

# CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589  
Manassas, Virginia  
March 2015

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Feb. 22: WWII Veterans gather after dinner at Post 10 sponsored by VFW Post 7589 and American Legion Post 10.

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**CANNON NEWS**—2013 and 2014 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for  
Most Outstanding Post Publication/Newsletter, VFW Department of Virginia

## From the Commander

Ron Link



Sunday night 22 February, the VFW and the American Legion held a special dinner honoring the men and women who served in World War II. It was good to see so many people come out to honor those from what is deemed "The Great Generation".

One of the veterans had served in three wars--World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Jack Cassidy was the oldest veteran present and Evelyn Marshall the youngest. They had the honor of cutting the cake. Evelyn at age 70 decided to celebrate her birthday by a skydiving jump; then again

at age 80 she repeated the jump; and at age 90 she had not gotten it out of her system--she repeated the event again.

I would like to thank Comrades Warren Ewell, Rick Raskin, Pete MacLeod and Jerry Martin and the Ladies Janet Raskin, Rebecca Christovich, Nancy Dazzo, Ginger Harvey and Diane Zalenski (members from the VFW family) for helping making the event such a success.

Three majors events are in the works for our Post:

First is the Memorial Day Ceremony to be held on 25 May. The ceremony will begin at the Manassas Veterans Memorial at 0830. Then we will proceed to the Manas-

sas Cemetery to honor the gravesite of Francis Cannon and place flags on all of the Veterans' graves.

Next is the summer picnic, which is normally held in June [TBD] when we will honor Vietnam vets. This is a commitment our Post made to the Vietnam Commemorative Committee.

November 7th, is the Greater Manassas Veterans Day Parade held in Old Town Manassas. This year's parade will again honor all veterans, but we are especially honoring the Women who served.

Details of these events will be in the upcoming "Cannon News".

## Auxiliary President's Report

Mary Corkhill



I attended the Mid-Year Conference in Anaheim, CA from February 12 – 15 and the National Organization announced

two major changes to the **2015-2016** programs. Starting July 1, 2015, there will no longer be a nationally supported **Junior Girls Unit** Program. No new Junior Girls Units will be instituted from now until the end of the current program year. They highly encourage the youth from the existing Units to continue doing the great things they are doing. Simply invite more youth to join, even boys! The reasoning behind phase-out on this program is declining membership.

Also starting July 1, 2015, there will no longer be a National Ambassador or program to raise money for the **Cancer Aid & Research** Fund. Cancer Grants will **NOT**

change. This restricted fund will continue to provide Cancer Grants to eligible members as a member benefit. The National Organization asks that members still consider sending \$2 per member in order to sustain this fund. However, additional fundraising is no longer necessary. This continues the national shift of focus to the organization's primary mission, which is to serve veterans and their families by supporting VFW programs and services that veterans and their families most need. Please remember that these are changes for the 2015-2016 Program Year, and all current programs should be worked as they are currently being promoted through June 20.

The Ladies Auxiliary is working on the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest for the high school students. The deadline is **March 31, 2015**. Since the Auxiliary has been participating in the contest, we have been honored to have several entries placed in the Department. If you know of any high school student (even home schooled) who would like to

participate in this contest, please let any Auxiliary member know or you can contact me at 703/361-8950 or [mcorkhill@comcast.net](mailto:mcorkhill@comcast.net).

As I stated in last month's news article, we are having two fundraisers. I have contacted Noodles & Company and the date still has not been finalized. We requested April for this event and I will let you know next month. Sorry for the delay. Just a reminder of our Yard Sale on Saturday, May 16, 2015 from 7am - 2pm. We have started taking donations and will continue to do so up to Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> from 4-8pm. Please let us know if you need us to pick up your donations. You can contact me at the above phone number or email.

Due to the weather, the 8<sup>th</sup> District meeting in Fredericksburg was cancelled. There will be **NO** make-up date. The next 8<sup>th</sup> District meeting will be in April at the Culpeper Post 2524. Another event is the 2015 National Legislative Conference at the Hyatt Regency in Crystal City on

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March 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>. This event is to honor the Voice of Democracy winners from all Departments. I hope you will be able to attend.

