

# CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589  
Manassas, Virginia  
May 2017



Post 7589 is a contributing member of the Manassas Inter-Service Club Council (ISCC). The ISCC is a co-ordinating body of 25 local community service organizations which acts as a force multiplier for scheduling, media coverage, fund drives and manpower allocation. Post 7589 made a generous contribution to the Wellness Fair where local residents received free vision and hearing tests, things they could not usually afford. Adjutant Paul Chase the Post 7589 representative to the ISCC is shown above at the Wellness Fair distributing healthy food to the several thousand residents who came to the fair. This is an outstanding example of how VFW Post 7578 supports the community.

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

## Commander's Message



Pete MacLeod

Statistics are a boring way to start any kind of story but sometimes you can't avoid it. We are observing the Centennial of World War I and, at least here in the United States, this war will always take second place to World War II.

In today's world, with the scant attention given to U.S. History, many Americans seem only dimly aware that there ever was a World War One. But consider these U.S. statistics from the VFW which was alive and functioning through the entire conflict: 53,513 combat deaths, 63,195 deaths due to disease, 204,002 wounded, many with terrible injuries, and the biggest stat of them all: more than 4.7 million Americans took part in the War. The U.S. only fully participated in the "Great War" in the years 1917 and 1918. The war began in the summer of 1914.

Obviously these numbers pale in comparison to the astonishing casualty figures for countries like France, Britain, Germany and Russia, each of which literally lost an entire generation of young men; but 4.7 million Americans taking part in the war is a number big enough that it cannot be ignored. Please watch the excellent documentary on the war running on PBS and you will see the fresh faced Americans going through basic training, learning to march and then getting on those big ships and heading "Over There." Unfortunately

when they arrived "Over There" they ran into deadly trench warfare, disease and filth, and horrible new killing machines including poison gas, tanks and even death from the sky.

No one who was anywhere near the war ever forgot. My barber in my hometown was a World War I Vet who never even reached the front lines of battle, but I remember him telling endless stories of what it was like in Europe as the war came to an end. He never got over it.

If you want to read about the "Great War" from all the angles, get Peter England's "The Beauty and the Sorrow" or reread "All Quiet on the Western Front" or read how the war touched thousands of civilians in Erik Larson's "Dead Wake" which gives a gripping account of the sinking of the Ocean Liner "Lusitania" by a German submarine in 1915 and the drowning deaths of hundreds of men, women and children including many Americans.

Of course the VFW still remembers the sacrifices of the World War I military as one of our proudest traditions are the thousands of Buddy Poppies we give out at Memorial Day and other occasions. Our Post and Auxiliary will be carrying out that tradition again this year with Buddy Poppy drives at the Centreville Giant on Memorial Day weekend. As you listen to songs like "Where have All the Flowers Gone?" think of all those towns and villages in France and Germany that sacrificed the majority of their male population from each high school class from 1914 to 1918. I had a high school history teacher who claimed the world has never really recovered from World War I. I think he was right.

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day to honor those who have died in service to our country. Please take part in at least one or more of the many services and remembrances that take place all across our great nation. Our Post and Auxiliary will be meeting at the Manassas Veteran's Memorial at 8:30 am on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> to conduct the annual Memorial Day services with Scouts from the Manassas area. At 9:00 am we will meet at Manassas Cemetery for a brief service to remember Francis Cannon (our Post namesake) a young Manassas resident who gave his life for his country in World War II. At about 9:10 am we will begin placing flags at graves of veterans in the cemetery with the help of the Scouts. At 1:45 pm on Memorial Day we will be conducting a Memorial Day service at the Caton-Merchant House assisted living center in Manassas, and of course the Buddy Poppy Drives take place all weekend. Try and find some time, even if it is only a few minutes, to remember the thousands of military men and women who gave their lives so we can continue to enjoy our free and democratic country.

I want to thank all who helped our Post achieve 100 percent membership again this year! It was a lot of hard work, especially in March and early April, but with teamwork, we did it! A special thanks to master recruiter Geoff Lyster from the Warrenton VFW Post 9835 for his help at J.E. Rice Hardware on April 8 and at the Centreville Giant on March 24. Thanks to all those who recruited at the Chantilly Gun Show and took home lists and made calls and for those who attended all the meetings and the organization that it took to put us over the top! Again it was a collective effort and credit goes to each and every comrade of our Post!

