

CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589

Manassas, Virginia

May 2012

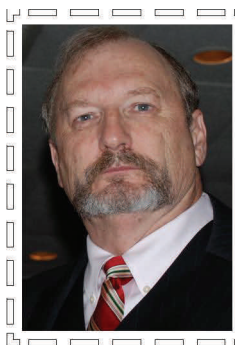


Prince William Little Theatre in rehearsal for their June production.
See Page 5.

In This Issue:

DEPARTMENT of VIRGINIA SCOUT of the YEAR JUDGING
PRINCE WILLIAM LITTLE THEATRE REHEARSES AT VFW
YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT
HOUSE ADVANCES VETS BILL AND OTHER LEGISLATION
VA FAILING VETERANS ON MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Commander's Report



The past couple of weeks, QM Rick Raskin and I have been visiting other posts as part of our duties as District Officers. One of the comments we heard was *"The reason I have not been involved over the past 5 years, is the post has not done anything for me."*

What wrong with that picture? You cannot get anything out of an organization, group, or even a relationship without **YOU** investing your time and your effort. The more one participates—the greater the reward. We need your input in order to make 7589

work. Please, get involved.

Membership: If you have not renewed your membership—please do so. Contact us on 703-361-5554 or send an email to qm7589@verizon.net. Numbers mean a lot when we meet with our elected officials to discuss veteran entitlements.

On Sunday, April 22nd, District 8 held its convention at Culpeper Post 2524. Rick Raskin was re-elected as District Commander, Steve Meade as Quartermaster, Pete MacLeod as Surgeon, and Ron Link as Senior vice Commander. Appointed as District Service Officer was Steve Botello. Our post is well represented in the District.

Our Post held its elected last month and the results are:

Commander	Ron Link
Senior Vice Commander	Peter MacLeod
Junior Vice Commander	Steve Botello
Quartermaster	Rick Raskin
Judge Advocate	Stephen Meade
Chaplain	San Nealey
Surgeon	Warren Ewell
3-year Trustee	David Crowder
2-year Trustee	Rod Gillette
1-year Trustee	Michael Guttman
Adjutant (Appointed)	Travis Nelson

(Continued on page 10)

Auxiliary President's Report

During the annual Ladies Auxiliary April meeting, elections were held for the 2012-2013 Officers. The elected and appointed Officers are as follows:

President	-	Mary Corkhill
Sr. Vice President	-	Carol Cullen
Jr. Vice President	-	Ann Mitchell
Secretary	-	Ann Mitchell
Treasurer	-	Elanor Doczi
Chaplain	-	Patricia Sutton
Conductress	-	Renee Bramer
Guard	-	Patsy Gough
Trustee 1	-	Renee Bramer
Trustee 2	-	Yvonne Sullivan
Trustee 3	-	Janet Raskin
Patriotic Instructor	-	Yvonne Sullivan
Historian	-	Janet Raskin

Congratulations to all for accepting the position you have been elected or appointed for the coming year.

Just a reminder, starting July 1, 2012, our annual dues will be \$20. Since dues are already paid for 2012, may I suggest you might consider paying your dues before July 1st in order to pay \$15. Please forward your dues for the 2013 year to the Treasurer, Ms. Elanor Doczi, and 7415 Roxbury Ave., Manassas, VA 20109.

The Memorial Day activities are as follows: Friday May 28th starts off with a ceremony at the Manassas Veterans Memorial at 8:30 AM. Immediately after the ceremony, flags will be placed at the Manassas Cemetery. The Ladies Auxiliary will distribute Buddy Poppies that weekend. The place and time will be forthcoming.

The Department Convention is from June 7-10, 2012 in Williamsburg, VA. The Virginia VFW Ladies Auxiliary web site (<http://www.vfwvaux.org>) will give you all the information.

(Continued on page 8)

DEPARTMENT of VIRGINIA SCOUT of the YEAR JUDGING

April 14: The Department of Virginia Scouting Team held their annual judging for the Scout of the Year at the Post Home. Led by Stan Hunter (9835) and Ron Knowles (7589), the judges reviewed applications from eleven district finalists.



Ron Knowles prepares contest packages as judging proceeds.

Scout of the Year is a yearly contest to select one outstanding Scout from Virginia to progress to National competition. The process begins with entries at the Post level. Each post winner's application package is then forwarded to their respective District for judging at the

District level. The judging at the Post Home this year was to select the State winner for 2012.

Last year's State winner Baylor Dickerson, went on to win the National competition and received a \$5000 Scholarship.

This year the State winner is Katie Thompson from Post 7916 in the 10th District. She is the recipient of the Girl Scout Gold Award (Eq., Boy Scout Eagle) under the VFW's new eligibility to include Girl Scouts.