I want to thank everyone for the Campbell Soup labels. They are being collected for the National Home for Children. With your assistance, they can purchase another bus. Please drop any labels off at the Post or give them to any Post or Auxiliary member. As always, thank you in advance.

Another reminder of election for new Officers will be in April for the 2015-2016 Auxiliary year. Please consider taking an office so we can continue to support our veterans. It has been an honor to serve as your President and I want to thank everyone for such a wonderful job you are doing.

Our Secretary, Ann Mitchell, had back surgery and Dana Zank, also had surgery. Agnes Towne's husband isn't doing well.

Please keep them and any individual or family members who are ill or hospitalized, in your prayers.

Respectfully,

Mary Corkhill  
Ladies Auxiliary President



## Service Officer's Report

Steve Botello



In our service to veterans here in the Prince William area we are meeting and being requested for more and more services in support of their overall needs.

Along with this increased need in our general service to our veterans I will also be working with and conducting the training of more Veteran Service Officers in our VFW District 8 area.

Because of this we are in need of two more volunteers who wish to contribute to and help their brother and sister veterans as veteran service officer in training. We need a commitment from you of 3-5 years. The training we give you and the ramp up for providing the services and knowledge base can take some time.

We will train you and teach you how to interview, communicate and ask the right questions that will help us determine just what we can do to help our veterans and their families with their needs. We need you ... please consider joining us!

Our Service Office Program exists to help and serve our veterans here in the Manassas/ Prince William area. If you know of a veteran in need please contact us immedi-

ately and let us know. We will be there immediately.

It is a great job where you get to work with and help veterans from the Prince William County region with their VA claims, housing, vocational rehab, benefits and provide much needed help to those in need. Please think about it!

Please feel free to contact our Service Officer Team at any time for questions, suggestions or other needs you may have at: [so7589@verizon.net](mailto:so7589@verizon.net) or call us at 1-703-659-0849 or just pull one of us aside and tell us a suggestion of service that we can provide.

Our number one goal is providing the best service to our veterans and their families.

Please do not hesitate to speak to any of our Veteran Service Officers and find out just what they can do for you! They are:

- Steve Botello: 1-703-659-0849  
Email: [SO7589@verizon.net](mailto:SO7589@verizon.net)
- Stephen Meade: 1-703-408-0875  
Email: [SO2-7589@hotmail.com](mailto:SO2-7589@hotmail.com)

Our goal is simple here. We want to take care of all our veterans with the greatest level of service that our resources will allow. Thank you for your service!

If you have any questions please feel free to reach us at our VSO phone line of: 1-703-659-0849 or Email: [SO7589@verizon.net](mailto:SO7589@verizon.net). Thank you.

### Steven M. Botello

Post Service Officer  
Veteran of Foreign Wars Post # 7589  
(Office) 1-703-659-0849  
(FX) 1-703-991-0677  
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**VA DVS AGENT SERVICE  
AT POST 7589**

**2nd & 4th Thursdays  
0900- 1500**

**You may also visit the Fairfax  
office.**

**11198 Lee Hwy., Ste. D4  
Fairfax, VA 22030**

**703-359-1210**



## Youth News and Notes

*Pete MacLeod—Youth Committee Chair*



We want to alert all members of Post 7589 and its Ladies Auxiliary that the first meeting of the Youth Committee for 2015 is set for Thursday, March 19 at 7:00 pm at the Post. Let's usher in Spring with a fresh "youth offensive." Fundraising and Fundraising ideas will lead the agenda. As I mentioned in a previous article, everything from yard sales to bowling tournaments is on the table. We will also discuss outreach ideas to younger Post members and their families, updates to our power point presentation on the Post and Ladies Auxiliary, other audio visual ideas, getting more schools to participate in Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the Year and outreach to the schools through veteran's visits and things like flag and constitution education. If you have new ideas, this is the night to present them: March 19!

