CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589 Manassas, Virginia July 2021



Virginia Scout of the Year James Ye receives an award from State Commander Eric Mallett and Scouting Chair Bob Fenlason at the State Convention in Portsmouth.

In This Issue:

- July 12th Post Meeting
- Post pays off mortgage
- Department of Virginia makes All American, Tom Hines becomes Century Recruiter
- VFW Action Alert
- State Convention Photos
- Joseph Bliem Eagle Court of Honor
- Commissioner's Corner
- Scammers Impersonating the Government
- Park West Lion's July 4th Community Day

Commander's Message



Wayne Moore

July 4th

The 4th of July holiday (Independence Day) rapidly approaches and the Ensign (American Flag) is flown proudly from porches, flag poles, and cars/trucks. To most its a day of merriment without the understanding of the history that belies the birth of the freedom now cherished. To all the brethren who contributed with blood, sweat, and tears, wittingly or unwit-

tingly, "Thank You" and enjoy the spoils of the day.

The New Colossus BY EMMA LAZARUS

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame, With conquering limbs astride from land to land; Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame. "Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

Post mortgage



The Post's \$100,000 mortgage, taken out in 2015 to expand the hall, has been **paid in full**. By over paying each month we were able to pay it off almost a year and a half early.

We plan to have a ceremonial burning, date TBD.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PAST STATE COMMANDER ERIC MALLETT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA FOR ACHIEVING ALL AMERICAN STATUS FOR 2020-2021.

CONGRATULATIONS TO STATE RECRUITING CHAIR TOM HINES ON BECOMING A CENTURY RECRUITER.

Auxiliary President





The Declaration of Independence declared our independence from British rule. It took winning the Revolutionary War, to assure the

Mary Corkhill

existence and freedom of our new, fledgling country of the people, by the people and for the people. Americans

come together on July 4th to celebrate the nation's birthday and Independence Day. On this day, most Americans enjoy grills in their backyards, at beaches, or in parks. Some partake in parades or marches and enjoy the fireworks that are often launched at dusk. Happy Fourth!

Congratulations to Joseph Bliem for placing third in the Department for his submission to the Patriotic Arts competition. A picture and his write-up are on the VFW Post 7589 website. I also wish to remind everyone of the two VFW contests for Voice of Democracy "America: Where Do We Go From Here?" and the Patriot's Pen "How Can I Be A Good American?" Deadline for both of these contests is October 31. I hope to see a lot of participation in all the contests this coming year.

This was a challenging year, and I want to congratulate the members for achieving a successful 2020-2021. At the Department Convention, we were honored to receive a certificate from National VFW in Veteran Military Services and two certificates from National Auxiliary in Legislative and Buddy Poppy/National Home for Children. At the Department level, we received certificates for: two first places; Historian and Media Relations, three second places; Hospital, Media Relations and Buddy Poppy display, three third places; Media Relations, two in Scholarship and a certificate in Youth Activities for Illustrating America. We also received certificates in the following programs: Banner (Bar), Chief of Staff (Good Job Award), Healthy VFW Auxiliary, Flag Presentation, Legislative, Membership, President's Special Project (Boulder Crest Foundation). Starting next year, the Banner will be known as "Outstanding Auxiliary".

Upcoming events:

- National Commander Hal Roesch's homecoming is July 8-11th in Portsmouth, VA
- Auxiliary meeting is July 12th at 2:00 (face-to-face and/or teleconference) NOTE: There will not be an August meeting
- First Department School of Instruction on July 17th at Mechanicsville Post 9808
- Second Department School of Instruction on July 24th at Roanoke Post 1264
- National Convention from July 31st to August 3rd in Kansas City, MO
- District 8 meeting on August 21st at Culpeper Post 2524

(See Auxiliary on page 3)

Page 3

(Continued from page 2)

The Auxiliary members wish to thank everyone who participated in all the fundraisers we did during the month of June. A large "thank you" to Ellie Smith for contacting the restaurants and their assistance in our mission. On July 6^{th} , Foster's Grille in Old Town Manassas will be holding another fundraiser for the Auxiliary. When ordering, you **MUST** present a coupon in order for the Auxiliary to receive credit from the proceeds of sales at the time of this fundraiser. Please come out and support them and the Auxiliary. Thank you in advance for your participation.

