

THE CANNON NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 2

Next Meeting: **Monday, August 3, 2009**

August 2009/September 2009

GREETINGS FROM THE COMMANDER

The free bus trip for World War II veterans was a huge success. Thirty-nine WWII vets made the trip. As I welcomed them back following the excursion, the common mood was pure joy! Each veteran had a huge smile on their face as they got off of the bus. Following the trip, American Legion Post 10 sponsored a cook-out for all of the attendees and their families at Post 10's Pavilion. There is going to be a screening of a movie about the trip which will also have a spaghetti dinner at VFW Post 7589 on Friday, September 18th following the POW/MIA observance at the Manassas City Veterans Memorial.

The Post is sponsoring a bus to Atlantic City. It will be open to the public. It is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15th. The bus will depart at 0800hrs. The cost is \$40 with the casino providing \$25 in slots. We're trying alternative ways of bringing in money given the economic adversity everyone is experiencing these days.

The Post recently awarded J.E. Rice with a plaque of Appreciation. We've never been turned down when we've asked J.E. Rice for a recruitment drive. The News Messenger had a reporter present to observe the occasion.

We're starting a new year for membership. The awards for recruitments were abandoned last year which resulted in the largest decrease in membership in recent VFW history. Good news!! Those member pins are now back, along with a top award of the Commander-In-Chief's belt buckle for 50 new or reinstated members.

The National Guard unit which we adopted, the 266th Military Police Company is currently expected home sometime in October. As some of you may have heard, several male soldiers have been charged with video taping some female members of the unit taking showers. This in no way lessens our support to the unit itself. I would encourage the members of the unit to hold their heads high for the hard work they've accomplished and the good work they've done. I've been trying to find out if they currently have a need for the Avon Bug Lotion. They are currently in transit from where they've been stationed in Basra to another location, in theatre. If we get the go ahead, we'll ship the bug repellent to them ASAP.

There will be two meetings in August. The regular August meeting and then September's meeting on 8/31/2009. The September meeting would have fallen on Labor Day.

We started a new activity several months ago. We started having a drawing for those members present at the meeting, and the winner **wins a gift card** for a local restaurant at no cost to the Post. This month we're also having a drawing for a free haircut at SportsClip located in the new Target shopping center on route 28 across from Piper Lane.

Your Post Commander
Stephen A. Meade
cmdr7589@verizon.net

Newsletter Editors: Steve Meade—(703) 408-0875 & Valerie Nealey—(703) 368-7636

email: sameade@verizon.net or cmdr7589@verizon.net

This is your Newsletter, therefore your input is not only welcome, but encouraged.

Virginia District 8 as of Thursday, July 16, 2009

Post	Life	New	Reinstated	Continuous	Total	Prior Year	Percent	Division	City	N/R LM
1177	0	0	0	0	0	103	0	8	LEESBURG	0
1811	0	0	0	0	0	183	0	6	MANASSAS PARK	0
2524	0	0	0	0	0	251	0	5	CULPEPER	0
3103	0	1	1	0	2	365	0.54	4	FREDERICKSBURG	0
7589	0	6	0	5	11	333	3.3	4	MANASSAS	0
7728	0	1	0	1	2	44	4.54	11	REMINGTON	0
8208	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	10	STANARDSVILLE	0
9835	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	10	WARRENTON	0
District Total	0	8	1	6	15	1393	1.08			0

DISTRICT MEETING - AUGUST 09TH

The next District 8 Meeting is Sunday, August 9th at 1:00 PM at VFW Post 1177, Leesburg, Virginia. The meeting is VFW only, no Ladies Auxiliary, but there will be a meal after the meeting.

Commander Stephen Meade

Virginia Department of Veterans Services

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services, has resumed their Itinerant Program at Post 7589. Any veteran needing to file for VA compensation, or needing help with an existing claim, can drop in for assistance. A Veterans Service Representative will be available the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month between 0900 and 1500 hours. This is an excellent opportunity for one to enlist the services of an agent who is proficient with the VA claims process and avoid hurdles that may otherwise impede prompt resolution. No appointment necessary.