The representative from Virginia is Brady Jernigan. Here is an excerpt from his state winning audio-essay on the subject: "Why Veterans are Important to our Nation's History and Future." "I Fly High because of American veterans. I'm the 'flag' of the United States. Those who serve in the military are vital to our nation. Because they define our history and insure our future. The military is a proving ground, weaving a tapestry of discipline, patriotism and a hard work ethic in times of peace and war. Veterans have always been at the forefront of what is best for our country. They lead the way in technological advances, health innovations, integration and equality for women, sending a steady stream of well trained, dedicated and patriotic citizens into the fabric of our country." Students like Brady will be on parade in Crystal City competing for that first prize. Go to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) to get a "live" video stream of, what I think, is the most impressive VFW national program of the whole year.

night, Feb. 22 when tribute was paid to World War Two veterans. A contingent of students from Osbourn High School in Manassas was on hand and the interaction between these teenagers and the male and female veterans, most of whom were in their 90's, was something to see! Somehow the talk came easy and the admiration of these young people for the "greatest generation" was quickly apparent. What got me was the respect the Osbourn students immediately had for these men and women who served their country 70 years ago. There was none of the usual "horsing around", there was attention and interest in what this generation accomplished in standing up to Hitler and the Empire of Japan. Hats off to those from our VFW Post 7589 and Post 10 who were instrumental in putting that night together, a moment we will never forget!

Speaking of Voice of Democracy! On March 2 the National Voice of Democracy winner will be announced by the VFW.

An example of how young people and veterans connect took place at American Legion Post 10 in Manassas on Sunday



### VA Releases Veterans Choice Program Video

The VA has released an informational video on the Veterans Choice Program, an initiative that allows enrolled veterans who live farther than 40 miles from the closest VA facility, or who must wait longer than 30 days for an appointment to receive care from community doctors.

The video covers basic program eligibility requirements, as well as the appointment scheduling process.

The VFW strongly supported the establishment of the Veterans Choice Program as a provision of the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act.

To watch the video, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i9nnsRIX5b8>.

[ACW: 2-20-2015]

### Lieutenant General Richard Natonski to Speak at the Freedom Museum

On March 5, 2015 Lieutenant General Richard F. Natonski, (USMC, Ret.) will speak at the Freedom Museum about Operation Al Tadjr, The Battle of Fallujah, Iraq



based on his first hand knowledge.

General Natonski was commissioned in the USMC upon graduation from the Universi-

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Notes from the trenches

By Paul Chase



**WHAT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE HERE?**

If you look at the current media and Defense press you will see that they believe current, former and retired military members are "unaffordable" because we are "over benefitted" and "excessively compensated". DOD's proposed solution is to do away with the commissary benefit, slash military medical care and gut the current retirement system along with other military benefits.

The U.S. economy is "market based". By that I mean people go to where they get the best value in terms of compensation and benefits. If we are so overly benefitted and overly compensated why are people not beating down our doors to "join up"? Why does each of our Armed Services have Recruiting Services headed by flag officers spending hundreds of millions of dollars to sign up new personnel if we have it so good? The reality is that the average American knows full well life in uniform is hard, more often than not full of grief, stressful and rough on family life. So I say before DOD puts their hands on our programs they need to get serious about real cost cutting.

Here are some simple suggestions that come to my mind:

- Each service academy graduate costs taxpayers an average of \$300,000. Require each service academy graduate to serve a minimum of 12 years on active duty. Any voluntary or involuntary separation less than 12 years of service should require the member to reimburse us taxpayers \$30,000 per year.
- Quit granting limited service commitments for academy athletes. Should we taxpayers be paying for the grooming of future NFL and NBA players! Is this frill necessary? REALLY!

