



NEWSLETTER



VFW Post 7288 - Calabash, NC - March - April. 2015

COMMANDERS MESSAGE



MEMBERSHIP

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers, it is due to your volunteerism that VFW Calabash Post #7288 has been extraordinarily successful in accomplishing so much for veterans and their families. Looking forward, we need to think about how we can increase membership in this great VFW Post! The membership ad that you see in this newsletter is a "Call Out" to

attract new members to our Post and the Auxiliaries.

I invite you to print it and hand it out or email it to family, friends and neighbors who you think may be a combat veteran and may be eligible to join. Or it may be someone who may have a family member that was a combat veteran and may be interested in joining one of the Post's Auxiliaries. If your community has an electronic bulletin board that sends messages to all homeowners in your community, we can provide you with the membership ad in a digital format that you can send to them for posting on your community's electronic bulletin board. If you want the digital version, e-mail us at vfwcalabash@atmc.net and we will send one right out to your e-mail address.

We are strong in numbers! Growing our membership will make us stronger and allow us to continue to do great things for veterans and their families in need!

Please join me in getting the word out! Thank you for your continued help and support!

ALUMINUM PULL TABS

We do it every day but don't give it much thought. You go to the refrigerator, take out a can of beer or soda and pull back on the "Pull Tab" to open the can and throw away the pull tab! **STOP! SAVE IT! AND TURN IT INTO A CASH DONATION!**

VFW Calabash Post #7288 in partnership with American Legion Post #503 in Calabash collects pull tabs to provide financial support for Ronald McDonald Houses of North Carolina. Ronald McDonald Houses are located in close proximity to hospitals that give special health care to children. They provide a low cost bed for the parents of children who are undergoing extended care in hospitals that are remote from the family home. At the Ronald McDonald House in Durham, over 30% of the families are military families with children who have been referred and are being treated at Duke or one of the other area hospitals.



There are 5 Ronald McDonald Houses in North Carolina, serving all one hundred counties of our State. They are located in [Durham](#), [Chapel Hill](#), [Winston-Salem](#), [Charlotte](#), and [Greenville](#) and are financially supported by the McDonalds Corporation and from public donations.



One method of fund raising to support the houses is the collection of pull tabs from drink cans. American Legion Posts throughout North Carolina along with their partners like our Post #7288, participate in the program by collecting the pull tabs, selling them to a recycler and making direct donations to the houses.

Pull tabs are collected at Post level and brought to a Raleigh recycler where they are weighed and the funds generated are donated to Ronald McDonald House Charities. At the 2010 American Legion Fall Conference in Raleigh, 5,387 lbs. of pull tabs were collected.

What does this mean for you? It means you can help support your Post's and the American Legion Post's efforts to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities in North Carolina. Please save your "Pull Tabs" and bring them to the Post. For more information on Ronald McDonald House Charities go to: <http://www.rmhc.org>.

Your help and support are appreciated

COMFORT SOCKS

"Comfort the Feet, Comfort the Soul" is the motto of Comfort Socks, a 501(c)3 Supply, NC. Comfort Socks collects and homeless, homeless shelters and primarily serve the homeless population States. Far too many of the homeless your Post wants to support the Comfort



Your help is needed to make this effort a success, helping those in need. New crew or tube socks are needed now!

The Post will run quarterly sock drives and have a collection bin located in the Post's Canteen. Your sock donations will be collected throughout the year but importantly, donated socks will be delivered quarterly (January 2, April 1, July 1, October 1 or more frequently if necessary) to Comfort Socks. For more information you can go online to www.comfortsocks.org or if you have any questions, you may contact Bill Gajewski, Jr. vice president, Men's Auxiliary via email at mrbill308@aol.com or Brenda Arnold, Jr. vice president, Ladies Auxiliary via email at barnoldtoo@atmc.net.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

Bill Gajewski, Jr.
Vice President, Men's Auxiliary



LOOKING FOR COMBAT VETERANS

- **SERVED IN THE U.S. MILITARY** •
- **SERVED IN A COMBAT ZONE** •
- **HONORABLY DISCHARGED** •

*Then you've earned eligibility to become a
Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States!*

*If you haven't served in a combat zone,
but a family member has, you may be
eligible to become an auxiliary member!*

THE VFW PROVIDES:

- **FRATERNAL & PATRIOTIC ATMOSPHERE** •
- **CHARITABLE & SERVICE ORGANIZATION** •
 - **PLACE TO MEET OTHER VETERANS** •
 - **PLACE TO VOLUNTEER AND GIVE BACK** •

VFW...NO ONE DOES MORE *FOR VETERANS!*

For more information:

Go to: <http://myvfw.org/nc/post7288/>

Call: 910-579-3577

email: vfwcalabash@atmc.net

Visit: 900 Carter Dr., Calabash, NC 28467

LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

Dear Sisters,



WELCOME to our newest members: Pinky Hindman and Marjorie Sears. Congratulations to all those members who recruited new members and helped us achieve 100% in Membership before 31 January 2015; earning us a \$30.00 award from National.

