

# CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589  
Manassas, Virginia  
September 2013



*Longtime Comrade Pete Slusher displays his collection of patches; one for each rank he held, all the way from PFC right up to SGM. Comrade Slusher served in both WWII and Korea. He is a past Post Quartermaster and regular Wednesday morning Bingo worker.*

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## Commander's Report



Once again, our post has done it again. At the District Meeting on Sunday, 25 August, we received several awards earned during the 2012-2013 year.

Teacher Recognition Award: Again, Peter's dedication and work on this program helps to make it a success.

National Military Services Award: Our Post donated to National Military Services and sponsored a MAP event during the year.

I want to thank Wayne Moore, Mary Corkhill and Rick Raskin for assisting at our Flag Retirement held on 10 August. We retired over 1500 flags for both the VFW and American Legion.

Safety Award: Thanks to Paul Chase and Steve Botello for their Safety Briefings.

Buddy Poppy Award: Thanks to the following Comrades who supported the Buddy Poppy drives: Steve Botello, Terry Bursey, Paul Chase, Joel Chase, Warren Ewell, Rod Gillette, Peter MacLeod, Stephen Meade, and Rick Raskin.

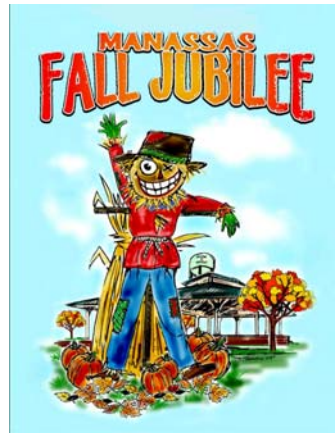
Community and Hospital Award: (services rendered to the community and hospitals) Paul Chase visits a veteran at Birmingham Green on a weekly basis. Jerry Martin volunteers at the Manassas Food Bank each week. Several of our Comrades volunteered to serve on the Greater Manassas Veterans Day Parade Committee.

Voice of Democracy Award: Peter MacLeod works on this program. He visits the schools, chairs all the committee meetings and presides over the judging of more than 150 entries.

The Post will again be participating at the Manassas Fall Jubilee on October 5th for which we will be needing help. A sign-up sheet will be available at our next meeting on September 9, or you may contact me directly.

Thanks and all the best

Ron



## Auxiliary President's Report



I trust everyone is enjoying their summer and is looking forward

to the changing of colors for autumn. We have several things we are working on for the coming month.

The not-for-profit Wreaths Across America ("WAA") organization has provided us the opportunity again to fundraise for our organization's needs along with helping WAA gather sponsorships for wreaths. We are working to place more wreaths than ever before on Veterans' graves at Quantico National Cemetery. We ask for your support because this is a major fundraiser for us. Sponsorships are \$15 per wreath. Sponsorship forms can be printed from our website at [www.vfw7589.org](http://www.vfw7589.org) or contact Ginger Harvey at 571-641-5350 or [gch1130@aol.com](mailto:gch1130@aol.com). To learn more about WAA or to pay for your sponsorship with a credit card, please visit [www.wreathscrossamerica.com](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.com) and remember to include our **Sponsoring Group ID No. VAVFW7589 and Cemetery ID No. VAQNCT. DEADLINE** is November 29<sup>th</sup>.

Due to Labor Day on Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Ladies Auxiliary meeting will be the following Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. For other

September events, we will be distributing the 9/11 Memorial Buddy Poppy during the Youth Committee Yard Sale on September

7<sup>th</sup> from 7am-2pm. Donations can be delivered to the Post on Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> between 6pm - 9pm. Please come join in the fun.

Please join the Auxiliary on September 12<sup>th</sup> from 4-9pm at Noodles & Company located on 9646 Liberia Ave in Manassas for our second annual fundraiser. We have also scheduled a Yard Sale on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 7am-2pm. We will be taking donations on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup> from 4pm - 7pm.

On Saturday, October 5<sup>st</sup>, from 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, the Comrades and Ladies Auxiliary will again be participating in the Manassas Fall Jubilee. As in years past, this annual event gives us the opportunity to meet and greet the public and pass out information about our organization and programs. We will have some freebies and will be running a raffle for a lamp that was made and donated. Please contact me 703/361-8950 or [mcorkhill@comcast.net](mailto:mcorkhill@comcast.net) to let me know of your availability to assist in helping with the booth.

The National Home for Children provides housing and support services to struggling military and veteran families from across the nation at their 70-

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Service Officer's Report



One of the great opportunities we have as Service Officers is the ability to network with many other organizations whose goals are also to assist and help veterans as we do. These can be specific veteran service organizations, charity organizations, Federal, state and local governmental organizations as well as others.

Over the past year we have teamed with the American Legion, Vietnam Veterans of America, Disabled American Veterans, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Virginia Department of Veteran Services, the U.S. Army Transition service called AW2/Wounded Warrior as well as the U.S. Navy Transition service called the Safe Harbor to name a few.

Through developing such positive relationships with them we can many times increase and multiply our ability to bring aid and assistance to veterans here at our Post and in the Prince William County region.