- Ditch service flying and parachute "Demonstration Teams". The justification for these multi-million dollar shows is "recruiting". REALLY. They are another frill that should be eliminated!
- Eliminate "Charm School" tours for newly selected "Flag" officers. Do they really need these round the world and US tours? REALLY?
- Slash Permanent Change of Station (PCS) funding. Talk to senior officers/NCOs and most will tell you they had 20+ moves in 30 years. That's insane! Management 101 says continuity is essential for excellence and productivity. Constant job change is the death of continuity. Just as members become effective they are yanked off to something else. If my memory serves me correctly the annual DOD PCS budget alone approaches a half billion dollars! Gut it and improve productivity! Ever wonder why military spouses cannot develop gainful employment? The new reality is that it takes incomes from both spouses for a family to survive and thrive. Constant relocation makes meaningful spouse employment almost impossible. Many military members tell me they never fully unpacked from their last move because they knew another move was on the immediate horizon. Stupid and costly!

I've just scratched the surface here on things that should be worked on to cut costs before our programs are gutted.

So what is the answer for us? Vote and lobby our elected leaders! Joining the VFW is a big step in the right direction because there is strength in numbers and the VFW has trained and experienced lobbyists. With email, contacting your elected representatives is as simple as pie. Do it often with concrete suggestions for slashing waste in DOD. I'm willing to hear your thoughts too!!

Don't forget, we're over compensated and over benefitted so recruiting should not be necessary. REALLY!

**PETE SLUSHER**

We are blessed with many members of our Post who generously give us and the community their time and efforts. Among these are some who are heads and above the rest and Pete Slusher is one of them. He is a WWII and Korean War veteran and former Army Sergeant Major



who joined the post in 1946 and has been a stalwart performer ever since, even serving as the Post Quartermaster. He just this month donated his 166th pint of blood to the Red Cross over a period of 25 years. That's almost 20 gallons! He has been on the post Bingo management team every week for many years. Most recently he's been a leader in our aluminum can tab collection program, bringing in tens of thousands which over the last eight months has generated over \$200.00 in recycling revenue to the Boston Burn Center. Pete - We honor and salute you for all that you do and have done! You are a true treasure.

**A NICE TOUCH OF APPRECIATION**

Auxiliary member and Bingo regular Marie Arthoffer helped our February 2015 Birthday Boys celebrate with a very thoughtful and creative card. Paul Chase (February 3rd) Warren Ewell (February 5<sup>th</sup>) and Phil Smith (February 4<sup>th</sup> -- not shown) were so honored. Marie we thank you for your kind thoughts. It is nice to see one of our regular players appreciate the members of Post 7589's Bingo Team.

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### ISCC PRESENTATION BY CHESTER SMITH

Through the auspices of Pete Slusher and Paul Chase, Chester Smith of the Inter Service Club Council (ISCC) of Manassas made a presentation on the club's mission and activities at the monthly Post meeting on the evening of February 2nd. Through Chester's initiatives with the ISCC a major portion of our aluminum can tabs have been collected. In fact, he brought 8,000 tabs to the meeting. There are opportunities for collective work between Post 7589 and the ISCC and for additional methods to put in place a permanent tab collection program. This would result in sustained excellent results. Paul Chase will attend a forthcoming ISCC meeting and brief them on our Post's community service activities and our tab collection program.

### ALUMINUM TAB COLLECTION PROGRAM UPDATE

We blew through 200,000 tabs just before the end of the year! That's about \$200 to the Boston Burn Center. What a Christmas present!!!

That represents 75,000 over the goal we set for ourselves last April. I'm going to consult with our collection team before setting our goal for 2015. This project represents the best of the VFW. We get things done without being a burden to the community and spread and give credit to those who made it happen. The collection team wants to thank you all for making this a success.

Pete Slusher  
Warren Ewell

## Revised By-Laws to be presented at the Post meeting on March 2.



The Post's By-Laws were last updated in January 2008. National recommends that Posts periodically review and update them so that there will be no conflict

with National and/or Department by laws.

Since 2008 several references to specific sections of the National By-Laws need to be updated. Additionally, several sections relating to expenditures, committees and appointments need updating.

