

CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589
Manassas, Virginia
June 2016



Photo by Rick Raskin

Lou Filippone, Terry Bursey and Robert Punihaole on April 30 at J. E. Rice Hardware. Also present were Pete MacLeod and Rick Raskin. It was a cold day but we did achieve 100% +1.

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CANNON NEWS—2015 National VFW Publications Silver Award
2013, 2014 and 2015 Clair B. Poff Public Relations Award for
Most Outstanding Post Publication/Newsletter, VFW Department of Virginia

Commander's Message



Pete MacLeod

As we celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589 in Manassas, let's think for a few minutes about what those 74 World War One and World War Two veterans did on June 6, 1946. They began an organization that has served the Manassas / Prince William area for 70 years. That is 70 years! Without going into details, the first Commander, John Gregory has to get some pretty heavy credit for steering the Post through those first few tough years, and he kept coming back for more! In fact,

we owe a debt of gratitude to all the Commanders over the years for agreeing to take the position and then finishing their terms. From the days when Post 7589 put flags out all over Manassas to the years of having more than 200 local students enter the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy essay contests, to the months when more than 25 local veterans have been helped by Post Service Officers, Post 7589 has always been serving the greater Manassas community. And, we are going to do our best to continue that tradition!

With Father's Day just around the corner, I thought this would be a good time to look at some great military books. These are my opinions but most are fairly well known and are still in print and available and make great gifts and great summer reading. For the Revolutionary War, a great read is "Washington, The Indispensable Man" by James Thomas Flexner.

For the Civil War I don't think you can go wrong with Shelby Foote's three volume history. But my all time Civil War favorite is Bruce Catton's "A Stillness at Appomattox" about the final year of the War. His description of the fighting in the Wilderness is some of the most gripping material I have ever read. The best treatment of the battle of Gettysburg is in my opinion a relatively new book by Gettysburg College Professor Allen Guelzo, "Gettysburg, The Last Invasion."

For World War One I loved the multi experiences of both civilians and soldiers contained in "The Beauty and the Sorrow" by Peter Englund.

World War Two has so many books to choose from but if I had to pick one it would be "The Rising Sun" by John Toland. "Day of Infamy" by Walter Lord is a close second with "Hitler Moves East" by Robert Carruthers a close third.

The Korean War for years had few notable books but in recent years many have come out and I think the best is "The Coldest Winter" by David Halberstam.

Vietnam presents another million choices but I have always liked a kind of pre-Vietnam history called "Street Without Joy" by Bernard Fall which shows the problems the French encountered in the early 1950's were very similar to ones the Americans ran into in the 60's. I also think Tim O'Brien's "The Things They Carried" is excellent.

Desert Storm: Rick Atkinson's "Crusade" is very good, and for The Cold War, I think the story of the end of the Soviet Union in David Remnick's "Lenin's Tomb" is a book you will have trouble putting down.

I don't really have a favorite about Iraq and Afghanistan but "No Easy Day" by Mark Owen is interesting. The best one on 9-11 is "102 Minutes" by Tim Dwyer and Kevin Flynn; that will put chills down your spine even today.

If you disagree with some of these choices or have your own favorites to add, shoot me an email at jeanandpeter-macleod@verizon.net

Youth News and Notes for June, 2016

It was a great night Thursday, May 12 was at the Osbourn Park High School auditorium for the Change of Command and Awards for the Navy JROTC. The man who started the Navy JROTC program at OP, Captain James Porter, was guest speaker. An amazing Navy pilot he had 5,000 flight hours and 1,000 carrier landings in his Naval career which stretched from 1968 to 1993. He currently is the President of the Board of the Freedom Museum. What impressed me most about the cadets was their maturity and military bearing even though they are still high school students. The young woman who won the Post 7589 VFW Bronze Medal, Elise Dettmann, will be Gold Company Commander next school year. She was thrilled to receive her medal and certificate from Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill and myself. There was the usual posing for photos afterwards but again, the impression that stayed with you was the poise and maturity of these young people who have already begun their military careers. And let's give some credit to the guy who runs the JROTC program at OP, Lt. Commander James Ogawa, USN (Retired).

Another note from that night: the young student who was introducing the awards gave an excellent capsule history of the VFW as she introduced Ms. Dettmann, saying the VFW is known for its patriotic and social objectives. To win the award Ms. Dettmann had to show leadership characteristics both in and out of uniform and display officer potential while having a minimum grade of B in NJROTC.

