

CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589
Manassas, Virginia
October 2019



State Adjutant / Quartermaster Ken Wiseman takes a pie in the face from Charlottesville Post Quartermaster Cindy Wyman at State Headquarters in Staunton. Ken had said that any Districts that were 100% reported would get the honor and Cindy, from District 13, was chosen. Several other Districts also blasted Ken.

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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

As a young man unfamiliar with the different branches of the armed services, when I was confronted with the supposed fact that I would be drafted I opted to volunteer and joined the U.S. Army to do what I considered my patriotic responsibility. As I sit here typing this message and dealing with the illnesses of aging and health hazards of serving over a 40-year period two thoughts come to mind. First, as a young man hearing

President Kennedy's statement "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country" resonated and the laying to rest of a dear friend, Tony Maggio, Jr (USN Retired), on Thursday, September 20, 2019.

While my sense of discipline, responsibility, commitment and courage was developed in the Army; it was the U.S Navy that ingrained honor and developed my potential for growth, exposed me to a world of difference and humanity worthy of a warrior's ethos (I will always place the mission first. I will never accept defeat. I will never quit).

This month the Navy celebrates it's 243 years of existence and I would like to share some of my appreciation and love for the organization.

Happy Birthday to the United States Navy

In an effort to curb British Sea Control, the Continental Congress established the Continental Navy, which later, on October 13, 1775, became the United States Navy. When the infant Navy was first formed, it consisted of just two armed vessels – tasked with disrupting munition ships supplying the British Army in America. Yet over the past nearly two and one-half centuries, our Navy has grown to become the largest, most advanced, and most lethal fighting force the world has ever known.

In 1972, the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, designated October 13 as the Navy's official birthday, and directed that it be commemorated so as to "enhance [the] appreciation of our Navy heritage" and reinforce "pride and professionalism in the Naval Service."

In addition to this year marking the Navy's 243rd birthday, the year ahead will mark several other historic milestones for the Navy. Throughout the year, the Navy will celebrate the 25th anniversary of women's first assignment aboard a combat ship, the 50th anniversary of the Navy's Fighter Weapons school -- Top Gun, the 75th anniversary of the Navy's success during Operation Overlord (D-Day) and the Battle of Leyte Gulf and the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I.

Forged by the Sea

The theme for the Navy's 243rd Birthday is "Forged by the

(Commander on page 3)

Auxiliary President



Mary Corkhill

The following information was sent to Auxiliary members by the National VFW Auxiliary E-Newsletter on September 5, 2019: "With the hurricane's potential to impact several states and thousands of veterans, the effects could deplete the VFW's existing Disaster Relief Fund. So, we are asking for your help in supplementing the fund to be able to offer the necessary support to areas impacted by Hurricane Dorian.

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 "Disaster Relief" to: Veterans of Foreign Wars, Quartermaster General, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111."

To the members of the Auxiliary who attended or participated in the events during September "Thank you". We started off with Jan Germain and Ellie Smith assisting me in distributing the Memorial Buddy Poppies at the Manassas Mall on September 11th. Later that evening, Bob Zalenski, Diane Zalenski and I attended Scout Troop 1372's annual 9/11 flag retirement ceremony. On September 20th, the POW/MIA ceremony was held at American Legion Post 10 and Diane Zalenski, Bob Zalenski, Dan Cummings and I attended that event. The colors were posted and the rest of the memorial ceremony were the highlights of the evening. The final event of the month was the Pizza party on September 23rd for Scout Troop 1372 and it was a total success. We were able to meet and greet the members of the troop and some of their leaders. Thanks to Lou Filippone (Post Youth Chairman), Yvonne Sullivan, Janice Long and Dan Cummings for assisting me with this event.

There is **FREE** admission to the annual Manassas Fall Jubilee. Every year, the Post and Auxiliary has the opportunity to inform the public about our organization and the programs we promote. This event is scheduled for October 5th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please contact me 703/361-8950 or mcorkhill@comcast.net to let me know your availability in assisting at the booth. Thank you.