Quartermaster Rick Raskin

New Service Officer for Post 7589

Hello to all VFW Post 7589 Members. My name is Steven Botello. I have been a Life Member of the VFW since 1994 and now a member of our Post since late last year. I served in the Navy from 1986 to 1993 as an EOD Assistant/Diver/Aviation Ordnanceman. During these past years in both the handling my own VA Claim and helping other veterans with their VA Claim's I've been lucky enough to learn a great deal about initiating, processing and successfully assisting fellow veterans with obtaining the VA benefits that they are entitled to and that they deserve. I am currently now working with various local veterans who are with our VFW Post 7589, the American Legion Post 10, VVA as well as others in their VA Claim process. I have recently been asked and I accepted the honor of assisting veterans and their families within our own Post 7589 as a Volunteer Service Officer to help our members with their VA Claims. This is my first posting in our newsletter and I hope I can help any veteran towards the goal of getting your VA Claim successfully awarded. My contact information is: Steve Botello Email: Steven.Botello@gmail.com or 1-703-335-9013. I look forward to meeting and serving each and every member of our Post 7589. Thank you, Steve

How Post 7589 Helps Supports the Community

In addition to contributions to some of the more well known organizations that support veterans, your post also contributes considerably to help veterans in need within the local community and to further patriotic education and spirit. Recently we donated \$200.00 to the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virginia, \$250.00 to help a deceased veteran's widow pay for his funeral expenses and a \$300.00 award to the post's Eagle Scout of the Year.

We also sponsored a bus trip to the Washington, DC war memorials and Arlington National Cemetery for the community's WWII veterans. Our share of that cost came to approximately \$675.00, with American Legion Post 10 providing a like amount. On the bus trip, dubbed the "Ruptured Duck Bus Tour", each veteran was provided a custom embroidered shirt to commemorate the event.

We are able to use some funds from our bingo proceeds to cover these donations, but a considerable portion comes from our operating account which is funded primarily from hall rentals.

Quartermaster Rick Raskin

VA Promotes Post-9/11 GI Bill

Tammy Duckworth, the assistant secretary for public and intergovernmental affairs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, recently visited Vermont to promote the Post-9/11 GI Bill and meet with veterans. The Post-9/11 GI Bill takes effect Aug. 1 and allows eligible veterans who served at least 90 days active duty since Sept. 11, 2001, to receive an in-state, undergraduate education at a public institution at no cost. Under this new GI Bill, certain members of the armed forces may transfer benefits to a spouse or dependent children. For more information, visit the [Department of Veterans' Affairs](#) (VA) website or call 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551).

Military.com/Week of July 13, 2009

GI Bill Monthly Payment Rates

Both the Montgomery and Post-9/11 GI Bills offer huge monthly payments to help cover the costs of getting a degree. The Montgomery GI Bill offers a monthly tax free benefit of \$1,321 for full-time students and is paid directly to you. The Post-9/11 GI Bill monthly rate depends on what state your school is in. It is paid directly to the school and will match up to the highest tuition and fee rates of your state college or university. In addition to paying tuition, the Post-9/11 GI Bill may offer a monthly housing stipend. [Get more information on the Post-9/11 GI Bill.](#) The Post-9/11 GI Bill may not be the best option for everyone. Make sure you know which benefit will end up paying more. Do a side by side personalized comparison with the [Military.com GI Bill Calculator](#).

Military.com/Week of July 13, 2009

Training Grants for Veterans

The Department of Labor announced 17 grants, totaling more than \$7.5 million dollars, to provide approximately 3,000 veterans with job training to help them succeed in civilian careers related to "green jobs." Fields of employment include energy efficiency and renewable energy, modern electric-power development and clean vehicles. To view more information about this initiative, visit the [Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration](#) website and look for the "green jobs" heading. More information on the Labor Department's unemployment and re-employment programs for veterans is available on the [Department of Labor](#) website.

Military.com/Week of July 13, 2009

VA Silent on HIV Exposure Compensation

An attorney for veterans potentially exposed to HIV and other infections by colonoscopies at three Department of Veterans Affairs' hospitals said his clients are waiting to hear if they will be compensated for mistakes that led to congressional hearings and new VA spending on patient safety. Nashville, Tenn.-based lawyer Mike Sheppard describes that claims process as cumbersome, particularly for veterans who tested positive for HIV and hepatitis. For more information on the continuing endoscopic procedure notification of veterans, visit the [VA website](#).

