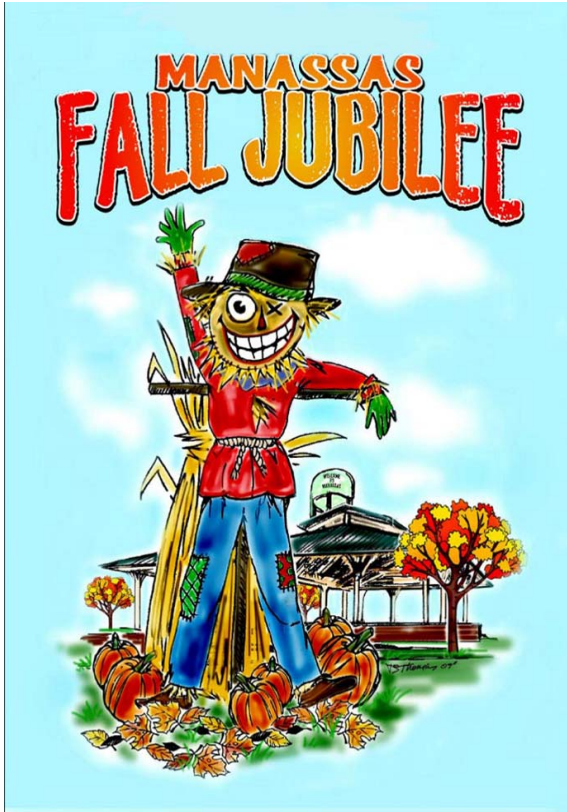


# CANNON NEWS

Francis Cannon VFW Post 7589  
Manassas, Virginia  
October 2016

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Saturday, October 1  
10 AM—5 PM

Setup starting at 9:00

Post and Auxiliary volunteers needed to distribute Trick-or-Treat bags, meet the public and help recruit new members.

POCs: Pete MacLeod and  
Mary Corkhill

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- Get your Post 7589 Challenge Coin
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- Wreaths Across America

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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



Recruiting is still highest on the list of concerns of the state of Virginia VFW. This was apparent at the District 8 meeting which our Post hosted in late September. Mike Boehme, the state VFW Senior Vice Commander and our own Rick Raskin, the state Judge Advocate, shared duties as they put on a compelling power point show. It is no surprise that VFW membership is dropping in Virginia (33,249 in 2012, 32,767 in 2016) but some of the other statistical facts stay with you:

There are about 824,000 veterans in Virginia and 55 percent of them are eligible to join the VFW. It does not take a mathematician to figure out there are a lot of potential VFW members out there who could be recruited.

The VFW has 20 percent of the Vietnam combat veterans but only 5 percent of the post 9-11 combat veterans.

The VFW has only 5 percent of the eligible female veterans.

The conclusion is easy to reach. We have to do a better job of getting new members and they are out there.

We also have to do a better job of keeping the members we have. The old "out the back door" route is one of the VFW's biggest challenges.

The Boehme/Raskin team presented other interesting facts:

The top 7 reasons our members leave the VFW:

1. Disorganized Post Leadership
2. Inadequate Orientation of new members
3. Lack of friends at the Post
4. Lack of recognition
5. Lack of Growth
6. Lack of important programs
7. Not listening to what younger members want

The same survey showed VFW members will stay if the Post is well organized, financially stable, has a direction and purpose, is

involved in important projects and promotes a sense of trust among all members and keeps all members involved in what is going on at the Post.

At Post 7589 we did a good job of recruiting last year but the challenges for this year are already popping up. We have 3 great opportunities in the next two months to recruit new members and retain the older members. On a date to be announced in October we will have a phone calling night where the Post will provide pizza and we will call members who have not renewed. On October 1<sup>st</sup> we will have a booth at the Manassas Fall Jubilee, often a recruiting gold mine as the pressure is off and you can engage potential members in relaxed conversation about VFW membership. Finally, the Buddy Poppy drives of Veteran's Day weekend (11/11 – 11/13) offer another opportunity to talk in a relaxed, non-pressure situation to potential VFW members. Mike Boehme surprised me when he said studies show that the majority of successful VFW recruiting is done informally. In other words, your neighbor, relative or co-worker who is a veteran but is not a VFW member can be recruited. More members are recruited "informally" than at VFW recruiting booths, etc. We all need to get to work and spread the word about what a great veterans organization the VFW is.



