

CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589

Manassas, Virginia

December 2012



Comrades Joel and Paul Chase respectfully wave to motorcyclists from Rolling Thunder at the Manassas Veterans Parade on November 10.

Gainesville Times Photo by Rick Wasser

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COMMANDER'S REPORT

First, I would like to thank the Comrades and Auxiliary members who participated in the 4th Annual Greater Manassas Veterans' parade on Saturday, November 10th. Marching was our Color Guard; MAJ Bob McVey and his family; and Comrades and Auxiliary Members. It was a great day to especially honor the Cold War veterans—a recognition long overdue. Thanks to everyone who also helped at the information booth at the Harris Pavilion after the

parade.

I want to thank all the Comrades who participated in school visits this year. It was a banner year for us regarding school visits. I would especially like to recognize the Comrades who participated in the Mayfield Intermediate School visit: Merle Hancock, a World War II veteran and POW; Jack Lilley, a Korean War and Vietnam veteran—USMC; Paul Chase, Vietnam veteran—USAF; Jerry Martin, Vietnam veteran—USMC; Joel Chase, Vietnam veteran—USA; Wayne Moore, Veteran of several Campaigns since Desert Storm—USN; and myself.

At Mayfield, the 6th grade students were very interested in hearing from Comrade Hancock relating the time while he was incarcerated as a POW. Other schools we visited were Cougar Elementary, Manassas Christian School, Haydon Elementary, and Round Elementary.

The Buddy Poppy Drive at Gainesville Giant and Wellington Giant was very successful. Thanks to Rod Gillette, Steve Botello, Stephen Meade, Peter MacLeod, Paul Chase, Joel Chase, and Rick Raskin for assisting.

It was very heartwarming to see so many Girl and Boy Scouts participating in our annual Veterans Day ceremony at Manassas

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AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S REPORT



We, the Ladies Auxiliary members of Francis Cannon 7589, wish to welcome the new members to our Auxiliary. They are: **Ms. Bonnie Nelson, Ms. Terry Lee Punihale, Ms. Melissa Noel Pike, Ms. Jean MacLeod, Ms. Dawn Schueller, Ms. Stephanie Mitchell** and **Ms. Christina Whittaker**.

After the November 10th Veterans Parade, the members of the Ladies Auxiliary held their annual Buddy Poppy drive. I would like to "Thank" Patsy Gough, Janet Raskin, Yvonne Sullivan and Pat Sutton for participating with me in this event. Another thanks to Yvonne Sullivan and Pat Sutton for attending with me and the Manassas Park Post and the American Legion Post 10 for the November 13th Birmingham Green Veterans Day Ceremony. I was able to pass out "Thank you for your service" cards to the resident Veterans.

We have a very busy schedule the first half of December. It is as follows:

Saturday, December 1st at 10am will be the Manassas Christmas Parade.

Sunday, December 2nd The Post and Auxiliary of 7589 will host the 8th District meeting at 1:00pm. The Auxiliary representative will be the Department President Cathy Graham. A meal will be served after the meetings.

Monday, December 3rd, Post and Auxiliary monthly meeting at 7:30pm

Saturday, December 8th from 5pm – 8pm we will be having a **pot luck** holiday dinner for the members. All are invited.

Monday, December 10th at 7pm will be our VOD/Patriot Pen and /Teacher Award ceremony.

Please join us on **Saturday, December 15 at 12:00 Noon at Quantico National Cemetery** to place wreaths on Veterans'

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Post conducts Buddy Poppy events over Veterans Day

Comrades held two Buddy Poppy events over the past Veterans Day weekend. The first was on Friday at the Gainesville Giant. For the first time they had enough volunteers to be able to cover



Joel Chase hob knobs with some generous donors at Gainesville Giant.

both entrances. Many folks took the time to stop by and chat and thank the comrades for their service.

Sunday was at the Wellington Giant and they received similar response. Wellington Giant has only one entrance, so the event was well represented.



Pete MacLeod, Ron Link and Rod Gillette at Gainesville Giant

All together they distributed over 1000 poppies and received donations of over \$1300. Donations received from poppy events are deposited in our Relief Fund.

