

CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589
Manassas, Virginia
April 2014



*Comrade Merle Hancock awarded the Silver Star 70 years after he earned it.
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From the Editor



Candidate for Department of Virginia Surgeon

I announce my candidacy for the office of Department Surgeon for the 2014-15 year.

I do not take this action lightly and it is only after deep thought that I have arrived at this decision.

I have been active in the Legislative Committee, I chair the Resolutions Committee, I am an associate editor of The Virginia Veteran and as BLOG master I have assisted with information technology throughout the Department. It is through my efforts to refurbish used computers that a number of Posts that could not

afford a computer now have one.

As four term commander of the 8th District I have empowered Post leaders to actively participate in recruiting, reporting service hours and carrying out the business of the VFW. Through teamwork we have built a strong and resilient group of Posts.

With over 25 years of corporate management experience I believe I can help the Department of Virginia continue to rise within this great organization. I humbly solicit your support in my endeavor.

From the Commander



First, I want to wish Dave Crowder and his wife all the best with their move to Coral Gables, Florida. Dave has been a loyal supporter of the Post, serving as Trustee, working several recruiting drives, and Buddy Poppy campaigns. Dave has resigned his position as Trustee. I thank Dave for his service.

Now that the days are warming up, we will have a few Community Events. I ask for your help on these

activities. We are not asking for a big commitment just an hour or two to assist the Post. Recruiting drives, Poppy campaigns, memorial services, and flag retirements are just a few. Please help.

Election of Post Officers will take place during the Membership Meeting on 7 April 2014 with the meeting starting at 7:30 pm. This year the slate of officers elected has changed due to a change in the National By-laws. The offices of Judge Advocate and Surgeon are now appointed positions. Our slate of nominated officers are:

- Commander Ron Link
- Senior Vice Commander Pete MacLeod
- Junior Vice Commander Steve Botello
- Quartermaster Rick Raskin
- Chaplain Joel Chase
- Trustee 3 Terry Bursey

- Trustee 2 *NOW VACANT DUE TO RESIGNATION*

Now for the outstanding events during the month:

Merle Hancock received a long overdue honor last month. On the floor of the Virginia General Assembly, he was awarded our Nation's Silver Star some 70 years ago, but finally received it last month.

Rick Raskin has officially declared his candidacy for Department Surgeon. The campaign, if successful would put Rick in line to work his way through the chairs to Department Commander. Good luck Rick

All the best,

Ron

Auxiliary President's Report



We would like to thank all the students for participating in the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. This is the Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship program. I would like to thank the Commanders for their assistance with this program. The first place winner's art work will be forwarded to the state level for judging. If their art work is selected first at the state level, it will be forwarded to National Headquarters in Kansas City, MO for judging. The winner at the National level receives a \$10,000 scholarship.

The election for the 2014-2015 Officers will be held on Monday, April 7th during the monthly meeting. The newly elected officers will take their new positions after the Department Convention in June. Please consider holding a position for your Ladies Auxiliary. I would also like to remind the members who have not paid their 2013 dues, to please forward your \$20 to Elanor Doczi, 7415 Roxbury Ave., Manassas, VA 20109. Thank you in advance.

Please join us for our Yard Sale on April 26th from 7am-2pm. We will be taking donations on Friday, April 25th from 4-8pm at the Post. If you can assist with this event, please let me know.

We are also in the process of finalizing another fundraiser scheduled for May or June. More information will become available as soon as all the arrangements have been made.

The 8th District meeting will be held on Sunday, April 27th in Culpeper, VA at 1:00pm. District election will be held for the 2014-2015 Auxiliary year. Please come and

join us.

We are collecting coupons for the military overseas. You can bring them to the Post at any time. We will see that they are given to the USO. The expiration date is extended another 6 months when they are given to the USO.

As always, please keep collecting Campbell's soup labels for the VFW National Home for Children. We are very happy to receive any labels from the public. Please bring the labels to the Post.

For individuals or family members who are ill or hospitalized, you are in our prayers.

