

CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589
Manassas, Virginia
October 2018



Department SVC Rick Raskin welcomes riders at the annual Valley Ride for the Fallen in Staunton, VA on September 8.

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CANNON NEWS—2015 & 2018 National VFW Publications Silver Award
2013, 2014, 2015 and 2017 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for
Most Outstanding Post Publication/Newsletter, VFW Department of Virginia

Commander's Message



Wayne Moore

Comrades,

Over the past 3 months, I have received numerous messages from Department Commander Ken Wiseman. I find it only fair to share with you some of the things he has on his plate but only imparts to his Post Commanders. He intends for Post Commanders to disseminate these things to their Posts. The few notes below are important on a local and national level to

VFW members.

Disaster Relief Donations

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief, thank you for your outpouring of prayers and donations for those who experienced the path of the many natural disasters last year, and those so far this year. As a result of the many recent disasters, we now, unfortunately, have an extremely low balance in our Emergency Relief Fund. So, I am asking for your help again this year to supplement our funds so that we will be able to offer support to areas that could be impacted this year.

The VFW's Emergency Relief Fund established several years ago, provides us with a broader relief opportunity and allows us to provide immediate relief to those states and territories affected. Departments, Districts and Posts wishing to contribute to the VFW relief efforts needed for those in the path of natural disasters are encouraged to donate to the VFW Emergency Relief Fund.

Some have asked if Post Relief Funds can be used to assist with donations. The answer is YES.

NDA Conference Report Includes VFW Priorities

Yesterday, the House passed the negotiated conference report for the *John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2019*. The VFW thanks the conferees and the more than 7,000 veterans and supporters who responded to the Action Corps Action Alert opposing a provision that would have dramatically increased TRICARE fees for current retirees. The final bill does not include the misguided proposal. The final bill does include several provisions to improve the financial viability of the Armed Forces Retirement Home, such as authorizing the home to accept financial gifts and expanding eligibility to disabled veterans and spouses who are not currently eligible. The bill would postpone the fee increase that was scheduled to be implemented in October 2018 but applies only to those who were residents as of April 9, 2018, and authorizes gradual fee increases over the next three years. The bill would also authorize a 2.6 percent pay increase for America's service members; grant disabled veterans access to commissaries and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation facilities; require DOD to design and produce a medal or award for veterans exposed to radiation (Atomic Veterans); improve reporting, investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases; expand eligibility for Military OneSource to one year after discharge; and require DOD to conduct an assessment on ways to enhance and reform Taiwan's military forces. The Senate is expected to consider and pass this important bill before departing for its August state work period

VFW Urges MIA Families to Provide DNA Samples

"Some 5,300 of 7,699 American unaccounted-for war dead are believed to be in North Korea, and 111 of our 126 Cold War missing are in the vicinity of the Korean peninsula, yet family reference samples on file only account for 91 percent of Korean War missing and 85 percent of Cold War losses," said new VFW National Commander Vincent "B.J." Lawrence.

"We have to do better than that, and that's why I'm calling on more than 1.6 million VFW and VFW Auxiliary members to canvass their neighborhoods and urge every MIA family — even distant relatives — to provide a family reference sample in the hope that the next identification announcement is their long-lost soldier, sailor, airman, Marine or contract civilian."

From the Desk of Senator Mark Warner

As you might remember, due to a Pentagon computer system glitch, over 133,000 combat-wounded veterans had their disability severance pay improperly taxed. Those veterans will soon get a refund, thanks to legislation I co-authored with Senator John Boozman, a conservative Republican from Arkansas. So today I'm writing to let you know the Pentagon and the IRS have officially sent out instructions for veterans to apply for those refunds.

Those instructions are available [here](#). If you are a veteran and think you may have had your severance pay improperly taxed, I encourage you to read the instructions, and if you need help, to contact my Roanoke Office: (540) 857-2676

As always, if there's an issue that's important to you or a question you'd like to ask, I invite you to [send me an email](#).

Posts outreach and responsibility

Many Posts are reporting Comrades who have died. If you know of a comrade who has passed, please let us know. This is an important thing to do in an organization like our own.

If there is a need we are here to help you. You can always call or email your Post Commander, District Commander, a state officer, or myself for any questions or advice. We want to help but, need you to ask for the help. We appreciate your efforts, ideas or knowledge on what to do or ability on how to get it done. Please tell us if you need ideas or training to gain the knowledge. Thank you.