State Senior-vice Commander Mike Boehme discusses techniques to recruit and retain members at the District meeting on September 18.

The Auxiliary of our Post hit another home run on September 18<sup>th</sup> at the District 8 meeting. The meal they served was delicious and seemed to put everyone in a good mood for the meetings ahead. I want to thank the members of the Auxiliary who gave up their Sunday to make sure everything went off without a hitch: Cookie Cullen, Eleanor Doczi, Patsy Gough, Ann Mitchell, Janet Raskin, Johnnie Lynn Stever, Yvonne Sullivan and Dana Zank. This was all under the leadership of President Mary Corkhill. I also want

to thank Comrades Robert Punihaole and Terry Bursey for showing up at 10:00 am and helping move chairs and tables and then staying through the meeting that lasted past 4:00 pm. Without dedicated help like that, the Post would go nowhere.

Want to march in a parade? VFW Post 7589 has formed an Americanism Committee under the leadership of Warren Ewell. The first goal is to get members to march in the Manassas Veteran's Parade in November and the Manassas Christmas Parade in December. We are looking for parade vehicles, banners, and apparel. If you are interested and think you can help, the next meeting of the committee is at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, October 11 at the Post.

Pete MacLeod

## Auxiliary President



I am saddened to report that District President, Sheila Hunter, had a stroke on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Also, 7589 Auxiliary Treasurer, Elanor Doczi broke her elbow. Please keep them in your prayers.

I want to thank the members of the Auxiliary for assisting the Post in hosting the 8<sup>th</sup> District meeting on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. It was reported by Commander Pete that the individuals: Cookie Cullen, Elanor Doczi, Patsy Gough, Ann Mitchell, Johnnie Lynn Stever, Yvonne Sullivan and Dana Zank for doing an incredible job on the meal, serving and etc. I also would like to congratulate Ann Mitchell for stepping up and accepting the position of Trustee for the District. The next District 8 meeting will be November 19<sup>th</sup> at Fredericksburg Post 3103 (Lunch at Noon). Please bring a gift for the raffle we have for the District 8 Veterans programs.

The VFW and Auxiliary will be participating in the Manassas Fall Jubilee on October 1<sup>st</sup> from 10am-5pm. Our organization has attended this annual event for several years and looks forward to meeting and greeting the public. It also gives us the opportunity to inform everyone about our organization and our programs. We will have some freebies and will be running a raffle. Please contact me 703/361-8950 or [mcorkhill@comcast.net](mailto:mcorkhill@comcast.net) to let me know your availability to assist in helping at the booth. Thank you in advance.

I want to thank Commander Pete, Comrade Robert and Lyle Stever for assisting us with cleaning and putting items away during our Yard Sale on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Our next Yard Sale will be in May. We are starting to collect donations for the May yard sale. If you wish to donate any items, please let me know. My email is [mcorkhill@comcast.net](mailto:mcorkhill@comcast.net) or phone number is 703/361-8950.

Department Commander Tom Gimble & Department President Shema Peppers Homecoming will be held on October 22 at Post 1503 in Dale City at 6:00pm. The address is 14631 Minnieville Road. Please come and join in the fun.

I would like to remind you of our Wreaths Across America Fundraiser. The deadline for this event is November 26<sup>th</sup>. For each \$15.00 wreath you purchase, \$5.00 comes back to the Auxiliary. This allows us to assist Veterans and/or families of Veterans. The Wreaths Across America event at Quantico Cemetery will be held at noon on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you there to assist in laying wreaths.

