

# THE CANNON NEWS

Volume 7, Issue 3

November/December 2007

## GREETINGS FROM THE COMMANDER

Greetings. This is the second newsletter that it is my privilege to send as your Post Commander. Since the last newsletter went out, we held the spaghetti dinner here at the post with a total of 29 participants. I wished that at least a few more veterans had attended the free meal, but as a first effort at such an effort, we learned some things that will assist future efforts. At least we didn't have 400 people show up and have us swamped. Those who did attend had a good time. We participated in the Fall Jubilee in Old Town Manassas on the first Saturday in October. We had another successful year handing out the Halloween bags with Safety Tips. We even managed to recruit a double handful of new members for the Post. At the Fall Jubilee, the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary were specifically requested to participate in the Fall fund-raiser for Stonewall High School. The day turned out to be sunny but very windy. Yours truly spent a good portion of the day holding our tent top from blowing away. We also managed to recruit several new members there as well. The membership for the Post as I prepare this article is: Life Members—155, New Members—34, Reinstatements—3, Continuous—50, Totaling 242. Our 100% goal is 261, so we're currently sitting at 92.72% of that goal. If the Post hopes to achieve All State, we need to get to a total of 314 members.

The Winter Social is coming up on December 9th. This year the hours will be from 1400 hrs to 1630 hrs. This is to enable our older members who can't drive at night to be able to participate. We have a flyer promoting the Social elsewhere in this newsletter. Remember, this Social is a buffet type with finger foods and such. The spreading out of the time is to enable more members to attend without everyone being pressed together just at the start or end of the proceedings. Please show up and don't be afraid to meet your fellow members of the Post! The only thing better than meeting an old friend is meeting a new friend and comrade. The Social this year is also being geared to having children of our younger members being recognized with small gift bags. Each members family will also be given a small Christmas gift. Please look over the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter. We are hoping for a good turnout. As your Commander, I would personally like to meet some of you who never attend the meetings. I know you're out there as the numbers above verify. Come out and enjoy yourselves! **(continued on Page 2)**

***As this Newsletter goes to print, our Great Country still has troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. Please keep our military in your prayers. The dreams and hopes of our country lie in the hands of these courageous men and women.***

**Newsletter Editors: Steve Meade (703) 408-0875 & Valerie Nealey (703) 368-7636  
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***This is your Newsletter, therefore your input is not only welcome, but encouraged.***

The Winter Conference is coming up January 18—20 timeframe. We have several new individuals going this year which I believe bodes well for the Post. It is a privilege to be your Commander. I am always looking forward to seeing members of the Post at our membership meeting on the first Monday of the month. See you there!

Your Post Commander,  
Steve Meade

### **SICK AND DISTRESSED**

Comrades, if you know of a fellow Comrade who is ill or in need of help, please call either **Chaplain Ron Knowles @ (703) 368-4743** or **Commander Steve Meade @ (703) 408-0875**.

*“We honor the dead, by helping the living.”*

### **BINGO—ALWAYS NEED HELP**

Comrades, our weekly Bingo is what is paying for our beautiful home and will enable us to meet our goals for the future. **I am looking for comrades to volunteer a few hours once a week.** Bingo starts at 8:00 AM and is finished about 12:30 PM. We have some great volunteers at present, but they have worked hard the last few years and need some help.

**Department of Gaming rules now allow for non-members to assist with Bingo. So if you have a neighbor or friend that could help, please encourage them to do so.**

### **EXECUTIVE MEETING**

Executive Meetings are scheduled for the Monday the week prior to the regular Monthly meeting. The meeting is at 6:30 PM. See Calendar for dates. **Note: All officers are requested to attend, and any member is welcome to attend.**

### **NOTICE \* NOTICE \* NOTICE**

**Parking is not allowed on Manassas Volunteer Fire Company property, your vehicle may get towed.** If you are visiting the Post Home, either park on our property or the city parking lot about a half block up Church Street.

### **PEARL HARBOR DAY**

There will be a short Memorial Service at the Manassas Veteran’s Memorial at 4 pm on Friday, December 7, 2007. Please attend and help us honor those great heroes from the Greatest Generation.