If you need to contact our Post please call 703-361-5554 or email the Commander at commander@vfw7589.org or the Quartermaster at quartermaster@vfw7589.org. You may also call me directly.

Respectfully,

Wayne Moore
VFW Post 7589 Commander
Manassas, VA
703-659-0849

Auxiliary President



Mary Corkhill

A message from Department Chaplain Carol Vangi on the devastation of Hurricane Florence. *“Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all of our Sisters, Brothers, Comrades, their families and all the residents who are in North Carolina and South Carolina that have experienced the devastation of Hurricane Florence. For many parts of the area it will be weeks, perhaps months before there will be a full recovery.”*

Several years ago, the VFW established an Emergency Relief Fund. This provides the VFW a broader relief opportunity and allows the VFW to provide immediate relief to those in areas affected by natural disasters. Donations can be made to the VFW Emergency Relief Fund. Consider making a donation, either a personal donation or by your Auxiliary. Please share this information with your Post. You never know when you and your family will be affected by a natural disaster. For more information go to www.VFW.org/assistance. Please send checks earmarked "Emergency Relief" to: Veterans of Foreign Wars, Quartermaster General, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111. Thank you. Carol Vangi Department Chaplain.”



Believe ... We Can Do It!

The 6th annual “Celebrating America’s Freedom Event” (CAFÉ) was held in Gettysburg, PA on Saturday, September 8, 2018. There were several buses traveling from Hanover, MD to the event. Due to the rainy conditions, it was moved from the Eternal Peace

Light Memorial to the Museum & Visitor Center. This event coincided with National President Sandi Kriebel’s Homecoming Celebration in Hanover, MD. After our return back to the hotel, we were treated to a night at the Medieval Times.



I would like to thank everyone who attended the POW/MIA event on September 21st at the American Legion Post 10. I can’t tell you how moving it was. The colors were posted and the rest of the memorial ceremony was the highlight of the evening.

The VFW and Auxiliary will be participating in the Manassas Fall Jubilee on October 6th from 10AM-5PM. Our organization has attended this annual event for several years and looks forward to meeting and greeting the public. It also gives us the opportunity to inform everyone about our organization and our programs. Please contact me 703/361-8950 or mcorkhill@comcast.net to let me know your availability in assisting at the booth. Thank you in advance.

The Youth Committee has scheduled their Flag Retirement for October 13th at 9AM at the Post. We will have several Scouts available to assist with the flags. The spring flag retirement is scheduled for April 27, 2019.

The Department Commander’s & President’s Homecoming will be held on October 13th in Crozet, VA at the Pro Re Nata Farm Brewery, 6123 Rockfish Gap TPKE. The Homecoming commit-

tee is requesting you bring your own lawn chairs. Please come and join in the fun. The next event will be the Southern Conference in Louisville, KY on October 18-21, 2018. If you wish to attend, please let me know and I will provide you with the information.

The Auxiliary would like to invite the members of the Post to celebrate Veteran’s Day and the Auxiliary’s 20th Anniversary on November 5th (our monthly meeting day) at 6:30PM with a spaghetti dinner. The regular meeting will start at 7:30PM.



For several months, I have been informing you about National’s new computer system MALTA. National has requested everyone to **PLEASE** go into the system to make sure all the information is correct. National Headquarters address is: <https://vfwauxiliary.org>. When you get to the home page, go to member login, put your membership ID and activate account. Answer all the questions about yourself and assign a password; then login again with the new password. You will be able to pay your dues as well. If you still wish for the Auxiliary Treasurer to assist you with your payment of \$20.00, please mail your dues to Elanor Doczi at: 7415 Roxbury Ave., Manassas, VA 20109. Again, thank you in advance.

The annual Auxiliary Veteran’s Day Buddy Poppy drive will be at the Centreville Giant on November 10th from 9AM-3PM and then at the Manassas Westgate Giant on November 11th from 10AM-3PM. Please let me know if you will be able to assist in this event. Due to Centreville Giant being under new management, they will no longer let the public hold events on Sundays.