It's that time of year when we are requesting that your dues be

paid. If you were thinking about becoming a life member, now would be a good time to do that because as of January 1, 2017, the price of a Life Membership is going up 15%. This action was approved at the National Convention in July. On the other hand, IF your annual dues are not paid by December 31, 2016, you will not be a member in good standing and you will have to re-apply for new membership. The time you spent as a member before you reapply will also start over. If you unfortunately are diagnosed with Cancer during the time you re-apply for new membership, you will not be eligible for the Cancer Grant. The waiting period for eligibility is a year and it will **NOT** cover that cancer during or after the waiting period. Please, forward your dues of \$20 to the Auxiliary Treasurer, Elanor Doczi, 7415 Roxbury Ave., Manassas, VA 20109. Thank you.

The schedule for the next three months is as follows:

- Oct 1 Annual Fall Jubilee - 10am - 5pm (**Post & Auxiliary will attend**)
- Oct 3 Post/Auxiliary Monthly Meeting - 7:30pm
- Oct 22 Commander & President's Homecoming at Post 1503 - 6:00pm
- Oct 28-30 Southern Conference, Rogers, AR
- Nov 1 VOD & PP (**Deadline**)
- Nov 3 Executive Meeting - 7pm
- Nov 7 Buddy Poppy Drive for Auxiliary - (**TBD**)
- Nov 7 Post/Auxiliary Meeting-7:30 pm
- Nov 7 Veterans Day Parade 11:00 am - Line up 9:00 - Marching in parade
- Nov 11 Veterans Day Activities - 8:30 am - Manassas Veterans Memorial - 9am Cemetery
- Nov 12 Buddy Poppy Drive 9 - 3pm / Shoppers
- Nov 19 District 8 Meeting at 1:00pm - Fredericksburg Post 3103 (Lunch at Noon)
- Nov 26 Wreaths Across America Fundraiser (**Deadline**)
- Dec 1 Executive Meeting - 7pm
- Dec 3 Manassas, VA Christmas Parade (**TBD**)
- Dec 4 VOD/Patriots Pen - Refreshments - 4pm
- Dec 5 Auxiliary Meeting - 6pm - City Tavern, 9550 Center St., Manassas
- Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Day
- Dec 17 Wreaths Across America, Quantico Cemetery - 12 noon
- Dec 17 Post's Holiday Party - 5pm - Golden Corral, 10801 Bulloch Dr., Manassas, VA



The National Home for Children is still high on our list for assisting Veterans and their families. If you wish to become a Life Member of the National Home, it is only \$35.00. The Auxiliary has a Life Membership and I would like to see other individuals become one as well.

Please keep all the individuals or family members who are ill or hospitalized in your prayers.

Respectfully,

Mary Corkhill  
VFW Auxiliary President



## Youth News and Notes

There is some very exciting news for those of us who have worked over the years trying to introduce our VFW essay contests to new schools: Youth Committee member Lou Filippone, who lives in Fairfax County, has visited schools near where he lives and has three high schools in the western section of Fairfax County on board for 2016! At the September 18 Youth Comm. meeting Lou handed over a list of the schools. Lou took away 90 Voice of Democracy applications/brochures for Westfield High School, Chantilly High School and Centreville High School. He is still working on several middle schools so he took 30 Patriot's Pen brochures/applications also. We have received single entries from these schools before but never have we officially had whole classes participating. This will go along with Seton School and Brentsville High School that are already participating. We also delivered 30 VOD applications/brochures to Osbourn High School during the third week of September. Just because we have the applications out there doesn't mean they will all come back by the November 1 contest deadline; but things are looking pretty good!

Speaking of middle schools in our area, I recently received a message from a teacher at Parkside Middle School for 30 more Patriot's Pen applications. Already on board for PP this Fall are Seton School, Metz Middle School, Manassas Christian School and Mayfield Intermediate School.

We will be handing out essay contest applications at the Manassas Fall Jubilee. If you know of a home schooled student in the area, they can enter the contest through our Post. We have had home schooled Post winners in the past.

Looking ahead, Post 7589 will be hosting the District 8 judging of the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy entries on Saturday morning, Nov. 26 from 9-12. Any member of the Post or Auxiliary is welcome to participate.

