



NEWSLETTER



VFW Post 7288 - Calabash, NC - Jan. / Feb. 2015

COMMANDERS MESSAGE



Happy New Year!

As you read this newsletter we are already into the New Year! I hope that you had a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and that your travels to be with family and friends were safe ones.

As we look forward to the coming year, there is much work to be done. Your Post continues to need your help and support to meet the ever growing needs of so many veterans and their families and for the many organizations it contributes to that provide for them

directly. So as you begin to read about upcoming events that help raise money for myriad worthy causes, think about how you can support these efforts. While some cannot volunteer due to physical limitations, monetary donations are always put to good use. Those who are able, think about volunteering for one or two hours to support one of your Post's efforts. It is only through the volunteers that we can achieve our goals and objectives. Looking forward to your continued support and another successful year!

Like Clock Work! One Hour! In and Out!

Do you know what the latest news is at the Post, what has, what is and what is going to happen? Do you want to make a difference, have your voice heard, be part of the decision-making for issues put to a vote by the membership?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then you need to attend the members' meetings held at the Post each month. That is where it all happens!

The first Tuesday of every month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. the Post conducts its monthly members' meeting and the Post's Men's Auxiliary conducts their meeting from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. On the second Tuesday of every month the Ladies Auxiliary conducts their monthly meeting from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The 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!

Sure you can read the news about the Post and what is going on in the bi-monthly newsletter, but by attending the meetings you can help make the news! Hope to see you there!

Annual Election of Post Officers

As you read this January/February 2015 issue of the newsletter, it is time to begin thinking and planning for our annual nominations and elections of your Post's Officers. The process begins in March with nomination of candidates for the elected positions of Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Surgeon and Trustees (3). These Post Officers will be elected by members at the April meeting. The new officers will be sworn

in at the monthly meeting in May and their term will commence in June after the North Carolina State Department Convention concludes.

In addition to the elected officer positions there are a number of appointed officer positions including: Adjutant, Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Officer of the Day and Service Officer and Communications Officer. Except for the three Trustees for which there is a one, two and three year Trustee position, all other officer positions are elected or appointed to one-year terms.

If you are interested in getting more involved and helping to lead and support the Post, or have an interest in serving in an officer position but are not sure what the officer position responsibilities entail, please contact the Commander at email: ricka710@aol.com. He can provide you with the Post's resource book that contains the responsibilities for all officer positions as outlined in the National By-Laws and for added responsibilities for Post #7288.

Please consider stepping up to the opportunity, challenge and fulfillment that working for veterans and their families has to offer!

No organization does more for veterans than the Veterans of Foreign Wars!

FACEBOOK & Website - VFW Calabash Post #7288

As a reminder, the Post has a presence on Facebook and on its web site and continues to bring to you a record of events and the work of many of our volunteers!

You can find the Facebook page at the following: [Post Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/VFW-Post-7288/220541397961619?](https://www.facebook.com/pages/VFW-Post-7288/220541397961619?)

IMPORTANTLY, click on the "LIKE" and the "FOLLOW" buttons so that you can receive notifications when something new is posted on the Post's Facebook page.

You can go to the website at the following URL: [Post Web Site: http://myvfw.org/nc/post7288/](http://myvfw.org/nc/post7288/)

The latest noteworthy news and events that the Post is involved in will be posted as they happen! Continuing to communicate to our members! Take a look! Comment on our posts! Enjoy!

VFW Calabash Post #7288 Kitchen Reopens

The House Committee is pleased to announce that Don Thompson, President, Men's Auxiliary is the new Kitchen Manager. The Post's Kitchen operations are starting to fall in place, a new menu is complete and volunteers and schedules are being lined up to support resumption of lunches on Monday, Wednesday and Friday effective January 19, 2014. In addition, volunteers are being recruited to support the many other events where food is served throughout the year.

Thank you to Don for stepping up and a big thank you to Sharon Miller for her support over the past year managing the kitchen, the lunch service and for her continued support.