Respectfully,
Mary Corkhill
Ladies Auxiliary President



Service Officer's Report



Please seek out and contact any of our Service Officers here at Post 7589 and ask about this. We will assist you in filing for this benefit with the DVA and see if you qualify

for it.

Please also feel free to contact our Service Officer Team at any time for questions, suggestions or other needs you may have at: 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:

Wayne Moore 1-703-361-5554
Email: mgr7590@verizon.net

Stephen Meade 1-703-408-0875
Email: 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.

Thank you,
Steven M. Botello
Post Service Officer

Need help with filing VA claims?

VA DVS AGENT SERVICE
2nd & 4th THURSDAYS
0900 - 1500

Post 7589
9304 Centreville Rd.
Manassas, Virginia

APPOINTMENTS PLEASE
Walk-ins Accepted
703-359-1210

Youth News and Notes



On Friday, March 21, the VFW Post 7589 and Ladies Auxiliary Youth Committee welcomed students and professors from the film club at the Woodbridge campus of Northern Virginia Community College to Post headquarters. The club's goal was to record combat remembrances from Post 7589 members resulting in a production that can be an accomplishment for the students and a legacy item for Post 7589 and something to show school classes and other young people.

I will tell you, this was a professional outfit. It was hard to believe these

were students and not a crew from network TV. We had countdowns, instructions and lighting that had to be just so. Professors Bryan Brown and Chris Stallings were in charge and ran a tight ship. Quiet on the Set!!!

We had great participation from the Post: Ernest Merle Hancock (World War Two Army Air Corps, former POW, received the Silver Star), Joel Chase (Army, Vietnam, awarded the Silver Star), Paul Chase (Air Force, Vietnam), Steve Botello (Navy, Desert Storm), Rick Raskin (Army, Vietnam), Pete MacLeod (Army, Vietnam), Richard Cherney (Marines, Iraq).

It was hard to top the incredible narratives of Merle Hancock and Joel Chase but I thought one of the more striking stories came from one of our newest and youngest members of Post 7589, Richard Cherney. He told of his first days in Iraq, on patrol, and the smell of everything (those of us who were in Vietnam know what he is talking about). But he goes on to tell of seeing the dirt

around him kicking up and suddenly realizing he was under fire! Well, when the DVD is ready, you can all see and hear his story and those of our other comrades.

Former Post 7589 commander Sam Nealey always used to say he felt confident about the future of this country after reading the Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy essays each year. Just working with these young college students and seeing the respect they gave each and every veteran they interviewed and recorded made you feel good. Then hearing the very natural way our young Richard Cherney talked about putting his life on the line for our country, you have to be proud and have faith in our youth.

Pete MacLeod,
SVC and Youth Chair

See pictures of this event on page 6.

2014 Voice of Democracy Theme

“Why Veterans Are Important To Our Nation’s History And Future.”

2014 Patriot’s Pen theme

“Why I Appreciate America’s Veterans.”

NVCC film project includes veteran interviews at Post 7589



Merle Hancock



Joel Chase



Rick Cherney



Paul Chase



Rick Raskin



Pete MacLeod



Steve Botello



WWII Veteran Honored at Virginia Statehouse

Ernest Merle Hancock of Manassas honored with Silver Star 70 years after he earned it.

Comrade Ernest Merle Hancock was finally awarded the Silver Star some 70 years after he earned it for his gallantry in World War II. Maj. Gen. James Post, director of operations for Headquarters Air Combat Command at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, presented Hancock the award during a ceremony at the Virginia House of Delegates.



Comrade Ernest Merle Hancock

Merle was a technical sergeant in the Army Air Forces 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. "I shot down three German aircraft before our plane was hit," he told Prince William Living last Spring in an article on The Freedom Museum of Manassas, where he volunteers.

There was a fire on his aircraft that

caused severe burns to his hips and legs. When ordered to evacuate, 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 until they were liberated in April 1945. "It was a long row to hoe," he said.

Through the efforts of Comrade Jerry Martin who suspected that Merle likely hadn't been given the medal he earned, the long overdue honor was finally bestowed at a joint session at the Virginia Statehouse on March 7, 2014.