Please do not hesitate to contact us to answer questions you may have concerning your VA benefits that you deserve.

And remember this Veteran Resource event coming in September for you. The Northern Virginia Veterans Resource and Recognition Fair on Sep-

tember 28, 2013, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, at South Riding Community Center, located at 43055 Center St South Riding, VA 20152.

They will have a large variety of veteran specific resources from Veteran ID cards, ability to ask VA claim questions, general information and much much more. A flyer will be put out at the VFW fully describing all the vendors and resources that will be available for you.

Also don't forget that this upcoming Veterans Day is Monday, November 11, 2013. There will be much activity so please stay tuned for more information as the date gets closer.

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](mailto:mgr7590@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.

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.

## Youth News and Notes

Summary of Post 7589 VFW/Ladies Auxiliary Youth Committee Meeting of Aug. 15, 2013

*Submitted by Youth Chair Pete MacLeod*

Mr. Scott Albrecht, Chairman of the Manassas City School Committee has agreed to be our main speaker for the Youth Awards Ceremony on Dec. 8, 2013 at 4 pm at the Post Home.

We have the new brochures for Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the Year. Contest applications can also be printed from the national website, [www.vfr.org](http://www.vfr.org) If anyone needs a brochure, please call me at 703 220-4545 or email or text. I will try and leave some at the Post also.

Valerie Nealey, Mary Corkhill and myself will all be working hard over the next couple of weeks to advertise the Youth Yard Sale on Saturday, Sept. 7 from 7am to 2pm at the Post Home.

Thanks to Terry Bursey, Yvonne Sullivan and Mary for agreeing to help at the Yard Sale setup on Friday, Sept. 6 from 6pm to 9pm at the Post Home.

Needless to say, we still need donations of items for the Yard Sale and more help both on Sept. 6 and Sept. 7. If you can lend a hand, please call me at 703 220-4545.

It was agreed if anyone outside the Post wants to rent space for a table on Sept. 7, the fee will be \$20.00

It was agreed to have most tables inside the Post Home. However, we will have a few out front to attract people passing by.

Mary and I will take care of the signs advertising the Yard Sale and Parking in back. Similar to last year, we will have tables arranged around the hall and a cashier with a strong box near the door.

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## Post annual dues increases to \$35.00 January 1

In accordance with the actions taken by the delegates of the 114<sup>th</sup> VFW National Convention, Bylaw Amendment B-14 to amend Section 606 – National Dues was approved.

This \$10.00 dues increase will automatically be applied to all annual members on January 1, 2014.

Those who renew at \$25.00 prior to January 1, 2014 will not be affected

until their next renewal date at which time their fee will be \$35.00.

We encourage all annual members to consider converting to life membership by making a one time payment or using the installment life plan. As a life member you will never be affected by a future dues increase. Contact the Post QM for additional information or assistance.

## Tricare Prime Coverage Update

VFW WASHINGTON WEEKLY  
August 9, 2013

As of October 1, 2013, multiple TRICARE Prime Service Areas around the country will be eliminated and TRICARE Prime will no longer be offered to military retirees who live more than 100 miles from a military treatment facility (MTF) or Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) site. The approximately 171,000 affected beneficiaries will automatically be switched to TRICARE Standard, the often more expensive fee-for-service plan. Those who live in a Prime Service Area that is being eliminated, but within the 100 mile radius, will have the option of reenrolling in Prime by waiving their drive time standards. Active duty personnel and dependents

will be able to remain on Prime. Letters explaining the change were sent out to all impacted TRICARE beneficiaries last February and March and another round of letters is supposed to go out beginning this month through September. The House-passed version of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) would allow all retirees currently receiving Prime to remain eligible indefinitely as long as they continue to live in the same zip codes, and only enforce the changes to the Prime Service Areas for new enrollees going forward. The VFW supports this fix to the plan and will continue fighting to get it into the Senate version of the NDAA.

For Tricare Prime and other updates, click here: <http://tricare.mil/Welcome/CurrentTopics/ChangestoPSAs.aspx>

*(Continued from page 3)*

acre campus village in southern Michigan. In order to assist the VFW National Home for Children, we are collecting Campbell's soup labels. We are also 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

### LADIES AUXILIARY YARD SALE VFW POST 7589



**September 28, 2013**

7:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Post  
Home — 9304 Centreville Rd.  
Manassas, VA

We will be taking Donations at the  
Post on Sept. 27 from 4—7 pm.