Our District 5 Meeting was held on 24 January 2015 at the Holly Ridge Post.

Thanks to Brenda Arnold, Susan Burchacki, Marlene Lidgard, and Shari Warner for representing the Ladies Auxiliary. They brought us good news—Our Patriot Pen winner took 3rd Place in District competition, and both our Teachers of the Year (one at elementary school level and one at middle school level) took 1st Place in District competition. We received checks for all the winners which will be presented to the winners in the late February/March time frame. The Winter Council of Administration was held 6-8 February 2015 in Greensboro. The VFW National Adjutant John Hamilton and the National Ladies Auxiliary Treasurer/Secretary Jan Owens attended. We heard the latest news about the proposed changes for next year—cancellation of the Cancer Aid and Research Program and the disbandment of the Junior Girls Program; and the proposed resolutions being proposed for a gender-free auxiliary. The banquet Saturday night was in honor of the department's Patriot Pen and Voice of Democracy (VOD) winners. All 17 VOD district winners were in attendance and the top three state winners were announced. The state winner will be attending the Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. in early March where the national winners will be announced. Thanks to Brenda Arnold, Nancey Earney, Barbara Hertline, Sharon Kossler and Cathy Milstead for taking care of the decorations for the Valentine's Day Dinner/dance on 13 February. Also thanks to Cathy Milstead and her Pre-K students from Seaside United Methodist Church for making valentine cards for the veterans residing in the Fayetteville VA Medical Center.

Several fundraising social events have been planned. Our annual Chinese Auction will be held on 21 March 2015 at the Post. Doors will open at 10:00 a.m. and bidding must be completed by 1:00 p.m. Winners will be announced beginning promptly at 1:00. You need not be present to win any of the auction items. Entry packets (which include 15 tickets for bidding purposes and one door prize ticket) are available at the door for \$10.00. Extra entry packets, a special item table, a silent auction, and refreshments will be available. The proceeds from the Chinese Auction will be donated to the VFW National Military Services Program which includes Operation Uplink (free telephone cards for military personnel serving overseas and their families and overseas internet cafes), the Military Assistance Program and the Unmet Needs Program for military personnel and their families; and Adopt-a-Unit which provides funds to be used in the support of deploying or returning troops. For more information on the Chinese Auction, contact Chairperson Nancey Earney at 843-243-7068.

On 18 April 2015, the Ladies Auxiliary will host a Sock Hop "Let's Go To The Hop" from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and includes dinner and a dance as we rock to the music of the 50's and 60's. There will also be a "Fonzie Look-Alike" Contest, a Dance Contest and a prize awarded for the "Best 50's Outfit". Tickets for the Sock Hop are \$12.00 each and can be purchased at the Post's Canteen. Proceeds from the Sock Hop will be donated to the Fisher House at FT Bragg, Fayetteville. Fisher House (much like a Ronald McDonald House) provides a comfortable, temporary home to help military family members be close to their family member who is receiving medical treatment or recuperating at Womack Army Medical Center on FT Bragg. There is no charge to the family members while staying at Fisher House. For more information about the Sock Hop, contact Chairperson Carmen Daughtry at 910-579-8662. We also have a new raffle for a gas grill with proceeds going to the VFW "Operation Changing Lives" Program. The Grill will be raffled off at the Post's St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

Please plan on attending our meetings, and participate in our events/projects. We have a project/event that we could use your help and suits your considerable talents. Our organization's focus is supporting our veterans, our military and their families. Help us help them. Our next meetings will be held on 10 March and 14 April 2015, both at 1 p.m.

Yours in Sisterhood

Fran Redfield

LADIES AUXILIARY OFFICERS

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



The Ladies Auxiliary supports the VFW National Home for Children by collecting Campbell's Products "LABELS FOR EDUCATION". Just clip the barcode labels from any Campbell's, Progresso or Swanson soups/broths/gravies and put them in our mailbox in the Post. We also collect the front half of any used greeting cards (such as Christmas, Get Well, Birthday cards, etc.) for our hospital project.



FRIDAY NIGHT FISH FRY

Fried Fish . . . French Fries . . . Cole Slaw . . .and more 5 to 7 p.m.



Every Lenten season is the time for VFW Post 7288 to serve up its Friday fish fry dinners from 5 to 7 p.m. The dinners, which continue each Friday through April 3rd, include a huge serving of haddock, french fries and coleslaw for \$11 per plate. Chowder is available for \$2. Come 5 o'clock, the kitchen volunteers were ready...the servers were ready and the assembled crowd was hungry.