If you are interested in volunteering to support the Post's Kitchen, please contact Don Thompson via email at: duckthompson63@yahoo.com

Highlights from a Busy Post #7288!

The Post has been busy the last couple of months with a number of events.

Veterans Day Starting with our Buddy Poppy Drive on Saturday of Veterans Day weekend, over 20 volunteers from the Post, the Ladies Auxiliary and Men's Auxiliary worked at three locations to distribute Buddy Poppies and raised \$1,305 in donations! Thank you to all our volunteers for another outstanding effort.

Commander's Message (con't.)

The Post was also well represented on November 10, 2014 when the West Brunswick High School's JROTC Cadets hosted and conducted the second annual Veterans Day Ceremony honoring local veterans who served in all five branches of service and from World War II to Operation Enduring Freedom.

At our Veterans Day Ceremony at the Post, over 110 members and guests attended our ceremony that included the reading of poems, singing of God Bless America by Cathy Milstead and listening to our guest speaker, our comrade and friend, Pat Patterson, WWII Veteran and former POW. Certainly a heartwarming event in honor of all veterans' service to our country.

WWII Party On November 15th there were 25 World War II veterans and another 100 of their friends and family members at the annual World War II Party held at the Post. A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Non-Commissioned Officers Association World War II Honor and Remembrance Medallion to three special World War II veterans at the Calabash Post. Receiving the medallion were Charlie Schneider, Pat Patterson and Fred Hall. After the presentations entertainment was provided by acclaimed ventriloquist Brian Tiernan, who is also an excellent comedian and musician. His show was followed by a hearty roast pork dinner with all the sides and the inevitable camaraderie that happens when veterans of all ages congregate. A big "THANK YOU" to all the volunteers that made this event successful!

Annual Golf Tournament On November 17th the Post held its annual VFW Calabash Post #7288 Golf Tournament at Sea Trails Jones Course. Over 130 members and volunteers participated and helped raise \$4,000 for The Wounded Warrior Project. Thank you to all participants and volunteers who supported the event.

Rick Arvonio, Commander

MENS AUXILIARY

Comrades,

It has been a very busy year for the Mens Auxiliary. From new sidewalk to new appliances for the post, we have incurred major expenses. Thanks to your efforts for volunteering for fundraisers and other post functions, we were able to pay for the much needed items.

Special thanks go out to Linda and Bobby Haight for their donation of the 2 quilts the Mens Auxiliary raffled off. We sold over \$870 in raffle tickets to be donated to Wounded Warriors. Great job done by all volunteers in selling these tickets.

As most of you know, I have taken over the duties of the kitchen manager. We will be reopening for lunch in the near future. As usual, we need help in the kitchen to do lunches. If you cook burgers on the grill at home you certainly can cook them on the grill in the kitchen! Four hours on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday would be greatly appreciated. Contact me or the Post Commander and let us know you want to help.

I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thanks for your support.

Don Thompson
President

LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS



WELCOME to our newest members: Patricia Hinkley and Carol Jutte. Our Halloween Party, on 31 October, was a tremendous success. Thanks to all who helped

and/or attended this function. The profits from the party was added to half of the money we made supporting the Oyster Festival and we donated \$1,000 to the Department of North Carolina's Special Project "HOMELESS VETERANS". This means that our donation to this program will assist the homeless veterans in our state. We delivered 20 boxes of supplies for the Blue star Mother's "Christmas Boxes for Heroes" Project. Because of your generosity they were able to pack over 250 individual boxes which were sent to our troops overseas in time for Christmas. On 12, 14 and 21 November 2014 we presented our Citizenship Education Program at Waccamaw and Union Elementary Schools. We had over 160 2nd graders between the two schools and the presentation was very well received by both the teachers and the students. Thanks to all those auxiliary sisters who helped put the packages together and attended the sessions with me.