We tried but the wet and cold Manassas Spring carried the day! The Flag Retirement scheduled for May 21 was rained out. We have a new date of Saturday, June 25 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the Post. The retirement process will include a half hour of Flag Education led by my wife, Auxiliary member and former Prince William Academy teacher Jean MacLeod. Both the Cub Scouts of Pack 1355 in Manassas and more than a dozen Girl Scouts and Brownies from Bristow will be attending. Any member of the Post or Auxiliary who would like to help out is more than welcome. We start setting up at 8:00 am.

A big thank you to Post 7589 Quartermaster Rick Raskin for agreeing to be interviewed by several students from All Saints School in Manassas, working on a class project. Rick spoke about his experiences while serving with the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

(Continued on page 3)

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Preliminary work continues on the Patriot’s Pen and Voice of Democracy essay contests for the new school year. A reminder that students who want to get an early jump on things can print out an application form right from the www.vfw.org national website. The website also contains the winning essays from

2015-16. Entries can be turned in any time between now and November 1, 2016 to the Post.

Our next Post 7589 / Auxiliary Youth Committee meeting is set for Tuesday, June 21 at the Post Hall at 7:00 pm. Any member of the Post or Auxiliary interested in working on outreach to youth in the Manassas area is encouraged to attend.

Auxiliary President



Our 2015-2016 year will be coming to a close on June 30th and I want to thank the members of the Auxiliary and Post for a very successful year. Thank you for your assistance, participation and dedication to this organization and to our Post for allowing us to complete our mission for our Veterans. I wish the Post and Auxiliary the very best at the upcoming Department Convention and, of course, a successful 2016-2017 year.

The Post will be celebrating its 70th anniversary on June 4, 2016 with several distinguished guests in attendance. A celebration program will start off the evening at 5:30 pm with dinner being served at 6:30 pm. Social time is scheduled following the dinner.

The Department Convention will be June 16th - 19th at the Ramada Williamsburg East. This is a new location for this convention due to Fort Magruder’s major renovation. The Auxiliary Department President’s Luncheon, on Friday, June 17th, will be at Fort Magruder. Bus transportation will be provided. This Department annual year-end event is held to celebrate the achievements of Auxiliaries & Posts by accepting awards for the 2015-2016 year. In lieu of a banquet, we will have a reception/dance with music provided by a DJ. Free admission to all members attending the Convention. Note: Cheri Sizemore is a candidate running for Department Guard. She needs your support.

The members of the Auxiliary would like to thank our 8th District President, Sheila Hunter, for installing 7589 Auxiliary Officers for the 2016-2017 year. The installation was held during the joint session at the May 2nd monthly meeting. The new Officers will take their positions after the Department Convention in June.

On May 30, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation deeming June 14th as National Flag Day. President Wilson stated that he selected this day because “It is the anniversary of the day upon which the flag of the United States was adopted by the Congress as the emblem of the Union” and he wrote, “On that day we rededicate ourselves to the nation, ‘one and inseparable’ from which every thought that is not worthy of our fathers’ first

vows in independence, liberty, and right shall be excluded and in which we shall stand with united hearts.” So please don’t forget June 14th as a special day for our National Flag. Our independence and unity, as a nation, is represented by our flag. The flag has become a powerful symbol of Americanism and is flown proudly. Please fly your flag to show your patriotism.

A special thanks to Mr. Lyle Stever and Ms. Kylie Spicer for all your hard work in assisting the Auxiliary with setting up and putting items in the shed after our Yard Sale. We wouldn’t have had a successfully day without your assistance. Thank you from all of us.

The VFW National Home for Children is a community open to families of active-duty military personnel, veterans and descendants members of the VFW and its Auxiliary. The family can be one or both parents with one or more children. The National Home provides a stable and secure environment during a deployment, recovery from a crisis and dealing with life’s challenges. It also helps to keep a family whole during vocational rehabilitation. The Labels for Education, (Campbell Soup labels we have been collecting over the years) will come to an end on **July 11, 2016**. The National Home needs 107,683 labels to purchase their final van before the completion of this campaign. Please assist us in achieving this goal.

If you know of any member who needs assistance, please let us know. Also, for any individuals or family members who are ill or hospitalized, please keep them in your prayers.