7288 Members Golf League

March - April Schedule

Mar 2	Brick Landing	7:30	Apr 6	Pearl West	7:10
Mar 9	Rivers Edge	7:30	Apr 13	Crow Creek	7:00
Mar 16	Eagles Nest	7:30	Apr 20	Seatrail Byrd	7:00
Mar 23	Beachwood	7:30	Apr 27	River Hills	7:15
Mar 30	Lions Paw	8:00			



St. Patrick's Day Dinner
Tuesday, March 17, 2015
4 to 6 p.m. - \$11 per Person
"All the Goodies"



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



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

Mar 5	Wayne Spears, Bill McDavid, Nick Micale, Su Burchaki	Apr 2	Wayne Spears, Greg Fallus, Bob Hall, Sue Burchaki
Mar 12	JC Peloquin, John Parisi, Ed Warner, Shari Warner	Apr 9	JC Peloquin, Herk Hernandez, Ken Keil, Marlene Lidgard
Mar 19	Linda McPhearson, Don Thompson, Jim Milstead, Cathy Milstead	Apr 16	Linda McPhearson, Bill McDavid, Ed Warner, Shari Warner
Mar 26	Durwood Jackson, Marty Biddle, Eric Johnson, Linda Johnson	Apr 23	Durwood Jackson, Don Thompson, Jim Milstead, Cathy Milstead
		Apr 30	Ray Ketcham, Nick Micale, Eric Johnson, Linda Johnson

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

Essay Contest Winner



Eric Cortese, a member of the West Brunswick High School Jr. ROTC, was honored in the presence of his classmates February 12th for his Voice of Democracy essay sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. His essay on the theme "Why Veterans Are Important To Our Nation's History And Future" came in second in VFW District 5 which covers much of southeastern North Carolina. The monetary award was presented by Rick Arvonio, Commander of VFW Calabash Post #7288 after which Cortese explained his essay to his classmates. Listening intently are, from left, Post Commander Arvonio, Post member George Bisette and Bob Haight, Sr. Vice-Commander of VFW Calabash Post #7288 who chairs the Post's Voice of Democracy Committee. Cortese's essay also won First Place in the Post's Voice of Democracy competition, which will be presented at the JROTC Honors Ceremony May 6th at the High School.

SICK & DECEASED

SICK - Fred Hall, 101 Brightwater Dr., Apt. 303, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579
Frank Morrone, 4353 Spa Dr., Unit 901, Little River, SC 29566
Stuart South, 202 Ocean Forest Dr. NW, Calabash, NC 28467

DECEASED - Russell Anderson, Al Branham, Ed McDougall

Send a Card . . . Say a Prayer

NEW MEMBERS

Nelson Anderson, Cito DeBartolo, Joseph Dowling, John Duval, Maurice Hanes, David Holladay, John Fallon, Theodore Ford, Stephen Miller, Jason Richardson, Eugene Ruta, Edward Sahol, Dennis Sobotka, Rocky Walker, Gerald Ward

MEN'S AUXILIARY

These past couple of months have been long and relatively quiet for the Men's Auxiliary. Wishing winter would soon get over. We purchased a new hot water system for the post and it is in the process of installation. Lunches at the post are ongoing every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Come out and enjoy a good and inexpensive lunch at our post. Fish Fry is back in full swing every Friday from now until Good Friday. Tell your friends and neighbors, it is open to the public. Elections are coming in April and nominations will open in March. If you feel like you can make a difference with new ideas and want to do more to support the Post, please step forward and seek an office. We need more people to step up to the challenges ahead to do more for veterans and their families.



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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 2015

Mar 1 Breakfast - 8 to 11 a.m.
Mar 3 Post Members Meeting 10 a.m.
Mar 3 Men's Auxiliary Meeting 2:30 p.m.
Mar 5 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
Mar 6 Fish Fry 5 to 7 p.m.
Mar 10 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 1 p.m.
Mar 12 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
Mar 13 Fish Fry 5 to 7 p.m.
Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day
Mar 19 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
Mar 20 Fish Fry 5 to 7 p.m.
Mar 21 Ladies Auxiliary Chinese Auction
Mar 26 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
Mar 27 Fish Fry 5 to 7 p.m..

APRIL 2015

Apr 2 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
Apr 3 Fish Fry 5 to 7 p.m.
Apr 4 Hall - Calabash Lions Club Flea Mkt.
Apr 5 Breakfast - 8 to 11 a.m.
Apr 7 Post Members Meeting 10 a.m.
Apr 7 Men's Auxiliary Meeting 2:30 p.m.
Apr 9 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
Apr 11 Great Drawing
Apr 14 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 1 p.m.
Apr 16 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
Apr 18 Ladies Auxiliary "Sock Hop"
Apr 21 Life Screening
Apr 23 Bingo 6:30 p.m.
Apr 24 Hall - Tony Nye 50th Anniversary
Apr 30 Bingo 6:30 p.m.