## Youth News and Notes

VFW Post 7589 will be awarding two Junior ROTC Bronze medals this spring. One will go to Air Force JROTC third year Cadet William C. Engleman who attends Battlefield High School. The Navy JROTC VFW Bronze medal goes to Cadet Woo Jung from Osbourn Park High School.

To earn these medals each cadet had to have shown signs of leadership with a positive attitude toward the ROTC program. The cadet had to show outstanding uniform appearance and had to display officer potential. The cadet had to have at least a "B" average in ROTC subjects.

April 23 was a wonderful day at the District 8 Convention in Culpeper. Post 7589

Teacher of the Year in the Grade 6-8 category, Erin Merrill was honored as the District 8 Teacher of the Year. Erin teaches 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies at Pennington Traditional School in Manassas. She was introduced at the convention by a fellow teacher who spoke about her commitment to showing her students how real government works (or sometimes doesn't). She has them attending County Supervisor

(See *Youth* on page 3)

### SVCNC Roundup April 9—13



On April 12 the Travelling Team stopped at Lover’s Leap on Route 58 on the way from Martinsville Post 4637 to Hillsville Post 1115. (L-R) Past Commander in Chief John Smart, State SVC Mike Boehme, State Commander Tom Gimble, National Senior Vice Commander in Chief Keith Harman and State Judge Advocate / Post 7589 Quartermaster Rick Raskin.



Senior Vice Commander in Chief Keith Harman helped fill some of the 2500 Easter eggs for Post 1115’s Easter egg hunt on Monday April 17.



An original 15 star flag at Marion Post 4667. (L-R) State CDR Tom Gimble, Post Commander Sam Rosenbaum and State SVC Mike Boehme.

*(Youth from page 2)*

Board meetings, school committee meetings and holding mock elections. If you look up the requirements for VFW Citizenship Teacher of the Year, Erin meets all the standards.

Speaking of the Teacher and Essay contests, this is a wonderful time of year to seek out teachers and principals who may be interested in having their classes take part in the VFW contests in the coming school year. Things are not as busy now as in September so you can really talk about the essay contest.

The themes for this coming year are: “American History: Our Hope for the Future” for Voice of Democracy (Grades 9 – 12) and “America’s Gift to my Generation” for Patriot’s Pen (Grades 6-9). The deadline is November 1, 2017. The new essay brochures/applications come out right around the time of the National Convention and are available from the VFW Store by early August. You can always print an application from the [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) national website.

Teacher of the Year deadline is Feb. 15, 2018 and Scout of the Year deadline for applications is March 1, 2018.

The next meeting of the Youth Committee is set for Tuesday, May 16 at 7:00 pm at the Post. If you would like to participate we welcome you.

Call 703 220-4545 for more information about youth activities.

*Pete MacLeod  
Youth Committee Chair*



Comrade Lou Filippone & Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill with William Engleman, recipient of the Post 7589 Veteran of Foreign Wars JROTC award on April 27 at Battlefield High School.

## Auxiliary President



The members of VFW Auxiliary 7589 would like to thank the comrades for their participation in the judging of the VFW Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. We

were honored to have Osbourn Park High School and Seton School participate this year. The awarded recipients were: First: Ms. Catherine Henebery, (17), 11<sup>th</sup> Grade — Seton School, Second: Julianna Rodriguez (17), 12<sup>th</sup> Grade — Seton School, Third: Qendresa Morina (17), 12<sup>th</sup> Grade - Osbourn Park High School and Honorable Mention: Matthew Kelly (15), 10<sup>th</sup> Grade — Seton School. Ms. Henebery's color pencil artwork and inspiration was from the Academy Award movie "Hacksaw Ridge" about Desmond Doss who believes that it was wrong to carry a gun and take the life of another person, even if that person was an enemy soldier. We **CONGRATULATED** all sixteen students for their participation. The first place recipient's art piece was forwarded to compete at the Department level. We wish her luck.