The National Home's community is open to the families of active-duty military personnel, veterans and relatives of VFW and Auxiliary members. The family can be one or both parents with one or more children. Families may accomplish significant life goals by participating in their programs. The National Home offers: case management services to help families set up their plans and goals for the future, educational, recreational, and enrichment opportunities and community resources, counseling and free housing and daycare. Please become a Life Member for only \$50.

We were informed that two more members went to their heavenly home: Ms. Kesa (Kay) Yeager and Ms. Margaret Pierson. Ms. Yvonne Sullivan's husband, John, fell and broke his hip. He is now at Lake Manassas Rehab Facility. Please keep their families and other individuals who are ill or hospitalized, in your prayers. Remember, we are still in uncertain and challenging times so please stay safe and let your loved ones know how much you care.

Respectfully, Mary Corkhill VFW Auxiliary President

Auxiliary 7589 Officers

2021-2022

President	Mary Corkhill
Senior Vice President	Ellie Smith
Junior Vice President	Cindy McIntyre
Secretary	Ann Mitchell
Treasurer	Elanor Doczi
Chaplain	Cookie Cullen
Conductress	Debbie Baxter
Guard	Patsy Gough
Trustee 1	Yvonne Sullivan
Trustee 2	Jan Germain
Trustee 3	Janet Raskin
Historian	Patsy Gough / Yvonne Sullivan
Patriotic Instructor	Bettye Montgomery

July 12 Post meeting At the Hall

Meeting starts at 7:30PM

Zoom also available

Topic: Post 7589 Zoom Meeting Time: Jul 12, 2021 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89060763287? pwd=NDUvNFh1b0UvTXFUd01VaFAvMnphQT09

Meeting ID: 890 6076 3287 Passcode: 758907

Passcode: 758907

VFW Members Only Please Minutes of the June meeting are available on the Post website. Login to access

Action Alert: Tell Congress to Support the COST of War Act and the Honoring our PACT Act!

Background:

Now is the time for Congress to pass comprehensive toxic exposure legislation. Veterans from all eras have experienced an array of unexplained health conditions and illnesses associated with the toxic exposures and environmental hazards they encountered in service. The burden of proof should never be placed on veterans. Congress must create a new framework for VA to grant benefits to these veterans.

The VFW emphatically supports the COST of War Act and the Honoring our PACT Act, as they accomplish the VFW's top legislative goal of comprehensive toxic exposure reform. These bills would help millions of veterans by establishing a framework to address any exposure, foreign or domestic, past, present, and future. This legislation would help atomic veterans, Vietnam veterans, including those who served in Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos, as well as in the Middle East, Afghanistan, K2, and beyond. They would add to VA's list of presumptive conditions and provide health care for all toxic exposed veterans.

Take Action:

Contact your members of Congress **today** and tell them to support the COST of War Act and the Honoring our PACT Act. Congress must pass this crucially needed legislation now, veterans cannot wait any longer!

TAKE ACTION: Action Center (votervoice.net)

https://www.votervoice.net/VFW/Campaigns/85329/Respond

Youth Committee Update

Lou Filippone

gearing up shortly for our student essay and teacher of the year contests. We are making our preliminary arrangements by ordering our program literature and organizing our school lists at this time. I remain very optimistic that our programs will grow again since normal school attendance is returning in the fall.

