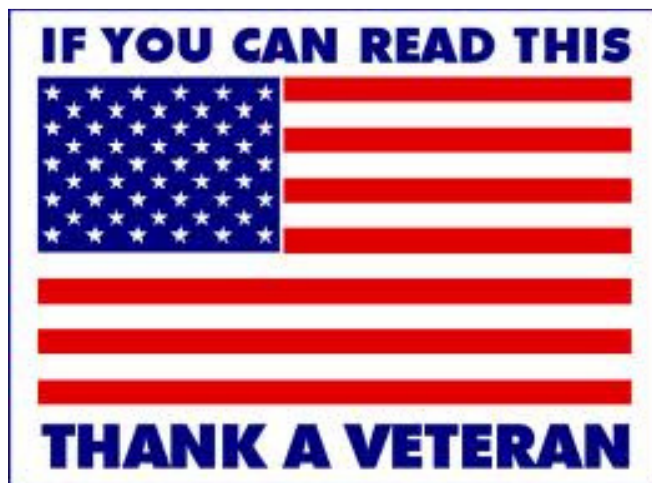


Arlington-Fairfax Lodge 2188 Holds Two Veterans Activities



Arlington-Fairfax Lodge 2188 hosts speaker from *Warriors Speak*. On 6 Nov 2011, the Lodge held its annual Veteran's Dinner highlighted by a speech by **SFC (ret) Hugh Conlon IV** from the **Wounded Warrior Project's Warriors Speak Program**. SFC Conlon discussed his experiences as an Army medic and paratrooper from before Desert Storm to Enduring Freedom. Our members were especially delighted with his visit to each table after his presentation. Members were also treated to patriotic music by renowned keyboardist and lodge member Terry Lee Ryan. ***Warriors Speak*** program is a prestigious group of wounded warriors and caregivers who have been selected to share their personal, inspirational stories of courage and integrity with the public. The speakers also describe how Wounded Warrior Project™ (WWP) has aided them in the recovery process and helped them transition back to civilian life.

Donations to Martinsburg VA Hospital. Arlington-Fairfax Lodge donated ten suit coats and twelve pairs of dress slacks, seventy handmade hats and scarves, and approximately one hundred other articles such as sport shirts and caps to the Veterans at Martinsburg VA Hospital. The donation was made just as the hospital was about to host a stand-down for many of its patients who will be looking for jobs in the near future. The Lodge has been visiting the VA Hospital for over fourteen years and regularly contributes to the well-being of the patients through bingo games, donations and yummy barbeque at the annual carnival.

submitted by Fredi Hensley