Elections for 2017-2018 Officers were held during the April 3<sup>rd</sup> monthly meeting. The new officers will be installed at our May 1<sup>st</sup> monthly meeting with Department Judge Advocate Rick Raskin as the installing official. Your new officers are: President - Mary Corkhill, Sr. Vice President - Janet Raskin, Jr. Vice President - Cindy McIntyre, Secretary - Ann Mitchell, Treasurer Elanor Doczi, Chaplain - Carol Cullen, Conductress - Debbie Baxter, Guard - Patsy Gough, Trustee 1 - Janet Raskin, Trustee 2 - Jan Germain, Trustee 3 - Yvonne Sullivan, Patriotic Instructor - Diane Zalenski, Historian - Patsy Gough and Dana Zank (Book). After the June Convention the new officers will take their positions.

Congratulations also go out to the new 8th District Officers for the 2017-2018 VFW Auxiliary year. President Sheila Hunter was re-elected for another term. We wish her success in the new Auxiliary year.

Please come and join us for our annual Spring Yard Sale on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 7am-2pm. We are taking donations now until Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 4-8pm. If you would like a receipt for your donation, we will provide that for you and if you would like for someone to pick it up, please call me at 703/361- 8950. Thank you in advance.

Our Memorial Day weekend Buddy Poppy drive will be from 9am-2pm on Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at the Giant in Centreville. Just a reminder that the funds raised will go towards assisting our Veterans and/or their families. Contact me at mcorkhill@comcast.net or 703-361-8950 if you would like to assist us with this drive.

The Department Convention will be held at Fort Magruder Hotel and Convention Center on June 14-18, 2017. Make reservations directly with the hotel at 757-220-2250. Room Rate (Single/Double) is \$92.00 + tax. Deadline for reservations is May 17, 2017. **CHECK-IN TIME** is 4:00 pm. This Department annual year-end event is held to celebrate the achievements of Posts & Auxiliaries by accepting awards for the 2016-2017 year. In lieu of a banquet again this year, we will have a reception/dance with music provided by a DJ. Free admission to all members attending the Convention. Note: Fred Jennings is a candidate running for Department Guard. He needs your support.

Now is the time to make your reservation for the National Convention in New Orleans, LA which is from July 22-26, 2017. The National Sr. Vice Dee Guillory (from Virginia) will be installed as the new National President at the end of the Convention. We are looking forward to her leadership. We also can't wait to have the 5th Annual Celebrating America's Freedom Event (CAFÉ) at Yorktown Battlefield in Yorktown, VA on Thursday, October 19, 2017. Please come and participate.

Thank you to all the individuals who participated in our coupon drive this year. We collected \$31,232.73 for our Veterans overseas. Thank you so much for the support.

The 8th District President Sheila Hunter fell and injured herself a few weeks ago and needs your prayers. Also for any indi-

viduals or family members who are ill or hospitalized please keep them in your prayers as well. If you know of anyone who needs some assistance, please let us know. We truly care.

Respectfully,  
Mary Corkhill  
VFW Auxiliary President



Catherine Henebery's colored pencil artwork was inspired by the Academy Award winning movie "Hacksaw Ridge"



## YARD SALE

INSIDE  
VFW AUXILIARY  
AT POST 7589



May 6, 2017

7:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Post Home - 9304 Centreville Road  
Manassas, VA

(We will be taking Donations on Friday, May 5, 2017 from 4 pm - 8pm at the Post)

### Post achieves 100% + membership *Recruiting efforts yield stellar results*

We did it! Thanks to all of the hard work by our members and our continued recruiting efforts the Post crossed the 100% membership line on April 23. The Nations Gun Show recruiting effort yielded the bulk of new members while our other events also contributed significantly. Thanks to all that participated and to Geoff Lyster from Post 9835 for his assistance.

Achieving 100% puts the Post in line for achieving All State status in the Department, and should our numbers continue to go up, All American at National.

District 8 is also noteworthy because 5 of the 6 Posts have already made 100%+ and the District itself is over 100% total. That puts Commander Ron Link in line for All American District Commander. Should all Posts reach 100% the District will also get a \$500 award from the Department.

We'd also like to thank Lou Filippone and Jerry Martin for staffing the Gun Show booth on April 23 and the other members of our Membership Committee: Joel Chase, Paul Chase, Warren Ewell, Rod Gillette, Robert Punihaole and Pete MacLeod for recruiting at J. E. Rice and following up on expired members.

