



# NEWSLETTER



VFW Post 7288 - Calabash, NC - Sept/Oct 2017

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



### Members! Where are you?

If you attend our Post's monthly meetings (for regular members, the first Tuesday of every month from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.; for members of the Committee for Americanism, Citizenship & Community Service, the first Tuesday of every month from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.; or the Auxiliary meeting on the second Tuesday of every month from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.) then you are staying current on what's happening at the Post and are part of the Post's decision making on issues voted on by members!

If you haven't attended a meeting you're missing out on information about the Post - where it's been, where it's at; and where it's headed! The monthly meeting is where the transaction of Post business happens. Meetings last just one hour! One hour a month and you can be part of the Post's team that helps the leadership chart the course for the future. Coffee and donuts are offered and a 50/50 drawing is held at each meeting! Hope to see you at our next monthly meeting!

### Have You Heard?

Two months have passed since you received your last VFW Calabash Post #7288 bi-monthly newsletter! The Post continues to provide more frequent and greater communications with our members, providing them with information about events taking place and veterans articles of interest to our members.

Information is not only provided in our bi-monthly newsletter but also on the Post's Facebook page; on many of the Post's bulletin boards in the Canteen, online at the Post website and directly to your email address.

The many social events and activities conducted by the Post for members that also support many causes for the benefit of Veterans and their families are of great interest to many. They also provide great satisfaction that together, we are doing the right thing and giving back to the community.

This is your newsletter and we also want to hear from you! Are there articles of specific interest or information you would like to see published that can benefit other veterans and their families that are members of the Post?

The Post is also looking for a volunteer to be its Communications/Publicity Officer and liaison with the local media (newspaper, television, radio and the VFW NC Department publication). The responsibilities would include writing news articles about the Post's events and communicating with the media via email. You can do the work

from home. If you have communications experience and would like to volunteer to help with the Post's communications efforts, please contact Post Commander, Rick Arvonio.

If you would like to submit an information article of interest to our members for publishing in the Post's newsletter please send the article via email to

[vfwcalabash@atmc.net](mailto:vfwcalabash@atmc.net) or mail it to the Post at 900 Carter Dr., Calabash, NC 28467.

### Kitchen Operation Volunteers

For the last three years, Donnie Thompson has volunteered as the Post Kitchen Manager - ordering food from Sysco; receiving food shipments; organizing volunteers to staff the weekly lunches and dinners; cooking for lunches and dinners; and much, much more. Now it's time for Donnie to focus on Donnie and step back a bit from the daily chores. Effective the end of August, Donnie is stepping back from the position of Kitchen Manager but will continue to help when needed for lunches, dinners, etc.

On behalf of all members of the Post, we extend to Donnie a big "THANK YOU" for your dedicated service over these many years! We appreciate all you've done to serve our members the weekly lunches and many outstanding dinners! Well Done!

Stepping up to the Kitchen Manager position is Tommy Lynn to do the food ordering and scheduling of volunteers for lunches and dinners as appropriate. Also volunteering is Joe Capone who will help Tommy and also put his chef's hat on to support the Post's food offerings. A big "THANK YOU" to Tommy and Joe!

As always, the success of any of the Post's efforts or activities cannot rest on the shoulders of one or two individuals. They need volunteers to step up in the kitchen. The Post provides lunches every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. At a minimum, we need at least one volunteer to take orders and one to prepare lunches but it is helpful if there are three to work the lunch offering. If you would like to support the Post for just 2-3 hours on any lunch day, it will go a long way in supporting our efforts. Think about it and if you're interested in helping out in any way, please contact Tommy Lynn or leave your name and telephone number at the Canteen and you will get a call back.

### NEW Post "Lending Library"

A new "Lending Library" for military related books has been created in the Canteen. A small bookcase has been placed along the left wall of the dart area of the Canteen. Members have an opportunity to donate and share military related books and borrow books that other members have donated. You may keep the books as long as you wish but ask that they be returned to the Post library after you have finished reading. There are already a small number of military related books that have been donated. Enjoy!

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE (con't.)

### 2017 VFW North Carolina Department & Bass Pro Shop Sport Raffle

Again, this year, the VFW North Carolina (NC) Department has partnered with Bass Pro Shops for a Bass Pro Shop Sport Raffle and distributed tickets to each Post in North Carolina. The cost for each ticket is \$5.00.