The Department Commander's & President's Homecoming will be held on October 12th at Battlefield Post 9808 located at 7568 Flag Ln, Mechanicsville, VA. Cocktails at 5 p.m. (Open bar), Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and DJ at 8 p.m. (Cash bar). Please come and join in the Homecoming fun. The next event will be the Southern Conference in Baton Rouge, LA on October 17-

(Auxiliary President on page 3)

(Commander from page 2)

Sea.” This year’s theme captures the aspirations of every Sailor’s journey in uniform and conveys the notion that every Sailor is shaped and strengthened by service in the Navy. It also highlights the fact that our Navy is a team that has been forged, tempered, and toughened over 243 years of maritime operations. And, quite naturally, it speaks to the Navy’s unique and fundamental relationship with the sea.

For 243 years, our U.S. Navy has celebrated the seekers of knowledge and adventure. Our Sailors proudly continue this tradition, so this year, we celebrate the security they provide for all Americans by their creativity, their dedication, and their enterprising sense of adventure.

Since its earliest days, the U.S. Navy has operated to deter our adversaries and to fight and win in the event deterrence fails. As our adversaries strive to match and outpace the capabilities of our fleet, it is imperative that we continue to grow, develop, and innovate – principally through the dedication and sacrifice of the Navy men and women “forged by the sea” – in order to retain our maritime superiority.

From the Navy’s original six frigates to the fighting force today comprised of a ready and resilient submarine, aviation, and surface force, our Navy continues to challenge old boundaries, develop new alliances, and forge new strengths. And – thanks to our proud, 243-year history – we are Forged by the Sea.

(Auxiliary President from page 2)

20, 2019. If you wish to attend, please let me know and I will provide you with the information.

I would like to extend my sincere “Thank you” to the Bingo Community for assisting the Auxiliary in collecting non-perishable items for several area food pantries. When an individual bring in three items, they receive a ½ Bingo book free. So far, we have collected over 500 items. This drive will continue until December 15, 2019.

The Auxiliary membership would like to invite the members of the Post to celebrate Veteran’s Day on November 4th (our monthly meeting day) at 6:30 p.m. for a pasta and meatballs dinner. The regular meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. On November 17th, the 8th District meeting will be held at Manassas Post 7589. Lunch will be served at 12:00 (noon) and the joint meeting will start at 1:00 p.m. After the joint session, the Auxiliary will meet in the conference room.

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 Giant in Westgate in Manassas on Saturday, November 9th from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and Sunday, November 10th from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. **Please** let me know if you will be able to assist in this event.

Just a reminder of the deadline date for the 2019-2020 Voice of Democracy, Patriot’s Pen and the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award is October 31, 2019. The theme for both the Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen is: “**What Makes America Great**”. The awards ceremony is scheduled at the Post for December 1, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. The Auxiliary will provide the refreshments.

Over the years, the Auxiliary has participated in a fundraiser with the not-for-profit Wreaths Across America (WAA). 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. The **deadline** for your sponsorship is November 30, 2019. 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/> and remember to include our Sponsoring Group ID No. **VA0040P** and Cemetery ID No. **VAQNCT**. The Wreaths Across America event at Quantico Cemetery will be at noon on December 14, 2019.

Our December meeting (Christmas party) will be held at the Yorkshire Restaurant at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP and let me know if you will be able to attend this 4th annual December event. We look forward to a little social time with friends.

The National Home for Children has a new executive director, Frederick Puffenberger. This individual was appointed due to the retirement of Patrice Green. Their website is <https://www.vfwnationalhome.org> if you wish to make a donation or learn more about the Home. You can become a Life Member of the National Home by forwarding your application and \$50 to the VFW National Home for Children, 3573 S. Waverly Rd, Eaton Rapids, MI 43327. Several Auxiliary members have a Life Membership and would like to see other individuals become members as well.

We are continuing our support to the veterans overseas. So far, we have collected coupons totaling \$14,257.35. Please keep in mind that the coupons are good for six months after the expiration date here in the states. Please assist us with this task for our veterans and thank you so much for your support.

Please keep any individuals or family members who are ill or hospitalized in your prayers. If you know of anyone who needs our assistance, please let us know.

Respectfully,

Mary Corkhill
VFW Auxiliary President

Youth News & Notes



Lou Filippone

Here's another report from the Post Youth Committee. We held our last meeting on Tuesday, 17 September at the Post at 7:00 PM. Those in attendance were Alex and Tina Bliem, Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill, Peter MacLeod and myself. The primary topic of discussion involved the upcoming Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, and Teacher of the Year contests. We are currently waiting for the return of our applications and once we receive them can then begin the judging

process at the end of October. The committee is really putting out a strong effort to recruit as many schools, students, and teachers as possible in an attempt to increase our numbers from last year. Those on the Youth Committee are working very diligently and should be commended. I would also like to express my gratitude to my wife Francine and my office manager, Jennifer Torres, for the hours of time and effort they contribute contacting schools, and distributing and collecting applications. I will have a report on the number of entries and on the winners in next month's newsletter.

The Flag Retirement Ceremony conducted by our Scouts on Wednesday, 11 September was quite successful. We had about 35 Scouts, Girl Scouts, Venture Crew, and Cub Scouts. They were from Troop and Pack 1372, Troop 581, and Pack 1831. Also in attendance were about 45 adults which included parents and Scoutmasters. Members from our Post present were Peter MacLeod, myself, Tina and Alex Bliem and Mary Corkhill and Dianne and Bob Zalinski from the Auxiliary. The ceremony began at 7:00 PM and lasted until about 8:00 PM. In the true spirit of Scouting the fire was started with wood, not just with kerosene. Over two complete barrels of flags were retired. Following the ceremony the ashes were buried and the Post was secured. The Scouts did a wonderful job with the ceremony and conducted it quite differently from typical VFW flag retirements. They omitted the class on flag etiquette and instead used a script with group participation for their event. I was truly impressed by the discipline and professional behavior these Scouts demonstrated that night. They are a great group of young Americans and it was a pleasure sponsoring this event for them.

Our Post had a second opportunity to host an event for the Scouts with a Welcoming Pizza Party. It was held on Monday, 23 September at the Post at 6:00 PM. Approximately 40-50 Scouts, accompanied with family, were present. Those from the Post who participated were Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill, her brother Dan Cummings from Texas and sister Janice Long from Kansas. Also present were Yvonne Sullivan from the Auxiliary and myself. Over 15 pizzas were served and nothing was left over. Following the ceremony the Scouts held their Court of Honor award ceremony which lasted until about 8 PM. Another thank you to everyone for all the hard work and volunteerism that went into this event. I know the Scouts felt welcome and were appreciative.



Lou Filippone

Following the flag retirement ceremony the Scouts prepared for their Court of Honor award ceremony .

Just a reminder about the Fall Jubilee in Old Town Manassas Saturday, 5 October. Please turn out and lend a hand. This is a great opportunity to reach out to the community youth and give out Halloween Safety Bags. The event affords us one more opportunity to recruit students for our essay contests and is also a wonderful recruiting opportunity for both the VFW and the Auxiliary. Did I mention it is also a fun time in general for all attendees with great activities, events and food? If you want to participate, meet us at the Post at about 8:30 AM and plan on spending the day in Old Town. The event goes from 10:00AM and lasts until 5PM.

Our next Youth Committee meeting, at the Post, is scheduled for Thursday, 17 October at 7:00 PM. Please join our committee and experience the rewards of working with and mentoring our wonderful youth. It is such a noble cause and unbelievably rewarding.

With best regards,

Lou Filippone
Youth Committee Chair

Legislative Update



September was a very active month for Congress.

The House has passed at least 12 of the 14 funding documents for the federal government, for the next fiscal year, starting October 1st. The Senate has only passed the main Defense Appropriations Bill.

Monti Zimmerman The main difference is that the House Bill has included a provision to repeal the "Widows Tax that affects approximately 67,000 widowed spouses of military retirees who died of a VA rated service connected issue. The goal is to put pressure on the conference committee between the House and Senate to ensure this item stays in the final bill.

Unfortunately, the House Bill (HR 2500), was passed with no Republican votes and the Senate is controlled by a Republican majority. This means that it could get stripped for partisan, not functional reasons.

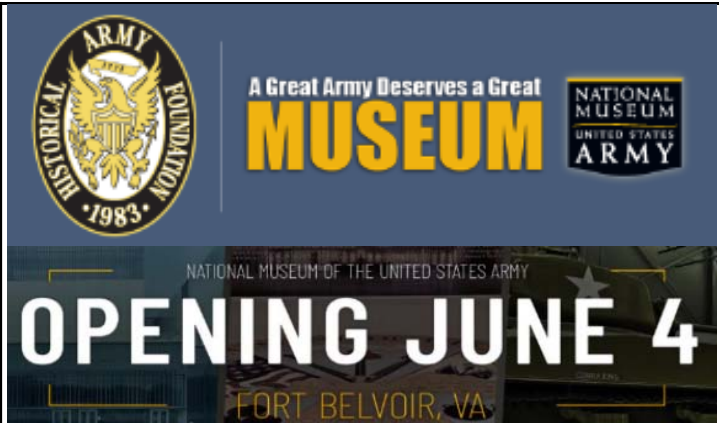
The House also supports maintaining TRICARE fees as is, with no increases but the Senate Bill is silent on these issues. The House has asked for more research before the Department of Defense cuts (apparently randomly) 18,000 medical billets.

Finally, it is very likely that Congress will vote a sort-term Continuing Resolution to keep the government operating between October 1st and November 9th or December 8th (depending on the politics of what the election is likely to bring).

The Secretary of the Army (who has been an Acting Secretary) is due to decide on the new criteria for burial at Arlington National Cemetery. The expectation is that it will only be for those who die or who are killed on duty, former prisoners of war, holders of the Medal of Honor, a Service Cross, Silver Star or Purple Heart Medal. The goal is to ensure that the cemetery can last an additional 150 years.

Additional Announcements:

- October 4th will be the Ft. Myer Military Retiree Appreciation Day.
- The new Centreville Coast Guard Exchange is expected to open on October 11th.



The U.S. Army announced that the National Museum of the United States Army will open to the public on **June 4, 2020**.

We know the entire Army family and our supporters have eagerly awaited this announcement. Soon the world will see how 30 million ordinary Americans accomplished the extraordinary as American Soldiers.

Don't book your travel plans yet though!

Admission to the Museum will be free of charge, though tickets must be requested through an online reservation system for a specific date and time. A limited number of tickets will be available for each reservation time to help ensure a quality experience for everyone. Due to the expected demand, please do not make your travel plans until you have received your ticket, confirming the date and time of your visit.

Ticket reservations are not yet open. More information about the online ticketing system will be available early next year.

You can also find all the latest information regarding tickets, event space reservations and volunteering on our Opening Day website page. <http://armyhitory.org/opening-day/>

The Army Historical Foundation looks forward to welcoming every Soldier, Army Family, Veteran and citizen of our grateful nation to this magnificent Museum.

And please remember that your support of this project is still needed. Celebrate this historic announcement by making a gift today <http://armyhitory.org/donate>.

Thank you.

Post's aluminum tab program exceeds 3,000,000 tabs

Comrade Paul Chase has reported that our aluminum tab program has now exceeded 3 million tabs. One million tabs yields approximately 650 pounds of aluminum giving us a total of almost 2000 pounds collected to date. According to internet searches, tabs can fetch between 40 and 50 cents per pound. That could equate to almost \$1500 in real cash.

The aluminum tabs we collect are donated to the Shriner's Hospitals for Children.

The Post's aluminum tab program was featured in the February 2018 edition of the VFW magazine.

Post Color Guard assists at AL Post 10 POW/MIA Ceremony



Rod Burr and Warren Ewell with Dave Quimby, AL Post 10 Sergeant at Arms.



Rod Burr, Warren Ewell and Pete MacLeod

National mines life member database to identify deceased members

12 members of Post 7589 identified

The VFW recently contracted with a leader in the data hygiene industry to review a portion of the life membership file; specifically, 343,121 members over the age of 75. This review covered multiple data sources, which include the Social Security Administration Death Master File (SSA DFM), 15 state direct sources, and credit header data. As a result over 88,000 members have been identified as deceased and the life member records updated accordingly.

12 members of Post 7589 have been identified. Of those, 6 have positively been confirmed by the quartermaster and the following 6 could possibly have been mistakenly matched with another individual:

- Robert S. Clark 1514 Farsta Ct., Reston, VA
- Robert L. Colgan 9404 Tarra Ln., Manassas, VA
- George R. Ellison, Sr. 383 NE 966th Ave, Branford FL
- Donald R. Gibson 5611 Euphrates Ct., Centreville, VA
- G. W. Hammer 210 Wilson Downing Rr., Lexington, KY
- Lavern E. Triggs 217 Summerfield Dr., Winchester, VA

If anyone can confirm that any of the above individuals are still alive, please contact the Post quartermaster ASAP. National will close the database to updates on November 1.

All 12 of these members are not reflected in the current membership statistics and will not count against the Post for All State or All American status. The Commander-in-Chief has granted amnesty for contest purposes.



9/11 Flag Retirement



September 23 VFW & Auxiliary 7589 Pizza Party For Scout Troop 1372



Mary Corkhill



Submitted Photo

Janice Long, Dan Cummings, Yvonne Sullivan

with Mary Corkhill



Mary Corkhill



Mary Corkhill



Mary Corkhill



Lou Filippone



Lou Filippone

'You are not forgotten'

By Alex Perry

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia recognized those Virginians who remain unaccounted for in all wars by dedicating a new monument at Albert G. Horton Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery on Friday.

This ceremony was held on Friday for National POW/MIA Recognition Day, which is observed on the third Friday in September to honor those who were prisoners of war and those who are still missing in action.

The black granite Chair of Honor that was unveiled and dedicated

reads "this unoccupied seat is dedicated to the memory of the brave men and women of Virginia who are unaccounted for, from all wars," followed by an earnest and everlasting proclamation: "you are not forgotten."

"The purpose of this monument is to give us focus," VFW National Surgeon General Dr. Curtis "Doc" Bohlman said in his remarks. "To focus our thoughts on our comrades who have given so much, and remind us to say 'you are not forgotten' to our prisoners of war, those still missing in action and their families, many of whom still seek closure."

The Chair of Honor was made possible by contributions from VFW Department of Virginia District 2, VFW Post Auxiliaries and the VFW Riders Virginia, according to Michael Chism, POW/MIA committee chair for the Department of Virginia.

"Congratulations are in order to all who contributed and worked so hard that this monument might be constructed," Bohlman said.

VFW Department of Virginia District 2 Posts were represented at the ceremony, which was also attended by Suffolk City Council members, as well as friends and family.

The posting of VFW and branches of service flags was done in absolute silence that was punctuated only by careful footsteps, commands for direction and chirps of birds in trees throughout the cemetery.

"I'm really happy to see this turnout," VFW Virginia State



Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia salute the new Chair of Honor monument that was dedicated in a ceremony at Albert G. Horton Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery on Friday. Pictured are VFW Department of Virginia POW/MIA Committee Chair Michael Chism, VFW Virginia State Adjutant Ken Wiseman and Robert Grady, past commander of Suffolk's VFW Post 2582

Commander Rick Raskin said in his remarks. "It speaks well for the community in the Suffolk area, and for the dedication that you have toward our veterans and our missing in action."

There are more than 82,000 Americans listed as missing or unaccounted for from U.S. wars going back to the beginning of World War II, according to James Evans, commander of VFW Department of Virginia District 2.

"That's more than 82,000 military and civilian men and women. Mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters," Evans said to the Friday gathering.

It's also important to remember the loss that's still felt by the friends and family of these missing military men and women, he said.

"It is true that the costs of war extend

far beyond the last shots being fired, but for missing in action families, the passage of time does not heal their wounds," he said. "For them the days become weeks, the weeks become months, then years, and now sadly decades.

"I cannot imagine the loss I would feel if my mother or father went off to war and didn't return," he continued. "I cannot imagine reliving the moment the government couldn't tell me if my brother or sister is alive or dead. I cannot imagine any emotions if that missing person was my son or daughter."

The Nansemond River High School Air Force JROTC cadets performed the Missing Man Table ceremony for the proceedings. Each facet of this table's symbolism was read aloud, and each reading was marked by a sharp ring of the bell.

"One thing I know for sure is that it means a lot to us today," State Commander Raskin said about the Missing Man Table, "but it may not mean so much in the future, because as time goes on people tend to forget. But that memorial that we're dedicating out there today will be there a lot longer than any of these tables will remain, and it will always keep us remembering what we need to remember — that we don't forget our MIA and POWs.

Reprinted with the author's permission.

Upcoming Events

October 5	Annual Fall Jubilee - 10am - 5pm (Post & Auxiliary attending)
October 7	Executive Meeting – 7:00pm
	Post/Auxiliary Monthly Meeting - 7:30pm
October 12	Department Commander & President Homecoming - 9808 Mechanicsville
October 17	Youth Committee - 7pm
October 17-20	Southern Conference - Baton Rouge, LA
October 31	VOD, PP & Teacher of the Year Contest (Deadline)
November 2	Breakfast for the Veterans (TBD)
	Veteran's Parade - 11am
November 4	Dinner for the Vets - 6:00pm
	Executive Meeting – 7:00pm
November 4	Post/Auxiliary Monthly Meeting 6pm
November 9	Buddy Poppy Drive for Auxiliary - Giant at Westgate, 9-3
November 10	Buddy Poppy Drive for Auxiliary - Giant at Westgate 10-3
November 11	Veterans Day Activities/8:30am Manassas Veterans Memorial - 9am Manassas Cemetery
November 13-15	National President's Visit - Location (TBD)
November 15	Youth Committee 7pm
November 17	8th District Meeting - Manassas - Lunch 12 Noon/Meeting 1pm
November 29	Auxiliary 21st Anniversary
November 30	Wreaths Across America fundraiser (Deadline)
December 1	VOD/Patriots Pen/Teacher - Refreshments 4pm
December 2	Executive Meeting – 7:00pm
	Auxiliary Meeting - 6:00pm /Yorkshire Restaurant/Xmas party
December 7	Manassas Christmas Parade (TBD)
	Pearl Harbor Day
December 14	Wreaths Across America, Quantico Cemetery - 12 noon
December 15	Post's Christmas Party (City Tavern) 3pm until over
December 20	Youth Committee 7pm
2020	
January 6	Executive Meeting – 7:00pm
	Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30pm
January 10-12	Winter Conference, Portsmouth, VA
January 14	Day on the Hill (TBD)
January 16	Youth Committee 7pm

Post 7589 members can enjoy 2 complimentary beverages courtesy of Commander Wayne Moore

American Legion Post 10 Dining

Menu items and prices are subject to change without notice.

Whether you are stopping by for one of our lunch specials or looking for a reasonably priced dinner, we're sure you'll find something at Post 10 to satisfy your appetite!

We are open for lunch during the weekdays from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Among our regular items are burgers, sandwiches, soups, salads, wings, and other items. We often have lunch specials in addition to our regular menu.

Wednesday nights feature Wings & Ribs from 5:30 - 8 PM

Grill specials on Thursday evenings (during summer months).

Friday Night is Seafood Night, with an a la cart seafood menu highlighting steamed shrimp and crab legs, fried seafood baskets, pizza, chicken tenders, and our fantastic funnel cake! All served from 5:30 – 7:45pm.

Saturday Night is Carnivore Night! We usually have New York Strip and T-Bone steaks along with a "non-red-meat" selection. The third Saturday of each month we replace the steaks with Prime Rib. Served from 6:00 - 8:00pm.

As always a selection of beer, wines, and soft drinks are available during all operating hours.

 The VFW National Home for Children	
	<p>The VFW National Home for Children offers a once in a lifetime opportunity for military and veteran related families.</p> <p>If you know of a family in your community that could use our help, please encourage them to call!</p> <p>We are currently accepting new resident families into our program.</p> <p>Most qualify to apply. Caring staff will help families to determine eligibility.</p> <p>800-313-4200</p>
A Great Place to Call Home!	

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



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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.



FACT SHEET

As the nation's oldest major war veterans' organization, the VFW has an impeccable and longstanding record of service and stewardship. More than 4.5 million patriotic Americans, both members and non-members, entrust the VFW with financial contributions and dedicate millions of volunteer hours.



YOUR DONATION OF

\$20

ENSURES THE VFW CAN

Educate a separating service member about his or her well-earned VA benefits through a private benefits counseling session with a VFW Service Officer.

Provide training to 4 VFW Service Officers on signs of emotional suffering so they can better direct veterans to programs and services.

Help cover rent, utilities or groceries for a military family struggling with the hardships of war.

Serve 5 morale-boosting "welcome home" meals for service members recently back from combat.

2,000+

Number of VA-accredited VFW representatives across America and abroad, helping veterans fight for the VA benefits they have earned.

48

Number of VFW-SVA Fellows (student veterans) who have traveled to Washington, D.C., to advocate for veterans' rights.

\$8.3 billion+

The total annual amount the VFW helped veterans recoup in VA disability compensation and pension benefits — which includes \$1.4 billion in new benefits paid to veterans in fiscal year 2018.

2.3 million+

Number of service members and their family members hosted at VFW Military Assistance Program (MAP) events since 2005.

22

Number of times the VFW has testified before Congress in the last 12 months alone. The VFW has been instrumental in virtually every major legislative victory for veterans in the 20th and 21st centuries.

\$3 million

Amount of scholarships, monetary awards and other incentives the VFW distributes annually to middle and high school students through two major patriotic essay competitions.

\$11.4 million

Value of financial assistance awarded to military families since 2004 to help cover basic needs in times of crisis. 43% of the funds covered basic housing needs.

\$6.5 million

Amount of scholarships awarded to more than 1,452 veterans and service members through VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" since January 2014.

Updated September 2018

Learn more about the VFW's programs and services at vfw.org.



MORE FACTS ABOUT THE VFW



The VFW by the numbers

1.6 million+

Number of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.

6,160

Number of VFW Posts worldwide.



Helping struggling military families

10,169

Number of grants provided to military families facing financial hardship through *VFW Unmet Needs* since 2004.

\$4,968,164

Amount of grants provided through *VFW Unmet Needs* covering housing for struggling military families since 2004.

3,368

Number of military families who received assistance with housing needs since 2004.



1899

Year the VFW started to fight for veterans, service members and their families.



Honoring the fallen

8.7 million

Number of VFW "Buddy"® Poppies distributed by the VFW last year.

\$8 million

Amount raised through the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy program for needy veterans.



Helping veterans get justice

109,000+

Number of veterans the VFW assisted in submitting new VA claims in fiscal year 2018.

15,000

Number of VA claims filed by the VFW's Pre-Discharge offices in fiscal year 2018 resulting in more than \$155 million in disability compensation.

24

Number of VFW Pre-Discharge offices across the nation, including the military district of Washington, D.C., area.



Improving life in America

9.4 million

Number of volunteer hours contributed by VFW members annually.

\$44.1 million

Amount donated annually to local community service projects by VFW members.



Inspiring patriotism in young people

40,000+

Number of high school students who competed in the 2018–19 VFW Voice of Democracy competition.

111,000+

Number of students who competed in the 2018–19 VFW Patriot's Pen competition.

Updated September 2019

Learn more about the VFW's programs and services at vfw.org.

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:



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, 2019.**

On **Saturday, December 14, 2019**, 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 14, 2019 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@wreathscrossamerica.org