The Gun Show yielded 6 new members and 1 transfer for our Post, while overall recruiting 32 new and transfer members. Our recruiting event at J. E. Rice yielded 6 new members.

For the month of April we received an astounding 20 new and transfer applications!



State Senior Vice Commander Mike Boehme administers the oath of office to newly elected District 8 officers at the District Convention on April 23 at Post 2524 in Culpeper.



Geoff Lyster (9835), Paul and Joel Chase at our recruiting drive at J.E. Rice Hardware on April 8.



Post 7589 comrades Rod Gillette and Robert Punihaole at our recruiting drive at J.E. Rice Hardware on April 8.



Manassas Fire and Rescue Chief Rob Clemons addresses the Comrades and Auxiliary at the April 3 General Membership Meeting.

# From the



## Join the VFW in Opposing GI Bill Tax on Troops: VFW Supports VA Accountability First Act:

The VFW adamantly opposes a proposed tax on military service members to pay for the GI Bill. “We are still a nation at war. We have troops actively engaged in Iraq, in Afghanistan, and now in Syria,” said VFW National Commander Brian Duffy. “The war on terrorism is not over! Congress’ focus should be on defeating our enemies and ending the war, not cutting the benefits of those who are fighting it.” With impending changes to TRICARE and retirement benefits, this proposed tax on troops would force the brave men and women who join the military to choose between health care, retirement and education benefits. As Congress looks to tax junior military service members to pay for their post-military educational benefits, the VFW needs every member and supporter to get involved and help protect the GI Bill. Join the discussion by using the hashtag #NoTaxOnTroops on your Facebook, Twitter, and other social media sites. If you have questions on how to get involved, please email [vfwac@vfw.org](mailto:vfwac@vfw.org).

Please call your member of Congress (the House of Representatives specifically) at the listed phone numbers, tell them we oppose taxing the troops to pay for the GI Bill, and use the talking points on page 6 of this newsletter.

Rob Wittman	202-225-4261
Scott Taylor	202-225-4215
Bobby Scott	202-225-8351
Donald McEachin	202-225-6365
Tom Garrett	202-225-4711
Robert Goodlatte	202-225-5431
Dave Bratt	202-225-2815
Don Beyer	202-225-4376
Morgan Griffith	202-225-3861
Barbara Comstock	202-225-5136
Gerry Connolly	202-225-1492

## President Signs VFW-Supported Bill:

On Wednesday [April 19], VFW Adjutant General Robert E. Wallace was at the White House to join President Trump as he signed a VFW-supported bill to expand and improve the Choice Program into law. S. 544 will authorize VA to continue the Choice Program for an additional eight months. It would also improve the Choice Program by ensuring veterans are not billed for Choice Program care and streamlining medical record sharing to expedite the Choice Program scheduling process — two issues the VFW had identified and asked Congress to fix. [Learn more about the VFW's concerns](#) about the Choice Program and other VA community care programs.

This month marks the third anniversary of a nationwide crisis in access to care that branded the Department of Veterans Affairs as an inept and corrupt government bureaucracy that was failing in its primary mission to care for those who had borne the battle. In the aftermath, Congress quickly crafted a new law to improve the VA secretary’s authority to remove senior VA executives for performance or misconduct, but the new authority did not last long, as it would be later deemed unconstitutional — over alleged due process rights violations — and the disciplinary actions against the VA executives were reversed. In an opinion editorial, VFW National Commander Brian Duffy called the VA Accountability First Act of 2017 — sponsored by House VA Committee Chairman Dr. Phil Roe and Sen. Marco Rubio — the right vehicle to finally enable VA leadership to fire inept, irresponsible and crime-committing employees, because “maintaining the status quo doesn’t work for those who have borne the battle,” he wrote.

## Senate Holds Veteran Suicide Prevention Hearing:

On Thursday [April 27], the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies held a hearing titled “Preventing Veteran Suicide.” The panel included the Department of Veterans Affairs Inspector General, and individuals from the Veterans Health Administration, Military Veteran Project and RAND Corporation. Chairman Jerry Moran and subcommittee members inquired about resources and support VA needs to lower the number of veteran suicides. Also discussed was the impact of access issues in rural areas, properly managing chronic pain and VA’s delay in addressing inspector general recommendations.

