million to the VFW

And it means even more veterans can go back to school using Help A Hero Scholarships

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Dec. 10, 2018) – At the national headquarters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., the Vietnam War veteran who founded Sport Clips Haircuts handed over a check for \$1.35 million to the VFW Foundation today in order to support Help A Hero Scholarships for active-duty U.S. service members and veterans. Sport Clips began fundraising in October with the goal to exceed the \$1.25 million raised last year for the program. By Veterans Day, November 11, Sport Clips, along with its clients, team members and product partners, raised the money for the largest donation in its 11-year history of supporting those who've served through the Help A Hero initiative.

In attendance was first-time scholarship recipient Army Specialist Ian Tucker, who is currently enrolled at Missouri State University studying criminal justice and legal studies. Tucker's goal is to earn his law degree, work for the Department of Justice and eventually make his way into the political arena.

"To see the impact of 1,300 Help A Hero scholarships at work in the lives of individuals who are pursuing post-military careers is powerful and one of the best ways we can say, 'Thank you for your service,'" says Sport Clips Haircuts Founder and CEO, Gordon Logan, a U.S. Air Force veteran and Life Member of the VFW. "We've been doing this as a team with the VFW for over a decade and have put \$5.5 million into these scholarships that have supported men and women in their education and training goals for so many sound professions...everything from doctors to truck drivers to chefs, counselors and lawyers. We're grateful to be a part of an effort that's making a positive difference for them, their families and the communities in which they live and work."

"Issues surrounding the GI Bill educational benefits have plagued student veterans this year and our Help A Hero Scholarship provides the peace of mind student veterans and their families need," said VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence. "With the help of Sport Clips, their supporters and all their team members around the county, we're helping take care of tuition fees so our veterans don't have to take on additional student loan debt. They've sacrificed enough, and they deserve every road to a successful career that we can help pave."

Clients, individual supporters and Sport Clips team members donated the largest portion of the money raised, while Sport Clips partners Sally Beauty Supply/Direct Beauty Express, John Paul Mitchell Systems, American Crew, Nioxin, Sexy Hair and Gibs Grooming also made generous donations to the



(L to R) VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence is joined by Sport Clips representatives Martha England, vice president of marketing, Amanda Palm, corporate communications manager, and Gordon Logan, founder and CEO.

Help A Hero program. More than \$100,000 of the money was raised from Sport Clips \$1 per haircare service donation made on Veterans Day.

The Help A Hero program started when Sport Clips first worked with the VFW to provide phone calls home for deployed and hospitalized service members and veterans in 2007. When the drawdown in troops began a few years later, the partnership transitioned in 2013 to become the VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" program. To date, nearly 1,300 student veterans have received scholarship grants of up to \$5,000 to enable them to continue in their higher education programs.

Sport Clips is the Official Haircutter of the VFW, and its Help A Hero campaign is just one of the many ways it supports active-duty military and veterans. To find out more, visit your local Sport Clips or SportClips.com.



Annual Education Awards Ceremony December 2, 2018



Master of Ceremonies Post JVC Lou Filippone



Comrade Paul Chase



VOD 1st Place winner Juliette Orr



Post SVC Ron Link, Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill and Post JVC Lou Filippone with Patriot's Pen winners: Annorah Pantavong, Amber Hall and Jonah Saldivar



Post SVC Ron Link, Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill and Post JVC Lou Filippone with Voice of Democracy winners: Gianna Gonzalez, Anton Murray, Barbara Aveni, Merritt Barklage and Juliette Orr



Post SVC Ron Link, Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill and Post JVC Lou Filippone with Teachers of the Year: Scott Cloud, Jenny Martin Smith and Lt. Col. Darryl Robinson