## Update on Affordable Care Act and VA /Tricare

VFW WASHINGTON WEEKLY  
August 9, 2013

With coverage standards under the Affordable Care Act or ACA going into effect January 2014, (IRS penalties have been delayed until 2015), VA wants veterans to know the facts. If you are enrolled in VA you will receive a letter through the mail informing you of your coverage and that you meet the "minimum essential coverage" required under the law. The health care law does not change VA health benefits or veterans' out-of-pocket costs. Letters are being mailed in priority group order beginning with priority group 1 through 8. The mailing should be completed by the end of October. Veterans covered by VA with family members who are not enrolled in CHAMPVA should use other private insurance (via an employer) or choose coverage within

the Marketplace/State Exchanges which will be open for enrollment October 2013. TRICARE beneficiaries will also be seen as having minimum essential coverage and DOD will inform the IRS of all individual beneficiaries who have TRICARE based on the information listed in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System or DEERS. It's important that social security numbers for all family members are accurate in DEERS including any children using TRICARE programs. There are some exemptions within the law. For more information about VA and the ACA click here: <http://www.va.gov/health/aca/> For TRICARE coverage and ACA, go here: <http://www.tricare.mil/tma/hipaa/ppaca.aspx>

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## Virginia Cyber Competition for Veterans

Maxwell Shuftan  
Cyber Aces Foundation  
Recruitment Liaison

I am working with a partnership between Virginia Tech and the Cyber Aces Foundation to promote an upcoming cyber security competition, Cyber Aces Online, where veterans will have the opportunity to receive free online training, win top honors, and earn a place at the Virginia Cyber Aces state championship in the Spring. Through this competition, top performers will have a chance to begin the pathway to enter the growing cy-

ber workforce.

Virginia Tech and Cyber Aces are inviting veterans across the state to compete in a cyber security championship.

The Virginia Cyber Aces state championship is a **free** statewide competition to discover and develop Virginia's top cyber talent. Veterans are encouraged to register in this program. **Registration opens on September 3, 2013.**

Please visit [www.cyberaces.org](http://www.cyberaces.org) to learn more.

## Legacy Life Membership enables current Life Members to leave a lasting impression on our great organization.

When you become a Legacy Life Member, you are helping us strengthen the VFW—where NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

3 prestigious levels of Legacy Life Membership are available, (Gold, Silver, or Bronze). Each level offers generous benefits reserved exclusively for Legacy Life Members.

Once your Legacy Life Membership begins, an annual endowment in your name will be made to your Post, Department, and the organization. You will feel confident knowing your contributions to our organization are helping not only today's veterans but the

veterans of tomorrow.

Future generations will know and remember you for the sacrifices you've made during your time in uniform in addition to the contributions you've made as a VFW Legacy Life Member.

For any questions regarding Legacy Life Membership, please contact the VFW Membership Department at 816-756-3390. We will gladly provide you with more information on this prestigious and rewarding membership.

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## Sign up for the free VFW Washington Weekly

ALL Comrades should be signed up to receive the Washington Weekly. This bulletin provides us with a snapshot into what's taking place relative to legislative issues concerning the VA, national security, our armed forces and other items that affect Veterans and their families.

It provides you with a means to stay abreast with what's going on in Washington DC and around the world.

If there is an item featured and you want to learn more about it because it affects you personally or someone you know, it can direct you to more in-depth information. Informed Veterans are ready to ask the right questions of their legislators and legislators know that VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES VOTE.

To sign up for this important e-mail service please contact Doc Crouch at [cgdc1@juno.com](mailto:cgdc1@juno.com) or (703) 319-0845.





*Mary Corkhill (above) and Ron Link (below) retire some of the approximately 1500 flags we handled on August 10.*



**September 11th is designated as "Patriot Day." The President requests the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) and a moment of silence observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day due to terrorist attacks on the United States.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- September 7** Youth Committee Yard Sale
- September 11** Patriot Day
- September 12** Auxiliary Fundraiser - Noodles & Company, 9646 Liberia Ave., Manassas - 1600 - 2100
- September 21** POW/MIA Recognition Day
- September 28** Auxiliary Yard Sale
- October 5** Manassas Fall Jubilee

**YARD SALE**

**AT VFW POST 7589**

**SATURDAY**

**SEPT 7, 7AM-2PM**



**Francis Cannon Post 7589**

**P.O. Box 10206**

**Manassas, VA 20108**



Tax ID 20-8362270

**Wreath Sponsorship Form**

\*Sponsored wreaths are placed on the grave markers at state, national veterans cemeteries as well as local cemeteries each December. Wreaths may be purchased online at [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org)

If you wish to make your sponsorship with a credit card please visit our website for a secure online transaction.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: (To receive our FREE email newsletter) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual- 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Family- 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business- 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate- 100 Wreaths or more	\$15.00 each wreath		
		Grand Total	

**\*\*SORRY - WE CANNOT TAKE GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS\*\***

Sponsoring Group ID Number: VAVFW7589  
 Cemetery Designation: Quantico National Cemetery  
 Cemetery ID Number: VAQNCT

Please make checks payable to:  
**Wreaths Across America TM**  
 Mail to:  
 PO Box 249  
 Columbia Falls, ME 04623  
 Questions? Please call 877-385-9504

Cut-Off Date is November 29, 2013  
*WAA ceremony will take place at Quantico National Cemetery on Saturday, December 14 at 12 Noon.*

**Thank you for your Sponsorship and joining us in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach!**

Please note that all sponsorships are sent directly to the location and no wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.

VFW Post 7589  
PO Box 10206  
Manassas, VA 20108-0668



**Cannon News**  
2013 Clair B. Poff  
Public Relations Award  
Most Outstanding Post  
Publication/Newsletter  
VFW Department of Virginia