Respectfully,

Mary Corkhill
Auxiliary President



Post achieves All-State for 2015-16

Once again due to the hard work of our members the Post achieved All State status in the Department of Virginia. All State is awarded to the top performing Posts according to the following criteria:

2015-2016 ALL STATE TEAM

There can be a maximum of **30 Posts** on The All-State Team.

The **30** All State Posts will receive an All State Post Banner.

For a Post to be eligible, it must have reached 100% plus of their Membership Quota by June 30, 2016

The Post Quartermaster must be bonded.

The Post must have been inspected by October 31, 2015.

The Post Commander must attend each District Meeting or have an authorized member attend.

The Post Commander or designated Post Officer must attend a Department or District School of Instruction.

All Audit Reports must be turned into State Headquarters as required by Section 218 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.

Posts with less than 50 members are not eligible for the All State Team. To be eligible the Post must increase their membership to 50 members. The Post will then be classified as 100%.

The Post must participate in the following programs:

- Buddy Poppy Program purchase minimum of 5 poppies per member
- Voice of Democracy Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging)

- Patriot's Pen Program (must submit a student to the District level for District judging)
- Teacher of the Year Program (must submit at least one Teacher to the District Level for District judging)
- Department Map Fund (must make a \$100.00 donation to Department MAP)
- Have a Post Service Officer appointed.

The Post must have submitted the following reports at least once during the first half of the year (May 1 thru October 31) and once during the second half (November 1 thru April 30) Hospital Report

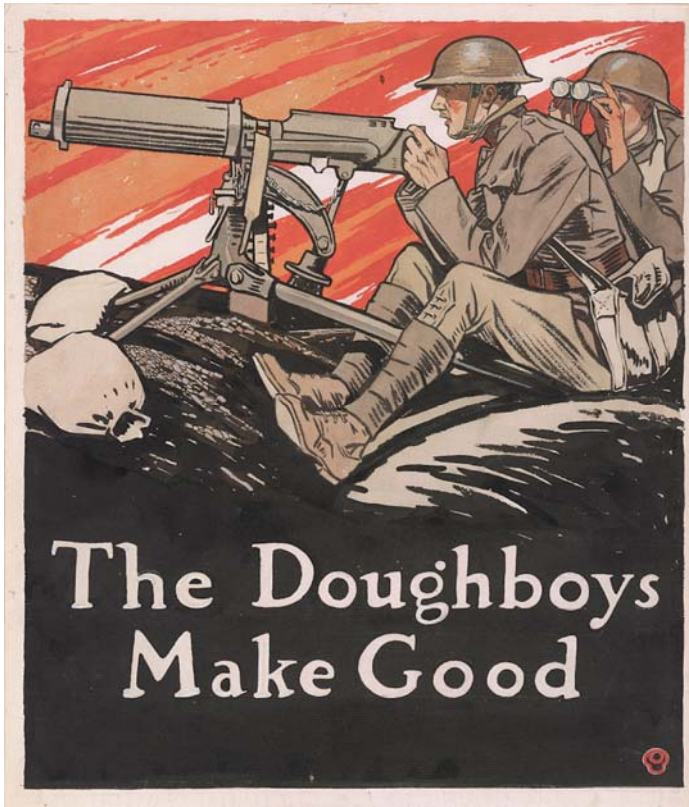
- Americanism Report
- Community Activities Report
- Safety Report
- Youth Activities Report

Post must submit a Community Service Record Book for judging by 5pm on May 13, 2016

The All State Commanders and All State Quartermasters that achieved All State status by May 13, 2016 will be individually recognized at the Awards Program during the State Convention. The Remaining All State Commanders and All State Quartermasters will be recognized at their next District Meeting.

Many thanks to all of our members who worked so hard to help us achieve this prestigious award.





"The Doughboys Make Good" Edward Penfield (1918)

WWI, Through Artists' Eyes

Library of Congress Exhibition Explores How Artists Viewed the Great War

By Mark Hartsell
Editor, Library of Congress Gazette

Illustrator Charles Dana Gibson had a simple directive for the artists working for him in the U.S. government during World War I: "Draw 'til it hurts."

They did. Over the course of two-plus years, Gibson and his colleagues at the federal Division of Pictorial Publicity produced hundreds of patriotic and propaganda works designed to help recruit troops, sell bonds and shape opinion about the war – a then-unprecedented government marketing campaign.