It looks like the Youth Committee will be supervising another Flag Retirement ceremony and flag education class tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 10 at the Post. Cub Scout Pack 910 is interested in participating.

If you are interested in taking part in our annual "Veterans in the Classroom" visits to area schools this Veterans Day Week, 11/7 – 11/12, there will be a sign up sheet at the October 3 General Membership Meeting, or just call me anytime at 703 220-4545.

Our next Youth Committee meeting is Tuesday evening, Oct. 18 at 7. This will be an especially important meeting as we set the agenda for the Awards Ceremony on Sunday, Dec. 4 at 4:00 pm. We will also be attempting to finalize a decision on a speaker and setting up a schedule for essay judging after the entries come in on Nov. 1.

Pete MacLeod, Youth Chair

## District Meeting



The Auxiliary provided an excellent meal. (L-R) Elanor Doczi, Dana Zank, Cookie Cullen, Yvonne Sullivan, Patsy Gough and Ann Mitchell.



District 8 Scouting Chair Stan Hunter and Youth Chair Geoff Lyster present a certificate to the District Scout of the Year Inocencio Orta who was sponsored by Manassas Park Post 1811.



Quartermaster Rick Raskin and Commander Pete MacLeod receive the membership award banner from State SVC Mike Boehme.

# Post & American Legion hold joint POW/MIA ceremony

By Rick Raskin  
Photos by Gunny Lewis

Approximately 60 people attended a POW/MIA ceremony at American Legion Post 10 on September 16. Post 7589 and the Legion held the joint ceremony at the Post 10 hall. Ten VFW members participated including Commander Peter MacLeod, SVC Ron Link and Quartermaster Rick Raskin.

The ceremony began with a posting of the colors by the Color Guard of which Rick Raskin is a member. Following a benediction by SVC Link a ceremony to set the POW/MIA table was conducted by Legion Commander and VFW Auxiliary member Rebecca Christovich as Legion 2nd Vice Commander Toni Barber explained the significance of each item on the table.

Next, a reading of the names of MIAs who's remains were recovered in 2016 was done by Gunny Lewis, Juan Rodrigues, Toni Barber, Rebecca Christovich, Ron Link and Pete MacLeod.

The ceremony concluded as piper Kevin Byrne played Amazing grace as he exited the building.

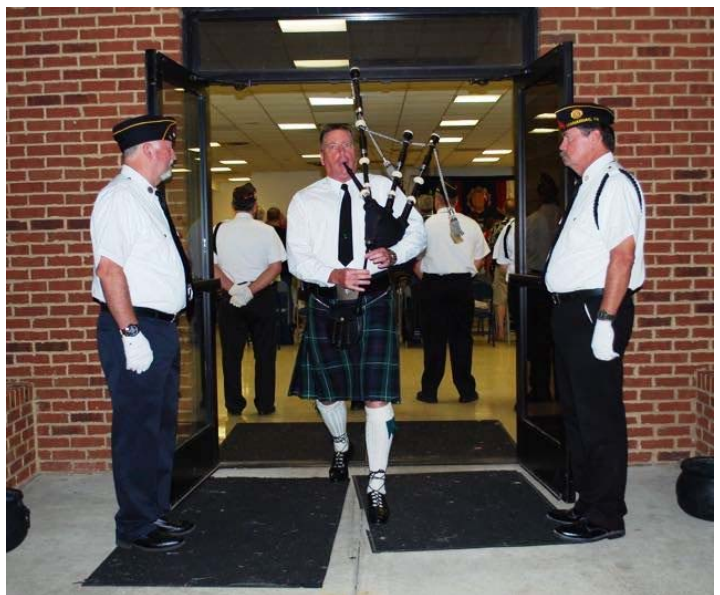
These joint efforts by the VFW and American Legion highlight the spirit of cooperation between our organizations; veterans serving veterans.



Rick Raskin salutes after placing the American Flag on the POW/MIA table.