Just a reminder of the deadline date for the 2018-2019 Voice of Democracy, Patriot’s Pen and the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award is October 31, 2018. The theme for Voice of Democracy is: *“Why My Vote Matters”* and the Patriot’s Pen Theme is: *“Why I Honor the America Flag”*. The awards ceremony is scheduled at the Post for December 2, 2018 at 4:00PM. The Auxiliary will provide the refreshments.



I have stated for the past few months about our fundraiser with the not-for-profit Wreaths Across America (WAA). The deadline for your sponsorship is **November 30, 2018**. This fundraiser provides us the opportunity to raise funds for our organization’s needs which allows us to assist Veterans and/or families as we assist WAA in gathering sponsorships for the wreaths. For each \$15.00 wreath that is purchased, \$5.00 comes back to the Auxiliary. Forms are in this newsletter and can be printed from our website at www.vfw7589.org. You can also contact Ginger Harvey at 571 -285-6243 or gch1130@aol.com. To learn more about WAA or to pay for your sponsorship with a credit card, please visit [https:// www.wreathscrossamerica.org/](https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/) and remember to include our **Sponsoring Group ID No. VA0040P** and **Cemetery ID No. VAQNCT**. The Wreaths Across America event at Quantico Cemetery will at noon on **December 15, 2018**.

(Continued on page 4)

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Our December meeting (Christmas party) will be held at the Yorkshire Restaurant at 6:00PM. Please RSVP and let me know if you will be able to attend this annual December 3rd event. We look forward to a little social time with friends.

The National Home for Children is still high on our list for assisting veterans and their families. If you wish to become a Life Member of the National Home, please forward your application and payment to the VFW National Home for Children, 3573 S. Waverly Rd, Eaton Rapids, MI 43327. The life membership is \$35.00 but will increase on January 1, 2019 to \$50.00. There are several Auxiliary members who have a Life Membership and we would like to see other individuals become one as well.

I would like to thank everyone for your participation in our coupon drive for the overseas veterans and their families. Since July 2018, we have collected \$19,609.27. The organization we were collecting the coupons for has requested holding off collecting any more coupons at this time. If or when they resume this project, I will inform you. Thanks again for your participation.

I am saddened to report that Past Department President Linda Bond's son and step-son of Ellie Smith passed on September 20th. Please keep Linda & Ellie in your prayers along with 7589 Auxiliary Jr. Vice Ms. Cindy McIntyre's sister-in-law, Ms. Gloria Gunnells, a member and a sister of Treasurer, Ms. Elanor Doczi, Ms. Debbie Baxter's mother-in-law Ms. Betty Arnett and other individuals or family members who are ill or hospitalized.

Respectfully,

Mary Corkhill
VFW Auxiliary President



Post approves pursuing merger with Manassas Park Post 1811

Monti Zimmerman, Commander of Post 1811, Bill Sly, Quartermaster and Scouting Chair Alex Bliem attended our September membership meeting and explained the rationale Post 1811 is requesting to consolidate with Post 7589. They explained that their Post is at the point where they will not be able to seat a slate of officers for the forthcoming year and that they only have a few thousand dollars in funds. Since they sponsor a Scout Troop they are concerned that in addition to their Post running out of funds and not being able to continue their Scouting activities, they will be closed for lack of a slate of officers. Post 1811 voted to pursue the merger.

After considerable discussion we determined that our Post could pick up the Scouts and Alex Bliem would continue to head that committee. Additionally, Post 1811 committed to have enough funds available for two years of Scouting sponsorship (currently \$1000 per year).

Post 7589 then voted to pursue the merger.

In order to proceed with the process of merging a committee consisting of members from both Posts will be formed to work out the details. Post 7589 Senior Vice Commander Ron Link agreed to head that committee.

Following the committee's report, the clock starts on completing the process. Due notice will be given inviting members of both Posts to attend a special meeting and vote on the proposed merger. This meeting will be chaired by a Department Line Officer. If the merger is approved, it will take approximately 3-4 weeks to complete.

Post 7589 would gain about 50 members, the majority of whom are life members.

The VFW National Home for Children

The VFW National Home for Children offers a once in a lifetime **opportunity** for military and veteran related families.

If you know of a family in your community that could use our help, please encourage them to call!

We are currently accepting new resident families into our program.

Most qualify to apply. Caring staff will help families to determine eligibility.

800-313-4200

A Great Place to Call Home!