### **WINTER SOCIAL**

This is a reminder to look over the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter. Often times, people have stated that they read the newsletter, but never saw information concerning an upcoming activity. Please, please, join us in this year's Winter Social on December 9th from 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm. I am looking forward to meeting as many members as possible. And remember, children ARE WELCOME. During this time of the year, family is especially important!

### **VETERANS DAY ACTIVITIES**

For this year's activities for our Veterans Day observances, we did our usual Poppy Drives at the Wellington Giant on 11/10 and at the Liberia Wal-Mart on 11/11. Commander Meade, Quartermaster Raskin, and Chaplin Knowles were representatives at the Legion ceremonies on 11/11 at 1100 hrs representing the VFW. On 11/12, we had our laying of a wreath at the Veterans Memorial on Main Street followed by another small ceremony at the Manassas Cemetery with the laying of another wreath at the grave of Francis Cannon. This year, Francis Cannon's sister, Mattie Parrish, widow of House Delegate Harry Parrish, was also in attendance with her son Hal Parrish, Vice Mayor of Manassas. Mrs. Parrish assisted Commander Meade and President Nealey with the wreath.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Comrades, I urge annual members to renew your yearly membership as soon as possible. You have already received your dues renewal notices. We would already be at 100% if you annual members were paid up for the new year. Remember, our Post has one of the lowest annual dues in the area due to our Bingo. So help us out, in order for us to help you out!

### **HAVE YOU RECRUITED A NEW MEMBER LATELY?**

***They are out there waiting to be asked***

We will be having another recruitment event in front of J.E. Rice on January 12, 2008. We had a recruiting event at this same spot back in September and we recruited eight new members. We only go out for four hours max (for me). Others sign up for only two hours. Whichever you choose, we welcome your participation. It's not hard to recruit a new member. One of our younger members, Iraq vet Comrade Mike Guttman, has turned into a "ball of fire" when it comes to recruiting new members. Who knows, YOU might even sign up that one very special person who under no circumstances wanted anything to do with the VFW.

### **POST TO OFFER E-MAIL NEWSLETTER DELIVERY**

We presently mail paper copies of our bi-monthly newsletter to approximately 300 households. Obviously this presents considerable expense to your post; both in postage, printing cost and time. In the interest of containing cost, we will begin offering "*The Cannon News*" by e-mail. If you would like to participate, simply send an e-mail request to [qm7589@verizon.net](mailto:qm7589@verizon.net). Be sure to put "*The Cannon News*" in the subject header. Once we begin e-mailing you will no longer receive a paper copy. For those comrades without e-mail service or those who do not wish to participate, you will continue to receive your newsletter by US mail. We also offer "*The Cannon News*" on our website [www.vfwpost7589.org](http://www.vfwpost7589.org) several days ahead of mailing. It is in PDF format and requires Acrobat PDF reader to view. The reader may be obtained for free at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com). Thanks in advance -- **Quartermaster Rick Raskin**

### **EDUCATIONAL AWARDS**

There are 3 VFW contests: Voice of Democracy for grades 9 thru 12, Patriot's Pen for grades 6 thru 8 and Teacher of the Year (in 3 categories, K thru Grade 5, Grade 6 thru Grade 8 and Grade 9 thru Grade 12). Last year at Post 7589 we had 174 students and teachers in the Manassas area who entered the VFW Education Award competition. The deadline for all of this year's contests, November 1, 2007, has past. Those entries which were submitted have been judged and the winners of each category has been chosen. The winners will be announced in the next newsletter. -- **Senior Vice Commander Peter MacLeod**

### **VETERANS IN THE SCHOOLS**

**Comrades Peter MacLeod, Rick Raskin, Joe Dazzo, Ron Link and Mike Guttman** were invited to **Mayfield Intermediate and Round Elementary Schools** to speak about veterans. They explained the "draft physicals"; Pete showed his old uniform; Joe told his D-Day story, and showed his picture of Hitler. The teachers were pleased and hope we will send other speakers in the future. -- **Senior Vice Commander Peter MacLeod**

