



NEWSLETTER

VFW Post 7288 - Calabash, NC - March/April 2018
www.vfw7288.org



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



I trust that everyone has weathered the unusually cold months of January and February and avoided the flu that has wreaked havoc on our nation.

Have you heard or read the phrase? No one does more for Veterans than the VFW!

Like myself, many members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) joined at the urging of an acquaintance, a veteran, a friend or a family member. They paid their annual dues or paid Life Membership and received their membership card. It is likely that most who join are unaware of what the VFW is and what it does.

Most members go on with their lives, never entering a VFW Post or attending monthly meetings where the business of the Post is conducted. Beyond being a member, if you never attended a monthly meeting or maybe haven't attended in a long time, you may not be aware of the VFW's background, purpose or core values and what it does every day to support veterans and their families.

Here's a little history and background on the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

In 1899, the American Veterans of Foreign Service (Columbus, Ohio) and the National Society of the Army of the Philippines (Denver, Colo.) were organized to secure rights and benefits for veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippines War (1899-1902). These two organizations merged in 1914, creating the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW). On May 28, 1936, Congressional Charter incorporated the VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES.

VFW membership consists of armed-forces veterans who, as United States Army soldiers, Navy sailors, Marines, Coast Guard sailors, and/or Air Force airmen, served the U.S. in wars, campaigns, and expeditions on foreign soil or hostile waters.

VFW Posts conduct monthly meetings where the business of the Post is conducted. Immediately after the opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance, Post Commanders begin the meeting as follows:

"Comrades, we are assembled again to transact business of mutual benefit. Do not let petty jealousies or trivial personalities influence our deliberations. Let us uphold always the obligations of unselfish comradeship and loyalty to our organization and to the government of the United states of America.

The purpose of this corporation shall be Fraternal, Patriotic, Historical, Charitable, and Educational; and are:

To preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members;

To assist worthy comrades;

To perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans;

To maintain true allegiance to the government of the United states of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws;

To foster true patriotism;

To maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and

To preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies."

Beyond its purpose, the VFW's Core Values are to:

- *Always put the interests of our members first.*
- *Treat donors as partners in our cause.*
- *Promote patriotism.*
- *Honor military service.*
- *Ensure the care of veterans and their families.*
- *Serve our communities.*
- *Promote a positive image of the VFW.*
- *Respect the diversity of veteran opinions.*

As you can see, the VFW is all about serving, assisting and supporting veterans and their families. I invite our members to come to our monthly meetings and participate in the business of the Post. As always, we continue to look for volunteers to support the myriad activities of the Post as it strives to fulfill the goals and objectives of the VFW.

Let us uphold always the obligations of unselfish comradeship and loyalty to our organization and to the government of the United states of America.

Rick Arvonio
Commander

AUXILIARY

Spring is just around the corner and our Auxiliary reporting year will end mid-April! Its so hard to believe how fast time is going! Elections for the Post Auxiliary and District Auxiliary Officers will occur in April. If you want to be an Officer, please contact me for more information.

A big THANK YOU goes to Patty Burton and the soup makers for ensuring the January 28th Soup-er Bowl was a success. A profit of \$415 was made and monies went to the Blue Star Mothers who sent a very heartfelt "Thank You" to us for our generosity.

Several Auxiliary members attended the Winter Council of Administration in Cary, NC February 2-4. Our Auxiliary 1st Place winners for Teacher of the Year in K-5, Tara Cumbee from Union Elementary, and High School, Colonel Joe Calisto from West Brunswick High School (WBHS), are VFW NC Department Teachers of the Year for 2018. WHAT AN HONOR for us and them!! They were recognized at the VFW Department Banquet. In addition, the Post's and District 5's 1st Place Voice of Democracy (VOD) winner, Logan Galloway from WBHS, was invited to the banquet along with 16 other District VOD winners within North Carolina. Logan was/is a student of both Tara and Colonel Calisto! Another honor for our Auxiliary was to receive a certificate recognizing us for 100% membership as of September 2017.

Our Auxiliary shirts have been ordered, so we will have them in plenty of time to wear at Memorial Day Poppy Distribution and other future events.

Upcoming Events

1 March - The Flag Education and the Pledge of Allegiance programs will be presented to pre-school children at Seaside Methodist Church. After the program, the students make Easter cards to be sent to the Fayetteville VA Medical Center.

13 March - The names of members expressing their interest in running for different offices will be presented. Elections and additional nominations occur at our April meeting.