Youth Committee



Lou Filippone

Greetings to all of you from the Youth Committee. We hope this newsletter finds all of you well, having survived and escaped the weather events from last month. Our last meeting was held on Thursday, 20 September and was well attended. Those present were Past Commander Peter MacLeod, Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill, Comrades Paul Chase, Roger Nicol, Kelly Williams, and myself. As usual we covered a wide range of topics to include the following

subjects.

Flag retirement dates have been established for both the fall and spring at Post 7589. They are Saturday, 13 October 2018 and Saturday, 27 April respectively. We are in the process of contacting local area Scout troops requesting their participation at these ceremonies. The event begins at 9:00 AM with a block of instruction on flag etiquette at the Post followed by the actual flag retirement outdoors. City of Manassas Police and Fire Departments are notified in advance of the event for fire and safety reasons. We are looking forward to a good turnout and hope you can attend. If you know of any Scout troops interested in participating please contact me or any other member of the Youth Committee.

At this time all of our schools have been contacted for our Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, and Teacher of the Year contests. Just as a reminder the theme for this year's Patriot's Pen contest is "Why I Honor the American Flag" and for Voice of Democracy it is "Why My Vote Matters". The deadline for both these contests is 31 October 2018. Our Post level judging will be conducted sometime during 1 November – 4 November followed by District 8 judging in late November. Currently 18 middle schools, 12 high schools, and three home school organizations have been contacted. This newsletter is our last opportunity before the contest deadline to solicit entries from our membership. If you know of any schools, teachers, or students interested in participating in our contests please contact any of us on the Youth Committee for applications and additional information.

Our annual awards ceremony honoring the Post's Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, and Teacher of the Year award winners will be held on Sunday, 2 December 2018 at 4:00 PM at the Post. Each year as part of our program a guest speaker makes a presentation covering an interesting and inspirational topic. Our audience consists of student and teacher award winners, their families, and VFW and Auxiliary members. This year's guest speaker is none other than Comrade Paul Chase. Paul has many notable achievements to his credit, including writing and publishing a book about the Revolutionary War, and being a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. His topic at the Awards Ceremony will be "POW's of the American Revolution" and should prove to be a fascinating and educational experience for all attending. Paul has promised to dress in his American Revolutionary War uniform and we are all excited and grateful for his participation in our ceremony this year.

Comrade Paul Chase has also notified us about the Greater Manassas Scholarship & Volunteer Fair to be held at American Legion Post 10 in Manassas. The date of the event is Tuesday, 9 October from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Students, parents, school officials, and the community are encouraged to participate and learn about multiple local scholarships and volunteer opportunities. There will be a drawing for a scholarship that evening. Those interested should contact Paul at PaulChase007@comcast.net for additional information.

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone about the Manassas Fall Jubilee on Saturday, 6 October in Old Towne Manassas from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. It is probably my favorite VFW event to attend and is filled with activities, good food, and comradery. It enables us to meet and interact with the Manassas area youth and promote our youth programs and the VFW. Halloween bags are distributed to the children present. Our members are welcome to donate small gifts that we can include in the Halloween bags. If you would like to donate any small items for this cause please speak to me before the event.

Our next Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 18 October at 7:00 PM at the Post. Our committee will probably have a few extra meetings between then and the Awards Ceremony in December due to the requirements associated with the essay contests and judging. Those additional meeting dates will be announced to the membership shortly. Please join our noble cause and volunteer for our committee. Both the committee members and the youth you will be supporting will shower you with appreciation. Stay well and productive and I'll see you all, at the next meeting.

With best regards,
Lou Filippone
Youth Committee Chair

Digital membership Cards:

Members now have the ability to download their digital version of their membership card. Depending on whether a member has an iPhone or Android, they will be able to download and access their digital membership card from the VFW app.

This will not replace the physical VFW membership card - we will still be sending out membership cards to all our annual and Life members. This is intended as another option for our members' convenience.

When asked to show a VFW membership card, a member can either produce their physical card out of their wallet or display their digital card on their smart phone.

Americanism Committee



Warren Ewell

The Americanism Committee at Post 7589 includes the Post Color Guard.

We need comrades to march and represent the Post in the Greater Manassas Veterans Day Parade which is coming up on Saturday, November 3, 2018 at 11:00 AM.

