

CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589
Manassas, Virginia
December 2019



DAVE MATTINGLY

Terry Bursey leads the Post Color Guard, Post members and the Post Auxiliary at the Manassas Veterans Parade on November 2.

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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

MY CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

As 2019 hurries to its end, my belated "Happy Thanksgiving". I'd like to extend my good wishes to all my comrades, family and friends for the upcoming Christmas season. May your Divine One see you and those you love bringing the New Year in good health and spirits.

It is my desire to reflect on and honor the contributions of the men and women whose decision, whether for a few years or a lifetime in uniform service to our great country, was more important than self. Your sacrifice decries the expectation of those who decided life and self-worth deserved nothing less than what you did in answering the call.

There are a myriad of clichés referencing freedom and country. However, I endeavor to offer those who stepped up and upraised their hands in a patriot cause. While these are the Navy's core values, I fully believe all of you fulfill each of the following:

Honor – Honor in the means to "Conduct ourselves in the highest ethical manner in all relationships". This has to do with honesty, respect, being responsible for your actions and standing by your word. It also means to remember the privilege of serving fellow Americans by your role.

Courage – Meet the professional demands of our profession and make decisions in the best interest of the nation, without regard to personal consequences. This also means that you possess the "moral and mental strength to do what is right, even in the face of personal or professional adversity".

Commitment – This means to treat each human with dignity, regardless of race, religion or gender. You will be committed to constant personal and professional improvement and positive changes. You will work together as a team and enhance individual growth.

Walk in the Grace and Mercy of your God throughout!

Post/Auxiliary Holiday Party

The Post and Auxiliary will hold our annual Holiday Party on December 15, 2019 from 3:00 – 6:00 PM at the **City Tavern** in Manassas.

Sign up at the December 2nd Post / Auxiliary meeting. Each Post or Auxiliary member is entitled to bring one guest.

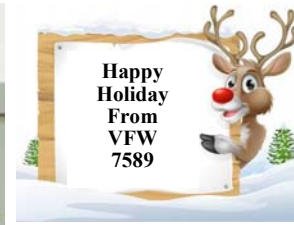
You must sign up to attend.

Please contact Commander Moore or President Corkhill by December 2 if you cannot attend your meeting.

Auxiliary President



Mary Corkhill



Parade on November 2nd. Our guests included the joint Air Force and Navy Color Guard, some Vietnam Veterans,

Post 7589 Color Guard, along with Post and Auxiliary members. Thanks to Yvonne Sullivan, Ellie Smith and Phil Smith for assisting me with the preparation of the food and distributing the "Thank You" coins before we marched in the parade.

The following individuals, Debbie Baxter, Cookie Cullen, Elanor Doczi, Jan Germain, Patsy Gough, Cindy McIntyre, Ann Mitchell, Ellie Smith, Yvonne Sullivan, Diane and Bob Zalenski, Dana Zank and the most important helper, Master Gabe Zank who assisted me with the dinner on November 4th for the Veterans of the Post. The Auxiliary members wish to "Thank you" for your unselfish sacrifice to our county and for our freedom. We truly appreciate and are grateful for what you did to give us a great life. **Thank you everyone!!!**

Thanks to Debbie Baxter, Jan Germain, Janet Raskin, Ellie Smith and Yvonne Sullivan for assisting me with our annual Veterans Buddy Poppy drives on November 9th and 10th. Please keep May 24th and 25th available for our next Buddy Poppy Drive. The funds raised go toward assisting our Veterans and their families. Thank you again for your dedication.

The Veterans Day wreath laying ceremony on November 11th was hosted by Commander Wayne Moore and members of 7589 Post, Auxiliary and Scout troops at the Manassas Veterans Memorial. Two members of the Scout troop and I placed a wreath at the Memorial. After the ceremony, everyone traveled to Manassas Cemetery where a wreath and flag were placed at Francis Cannon's grave. All attending individuals replaced old flags with new ones throughout the cemetery.

I was able to attend a ceremony at Caton Merchant House Assisted Living on November 11th with Pete MacLeod, Ron Knowles and Ellie Smith. The residents were presented a Buddy Poppy and a Post pen. Ellie and I traveled to Birmingham Green to join Yvonne Sullivan and Pat Sutton for their ceremony. The four of us distributed Buddy Poppies and Post pens to the residents.



The Auxiliary members wish to congratulate the recipients of Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teachers of the Year awards. The Post will

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

host the awards ceremony on December 1st at 4 PM with refreshments provided by the Auxiliary to be served afterwards.

On November 20th, Ellie Smith, Janet Raskin and I signed 344 Christmas cards and donated them to Mission BBQ in Gainesville for the Veterans overseas. Mission BBQ adds a free sandwich card for the Veterans to use upon their return home. "Merry Christmas".