### **POST 7589 WEB SITE**

We have a great web site which was established to keep you apprised of Post activities. **Commander Steve Meade and Quartermaster Rick Raskin** have worked hard to bring you the best and easily maneuvered web site, so please take a look at it and let them know if you have any suggestions or comments. All sorts of pertinent information has been placed on the site. It is an ever changing site so look at it frequently - it has pictures from past activities and copies of our sponsored show "Operation Freedom". The web site contains information on both the VFW and the Auxiliary. The address is: [www.vfwpost7589.org](http://www.vfwpost7589.org)



## LADIES AUXILIARY 7589 NEWS

Editor: Valerie Nealey - 703-368-7636; [jvnealey@verizon.net](mailto:jvnealey@verizon.net)

### MEMBERSHIP DRIVES

Thanks to Auxiliary members who worked at the three membership drives - J.E. Rice on September 15 - **Angela Fromm, Lucindy Owens and Joanna Roberts** -- Fall Jubilee on October 6 - **Debbie Baxter, Pam Braithwaite, Sondra Burroughs, Angela Fromm, Brenda Meade, Jenn Nealey, Lucindy Owens, Janet Raskin and Joanna Roberts** -- Auxiliary brochures, flags and other patriotic items were distributed and the Flower Gallery of Manassas was kind enough to donate a beautiful Fall floral arrangement for our free drawing. -- Stonewall Jackson High School Boosters Fall Event on October 27 -- **Pam Braithwaite, Angela Fromm, Jenn Nealey, Joanna Roberts and Yvonne Sutton. Commander Steve Meade and Post Members**, thank you so much for their help in recruiting Auxiliary members. TEAMWORK made the Joint Membership Drives a success.

Welcome to the eight new members - **Cheryl Arnaiz, Karyn Camilo, Linda Fiedor, Kimberly Guttman, Barbara Patalsky, Elizabeth Powell, Jill Saylor, and Gia Smith.**

### "BUDDY" POPPY CAMPAIGN

Thanks to the members that helped with the "Buddy" Poppy Campaign on November 10 at the Manassas Junction Giant Food -- **Pam Braithwaite, Angela Fromm, Jenn Nealey, Lucindy Owens, Joanna Roberts and Nicole Roberts.** Donations collected will be deposited into our Relief Fund so we can keep assisting veterans.

### VETERANS DAY ACTIVITIES

I am grateful to the ladies that were able to stay after the last meeting to assemble "Poppy Clusters" - **Pam Braithwaite, Elanor Doczi, Angela Fromm, Jenn Nealey, Lucindy Owens, Yvonne Sutton and Kay Yeager.** "Poppy Clusters" were placed on 60 veterans graves at the Manassas Cemetery. Thanks to the members that attended our Veterans Day activities on Monday, November 12 - **Sondra Burroughs, Pam Braithwaite, Angela Fromm, Jenn Nealey, and Janet Raskin.** A special thanks to **Elanor Doczi** for making the two beautiful wreaths that were placed at the Manassas Veterans Memorial and Francis Cannon's grave. Mattie Parrish (Francis Cannon's sister) along with President Nealey placed the wreath. Her son, Vice-Mayor Hal Parrish was also in attendance.

### OVERSEAS COUPON PROGRAM

**Chairman Pam Braithwaite** is collecting current and expired coupons for veterans and their families at a Marine Corps Base in Iwakuni, Japan. So far we have sent over \$5,400 worth of coupons. 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. Please separate the coupons into **Food** and **Non-Food** items and mail to **Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589, PO Box 10206, Manassas, VA 20108** or bring to a meeting.

### **CAMPBELL'S LABELS**

**Chairman Pam Braithwaite** is collecting Campbell's labels for the VFW National Home for Children. Only the UPC code is required and if there is a picture with the Campbell's Soup Boy holding a banner that says "Labels for Education" that is also required. The labels may be dropped off at any auxiliary meeting or mailed to the **Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 7589, PO Box 10206, Manassas, VA 20108.**

### **VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN**

**Chairman Pam Braithwaite** hopes that you will become a Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children. Letters were mailed describing the Home and it's programs for veterans and their families. The membership fee for Life Membership is \$35. We currently have ten members and if we reach 25, we will receive a plaque.

