



NEWSLETTER

September/October 2021

VFW Calabash Post 7288

www.vfw7288.org

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



I am happy to report that the Post's programs and activities are running nicely as we transition through the summer. The school year has begun, and our student competitions for the Voice of Democracy, (VOD) Patriot's Pen and Patriotic Art contests are underway. The VOD theme this year is "America: Where do we go from here?". After last year, I'm looking forward to what the young folks have to say. We are very fortunate to have a very active West Brunswick High School (WBHS) Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) led by Colonel Joseph Calisto (USA Ret.) located in our area. The students not only provide entries in the VFW competitions but assist us with ceremonial postings during patriotic holiday observances and memorial services.

Our Post 7288 Relief Fund is getting a much-needed boost with the public relations section of Food Lion of North Carolina relaxing the restrictions of charitable solicitations outside their store locations. Though we will be only allowed the posting of two people to distribute Buddy Poppies, they have granted our request to man outside positions at both the Carolina Shores and Sunset Beach stores on Saturday, November 6th. This is the only date in the month of November Food Lion is allowing solicitors to interact with the public. When the signup sheets are posted on the bulletin boards in the Canteen, help Jr. Vice Commander Larrowe by putting your name in the mix.

Upcoming events include the Post hosting the VFW District 5 Meeting on Saturday, September 18th. Anyone can attend and remember the canteen will be closed until the meeting is completed.

The Kitchen Crew never ceases to amaze! The past chicken dinner was again a huge success due to the hard work by a lot of unsung volunteers hidden away behind the partition. Thank You to Donnie

Thompson and all who assist in these wonderful meals that raise funds for our programs. Speaking of raising money, Bingo has never been better. Worries of the public not venturing back to our Thursday Bingo has been put to rest! Wayne Weszka and the volunteer worker roster are getting it done as never before. If you want to be a part of this remarkable team, let Wayne know. The kitchen helpers at Bingo on Thursdays are also superstars. Thanks to all.

On the recruiting side, it is nice to sign up some post-Vietnam members. With the tremendous building explosion in Brunswick County the younger veterans are headed this way. If you know any veteran be it WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War, Afghanistan, to name a few, let them know that the Post is here and what we are about. Too many Posts get cliquish and stagnate. We need the younger mindset and ideas as well as their talents to assume positions of leadership in the organization. Get out there and recruit. Along that line, remember I still need a full time Adjutant to help with our documenting programs and other administrative stuff.

In closing I'm going out on a high note. As mentioned earlier about the wonderful WBHS JROTC Program, I am proud to announce that the membership has approved founding a scholarship program for awarding a worthy student(s), funds to assist in furthering their education. In March of 2020 Past Commander Rick Arvonio prepared a well written point paper outlining requirements and basis for establishing such a scholarship fund. The motion was made and approved to start this program with an initial donation of \$1,500.00. The Auxiliary has expressed an interest to match this total. Comrade Arvonio has accepted the role to initiate this scholarship with Colonel Calisto and the WBHS JRORC administrators. Well done to all for making this happen.

Yours in Comradeship,

James A. "Jimmy" Milstead
Commander

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The year of COVID has hopefully finally passed. Thank you to Past President Susan Burchacki and her slate of officers for navigating through troubled waters and keeping the ship afloat this past year. I along with Vice President Cathy Milstead, Jr. Vice President Brenda Arnold, Treasurer Jean Weszka, Secretary/Trustee Pat Hinkley, Trustees Bill Gajewski and Sue Burchacki, Guard Barbara Hertline, Conductress Nancy Earney, and Chaplain April Farquhar look forward to serving as your new Auxiliary Board of Officers.

It takes more than just elected officers to make an organization successful. VFW Calabash Post 7288 Auxiliary Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 1:00 p.m. Your input and support are needed and welcomed to make our activities benefit our veteran related programs. To sit only 25- 30 members at a meeting out of a roster of over 200 members, leaves a lot of good ideas out of the room. The upcoming events such as dinners, Halloween dance, Chinese auction, and Bingo kitchen and floor help are just a few activities that could use additional volunteers to ease the workload and make them more productive. Bingo is the Post's biggest fundraiser. If you can help in the kitchen on Thursday evenings from 4-8 p.m., we would love to put you in the rotation. Contact me or Cathy Milstead if interested. The Post is also looking for that talented special person to manage public relations by getting our good deeds known by the community through photos and media articles. We do a lot of good things that are not being recognized outside of the Post Home.

Our main goal is to support VFW Calabash Post 7288's efforts to assist Veterans and Veteran related programs and activities. Commander Jim Milstead and I agree that more can be done in the local area of Brunswick County to support veterans and the families of veterans needing financial, moral, or physical assistance. I ask that if you know of a veteran in need or a family of a veteran in need; let it be known!

In closing, I sincerely thank all who have made our dinner programs such a huge success. I also appreciate the time and effort given by all the Bingo staff and workers. Bingo is alive and well supporting VFW Calabash Post 7288.