Representation and activities are important aspects of the success of Post 7589. To quote Uncle Sam: *"We Want You!"*

Comrades, the former name for Veterans Day was Armistice Day, first celebrated on November 11, 1919, exactly one year after the end of World War I. This is the 100th anniversary of the ending of the bloody fighting in World War One on November 11, 1918. Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day to honor veterans of all the Nation's wars. Additionally, the 2018 Greater Manassas Veterans Parade is celebrating its 10th anniversary on the streets of Old Town Manassas.

To all my VFW comrades, let's get together and represent Post 7589 and salute the pride of those veterans who went before us and those who are still with us. Without those brave men and women of World War I and all of our other wars, our American experiment in freedom and democracy may have been placed in jeopardy.

It's your country! It's your Parade! It's your VFW!

There will be a sign up sheet for the Parade at the Oct. 1st General Membership Meeting. There will be an important Americanism Committee Meeting at 7:00 pm on Monday, October 22 and the Greater Manassas Veterans Parade at 11:00 am, Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018! For more information please call me, Americanism Committee Chair Warren Ewell, at 571-365-1373.

From the VFW Programs Director

School is in session and we have a lot of military families who could use a hand up either through our student veteran scholarships or our youth programs. Get out there and tell them about the VFW Veterans & Military Support Programs and VFW programs. This is a perfect time to go find your Sport Clips locations and start developing a plan to assist them in fundraising for our Help a Hero Scholarship. If our Posts step up this year we can make a huge dent in the 600 applications we receive every semester instead of the 170 we're able to award. Please help us raise the bar this year when the campaign kicks off in October. Your Help A Hero scholarship is the largest student veteran scholarship and needs your help to make an even bigger impact.

I wanted to share with you a quick thank you note on the impact of your VFW Unmet Needs program from a recipient.

"I can't begin to tell each and every staff member THANK YOU for allowing me to receive this grant. As a single, mother with PTSD it's never easy dealing with issues that give you high anxiety or depression. I was a veteran in need and you were the only organization that helped. Many blessings to you all."

Lynn W. Rolf, III
Director—VFW Programs

Membership Statistics (9-29-2018)

Post	Life	Annual	Total	Prior Year	%	Prior Annual	City
1811	129	3	132	158	83.54	24	Man. Park
7589	272	35	307	417	73.62	161	Manassas

October 3, Retiree Appreciation Day at Ft. Myer

[As] Co-Chair of the Ft. Myer Retiree Activity Council, representing about 15,000 retirees in the Ft. Myer area, I am inviting all Post members or those who are retirees to attend the event at the Ft. Myer Community Center from 0800 to 1500.

The event will have a medical area and tables with vendors and veteran support activities from 8 AM to 12 noon and a set of presentations from 1 PM to 3 PM.

Two highlights will be:

- An update on Arlington National Cemetery eligibility
- The process to change your military retiree dental and vision insurance

Monti Zimmerman
COL (Ret)
Co-Chair Ft. Myer Retiree Activity Council



2018 Homecoming

for

Commander Ken and President Patty

October 13th, 2018

Pro Re Nata Farm Brewery

6135 Rockfish Gap TPKE Crozet, Virginia

4-8pm

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS WITH YOU!

RSVP to adj@vfwva.org by September 30th to attend

Medicare Verified: FRAUDULENT PHONE CALL

The following was reported by one of our members:

To anyone who is on Medicare, I want to alert you to a FRAUD.

I got a phone call today from a man who said his name was Kelly and that he was a supervisor calling from Medicare. He asked me if I got my new Medicare card. He verified my name and address (I did not give it, he already had it). He said that he needed to activate my card so I would get continuous coverage.

He asked for my NEW Medicare number on my card.

I refused to give it to him and he got very insistent and said if I did not give it to him, he could not activate my card and I would not have coverage.

He asked if I got a letter and I said I did, I got it out and looked at it and it did not say someone would call to activate coverage. I told him this and told him that I would call the phone number on the back of my card as I was not sure this call was legit. He insisted that it was and that he would be the person I would talk to if I called Medicare. He even verified the same phone number that is on the back of my card.

I hung up to his protests that I would no longer have coverage.

I called Medicare and they verified this phone call was a FRAUD from someone trying to get personal information.

Medicare said they would NEVER call to activate a Medicare card, it isn't required.

Medicare said they had other reports of this type of scam and encouraged me to spread the word for others who got calls like this to NOT give out any information.