Holiday celebration at City Tavern December 16, 2018



Photo Credits:
Rows 1 & 2 Rick Raskin
Rows 3 & 4 Pete MacLeod



Virginia Department of Veterans Services



JLC Priorities

Initiative	Recommendation	Tentative Patron
JLC 2019-01 Increased State Active Duty (SAD) Pay	That the Governor and General Assembly appropriate \$50,000 to ensure that all Virginia National Guardsmen are paid at least at the E6 rate.	Del. John Bell (senate in process)
JLC 2019-02 Income Tax Subtraction for Certain Low-Income 100% Disabled Veterans	That the Governor and General Assembly approve an individual income tax subtraction for 100% service-connected disabled veterans with a federally adjusted gross income, not exceeding 150% of the federal poverty level for a four-person household, who have not already claimed another exemption.	Del. Jason Miyares (senate in process)
JLC 2019-03 Electronic Ballot Return	That the Governor and General Assembly enact legislation and provide budget support of a pilot program at the Virginia State Board of Elections for \$100,000 and funding for one FTE, for a limited pilot program for the electronic return of absentee ballots by Virginia's deployed military service members.	Del. Steve Landes (senate in process)
JLC 2019-04 Personal Property Tax Relief for Certain Disabled Veterans	That the Governor and General Assembly approve legislation creating a standardized, statewide personal property tax exemption for one vehicle for 100% service-connected, total and permanent disabled veterans.	In process
JLC 2019-05 Free Tuition for Virginia National Guardsmen	That the Governor and General Assembly provide budget support of approximately a \$1 million increase in the annual State Tuition Assistance program for a pilot program to cover the estimated 3.5% of Guardsmen seeking a degree who are not currently completely covered by federal and state tuition assistance.	Sen. Monty Mason (house in process)
JLC 2019-06 VMSDEP	That the Governor and General Assembly remove the requirement that a veteran's disability rating be combat related. Instead, a permanent service-connected disability rating of at least 90%, plus satisfaction of the other requirements currently in the Code, would qualify a veteran's spouse or child for VMSDEP benefits.	In process
JLC 2019-07 Phased-in System for Partial State Tax Exemption for Military Retirement Income	That the Governor and General Assembly support changes to the current Virginia tax laws for a phased in system to reduce state tax on military retirement income up to \$40,000.	Del. Mark Keam (senate in process)

Upcoming Events

2019	
January 7	Executive Meeting 7pm, Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30pm
January 11-13	Winter Conference, Portsmouth, VA
January 12	Service Officer Training, Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel, Portsmouth VA - 9:00 AM Educational Awards Banquet, Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel, Portsmouth VA - 4:00 PM
January 14	Day on the Hill (TBD)
January 17	Youth Committee 7pm
January 19	Veteran's Docket presentation — American Legion Post 10—10:00 AM
February 4	Executive Meeting 7pm, Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 PM
February 15	Continuing Education Scholarship (Deadline)
February 16	District 8 Meeting 1pm/Southern Fauquier 7728
February 21	Youth Committee 7pm
March 2-7	VFW Legislative Conference/VOD/PP/Washington, DC
March 4	Executive Meeting 7pm
March 4	Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30pm
March 12	St. Patrick Day Parade (TBD)
March 14-17	National Mid-Year Conference, Tucson, AZ
March 21	Youth Committee 7pm
March 31	Patriotic Arts (Deadline)
April 2	Executive Meeting 7pm, Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30pm (Election)
April 18	Youth Committee Meeting 7pm
April 27	Flag Retirement - 9am at the Post
April 28	District 8 Convention/Culpeper 2524/12pm (Election)
April 30	Department Program Reports (Deadline)
May 6	Executive Meeting 7pm, Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30pm (Installation)
May 11	Auxiliary Yard Sale (TBD)
May 16	Youth Committee Meeting 7pm
May 25-26	Buddy Poppy Drive (TBD)
May 27	Vet Day Activities/8:30 – Veteran Memorial/9 Manassas Cemetery
June 3	Executive Meeting 7pm, Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30pm (Installation)
June 3	Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30pm
June 13-16	Department Convention, Portsmouth, VA
June 20	Youth Committee Meeting 7pm
July 1	Executive Meeting 7pm, Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30pm
July 20-24	National Convention/Orlando, FL

Virginia Department of Veterans Services Manassas Office

9300 W. Courthouse Rd.
Suite 305
703-479-7437



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.



The VFW National Home for Children



The VFW National Home for Children offers a once in a lifetime **opportunity** for military and veteran related families.

If you know of a family in your community that could use our help, please encourage them to call!

We are currently accepting new resident families into our program.

Most qualify to apply. Caring staff will help families to determine eligibility.

A Great Place to Call Home!

800-313-4200

CANNON NEWS

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