Our essay contests are Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy as well as the Teacher of the Year program. Both essay contests require contestants to write an essay about a patriotic theme preselected by the VFW. Patriot's Pen is open to all middle school students and has as its theme "How Can I Be a Good American?" Top prizes at National include \$5000 Voice of Democracy is a competition for all high school students. The first place winner at National is eligible for a \$30,000 college scholarship. This year's theme is "America: Where Do We Go From Here?" Our Teacher of the Year program recognizes local area teachers who demonstrate Americanism, patriotism and a sense of civics and American history through their teaching. Teachers are selected from three school levels, K-5, 6-8, and high school level. Last year Post 7589 had the distinct honor of having two of our three Department winners originate from our Post. That accomplishment is pretty much unheard of by any single Post in recent history. If you personally know of any students, teachers, or schools interested in participating please contact any one of us on the Youth Committee and we'll get you the appropriate applications for your students. You can also go online on the VFW National website and download applications from there as well. The deadline for the contests is four months away, October 31, but has a habit of rapidly approaching while we are distracted by everyone's summer activities. Help us out if you can by recruiting students, teachers and schools for us.

Currently all else is quiet with committee activities. All of our JROTC and Civil Air Patrol awards were given out earlier in the spring. We still need to present a Post and District award to our Scout of the Year winner Eagle Scout Megan Staton from this year. Unfortunately, as with many of our other award ceremonies, Megan's award had to be postponed and rescheduled as a result of COVID. We will attempt to recognize her at the August general membership meeting. She has been contacted. It is also a quiet period for our flag retirement ceremonies. We just had our last one in late May and our next scheduled ceremony will be at the Post on 9-11 and will be conducted by our very own Scout Troop and Cub Scout Pack 1372. I know Alex and Tina Bliem will have more specific information regarding summer Scout activities and will elaborate on them in their report. I do

know that the Scouts will be busy with kayak trips and also summer camp at the end of July at Camp Goshen in Goshen, VA (near Lexington). Eagle Scout Joey Bliem will be recognized for attaining his Eagle rank during Troop 1372's Court of Honor on 14 August. We are all very proud of him but I defer to Alex and Tina for more specific information regarding the ceremony. [See Page 10 — Ed]

That's about all the news I have for you for this month. There will be a lot more to talk about next time when our youth contests really ramp up and we get busier. Please join us with our programs. We could certainly use your help and our kids really appreciate it as well. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 22 July live at the Post at 7:00 PM. Good riddance COVID and good riddance Zoom!

With best regards, Lou Filippone Youth Committee Chair

Scammers Impersonating the Government

Scammers often disguise themselves as people working for the government and might pretend to offer help. But, really, they're after your money or personal information.

Government imposters may call to "verify your Social Security number," or say your Social Security number or Medicare benefits have been "suspended" due to a mix-up. Scammers may say your tax returns must be done differently because of a name change — and they need your Social Security number to fix it. For recently married people, or someone going through gender reassignment and a name change, the excuses scammers use might make sense. But wait right there. Scammers are just phishing for personal information they can use to steal your identity or take your money.

So how do you spot it and stop it? Here's what to know:

Scammers call, email, or text you for money or infor**mation.** But the government won't. Anyone who calls, emails, or texts, asking for money or personal information and claims to be from the government is a scammer. Hang up and don't respond to messages.

Scammers tell you how to pay - usually by wiring money, cryptocurrency, or gift card. Nobody legit will evertell you to pay in any of those ways. If they call, hang up the phone. If they email, text, or message you, don't click on any links. It's a scam.

Even if your caller ID says it's from the government, it could be a scam. Caller ID can be faked. Even if it shows the government agency's real phone number, or even if it says something like "Social Security Administration," it could be anyone calling from anywhere in the world. Don't trust it. If you spot a government imposter, tell the FTC at Report-Fraud.ftc.gov.

Submitted by Gunny Lewis





Report on Scouting



Alex & Tina Bliem

Post 7589 Scouting

Representatives

This month the Scouts enjoyed more outdoor time with each other. With vaccinations going to younger people, more and more Scouts can get together outside without masks and actually see each other again.

This month a group of Scouts and adults got together on the Shenandoah River and enjoyed a day kayaking. We paddled roughly 12 miles up the river. This was a fun outing but also a practice run for the week-long whitewater kayaking trip that

we are getting ready for. We will be heading to the New River Gorge in West Virginia. This is a trip I have been planning quite a while now since the canoe trip to Canada was canceled twice because of Covid.