## VA Partners to Increase Medical Providers:

On Thursday [April 27], the Department of Veterans Affairs entered into a partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services. This partnership will allow medical professionals from the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps to provide care to veterans at VA medical facilities. Effective immediately, the partnership agreement allows up to 20 medical professionals from the Commissioned Corps to provide treatment in VA facilities deemed to be in the most need of staffing support. An additional 10 officers from the Commissioned Corps are able to assist in support coordination for veterans receiving VA community care.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

www.vfw.org | info@vfw.org

**Talking Points:**  
**Proposed Tax on Troops Legislation**

**Background:** Since the creation of the Post-9/11 GI Bill, more than one million veterans have used the program to pursue their educational goals, some earning multiple college degrees and becoming leaders in society and a valuable part of the American economy.

A proposal under consideration by the House of Representatives Committee on Veterans Affairs would require junior military service members to pay \$2,400 in order to be eligible for post-military educational benefits. We are still a nation at war. With troops actively engaged in Iraq, in Afghanistan, and now in Syria, we cannot allow Congress to tax our brave men and women in uniform for benefits they have earned through their honorable service to our nation.

**Talking points:**

- **We are still at war.** We have troops actively engaged in Iraq, in Afghanistan, and now in Syria. The war on terrorism is not over! Congress' focus should be on defeating our enemies and ending the war, not cutting the benefits of those who are fighting it.
- **\$100 a month for two years to pay for their GI Bill benefits is a significant amount for an E-1.** With impending changes to retirement and TRICARE benefits, this bill would force troops to choose between their GI Bill, retirement or health care for their families. Monthly housing allowance will now cover less, as well. Service members don't need another expense, especially when some estimates already show more than 80,000 young service members need food stamps just to feed their families.
- **Asking our troops to make a significant financial decision that cannot be reversed is dangerous.** New troops must be focused on defeating our nation's enemies, not whether they will pursue a college education after their military service.
- **Congress is trying to balance budgets on the backs of the military.** Don't kid yourself — proponents of this new tax on troops are betting on a lower participation rate, thus saving money on non-participants.
- **Some say that we have charged before, but this new idea is more than was charged previously and the old way of business is not the right approach.** We have progressed in how we provide for veterans and the Post-9/11 GI Bill more than pays for itself now that veterans are earning higher paying jobs in industries that provide greater job stability.
- **The GI Bill has helped create a strong middle class, scientists, teachers, Supreme Court Justices, and event U.S. Presidents.** The GI Bill needs to continue to be a strong part of what a veteran can use to successfully transition back to civilian life after military service.

**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

National Headquarters | 406 W. 34th Street | Kansas City, MO 64111 | 1.816.756.3390 | Fax: 816.968.1157  
Washington D.C. Office | VFW Memorial Bldg. | 200 Maryland Ave. N.E. | Washington, D.C. 20002 | 1.202.543.2239 | Fax: 202.543.6719



Tickets are available at \$5.00 each for the Department of Virginia's 2nd annual Bass Pro Shop Raffle. The Post is asked to sell at least 1 ticket for every member for a total of almost 400 tickets.

Please contact QM Raskin to purchase tickets or get a book to sell yourself.



## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS BASS PRO RAFFLE

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia and Bass Pro Shops of Hampton Roads proudly announce a 50 prize raffle with the winners being determined at the VFW State Convention in Williamsburg on June 17, 2017. The fifty prizes are listed on the back of each ticket. The value of the 50 prizes is approximately \$25,000. As a winning ticket is drawn it will be placed back in the drum to have a chance at the remaining prizes. Tickets are \$5.00 each and we are asking each VFW member to purchase at least one ticket and sell as many as you can. Tickets are available from your Post Commander or State Headquarters. All proceeds will be used to support Veterans Programs and Activities.

