



Photos contributed

The Southport Historical Society firing crew will fire "Thor" the cannon.

Fort Caswell Commemoration and Roll Call event April 6

The Friends of Fort Caswell Rifle Range and the Brunswick Town Chapter NSDAR will sponsor another event to continue Roll Calling Brunswick County men who served in World War I at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 6.

It will take place at the National WWI Centennial Memorial of the 1918 Fort Caswell Rifle Range.

Highlights include the South Brunswick High School Color Guard and Jim McKee, manager of the Brunswick Town/ Fort Anderson state historic site, who will speak about Fort Caswell during World War I and the flu epidemic.

Carl Mauney, a WWI re-enactor back by popular demand, will discuss the life of a WWI soldier. Cindy Sellers, Southport Historic Society board member, will join with Jane Johnson and Mary Mears of the Brunswick Town Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, in singing a medley of World War I songs.

There will be 15 Roll Callers, of which four will be representing their ancestors: Glenn Kye, son of 1st Sgt. Lee Kye; Kathy Kalmanson, granddaughter of Pvt. Ledrew Sellers; Dave Lewis, grandson of Lt. Dave Elton Lewis; and Dale Spencer, great-niece of Pvt. Jackson D. Potter. They will name the Brunswick County WWI soldiers.

"We wanted more descendants involved but could not connect with them due to schedule conflicts and illness," said Dr. Norma Eckard, president of the Friends of Fort Caswell Rifle Range. "But there will be two more times to try — Veterans Day on Nov. 11 and April 6, 2020."

Ethan Pannkuk will also roll call men who served Brunswick County in WWI. He was recently awarded his Eagle Scout badge for choosing the rifle range as his community service last year. He and five other scouts from Troop 210 of Carolina Beach worked together for two days cleaning years of debris from the target range.

"We hope those young men attend this event so that the public can meet and recognize their contribution to the historic preservation of the site," Eckard said.

The firing crew from the Southport Historical Society will fire the cannon "Thor" after the naming of two groups of soldiers. Taps will be played at the end of the ceremony. The public is welcome. Park in condo parking spaces, not on the street side, and if you have a folding chair or beach chair, be sure to bring it.



Jim McKee, Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson site manager, shown at Roll Calling Veterans Day 2018, will speak.



Carl Mauney, a World War I re-enactor in full uniform, will discuss the life of a WWI soldier.



Cindy Sellers, a Southport Historical Society board member, will present a medley of World War I songs.



Descendants of veterans, including Eagle Scout Ethan Pannkuk, left, are shown with members of Boy Scout Troop 210 in Carolina Beach, will continue the Roll Call of Brunswick County WWI military.