Scouts and adults are also starting preparations for summer camp in July. This year they are going to Goshen Scout Reservation in southwestern Virginia. Camps are back on again this year with Covid precautions being implemented. This should be a fun trip for them to get outside for an entire week and have fun again.

Some Scouts began the Veterinary Medicine merit badge this past month. Some Scouts also either earned or started the rifle shooting and shotgun merit badge. A small group also started the coin collecting merit badge.

There were also a couple of service projects that occurred this month. The Scouts again cleaned up the Signal View Drive Road. Another project was to create a story walk for the Manassas Park Library where the Generals Ridge golf course used to be. The director asked the scouting unit if they could help create something fun for the young ones to do on the walking trail.

More to come next month after some fun camping trips.

Thank you, Alex and Tina Bliem





Scouts enjoy a day on the river, kayaking on the Shenandoah Photos by Alex Bliem

State Convention—June 3-5, Portsmouth, Virginia Photos by Doc Crouch and Cathy Graham



Sr. VCIC Fritz Mihelcic and Past National President Cortina Barnes



Past State Commander Rick Raskin hosted several award presentations



Scout of the Year James Ye from Alexandria, Virginia receives a commendation from State Commander Eric Mallett.





Fritz Mihelcic presents Ron Link a commendation for his efforts as Military Services chair



Mary Corkhill with Maggie Myers and Cortina Barnes

CANNON NEWS



Maggie Myers places a flower during the joint memorial service



Flag ceremony at the opening of the Auxiliary's business session



Opening day of the Department business session



PSC Dan Boyer addresses the Department business session



Carol Vangi and Mary Corkhill



Mary Corkhill receives a commendation from Past National President Dee Guillory



Joint Installation of newly elected Department and Auxiliary officers



State Commander Butch Schupska, SVC Geoff Lyster and JVC Gary Adams



Sr. VCIC Fritz Mihelcic administers the oath of office to newly elected State Commander Butch Schupska



Butch Schupska introduces his line officers at the Saturday night banquet



Patriots' Pen winner Justine Chan, from Fort Lee, VA



Voice of Democracy winner Hope Frost, from Suffolk, Virginia



Past National President Cortina Barnes and Sr. VCIC Fritz Mihelcic



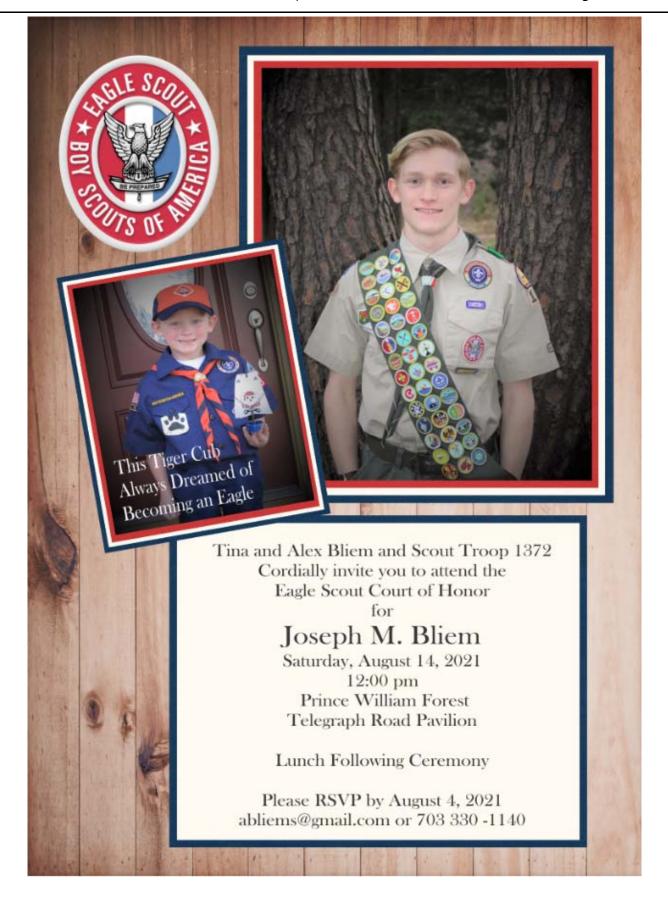
PSC Eric Mallett presents some cheer to Rick Raskin, Ken Wiseman and Tom Hines for their assistance in the past year