The seventh annual Auxiliary December meeting will be held at Yorkshire Restaurant, 7537 Centreville Rd in Manassas on Monday, December 2nd at 6:00 PM. There will be a gift exchange so please bring a gift not to exceed \$10. A very short meeting will follow the dinner. Please come and enjoy some holiday fun with friends. The Auxiliary annual Christmas visit to Birmingham Green is in the planning stages and we will let you know when that will be. If you wish to participate, please let me know.

Since the deadline has passed for our fundraiser with Wreaths Across America (WAA), I would like to thank everyone for your participation. The ceremony for Wreaths Across America will be held at Quantico National Cemetery on Saturday, December 14th at 12:00 PM (noon). This event gets larger every year so if you plan to attend, please arrive early.

The Post annual Christmas Party will be December 15, 2019 from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM. It will be at City Tavern, 9550 Center St. in Manassas. Please contact Wayne Moore or me to place you and your guest names on the list. There will not be any tickets given out this year. Please come and join in this event.



The deadline for bringing in three non-perishable items for a free Bingo half book is December 18th. I would like to give a large **THANK YOU** to the Bingo community for assisting the Auxiliary in this project. With your assistance, we were able to give to the following food pantries: All Saints Catholic Church, Grace Life Community Church and St Thomas United Methodist Church.

Please put on your calendar February 22, 2020 for the next District 8 meeting to be held at Southern Fauquier Post 7728 at 1 PM. Lunch will be served at noon. Again this year, the Department Banner requirement states "At least one Auxiliary member **MUST** be present at each District Meeting. District Conventions/Election of Officers **DOES NOT** count". To the Auxiliary members, a large "Thank you" for your assistance during the District meeting on November 17th.

If you have any coupons, please give them to any Auxiliary member or bring them to the Post so we can forward them to the Veterans overseas. The expiration date is good up to 6 months after the coupon has expired here in the US.

A little information about the community of the National Home. Families find a healing calm in a tranquil, rural, small-town

environment. Tree-lined streets connect 42 single-family homes with facilities like a gym, library, computer and science labs, day care center, playgrounds, fishing pond, hiking trails and more. Functioning much like a town, they have their own water well, water treatment facility and sewage system as well as provide phone and internet service. These are some of the things the National Home provides. If you request more information, contact them at <https://www.vfwnationalhome.org>. Thank you.

Please keep in your prayers, Ann Mitchell, who is going through some medical issues, along with other individuals and their family members who are ill or hospitalized.

Respectfully,

Mary Corkhill
VFW Auxiliary President



Post/Auxiliary Holiday Party

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You must sign up to attend.

Please contact Commander Moore or President Corkhill by December 2 if you cannot attend your meeting.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact either Commander Moore or President Corkhill.

Youth News & Notes



Lou Filippone

The Youth Committee hopes all of you have had a good month and are enjoying the holidays. We held our last meeting on Thursday, 21 November 2019 at 7:00 PM. Much of our meeting concerned judging and awards ceremonies for the winning participants. As far as our numbers were concerned, Post 7589 received 70 Patriot's Pen, 50 Voice of Democracy and 5 Teacher of the Year entries for 2019. 25 area schools were represented in the contests. A grand total of \$3,350.00 in prizes will be awarded to the winners this year. \$850.00 of this amount is contributed by the Auxiliary and \$2,500.00 from VFW Post 7589. Additional prizes are available at the District, Department and National level if our Post winners continue to advance.

For the list of winners from both the Post and District 8 please see page 5 — Ed

We would like to congratulate all of our winners. As always selecting these individuals was quite difficult due to so many highly talented applicants. Please join us on Sunday, 1 December at the Post at 4:00 PM as we hold our Awards Ceremony and honor them.

District 8 held our judging on Sunday, 24 November and we are pleased to report that the following Post winners were also selected as District winners:

Patriot's Pen

- First Place Andrew R. Hensley
- Third Place Audrey R. Henderson

Voice of Democracy

- Second Place Lauren Bradshaw
- Third Place Jenascia K. A. Armstrong

Teacher of the Year

- Grades 9-12 U.S. Navy, Gunner's Mate Chief (Ret.) Darrick Williams, Naval Science Instructor

Andrew R. Hensley will now advance to the Department judging since he is our District First Place winner for Patriot's Pen. Again, we offer our congratulations to all our District winners especially all those selected from our Post. We are quite proud of all of you and wish you much continued success. Just a reminder about more upcoming events for our Youth Committee.

- Post Awards Ceremony Sunday, 1 December, 2019 at Post 7589 at 4:00 PM
- Department Awards Ceremony Saturday, 11 January 2020 at the VFW Winter Council in Portsmouth, Virginia
- District 8 Awards Ceremony Sunday, 22 February 2020 at Post 7728, Morrisville, Virginia

If you can attend any of these awards ceremonies you will appreciate just how gifted and talented these students and teachers are. You will also be left with a sense of hope and optimism about our country's future as you meet these exemplary young Americans and help them celebrate their achievements.