Accordingly, the Executive Board has made recommended changes copies of which will be available for inspection prior to the meeting. Discussion will follow during the meeting and approval will be voted at the March meeting.

For those unable to attend the March meeting copies are available in the Members Only area of the Post website. Please contact the Post Quartermaster if you need a login for this area. You must be a member of Post 7589 to obtain a login.

[qm7589@verizon.net](mailto:qm7589@verizon.net)

## Annual Members — Please renew your membership.

For most annual members if you did not renew your membership before December 31, you are no longer a member in good standing. National has sent you several dues notices and you haven't responded.

### Please renew your membership.

The VFW succeeds by our strength in numbers. Without your membership our continued fight for veterans' entitlements becomes more difficult.

Just recently several veteran friendly bills were introduced into the Virginia legislature, largely due to our lobbying efforts in Richmond. It is because of our strength in numbers that we get serious consideration from the Senate or House.

### Your membership counts!

You can renew online at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) Click on the RENEW tab in the upper right side. You may also mail in that renewal notice to National or send your payment to the Post. Annual dues are \$35.00.

Those members who joined after January 1, 2014 will have expiration dates one year from the date they joined. National has also sent them renewal notices.

### If you renew early you will get an additional year's membership from your original expiration date.

If you let your membership expire you will get one year's membership from the date your renewal is processed.



# VFW Post 7589 & American Legion Post 10 host WWII veterans dinner

By Rick Raskin

Sunday, February 22 was a day to remember for some 40 WWII Manassas area veterans. They attended an appreciation dinner sponsored by VFW Post 7589 and American Legion Post 10. Originally scheduled for Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> the dinner was postponed one day because of a snow-storm. Fortunately Sunday proved to be a much nicer day.

The program began at 5 PM with an introduction by the event organizer Rebeccah Christovich (Post 10 and 7589 Auxiliary). Following introductions there were addresses by Post 7589 Commander Ron Link, Post 10 Commander Lee Purser, Virginia House of Delegates Jackson Miller (R-50), Rich Anderson (R-51) and Manassas Mayor Hal Parrish. Past Post 7589

Commander Jerry Martin gave a rousing speech in which he noted some individual acts of heroism and illustrated just why these veterans are known as "The Greatest Generation".

A color guard comprised of both VFW and Legion members presented the colors as the choir from Osbourn High School sang the National Anthem.

Marie Komyathy (Post 10) then introduced the Step Sisters, a group of senior tap dancers from the Manassas Senior Center, who provided a rousing program of period music. The highlight was the conclusion of their program, a rendition of the Andrews Sisters' "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy", which had many of the veterans

tapping their feet in time with the music.

LCDR Garry Thornton, Jr., the Regimental Chaplain from Quantico provided an invocation and grace after which dinner was served.

After dinner all of the veterans gathered for a group picture and presentation of certificates of appreciation.

Everyone had a wonderful time and enjoyed the opportunity to reunite with each other.

Future events honoring veterans of other campaigns are in the planning stages.



Elizabeth Lewis & Merle Hancock

Jerry Martin

Marie Komyathy

Jack Cassidy & Evelyn Marshall

## In Regards to Personal Computers

By Ryan Proctor

All too often we find our computers these days either fighting ad ware (those annoying pop-ups we get), a virus or outdated software. This article is designed to help you out with knowing how your system works. The main instructions contained in this is for Windows 7 and Windows 8.

### System Updates:

There are a couple of main things to remember for your Microsoft System and they are:

1. All updates are installed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, this is normally referred to as Patch Tuesday.
2. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, you will need to reboot your computer to install some updates. This is due to some system files that need to be re-started in order for the update to take place. Other updates require a re-freshed system.
3. There are often times optional updates that require you to physically do them. How to install those is simple. For Windows 8/8.1, at the desk top click the "Windows" key and x together. I generally tell people to hold down the "Windows" key then press x. This will pop up a system menu. Click on Control Panel. When the panel comes up, in the search box type "Update". From there, just click "Check for updates". Once it has completed it search, if there are optional updates, it will tell you and all you have to do is to click on optional updates, select all the updates and click install. For Windows 7, click your menu icon on the desk top, select Control Panel. When the panel comes up, in the search box type "Update". From there, just click "Check for updates". Once it has completed it search, if there are optional updates, it will tell you and all you have to do is to click on optional updates, select all the updates and click install.