Del. Richard L. Anderson (R-Prince William) and also a VFW member wore his military uniform to honor Merle during the presentation and also sponsored House Joint Resolution 487 commending him.

Del. Jackson H. Miller (R-Manassas) said the Prince William County delegation has been working on the issue for six months.

Comrade Fishpaw offers Traffic Court assistance to homeless (and formerly homeless) veterans

COL (R) Edward Rinker Fishpaw - JD, Esq.- is a life member of VFW Post 7589. Residing in his hometown of Manassas, VA, "Colonel Ed" has started a part time law practice after retiring from government service. His practice focuses primarily on Traffic Court cases and normally involves reckless driving (speeding) and selected DUI cases. He does not normally handle accident cases as those are usually done by Personal Injury lawyers.



As a trial attorney authorized to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia, Colonel Ed has offered to help homeless vets, as well as formerly homeless vets who have "boot-strapped" themselves hoping for a new life. The latter may not qualify

for a court appointed attorney and thus are once again stuck in the MATRIX.

(Quoting Colonel Ed: "Hopefully, my brothers and sisters are not still stuck in the MATRIX. If so, may

PEACE be with them and NAMASTE!")

Colonel Ed will provide pro bono legal representation to these homeless and formerly homeless vets if he decides to accept their case. Colonel Ed says that he "Fights for his Clients" and will negotiate with the prosecutor and litigate these traffic cases in a trial court as needed.

For more information, contact Colonel Ed directly by non-confidential email at edfishpaw@gmail.com or leave a short non-confidential message (up to 30 seconds) with your contact information at [703-335-5422](tel:703-335-5422).

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services Announces Partnership with the Virginia Employment Commission to Support the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program

Richmond, March 7, 2014 - The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) is pleased to announce that the agency has entered into a formal partnership with the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) to collaborate on the execution of the Commonwealth of Virginia's Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program.

As the lead administering agency, DVS will continue the workforce assessment and training programs with substantially revised materials, and the Commonwealth's certification process for participating companies. The VEC, as the assisting agency, will execute the program with highly-trained personnel and its robust data infrastructure already in place.

"This partnership will enable the Commonwealth to maximize the efficiency of service delivery and resource allocation by using existing public infrastructure and personnel. Together, these two agencies will ensure that V3-certified companies will have the best available resources to recruit, hire, train, and retain Virginia's Veterans", notes the Commissioner of DVS, Paul Galanti. Sam Lupica, Acting Commissioner of the Virginia Employment Commission said "The Virginia Employment Commission is proud to be partnering with the Department of Veterans Services on this important initiative. The VEC remains com-

mitted to providing the highest level of services to our veterans, and we see this as a great opportunity in that respect. This partnership will afford both the VEC and DVS the opportunity to enhance the services we offer to both Virginia's veterans and employers."

In addition to the collaboration efforts of DVS and VEC, PD Systems, Inc. will provide curriculum development and consulting support to DVS with the purpose of educating businesses, local and state agencies, and other entities on the value of hiring Veterans. This will include curriculum that promotes successful and innovative methods for recruiting, hiring, training, and retaining Veterans.

"We invite both employers and veterans who wish to learn more about the V3 program to visit our website, www.dvsV3.com" says Andrew Schwartz, V3 Program Manager.

About the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program

Serving as a national model and recipient of the Innovation in Government Award by Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Government & Public Affairs, The V3 program builds vital public-private partnerships by leveraging state and federal agencies and industry leaders to share resources and educate em-

ployers on how to tap in to the exceptional pool of talented veterans, reservists and National Guard in Virginia's workforce. In its pilot year, V3 trained more than 500 employers who have provided over 3,000 jobs for Virginia Veterans and serves to position Virginia as the Most Veteran Friendly state in the nation.

The Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program is the official Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Veterans Services Program whose mission is to educate and train employers throughout the Commonwealth on the Value of Virginia's Veterans, and to help employers connect with these personnel assets to maximize the productivity of their workforce. To learn more visit www.dvsV3.com or contact Andrew Schwartz, V3 Program Manager, Veterans Education, Training, and Employment Division of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (804) 786-0597 andrew.schwartz@dvs.virginia.gov.



Letter from a Senior Citizen to his Senators

Senator Patty Murray
Senator Maria Cantwell
Washington, DC, 20510

Dear Senator:

I have tried to live by the rules my entire life. My father was a Command Sergeant Major, U.S. Army, who died of combat related stresses shortly after his retirement. It was he who instilled in me those virtues he felt important - honesty, duty, patriotism and obeying the laws of God and of our various governments. I have served my country, paid my taxes, worked hard, volunteered and donated my fair share of money, time and artifacts.

Today, as I approach my 79th birthday, I am heart-broken when I look at my country and my government. I shall only point out a very few things abysmally wrong which you can multiply by a thousand fold. I have calculated that all the money I have paid in income taxes, my entire life, cannot even keep the Senate barbershop open for one year! Only Heaven and a few tight-lipped actuarial types know what the Senate dining room costs the taxpayers. So please, enjoy your haircuts and meals on us.

Last year, the president spent an estimated 1.4 billion on himself and his family. The vice president spends millions on hotels. They have had 8 vacations so far this year! And our House of Representatives and Senate have become America's answer to the Saudi royal family. You have become the "perfumed princes and princesses" of our country.

In the middle of the night, you voted in the Affordable Health Care Act, a.k.a. "Obama Care", a bill which no more than a handful of senators or

representatives read more than several paragraphs, crammed it down our throats, and then promptly exempted yourselves from it substituting your own taxpayer-subsidized golden health care insurance.

You live exceedingly well, eat and drink as well as the "one percenters," consistently vote yourselves perks and pay raises while making 3.5 times the average U.S. individual income, and give up nothing while you (as well as the president and veep) ask us to sacrifice due to sequestration (for which, of course, you blame the Republicans, anyway).

You understand very well the only two rules you need to know - (1) How to get elected, and (2) How to get re-elected. And you do this with the aid of an eagerly willing and partisan press, speeches permeated with a certain economy of truth, and by buying the votes of the greedy, the ill-informed and under-educated citizens (and non-citizens, too, many of whom do vote) who are looking for a handout rather than a job. Your so-called "safety net" has become a hammock for the lazy. And, what is it now, about 49 or 50 million on food stamps - pretty much all Democrat voters - and the program is absolutely rife with fraud with absolutely no congressional oversight?

I would offer that you are not entirely to blame. What changed you is the seductive environment of power in which you have immersed yourselves. It is the nature of both houses of Congress which requires you to subordinate your virtue in order to get anything done until you have achieved a leadership role. To paraphrase President Reagan, it appears that the second oldest profession (politics), bears a remarkably strong resemblance to the oldest (prostitution).

As the hirsute, first Baron, John Emerich Edward Dalberg Acton (1834 -1902), English historian and moralist, so aptly and accurately stated, "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men." I'm only guessing that this applies to the female sex as well. Tell me, is there a more corrupt entity in this country than Congress? While we middle class people continue to struggle, our government becomes less and less transparent, more and more bureaucratic, and ever so much more dictatorial, using Czars and Secretaries to tell us (just to mention a very few) what kind of light bulbs we must purchase, how much soda or hamburgers we can eat, what cars we can drive, gasoline to use, and what health care we must buy. Countless thousands of pages of regulations strangle our businesses costing the consumer more and more every day.

As I face my final year, or so, with cancer, my president and my government tell me "You'll just have to take a pill," while you, Senator, your colleagues, the president, and other exulted government officials and their families will get the best possible health care on our tax dollars until you are called home by your Creator, while also enjoying a retirement beyond my wildest dreams, which of course, you voted for yourselves, and we pay for.

The chances of you reading this letter are practically zero as your staff will not pass it on, but with a little luck, a form letter response might be generated by them with an auto signature applied, hoping we will believe that you, our senator or representative, has heard us, and actually cares.