"Nothing like it had been seen before," said Katherine Blood of the Prints and Photographs Division at the Library of Congress. "They felt that we really needed to fight for public opinion, the hearts and minds. At that particular time, it wasn't a universally popular thing."

The Library this month opened a new exhibition exploring how government-funded artists like Gibson and other, independent artists viewed World War I and tried to sway public perceptions of it.

"World War I: American Artists View the Great War" opened May 7 in the Graphic Arts Galleries of the Jefferson Building and closes May 6, 2017. Blood and Sara Duke, also of the Prints and Photographs Division, led the curatorial team. Betsy Nahum-Miller of the Interpretive Programs Office is the exhibition director.

The exhibition features 25 fine prints, drawings, cartoons, posters and photographs. An additional 70 photographs in a slide show – many scanned from glass-plate negatives for the exhibition – illustrate the service of soldiers, nurses, journalists and factory workers, from the home front to the front lines.

The United States entered the war on April 6, 1917 – more than 2.5 years after it began – and, within days, the federal Committee on Public Information and its Division of Pictorial Publicity began working to support the war effort.

In an era of lower literacy and before television and mass radio broadcasts, that meant art: strong images, plastered everywhere – buildings, billboards, interiors, buses, trolley cars.

"The thinking was that audiences might miss or ignore text," Blood said. "But you're inevitably going to encounter the billboard, you're going to see the poster."

Gibson recruited many of the best artists from the golden age of illustration: George Bellows, Wladyslaw Benda, Joseph Pennell, William Allen Rogers and hundreds more.

In less than two years, the division's 300 artists produced more than 1,400 designs.

"There were thoughtful and fantastic artists who were making a good living as illustrators for the magazine industry," Duke said. "They could have just turned their backs on it and said, 'We're not really for the war.' But they chose to fall in and produced some fantastic things."

One of the most prominent was James Montgomery Flagg, creator of perhaps the most-famous image of Uncle Sam. In 1916, the story goes, Flagg hoped to avoid paying a fee for a model, looked in the mirror and drew himself as Uncle Sam. He used the image again the next year for an "I Want You" recruitment poster – one of the most famous posters ever printed. His Uncle Sam appears again in his work for the division and in the exhibition.

In their works, Flagg and his colleagues warned of the dangers of inaction ("Wake up, America!" reads a poster depicting a sleeping beauty dressed in red, white and blue), sought to harness the skills of the civilian population ("Stenographers! Washington needs you!") and attempted to shape perceptions.

In 1918, Bellows created a series of works depicting German outrages, such as the execution of British nurse Edith Cavell. Cavell had tended to soldiers from both sides but was caught helping Allied soldiers escape German-occupied Belgium. Bellows' work imagines Cavell's last moments before she faces the

firing squad.

Not all artists represented in the exhibition worked for the Division of Pictorial Publicity. Not all even supported the war.

Russian immigrant Maurice Becker worked for “The Masses,” a socialist publication, and as a conscientious objector declined to participate in the war in any fashion.

Some 450 conscientious objectors – including Becker – were imprisoned in Leavenworth, Kansas. There, he documented the mistreatment of prisoners that he witnessed – a charcoal drawing shows prisoners, stripped to the waist, strung up by their wrists.

“Here was somebody with artistic talent who is traumatized by his experience and working through that trauma with some very

powerful renderings of his experience,” Duke said.

Other artists worked independently or for other organizations. Kerr Eby served with an artillery unit in France; Samuel J. Woolf served there as a war correspondent. They, and others, documented life and death on the front lines, as they witnessed it.

“So often, art gets overlooked as an ‘extra,’ ” Duke said. “Together, these photographs and artworks reflect the American experience through art.”

The exhibition is made possible by the Swann Foundation for Caricature and Cartoon. An online version of the exhibition [is] available at:

<https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/american-artists-view-the-great-war/online-exhibition.html>

Curators’ Picks

Katherine Blood and Sara Duke of the Prints and Photographs Division highlight several items from the Library’s new exhibition.



First Call (1917)

James Montgomery Flagg

Virtually every American knows Flagg’s

Uncle Sam but how many realize it was created just before the United States entered World War I and repurposed during World War II? We are fascinated by the artist’s story of using his own face for the now-iconic image of Uncle Sam to save on modeling fees.