Here is hoping to see new faces at our next scheduled meeting September 14, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m.

Wayne Weszka
Auxiliary President

SERVICE OFFICER'S CORNER

Announcements from the Veterans Administration:

**** Vietnam Veterans:** Three new conditions have been added to the presumptive Agent Orange herbicidal sickness list: Bladder Cancer, Parkinsonism, and Hypothyroidism (overactive bladder).

**** Gulf War Veterans:** Three new conditions added to the presumptive "burn pit" list for those who served in theater from Sept. 1, 2001, until present: Asthma, Rhinitis, (inflamed mucus membrane) and Sinusitis (severe sinus infection).

Veterans with previously denied claims should reapply for benefits. Contact Brunswick County Veterans Service Office (910) 253-2233 for appointment.

VFW NC DEPARTMENT & BASS PRO SHOP SPORTS RAFFLE

Again, this year, VFW North Carolina Department is partnering with Bass Pro Shops and having a Sport Raffle at a cost of \$5 per ticket! You do not have to be present to win and your ticket is eligible to be picked for all prizes! If your ticket is selected for a prize, it will go back in the drawing for other prizes, so you can win more than once on the same ticket. The Grand Prize is \$10,000!

Importantly, our Post retains 20% of the proceeds from the sale of tickets at our Post – a Win/Win for the Post and its members. The remainder of the sales proceeds goes to the VFW Department of North Carolina.

The drawings will be held at the Mid-Winter C of A Convention on Friday night, February 3, 2022. Winners will receive a certificate for the value of the item won which may be used for any item of equal or lesser value at the Bass Pro Shop in Cary, NC.

So, buy your tickets and support your Post, the VFW North Carolina Department, and give yourself a chance to win valuable prizes – even \$10,000. Purchase one or more tickets at \$5 each at the Canteen or at a monthly meeting. Ask your bartenders or one of the Post Officers for tickets!

Below is a list of the prizes!

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|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Henry Golden Boy 22 | 14. Yeti 125 | 27. Savage 243 Rifle |
| 2. G2 RTH Compound Bow | 15. Penn Battle 2 Combo | 28. Bushnell Binoculars |
| 3. Ruger 9MM Pistol | 16. \$100.00 Cash | 29. Bass Pro Rain Parka |
| 4. Liberty Gun Safe | 17. Bass Pro Baitcast Combo | 30. Buckmaster 50cal. Muzzleloader |
| 5. Pieha 1858 Remington | 18. Garmin Fishfinder | 31. White River Flyfishing Combo |
| 6. Barnett XP 380 | 19. Savage 30/06 Rifle | 32. \$100.00 Cash |
| 7. Yeti Hopper Flip 18 | 20. Bradley Electric Smoker | 33. Shimano Baitcast |
| 8. \$100.00 Cash | 21. Glock G44 Compact | 34. Browning A83 |
| 9. Browning BP5 Pump 28GA | 22. Penn Surf Combo | 35. Shimano Surf Reel |
| 10. Yeti Tundra 45 | 23. Yeti Tundra 65 | 36. Winchester SXP |
| 11. Mr. Steak 4 Burner Grill | 24. \$100.00 Cash | 37. Shimano Calcutta |
| 12. Masterbuilt Propane Smoker | 25. Mini Kota Trolling Motor | 38. Landman Fire Pit |
| 13. Ruger 10/22 Rifle | 26. Penn Senator Rod and Reel | 39. Garmin Handheld GPS. |
| | 40. GRAND PRIZE | |
| | \$10,000.00 CASH | |

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: Check the Post's Bulletin Boards & Digital Sign for Event information, times, places, and sign-up sheets for volunteers.

Dart League Every Tuesday @ 5:30 p.m. – Newcomers Welcome
BINGO Every Thursday @ 6:30 p.m.
Golf League Every Wednesday at various Grand Strand courses.

Sept. 7 Regular Members Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.
 Sept. 11 Great Drawing Dinner/Dance @ 6:00 p.m.
 Sept. 14 Auxiliary Meeting @ 1:00 p.m.
 Sept. 18 District 5 Meeting @ 10:00 a.m. (Canteen closed until mtg. completed)
 Oct. 5 Regular Members Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.
 Oct. 5, 6, 7 VFW State Golf Tournament @ Sanford NC
 Oct. 12 Auxiliary Meeting 1:00 p.m.
 Oct. 13 U.S. Navy Birthday in Canteen @ 1:00 p.m.
 Oct. 16 Chinese Auction- 12:00 p.m.
 Oct. 30 Halloween Dance- 6:00 p.m.

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.

Check the bulletin board in the Canteen to see whose birthday it is each day and wish them a Happy Birthday!