This letter will, however, go on line where many others will have the

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chance to read one person's opinion, rightly or wrongly, about this government, its administration, and its senators and representatives.

I only hope that occasionally you might quietly thank the taxpayer for all the generous entitlements which you have voted yourselves, for which, by law, we must pay, unless, of course, it just goes on the \$17 trillion national debt for which your children, and ours, and your grandchildren and ours, ad infinitum, must eventually try to pick up the tab.

My final thoughts are that it must take a person who has either lost his or her soul, or conscience, or both, to seek re-election and continue to destroy this country I deeply love, and

put it so far in debt that we will never pay it off while your lot improves by the minute, because of your power. For you, Senator, will never stand up to the rascals in your House who constantly deceive the American people. And that, my dear Senator, is how power has corrupted you and the entire Congress.

The only answer to clean up this cesspool is term limits. This, of course, will kill the goose that lays your golden eggs. And woe be to him (or her) who would dare to bring it up.

Sincerely,
Bill Schoonover¹
3096 Angela Lane
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

¹Bill Schoonover is a 78-year-old (as of 2013) U.S. Army veteran residing in Oak Harbor, Washington, familiar to many readers as the author of several caustic letters to members of Congress which have been published on the Internet.

Read more at:

<http://www.snopes.com/politics/soapbox/schoonover.asp#1DsVsosQj35dKP2b.99>



March 15: St. Patrick's Day parade in Old Town Manassas. VFW and American Legion Members assisted by JROTC cadets. Rick Raskin and Warren Ewell 3rd & 4th from the left. Photo by Angela Fromm.

Forbes Introduces Legislation to Protect Military Commissaries

Washington, D.C. - Congressman J. Randy Forbes (VA-04) introduced the Military Commissary Sustainment Act ([H.R.4217](#)) to prohibit funding reductions for the defense commissary system in FY 2015, pending a report of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission:

“The President’s budget request proposes to eliminate support for our defense commissaries, one of the military family’s most valued benefits. Such a cut would raise prices and reduce the savings to our military families,” Congressman Forbes said. “Reducing commissary service

is essentially cutting the pay of those who volunteer to wear this nation’s uniform and is an unacceptable breach of faith with our warriors and their families. My legislation will prevent any such reductions in the coming year, removing yet another burden that our servicemembers and their families would have to face.”

Seeking Purple Heart Recipients

Close to 2 million Purple Hearts have been awarded since the medal was created in 1932, but the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor only has the names of 193,000 recipients in its

database. If you or a loved one received a Purple Heart, make sure to add your names to the Hall of Honor, along with photos and narratives of when, where and how the medal was

earned. For more information or to submit, go to <http://thepurpleheart.com/>.

D-Day 70th Anniversary Planning

France to provide D-Day veterans and a guest with roundtrip transportation from Paris to Normandy

According to the U.S. Embassy in Paris, France is offering to provide D-Day veterans and a guest with roundtrip transportation from Paris to Normandy, and lodging, meals and transportation while in Normandy for the 70th anniversary of Operation Overlord this June 6. Travel to/from Paris is an individual responsibility. Paris-based VFW Benjamin Franklin Post 605 is assisting by collecting the names of VFW and other D-Day veterans planning to attend. Please e-mail the following information as soon as possible to Chuck Steiner at

VFW Post 605 at cjsteiner@aol.com:

- Full name, age and home address of veteran (include home/cell phone and e-mail, too).
- Indicate if a D-Day veteran, Normandy campaign, or WWII veteran.
- Escort or guest's name (if more than one, so indicate).
- Special needs (e.g., wheelchair).
- Dates of planned attendance (arrival to and departure from France).

If unable to send by e-mail, address regular mail to: Chuck Steiner, VFW Benjamin Franklin Post 605, 4 rue du General Leclere, 92130, Issy-les-Moulineaux, France. Other WWII veterans who plan to attend should forward this information, too, as the French Government may also extend similar support to them. Be advised, however, that the in-country support is subject to revision.