Pete MacLeod reads the names of recovered MIAs as Juan Rodrigues, Toni Barber, Rebecca Christovich and Ron Link observe.



Color guard members hold the door as Kevin Byrne exits the hall while playing Amazing Grace.



## Diaries of Pershing, Patton Now Online

The Library of Congress Gazette  
September 23, 2016

The Library of Congress recently placed online the diaries, notebooks and address books of John J. Pershing, commander-in-chief of the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I, and the diaries of George S. Patton, a tank commander in World War I and a U.S. Army general in World War II.

These items join thousands of original materials from the World War I era that the Library has digitized and made accessible for use, ahead of the April 2017 centennial of America's entry into the Great War.



Pershing's digitized diaries, notebooks and address books describe his command of the American Expeditionary Forces in France during World War I and his post-war service as Army chief of staff until 1925. Patton's diaries, 1910-1945, illustrate his activities during the Mexican Punitive Expedition, World War I and World War II.

The entire collection of Pershing papers spans the years 1882-1971, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1904-1948. It consists of correspondence, diaries, notebooks, speeches, statements, writings, orders, maps, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, picture albums, posters, photographs, printed matter and memorabilia.



The entire collection of Patton's papers spans the years 1807-1979, with the bulk of the papers concentrated from 1904-1945. The collection documents Patton's military career, including his attendance at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point; his service on the Mexican border as a member of Pershing's Mexican Punitive Expedition; his service as an aide-de-camp to Pershing and papers spans the years 1882-1971, with later as a tank commander in World War I. The majority of

the papers chronicle Patton's World War II service.

On April 4, the Library will open a major exhibition, "Echoes of the Great War: American Experiences of World War I," to commemorate the centennial of the United States' entry into the Great War. It will close in January 2019.



Virginia Auxiliary members attended the Celebration Of American Freedom Event (CATE) in Rapid City, South Dakota. Pictured visiting Mount Rushmore are (L-R) Shema Peppers, Cathy Graham, Dee Gillory, Kim Davis, Betty Gimble, Pat Baldwin, Mary Corkhill, Pat Jergensen and Kathy Birch.

## The Freedom Museum to host 4<sup>th</sup> annual Hangar Dance

The Freedom Museum, a 501, c, (3) organization, will hold its 4th Annual 1940's style Hangar Dance and Dinner Fund Raiser on October 15, 2016 on the grounds of the Manassas Airport. The evening starts at 6:30 PM and ends at 11:00 PM. A buffet dinner, swing music (40's style) dancing, a cash bar, are included in the \$80 per person price. There will also be auctions, a raffle, and other activities to provide you with an enjoyable evening. A cash bar will be available. Attendees are encouraged to come in period dress, military uniform, or business attire.

The event will honor John Gregory, our first Post commander in 1946 when the Post was chartered. John served in the Navy in WWII and during his career as a professional builder constructed many of the buildings in Manassas, including our Post home. Additionally he also served as international director of the Lions Club.

The dinner dance will be at the Manassas Regional Airport, 10600 Harry J. Parrish Blvd., Manassas, VA 20110. You can buy tickets at the Museum, located in the Terminal Building of the Airport, or by using the Museum's web site at [www.freedommuseum.org](http://www.freedommuseum.org). For further information, please visit the museum's web site or call 703-393-0660.