We wish her the best as she enters the National competition.

For further information on VFW Scouting click the Scouting button on our home page <http://www.vfw7589.org> or visit <http://www.vfwvascouting.org>.

PRINCE WILLIAM LITTLE THEATRE REHEARSES AT VFW



The Post has come to the aid of the Prince William Little Theatre by providing them the use of our hall for rehearsals of their upcoming production “Red Scare on Sunset”. We were approached after their rehearsal space suddenly became unavailable.

In continuing to serve the community we decided to provide the use of our hall on weeknights when it is usually vacant. Their rehearsal schedule has been adjusted so that there won't be any conflict with meeting dates. Several tickets will be available for VFW members and we also have a complementary ad in the theatre program booklet.



“Red Scare on Sunset” is an Off-Broadway hit set in 1950's Hollywood during the blacklist days. Mary Dale is a musical comedy star who discovers to her horror that her husband, her best friend, her director and houseboy are all mixed up in a communist plot to take over the movie industry. Among their goals is the dissolution of the star system! Both right and left are skewered in this comic melodrama.*

*<http://www.pwlt.org/season.htm>.



SUMMARY OF VFW POST 7589/LADIES AUXILIARY YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING OF 4/19/12

The meeting began at 7pm. Members present were Mary Corkhill, Pat Templeton, Pete MacLeod.

1. Continued work on Storyboard for the Youth audio-visual project:

- Opening shot: Arlington/Quantico cemetery, front gate. Establish shot, come in close. Pictures of other memorials as we introduce the VFW. Ideas included a picture of the Iwo Jima monument, individual graves of veterans, individual monuments on the Washington Mall
- What is unique about the VFW? Write first then come up with pictures. Maybe of individual veterans, activities of the Post.
- Narration about Youth Committee with pictures of essay awards presentations, Ladies Auxiliary Art contest, youth baseball sponsorship, Home in Michigan for orphans and families in need, Boy Scouts, in school presentation by veterans to students, flag education. Cub Scouts placing flags at graves of veterans, Youth Player making a catch, picture of sign at post showing Post supporting Youth Baseball, picture of schools, young people at the ceremonies at Manassas Veterans Memorial.
- Symbols of branches of the military represented by the VFW and how they serve and have served the nation.

We will write a narrative and then find pictures to fit the narrative. We will take pictures of Arlington and Quantico and find pictures of various Post activities for the next meeting.

2. We will not be getting help from the NOVA film club this year. But Pat Templeton and Pete MacLeod will be attending a film club event at Freedom High School in Woodbridge on 4/23/12. It's the showing of the documentary, "Rainbowtown." We will attempt to meet the director and speak to leaders of the film club about helping us with production of a

video presentation on the Post and Ladies Auxiliary during the 2012-13 school year. This could be the film club's "Community Project."

3. Mary Corkhill, President of the Ladies Auxiliary announced Winners of the Patriotic Art Contest for 2012:

- First Place – Olivia Smith from Osbourn Park High School
- Second Place – Alexandra Michonski from OPHS.
- Third Place – Thierran Simmons from OPHS.

4. Pete MacLeod has written letters of permission for the 2012-2013 Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year competition in Manassas City Schools and Prince William County Schools. We have already received permission to go ahead and conduct the contests in the county schools as long as we have a disclaimer on the contest material saying, "These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by PWCS." This was the same requirement as last year. We will start contacting schools immediately and make a special target of All Saints School, Osbourn High School, Stonewall Middle School, Patriot High School and Brentsville High School along with the Emmanuel Baptist Schools in Manassas Park. Pete MacLeod will write to city and county schools to get permission for the Ladies Auxiliary to hold their Patriotic Art Contest during the 2012-2013 school year.

5. We have set September 8, 2012 as a firm date for the annual Youth Committee Yard Sale. We will start collecting material for the Yard Sale immediately. Material can be stored in the MacLeod garage at 8385 Sinclair Mill Road in Manassas. Still to be decided is the price of table rentals, food?, Exact hours of the Yard Sale. But again, material can be collected starting right now.

6. There was no new or old business conducted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next Youth Committee meeting is Thursday, May 17 at 7pm.

(Continued from page 3)

The second annual Ladies Auxiliary Studies will be held at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA from June 29-July 1, 2012. This retreat is open to all members. Deadline for Registration is May 31, 2012. Meals and Linens will be provided by the University. Please let me know if you would like to attend. My email is: mcorkhill@comcast.net or call me at 703-361-8950.