Military.com/Week of July 13, 2009

The Yellow Ribbon Fund

Founded in 2005, the Yellow Ribbon Fund assists injured servicemembers and their families while they recuperate at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC and the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. The organization offers several programs for recovering servicemembers, including a mentor/intern program in which they can learn job skills from a local company. Family members and friends visiting a recovering servicemember are eligible for a Yellow Ribbon Fund rental car through the Soldier and Family Assistance Center at either medical facility. For more information, visit [The Yellow Ribbon Fund](#) website.

Military.com/Week of July 13, 2009

WWII Pilots Awarded Medal

President Barack Obama recently signed into law a bill that awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) of World War II. The WASP was established during World War II with the primary mission of flying noncombat military missions in the United States, thus freeing their male counterparts for combat missions overseas. For more information on the WASP, visit the [National WASP WWII Museum](#) website, the [WASP Library Collection at Texas Woman's University](#), [WASP on the Web](#), [WASP--Remembered by Those Who Knew Them](#), the Public Broadcasting Service's (PBS') [Fly Girls](#) website, the [WASP Killed in Service](#), and the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force [WASP Fact Sheet](#).

Military.com/Week of July 13, 2009

Helmets to Hardhats for Guard-Reserve

The U.S. Army Reserve and the Army National Guard recently signed an agreement with Helmets to Hardhats that allows Soldiers greater access to construction career opportunities. Helmets to Hardhats is a nonprofit program that connects servicemembers with construction jobs. It works with 15 building and construction unions and more than 80,000 employers represented by nine contractor associations. A part of the Army Reserve Employer Partnership Initiative, the joint venture will benefit all parties by recruiting and training highly skilled workers to serve both the civilian and military sectors. For more information, visit the [Helmets to Hardhats](#) website.

Military.com/Week of July 13, 2009

Maid Brigade Giveaway for Vets

They've earned their medals in the U.S. Armed Forces. Now veterans can prove their mettle in the business world with the Maid Brigade Veterans Franchise Giveaway, a program that will award more than \$1.5 million in business ownership opportunities to more than 100 veterans -- creating more than 1,000 jobs nationwide. The contest comes at a time when America's economy is down, but patriotism is high. Maid Brigade, the award-winning residential cleaning service and longtime supporter of the military, is offering new careers to veterans, a group it considers worthy, qualified, and proven as franchise owners. Currently, 10 percent of Maid Brigade owners are veterans -- others in the network come from a range of careers. The contest will launch on Independence Day, July 4, and conclude on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2009. To apply, veterans must visit www.maidbrigadegiveaway.com to complete the form and submit a short essay by Sept. 30 on how their military responsibilities would translate to successful Maid Brigade franchise ownership.

Military.com/Week of July 13, 2009



LADIES AUXILIARY 7589 NEWS

Editor: Valerie Nealey - 703-368-7636 jvnealey@verizon.net

MESSAGE FROM AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Department Convention - I attended the Department Convention in Richmond June 11-14 along with **Pam Braithwaite**, **Janet Raskin** and **Sondra Burroughs**. I was presented certificates for the Auxiliary's participation in Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, Presidents Special Project, Community Service and Youth Activities. We were also presented a Banner Citation for completing all National Programs. Pam Braithwaite and I participated in the Early Bird Membership Parade and I announced that our Auxiliary is starting off the 2009-2010 year with 51 members out of 63 who have paid their 2010 dues for a percentage of 80.95%. Our member **Yvonne Sullivan** was generous enough to donate Avon jewelry which was sold at the Cancer table. Proceeds from the sale of the jewelry and the TV raffle totaled \$1,550 and the Department collected a grand total of \$80,989.43 for Cancer Aid & Research. The following Department officers were elected: Kathy Birch, President; Betty Gimble, Senior Vice; Robin Milewski, Junior Vice; Cathy Graham, Chaplain, Laine Beckwith, Conductress and Ellen Carleton, Guard. All Department officers were installed along with **Pam Braithwaite**, District 8 President.

