



NEWSLETTER

VFW Post 7288 - Calabash, NC - Jan/Feb 2019

www.vfw7288.org



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Here we are in 2019!!! I can hardly believe how fast the time goes by. I hope everyone had a happy and safe Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The Post has been extremely busy the past two months. Needless to say I was very proud of our Post as well. I want to thank Bob Stocklin for chairing the Buddy Poppy Distribution on November 10. There were plenty of volunteers to hand out the poppies and take in any donation money. The Veterans Day Ceremony, which fell on

a Sunday this year, was very well attended and with the help of our Auxiliary, the ceremony itself was very well received. Following Veterans Day, the Post held its annual golf tournament. I can't thank Jimmy Milstead enough for the outstanding job he did as chairman of this event. Everyone had a great time even though they had to dance around the rain a little. The best part of this effort was that it generated \$4500.00 that was donated to the VFW National Home for Children. That was fantastic.

Another show of generosity of our Post members was the large amount of toys, including bicycles, that was collected for Toys For Tots.

Our quarterly luncheon for veterans from Summit Assisted Living was well attended. Two new directors from the facility also attended and enjoyed the lunch. Many thanks to the Auxiliary members who help with this function.

The WWII party on December 8th was another success. We had a 121 people attend the party. Out of that 121 we had 22 WWII Veterans and one Widow of a WWII Veteran.

I believe this annual party is the highlight of the year. It is always an honor to show appreciation to these men and women.

Although we are moving into a slow pace the next two months there are some important activities ahead. First to be mentioned is one of our candidates in the Voice of Democracy contest won first place in District 5. Danielle Varnum of West Brunswick High School will now compete on the State level. The winner will be selected at the VFW Winter Council of Administration meeting to be held in Cary, North Carolina February 7th through the 10th.

Our Post will host a Valentines Party February 15th. This party always sells out. It is a great time. Keep your eyes open for tickets sale in the canteen and at meetings.

Beyond February we will be hosting a Home Coming party for our VFW North Carolina State Commander Allen Payne. This event will be held on April 26th and 27th. More information will

be available as we get closer to the date.

I want to thank all of you that made 2018 very successful even though we struggled through a couple of hurricanes. With your help and volunteerism we were still able to meet our obligations and also make substantial donations to those in need. Outstanding effort on your part. Let's please keep up that momentum and make 2019 just as successful.

Keep warm for the next few months. Better weather is just around the corner.

And always remember - This is your Post.

Dan Kossler
Commander

AUXILIARY

The Holidays are over and a new year begins. I cannot thank everyone enough for all they do for the VFW programs and I hope you can continue the support in 2019.



Our Auxiliary 1st Place winners for Teacher of the Year in K-5, Jada Fimbel from Union Elementary and Staci Mann from Shallotte Middle School are also 1st Place winners in District 5 and are on their way for Department judging. We are waiting to hear if our Patriot Pen 1st Place Winner, Abigail Powell, from Shallotte Middle School may be a District 5 winner too. An announcement is

forthcoming from the District Chair.

The Auxiliary made monetary donations to the VA Medical Center in Fayetteville and to the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc. during December.

PAST EVENTS

10 Nov - Our Buddy Poppy Distribution went well and we collected \$800 with 12 members assisting.

11 Nov - Auxiliary members were proud to assist the Post with its Veterans Day program by singing solos or duets during the program as well as cook/serve a light lunch. Each year, the Auxiliary donates a decorated sheet cake and fixes a light lunch.

16 Nov - Several Auxiliary members cooked or set up and served lunch at the Post's quarterly luncheon for over 15 Veterans who reside at the Summit Assisted Living facility in Little River.

8 Dec - Thanks to the many Auxiliary members who cooked,

AUXILIARY (con't.)

decorated, and served dinner at the WWII Veterans Dinner. The WWII Veterans and WWII widows are always extremely appreciative. Cathy Milstead's Pre-K class at Seaside United Methodist School made Xmas cards for the Veterans to take home. Julia Larsen sewed a "Quilt of Valor" and donated it to Alma McClune, a WWII veteran.

15 Dec - I am not sure if any Post Members attended the Wreaths Across America Program to help place wreaths on the graves of veterans due to the heavy rain. However, Susan Burchacki collected \$760 from Post members during November and another \$400 came from the sale of the coupon books toward the purchase of 185 wreaths.

5 Jan - 9 Mar - The Auxiliary is kicking off a Saturday 10 am bowling league. We wanted this to be a fund raiser but need more than the 30 who have signed up. If you are interested, contact Tim Sears at 910-579-7584. Bowling will be at Planet Fun in Shallotte.

8-10 Feb - The Department Council of Administration session will be held at the Embassy Suites, 201 Harrison Oaks Blvd in Cary NC. All members are welcome. See me if you want to attend. The Department will recognize their VOD, Patriot's Pen and Teachers of the Year winners.

23 Mar - The annual Lucky Draw and Silent Auction will be held Saturday March 23 from 10 am-2 pm. This is an event for men and women. There will be doughnuts and coffee for sale in the morning and sandwiches and sodas in the afternoon. Drawings for prizes starts at 1 pm. This is the main fund raiser for the Auxiliary in the Spring. Items donated for this event can be dropped off at the Post. Nancey Earney and Barbara Hertline will chair this event.

