



NEWSLETTER



VFW Post 7288 - Calabash, NC - July - August. 2015

COMMANDERS MESSAGE



I want to thank the members of VFW Calabash Post #7288 and the Ladies Auxiliary and Men's Auxiliary for their support during the past year, a year in which we have accomplished many things for the Post, veterans and their families. I am also honored and humbled that you have the confidence in me to serve another year as your Commander. Together

this past year we have succeeded in our myriad efforts and will continue to do so in the year to come to ensure our mission to support veterans and their families. Our work, however, is not done! As long as there are veterans in need we will work hard to ensure that we provide the necessary support. So please join me in the coming year, volunteer to support our efforts and reap the reward of having accomplished so much for our veterans in need.

New Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

VFW Calabash Post #7288 has purchased a Life Saving Automated External Defibrillator – AED for short. The new unit is mounted in the Canteen where it is easily accessible when needed.

Every minute counts in a Sudden Cardiac Arrest Emergency – Sudden Cardiac Arrest strikes 800 Americans per day. For every minute without treatment a victim's rate of survival decreases by 7% to 10%.

AED's today are simple to use. They are located in malls, schools, churches and places where certain populations are a high risk. To use an AED you check for signs of Sudden Cardiac Arrest: the person is unresponsive and not breathing normally. To use an AED is simple as 1. Pull, 2. Place the pads and 3. Press the shock button.

Heartsaver AED and CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) training will be conducted at the Post in the near future. Wayne Spears, a certified American Heart Association Instructor will be conducting these 1 hour training sessions. We would like to get as many members trained on this lifesaving equipment as possible. Our Canteen bartenders and Post Officers will all receive the training. The

more people who know CPR and how use an AED, the better chance of survival. Knowing CPR and how to use an AED can be a life saver outside the Post!

Keep an eye out for sign-up sheets for the AED & CPR classes on the bulletin boards in the Post. We also will be sending email announcements and reminders regarding the training classes to our members.

Just remember, we invested in an AED and we need to make sure that we have members who are trained and can use it within three to five minutes of a heart stopping, so we can improve the chances of saving a life – ANYWHERE!

VFW Calabash Post #7288 Officers for 2015-2016

Please join me in congratulating your VFW Calabash Post #7288 Officers for the coming year! Thank you to each of you for stepping up to serve your Post, its members and veterans and their families in need! Your Officers serving for the coming year!

- Sr. Vice Commander.....Bob Haight
- Jr. Vice Commander.....Bob Hall
- Quartermaster.....Bill McCormick
- Adjutant.....Mike Crowley
- Chaplain.....Jim Stueve
- Judge Advocate.....Dan Kossler
- Service Officer.....Diane Larrowe
- Surgeon.....Willie Richardson
- Officer of the Day.....Ray Ketcham
- Communications.....Frank Richardson
- Trustees.....Bob Stocklin, Tom Tucker
-Vince Krasniewicz
- House Committee.....Bill Hertline, Ben Bruno
-Tom McCormick



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(Commander's Message - continued)

Memorial Day 2015

The Post's Memorial Day Ceremony was held at 10:00 a.m. on May 25, 2015 and was witnessed by over 200 attendees. The ceremony began with the Posting of the Colors assisted by the West Brunswick High School JROTC Color Guard; the singing of the National Anthem by Kathy Milstead, Ladies Auxiliary; the Opening Prayer by Post Chaplain James Stueve; and remarks by Calabash Mayor, Mary Louise Knight.

Post Commander, Rick Arvonio's remarks included his family's story about his great uncle that died in World War I at the age of 18; followed by Ladies Auxiliary President Fran Redfield's remarks and laying of the wreaths by incoming Ladies Auxiliary President Brenda Paige and Nancy Earney and Men's Auxiliary's Past President, Anthony Nye and Jr. Vice President Wayne Spears.

Our keynote speaker, U.S. Air Force General Wayne R. Monteith was introduced by the Commander and during his remarks he spoke about North Carolinians who gave their lives during past and present wars and praised them for living up to the standard which all military members understand when they take oath to defend the constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic. General Monteith said if we're to honor those who gave their lives, we must repay their sacrifice by continuing the legacy of valor and sacrifice that they exemplified.



General Monteith thanked our World War II veterans "the greatest generation" and asked them to stand or raise their hands to be recognized. At that moment, General Monteith stepped forward and saluted each of them as a heartfelt recognition for their service and sacrifice!

The ceremony continued with the reading of the names of 21 comrades who passed away since last year's Memorial Day



Ceremony, ringing a bell after each name was read, followed by a rifle salute and the playing of TAPS.

A closing prayer was given by Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain, April Farquhar.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the over 200 attendees joined Kathy Milstead, Ladies Auxiliary in singing Lee Greenwood's "Proud to be an American". Awesome!!

General Monteith took time after the ceremony to share thoughts with World War II veterans Pat Patterson (ex-POW), Hank Mattutat and Bud Sweetman and spent time speaking with other members and guests.