Scouting activity for the month of December is as follows:

- The Scouting for Food National Food Bank Drive is being held on the first two Saturdays in December by Troop 1372. Notification will be held on the first Saturday with food pickup on the following Saturday. This is quite a worthwhile event and the collected food helps feed those in need.
- There is a Walk Manassas Park Light Parade scheduled for 14 December in Manassas Park. All four components of Troop 1372, including the Cub Scouts will participate. Other Scouting events scheduled for January will be announced in the next newsletter.

We would like to express our appreciation to all the Scouts who participated in the Veteran's Day activities at the Manassas Veterans Memorial honoring Francis Cannon and at the Manassas Cemetery conducting flag placements at veteran's graves. We would like to acknowledge and thank Scout Troop 670 from Manassas and Scout Troop 1372 and Venturing Crew from Manassas Park along with Cub Scouts from Pack 1355 and 1372. We look forward to all our activities with our Scout units and will continue to promote and announce them in this newsletter.

Our next Youth Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, 19 December, 2019 at the Post at our usual 7:00 PM. Please join us and participate. You will find, as you get involved in our youth programs and mentor these children, you will make a difference in many young people's lives and do a great service for our country as well. We hope to see you there.

Just a reminder about our Post Christmas Party celebration. It is scheduled for Sunday, 15 December at the City Tavern in Manassas from 3-6:00 PM.

You must attend the December General Membership Meeting on Monday, 2 December and sign the Christmas Party sign-up sheet to attend. All VFW and Auxiliary members are invited and allowed to bring one guest. You may purchase tickets for additional guests. Directions will be available at the Monday meeting.

We only ask, and expect, that if you sign up for the Christmas Party you actually attend since we are charged by the person in advance. We hope to see you there and celebrate together as a Post.

Happy Holidays!

Lou Filippone
JVC, Post 7589

2019-20 VFW Post 7589 Educational Award Recipients

“What Makes America Great”

Patriot’s Pen, 6th to 8th Grade:

First Place: **Audrey Henderson**, 8th Grade Reagan Middle School, Haymarket, Va.

Second Place: **Keona Thomas**, 7th Grade, Manassas Christian School, Manassas Park, Va.

Third Place: **Abigal Englis**, 8th Grade, Manassas Park Middle School, Manassas Park, Va.

Honorable Mention: **Andrew Hersley**, 8th Grade, Reagan Middle School, Haymarket, Va.

Honorable Mention: **Emily Sherman**, 8th Grade, All Saints Catholic School, Manassas, Va.

Voice of Democracy, 9th to 12th Grade:

First Place: **Jenascia K.A. Armstrong**, 11th Grade, Hylton High School, Woodbridge, Va.

Second Place: **Lauren A. Bradshaw**, 10th Grade, Home Schooled, Centreville, Va.

Third Place: **Virginia Hartung**, Seton School, Manassas, Va.

Honorable Mention: **Rachel Luetkemeyer**, 10th Grade, Seton School, Manassas, Va.

Honorable Mention: **Delaney M. Falls**, 11th Grade, Seton School, Manassas, Va.

VFW Manassas area Teachers of the Year

Grades K-5: **Ms. Moria “Molly” Stookey**, Kindergarten teacher, Yorkshire Elementary School, Manassas, Va.

Grades 6-8: **Mr. Matthew Perry**, 6th Grade Social Studies Teacher, Marstellar Middle School, Bristow, Va.

Grades 9-12: **U.S. Navy, Gunner’s Mate Chief (Ret.) Darrick Williams**, Naval Science Instructor, Osbourn Park High School, Manassas, Va.

Entries: PP- 70, VOD- 50, Teachers- 5

District 8 Educational Award Winners

District 8 judging for our Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, and Teacher of the Year contests was completed Sunday 24, November at Post 7589 in Manassas, Va.. Here are the results from our judging:

Patriot’s Pen, 6th to 8th Grade:

1st Place: **Andrew R. Hensley**, Ronald W. Reagan Middle School Haymarket, Virginia — Submitted by Post 7589

2nd Place: **Ava F. Price**, Wakefield School, The Plains, Virginia Submitted by Post 9835

3rd. Place: **Audrey R. Henderson**, Ronald W. Reagan, Haymarket, Virginia — Submitted by Post 7589

Honorable Mention: **Takiyah Pettie**, Taylor Middle School, Warrenton, Virginia — Submitted by Post 9835

Voice of Democracy, 9th to 12th Grade:

1st Place: **Celeste A. Pollack**, Fauquier High School, Warrenton, Virginia Submitted by Post 9835

2nd Place: **Lauren A. Bradshaw**, Home Schooled, Centreville, Virginia Submitted by Post 7589

3rd Place: **Jenascia K.A. Armstrong**, C.D. Hylton High School, Woodbridge, Virginia — Submitted by Post 7589