We had a project day at the Post on Wednesday, 19 November and completed 80 Christmas ornaments and 40 bookmarks for Fayetteville. Thanks to those elves who

decorated the post on 3 December—it truly was a winter wonderland. On 10 December we had a terrific Christmas Luncheon following our meeting and thanks to the generosity of those attending we had over 50 toys donated to the Toys-4-Tots Campaign. On 12 December we visited Shallotte Middle School to present the winners of our Patriot Pen Program their certificates and checks. Certificates and a small token of appreciation were given to all 14 students who submitted an essay on this year's theme "Why I Appreciate America's Veterans". This year's winners were: 1st Place-Jewel Marlowe, 2nd Place-Holly Long and 3rd Place-Makoa Surigao.

During early December we collected items for delivery to the Fayetteville VA Medical Center. On the 16th we loaded up and delivered 30 lap quilts, boxes of books and puzzle books, socks sweatshirts/pants and personal hygiene items which will be presented to the resident patients at the medical center at Christmas. Thanks go to our friends at Crow Creek and Donna Price (a friend of a member) for making/donating the lap quilts and to all those who donated items.

The New Year brings new projects and hopefully refreshed spirits. We will packing away our Christmas decorations on 7 January 2015 at 10:30 and appreciate all helpers. Our District 5 Meeting is scheduled for 24 January 2015 at 12:00 at the Holly Ridge Post. Please let us know if you want to attend so we can arrange transportation. The Winter Council of Administration will be held 6-8 February 2015 in

Greensboro, NC at the Embassy Suites. The banquet Saturday night will be in honor of the department's Patriot Pen and Voice of Democracy winners. Also, we just added the following to our schedule—our Chinese Auction will be held on 21 March 2015 from 10:00 to 2:00 at the post; and on 18 April we are hosting a "SOCK HOP". More detailed information on both of these events will be provided at our January meeting. We also have two new raffles (one for tickets for High Tea and the other for a gas grill) that will be advertised shortly with proceeds going to the VFW "Operation Changing Lives" Program.

I'm interested in your honest opinions on how you feel our auxiliary is doing and any ideas you have on projects/events to help our veterans/military personnel and their families. So please consider attending our meetings, and participate in our events/projects. Our auxiliary is only as strong as our members. Our next meetings will be held on 13 January and 10 February 2015, both at 1:00.

Fran Redfield, President

LADIES AUXILIARY

President	Fran Redfield 910 287-7527
Sr. V. President	Nancy Earney 843 399-7233
Jr. V. President	Brenda Arnold-Paige 910 575-5259
Chaplain	Joan Elmeier 910 575-2420
Treasurer	Susan Burchacki 856 761-2200
Secretary	Shan Warner 802 683-4223



7288 Members Golf League

VFW Calabash Post #7288 Monday Golf League Members

The end-of-season Monday Golf League luncheon has been moved from January 19, 2015 to January 26, 2015. The menu from the Grill at Sunset includes a carving station serving top round and ham, salad, mashed potatoes, green beans and dessert. The luncheon is free for members who have played 15 or more rounds during 2014 and is also free for members who were injured or ill during the season who could not play the minimum 15 rounds. Members who have not met the minimum 15 rounds are welcome to attend the luncheon for the modest cost of \$20.00.

2015 league dues of \$10 are due prior to the January 5th play at Heather Glen. The January / February schedule is as follows:

January 5	Heather Glen	\$35.00
January 9	Oyster Bay	\$33.00
January 19	Oak Island	\$36.00
January 26	Thistle	\$39.00
February 2	Panthers Run	\$32.00
February 9	Tidewater	\$45.00
February 16	Crow Creek	\$35.00
February 23	Pearl West	\$35.00

The field size (maximum number of players) for all events is 24 members. Show and go times can be found on the bulletin board at the Post.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