- |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. YETI COOLER PACKAGE         | 26. DIAMONDBACK BINOCULARS       |
| 2. \$250.00 BPS GIFT CARD      | 27. COSTA 580P SUNGLASSES        |
| 3. \$250.00 BPS GIFT CARD      | 28. PENN SPINFISHING COMBO       |
| 4. \$250.00 BPS GIFT CARD      | 29. TEXSPORT HAMMOCK/STAND       |
| 5. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD      | 30. CASIO PATHWINDER WATCH       |
| 6. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD      | 31. BPS 3 IN 1 COOKER            |
| 7. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD      | 32. THUNDERHAWK CROSSBOW PKG     |
| 8. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD      | 33. PARKER ENFORCER CROSSBOW     |
| 9. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD      | 34. PFLUEGER COMBO               |
| 10. LOWRANCE FISH FINDER       | 35. YETI TUNDRA 35               |
| 11. MIDLAND 2-WAY RADIO        | 36. YETI TUNDRA 45               |
| 12. COBRA HAND HELD RADIO      | 37. RUGER 10/22                  |
| 13. MINN KOTA TROLLING MOTOR   | 38. 1873 CATTLEMAN               |
| 14. BOOM BOTTLE RADIO/SPEAKER  | 39. HENRY GOLDEN BOY .22 CAL     |
| 15. ASCXEND D10 KAYAK          | 40. SAVAGE 10                    |
| 16. CHAR-BROIL GAS GRILL       | 41. REMINGTON 870                |
| 17. MASTERBUILT DIGITAL SMOKER | 42. RUGER 22/44                  |
| 18. ROCKER RECLINER            | 43. TIKKA T3X LITE               |
| 19. GOPRO CAMERA               | 44. HENRY BIG BOY .44 MAG        |
| 20. FISHING TROLLEY            | 45. WINCHESTER SX3 12 GA         |
| 21. REDHEAD 18 GUN SAFE        | 46. BROWNING BPS 12 GA           |
| 22. M-19991 GAME CAMERA        | 47. RUGER AR 5567 MSR            |
| 23. WETLAND HUNTER DOG COLLAR  | 48. 1875 ARMY OUTLAW .45 CAL     |
| 24. KNIFE SHARPENER            | 49. BROWNING MAXUS 12GA 1,349.99 |
| 25. RANGER 1000                | 50. ARTIC CAT FOUR WHEELER       |

Under the previous Administration, the 20-year military pension is over.  
*Current military grandfathered under the old system*



## The U.S. Uniformed Services Blended Retirement System

*Active Component*



### Saving with the New Blended Retirement System

The Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act provides our military force with a modernized retirement plan built for retirement savings. Beginning in 2018, service members can get **automatic and matching Thrift Savings Plan contributions**, as well as a mid-career compensation incentive, in addition to **monthly retired pay for life**. All service members under the current system are grandfathered into today's retirement system, but may choose to opt-in to the new Blended Retirement System.

### Pre-2018 Retirement System:



**2.5% x Years Served x Retired Pay Base**  
*after completing 20 years of service*

### Blended Retirement System Components

#### 1 Automatic and Matching Contributions

Automatic contributions are seen immediately



You Contribute	DoD Auto Contribution	DoD Matches	Total
0%	1%	0%	1%
1%	1%	1%	3%
2%	1%	2%	5%
3%	1%	3%	7%
4%	1%	3.5%	8.5%
5%	1%	4%	10%

The DoD automatically contributes 1% of your basic pay to your Thrift Savings Plan after 60 days of service.

*You'll see matching contributions at the start of 3 years through the completion of 26 years of service, and...*

**You're fully vested—it's yours to keep—after completing 2 years of service and it goes with you when you leave.**

#### 2 Continuation Pay

Received at the mid-career point



You may receive a **cash payment** in exchange for additional service.

#### 3 Full Retired Pay

Received after completing 20 years of service

**2%** x x   
**Years Served**      **Retired Pay Base**

Calculate your **retired pay base** by averaging the **highest 36** months of basic pay.

You'll gain this monthly annuity for life after completing 20 years of service.

### Your Retirement System

#### Options for Collecting Your Retired Pay

Full retired pay as a monthly annuity

or

Lump sum + Reduced retired pay as a monthly annuity

*50% or 25% of monthly retired pay annuity bumps back up to 100% at full retirement age (67 in most cases).*

#### If you joined the service or signed a contract to serve:

**BEFORE January 1, 2006**

You'll be grandfathered into the pre-2018 retirement system.

**AFTER December 31, 2005 BUT BEFORE January 1, 2018**

You'll have the choice to enroll in the Blended Retirement System or remain in the pre-2018 retirement system.