KITCHEN MANAGER'S MESSAGE



The kitchen has been very busy these past couple of months. The Chicken Dinner was a success and BINGO has been doing very well. As always, we need more volunteers to be able to continue these myriad fundraising efforts. Anyone willing to learn how to use deep-fryers and flattop, I would be happy to teach you. There is nothing difficult about cooking! Help also needed for upcoming Sunday Football. Sign-up sheet posted in canteen. The Post is also looking for new kitchen manager to replace old one! I will work with a replacement and show you how things work daily. Please contact me if interested in becoming the Kitchen Manager. Thanks!

Don Thompson
Kitchen Manager

BINGO MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Bingo started the last week of March and has been going well. The number of players has been increasing every week and everyone seems to be enjoying getting out and playing. We open our kitchen for sandwiches and snacks around 4 o'clock prior to Bingo starting at 6:30 p.m. We are still in need of Callers and Check Writers if anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Wayne Weszka @ wwpremier@atmc.net. Please tell your neighbors and friends about our Thursday night Bingo! We like to see new faces. We play 19 games in about 3 hours with a short intermission halfway through and give out over \$1,200 every Thursday in total prizes. Come out and enjoy the evening's games.

Wayne Weszka
Bingo Manager

BOWLING LEAGUE

VFW Calabash Post 7288's Bowling League is looking for members and friends to join our Saturday morning Bowling League. The league begins on January 8, 2021 and continues for nine weeks. Bowling begins at 10:00 a.m. with warm-ups 10 minutes prior to starting. The cost is \$150 which covers all nine weeks of bowling and shoes rentals. An Award Banquet will be held at the conclusion of bowling, at a date to be announced later. Funds raised will be divided three ways, 40% for wreaths across America, 40% National Home for Children Renovation of the Kitchen and guest house and 20% to support the Post. The Bowling League began prior to COVID, was a great success and everyone enjoyed getting out on Saturday for bowling and Bloody Mary's. If interested please email Tim Sears @ tmsears@atmc.net.

NEW MEMBERS

July

Johnny M. Turner	Transfer from Lansing, Michigan
Milton C. Bruner	Transfer from Deer Park, Maryland
David C. Pope	New Member
Michael T. Flynn	New VFW Member
Glyn Hicks	Reinstated Member from San Jacinto, California

August

Billie D. Poplin	New VFW Member
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SICK LIST

Walt Timmerman	Home from Tideland's Medical Rehab Center Little River and resting at home.
Thomas Curfman	Awaiting bypass surgery at Grand Strand Medical Facility late August. Will be admitted to Grand Strand Rehabilitation Center after procedure.

Send a card, give a call, stop by for a visit!

DECEASED MEMBERS

William "Bubba" Grothe

August 11, 2021 Life Member

POST OFFICERS 2021-2022

Elected Officers

Commander
Sr. Vice Commander
Jr. Vice Commander
Quartermaster
Chaplain
1-Year Trustee
2-Year Trustee
3-Year Trustee
House Committee (Elected)

1-Year
2-Year
3-Year

Jim Milstead
 Cliff Hinkley
 Diane Larrowe
 Greg Gallus
 Eric Johnson
 Vince Krasniewicz
 Jay Bertha
 Don Whitfield

Cliff Hinkley
 Eric Johnson
 Bill Hertline

Appointed Officers

Adjutant Jack Goin
Judge Advocate Jim Strider
Surgeon Jim Carota
Service Officer Mickey Martin
Officer of the Day Jay Bertha
Guard Jay Bertha
Webmaster Rose Deck
Public Affairs Vacant

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President
 Sr. Vice President
 Jr. Vice President
 Conductress
 Treasurer
 Chaplain
 Secretary
 Guard
 3-Year Trustee
 2-Year Trustee
 1-Year Trustee

Wayne Weszka
 Cathy Milstead
 Brenda Arnold
 Nancy Earney
 Jeannie Weszka
 April Farquhar
 Pat Hinkley
 Barbara Hertline
 Sue Burchacki
 Bill Gajewski
 Pat Hinkley

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM MANAGER'S MESSAGE VFW CALABASH POST #7288 SPONSORS

Last year, 2020 and so far, most of 2021, has been an experience heretofore unmatched in our lifetime. As you can imagine, our Post "Sponsors", local small businesses, have been having their own challenges too. However, just like VFW Calabash Post 7288, they are invested in our community and continue to demonstrate their leadership in business and support our community. As a Post, we would like to encourage you to show your thanks by frequenting the businesses that sponsor our Post.

The Post is pleased to welcome three new sponsors to the team this year:

Art's Car Wash
Papa's Pizza
Calabash Deli Bakery & Gourmet Shop

You can find a full list of our sponsors on the last page of our newsletter, on the posters throughout the Post, and on the VFW Calabash Post #7288 website at www.VFW7288.org under the "About Us" tab and "Sponsors" or across the bottom of our webpage.

Be sure to let them know you are from VFW Calabash Post #7288 and thank them for their support!

Rose Deck
Webmaster & Sponsorship Manager



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

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THE END