The drawing will be held February 2, 2018 at the VFW NC Department Conference in Cary, NC. You do not need to be present to win. Our Post will get 20% back on each \$5.00 ticket sold.

Prizes include: \$100 Gift Cards; \$500 Bass Pro Gift Card; various Rifles & Pistols; Callaway Strata 12-piece Golf Set; Event Grill; Electric Smoker; Surf Reel; Baitcast Reel; Garmin GPS; binoculars; and more! The Grand Prize is a Bad Boy Buggy valued at \$10,000.

Winners will receive a certificate for the value of the item won. The certificate can be used to purchase any item carried by Bass Pro Shop or MAY BE redeemed for a gift card. You do not have to be present to win! You have more than one chance to win with each ticket. If your ticket is drawn for a prize, it will go back in the drawing for other prizes. That's correct; you can win more than once on the same ticket!

Importantly, our Post retains 20% of the funds from the sale of tickets at our Post – a Win/Win for the Post and its members.

So please purchase a ticket and support your VFW Post, the VFW North Carolina Department, and give yourself a chance to win valuable prizes.

Tickets have been distributed to all Post and Auxiliary Officers for purchase or sale and are also available in the Canteen. To purchase tickets, you can contact a Post or Auxiliary Officer or ask your Canteen bartender. GOOD LUCK TO ALL!

### VFW's 118th Birthday

VFW Day is September 29th! It marks the VFW's creation in 1899. On that day in Columbus, Ohio, 13 veterans of the 17 Infantry Regiment who fought on Cuba during the Spanish-American War gathered to establish what they called the American Veterans of Foreign Service. That group led a merger with two other veterans' associations in 1914 to form the VFW.

The original organization pledged to "promote the general welfare" of those who had "borne the brunt of battle." It vowed to place veterans "in the front rank of American citizenship," among other goals.

At 118 years old, VFW is the oldest major veterans' organization. Along with its Auxiliary, it counts nearly 1.7 million members and more than 6,500 Posts in communities around the world.

Thank you for being members the Veterans of Foreign Wars and VFW Calabash Post #7288 and for your continued support.

### Ocean Isle Oyster Festival Parking Detail

This is a reminder that our upcoming parking detail to manage the parking lots for the Ocean Isle Beach Oyster Festival on October 21 & 22 is fast approaching. The Post has been coordinating the parking since 2007. This is a great fundraiser

and easy to work. We will again be asking volunteers to staff 4-hour shifts Saturday and Sunday, October 21 & 22. So please volunteer a few hours and sign-up to support the Post in this fundraising effort. Sign-up sheets will be in the Canteen in early September. Any questions contact Wayne Spears.

### Anniversary of 9/11 Attacks

Monday, September 11th is the 16th anniversary of the attack of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. As we do every year, volunteers from service organizations like the VFW, American Legion, Elks, Marine Corps League, etc., gather on the Rt. 130 overpass over Rt. 17 North in Shallotte, to remember those that lost their lives in the attacks. Come out and show your support and rally for the motorcade that begins at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in North Myrtle Beach. Volunteers are needed at the Rt. 130 overpass over Rt. 17 North for this important remembrance. The names of those that lost their lives in the attacks will be read and a bell rung for each. Please come out and join so many others and arrive on the overpass between 9:00 and 9:30. Normally, after a church service at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in North Myrtle Beach, a motorcade will leave around 9:00 a.m. and travel north on Rt. 17 driving past the overpass at approximately 10:00 a.m. Hope to see you there!

## Important Upcoming Events

### SEPTEMBER

- 3 Sep Post Breakfast from 8:00-10:30 am
- 5 Sep Regular Member Monthly Mtg. @ 10 am  
Committee - Citizenship, Americanism & Community Service Mtg. @ 2 pm
- 11 Sep 9/11 Assembly at Rt. 130/Rt.17 Overpass from 9:30-10:30 a.m.
- 12 Sep Auxiliary Monthly Mtg. @ 1 pm
- 15 Sep POW/MIA Ceremony @ 9 am
- 16 Sep Dance the Night Away Dinner Dance 6-10 pm

### OCTOBER

- 1 Oct Breakfast at the Post 8-10:30 am
- 3 Oct Regular Member Monthly Mtg. @ 10 am  
Committee - Citizenship, Americanism & Community Service Mtg. @ 2 pm
- 10 Oct Auxiliary Monthly Mtg. @ 1 pm
- 20 Oct The Warrior Ride Luncheon @ 12:30 pm
- 21& 22 Oct OIC Oyster Festival Parking Detail
- 28 Oct Halloween Party Hosted by the Aux. 5-9 pm

**Bingo Every Thursday 6:30 pm.**

**NFL Sunday at the Post 12 noon**

Respectfully,  
Rick Arvonio, Commander

## AUXILIARY

### Have you had a good summer?

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer, BUT now the Auxiliary begins its very busy time. I want to thank everyone for donating money and/or school supplies. We were able to donate \$200 cash and over \$200 of supplies. They were delivered to two very grateful schools - Union & Waccamaw Elementary Schools.