Thanks to Pete MacLeod for organizing the events and to the comrades who participated.

Another successful flag retirement held on November 3



November 3: Mary Corkhill and Ron Link prepare a flag for retirement..

Comrades and Sisters held a flag retirement ceremony at the Post Home on November 3 where over 600 worn American flags were appropriately retired. During the event several people, attracted by the fire, stopped by to present their unserviceable flags for destruction. The Post and Auxiliary try to hold

two flag retirements per year but the dates are flexible and are dependent on the number of worn and tattered flags we have collected. Interestingly, the day after, we noticed that 3 more flags had already been deposited at our collection site.

Anyone having a flag needing retirement may deposit it in the marked container located by the main parking lot entrance. The service is free and open to all.



Francis Cannon Post 7589

P.O. Box 10206

Manassas, VA 20108

4th Annual Manassas Veterans Parade a huge success

Saturday, November 10 marked the fourth annual Veterans Parade in Manassas, this year honoring Cold War Veterans. Several thousand people lined the streets of Old Town to cheer as contingents of veterans and veteran related organizations marched by. Additionally, color guards and bands from several schools participated. Scheduled to last one hour, it took 55 minutes for all of the units to march by.

The Post mounted a color guard which led Comrades, Sisters and their families over the 3/4 mile route.

Next year the parade committee is planning to honor Gulf War Veterans.



A warm welcome to our new members and those who have transferred in since July 1, 2012.

Joshua Aussems	Donald Baker	Vinson Batie
Ronnie Brown II	Wendy Campbell	Brian Cohen
Michael Eggleston	Vernon Eubanks	Nathaniel Hall
Scott Harman	Randall Hobbie	Phyllis Lawson
Raymond Lush	James Pepin	Iajaira Perez
Jennifer Rivera	Wayne Rohm	William Scott Jr.
Keith Shonkwiler	Harry Stevens	Robert Tanner

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graves. Plan on arriving between 11am and 11:30am. Val Nealey will be sending directions when it gets closer to December 15th. This is a moving experience that you and your family should make part of your holiday tradition. With your help, our local heroes will be remembered this Holiday Season. If you are interested in attending, please contact Valerie Nealey at 703-368-7636 or jvnealey@verizon.net.

We are very close in reaching our goal of 100% membership. If you have not paid your dues, please forward the \$20 to the Auxiliary Treasurer, Elanor Doczi at 7415 Roxbury Ave., Manassas, VA 20109.

The VFW National Home for Children collects Campbell's soup labels. We are very happy to receive any labels from the public. Please bring the labels to the Post.

Please have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year holiday.

Respectfully,
Mary Corkhill



VFW Post 7589 and Ladies Auxiliary 7589
announce 2012/2013 education award winners

Voice of Democracy (Grades 9-12): Audio essay on the topic:

“Is Our Constitution Still Relevant?”

- First Place: Melissa Angell, 11th Grade, Osbourn Park HS
- Second Place: Jeremy Nelson, 11th Grade, Battlefield HS
- Third Place: Timothy Cook, 12th Grade, Seton School
- Honorable Mention: Alexandra Vassel, 12th Grade, Battlefield HS
- Honorable Mention: Steven Tian, 9th Grade, Battlefield HS

Patriot’s Pen (Grades 6-8): Essay on the topic:

“What I Would Tell America’s Founding Fathers.”

- First Place: Elizabeth Shope, 7th Grade, Parkside Middle School
- Second Place: Jaden Beard, 7th Grade, Metz Middle School
- Third Place: Saloni Deshpande, 7th Grade, Manassas Christian School
- Honorable Mention: Sarah Marchesseault, 8th Grade, Seton School
- Honorable Mention: Erica Campos, 6th Grade, Mayfield Intermediate School

National Citizenship Education Teacher Award

- Grades K-5: Jennifer Boaz, 4th Grade Teacher, Round Elementary School
- Grades 6-8: Lisa Zilka, Language Arts Teacher, Parkside Middle School
- Grades 9-12: Kristen Schaffer, English Teacher, Osbourn Park HS

The winners will receive their prizes and be recognized at our annual Awards Ceremony on Monday night, December 10 at 7:00 at the Post Home. Northern Virginia Community College Film Professor Bryan Brown will be the featured speaker.