Bug Out Mock Military Deployment -- On June 30th **Valerie & Sam Nealey**, **Rick Raskin**, **Kathy Dye** and three members from the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 10 - **Carol Pettit**, **Debbie Lisanty** and **Carol Buckingham** - spent the day at the 4-H Educational & Conference Center in Front Royal to assist with the Bug Out Mock Military Deployment. The Bug Out consisted of stations similar to ones that military personnel go through when they mobilize to leave for deployment. After enjoying a family-style lunch with the campers, we helped facilitate and worked each of the stations as 250 kids passed through. We had 25 minutes for each group of 30 to explain, administer the procedure and answer questions. We had a very enjoyable day and am sure the kids had a worthwhile experience. We look forward to participating again next year. See pictures on our web site www.vfwpost7589.org

Auxiliary School of Instruction -- On Saturday, July 25th from 10 AM to 2 PM, I will conduct a "School of Instruction" at the Post Home for all members. This is a great learning opportunity. If you have any questions about the Ladies Auxiliary VFW, you should come to this class. Some items to be discussed are By-laws & Ritual Books; Membership & Benefits; National Programs, understanding auxiliary traditions, etc. If you would like to attend, please contact me so I will have enough handouts - 703-368-7636 or aux7589@verizon.net.

SPONSOR A WREATH TO HONOR ALL VETERANS

Our Auxiliary is participating in the **Wreaths Across America™** fundraising program to help place more wreaths than ever before on Veterans' graves. For each \$15 sponsorship, a wreath will be placed on a Veterans grave at **Quantico National Cemetery**. Our Auxiliary will receive \$5 for each sponsorship to support our organization directly so we may continue to assist veterans and their families as well as our communities. A **Wreath Sponsorship Form** is included in this newsletter. This is a great program and we need your support! Please make copies of the form and ask family, friends and businesses to sponsor a wreath or wreaths. Make checks payable **Wreaths Across America™** and mail to **Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589, PO Box 10206, Manassas, VA 20108**. If you have any questions, please contact Yvonne Sullivan - 703 368-8621 or **ysully@comcast.net**. **Deadline is November 20, 2009.**

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

There will be simultaneous wreath-laying ceremonies world wide on **Saturday, December 12th at 12:00 Noon (EST)** and we plan to get involved with the wreath-laying ceremony at Quantico National Cemetery -- look for more details in a later Newsletter.

OVERSEAS COUPONS

Pam Braithwaite is collecting current and expired coupons for veterans and their families at a Marine Corps Base in Iwakuni, Japan. Military shoppers are able to use the expired coupons up to six months **past** the expiration date. Coupons are needed no later than two months past expiration in order to let the families have time to use them. Coupons for restaurants and specific stores are not eligible for the program. Please clip and separate into food and non-food groups and total the money amount of the coupons. Bring the coupons to a meeting, drop off at the Post Home or mail to **Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589, PO Box 10206, Manassas, VA 20108**.

Manassas Fall Jubilee - On Saturday, October 3 from 10 AM to 5 PM, our Auxiliary will be participating in the Fall Jubilee. Informational material about our organization will be displayed and we will be recruiting new members. We will have small U.S. flags to distribute as well as bookmarks and stickers for the children. We are welcoming other ideas to attract "Jubilee goers" to our booth. If you have any suggestions or would like to help, please contact Valerie at **aux7589.verizon.net** or 703-368-7636.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership as of June 30, 2009 is 63. Fifty-two members have paid their 2010 dues. We are working towards 100% in membership by December. Please mail your \$15 dues to **Treasurer, Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589, PO Box 10206, Manassas, VA 20108**. Make checks payable to "**Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589**".

We are starting a new auxiliary year and it is a great time to reach out to friends and family who may be eligible for the Ladies Auxiliary.

Auxiliary VFW Members are Wives, Widows, Mothers, Foster and Stepmothers (who have performed the duties of parent), Grandmothers, Daughters, Granddaughters, Foster and Stepdaughters (who attained that status prior to the age of sixteen and for whom the duties of parent were performed...of persons who were or are eligible for membership in the VFW. Members must be citizens of the United States and at least 16 years old. Women who are eligible for membership in the VFW shall be eligible for dual membership in the Ladies Auxiliary. If you need membership applications, please contact Angela Fromm 703-989-5502 or angelafromm@gmail.com.

CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS

Bring your Campbell's Soup Labels to the next meeting, drop them off at the Post Home or mail them to **Sondra Burroughs** - 11927 Appling Valley Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030-5701.

If you would like to receive reminders of auxiliary events, meetings, updates, alerts, etc., via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to Valerie Nealey aux7589@verizon.net

If you know of any members or their families ill or in distress, please contact Chaplain Joanna Roberts at 703 789-2700 or joannaroberts@comcast.net

WEB SITES

VFW Post 7589: www.vfwpost7589.org

Virginia Ladies Auxiliary VFW: www.vfwvaaux.org

National Ladies Auxiliary VFW: www.ladiesauxvfw.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| July 25 | Auxiliary School of Instruction – Post Home – 10 AM to 2 PM |
| August 3 | Auxiliary/Post Meeting – 7:30 pm |
| August 31 | Auxiliary/Post Meeting – 7:30 pm (no mtg. Sept 7 – Labor Day) |
| September 15 | Bus trip to Atlantic City |
| September 18 | POW/MIA ceremony - 4 pm - Veterans Memorial – Post Open House |
| October | 266th MP CO National Guard Homecoming (tentative) |
| October 3 | Manassas Fall Jubilee |
| October 5 | Auxiliary/Post Meeting – 7:30 pm |
| October 25 | District Meeting – Culpeper – Post 2524 - 1 pm |

**FRANCIS CANNON VFW POST 7589
703-361-5554**

9304 CENTREVILLE ROAD - MANASSAS, VIRGINIA 20110

2009-2010 POST OFFICERS

Commander	Steve Meade	703-408-0875
Sr. Vice Cmdr	Pete MacLeod	703-794-1103
Jr. Vice Cmdr	Mike Guttman	703-330-3925
Quartermaster	Rick Raskin	703-369-2732
Adjutant	Mike Guttman	703-330-3925
Advocate	Ron Link	571-921-9220
Chaplain	Ron Knowles	703-368-4743
Surgeon	Joe Dazzo	703-361-6041
Off of the Day	Rod Gillett	703-361-8358
Guard	Dallas Kennedy	703-393-9632
Service Officer	Steve Botello	703-335-9013
Historian	Warren Ewell	
Trustee 1 year	Bob Pace	703-680-1229
Trustee 2 year	Pat Templeton	
Trustee 3 year	Steve Botello	703-330-3925

2009-2010 AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President	Valerie Nealey	703-368-7636
Sr. Vice Pres.	Pam Braithwaite	703-278-8076
Jr. Vice Pres.	Jenn Nealey	703-331-1214
Sec/Treas	Angela Fromm	703-989-5502
Chaplain	Joanna Roberts	703-789-2700
Conductress	Sondra Burroughs	703-278-8076
Guard	Patsy Gough	703-368-2697
Historian	Tonya Miller	703-730-0067
Patriotic Inst.	Debbie Baxter	703-791-7690
Trustee 1	Nancy Dazzo	703-361-6041
Trustee 2	Joanna Roberts	703-392-3870
Trustee 3	Lucindy Owens	703-754-4258

Commander Meade manning VFW Post 7589 Booth at Freedom Museum on July 4th



VFW Comrades Pete MacLeod and Pat Templeton man booth supporting Veterans' Day Parade at Freedom Museum on July 4th!

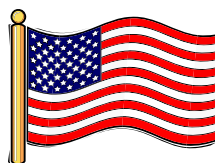


September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day Holiday	8	9 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	10 VA Agent 0900-1500	11	12
13	14	15 Atlantic City Bus Trip 0800hrs	16 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	17	18 POW/MIA Day + Movie Screening & Spaghetti Dinner	19 Antique Car Show Manassas Museum
20	21	22	23 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	24 VA Agent 0900-1500	25	26
27	28	29	30 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm			

The Cannon News

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589
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www.vfwpost7589.org



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August 2009 - September 2009

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August 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 VFW & Auxiliary Meetings 7:30 pm	4	5 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	13 VA Agent 0900-1500	14	15
16	17	18	19 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	20	21	22
23/30	24/31 8/31—VFW & Auxiliary Meetings 7:30 pm	25	26 Bingo 8 am—12:30 pm	27 VA Agent 0900-1500 Exec Board 1830hrs	28	29