I can see how others may not be suspicious like me and get talked into giving out their Medicare number and other information. This man was very insistent.

We're ready to serve you

Flu shots for VA-enrolled veterans

- No cost to you*
- Records updated with VA
- Just walk into your local Walgreens

Walgreens | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

*This wellness benefit is only for veterans enrolled in the VA Health Care system. Family members and Tricare members are not eligible. No cost flu shot option is for quadrivalent vaccine only, available now through March 31, 2019. Vaccines subject to availability. State, age, and health-related restrictions may apply. Vaccine may be in limited supply after March 31, 2019. This does not constitute an endorsement of Walgreens or Walgreens products. Patients will also be asked to complete a vaccine consent form at time of service. ©2018 Walgreen Co. All rights reserved. | 1-800-368-3688

Gainesville Times & Prince William Times
present
DRACULA
Manassas Ballet Theatre LLC

Manassas Ballet Theatre opens its 2018-19 season with the ultimate vampire story – *Dracula*. Theatrical and seductive, the Hylton stage becomes Transylvania after dark, where just one taste of blood guarantees eternal youth. The Kim Reynolds Band accompanies MBT as they weave this dark tale of the ages.

Tickets start at only \$25

Friday, October 19, 7:30 pm
Saturday, October 20, 7:30 pm
Sunday, October 21, 3:00 pm

Manassas Parks & Recreation | Dominion Energy | INSIDENOVA | Micron | Gainesville Times | Prince William Times | RAPPAPORT | EAST TO WEST | SPARK | COMCAST

Manassas Ballet Theatre is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, Prince William County, and the City of Manassas

VFW will launch a new look on November 6

We're pleased to officially announce the VFW will launch a new look on November 6!

The new look will be spearheaded by the deployment of a new, modern and simplified VFW logo designed to better convey who we are as an organization, and allow us to stand out in an increasingly competitive media market. In short, this new logo will strengthen the VFW brand, reaffirming our position as America's greatest veterans service organization and allow us to better connect with new audiences. See the historical evolution of the VFW logo at: <https://youtu.be/kCR7DLIvk9A>

For clarification, the Cross of Malta will always remain the official seal of the VFW. We are not leaving the Cross behind, but rather elevating the importance of the Cross by limiting its usage to instances in which it can be fully reproduced, and instances which require formal representation of our brand. The Cross represents the highest ideals of the organization and should be afforded a degree of reverence when it is displayed.

In an effort to make this transition as seamless as possible for you to implement, we have taken great care to develop:

1. A download package which includes all approved versions of the VFW logo in various file formats.
- Download the VFW logo package at: <https://vfw.sharefile.com/d-sa998388928144509>
2. A comprehensive style guide detailing proper logo usage. (Attached.) **Please review the style guide completely and thoroughly.**
3. A custom logo for each Department and Post using a standardized format. Please adopt and utilize these logos to identify your Department or Post as appropriate.
- **See Section 3 of the style guide for instructions on downloading your custom logo.**

We understand many of you have expended resources over the years to obtain merchandise and material displaying the current VFW logo. We are sensitive to this, and therefore, it is acceptable should you choose to exhaust your current inventory of VFW-branded print materials and continue to use VFW-branded merchandise until it is time to reorder or until the year January 1, 2021.

Please note:

1. All future orders of VFW-branded collateral will display the new logo. The VFW Store will begin expanding merchandise offerings which display the new logo while limiting options displaying the Cross of Malta, however, all offerings in this year's Store catalog which display the Cross will be honored.
2. For those of you using the Website Solution Program platform, the logo update will occur automatically on November 6.

Exciting times are ahead for our great organization, and we truly appreciate your every effort to implement the new logo on, but not before November 6.

Please feel free to direct any questions to communications@vfw.org.

Randi K. Law

Manager, Communications & Public Affairs
VFW National Headquarters
406 W. 34th St.,
Kansas City, MO 64111



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

From the



VFW Fall Legislative Conference:

VFW National Legislative Committee members from nearly every state traveled to Washington to meet with their members of Congress and advance the VFW's 2018 Legislative Priority Goals. Committee members asked their Senators to swiftly pass H.R. 299, which would provide long overdue benefits for Blue Water Navy, Korean DMZ and Thailand veterans, and H.R. 5649, which would significantly improve the transition from military service to civilian life. Improving health care for veterans, ending sequestration, and establishing full concurrent receipt were also top talking points for committee members.