C. O.’s [sic] in Leavenworth (1919)

Maurice Becker

During World War I, more than 64,000 men refused to don a uniform on religious and political grounds. In 1918, the Army sent artist Maurice Becker, along with 449 other men to Fort Leavenworth in Kansas. He poignantly used his skill as an artist to show his direct experience of their imprisonment,

torture and later, resistance.



Facing the Future (1919)

C. F. Chambers

Though not by a well-known artist, this stunning poster is one of our favorites. Through a series of visual choices, it conveys complex content and emotions. For example, the artist leads our eyes past the foreground using progressively brighter colors until they surround the amputee veteran, haloed in white and literally standing on a threshold.



The Murder of Edith Cavell (1918)

George Bellows

Bellows genuinely heart-wrenching of the Red Cross nurse’s last moments connects us to the story of

a specific, living and heroic human being. His masterful telling reads as nightmarishly surreal and stage-like. Bellows famously used a geometrical proportional system called “Dynamic Symmetry” and this composition’s drama is heightened by such features as the steep, diagonal staircase.

From the Trenches

By Paul Chase



SHRINKING MILITARY COMPENSATION

To maintain my connection with current events within the military I subscribe to the Air Force Times. The May 30 2016 issue tells the story of outrageous cuts to military benefits and pay that are on the horizon. The following is a brief review of what is happening: (1) Military pay raises have fallen below private sector rates for the past three years. The 2017

budget proposes a 1.6% pay raise will be the seventh consecutive year the raise has been below 2%. If this holds up an E-4 will earn \$800 less than a civilian counterpart. (2) Smaller Housing stipends. There is a projected 5% reduction in housing allowances starting in 2017. For a married E-4 living outside Ft Bragg that will mean a reduction of \$35 a month and an E-4 outside Camp Pendleton a reduction of \$67 a month. Law makers are toying with reducing the Post 9/11 GI Bill housing compensation. (3) Smaller Commissary Benefit. Major reform in proposed Defense Policy which will reduce Commissary benefits by raising prices to cover operating costs. There is also a proposal to "privatize" commissary operations and we all know what that means. (4) Paying for Health Care. A proposed overhaul of the military health care is under consideration which will call for active duty families to pay enrollment fees for health care. Under the proposals a family will pay a \$600 enrollment fee and an individual \$300. Pharmacy copayments charges will also be raised. (5) Military Retirement. I've previously discussed this but it amounts to a minimum of a 5 - 10 % reduction at 20 years of service.

I genuinely appreciate the budget situation. But cutting the compensation of service personnel without first holding contractors who gouge the government accountable is outrageous. If we are so over compensated let's let the "market place" prevail and delete the multi-billion dollar DOD Recruiting program and survive with the flood of recruits coming to sign up for our huge salaries and benefits.

Note: See [Resolution 408](#) to be voted at the 2016 VFW National Convention.

SUPPORT FOR HABITAT OR HUMANITY

As the Post 7589 representative for the Inter Service Club Council of Manassas Comrade Paul Chase learned of an opportunity for the Post to make a significant contribution to Habitat for Humanity of Manassas. Lord and Taylor needed two individuals to help promote their annual "Charity Day" program. Paul and his brother Joel participated by donating a few hours at the Lord and Taylor stores in Tysons and Fair Oaks Malls handing out promotional material to customers about the Charity Day program. In

return for their efforts Lord and Taylor is donating \$4,000 of building material to the Habitat for Humanity Home under renovation in Manassas.

UPDATE ON POST 7589 ALUMINUM CAN TAB COLLECTION PROGRAM

Our goal for 2016 was 200,000 tabs. From January of 2016 to the last week of May we have collected 232,000. Our grand total since starting the effort in April 2014 is 642,500. Multiple individuals and corporations have made amazing contributions. Just last week Comrade Leo Stoltz brought in 10,000. This week we received 16,000 more from Leo's friend Sam Petrie of the Convert-A-Ball Corporation in Sidney, Nebraska. Over and above providing funds for the Shriners Boston Burn Medical Center this program keeps us and the community energized and focused on helping those in need