The Manassas Ballet Theatre has generously agreed to award free tickets to The Nutcracker for the First Place winners and their families and all of the winning teachers. The Manassas Ballet will be honoring VFW Post 7589 member and World War II veteran John Gregory on "Salute to the Military" night, December 14 at 7:30 pm, at the Hylton Performing Arts Center in Manassas.

This year we received 205 entries in the Patriot's Pen essay contest and 15 entries in the Voice of Democracy competition. We have recognized Teachers of the year in Grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. The judging was done by a committee of teachers from Prince William Academy in Lake Ridge.

Schools taking part in the contest this year included Osbourn Park High School, Battlefield High School, Stonewall Jackson High School, Seton School, Metz Middle School, Parkside Middle School, Mayfield Intermediate School and Manassas Christian School. In addition we received an entry from a home schooled student.

The Post 7589 Youth Committee would like to thank everyone who helped with our fundraising this year.

Anyone who can help out on December 10, please contact me at 703 220-4545.

Pete MacLeod, Youth Chair.



Post Home addition progress — Slow but sure — projected completion by the end of the year.



New railings complement the new ramp and stairs.



A worker prepares to install the HVAC trunk into the attic. Rumor has it with the added capacity we'd be able to age meat inside.



Both office entrances are on the far wall where two windows were removed.

**Need help with filing VA
claims?**

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

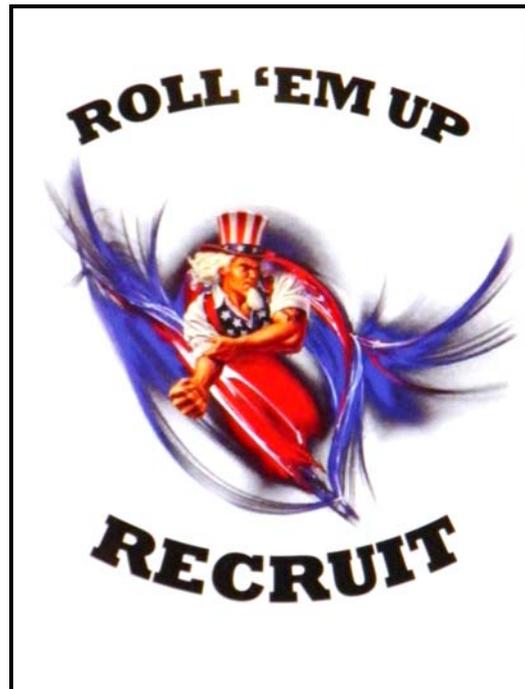
Post 7589
9304 Centreville Rd.
Manassas, Virginia

APPOINTMENTS PLEASE

703-359-1210

or

kim.isler@dvs.virginia.gov



Summary of VFW Post 7589/Ladies Auxiliary Youth Committee meeting of 11/15/12

The meeting began at 7:00 pm at the VFW 7589 Post Home.

Present: Pete MacLeod, Ron Link, Ron Knowles.

1) 12/10/12 Awards Ceremony, 7 pm at the Post Home.

- A) Seating arrangements: Podium in the middle, students seated to the left, VFW Officers and guests to the right, parents in the front rows of the audience.
- B) 3-5 VFW and Auxiliary members will be greeters as guests arrive handing them a program as they seat them.
- C) Two VFW members will be stationed in the parking lot. Ron Link will arrange with the Fire Dept. for us to use spaces adjacent to our parking lot. Dentist office can handle the overflow.
- D) Refreshments will be provided by the Ladies Auxiliary.
- E) We are still working on getting the Osbourn Park HS Color Guard to present the colors.
- F) Speaker is film professor Bryan Brown of Northern Virginia Community College.
- G) We are still working on getting a World War II Veteran to speak.
- H) Prizes will be the same amount as last year:
 - 1. VOD: \$500, \$300, \$200
 - 2. PP: \$300, \$200, \$100
 - 3. Teachers: \$200 each.
- I) The comrades at their 11/5 meeting authorized the Post Executive Board to make final cash allocation of not more than \$1200.00 to fund the prizes. The Youth budget is currently over \$1600.00 with several donations pending. \$2350.00 will be needed for the prizes and printing of programs.
- J) Ron Link said he, Rick and Wayne will try and neat the hall up early on 12/10. Members of the Youth Committee

should try and get to the Hall between 5 and 5:30 pm for set-up.