VFW National Commander Meets Top Leaders:

While in town for the Fall Legislative Conference, VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence was able to meet with a number of top Department of Veterans Affairs and military leaders, to include VA Secretary Robert Wilkie, Army Secretary Dr. Mark Esper, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley, Air Force Director of Staff Lt. Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost, Under Secretary of the Navy Thomas Modly, and Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Greg Slavonic. He thanked each for their continued service to the nation, as well as communicated the VFW's numerous advocacy and support programs for veterans, service members and their families.

VFW Receives Special U.S. Flag:

The director of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) presented the VFW one of 55 U.S. flags that draped the 55 transfer cases of American remains when they were repatriated from North Korea to American soil Aug. 1. The flag presentation is a thank you for the VFW's longstanding commitment to bring our fallen home, which included sending a letter to President Trump in advance of the June 12 Singapore Summit to urge him to include the return of American remains as a discussion point with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. "We know for a fact that the reason President Trump brought it to Chairman Kim's attention was because of a strong letter written by the VFW," said DPAA Director Kelly McKeague yesterday, as he presented the flag and photos of the remains repatriation ceremony to VFW Executive Director Bob Wallace. DPAA lists 7,680 missing Americans from the Korean War, with some 5,300 believed to be in North Korea. McKeague said if it weren't for the strong advocacy of the VFW, the MIA issue would not have been a discussion point in Singapore, and more important, the return of the 55 cases of remains would not have happened.

New Rule Changes How VA Calculates Income for Needs-based Benefits:

VA published a final rule in the Federal Register that will establish a three year look-back period when determining eligibility for income-based benefits, including pension with aid and attendance. The new rule goes into effect on Oct. 18, 2018. It makes several changes, such as increasing the amount of net worth a veteran can have to qualify for pension, and expanding the definition of custodial care to allow veterans to deduct medical expenses for dementia care and third-party care providers. The three year look-back rule is intended to limit asset transfers done solely to qualify for governmental assistance. Such transfers may bar the veteran from receiving pension benefits, until the assets are used for their living expenses. There are some protections in place for veterans to transfer funds without a penalty, such as special needs trusts for the benefit of helpless children and helpless adult children, and trusts where the veteran retains control over the funds. Veterans can also reverse the transfer or buy back the asset in order to avoid the penalty. For questions about VA benefits and assistance with filing a claim, contact a professional, accredited and highly trained VFW Service Officer near you.

TRICARE Retiree Dental Program Update:

The current TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will end Dec. 31, 2018, and will be replaced by the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) dental coverage options. Vision plans will also be available to eligible TRICARE beneficiaries through FEDVIP. The first opportunity to enroll in FEDVIP is during the 2018 Federal Benefits Open Season, which runs from Nov. 12, 2018, through Dec. 10, 2018 (EST). Coverage begins on Jan. 1, 2019. In general, retired uniformed service members and their families who were eligible for TRDP in 2018 are eligible for FEDVIP dental coverage, and if enrolled in a TRICARE health plan, FEDVIP vision coverage, beginning in 2019. Family members of active-duty uniformed service members who are enrolled in a TRICARE health plan are eligible for FEDVIP vision coverage.

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER	
October 1	Executive Meeting - 7:00 PM, Post & Auxiliary Meetings - 7:30 PM
October 6	Manassas Fall Jubilee
October 9	Greater Manassas Scholarship & Volunteer Fair 5—7 PM — AL Post 10
October 13	Flag Retirement - 9:00 AM Department Commander's and Auxiliary President's Homecoming Pro Re Nata Farm Brewery, Crozet, VA
October 18	Youth Committee - 7:00 PM
October 18-21	Southern Conference - Louisville, KY
October 31	Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year contests deadline
NOVEMBER	
November 3	Manassas Veteran's Parade
November 5	Executive Meeting - 7:00 PM, Post & Auxiliary Meetings - 7:30 PM 6:30PM (Dinner provided by Auxiliary)
November 10-11	Nov. 10: Buddy Poppy Drive for Auxiliary - Giant in Centreville, 9:00 AM—3:00 PM Nov. 11 - Ceremony at Manassas Veteran's Memorial - 8:30 AM Flag Placements at Manassas Cemetery - 9:00 AM
November 15	Youth Committee - 7:00 PM
November 17	8th District Meeting - Post 3103, Fredericksburg - Lunch 12:00 Noon, Meeting 1:00 PM
November 29	Auxiliary 7589's 20th Anniversary
November 30	Deadline for Wreaths Across America orders
DECEMBER	
December 1	Manassas Christmas Parade (TBD)
December 2	VOD/Patriots Pen/Teacher - Refreshments 4PM
December 3	Auxiliary Meeting - 6PM (Yorkshire Restaurant/Xmas party) Executive Meeting - 7PM
December 7	Pearl Harbor Day
December 15	Wreaths Across America, Quantico Cemetery - 12 noon
December 16	Post-Christmas Party (Stonewall Golf Club) 3PM until over
December 20	Youth Committee 7PM