Butch Schupska and the line officers present PSC Eric Mallett with a gift for his service to the Department



Howard Minton (Post 1115) gets to boogie with Cortina Barnes



Commissioner's Corner



In today's fast-paced world, education is the key to success. This is true whether on active military duty or transitioning to a new career in the civilian world. This is why helping veterans, their spouses and their families' access their educational benefits is such an important part of what we do here at the Virginia Department of Veterans Services.

As World War II was winding down in 1944, President Roosevelt and the U.S. Congress passed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act or as it quickly became known, "the G.I. Bill." Seventy-seven years later, the G.I. Bill continues to be an important benefit for all who served in our armed forces.

Here at VDVS, we work closely with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), with colleges and trade schools, and with individual veterans to help them use the financial assistance they have earned to continue their education after leaving active duty.

You may not realize that our State Approval Agency (SAA) for Veterans Education and Training is tasked by the VA to examine and approve educational and training institutions in Virginia where GI Bill funds may be utilized. This process assures such institutions meet the qualifications and standards set by the VA. Only those institutions that meet these strenuous requirements are approved by the SAA staff.

VDVS also works closely with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) with our staff members acting as advisors to its Military Education Advisory Committee. This Committee, which includes representatives from most of Virginia's twoyear and four-year public colleges and universities, is tasked to implement and monitor military-related education policies at state educational institutions. The ultimate goal is assuring that these policies are military and veteran-friendly and comply with GI Bill and other regulations.

Our Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program (VMSDEP) provides educational benefits to spouses and children of service members killed, missing in action, taken prisoner or who have been rated by the VA as totally and permanently disabled or at least 90% permanently disabled as the result of military service. VDVS manages this program in collaboration with SCHEV and the Commonwealth's public colleges and universities to assist qualified spouses and children receive assistance to attain their educational goals.

This April, our VDVS Military Workforce Initiative partnered with the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) on the Veterans Technology Project to distribute free refurbished laptop computers to qualified student veterans and military spouses attending John Tyler and Reynolds Community Colleges. VDVS worked with the Virginia Veterans Services Foundation and Altria to provide the funds to purchase 125 laptops for this important project.

I would be remiss if I did not mention another important educational program that is part of VDVS – our Virginia War Memorial. Through its mission of honoring our military heroes, the Memorial also educates students and the public about these heroes and Virginia military history through its exhibits, programs, documentary films, seminars and more.

As I conclude this month's column, I want to bring attention to another important anniversary that takes place this month. In June 1948, President Truman signed The Women's Armed Services Integration Act granting women the right to serve as permanent, regular members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force. Today, seven decades later, it is hard to imagine any of our armed services existing without our brave and talented women service members.

Thank you for your interest in Virginia's veterans. Please contact our staff members and me with your ideas, suggestions and comments on how we can more effectively serve veterans, family members, and active duty military spouses.

Thank you and have a pleasant summer.

John Maxwell, Commissioner Virginia Department of Veterans Services

2020-21 Post Officers

Commander	Wayne Moore
Senior Vice Commander	Lou Filippone
Junior Vice Commander	Bobby Knight
Quartermaster	Rick Raskin
Chaplain	Ron Knowles
1 Year Trustee	Tina Bliem
2 Year Trustee	Dave Mattingly
3 Year Trustee	Heidi BruMar
Adjutant	Ron Link
Service Officer	Ron Link
Judge Advocate	Bobby Knight
Surgeon	Alex Bliem

4th of July Community Day!!! Come One! COME ALL!!!