Korean Veterans Honored

The Republic of Korea is recognizing many American Veterans who served in Korea during that country's war more than 60 years ago. Among the Korean War Veterans at VFW Calabash Post #7288 is Willie Richardson, who proudly displays the medallion and certificate he received for this honor. The certificate reads "It is a great honor and pleasure to express the everlasting gratitude of the Republic of Korea and our people for the service you and your countrymen have performed in restoring and preserving our freedom and democracy." Those who served during that war are,



7288 Members Golf League July - August Schedule

| | | | | | |
|---------|-----------------|------|--------|---------------|------|
| July 6 | Oyster Bay | 7:00 | Aug 3 | Pearl West | 7:00 |
| July 13 | Seatrail Maples | 7:30 | Aug 10 | Thistle | 7:00 |
| July 20 | Sandpiper | 8:03 | Aug 17 | Lions Paw | 7:30 |
| July 27 | Farmstead | 7:30 | Aug 24 | Tidewater | 7:30 |
| | | | Aug 31 | Brick Landing | 7:30 |



"Best Breakfast In Town!!"
First Sunday of The Month
8 to 11 a.m.
\$6.00 per person

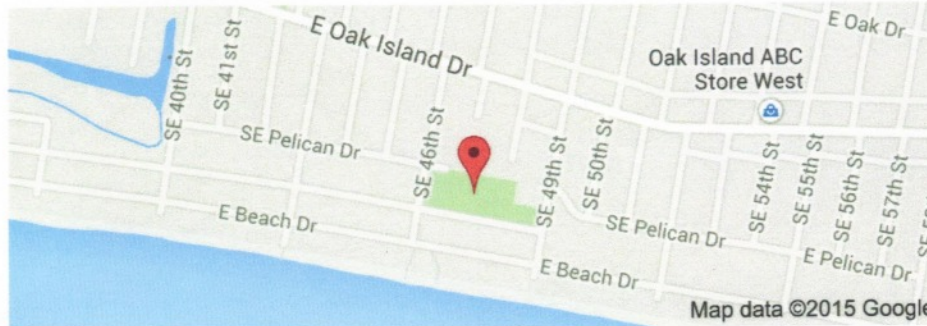
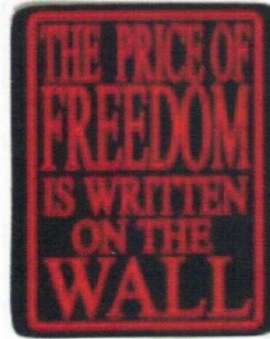
50th Anniversary Vietnam War



April 15, 2015

With the North Carolina Patriot Guard participating/coordinating and The Warrior Ride sponsoring, the two groups are bringing **The Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall** exhibit Thursday July 2, 2015 thru Monday morning July 6 2015 at: EF Middleton Park East Dolphin drive between 46th and 49th street on OAK ISLAND, NC 28465

<https://goo.gl/maps/mtTr3>



The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall®, a 244-foot replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, is coming to **Oak Island, NC on July 2-6, 2015** and will be open 24 hours a day and free to the public. The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall® honors

the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed forces during the Vietnam War and its walls bear the names of the more than 58,000 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. There were over 1600 North Carolinians. It allows Americans, not able to make the trip to Washington, DC a chance to see what the memorial is really like. It is also a reminder of the ultimate sacrifices made by American men and women during the Vietnam War. We hope your visit to The Vietnam Traveling memorial wall will be healing, educational and profoundly moving. Please remember many visitors lost friends and family members during the war. They are visiting the Memorial to pay respect to those who served or lost their lives during the war.

For more information or make donations:

Gary Anderson
910-278-7344
andersonga@hotmail.com

Bob Racine
910-6166977
teamracine@thewarriorride.org

Check payable to:
OKI-The Wall
PO Box 591
Oak Island, NC 28465
Credit Card: www.TheWarriorRide.org



The Warrior Ride® is not affiliated in any way with any other organization. The Warrior Ride® is a non-profit 501(c)3 civilian organization, is not a government agency and all events are paid for through donations and grants. Without the generosity of the donors, The Warrior Ride events would not be possible.

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LADIES AUXILIARY



Wow, what a busy few months. Our new slate of officers are installed. Fran Redfield was installed at Department Convention in June as our new Department President; I now have big shoes to fill! It was great to see so many of our LAX members in Greensboro to support of Fran and our outgoing State Commander, Jack Goin.

Fran's goal for the Department this year is working together as one team and with one goal. In the spirit of "FAMILY, FAITH AND FREEDOM" we will care for OUR VETERANS, NOW AND FOREVER. Her special project is the VFW National Home for Children – the North Carolina Cottage. We here in our LAX will endeavor to support her in achieving her goal.

Kudos to all of our past officers as they have done an awesome job in our LAX for 8+ years. Job well done ladies. I would like to again present your LAX Post 7288's new president, Brenda Arnold; Sr Vice, Sharon Kossler; Jr Vice, Pat Hinkley; Treasurer, Susan Burchacki; Secretary, Shari Warner. As the new president, I will strive to continue to support our Commander, Rick Arvonio, in his goal to increase membership and to make Post 7288 the best it can be. Our LAX stands firmly behind the belief, "charity begins at home"; will support our Commander, our Post and our veterans in any way we can with Post support and the many programs we support on behalf of Post 7288.