At the 104th National VFW Auxiliary Convention held in New Orleans in July, the NC Department took 1st place in Americanism, Chief of Staff, and Veterans and Family Services and 2nd place in Scholarships and Youth Activities. This was due to your efforts in making our Calabash Auxiliary successful, as we are the third largest Auxiliary in the State and we do have an impact! Please continue your support!!

As we have done in the past, several Auxiliary members served lunch to the Summit Assisted Living veterans. We decorate their tables and make them a sweet treat and always have a take-home package for them. NFL Football Sunday volunteer signup list (Sep-Dec) for the Auxiliary is complete. Thanks to all volunteers!!

### Attractions, Dining & Value Guide Books for Sale through Sept 30<sup>th</sup>

The Auxiliary has kicked off an exciting fundraiser in an effort to make \$1000 to go toward the Veterans and Family Support Program. These books are the "Grand Strand" edition, but there are also coupons for a few places in Calabash and Littler River. The coupons are good NOW through 12-31-2018 - so about 18 months to use!! The books are \$20 each. You can sign up at the post for books or email Arlene Spears at [arspears@comcast.net](mailto:arspears@comcast.net) or call at 910-575-3851. There is no limit to the amount we sell. The more we sell, the more money we will make to send to the National program!!

### Upcoming Events

**Aug 31 – Sep 2** Several members are going to Cary NC to meet the National VFW Auxiliary President Dee Guillory. The Cary Post is hosting but all Auxiliaries are invited to meet and tour the area with Dee.

**Sept 15** - The Auxiliary will participate in the POW/MIA Ceremony on Friday, September 15th, 9-9:30 am at the Post. Please come learn the meaning of the "Missing Man Table" that we keep in the entryway.

**Sept 23** - VFW District 5 and Auxiliary meeting on Saturday, September 23rd, 10 am at the Wilmington Post. Our own Fran Redfield is District President and other members are District Officers.

**Sept 23** - A Dance is planned for Saturday, September 23rd, from 6-10pm. Tickets are \$10 and are available in the Canteen or contact me. There will be food and Cash Bar. Proceeds will go to the supporting the families of veterans with PTSD & TBI and for the VA Hospital caretakers of PTSD patients at VA Hospitals.

**Late Sep** - As the Auxiliary does every fall, we will be making lollipop pumpkins for VA Hospital patients and our local veterans at assisted living facilities during September. I will send out a note on the days for volunteers to meet and make 150+ treats.

**Oct 6-8** - The NC Department C of A will be held in Cary NC. If you want to attend and learn more about our programs and projects, contact me for more information.

**Oct 20** - We will need several servers at the Warrior Ride Lunch on Friday, October 20th. I will be sending out a note asking for help as we have a big crowd at this function.

**Oct 22** - We will need several volunteers from 10 am to 5 pm to work the entrance gates at the Ocean Isle Beach Oyster Festival. A signup sheet will be in the Canteen and at the September meeting. If you sign up, the Chamber of Commerce is having a mandatory Volunteer Meeting at their 114 Wall Street, Shallotte, office either Thursday, September 28th, 9-10:30 am or Wednesday, October 4th, 5:30-7pm.

**Oct 28** - A Halloween Party is being hosted by the Auxiliary on Saturday from 5 – 9 pm. Tickets will go on sale soon. Costumes are OPTIONAL!! Please come. Proceeds will go to National Programs.

**Oct 31** - The Auxiliary's Card Party at Ryan's Steak House in North Myrtle Beach will be held on Tuesday, October 31st. Tickets will be on sale soon. Proceeds will go to the National Home.

As you can see October is typically one of our busier months. Please participate at the events and volunteer as you can. Your support is GREATLY appreciated. We have 228 Auxiliary members at our post - please come to meetings so we can get to know each other and do what we do best -- TAKE CARE OF OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES! THANK YOU!