Significant Tab Donations

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Manassas Host Lions Club | Rankins Hardware, Warrenton |
| Tractor Supply, Manassas | Giant Food Haymarket |
| Chicago, IL Fire Department | Warrenton Walmart |
| Hampton Inn, Manassas | Linton Hall School Bristow |
| Home Depot, Warrenton | Shoprite Foods, Manassas |
| Grace United Methodist Day School, Manassas | Country Chevrolet, Warrenton |
| Benedictine Sisters Convent, Bristow | St. Anthony's School Chantilly |
| Convert-A-Ball Corporation in Sidney, Nebraska | Comrade Leo Stoltz |





Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 7589

70th Anniversary Celebration

(VFW Post 7589 Members Only)

Guest Speaker

Delegate Rich Anderson

June 4, 2016, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

9304 Centreville Road

Manassas, VA 20110

See www.vfw7589.org for details



Patriotic Art Winner — Submitted by Catherine Henebery, 16, from Seaton School

Service Officer

The Service Officer program exists to help and serve all veterans here in the Manassas/Prince William area. If you know of a veteran in need please contact me and let me know. My number one goal is providing the best service to veterans and their families. Please do not hesitate to speak to **your** Veteran Service Officer and find out just what I might be able to do for you!

My goal is simple. I want to take care of veterans with the greatest level of service that my resources will allow. Thank you for your service!

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach me at the VSO phone line of: (Office): 1-703-743-0151 or Email: so2@vfw7589.org Thank you.

Stephen A. Meade
Post Service Officer
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 7589
(Office) 1-703-743-0151
(Cell) 1-703-408-0875
(Email) SO2@vfw7589.org



TICKETS ON SALE AT THE POST



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS BASS PRO RAFFLE

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia and Bass Pro Shops of Hampton Roads proudly announce a 50 prize raffle with the winners being determined at the VFW State Convention in Williamsburg on June 18, 2016. The fifty prizes are listed on the back of each ticket. The value of the 50 prizes is approximately \$20,000. As a winning ticket is drawn it will be placed back in the drum to have a chance at the remaining prizes. Tickets are \$5.00 each and we are asking each VFW member to purchase at least one ticket and sell as many as you can. Tickets are available from your Post Commander or State Headquarters. All proceeds will be used to support Veterans Programs and Activities.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. HENRY GOLDEN BOY .22 CAL | 26. LANDMAN FIRE PIT |
| 2. YETI ROADIE | 27. BASS PRO RAIN JACKET |
| 3. SAVAGE 16 .243 CAL | 28. \$ 500.00 BPS GIFT CARD |
| 4. QUANTUM BAITCASTER OUTFIT | 29. BASS PRO CAMP KITCHEN |
| 5. THUNDER HAWK CROSSBOW | 30. \$ 500.00 BPS GIFT CARD |
| 6. OA OCEANMASTER REEL W/B | 31. ORVIS FLY OUTFIT |
| 7. RUGER 10/22 .22 CAL | 32. YETI TRUNDRA 45 |
| 8. FRONTIER REVOLVER .45 CAL LC | 33. MASTERBUILT ELECT. SMOKER |
| 9. COSTA 580P SUNGLASSES | 34. REDHEAD 10 GUN SAFE |
| 10. \$ 500.00 BPS GIFT CARD | 35. BROWNING BPS 12GA |
| 11. MINN KOTA TROLLING MOTOR | 36. TRAEGER PELLET GRILL |
| 12. CHAR-BROIL PROPANE GRILL | 37. PENN BATTLE II & OA BAG |
| 13. TEKNETICS METAL DETECTOR | 38. BROWNING ROD STORAGE |
| 14. BUSHNELL BINOCULARS | 39. YETI 125 |
| 15. \$ 500.00 BPS GIFT CARD | 40. \$500.00 BPS GIFT CARD |
| 16. REMINGTON 870 | 41. BASS PRO BAITCAST |
| 17. RUGER MK111 | 42. BUSHMASTER .223MSR |
| 18. ASCEND C156 CANOE | 43. WINCHESTER SX3 13GA |
| 19. PARKER ENFORCER C'BOW | 44. BROWNING SPINNING CB |
| 20. \$ 500.00 BPS GIFT CARD | 45. YETI 65 |
| 21. BROWNING TWO BURNER | 46. \$ 250.00 BPS GIFT CARD |
| 22. YETI HOPPER 20 | 47. UBIRITE .45CAL PISTOL |
| 23. TIKKA T-3 .308 CAL | 48. PENN SENATOR R&T |
| 24. HENRY BIG BOY .44 MAG | 49. BROWNING MAXUS 12GA 1,349.99 |
| 25. BASS PRO 4 P'SN TENT | 50. \$ 250.00 BPS GIFT CARD |