### Anti-virus:

All computers, whether they are an Apple product or Microsoft or any other version should have an anti-virus program. The virus' out there are getting worse. There are some rare ones that are truly self-aware and will protect themselves from being removed from a system. If you have a virus on your computer, the best suggestion is to take it to a computer service such as "Geek Squad" and let them remove it. There is a fee for this if you do not have their protection plan, but it is cheaper than spending hours of frustration trying to remove a virus.

### Email:

Not all email is harmless. Unfortunately we all get spam email and it's a huge pain in the behind. First, if you are not expecting an email from someone you know that has a link in it, DO NOT CLICK IT until you verify from them that they sent it. This is due to the fact that link could lead you to several viruses. Some of these viruses will require you to make a payment in order to get your system back. I am sorry to say that there is no real way to stop these people. Some are from the Russian mafia, others are from Nigeria. All you can really do is to take your computer to a computer service and they them fix it. DO NOT EVER PAY this fee. If you see a warning from the "FBI" or the "CIA" or any other government organization, it is not real. The Federal Government cannot do that to your computer without a court order and if they do, they will come to your house personally.

### Microsoft Windows:

Microsoft will be releasing Windows 10 this year. They have decided to provide a free update for everyone that has a legal copy of Windows 7 or Windows 8/8.1. This update will come through the update center, this current information is from the Microsoft representative from my office. The exact date has not been re-

leased. Any email or anyone offering to upgrade you is only trying to do a scam at this point in time. I will be more than happy to let the post know when the update will be available for all once I know. I would strongly suggest that you do update to Windows 10. The new operating system will have greatly enhanced security and will improve overall functionality. For those who are using Windows 8/8.1, the Start Screen will go away and return you to a desktop environment. The Start menu will now contain the Windows applications that way. Details are still slowly coming out from Richmond, WA.

### I NEED HELP:

We all have said that at some point. If you are in the Fair Lakes area, I suggest stopping by the Best Buy there and visiting the center of the store where Solution Central is. Some of the people there, I have trained myself. They offer one on one training and group session training. The group session training is generally on Saturday morning and will introduce you to the current Windows Operating System. They do have Apple classes as well. The only reason I recommend them is because I did work in that Solution Central and know what they are capable of. The actual Windows class is done by the Microsoft Rep in the store as it the Apple classes.

I am more than happy to help out with quick answers if someone emails me. I can't do phone that much due to my work environment. Please feel free to email me quick questions at [rprocto2@hotmail.com](mailto:rprocto2@hotmail.com). Please do not be offended if I refer you to Geek Squad or some other place. It is generally because either the question requires some training or someone with a bit more knowledge than I have. Computers are there for us to enjoy. It is like a lawn, it requires some maintenance and is happy when all is well.

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*Comrade Proctor is a member of Post 7589 and is an IT professional. Ed.*





(Left to right) Ann Parker Komara, Melinda Hamilton, Craig Blackman

### Three Teachers Selected for National Awards by the VFW

*Teachers and their respective schools to benefit*

Kansas City, Mo. (February 25, 2015) – Each year for the past 16 years, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. (VFW) has recognized three exceptional teachers for their outstanding commitment to teach Americanism and patriotism to their students.

The Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award recipients are selected from entries submitted by

local VFW Posts in the U.S. and overseas. The entries detail a local teacher’s act of promoting civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism in the classroom. There are three categories of competition: elementary school (K-5), middle school (6-8) and high school (9-12).

Ann Parker Komara, a fifth-grade teacher at Ottobine Elementary School in Dayton, Va., was named the winner at the elementary school level. At the middle school level, Melinda Hamilton, a seventh grade social studies teacher at River Bend Middle School in Claremont, N.C., was named the winner. Craig Blackman, a history teacher at Indian River High School in Chesapeake, Va., was selected at the high school level.