Since the last newsletter, our LAX helped host our District 5 meeting, the Post's 30th birthday and Memorial Day Ceremony. Our ladies stepped up and helped with all the events with food preparation and serving. Great job and good food.

National Convention is coming up July 16-22 in Pittsburgh, PA where many important decisions will be made and voted on. Will update you on decisions that were made when we return.

On August 9th at 2 pm, we will be hosting a School of Instruction for new and present members where all are invited to learn more about LAX's objectives, benefits and obligations. The next District meeting will be held August 15, 11 am -1 p.m. at the Oak Island Post 10226. Plan to attend ladies. We will host our National President's visit with an Italian Dinner on Sept 7th from 6-8 p.m. at our Post and a banquet in her honor on Sept 8th from 6-10, also at our Post. More information will be forthcoming as they are finalized.

God Bless
Brenda Arnold, President

AROUND THE POST



Calabash VFW Post 7288 Commander Rick Arvonio receives the American Flag from members of NC Boy Scout Troop 262 prior to placing it on the flames to be ceremoniously retired.



700 Students of Shallotte Middle School attended a May 22nd Memorial Day service outside the school. Each received a small American Flag and symbolic VFW Memorial Poppy with which to remember the day and its



As the names of 132 Brunswick County residents who gave their lives in past wars were read, some of the 700 Shallotte Middle School students approached the Memorial Table and placed a VFW poppy to honor and remember them.



Tuesday evening, May 6th, was a time to honor outstanding Jr. ROTC cadets at West Brunswick High School. VFW Calabash Post #7288 was a big part of the ceremony with its presentation of a certificate, ribbon with medal and a gift card to the top three winners in the Post's Voice of Democracy essay competition. The theme for the essays was "Why Veterans Are Important to Our Nation's History and Future." First place honors went to Erik Cortese, second place to Aaron Norton and third place to Olivia Pittman. Pictured from left are Voice of Democracy Committee member George Bissett, Post Commander Rick Arvonio, Cadet Norton, Cadet Cortese, Post Senior Vice-Commander Bob Haight, Cadet Pittman and Post Jr. Vice-Commander Bob Hall. The yearly awards ceremony is always an enjoyable event for everyone involved because of the quality of these young people and their families which bodes well for our nation's future.



SICK

SICK - Rick Kirincich, Eileen Lenz, Willie Mayew, Bob Radcliffe, Stuart South

Send a Card . . . Say a Prayer

NEW MEMBERS

John Ace, Fred Bengis
John Duncan, Donald Passon



Join us at 6:30 p.m. "It could be your lucky day"

- | | | | |
|---------|---|--------|---|
| July 2 | Wayne Weszka, Ken Keil, Herk Hernandez, Sue Burchaki | Aug 6 | Wayne Weszka, Greg Gallus, Bob Hall, Sue Burchaki |
| July 9 | Ray Ketcham, Marty Biddle, Eric Johnson, Linda Johnson | Aug 13 | Ray Ketcham, Marty Biddle, Ken Keil, Marlene Lidgard |
| July 16 | Wayne Spears, Bill McDavid, Jerry Baum, Arlene Spears | Aug 20 | Wayne Spears, Bill McDavid, Jerry Baum, Arlene Spears |
| July 23 | Linda McPhearson, Don Thompson, Greg Tucker, Jim/Cathy Milstead | Aug 27 | Linda McPhearson, Don Thompson, Greg Tucker, Jim/Cathy Milstead |
| July 30 | Durwood Jackson, Nick Micale, Eric Johnson, Linda Johnson | | |



HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

If your Birthday is in July or August stop in at the Post, let the bartender know that you are celebrating your birthday and enjoy a free beverage on us.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2015

- July 2 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- July 4 4th of July Celebration (Refreshments)
- July 5 Post Breakfast 8 to 11 a.m.
- July 7 Post Member Meeting 10 a.m.
- July 7 Men's Auxiliary Meeting 2:30 p.m.
- July 9 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- July 14 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 1 p.m.
- July 16 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- July 16 Town of Calabash Concert
Fat Jack's Band - Post sponsored 50/50
- July 18 Hall Rental
- July 23 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- July 30 Bingo 6:30 p.m.

AUGUST 2015

- Aug 2 Breakfast - 8 to 11 a.m.
- Aug 4 Post Members Meeting 10 a.m.
- Aug 4 Men's Auxiliary Meeting 2:30 p.m.
- Aug 6 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- Aug 9 Ladies Auxiliary - School of Instruction
- Aug 11 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 1 p.m.
- Aug 13 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- Aug 15 District 5 Mtng @ Oak Island 11 a.m.
- Aug 20 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- Aug 22 Pig Pickin' 5 to 9 p.m.
- Aug 27 Bingo 6:30 p.m.