K) Order of Program:

1. Master of Ceremonies – Pete MacLeod
2. Color Guard and/or Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Prayer from Chaplain
4. Greetings from Commander Ron Link
5. Greetings from Ladies Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill.
6. Tentative plans for words from WWII Veteran.
7. Address by NVCC Professor Bryan Brown.
8. Ron and Mary will hand out prizes for awards.
9. Patriots Pen Awards
 - a) Honorable Mentions
 - b) Third Place
 - c) Second Place
 - d) First Place with reading of winning essay.
10. Voice of Democracy Awards
 - a) Honorable Mentions
 - b) Third Place
 - c) Second Place
 - d) First Place with reading of winning audio-essay.
11. Teacher of the Year awards
 - a) K-5 winner
 - b) 6-8 winner
 - c) 9-12 winner
12. Closing remarks from Commander Link.
13. Pictures: By category and then a group picture of all the prize winners. Guest Speaker, Commander and President included in the pictures.
14. Refreshments.

2) Business Solicitation

- A) We will continue through 12/3.

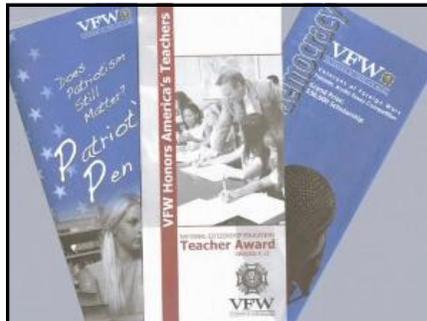
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- B) Peter MacLeod will approach Manassas Ballet for tickets for student winners and teachers for the Nutcracker.
 - C) We have \$85.00 worth of gift certificates on hand now.
- 3) Results of Education contests: 205 Patriots Pen entries, 15 Voice of Democracy entries, 4 Teacher of the Year nominations. Schools taking part this year: Battlefield High School, Stonewall Jackson High School, Osbourn Park High School, Seton School, Metz Middle School, Parkside Middle School, Mayfield Intermediate School, Manassas Christian School, one home schooled student.
- 4) Scouting – Ron Knowles: They are still working on the trip to Richmond for Eagle Scouts early in the new year. This replaces the old trips to Valley Forge. Ron said that it was Cub Scout Pack 1355 from the Bennett Elementary School that helped with the flag placements on Veterans Day. Pete MacLeod will write a thank you letter to Cubmaster Ralph Cataneo.
- 5) There was no old or new business discussed.
- 6) The next scheduled Youth Committee meeting is on Thursday night, January 17, 2013, at 7pm at the Post Home.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by Pete MacLeod



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Veterans Memorial. I also appreciated their participation in placing the flags on the graves of those veterans that are interred at Manassas cemetery.

Over 205 entries were received in our Educational Program which includes Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, and the Teacher of the Year awards. It is a monumental task to narrow down the entries to a first place, second place, third place and two honorable mentions in each category. I want to personally thank Peter MacLeod for his hard work in this endeavor. It really shows what a small Post can do with very dedicated comrades. A job well done.

I am looking forward to seeing all who will be attending our Annual Holiday Dinner on December 16th.

Yours in Comradeship
Ron

**JOIN US FOR OUR HOLIDAY
DINNER CELEBRATION AT OUR
NEWLY EXPANDED POST HOME.**

DECEMBER 16— 3 TO 7 PM

**THE POST WILL PROVIDE MEAT
AND SOME VEGGIES.**

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE.



**THE OFFICERS OF BOTH POST
7589 AND AUXILIARY 7589 WISH
YOU AND YOURS A SAFE AND
HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.**

**OUR THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO
HELPED TO MAKE 2012 A VERY
SUCCESSFUL YEAR.**