Each teacher receives a \$1,000 award for their professional development and another \$1,000 for their school. In addition, all three teachers receive an all-expense-paid trip to Pittsburgh, Pa., where the awards will be presented during the 2015 VFW National Convention, July 18-22.

Kevin Jones, director of VFW Programs, commented, “Civic-mindedness is a very important trait that takes cultivation through experiences to develop. This year’s award recipients have worked to ensure their students gain a sincere understanding of American principles; an understanding that will certainly serve them well in the future.”

—VFW—

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ty of Louisville in May 1973. His career spanned 37 years which included the Vietnam War, actions in Somalia and as a U.N. Observer in the Middle East and the Iraq War. After his USMC retirement he has become a Marine Corps senior mentor, Center for Naval Analysis Senior Fellow, JWF Industries Board Member, Johns

Hopkins University Adjunct Professor and instructor for the U.S. Strategic Leadership Center in Gettysburg, PA. He has also been a member of the Conservation Leadership Council and the National Museum of the Marine Corps Advisory Board.

Admission to the Freedom Museum is free and refreshments will be served. The

presentation will be from 7:00 PM to 8:45 PM at the museum which is located in the Manassas Airport Terminal, 10600 Harry Parrish Blvd., Manassas, VA 20110. For further information and directions to the museum, visit: [www.freedommuseum.org](http://www.freedommuseum.org).

2015—16 Essay Topics

Patriot’s Pen (Grades 6-8)  
“What Freedom Means to Me”

Voice of Democracy (Grades 9–12)



## **Marines in Vietnam: A Fifty Year Anniversary Com- memoration of Marines Landing in Da Nang**



**Friday March 6, 2015**

**9 am – 5 pm**

**The National Museum of the Marine Corps**

### **In the Vietnam Gallery:**

**9:00-5:00** - Listen to Vietnam Veterans throughout the day "share" their experiences and stories.

### **In Scuttlebutt Theater:**

**10:00-11:00** - The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Program by Mark Franklin, Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret)

**11:30-12:30** - Fighting the North Vietnamese by Richard Camp, Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret)

**1:30-2:30** - Operation Starlite by Rod Andrew Jr., Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve

**3:00-4:00** - Vietnam: Through a Marine's Eyes by Bill Peters, Major, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret)

### **In the galleries exit located outside the Vietnam Gallery:**

**9:00-5:00** - Exhibits displaying artifacts, artwork, and future events related to Marines in Vietnam from exhibitors such as the National Museum of the Marine Corps Visitor Services Outreach Team and US Marines Vietnam combat commander and artist, Denham B. Clements, showing his award winning artwork titled, Vietnam Elegy.

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## Upcoming Events

- Mar. 1–5** National Legislative Conference — Hyatt Regency, Crystal City  
(This event honors the Voice of Democracy from all Departments.)
- Mar. 2** General Membership Meeting -- 1930
- Mar 5** Lieutenant General Richard Natonski to Speak at the Freedom Museum
- Mar 6** Marines in Vietnam: A Fifty Year Anniversary Commemoration of Marines Landing in Da Nang
- Mar. 19** Youth Committee Meeting -- 1900
- Mar. 31** Deadlines for Auxiliary's Patriotic Arts Contest entries
- Apr. 6** General Membership Meeting -- 1930
- Apr. 18** Department Commander's and Auxiliary President's Homecoming, Harrisonburg, VA



## CANNON NEWS

The official publication of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the US  
Francis Cannon Post No. 7589  
P.O. Box 10206  
Manassas, VA 20108-0668

Please visit our website at [www.vfw7589.org](http://www.vfw7589.org)

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Please email articles to [gm7589@verizon.net](mailto:gm7589@verizon.net)  
Please send photos as attachments and not imbedded in your article.  
We reserve the right to edit submitted articles for clarity and syntax.