Sharon Kossler, President

## KITCHEN

The NFL season is rapidly approaching and help will be needed to prepare food for game day. Sign-up sheets for regular members and members of the Auxiliary and Committee are posted in Canteen. If you have a favorite food you like to cook, sign-up. The Post served a great meal for lunch to the Veterans from Summit Place on the 25th of August. As always, everyone had a great time when our Summit Place Veterans visit the Post! Thank you to Al Kuzio for transportation to the Post. As my duties as kitchen manager wind down, I want to thank all those that have volunteered their time. As I plan to continue to volunteer in the future, I hope you will also. Please ask a friend to give 4 hours once or twice a month to help out. The kitchen is a very important part of our Post. Please help support your comrades, brothers and sisters. Once again thank you!

Donnie Thompson  
Kitchen Manager

## BINGO

Come out and enjoy a night of Bingo every Thursday night starting at 6:30 PM. Bingo pays out \$1,200.00 or more every Bingo session.

The first Thursday of the month we will be offering a \$22.00 pack and get a \$2.00 pack for free. The Post has also increased regular Bingo game pay outs 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

Even if you don't play Bingo please consider donating your time as a volunteer 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**

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|---|---|
| 9/7 Marty Biddle, Greg Tucker, Jim Milstead, Kathy Milstead       | 10/5 Ray Ketchum, Bob Hall, Greg Gallus, Marlene Lidgard          |
| 9/14 Tom Kelleher, Ed Warner, Ken McGuire, Shari Warner           | 10/12 Jay Valkenburg, Jack Christensen, Larry Clark, Julia Larson |
| 9/21 Linda McPhearson, Herk Hernandez, Marty Green, Jane Rockwell | 10/19 Marty Biddle, Greg Tucker, Jim Milstead, Kathy Milstead     |
| 9/28 Wayne Spears, Pat Henchcliffe, Nick Micale, Arlene Spears    | 10/26 Tom Kelleher, Ed Warner, Ken McGuire, Shari Warner          |

## Committee for Americanism, Citizenship & Community Service

Summer is passing us by and the Solar Eclipse is history. The Committee has continued to support the post and to date we have had over 45 % of our members volunteer for projects at the post. A special thanks to the crew that worked the grill for our 4 of July celebration held at the post. Also, thank you to all of the Committee members that work the kitchen for lunches and those that work bingo.

We still have work to be done. We have the upcoming Oyster Festival parking detail the weekend of October 21-22. Sign up sheets for this detail will be posted on the board in the canteen in September.

As the year winds down it is time to start paying your \$40 dues before January 1, 2018. Dues may be paid to Quartermaster Bill McCormick or Wayne Weszka.

As fall approaches remember we are her to enjoy the post and to support the post when ever we can.

Wayne Spears, Chairman



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

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

## NEW MEMBERS

*Welcome to our New Members*

Bill Cameron - Royden Gilleo - Donald McGee  
Carmine Sardella - Jim Strider - Joseph Baran - Jack Clark

## SICK

Larry Clark - Al Schweitzer - Stuart South

**"Say a Prayer . . . Send a Card"**

## DECEASED

Lawrence Arabia - Joseph Baran - Jack Clark  
Frank Richardson - Erwin (Bud) Sweetman  
Military Family. . . Jack Christiansen - Terry Smith



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



## 7288 Members GOLF LEAGUE

### Sept/Oct Schedule

Sep 4	Farmstead	7:00	Oct 2	Crown Park	7:30
Sep 11	Tigers Eye	7:00	Oct 9	Eagle Nest	7:30
Sep 18	Sandpiper	8:30	Oct 16	Pearl East	7:00
Sep 25	Check Board		Oct 23	River Hills	7:30
			Oct 30	Check Board	

**Check the Bulletin Board for Additional Info**

## 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 Larowe

### Appointed Officers

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

### House Committee

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

## MISSION BBQ & 9/11

Below flyer is from Mission BBQ of North Myrtle of current upcoming events. 9/11 is coming up soon; and they invite all active and retired Fire, Police, and 1st Responders to come in and receive a Free Sandwich as well as joining them at noon for a Live Anthem. Also, Red Hometown Hero Cups will be coming out 8/11 until 9/11; All Mission BBQ of NMB, SC proceeds will go to MUSC's Children's' Burn Center Fund. Please pass this message on to family and friends.



**Watch  
'Em  
All!**

Join us at the Post for a fun-filled time!  
Food, Refreshments and Great Comradery.