Teachers of the Year

Grades K-5: **Arlene Thorpe**, C. M. Bradley Elementary School, Warrenton, Virginia — Submitted by Post 9835

Grades 6-8: **Mathew Walker**, W.C. Taylor Middle School, Warrenton, Virginia — Submitted by Post 9835

Grades 9-12: **NSI Darrick Williams**, Osbourn Park High School, Manassas, Virginia — Submitted by Post 7589

Legislative Update

The President signed into law a change of military accessed benefits for the following groups: Purple Heart Recipients, Former Prisoners of War, veterans with service-connected disabilities and VA certified caregivers. (SEE FLYER ATTACHED): With a "Service Connected" VA VHA Card, access to military installations for use of Commissaries, Post Exchanges, and other MWR services.

The US House of Representatives has passed 9 Bills that are now in the Senate:



Monti Zimmerman

H.R. 2359 – Whole Veteran Act (Rep. Lamb – Veterans' Affairs) Requiring the Secretary of VA to submit a report advancing Whole Veteran Health Transformation (Comprehensive Health Services)

H.R. 1812 – Vet Center Eligibility Expansion Act (Rep. Roe – Veterans' Affairs)

H.R. 1947 – To amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt transfers of funds from Federal agencies to the Department of Veterans Affairs for nonprofit corporations established under subchapter IV of chapter 73 of such title from certain provisions of the Economy Act, as amended (Rep. Roe – Veterans' Affairs)

H.R. 2326 – Navy Seal Chief Petty Officer William Bill Mulder (Ret.) Transition Improvement Act of 2019 (Rep. Levin (CA) – Veterans' Affairs)

H.R. 2333 – Support for Suicide Prevention Coordinators Act (Rep. Brindisi – Veterans' Affairs)

H.R. 2340 – FIGHT Veteran Suicide Act (Rep. Rose – Veterans' Affairs)

H.R. 1200 – Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-living Adjustment Act of 2019 (Rep. Luria – Veterans' Affairs) (Rate Adjustment to be effective December 1, 2019)

H.R. 2372 – Veterans' Care Quality Transparency Act (Rep. Underwood – Veterans' Affairs)

H.R. 2045 – Veterans' Education, Transition, and Opportunity Prioritization Plan Act of 2019 (Rep. Wenstrup – Veterans' Affairs)

The Senate has introduced S. 514 the "Deborah Sampson Act". This Bill focuses on Women's Health Issues. This Bill recommends 56 women's health changes at the VA.

PENDING:

HR 2500 & S. 1790 National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2020, in conference. Major amendment in the House version is the Survivor Benefit Plan/ Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (SBP/DIC) however, not in the Senate version. A test vote was held in the Senate with 98 Senators supporting the idea.

The current Continuing Resolution (CR) expires on November 21st, however, it is expected that a new CR will take us through a date in December.

Internal rule action within the VA:

Blue Water Navy expected diseases to be certified as presumptive by the VA Secretary, however, in his role as Director of the White House Office of Management and Budget has stalled them, stating "it will cost too much." The diseases are: Bladder Cancer, Parkinson's-Like symptoms, and Hypothyroid. Additionally, Hypertension has been requested to be added by the VA experts.

Virginia Joint Leadership Council of Veteran Service Organizations 2020 Priority Initiatives are:

1. JLC 2020-01 2nd Resolution – Personal Property Tax Exemption (If passed, will go on the ballot in November 2020)
2. JLC 2020-02 Counting Military Absentee Ballots after Election Day (Allows military overseas ballots to be counted up to 5 PM on the day before elections are certified.)
3. JLC 2020-03 Income Tax Subtraction for Certain Low-Income 100% Disabled Veterans (Allows an individual income tax subtraction for 100% service connected disabled veterans with a federally adjusted gross income, not exceeding 150% of the federal poverty level for a four-person household.)
4. JLC 2020-04 Virginia National Guard Emergency Response Pay (Allows low ranking Virginia members of the National Guard who are called to State Emergency duty (snow storms, floods, forest fires) to be paid at a survivable wage while not at their normal place of work due to call-up).
5. JLC 2020-05 Tax Credits for Employers who Hire Virginia National Guard and Reserves.
6. JLC 2020-06 Microloans for Veterans Program (MVP).



In and around the Post, November is always a busy month

Above : Phil Smith, Ellie Smith, Yvonne Sullivan and Mary Corkhill served breakfast to those participating in the Veterans Parade.

A group of Parade participants enjoys breakfast at the Post.

Center: The Post and Auxiliary contingent prepares to march.

Below: State Surgeon Geoff Lyster at the 8th District meeting
8th District Commander Charles Bush

Photos by Pete MacLeod





November 8: Manassas Christian School Salute to Veterans



November 11: At the Manassas Veterans Memorial. Scouts: Cub Scout Pack 1355, Boy Scout Troops 670 and 1372 and Cub Scout Pack 1372



Honors and flag placements at Manassas Cemetery



Honors at the Francis Cannon gravesite.