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



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

Jan 8 JC Peloquin, Steve Perry,
Nick Micale, Sue Burchaki
Jan 15 Linda McPhearson, Ken Keil,
Bill McDavid, Marlene Lidgard
Jan 22 Durwood Jackson, John
Mitchell, Eric Johnson, Linda
Johnson
Jan 29 Ray Ketcham, John Parisi,
Ed Warner, Shari Warner

Feb 5 Wayne Spears, Greg Fallus,
Bob Hall, Sue Burchaki
Feb 12 Linda McPhearson, Don
Thompson, Jim Milstead,
Cathy Milstead
Feb 19 Durwood Jackson, Mike
Crowley, Eric Johnson, Linda
Johnson
Feb 26 Ray Ketcham, Jerry Baum,
Pat Hinchliffe, Marlene

SICK & DECEASED

SICK - Don Bartoy, 239 Junco Circle, Loris, SC 29568
Al Branham, 514 Medcalf Dr. SW, Sunset Beach, NC 28468
Stuart South, 202 Ocean Forest Dr. NW, Calabash, NC 28467

DECEASED - Tom Donovan, Randy Hafele, Joseph Meo
Auxiliary - Joe Roundy

NEW MEMBERS

Danny Deluca, Rick Kirincich, Billy Ray Linker, John Schmidt, Mike Sharron, John Sokolwski

COMING IN FEBRUARY



FISH FRY

FRIDAY NIGHTS

FEBRUARY 20, 2015 THRU APRIL 3, 2015

Fried Fish, French Fries & Cole Slaw

POST OFFICERS

Commander.....	Richard Arvonio	.....910 579-7617
Sr. V. Commander.....	Robert Haight	.....910 579-9398
Jr. V. Commander.....	Robert Hall	.....910 575-0420
Quartermaster.....	William McCormick	.....910 579-6149
Chaplain.....	Jim Stueve	.....910 579-2112
Adjutant.....	Michael Crowley	.....973 699-2763
Service Officer.....	Diane Larrowe	.....910 575-1015
Publicity.....	Frank Richardson	.....910 352-1001
Bingo.....	Rich Wood	.....910 287-5382
House Committee.....	Bill Hertline	.....910 575-8057



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

World War II Veterans Honored



World War II Veterans! There were 25 World War II veterans and another 100 of their fellow veterans, friends and family members at the annual World War Two Party at VFW Calabash Post #7288. A highlight of the November 15th event was the presentation of the Non-Commissioned Officers Association World War II Honor and Remembrance Medallion to three special World War Two veterans at the Calabash Post. Receiving the medallion are Charlie Schneider, pictured with Post Commander Rick Arvonio, Pat Patterson and Fred Hall. After the presentations entertainment was provided by acclaimed ventriloquist Brian Tiernan, who is also an excellent comedian and musician. His show was followed by a hearty roast pork dinner with all the sides provided by volunteers of the Post and its Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries and the inevitable camaraderie that happens when veterans of all ages congregate.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2015

- Jan 4 Breakfast - 8 to 11 a.m.
- Jan 6 Post Members Meeting 10 a.m.
- Jan 6 Men's Auxiliary Meeting 2:30 p.m.
- Jan 8 Red Cross Blood Drive
- Jan 8 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- Jan 10 Hall Rental - The Farm
- Jan 13 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 1 p.m.
- Jan 14 Hall Rental - Tee Birds Luncheon
- Jan 15 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- Jan 22 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- Jan 29 Bingo 6:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2015

- Feb 1 Breakfast - 8 to 11 a.m.
- Feb 3 Post Members Meeting 10 a.m.
- Feb 3 Men's Auxiliary Meeting 2:30 p.m.
- Feb 5 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- Feb 7 Hall Rental - Calabash Lions Tea Party
- Feb 10 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 1 p.m.
- Feb 12 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- Feb 14 Valentine's Day Party
- Feb 19 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- Feb 20 Fish Fry 5 to 7 p.m.
- Feb 26 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
- Feb 27 Fish Fry 5 to 7 p.m.