26-27 Apr - The Post will be hosting a Homecoming Event for NC State Commander Allen Payne. In addition, the NC Auxiliary President Patty Harris will be attending. There will be much planning to do and coordinating with the Department Committee. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Sharon Kossler, President

BOWLING LEAGUE

We still need about 8 more bowlers to make a 10 team league. The league starts on January 5, 2019 and continues for 10 weeks to March 9, 2019. The day is Saturday morning starting at 10 am and cost is \$15.00 every Saturday. This is a VFW fundraiser with all monies going to Wreaths Across Americas, Children's Home and Post 7288. We need your support so please let Tim Sears or Wayne Weszka know if you are interested in joining. Get up on Saturday and enjoy a day of bowling and friends, we need your support of this fundraiser. We will be having a banquet on March 9, 2019 for all bowlers with prizes, food and open bar.

BINGO

We've come to a new year and Bingo will be bigger and better than ever. We would like to encourage everyone to grab a friend and come play Bingo on Thursday night at the VFW. Remember, your participation helps to support our veterans. We need your support to make this one of our better years for supporting our veterans. **We have increased our regular Bingo games payout from \$40 to \$50.** The more players the better the prize payout. The Auxiliary opens the kitchen around 5:15 PM with dinners, hot dogs and snacks. In the event, you don't play Bingo, you might like to donate your time to counter your help as a floor walker, check writer or caller. We need your help to keep Bingo going in 2019. We have lost volunteers due to sickness and other conditions. Please contact Wayne Weszka at 443 326-9961 to offer your time. **We need all positions for 2019.**



Thanks for your continued support through the years.

Wayne Weszka
Bingo Chairman

FROM THE KITCHEN

After lunches are done on Monday December 17, the kitchen will close for the Holidays. It will reopen on Monday, January 7, weather permitting. We are planning to have lunches every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. This can only happen with enough volunteers and support from members. We cannot afford to open for only a few lunches. Let's all try and make an effort to come out for lunch and support your post. We need two people to work lunches. One to cook and one to take orders. Get a friend and you can be a team. Anyone wanting to volunteer, please contact Don Thompson or Wayne Spears. Thanks.

FROM THE COMMANDER: I want to thank Donnie Thompson and Wayne Spears for their efforts in managing the kitchen while I have been Commander. I also want to thank Joe Capone, Linda Dolan, Phyllis Roup and Shari Weaver for all they have done over the last few months - working lunches and Bingo.



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- Dart League - Every Tuesday 5:30 pm – Newcomers Welcome
- Bingo - Every Thursday 6:30 pm
- Jan 1 - Regular Member Monthly Mtg @ 10 am
- Jan 6 - Post Breakfast from 8-10:30 am
- Jan 8 - Auxiliary Monthly Mtg @ 1 pm
- Jan 9 - Shields Meeting
- Jan 27 - Winter Chill Off Event
- Feb 3 - Post Breakfast
- Feb 5 - Regular Member Monthly Mtg. @ 10 am
- Feb 12 - Auxiliary Meeting @1 pm
- Feb 13 - Shields Meeting
- Feb 15 - Valentine's Day Party

Check the Bulletin Board or Digital Sign for Additional Info

DECEASED

Ed Dwornick, Derek Hill, Stuart Smith, Gary Thomas

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our New Members

James Ashe, Charles Pangburn, Edward Walker, Edward McGuire

SICK

Bill Cleaver, Ed Dwornick, Mike Nagle
Walt Timmerman, Brooke Farquhar
"Say a Prayer . . . Send a Card"

OFFICERS - 2019

Elected Officers

Commander.....Dan Kossler
Senior Vice Commander.....Rick Arvonio
Junior Vice Commander.....Robert Stocklin
Quartermaster.....William McCormick
Chaplain.....Rich Murray
Trustee - 1 Year.....Tommy Tucker
Trustee - 2 Year.....Diane Larowe
Trustee - 3 Year.....Vince Krasniewicz

Appointed Officers

Adjutant.....Pasquale Cappelletti
Judge Advocate.....Jim Stueve
Public Affairs/Publicity.....Pasquale Cappelletti
Surgeon.....Eric Johnson
Service Officer.....Rose Deck
Officer of the Day.....Cliff Hinkley
Guard.....Cliff Hinkley
Webmaster.....Rose Deck

House Committee

1 Year.....Bill Hertline - Chairman
2 Year.....Jim Milstead
3 Year.....Rick Arvonio
Congratulations to all of our officers and thank you for volunteering and stepping up to support 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.



Julia Larsen leads the audience in singing the National Anthem at the Veterans Day Ceremony



WWII Dinner December 8 2018



Cathy Milstead and Gordy Heitmuller sing a duet of a WWI song at the Veteran's Day Ceremony to honor 100 year anniversary of the end of WWI



Commander Dan donates a WWII hat to Colgate Fish at the WWII Dinner

VFW CALABASH POST #7288 SPONSORS

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



Butcher of Brunswick



Boundary House



VFW Calabash Post 7288 Bingo

VFW Post 7288 Bingo



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Sacred Willow Spa



Joey O's



Yard Bird Emporium



Officer's Club



Tidewater Golf Club



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