Lou Filippone and Terry Bursey



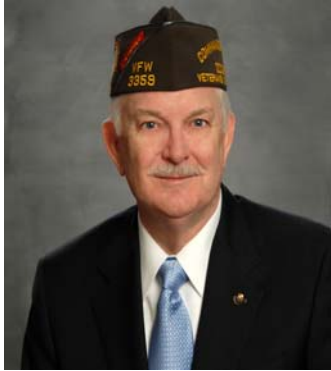
Mary Corkhill and Ellie Smith passing out Buddy Poppies to residents at Caton Merchant House Veterans Day Service by Post 7589. Ron Knowles and Pete MacLeod also took part in leading the service.



Some of crowd of about 30 at Caton Merchant House



Past Commander in Chief Glen Gardner to speak at Winter Council of Administration



Commander-in-Chief William “Doc” Schmitz has designated Past Commander-in-Chief Glen M. Gardner, Jr., to represent the national organization at your Department Winter Council of Administration meeting and Awards Banquet, January 10-12, 2020, in Portsmouth, Virginia.

Glen Gardner was elected commander-in-chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on August 21, 2008, at the 109th VFW National Convention in Orlando, Fla.

Glen served in the U. S. Marine Corps from 1966 to 1970. He served as an aircraft mechanic with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Aircraft Group 12 in Chu Lai, Vietnam, 1968 to 1969. He was awarded the Combat Action Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with device and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

In 1969, Glen joined VFW Post 2993 in Olathe, Kan. Later, when he moved to Texas, Glen joined Post 3359 in Garland where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life membership. He was elected Post commander in 1977 and again in 1983, and served as Post quartermaster for five terms. He earned the title of All-American District commander in 1981-1982. Glen served as the adjutant/quartermaster for the Department of Texas, 1984-2006. Glen has served on several national committees, including the National By-Law Review committee for 19 years and as chairman of the Budget and Finance committee.

Glen and his wife, Jean, reside in Round Rock, Texas. They have three children (one deceased), four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Annual members...

Upgrade to Life membership and receive a \$50 gift certificate for the VFW store.

This offer also applies to those signing up as life members or Installment Life when they complete their membership agreement.

IMPORTANT: Do you have the right ID?

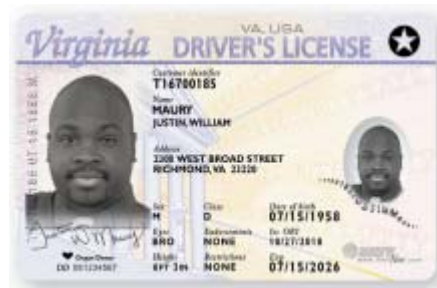


Because of a federal law change, beginning October 1, 2020, you will be required to have a REAL ID compliant identification in order to board a domestic flight or to access secure federal facilities, like military bases. Your standard driver’s license, like the one you may have in your wallet right now, can be used to drive. In addition, a driver’s license or identification card can be used as ID to vote, cash a check, apply for or receive government benefits, or conduct everyday local business. While you will be able to continue to use this ID for these activities, you will no longer be able to use a standard driver’s license to board domestic flights. If you have a U.S. Passport or another form of approved identification, you can use that instead. The REAL ID is an optional credential; it is not required as long as you also have another form of approved ID to fly domestically.

However, if you fly domestically or frequent secure federal facilities you may want to upgrade to a REAL ID compliant Virginia driver’s license. REAL ID compliant credentials display a small star in the upper right corner to indicate they meet federal requirements. Choose which documents you’ll need to bring to DMV to get a REAL ID with DMV’s interactive Document Guide. Don’t make your next visit to the DMV longer by not bringing the right materials to the DMV the first time. The next time you renew your standard credential and choose not to upgrade to a REAL ID, it will display “Federal Limits Apply” in the top right corner in order to distinguish it from a REAL ID compliant credential.

Again, you will not need this ID until October 1, 2020. I also want to reiterate, this credential is completely optional; if you will not need it, you are not required to get it.

<https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/webdoc/pdf/dmv299.pdf> for more information from the Virginia DMV, and for frequently asked questions https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/drivers/#real_faqs.asp.



■ REAL ID compliant driver's license

Hal Roesch's Homecoming



August 27-30, 2020
Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk
Waterfront Hotel
425 Water Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704

Our own Hal Roesch will be the Commander-in-Chief next year and this is huge for us! The registration packet for his homecoming is on our Post's website and registration is now open. www.vfw7589.org

The Department of Virginia encourages all Posts, Districts, and members to consider sponsoring a hole for the golf tournament to help defray the cost of the homecoming. The sponsorship form is in the packet.

We hope to see a significant turnout from our Post.

Rick Raskin
State Commander
QM Post 7589

Virginia Department of Veterans Services Manassas Office

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

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.