24 March - 10am-2pm - \$10. The Chinese Auction and Bake Sale is planned in the Post 7288 Hall. This is an event planned for Men and Women!! There will be doughnuts/coffee in the morning and sandwiches/chips in the afternoon for sale. Drawings begin at 1pm. Please come and participate!! Each year Nancey Earney and her committee work very hard to have wonderful items to sell and this is a very big money maker for the Auxiliary.

29 March - 2-4pm - Post Canteen. Sheet Cake to honor 2nd annual National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

10 April - 1pm - Monthly meeting. Please show your interest and support to elect the new slate of Auxiliary Officers.

21 April - 10am - District Meeting at the Oak Island Post #10266.

Sharon Kossler, President

WEBPAGE SPONSOR PAGE

VFW Calabash Post #7288 has a new website at: www.vfw7288.org. The website offers a host of information, including but not limited to: veterans' outreach, benefits, resources and health centers to the monthly newsletters, membership information, VFW programs, news and events, and the Post's calendar of events. It is a great resource for information that also includes links to the webpages of the VFW North Carolina Department and VFW National. The development costs for the creation of the website were paid for by VFW National. VFW Posts are responsible for annual maintenance costs.

To help defray these costs, we have created a Sponsorship Program for local businesses. For a nominal donation, the business is provided a presence for one year on our Post's website that can be viewed in two ways.

First, by going to the Post's homepage (www.vfw7288.org) and scrolling down to the bottom where you'll find photos or logos of sponsors on a revolving "slider". Clicking on any of the sponsors will take you to that sponsors information and link to either their web or Facebook page.

The second way to view the sponsor is to go to the Post's homepage, click on the tab "About Us" and the first choice on the drop-down menu is "Sponsors". This will take you to a list of sponsors. Clicking on any of the sponsors will take you to that sponsors information and link to either their web or Facebook page.

To date we have ten (10) sponsors (see the one-page listing at the end of this newsletter). These local businesses have been generous in their support to the Post as website sponsors and at other times during the year. Because of their sponsorships we are able to provide a world-class website for you, our members.

I encourage those of you who frequent one of these businesses to tell the wait staff, cashier, service person or whoever takes care of your needs that you are a member of VFW Calabash Post #7288, thank them for being a sponsor and ask them to pass the word to a supervisor, manager or owner.

Doing so will let them know that their sponsorship is both recognized and appreciated by our members, their listing on the Post's website is being viewed and our members are frequenting their business.

A Win-Win for the Post and the Sponsors!

FROM THE KITCHEN

After reopening the kitchen in January things picked up in a hurry. The Shields held their Christmas party and we fed them a prime rib and chicken cordon blue dinner. Vets from summit place came in February and had a great time as always. The Monday golf league had their luncheon and then we had our Valentine party. Currently ongoing are our Friday fish fry. Been a busy two months. Special thanks go out to Chaz, Joe, Phyllis, Shari, and Tommy for their help doing the dinners. Kitchen open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Come in for lunch.

Don Thompson, Kitchen Manager

Important Upcoming Events

Note: Event information can be obtained at the Post for times, places and sign-up for volunteers.

Golf League - Every Monday

Dart League - Every Tuesday 5:30 pm – Newcomers Welcome

Bingo - Every Thursday 6:30 pm

Fish Fry - Begins Friday, February 16th through March 30th from 5-7 pm

Mar 4 - Post Breakfast from 8-10:30 am

Mar 6 - Regular Member Monthly Mtg. @ 10 am

Mar 14 Auxiliary Monthly Mtg. @ 1 pm

Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Mar 24 Auxiliary Chinese Auction 9 am – 3 pm

Apr 1 - Post Breakfast from 8-10:30 am

Apr 3 - Regular Member Monthly Mtg. @ 10 am

Apr 10 - Auxiliary Monthly Mtg. @ 1 pm

Apr 21 - District 5 Mtg. @ VFW Oak Island, NC @ 10 am

Apr 28 - Great Drawing

POST ELECTIONS

It is that time of year to elect officers for the next service year, 2018-2019. Nominations for the elected officers will be made at the March 6th monthly meeting with members voting on the new slate of officers at the April 3rd meeting. The new officers will be sworn in at the May meeting and begin their service after the VFW North Carolina Department Convention the beginning of June. If interested in any of the elected or appointed officer positions, please contact Post Adjutant Pasquale "Cap" Cappelletti.

Elected officer positions include: Commander; Senior Vice Commander; Junior Vice Commander; Quartermaster; Chaplain; 3-year Trustee; and House Committee 3-year.

Officers appointed by the incoming Commander include: Adjutant; Judge Advocate; Surgeon; Service Officer; Officer of the Day; and Guard.