Veteran and Military-related Bills - 2014 General Assembly Session

Friday, March 28, 2014

Note: Patron names in parentheses indicate the chief co-patron(s)**BILLS APPROVED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNOR**

Bill Number	Title	Chief Patron	House	Senate	Governor
HB44	Va. Defense Force; creates personal property tax classification for vehicle owned by member.	Cole	01/23/14: Passed 73-24 02/17/14: Senate amendment agreed to by House 79-19	02/13/14: Passed with amendment 37-0	03/03/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 50 (effective 7/1/14)
HB263	License plates; repeals issuance to members of certain armed forces.	Scott	02/04/14: Passed 99-0 02/26/14: Senate substitute agreed to by House 99-0	02/24/14: Passed with substitute 39-0	03/24/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 270 (effective 7/1/14)
HB411	Vehicle safety inspection approval; increases grace period for certain members of armed services.	Anderson	01/24/14: Passed 95-0	02/17/14: Passed 40-0	03/03/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 67 (effective 7/1/14)
HB559	Virginia Defense Force; localities may appropriate money, etc., for Force.	Anderson	01/29/14: Passed 99-0	02/12/14: Passed 39-0	02/27/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 30 (effective 7/1/14)
HB580	Active duty military health care providers; practice at public and private health care facilities.	Stolle	01/21/14: Passed 91-0	02/10/14: Passed 40-0	02/20/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 8 (effective 2/20/14)
HB730	Public Safety, Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security, Secretaries of; transfer of certain powers.	Lingamfelter	02/11/14: Passed 99-0	02/20/14: Passed 40-0	03/03/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 115 (effective 3/3/14)
HB929	Emergency vehicles; Virginia National Guard vehicles exempt from certain situations.	Greason	01/31/14: Passed 96-0 02/19/14: Senate amendments agreed to by House 99-0	02/17/14: Passed with amendments 40-0	03/05/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 171 (effective 7/1/14)
HB971	Virginia National Guard; DMA shall provide information to VEC of a member undergoing discharge, etc.	Anderson	01/29/14: Passed 99-0	02/12/14: Passed 39-0	02/27/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 42 (effective 7/1/14)
SB138	Vehicle safety inspection approval; increases grace period for certain members of armed services.	Barker	02/21/14: Passed 98-0	01/21/14: Passed 38-0	03/17/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 250 (effective 7/1/14)
SB399	Virginia National Guard; DMA shall provide information to VEC upon request of a member.	Reeves	02/25/14: Passed with amendments 98-0	01/17/14: Passed 38-0 02/27/14: House amendments agreed to by Senate 40-0	03/24/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 302 (effective 7/1/14)
SB481	Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program; residency requirements.	Puller	02/19/14: Passed 99-0	02/07/14: Passed 40-0	03/05/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 184 (effective 7/1/14)
SB508	Real and personal property tax exemption; aviation museum.	Wagner	02/19/14: Passed 99-0	01/24/14: Passed 37-0	03/05/14: Approved by Governor-Chapter 185 (effective 7/1/14)

COUNT: 12 (8 HB, 4 SB)

Upcoming Events

April 7	General Membership Meeting - 1930
April 12	Recruiting Event at J. E. Rice Hardware - 0900-1300
April 17	Youth Committee Meeting - 1900
April 19	Department Commander's Homecoming - Post 9808 - Mechanicsville
April 27	District 8 Convention - Post 2524 - Culpeper - 1300
May 5	General Membership Meeting - 1930
May 15	Youth Committee Meeting - 1900
May 23 - 26	23: Poppies - Centreville Giant
	24: Poppies - Gainesville Giant
	25: Poppies - Wellington Giant
	26: Memorial Day Activities: Ceremony at Veterans Memorial - 0830 Flag Placements at Manassas Cemetery - 0900
June TBD	Welcome Home BBQ for Vietnam Veterans (Vietnam 50th Year Commemoration Event)
June 2	General Membership Meeting - 1930
June 5 - 8	Department Convention - Williamsburg
June 19	Youth Committee Meeting - 1900



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