A Great Place to Call Home!

800-313-4200

Comrade & Auxiliary member of the quarter



RICK RASKIN



RICK RASKIN

At our November 4 general membership meeting District 8 Commander Charles Bush presented Bobby Knight and Yvonne Sullivan with certificates designating them as comrade and auxiliary member of the quarter. Commander Bush started a program to recognize those throughout the District who stand out in their contributions to the organization.

State officers visit District 12 November 8-10, 2019

By Rick Raskin
State Commander
VFW Department of Virginia

State Commander Rick Raskin conducted a roundup in Virginia District 12, the furthest Southwest District in the state, from November 8-10, 2019. Accompanying him were State Judge Advocate Eddie Reasor, State Surgeon Geoff Lyster, State Inspector Gary Adams, District 12 Commander Bud Davis and District 12 Historian Ken Hayes.



I was privileged to pin medals on Robert Altizer, a 90 year old Korean War veteran who had never received them. Post Commander Charles Reisler assisted.



The Department delegation visited Grundy on November 10. The display is one of 3 the Department will use at recruiting events.

We visited Posts in Abingdon (1994), Damascus (9830), Bristol (6975), Coeburn (8652), Pound (9600), Clintwood (8975), Lebanon (9864) and Grundy (7360). Several Posts said they had

never had a state officer visit, so our visit was a first.

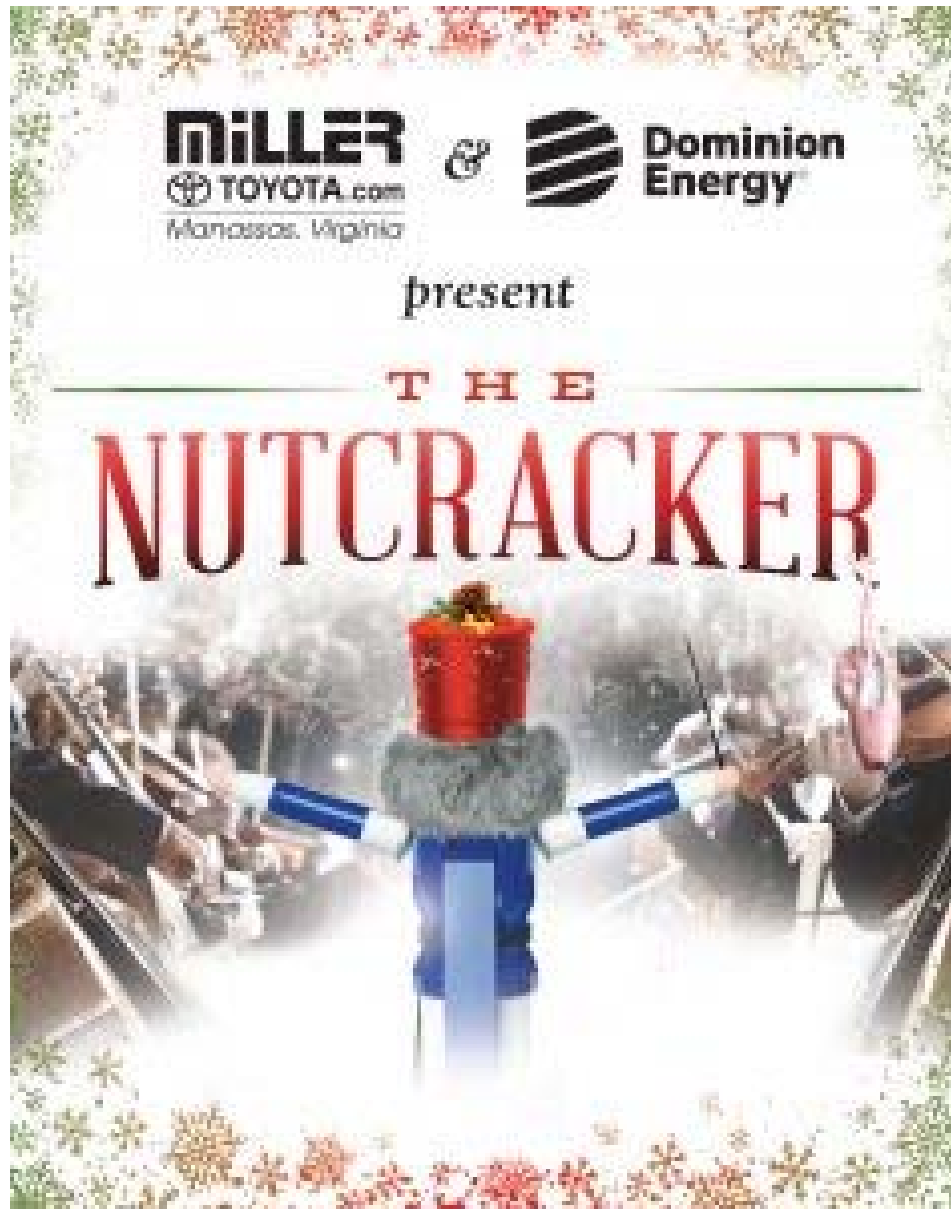
The focus of the visits was to offer any assistance the Department could to help Posts with their programs and membership. We discussed the \$50 VFW Store gift certificate for those who renew, upgrade or sign up as life members. At each Post we talked about youth awards and encouraged continued participation. We also encouraged them to continue involvement in their communities.