Park West Lions Club

1:00-4:00 PM

8620 Sunnygate Drive Manassas, VA 20109

FREE! FREE!

- Hot Dogs/ Chips/ Drinks
- Face Painting
- Cupcake Walk
- Eye Test
- Hearing Test

*Check our Building for future rental ideas!

Join us to see what the LIONS

are all about! 棵

Orthodontic assistant needed Compensation: Entry level Employment type: full-time

ENTRY LEVEL orthodontic assistant. We prefer no experience so we can train you to our standards. Entry level position with entry level pay. We are looking for a quick learner who likes to work as part of a team. Must be reliable, well spoken, have good communication skills and like working with people. If interested, please reply with salary requirement and resume. Responses without salary requirement and resume will not be reviewed. If you are interested in the field of orthodontic assisting and possess the qualities we have listed this might be a great opportunity. You can either call the office at (703)815-0127 or email us at

orthoforyou@aol.com. We look forward to your response.



Virginia Department of Veterans Services Manassas Office

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

Upcoming Events

July 8—11	Commander-in-Chief Hal Roesch's Homecoming — Portsmouth, VA
July 10	Charlie Montgomery Memorial Service — 1:00 PM — Buckhall United Methodist Church, 20251 Moore Dr., Manassas
July 12	Auxiliary Meeting — 2 PM Post Meeting — 7:30 PM — Optional video teleconference available
July 15	Youth Committee Meeting — 7 PM
July 17	First Auxiliary School of Instruction — Post 9808, Mechanicsville
July 22	Color Guard Meeting — 7 PM
July 24	Second Department Auxiliary School of Instruction — Post 1264, Roanoke
July 31—Aug. 3	National Convention — Kansas City, MO
August 2	Post Meeting — 7:30 PM — Optional video teleconference available
August 4	Bill Pulsipher Interment — Arlington Cemetery — Arrive NLT 12:30 PM — Service at 1:00 PM
August 11	Joseph Bliem Eagle Scout Court of Honor — 12:00 PM — Prince William Forest, Telegraph Rd. Pavilion
August 19	Youth Committee Meeting — 7 PM
August 21	District 8 meeting — Post 2524, Culpeper
August 26	Color Guard Meeting — 7 PM
November 18-21	Southern Conference — Hilton Head, SC

KNOW YOUR VIRGINIA REPRESENTATIVE				
Rob Wittman	1st District	202-225-4261		
Elaine Luria	2nd District	202-225-4215		
Bobby Scott	3rd District	202-225-8351		
Donald McEachin	4th District	202-225-6365		
Denver Riggleman	5th District	202-225-4711		
Ben Cline	6th District	202-225-9681		
Abigail Spanberger	7th District	202-225-2815		
Don Beyer	8th District	202-225-4376		
Morgan Griffith	9th District	202-225-3861		
Jennifer Wexton	10th District	202-225-5136		
Gerry Connolly	11th District	202-225-1492		





CANNON NEWS

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

Cannon News is emailed to Post and Auxiliary members with email addresses on file. [Click Here] To be added to our email distribution. Cannon News is also available on our website www.vfw7589.org

> Editor: Rick Raskin Copy Editor: Janet Raskin

Please email articles to <u>quartermaster@vfw7589.org</u> no later than the 28th of the month. We reserve the right to edit submitted articles for timeliness, clarity and syntax. www.fostersgrille.com

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HELP SUPPORT VFW Auxiliary 7589

DINING@DOLLAR\$

WHEN: Tuesday, July 6th 11:00 AM – 9:00 PM

WHERE: Foster's Grille Manassas 9417 West Street 703-257-7272



www.fostersgrille.com

DINING#DOLLAR\$

HELP SUPPORT VFW Auxiliary 7589

WHEN: Tuesday, July 6th 11:00 AM – 9:00 PM

WHERE: Foster's Grille Manassas 9417 West Street 703-257-7272



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