Veterans ID Cards

Update The Vets.gov website has opened back up to allow veterans to apply for the Veterans ID card. This ID card is for veterans who do not have a VA medical ID card or a Department of Defense military ID card. The VA has created a video about the ID card, which you can access on YouTube at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHckZPt0ZyQ&feature=youtu.be>

If you would like to obtain this ID card, go to the www.vets.gov website, scroll down to the bottom until you see the bold heading in the middle column that says "Popular on Vets.gov" and then click on the link that says, "Apply for Printed Veteran ID Card" and follow the steps from there.

Monday Golf League

The Monday Golf League at the Post continues! If you aren't a member and want to join, please contact Dorsey Bouque at dorseygolf@gmail.com or at mobile: (219) 793-4653. Please don't forget to renew your membership!

If you aren't a member and you are a golfer and like to play different courses you should look into joining the Post's Monday Golf League for just \$10 annually! There is a line-up of different courses each week and scheduled ahead for six months at negotiated green fees for our VFW Post. The six-month listing is posted on the golf white board in the dart area of the Canteen.

Each week a sign-up sheet is posted on a clip board that reflects the course name, time to show up at the course, the first tee-time and whether it is single- or double-teeing. On Friday, pairings are picked for the following Monday and posted on the golf bulletin board. Each week's game is based on modified Stableford scoring.

After golf, players adjourn to the Post for lunch and refreshments and the results of the day's game. So, come out and enjoy golf throughout the year! The following is the golf schedule for March & April 2018:



7288 Members GOLF LEAGUE

Mar/Apr Schedule

Mar 5 Ocean Ridge Lions Paw
Mar 12 Aberdeen
Mar 19 Tidewater
Mar 26 Eagle Nest

Apr 2 Meadowlands
Apr 9 Lockwood Folly
Apr 16 Sandpiper Bay
Apr 23 Beachwood
Apr 30 Farmstead

Check the Bulletin Board for Additional Info



**"Best Breakfast
In Town!!"
First Sunday of
The Month
8 to 10:30 a.m.
\$6.00 per person**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

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

BINGO

Come out and enjoy a night of Bingo every Thursday night starting at 6:30 PM. Bingo pays out over \$1200.00 or better every Bingo session.

The first Thursday of the month we will be offering buy a \$22.00 pack and get a \$2.00 pack for free. The Post has also increased regular Bingo game payouts from \$40 to \$50.

The more players there are, the better the prize payout. So, come out and support your Post by playing Bingo! Bring your friends and neighbors for a fun night at the Bingo Hall. You could be the next big winner. The Auxiliary opens the kitchen around 5:30 PM with dinners, hot dogs and snacks! As ALL monies made from the Bingo Kitchen goes towards VFW Programs, we appreciate you making your food purchases at the Post during Bingo.

Even if you don't play Bingo, you might like to donate your time to volunteer your help as a floor walker, check writer or caller. Please contact Wayne Weszka at 443-326-9961 to offer your time. Thank you for your continued support!

Wayne Weszka
Bingo Chairman



Post Officers for 2017 - 2018

Elected Officers

Commander.....Richard "Rick" Arvonio
Senior Vice Commander.....Dan Kossler
Junior Vice Commander.....Robert "Bob" Stocklin
Quartermaster.....William "Bill" McCormick
Chaplain.....Jim Stueve
Trustee - 1 Year.....Vincent Krasniewicz
Trustee - 2 Year.....Tom Tucker
Trustee - 3 Year.....Diane Larrowe

Appointed Officers

Adjutant.....Pasquale Cappelletti
Judge Advocate.....Bill Reinhardt, Jr.
Officer of the Day/Guard.....Cliff Hinkley
Service Officer.....Edward Warner
Surgeon.....Gary Thomas
Communications.....Pasquale Cappelletti

House Committee

3 Year.....Jim Milstead
2 Year.....Bill Hertline (Chairman)
1 Year.....Tom McCormack (Canteen Manager)

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our New Members
Alton J. Farr, Gerald Roberts
Donald Whitfield II

SICK

Al Jackson, Ed Kenney, Walt Timmerman
"Say a Prayer . . . Send a Card"

DECEASED

Forest Kelly, Kenneth Keil, Ben Lee, Martin Quilan



Fish Fry Dinner
Fridays - 2/16 thru 3/30
5 to 7 p.m.
\$11.00 Per Plate



Remember . . .
No one does
More for Veterans
Than the VFW!



VFW CALABASH POST #7288 SPONSORS

Remember to say **THANK YOU** to our Sponsors & let them know you're from VFW Calabash Post #7288!



Joey O's



Makai Brewing Co.



Sacred Willow Spa



VFW Post 7288 Bingo



Boundary House



Seashore Drugs



Yard Bird Emporium



Officer's Club



NAPA Calabash



Butcher of Brunswick