Several notable things occurred:

- At Bristol I was privileged to pin medals on Robert Altizer, a Korean War veteran who had never received them. There were about one hundred people present for an event that was to occur later and they all gave a resounding applause.
- Bristol's Post home is located on the Tennessee side of State Street, and as such is subject to the gaming laws of that state. This severely limits the opportunity for a revenue stream. They have been trying to relocate to Virginia and recently acquired a suitable storefront with assistance from Powerhouse Gaming. Post members have been active in renovating the property and should have moved in by the time this is published.
- At Coeburn I presented the All-American Award to Post Commander Luther Willis. They were also celebrating the Post's 70th anniversary and had a veterans breakfast which was well attended by members from several Posts.
- I dispelled a rumor that we were about to close a Post because they had less than \$6000 in their account. It is interesting how rumors can start, and I was glad the Department was there to put the matter to rest.
- The Commander at Lebanon is also a County Councilman and I had an interesting conversation with him on how well the VFW is perceived in their community.
- One of the members at Grundy commented that he would like to see our color guards hone their presentation skills. I took the matter as an action item and will pursue adding a module to our Schools of Instruction. Virginia conducts SOIs in each District in order to reach a wider audience.
- District 12 Commander Davis had challenged each Post to recruit at least one new member before our visit and two Posts met the challenge.

It is encouraging to see that many of these small Posts are making do with what they have. They are doing an excellent job of keeping their Posts going. Despite the small number of members many have, they are active in VFW programs and enjoy the unique camaraderie that we VFW members all share.

I hope that our visit reinvigorated many members who felt that they were being ignored by the Department. Many times, I heard the comment that "the VFW stops at Roanoke". I feel our visit helped to alleviate that perception.



Manassas Ballet Theatre December 18—23

As the holiday season approaches, so does the rich pageantry of Manassas Ballet Theatre's The Nutcracker! MBT's Nutcracker is a classic, family version that is annually the best attended performing arts production in Northern Virginia.

Anchored by the dancers of MBT, Northern Virginia's largest professional ballet company, the story of Clara and her Nutcracker Prince comes alive with the help of an ensemble cast and the Manassas Ballet Theatre Orchestra. Known for its exquisite costumes, choreography and scenery, MBT's production of The Nutcracker has become Northern Virginia's go-to family holiday tradition.

Eight performances to choose from at the beautiful and accessible Hylton Performing Arts Center. MBT offers discounts for: Active and Retired Military; employees of PWC, City of Manassas, Federal government and major Corporate Sponsors; Scouts and groups of 10+. Please contact MBT at 703-257-1811 or at info@manassasballet.org for more information.

Opening night "Salute to the Military". Veterans admitted free.



Celebrate with us!

Merry Old Town

Friday, December 6 –
Sunday, December 8

74th Annual
Christmas Parade
Saturday, December 7

For more information, go to
VISITMANASSAS.ORG

Sponsored by



Starting January 1, 2020
the Department of Defense
is expanding in-store military
exchange and commissary
shopping privileges as well as
MWR resale facility use to:



- PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS
- FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR
- ALL VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES
- CAREGIVERS OR FAMILY CAREGIVERS REGISTERED AS THE PRIMARY CAREGIVER FOR A VETERAN IN THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PROGRAM OF COMPREHENSIVE ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Information is available at ShopMyExchange.com/Vets

WELCOME HOME, VETERANS



ShopMyExchange.com/Vets



A Great Army Deserves a Great
MUSEUM



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

OPENING JUNE 4

FORT BELVOIR, VA

2020 Census: Fact v Fiction

By Colleen Tressler

Consumer Education Specialist, FTC

The Federal Trade Commission is partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau to help you guard against potential census scams. Knowing how the 2020 Census process works, what information you will — and won't — be asked for, and some red flags will help you spot and report scams.

The Process

In mid-March 2020, the Census Bureau will start mailing out (and, in some areas, hand delivering) invitations to participate in the 2020 Census. You should get yours by April 1. You can respond online, by phone, or by mail.

The Census Bureau has an important job: to count every person living in the United States. Starting in May 2020, census takers will start visiting homes that haven't responded to make sure everyone is counted. If you aren't home or can't come to the door, the census taker will come back up to six times. Each time, they'll leave a door hanger with a phone number so you can call to schedule a visit.