*Swing to the Music  
of the Big Band Era*



*Enjoy an Evening of  
Dinner and Dancing*

### The Freedom Museum

at the Manassas Regional Airport Presents

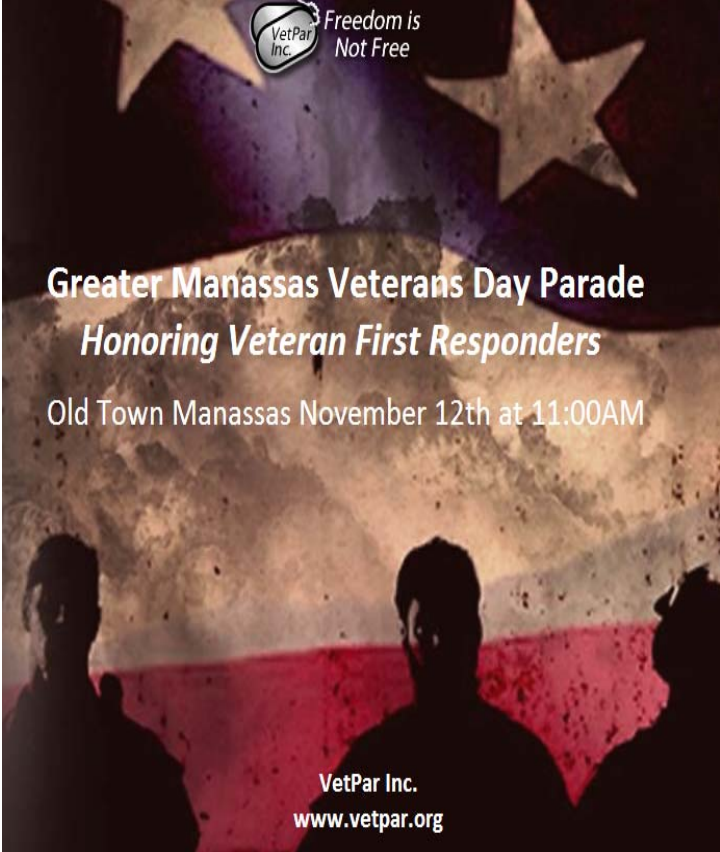
# The 1940s Hangar Dance



**Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016**  
**6 to 11 p.m.**

10600 Harry J. Parrish Blvd.

Buy Tickets Online at [www.freedommuseum.org](http://www.freedommuseum.org)



**Freedom is Not Free**

**Greater Manassas Veterans Day Parade**  
*Honoring Veteran First Responders*

Old Town Manassas November 12th at 11:00AM

VetPar Inc.  
[www.vetpar.org](http://www.vetpar.org)

### Get your Post 7589 Challenge Coin



**\$10 each**

**Available at Post meetings**

Also available by mail

Email: [quartermaster@vfw7589.org](mailto:quartermaster@vfw7589.org) for details  
or leave a message at 703-361-5554

## Upcoming Events

October 1	Manassas Fall Jubilee — Meet at the Hall at 8:30 am — Jubilee 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
October 3	Membership Meeting — 7:30 pm
October 15	Freedom Museum Hangar Dance — 6:00—11:00 pm
October 18	Youth Committee — 7:00 pm
October 22	Department Commander & Auxiliary President Homecoming — Dale City Post 1503
October 25	Manassas City Manager's Committee — 11:00 am
October 26	Executive Board — 12:30 pm
October 28 - 30	Southern Conference — Rogers AR
November 1	Patriot's Pen & Voice of Democracy deadline for submissions
November 11	Veterans Day Service at Veteran's Memorial — 8:30 am, Flag Placements at Manassas Cemetery — 9:00 am
November 15	Essay Contest deadline for Post judging
November 19	District 8 Meeting - Fredericksburg Post 3103 — Lunch 12:00 pm, Meeting 1:00 pm
December 4	Essay Contest Awards — 4:00 pm

### **VA DVS AGENT SERVICE AT POST 7589**

**2nd & 4th Thursdays  
9:00 AM — 3:00 PM**

**You can also visit the Fairfax office.**

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

**703-359-1210**



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**



**Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Auxiliary**





STATE OF VIRGINIA  
VFW AND AUXILIARY

**HOMECOMING 2016**

STATE COMMANDER TOM GIMBLE  
STATE PRESIDENT SHEMA PEPPERS

**FREE**

**COME JOIN THE CELEBRATION!  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2016  
5:00 PM TO 11:00 PM**

**FREE**

**WHERE: VFW POST 1503  
14631 MINNIEVILLE ROAD  
DALE CITY, VA**

**RSVP:**

Betty Gimble – 703-851-5819 or [bjg1503@gmail.com](mailto:bjg1503@gmail.com)  
Gina Meehan – 703-670-9675 or [ginameehan06@gmail.com](mailto:ginameehan06@gmail.com)