From the



Senate Hearing on Pending Health Care Bills

On Tuesday [May 24], the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee held a hearing to discuss several bills on veterans health care and benefits, including legislation to expand the Veterans Choice Program, expedite the disability compensation appeals process, and improve mental health care programs for women veterans. VFW Senior Legislative Associate Carlos Fuentes offered the VFW's support for many of the bills being considered and offered recommendations to improve others. Fuentes urged VA to develop a comprehensive plan to reduce the more than 450,000 appeals backlog before reforming the process for future appeals. VA Deputy Secretary Sloan Gibson and members of the committee also discussed Secretary McDonald's recent comments on how VA measures wait times. To read the testimony or view the webcast, visit: <http://www.veterans.senate.gov/hearings/pending-legislation-052416>.

House Advances Veterans Legislation:

On Monday [May 23], the House of Representatives advanced several veterans bills. These include the *VA Health Center Management Stability and Improvement Act*, which would require VA to develop and carry out a plan to hire permanent directors at each VA medical center; bills to rename VA outpatient clinics and U.S. post offices after heroic veterans; and a bill to grant veterans the opportunity to appeal Caregivers Program eligibility determinations to an independent contractor. The House has passed several veterans bills in the past couple of months, and awaits Senate action on a large veterans health care and benefits bill before negotiation on a final veterans bill that would be considered by Congress and sent to the president. However, the House has failed to pass legislation to expand the Caregivers Program to pre-9/11 veterans who suffer from injuries and illnesses which limit their ability to live independently. The VFW urges its members and supporters to call on the Senate to pass the *Veterans First Act*, which includes language to expand the Caregivers Program, and tell the House to act on legislation to expand the Caregivers Program to veterans of all eras. Stay tuned to the Action Corps Weekly for updates.

Democratic Leadership Roundtable:

Four times a year the House Democratic leadership hosts a veterans service organization (VSO) roundtable in an effort to stay connected with the issues that most concern the veterans community. The most recent roundtable took place on Wednesday, May 25. Topics the VFW discussed were the legislative action Congress must take to continue to improve veterans' access to care. This includes making it easier for VA to hire more physicians, allowing VA outpatient clinics to have extended hours and weekend appointment options, simplify the contract process so private community doctors can more easily see veterans, and consolidate and streamline the non-VA care payment system so veterans aren't charged for care in the community that VA should pay for. We also discussed the need for increased resources to pay for

expansion of caregiver benefits, Blue Water Navy, and other benefits and services veterans and their families' need. Leaders from the Appropriations Committee committed to working more closely with VSOs so they can better understand these needs and work to find ways to fund them.

VA Proposes APRN Full Practice Authority:

The Department of Veterans Affairs is proposing a policy to allow full practice authority to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) within VA. By doing this, APRNs will be able to assess, diagnose, interpret diagnostic tests and prescribe medications for patients. Permitting full practice to APRNs is being proposed as a means of increasing access to care for veterans. APRNs are clinicians with advanced degrees and training to provide primary, acute and specialty health care services. Depending on their specialization, they are certified as nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified registered nurse anesthetists and certified nurse midwives. All VA APRNs are required to obtain and maintain current national certification. For more information on the APRN proposal, visit: <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2791>.

Brain Health Summit Focuses on TBI/PTSD:

On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week [May 24-25], One Mind — an organization led by retired Gen. Peter Chiarelli that is dedicated to promoting and supporting brain health — held a summit in Arlington, Va. Among those in attendance were employees of The Department of Veterans Affairs, National Institute of Mental Health, and The Food and Drug Administration. Panel discussions were hosted by world renowned Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) researchers, clinicians and policy analysts. The key sessions focused on the translation of science into clinical practices, standardized screening for TBI, the diagnosis of PTSD, and progress toward better diagnostic and prognostic assessments for TBI and co-morbid conditions. The conference wrapped up with talks centered on recommendations for advancing TBI/PTSD treatment and policy implementation in the future of medicine. For more information on One Mind, visit their website at: <http://onemind.org/>.