**AFTER December 31, 2017**

You'll be automatically enrolled in the Blended Retirement System.

You can find additional information at <http://militarypay.defense.gov/BlendedRetirement>

Sources: Sections 631, 632, 633, 634, and 635 of the Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act.

Revised: 8/2016

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**Veterans of Operation Desert Storm**  
will be marching in the  
**2017 National Memorial Day Parade**  
*Washington DC*

Criteria

Active Duty US Military during Desert Shield or Desert Storm  
(includes activated Guard/Reserve)

Dates

May 28 [mandatory meeting in Washington DC @ 8pm] May 29 [parade @  
2pm]

Parade Uniform

Pants: 2 options

Desert Camo (chocolate chip) or light brown civilian khakis (long pants)

*Note: if khakis are worn the color must closely match the light brown in the Desert Camo (chocolate chip)*

Hat: (optional)

*If a hat is worn, it needs to be the Desert Camo boonie.*

Shirt: A special shirt is being designed for the parade participants.

Parade Route

The Parade Route is 1 mile long. We have limited spaces for Veterans to ride in a vehicle during the parade. These spaces are reserved for those who are physically unable to march in the parade.

Hotel Accommodations

Our Group hotel rates start at \$129.00 per night.

When you are confirmed for the parade you will be given the hotel details.

Register to March in the Parade

To inquire about marching in the parade contact Jill Etter

[Parade2017@gmail.com](mailto:Parade2017@gmail.com)

A project of  
The National Desert Storm War Memorial Association  
[www.ndswm.org](http://www.ndswm.org)

“POT O’ GOLD” Member Drawing

Three (3) winners will be drawn and accompany the Commander-in-Chief on an all-expense paid trip to Ireland (Fall 2017) along with their spouse or guest.

For any new/reinstated member recruited between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017:

- You will receive one (1) chance for every five (5) new/reinstated members recruited
- You will receive ten (10) chances for every increment of 25 new/reinstated members recruited

➤ **Attention Post and District Commander:**

- ✓ You will receive ten (10) chances in recognition of 85%+ post and district retention

Drawing will take place **July 1, 2017**

- **All awards are non-transferable**



know the five signs

the campaign to **changedirection**

**VFW**  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

know the five signs.

Reach out, connect, inspire hope, and offer help.

personality changed? agitated? withdrawn? poor self-care? hopeless?

#ChangeMentalHealth  
visit  
[www.changedirection.org](http://www.changedirection.org)

## Upcoming Events

May 1	Post/Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30pm — Installation of 2017-2018 Post/Auxiliary Officers
May 5	Auxiliary Yard Sale Setup - 4pm to 8pm
May 6	Auxiliary Yard Sale - 7am to 2pm
May 7	Recruiting at Bull Run Street Rods Car Show -- Burger King, 9895 Pennsylvania Ave., Manassas 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
May 27	Auxiliary Buddy Poppy Drive – 9am – 2pm / Giant in Centreville
May 28	Auxiliary Buddy Poppy Drive – 9am – 2pm / Giant in Centreville
May 29	Veterans Day Activities - 8:30am - Manassas Veterans Memorial
June 1	Executive Board meeting—7:30pm
June 3	71 <sup>st</sup> Post Anniversary (TBD)
June 5	Post/Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30pm
June 15-18	Department Convention, Williamsburg, VA
July 22-26	National Convention-New Orleans, LA

Get your Post 7589 Challenge Coin



**BINGO Workers**

**No Experience**

**Necessary**

**We Provide Training**

**Hours: Wednesdays 8**

**AM—12:15 PM**

*Just show up and work  
with our crew.*

*Free coffee, donuts and  
snacks!*

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*Friday & Saturday Nights minimum  
Rental is 4 hours for \$400.00*

**SPECIAL RATES FOR  
POST 7589 & AUXILIARY 7589 MEMBERS**

Contact: Wayne Moore 571-285-7904  
Visit our website: [www.vfw7589.org](http://www.vfw7589.org)

## Virginia Department of Veterans Services Manassas Office

9300 W. Courthouse Rd.



**VA DVS AGENT SERVICE  
AT POST 7589  
HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED**

# CANNON NEWS

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