### **BAGS FOR INJURED TROOPS**

The Auxiliary will be sending 100 drawstring bags to a small U.S. Military hospital in Baghdad so injured troops can use them for their small personal belongings.

### **HOLIDAY SOCIAL**

The Post Holiday Social will be Sunday, December 9 from 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm. Please see the flyer enclosed. It should be a fun event!

### **FUNDRAISER IDEAS**

As you may know, the Auxiliary no longer manages the Bingo Kitchen on Wednesday. This was our main source of income and we are searching for other fundraisers. If you have any ideas, please call contact met 703-368-7636 or [jvnealey@verizon.net](mailto:jvnealey@verizon.net)

### **WEB SITES**

Post [www.vfwpost7589.org](http://www.vfwpost7589.org)

Virginia Ladies Auxiliary VFW [www.vfwvaaux.org](http://www.vfwvaaux.org)

National Ladies Auxiliary VFW [www.ladiesauxvfw.com](http://www.ladiesauxvfw.com)

If you know of any members or their families ill or in distress, please call **Chaplain Betty Knowles - 703-368-4743.**

If you would like to be reminded of auxiliary events, meetings, updates, alerts, etc. via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to President Nealey at [jvnealey@verizon.net](mailto:jvnealey@verizon.net)

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

√ **Auxiliary Meetings:** Monday, December 3 and January 7, 2008 -- 7:30 PM

√ **Holiday Social:** Sunday, December 9 - 2 PM - 4:30 PM Post Home

√ **Ladies Auxiliary Department Winter Conference:** Williamsburg - January 18-20, 2008

*HAVE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON*

**Comrades, we mail this newsletter to approximately 300 people and keeping addresses current is difficult, so if your address changes, please let the Post know. This will save us money in postage and copies.**

**I would like to start using email to deliver the newsletter for those members who have internet access. If you haven't submitted your email address to Quartermaster Raskin, please do so.**

**qm7589@verizon.net**

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

<u>POST OFFICERS</u>			<u>AUXILIARY OFFICERS</u>		
Commander	Steve Meade	703-408-0875	President	Valerie Nealey	703-368-7636
Sr. Vice Cmdr	Pete MacLeod	703-794-1103	Sr. Vice President	Pam Braithwaite	703-278-8076
Jr. Vice Cmdr	Sam Nealey	703-368-7636	Jr. Vice President	Jenn Nealey	703-331-1214
Quartermaster	Rick Raskin	703-369-2732	Secretary	Pam Braithwaite	703-278-8076
Adjutant	Rick Raskin	703-369-2732	Treasurer	Angela Fromm	703-789-0015
Advocate	Norb Beville	703-361-7156	Chaplain	Betty Knowles	703-368-4743
Chaplain	Ron Knowles	703-368-4743	Conductress	Kay Yeager	703-791-6665
Surgeon	Dick Lemmon	703-330-3376	Guard	Patsy Gough	703-368-2697
Off of the Day	Roy Kennedy	703-393-9632	Historian	Elanor Doczi	703-361-4795
Guard	Dallas Kennedy	703-393-9632	Patriotic Instructor	Yvonne Sutton	703-392-3870
Service Officer	Sam Nealey	703-368-7636	Trustee 1	Jo Drummond	703-368-5039
Historian	Mike Guttman	703-330-3925	Trustee 2	Polly Tibbs	703-361-9462
Trustee 1 year	Brad Bradshaw	703-754-9850	Trustee 3	Nancy Dazzo	703-361-6041
Trustee 2 year	Joe Dazzo	703-361-6041			
Trustee 3 year	Bob Pace	703-680-1229			

# December 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 General Membership Meeting 1930 hr	4	5 BINGO	6	7 Pearl Harbor 4 pm	8
9 Winter Social 2 pm - 4:30 pm	10	11	12 BINGO	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 BINGO	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 BINGO	27	28	29
30	31	January 1 2008	2 BINGO	3	4	5

## The Cannon News

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589  
PO Box 10206  
Manassas, VA 20108



**Support our Troops**

*Return Service Requested*

**November - December 2007**

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