The National Convention will be in Reno, NV from July 21-25. If you wish to attend, you will have to make your registration by May 31st. Additional information is on the National Ladies Auxiliary web site (<https://www.ladiesauxvfw.org>).

Yours in Loyalty, Mary Corkhill, Ladies Auxiliary President



Auxiliary Fundraiser

<http://tinyurl.com/7wmp4tt>

Manassas Ladies VFW Fundraising Store
800-897-1004

Attractions Dining and Value Guide is a fundraising partner for **Manassas Ladies VFW**. Items purchased from the store will be fulfilled by **Attractions**, and **Manassas Ladies VFW** will receive a credit for each item purchased. The charge will appear on your credit card statement as "Attractions Online Store."

800-897-1004

***Excerpted from VFW WASHINGTON WEEKLY
April 27, 2012***

House Advances VETS Bill and Other Legislation

April 25:, the House VA Committee voted to move the Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service, or VETS, under the jurisdiction of VA. The bill, H.R. 4072, would transfer all veterans' job training, counseling and rehabilitation as well as homeless reintegration programs under VA. Other provisions amended into the bill include authorizing a pilot program in five states that allows veterans and their spouses' access to key components of the TAP program and adjusting the cost of living increase -- beginning in FY 2014 - for veterans to the same percentage as social security thus eliminating the need for annual legislation. Other VFW-supported legislation that cleared the committee included:

H.R. 4114 would provide a cost-of-living adjustment for veterans' benefits in FY 2013.

H.R. 3670, legislation that closes a long overdue loophole in rehiring compliance within the Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

H.R. 4482 which improves VA's home loan guaranty programs regarding adjustable rate mortgages and hybrid adjustable rate mortgages.

H.R. 4201, The Servicemember Family Protection Act, which would protect deployed servicemembers in child custody suits

The VFW was one of the leading voices on Capitol Hill advocating to move VETS under VA. To learn more about VFW's support to this bill and to read our testimony on it, click here: <http://www.vfwonthehill.org/2012/03/watch-live-testimony-on-veterans-jobs.html>.

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 2)

On Saturday April 28th, Rick Raskin and Wayne Moore along with Charlie Smith, member of Post 10, assisted a veteran in moving from a Condo to a new apartment in Manassas Park. Once again, is great to see cooperation between the two posts.

In the past few years, both posts have been working together—we should, after all there are a large number of comrades who are members of the Legion too. When working together, we have more resources and it is easier to get the job done.

Finally, as we go in to the Summer Months and we take trips—please use the 2-20 rule. After two hours of driving—take a 20 minutes break. On an 8 hour trip—it's only an hour longer and a much safer arrival.

Yours in Comradeship

Ron

(Continued from page 9)

VA Failing Veterans on Mental Health Care

This week, the VA Inspector General released a critical report that details flaws in the way VA calculates wait times for mental health appointments. This report contradicts VA's claims that 95% of new patients wanting mental health services received full evaluations for care within the required 14 day period. The IG reported that just 49% were seen in that time frame, and that the average wait time was 50 days. The Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee who had requested the report earlier this year, held a hearing on Wednesday to discuss the huge disparity between what VA reported as wait times for veterans and what actually was found at facilities across the country. Senate VA Chairman Parry Murray (D-OWA) called the report deeply disturbing and demanded VA take action to revamp its scheduling system and get serious about hiring mental health professionals. To read our blog posting on this issue click here: <http://www.vfwonthehill.org/2012/04/watch-live-senate-hosts-hearing-on-vets.html>



The old accelerator instead of the brake pedal! Not to worry, no one was hurt and we're getting it fixed.



Wayne Moore (VFW Post 7589) and Charlie Smith (American Legion Post 10) help move a disabled veteran into assisted living on April 28. Photo by Rick Raskin who also assisted.

Upcoming Events

Memorial Day Weekend Events

- May 26: Poppies - Manassas Mall - 1000 - 1700
- May 26 - 28 May 27: Poppies - Wellington Giant - 0900 - 1300
- May 28: Ceremony - Manassas Veterans Memorial - 0830—Flag Placements - Manassas Cemetery - 0900
- June 2 Post 7589 66th Anniversary Picnic & Open House
1130 - 1430 at the Post Home
- June 7 - 10 Department Convention - Williamsburg
- June 28 Planning Meeting - Members invited to attend
- August 26 District 8 Meeting - Post 7728 - Southern Fauquier - 1300
- September 8 Youth Committee Yard Sale

66th Anniversary Picnic—June 2, 2012



Be sure to join us on June 2nd
for our 66th anniversary picnic.

Free admission for Post and
Auxiliary members and their
families.

Bring a covered dish or dessert.

11:30 am —2:30 pm