Deadline: October 16, 2016

**HOTEL: COMFORT INN  
16931 OLD STAGE RD  
DUMFRIES, VA 22025**

**RATE: \$94.99 + TAX CUTOFF DATE: OCTOBER 18, 2016**

**HOTEL RESERVATION CALL 703-445-8070 SPECIAL CODE: VFW HOMECOMING**

Monetary gifts for Commander Tom should be sent to Kim DeShano, Adj/QM,  
Dept of Virginia, VFW, 403 Lee Jackson Highway, Staunton, VA. 24401  
and earmarked for Homecoming.



Tax ID 20-8362270

**Wreath Sponsorship Form**

\*Sponsored wreaths are placed on the grave markers at state, national veterans cemeteries as well as local cemeteries each December. Wreaths may be purchased online at [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org)

If you wish to make your sponsorship with a credit card please visit our website for a secure online transaction.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: (To receive our FREE email newsletter) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths or more	\$15.00 each wreath		
		Grand Total	

**\*\*SORRY - WE CANNOT TAKE GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS\*\***

Sponsoring Group ID Number: VA0040P  
 Cemetery Designation: Quantico National Cemetery  
 Cemetery ID Number: VAQNCT

**Please make checks payable to:**  
 Wreaths Across America TM

**Mail to:**  
 PO Box 249  
 Columbia Falls, ME 04623  
 Questions? Please call 877-385-9504

**Cut-Off Date is November 26, 2015**  
 WAA ceremony will take place at Quantico National Cemetery on  
 Saturday, December 17 at 12 Noon.

**Thank you for your Sponsorship and joining us in our mission to Remember,  
 Honor and Teach!**

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



## **SPONSOR A WREATH FOR A VETERAN'S GRAVE**

Wreaths Across America carries out its mission **REMEMBER** the fallen, **HONOR** those that serve and **TEACH** our children the value of **FREEDOM** in part by placing wreaths on veterans graves during the holiday season.

The **Francis Cannon Auxiliary to VFW Post 7589** is working with Wreaths Across America to help place more wreaths than ever before on Veterans' graves at **Quantico National Cemetery**.

On **Saturday, December 17, 2016**, Wreaths Across America ceremonies will take place at over 741 locations in the USA and beyond.

**Sponsorships are \$15 each.** We are participating because we think it is a great program and \$5 of every sponsorship will support the Francis Cannon Auxiliary to VFW Post 7589 directly so we may continue to assist veterans and families as well as our community.

**PLEASE JOIN US** -- All wreaths will be placed by volunteers on Saturday, December 17, 2016 at 12 Noon at Quantico National Cemetery. This is a moving experience that you should make part of your holiday tradition. With your help our local heroes will be remembered this Holiday Season. **How many sponsorships can we count on you for?**

# 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](http://www.vfw7589.org)

# CELEBRATION TIME



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

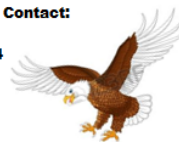
## Dee Guillory

**ANY MEMBER, AUXILIARY, POST OR DISTRICT THAT MAKES  
 A DONATION BY 4-30-2017, WILL RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE AT  
 JUNE 2017 CONVENTION AND YOUR NAME WILL GO IN A  
 DRAWING FOR \$25.00.**

Please make your check Payable to VFW Auxiliary of Virginia & send your  
 check to our Department Treasurer Debbie Martin,  
 539 Westwood Drive, Ruckersville, VA 22968  
 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

The official publication of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.  
 Francis Cannon Post No. 7589  
 P.O. Box 10206  
 Manassas, VA 20108-0668

Please visit our website at [www.vfw7589.org](http://www.vfw7589.org)

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Please email articles to [quartermaster@vfw7589.org](mailto:quartermaster@vfw7589.org)  
 We reserve the right to edit submitted articles for timeliness, clarity and syntax.