KNOW YOUR VIRGINIA REPRESENTATIVE

Rob Wittman	1st District	202-225-4261
Scott Taylor	2nd District	202-225-4215
Bobby Scott	3rd District	202-225-8351
Donald McEachin	4th District	202-225-6365
Tom Garrett	5th District	202-225-4711
Robert Goodlatte	6th District	202-225-5431
Dave Bratt	7th District	202-225-2815
Don Beyer	8th District	202-225-4376
Morgan Griffith	9th District	202-225-3861
Barbara Comstock	10th District	202-225-5136
Gerry Connolly	11th District	202-225-1492

Virginia Department of Veterans Services Manassas Office



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CANNON NEWS

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[\[Click Here\]](#) 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 quartermaster@vfw7589.org no later than the 28th of the month.
We reserve the right to edit submitted articles for timeliness, clarity and syntax.



SPONSOR A WREATH FOR A VETERAN'S GRAVE

Since 2007, Wreaths Across America carries out its mission **REMEMBER** the fallen, **HONOR** those that serve and **TEACH** our children the value of **FREEDOM** in part by placing wreaths on veterans' graves during the holiday season.

The **Francis Cannon Auxiliary to VFW Post 7589** is working with Wreaths Across America to help place more wreaths than ever before on Veterans' graves at **Quantico National Cemetery**. **Deadline Date is November 30, 2018.**

On **Saturday, December 15, 2018**, Wreaths Across America ceremonies will take place at over 1200 locations in the USA and beyond.

Sponsorships are \$15 each. We are participating because we think it is a great program and \$5 of every sponsorship will support the Francis Cannon Auxiliary to VFW Post 7589 directly so we may continue to assist veterans and families as well as our community.

PLEASE JOIN US -- All wreaths will be placed by volunteers on **Saturday, December 15, 2018 at 12 Noon at Quantico National Cemetery**. This is a moving experience that you should make part of your holiday tradition. With your help our local heroes will be remembered this Holiday Season. **How many sponsorships can we count on you for?**

For more information visit www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org, or call 877-385-9504.
You can also email infor@wreathsaacrossamerica.org



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

Tax ID: 20-8362270

Wreath Sponsorship Form

Sponsored wreaths are placed on the grave markers at state, and national cemeteries as well as local cemeteries each December. Wreaths may be purchased online at 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: _____

Please make checks payable to:
Wreaths Across America TM
 PO Box 249
 Columbia Falls, ME 04623
 Question? Please Call 877-385-9504
 Thank you for your sponsorship and joining us in our mission to **Remember, Honor** and **Teach**

(To receive our FREE email newsletter)

****SORRY — WE CANNOT TAKE GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS****
 Please note that all sponsorships are sent directly to the location and no wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.

Sponsorship	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Mailed "In Honor Card" = If you wish to send a mailed honor card telling someone of your sponsorship, see "In Honor" section below. Card will not be mailed if the \$2 fee is not included.	\$2.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1500.00		
		Grand Total	

In Honor of:

Please provide email or "in Honor of" recipient mailing address so a card can be sent notifying them of your sponsorship in their honor, (if you have a specific message, please write it on the back of this sheet and we will include it.)

Email or Mailing address

In Memory of:

This name will be listed on our online memory wall. Please provide name, rank, branch of service and state resided.

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

State: _____

Location ID: **Quantico National Cemetery VAQNCT** Fundraising Group ID: **VA0040P**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Cash: _____ Total \$ _____ Date: _____

Total # Checks: _____ Reconciled: _____

MO \$: _____

Entered: _____

GEN: