

CANNON NEWS

**Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589
Manassas, Virginia**



October 28: Manassas Mayor Harry J. (Hal) Parrish II presents a proclamation declaring November 2013 as Veterans Month in the City of Manassas as members of the VFW and American Legion observe.

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Commander's Report



Thankful:

As the leaves turn into nature's colorful portrait and Thanksgiving draws near, I reminiscence about the events of the year, I am re-

minded to be thankful for:

- All those Comrades and Ladies Auxiliary members who assist in the operation of the BINGO at the Post—Thank You
- All the Comrades who spent time distributing Buddy Poppies—raising money for our Post's Relief Fund—Thank You
- The Army finally recognizing Comrade Joel Chase and awarding him a second Purple Heart for his service during his tour in Vietnam
- The completion of our Post expansion project
- To Wayne Moore, thank you for your outstanding job as Building Manager
- To Steve Botello, Steve Meade and Wayne Moore for the service they render to our area veterans as the Post's Service Officers
- To Mary Corkhill for her leadership to the Ladies Auxiliary—Thank You
- To Janet Raskin and Kay Yeager who oversee the operation of the kitchen during BINGO--Thanks
- The Ladies Auxiliary for the service to the veterans of our Post and their service to the community—all the best in coming years
- The Comrades who regularly volunteer their time to various organizations in our community:
 - ◊ Jerry Martin who regularly volunteers at the local food pantry
 - ◊ Paul Chase who visits the veterans at Birmingham Green
 - ◊ Russ Keating who is a key player with the American Cancer Society's Rally For Life
 - ◊ Robert Punihaole who is part of a team who looks for Homeless Veterans and assist in their care
 - ◊ Steve Meade and Robert Punihaole who volunteer their talents with CERT
 - ◊ Ron Knowles who is very involved with the Scouting program
 - ◊ Peter MacLeod, the hours spent visiting schools, raising funds, judging hundreds of entries for Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teachers of the Year. It is one of the best Youth Programs within the Department
 - ◊ Paul Chase who serves with the Sons of the American Revolution
 - ◊ Jack Lilly, Jerry Martin, Fred Tompkins and Russ Keating who serve on the Board of Directors of VetPar, Inc. the backbone of the Greater Manassas Veterans Parade
- To all our officers—Thank You—for your hours of volunteerism. Our Post could not have presence in the District, Department and National, as well as our local community without your time and support

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Auxiliary President's Report



I would like to give a BIG "Thank You" to the following members who assisted with the yard sale on September 28th. They were Marie

Arthofer, Nancy

Dazzo, Kay Yeager, Cindy McIntyre, Yvonne Sullivan, Elanor Doczi, Patsy Gough, Janet Raskin, Dawn Moore and Johnnie Lynn Stever. The Auxiliary members who assisted with the booth at the Fall Jubilee were Patsy Gough, Ginger Harvey, Dawn Moore, Janet Raskin, Yvonne Sullivan and Pat Sutton. Without your assistance, we would not have been successful. Thank you again.

Congratulations to both winners of the raffles held during the Fall Jubilee. Donna Lane won the Cancer Aide & Research basket, value over \$600 and Ann Utz won the Symbols of Freedom lamp.

We are still active with our fundraiser for Wreaths Across America ("WAA"). This not-for-profit organization has provided our Auxiliary the opportunity again to raise funds for our organization's needs along with helping WAA gather sponsorships for wreaths. We are working with WAA 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 the Auxiliary. Sponsorships are \$15 per wreath. Sponsorship forms can be printed from our website



www.vfw7589.org or contact Ginger Harvey at 571-641-5350 or gch1130@aol.com. To learn more about WAA or if you wish to make your sponsorship with a credit card, please visit

www.wreathsacrossamerica.com and remember to include our **Sponsoring Group ID No. VAVFW7589 and Cemetery ID No. VAQNCT. DEADLINE is November 29th.**

I would like to remind everyone of the events for Veterans Day. The parade will be held on Saturday, November 9th at 11am in Old Town Manassas. The Ladies Auxiliary will hold their annual Buddy Poppy drive at Giant in Wellington Shopping Center from 9-2. On Monday, November 11th we will meet at the Manassas Veterans Memorial at 8:30am to lay a Memorial Wreath. We will travel to the Manassas cemetery to place a Wreath at the grave of Francis Cannon and then place flags at all the Veterans graves. Please come and join us.

Our Post will host the 8th District meeting on December 1st starting at 1pm. Our Department President, Laine Beckwith, will be attending this meeting. Please come and meet her.

The VFW National Home for Children needs our assistance in purchasing a

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Service Officer's Report



In just a few short days Veterans Day 2013 will be here. Veterans Day is Monday, November 11. This is a special day and a special time of the year for all of us to

know just how unique we are as a group. Many others have come before us to protect our great nation as we all have and many others will do so in the future.

Some have perished giving all that they could possibly give to ensure the freedom of so many in our country and others whom are our friends around the world. We salute you all.

Please plan to participate in the Veterans Day activities that will be coming over the next few weeks. Anything you can do, even the most minor, can provide an example to others just what the service of so many of our veterans has done to keep our country free.

Our Post 7589 will be in the Manassas Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, November 9, 2013 so please plan on coming out and participating. Everyone will be proud to see your smile and it will also give you the opportunity to meet many proud Americans here in Manassas, VA.

Additionally there will be much associated activity so please stay tuned for more information as Veterans Day gets closer and closer.

Also please let us know if there are

any other veterans benefit information and/or services we can help you with. As a Team we are open to providing the best veterans services we can but we need to know what you may want, need and/or would like to know.

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

Stephen Meade 1-703-408-0875
Email: 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. Thank you for your service!

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.

Thank you.

Steven M. Botello

Post Service Officer
Veteran of Foreign Wars Post # 7589
(Office) 1-703-659-0849
(FX) 1-703-991-0677
Email: SO7589@verizon.net

Youth News and Notes

There is an opportunity to speak to young people in the Manassas area schools this Veterans Day Week. Veterans from VFW Post 7589 have been invited to appear at the following schools:

Mayfield Intermediate School in Manassas: 9am – 12pm on Thursday, November 7. Jerry Martin and Pete MacLeod will be leading two groups of veterans to speak to a series of classes.

Manassas Christian School in Manassas Park: 9:15 am on Friday, November 8. Veterans will appear and be recognized and answer questions from students at the morning assembly.

Haydon Elementary School in Manassas: 11:00 am, Friday, November 8. Veterans will speak to students in the school library and show the Power Point presentation, "Welcome to Post 7589"

Round Elementary School in Manassas: 1:30 pm on Friday, November 8. Veterans will be recognized and watch presentations and listen to songs by classes at the school.

We hope you can make one or more of these events. You won't be sorry. Call Pete at 703 220-4545 for more information or you can just show up at the designated time.

Other Veterans Day week events:

Friday, November 8, 2-6 pm, Buddy Poppies at Giant Store at 14125 St. Germain Drive in Centreville.

Saturday, Nov. 9, 11 am, Manassas Veterans Parade

Saturday, Nov. 9, 1-5 pm, Buddy Poppies at Giant Store on Linton Hall Road in Gainesville.

Sunday, Nov. 10, 9am – 1pm, Buddy Poppies at Wellington Giant Store on Dumfries Road in Manassas.

Monday, Nov. 11, 8:30 am – Ceremony at Manassas Veterans Memorial.

Monday, Nov. 11, 9:00 am – Flag placements at Manassas Cemetery.

VFW Post 7589 Essay and Teacher of the year Contests:

November 1: Deadline for entries to Post 7589

November 2: Post 7589 judging begins.

November 13: Judging is over, winners announced.

November 21; Youth Committee Meeting, 7pm

November 24: VFW District 8 judging at Post 7589 Headquarters.

Sunday, December 15, 4pm: Post 7589 Awards Ceremony

World War I memory: Of course November 11 recognizes the end of World War I. The World War I vets

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Hanukkah & Thanksgiving coincide for the first and only time

Hanukkah will be on Thanksgiving this year, for the first time ever.

This is the only time it will likely ever happen, read below to see the explanation!

Thanksgiving is set as the fourth Thursday in November, meaning the latest it can be is 11/28. 11/28 is also the earliest Hanukkah can be.

The Jewish calendar repeats on a 19 year cycle, and Thanksgiving repeats on a 7 year cycle. You would therefore expect them to coincide roughly every $19 \times 7 = 133$ years.

Looking back, this is approximately correct – the last time it would have happened is 1861. However, Thanksgiving was only formally established by President Lincoln in 1863. So, it has never happened before.

Why won't it happen again?

The reason is because the Jewish calendar is very slowly getting out of sync with the solar calendar, at a rate of 4 days per 1000 years! This means

that while presently Hanukkah can be as early as 11/28, over the years the calendar will drift forward, such that the earliest Hanukkah can be is 11/29. The next time Hanukkah falls on 11/28 is 2146, which is a Monday. Therefore, 2013 is the only time Hanukkah will ever overlap with Thanksgiving!

Of course, if the Jewish calendar is never modified in any way, then it will slowly move forward through the Gregorian calendar, until it loops all the way back to where it is now.

So, Hanukah would again fall on Thursday, 11/28 in the year 79,811. It is fair to say that holidays we celebrate today will likely be long forgotten by then.



So, Happy Hanukkah and enjoy some potato latkes with your turkey!

Comrade Chase receives 2nd Purple Heart

At our Sept 9th Post meeting we had the rare opportunity of observing the awarding of a second Purple heart to one of our members 43 years after the fact. The honors were performed by LTC Paul Chase (Ret) on younger brother Capt. Joel Chase (Ret). It was an emotional moment for the brothers

due to their close relationship, comradeship and the individual nature of the award. Joel's wounds were sustained in the Republic of Cambodia on 14 June 1970 while acting as a platoon leader with the 1st Air Cavalry Division.

Veterans helping Veterans in Northern Virginia

By Denise Kloeppel

On September 28, 2013, three northern Virginia veterans organized and held the first ever Veterans Fair in Loudoun County. These three veterans, Don Hirst, Denise Kloeppel and Steve M. Botello worked together to arrange for over 25 vendors/participants to help the local veterans regarding claims, burial, education, training, post-traumatic stress symptoms, and employment. Over 75 veterans with their families attended, with 40 Junior Air Force ROTC from Battlefield High School providing outstanding volunteer support. Many veterans provided accolades for this event. A US Navy vet said "I thought the Vet Fair helped a lot of vets get the info they needed to make claims, get I.D. cards etc. The people running the booths were very responsive to our needs and were very personable and they never tried to rush us through. The AFROTC young people were also

very helpful, to watch these cadets you get a new perspective of our youth of today." A World War II Vet "The Veterans Fair was outstanding. My wife and I were impressed with the cordial manner in which each veteran was greeted. Equally impressive were the veterans running the event. The young AF ROTC youngsters made us proud of their caring attention. The Veteran Administration personnel gave me all the information needed to help me with my health problem".

Truly, this was a team effort and all vendors and participants made this event a success



Sign up for the free VFW Washington Weekly

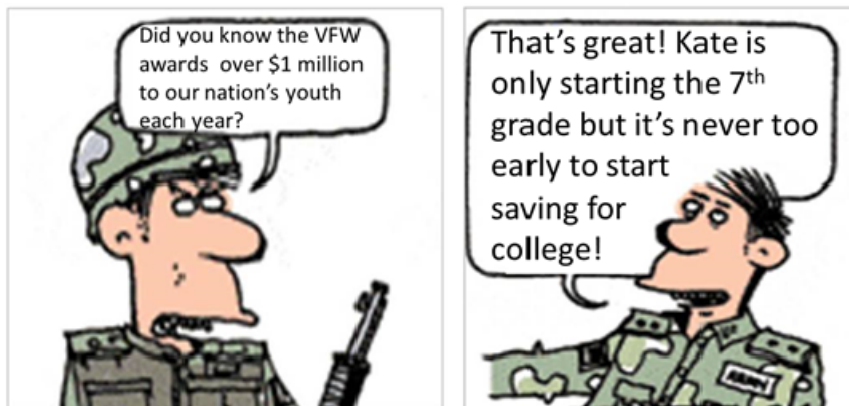
ALL Comrades should be signed up to receive the Washington Weekly. This bulletin provides us with a snapshot into what's taking place relative to legislative issues concerning the VA, national security, our armed forces and other items that affect Veterans and their families.

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 or (703) 319-0845.

VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Competition



- The VFW believes strongly in good citizenship and fostering patriotism. That's why we encourage youthful minds to examine our nation's history and their own experiences in modern American society through the Patriot's Pen youth essay-writing contest.
- The Patriot's Pen program is open to students in grades 6-8 who are enrolled in public, private or parochial middle school or home study program in the US and its territories.
- Each year over 100,000 students enter the competition.
- The essay theme topic changes yearly. The theme for 2013-2014 is "What Patriotism Means to Me."
- The first-place winner from each state competes to win one of 46 national awards totaling \$46,000. The national first-place prize is \$5,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. in March. Find out more information by logging on to www.vfw.org/Programs. There you'll find deadline and entry information for the Patriot's Pen program along with other scholarship opportunities the VFW offers! Watch for next month's Supporting Our Troops email for more VFW troop and veteran support program information!

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new bus. In order to do this, we collect **Campbell's soup** labels. Please help us so we can help the children. You may drop you soup labels at the Post. Thank you in advance.

For individuals or family members who are ill or hospitalize, you are in

our prayers.

Respectfully,

Mary Corkhill
Ladies Auxiliary President

Becoming a legacy member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars here in Virginia

As a life member of the VFW, you know what commitment means. Each year your post can rest assured knowing that your name will still be on that roster of members we take with us as we face Congress and show them the names of America's finest who deserve the benefits we have earned. It also means that a payout in membership money comes to your post to help fund the many things we do in this great organization.

In the spirit of that, I am writing to you today to encourage you to take the next step with your membership and become a legacy life member of the VFW. Legacy membership allows you to leave a lasting legacy to your post here in Virginia. At 3 levels of Gold, Silver or Bronze, you earn benefits and your post, Virginia and the national VFW earns extra money annually through the legacy endowment to help the mission continue.

What else can legacy do? Well, as the name implies, a legacy is something you leave behind. Once you pass away, you can have your legacy membership continue to pay the annual amount or a lump sum payout of the principle you invested will go to support our mission. While you are an active member you will also receive benefits like a plated engraved membership card, distinctive lapel and hat pins, recognition at VFW conventions, a discount to the VFW store, increased amounts of no-cost accidental death and disability insurance and other items. Each level has its own set of

benefits and your contribution to the legacy endowment is tax deductible.

While this is something you would need to pay for, you have levels to choose from and a payment plan that could help you manage this as you continue your commitment to our nations premier veterans group. The Bronze level is \$400, the Silver level is \$800 and the Gold level is \$1200. Our payment plan allows you to become a legacy member in 4 quarterly payments or with a lump sum payment. Additionally, you could work your way through the levels as a promotion from one to the next would be \$400 and is also something you could do on the payment plan.

Your organization values all that you and your membership does for us. This is another chance to highlight that commitment to all that the VFW stands for. I would not ask you to do this if it is not something I am willing to do myself and I have been a Gold Legacy Life Member for nearly all of my time in the VFW. Should you have any questions, please feel free to either reply to this email or to contact our state headquarters at [\(540\)886-8112](tel:5408868112). If you are interested in making this next step just reply to this email with your mailing address and I will send you the brochure with the application. Again, I thank you for your membership and for your service to this great country!

Ken Wiseman
Chair, Legacy Membership, Virginia

VFW Washington Weekly, October 25, 2013:

VFW Pushes Congress to Pass Budget

After the recent government shut-down, your VFW is working to ensure veterans' benefits won't be on the chopping block again in January. Last week VFW issued an Action Alert, calling on Congress to pass a budget, end sequestration and pass full VA

advance appropriations by the next budget deadline on Jan. 15. Write to your legislators today and tell them to protect our veterans by going to:

<http://capwiz.com/vfw/issues/alert/?alertid=62970431>

VA to Pilot Dental Insurance Program

A new VA program will soon allow all enrolled veterans and CHAMPVA beneficiaries to purchase private dental insurance at a reduced cost. Created by the *Caregivers and Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010*, this three year pilot program known as the VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP) will offer a wide array of affordable plans to veterans and eligible dependents through Delta Dental

and MetLife. Monthly premiums will range from \$8.65 to \$52.90, depending on level of coverage selected. Participation in this program is entirely optional and dental service connection is not required. Enrollment begins on Nov. 15, 2013, with coverage beginning on Jan. 1, 2014. For more information, visit: <http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vadip/>

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listen.

are all gone now but I remember, as a kid, listening to my barber as he cut my hair in a crew cut. Mr. Lafluer, told of arriving by ship in France and being herded onto a troop train and riding for several days and he admitted he was terrified of getting to the front lines. By the time his unit arrived, it was November 11, 1918 and the fighting was over. But as a young man, he was ready to do his duty and put his life on the line. It impressed me as a ten year old. I always looked at him differently after that. No matter how simple a story you might have, there is a young person eager to

Youth Committee Chair, Pete MacLeod



Post annual dues increases to \$35.00 January 1

In accordance with the actions taken by the delegates of the 114th 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.

qm7589@verizon.net
703-361-5554

Veterans Day Weekend Activities



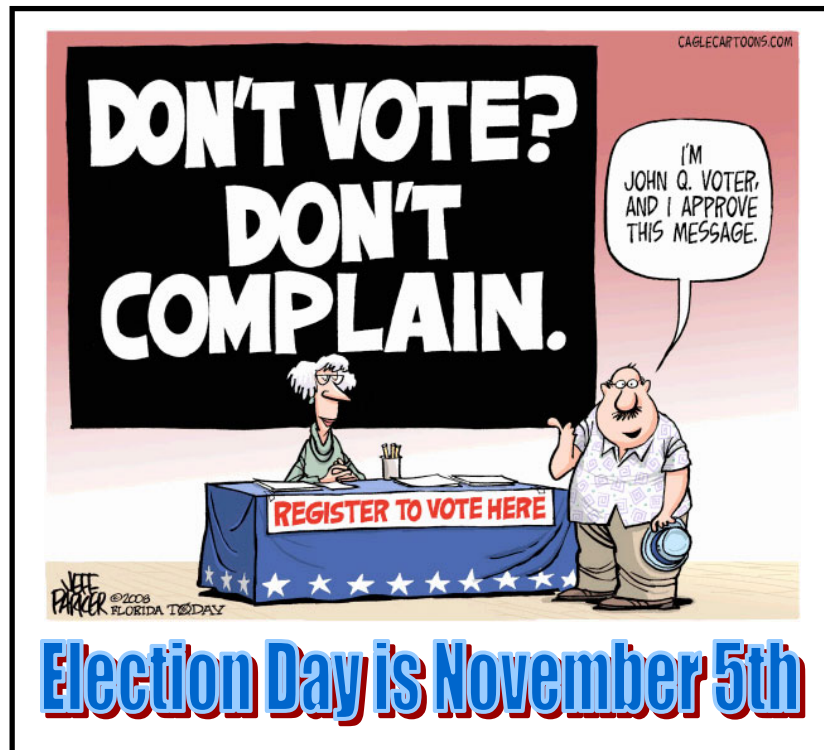
Friday, November 8, 2-6 pm, Buddy Poppies at Giant Store at 14125 St. Germain Drive in Centreville.

Saturday, Nov. 9, 11 am, Manassas Veterans Parade

Saturday, Nov. 9, 1-5 pm, Buddy Poppies at Giant Store on Linton Hall Road in Gainesville.

Sunday, Nov. 10, 9am – 1pm, Buddy Poppies at Wellington Giant Store on Dumfries Road in Manassas.

Monday, Nov. 11, 8:30 am – Ceremony at Manassas Veterans Memorial.



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- Lastly, to Rick Raskin—many thanks—for your support and guidance. For being my sounding board for not only Post issues but personally assisting me during the year. Not only a Comrade, but a true friend...THANKS

On November 28th, as we gather with friends and family around the table to celebrate a time of Thanksgiving, I ask each and everyone to have a 'moment of silence' for those who sacrificed their lives in the defense of freedom, the homeless veterans who may go hungry and the service members who

are on duty carrying on our legacy.

On a personal level, I am thankful for my children, Coral Lee, Lauren, Michael and Benjamin (Lee and Lauren are members of our Post family) and my grandchildren Easton, Aidan, Iris, and Avery.

In closing, I am honored to be a small part of the best team within the Veteran of Foreign Wars. I am honored and most humble to serve as your commander.

All the best in the upcoming year

Ron



THE GREATER MANASSAS VETERANS DAY PARADE COMMITTEE is pleased to announce Osbourn High School (OHS) CenterStage Choir will sing an electrifying patriotic rendition of the National Anthem to open the Veterans Day Parade. CenterStage, is the top choral ensemble in Manassas City Schools and will be representing OHS. The group consists of 20 young men and women, who are some of the most active music students at OHS. The Parade Committee is proud to have the Choir sing at the Veterans Day Parade on November 9, 2013 at 11:00 AM in Old Town, Manassas. Please come and join us to honor our area veterans.

www.vetpar.org

**Need help with filing VA
claims?**

VA DVS AGENT SERVICE
2nd & 4th THURSDAYS
0900 - 1500

Post 7589
9304 Centreville Rd.
Manassas, Virginia

APPOINTMENTS PLEASE
Walk-ins Accepted
703-359-1210



UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 5** Election Day
- November 8—10** Buddy Poppies (Locations & Times TBD)
- November 11** Veterans Day
- November 24** District 8 VOD/PP Judging
- December 1** District 8 Meeting - Post 7589 - Manassas - 1300
- January 8 - 13** 2014 Winter Council of Administration meeting - Williamsburg
- February 23** District 8 Meeting - Post 3103 - Fredericksburg - 1300
- April 27** District 8 Convention - Post 2524 - Culpeper - 1300
-



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

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: VAVFW7589Cemetery Designation: Quantico National CemeteryCemetery 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

*W.A.A 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