VFW Hosts U.S.-Russia Joint Commission:

On Tuesday [May 24], VFW National Commander John Biedrzycki hosted a reception for the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs at the VFW Washington Office. The commission was formed in 1992 by then Presidents George H.W. Bush and Boris Yeltsin to help thaw superpower relations around a humanitarian issue. Their meeting in Washington this week was their first in 11 years and 20th overall. The commission's purpose is to help break down bureaucratic barriers in order to help determine the fates of American and Russian MIAs from World War II through the end of the Cold War.

Happenings:

Post and Auxiliary officers installed



Photo by Jerry Martin

(L-R) QM Rick Raskin, ADJ Paul Chase, CDR Peter MacLeod, SVC Ron Link, Chaplain Joel Chase, Trustee 3 Lou Filippone, OD Kelly Williams and Installing Officer Past CDR Ron Knowles.



Photo by Stan Hunter

Chaplain - Carol Cullen, Secretary - Ann Mitchell, Conductress – Ginger Harvey, President - Mary Corkhill, Guard - Patsy Gough, Treasurer Elanor Doczi, Trustee 1 - Yvonne Sullivan, Sr. Vice President - Janet Raskin, Patriotic Instructor - Diane Zalenski, (Not pictured) Jr. Vice President - Cindy McIntyre



Photo by Rick Raskin

Auxiliary Yard Sale on May 7



Submitted Photo

Elise Dettmann with Auxiliary President Mary Corkhill receives the VFW Bronze Medal for Navy JROTC at Osborn Park HS, 5/12/16



Photo by Pete MacLeod

Joint Recruiting Day on 5/14/16 at Tractor Supply. Comrade Robert Punihaole with Commander Monte and Comrade Tina from Manassas Park Post 1811.



Photo by Pete MacLeod

Rick Raskin, Robert Punihaole and Ron Link distribute Buddy Poppies at Centreville Giant on May 27. Also assisting were Pete MacLeod and Eric Cruz.

Upcoming Events

- June 4 70th Anniversary Celebration -- 5:30 -- Post Home
- June 15 - 18 VFW Department of Virginia Convention - Ramada Inn— 500 Merrimac Trail, Williamsburg, VA (757) 585-7100
- June 22- 24 Nation's Gun Show -- Chantilly, VA -- Department of Virginia Recruiting
- June 25 Flag Retirement — Post Home — 9:00 am
- July 23 - 27 VFW National Convention - Charlotte, NC
- August 5 - 7 Department School of Instruction & Fall Council Meeting -- Williamsburg

**VA DVS AGENT SERVICE
AT POST 7589**

**2nd & 4th Thursdays
0900– 1500**

You June also visit the Fairfax office.

**11198 Lee Hwy., Ste. D4
Fairfax, VA 22030**

703-359-1210



VFW Hall



Available for:

- Baby Showers
- Birthday Parties
- Business Meetings
- Family Reunions
- Wedding Receptions

Public Rental Rates

\$200.00 for the 1st two hours
\$ 75.00 for each additional hour

*Friday & Saturday Nights minimum
Rental is 4 hours for \$400.00*

**SPECIAL RATES FOR
POST 7589 & AUXILIARY 7589 MEMBERS**

Contact: Wayne Moore 571-285-7904
Visit our website: www.vfw7589.org

Celebration Time

WE NEED YOUR HELP
To Raise Funds
for
Dee when
she is our
National President

We are in prep-mode to Host a National Event for
Our First National President from Virginia. It will be Huge!

Dee Guillory

ANY MEMBER, AUXILIARY, POST OR DISTRICT THAT MAKES A \$50 OR MORE
DONATION BY 4-30-2016, WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL CERTIFICATE AT JUNE 2016
CONVENTION AND YOUR NAME WILL GO IN A DRAWING FOR \$25.00.

Please make your check Payable to Ladies Auxiliary VFW, VA & send your
check to our Department Treasurer Debbie Martin
539 Westwood Drive, Ruckersville, VA 22968-3676
Make sure your check is earmarked "Dee's Celebration"

Any Questions or Suggestions for Fundraisers, Contact:
Ellen Stogsdill, 757-777-6275
Patricia Jurgensen, 703-754-1244
Laine Beckwith, 757-722-0235
Mary Corkhill, 703-361-8950

CANNON NEWS

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