The Questions

The census questionnaire asks how many people are in the home at the time you complete the form; their sex, age, race, ethnicity; their relationships to one another; phone number; and whether you own or rent the home. For the full list of questions on the 2020 Census, visit <https://2020census.gov/en/about-questions.html>

Signs of a Scam

Scammers may pose as census takers to get your personal information — and then use it to commit identity theft and other frauds. But there are ways you can identify official census takers.

Census takers must show a photo ID with the U.S. Department of Commerce seal and an expiration date. If you ask, the census taker will give you a supervisor's contact information and/or the census regional office phone number for verification.

The Census Bureau will never ask for your full Social Security number, bank account or credit card numbers, money or donations, or anything on behalf of a political party. The 2020 Census will not ask citizenship status.

The Census Bureau may call you as part of their follow-up and quality control efforts. They also might call if you're not home when a census taker stops by or when a personal visit is not convenient. Calls will come from one of the Census Bureau's contact centers or from a field representative. Since we all know you can't trust caller ID, visit <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/surveyhelp/verify-a-survey.html#call> for the phone numbers you can use to check out any calls you might get.

Make sure you have the latest and most accurate information about the 2020 Census. Visit <https://2020census.gov/en/news-events/rumors.html> to fact-check and ask questions.

If you suspect fraud, call 800-923-8282 to speak with a local Census Bureau representative. You also can file a report with the FTC at [FTC.gov/Complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/Complaint). Your reports may help law enforcement agencies launch investigations that could stop imposters and other fraudsters in their tracks.

JUN - SEP 2019

Disabled veterans eligible for free National Park Service lifetime access pass

Good for entry into 400+ National Parks and over 2000 recreation sites across the country

By **Steven Clipp**, *Communications Specialist, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs*

Spring flowers are blooming, the summer travel season quickly approaches and veterans are joining the 330-million yearly visitors enjoying U.S. National Parks.

Many veterans, with a service connected disability rating, are entering Federal parks for free with the [Lifetime National Parks Access Pass](#) from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. Good for entry into 400+ National Parks and over 2,000 recreation sites across the country, the Lifetime Access Pass is another way a grateful nation says thank you for the service and sacrifices of veterans with disabilities.

The [Access Pass](#) admits disabled veterans and any passengers in their vehicle (non-commercial) at per-vehicle fee areas; and, the pass owner plus three additional adults where per-person fees are charged. In addition to free entry at participating parks, the Access Pass includes discounts on [expanded amenity fees](#); such as camping, swimming, boat launching and guided tours.

Veterans who have a VA disability rating, (10 percent or higher) are eligible for the Lifetime Access Pass—with two ways to apply.



First, disabled veterans can apply in person at a [participating federal recreation site](#). Simply present photo identification (Driver's license, State ID, Passport) and documentation proving a permanent disability (VA awards letter, VA ID with service connected annotation, VA summary of benefits, or receipt of Social Security disability income). That's it. The Pass is free and issued at the time of entry.

Second, if applying by mail, send a completed packet and \$10 processing fee to the United States Geological Survey (USGS). The packet should include:

- The [Access Pass application form](#)
- Proof of residency
- VA disability award letter, VA summary of benefits, or proof of SSDI income

Pass delivery expected 10-12 weeks after receipt.

Make sure to have photo ID available when using your Lifetime Access Pass and enjoy the majestic scenery and abundant recreational opportunities our National Parks provide.

"The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humor, but without folly."

– Jim Rohn



Support Virginia's Veterans



VFW Gun Raffle Tickets

5 Prizes:

Weatherby Vanguard .308

Savage Axis 30-06 Package

Savage Axis .308 Camo Package

Savage Axis .308 Camo Package

Savage Axis 6.5 Creed

\$5/ticket

Drawing: January 11, 2020

Upcoming Events

December 1	VOD/Patriots Pen/Teacher - Refreshments 4 PM
December 2	Executive Meeting – 7:00 PM
	Auxiliary Meeting - 6:00 PM /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 Holiday Party (City Tavern) 3 PM
December 18	MBT's "The Nutcracker" Salute to the Military Night — Veterans FREE
December 20	Youth Committee 7 PM
December 22	Department VOD Judging — 9 AM
2020	
January 6	Executive Meeting – 7:00 PM
	Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 PM
January 10-12	Winter Conference, Portsmouth, VA
January 14	Day on the Hill (TBD)
January 16	Youth Committee 7 PM
February 3	Executive Meeting— 7:00 PM
	Post/Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 PM
February 15	Continuing Education Scholarship (Deadline)
February 19-24	Auxiliary Mid Year Conference, Honolulu HI
February 20	Auxiliary CAFÉ/Nat'l Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific/10 AM
February 20	Youth Committee 7 PM
February 22	District 8 Meeting 1PM/Southern Fauquier 7728
February 24	Americanism Committee Meeting 7 PM
February 29	VFW Legislative Conference starts

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.

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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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.