

## Arlington-Fairfax 2188 Boosts Veterans at Martinsburg VAMC



## Arlington-Fairfax 2188 Supports Bingo at Martinsburg VA Hospital

Arlington-Fairfax 2188 ended 2016 by hosting a great program that supports patients/veterans at the Martinsburg VA Hospital. On December 30, accompanied by members of the Annandale Knights of Columbus, Lodge 2188 hosted bingo for approximately sixty-five patients at the hospital. The Lodge 2188 Veterans Committee is proud to host these bingo games four times each year on the fifth Friday of the month.

The veterans tell us how much they especially enjoy these bingo games. Not only do they enjoy the fun of the bingo game, but they are thoroughly surprised by the “free” store that is provided. AF-2188 members and KoC members donate an array of items that make up the “store” and that the veterans can choose from – including books, puzzles, back scratchers, hand crocheted and knitted hat/scarves/afghans, tshirts and polos, games, and the like. Not realizing he could select multiple items from the “store”, one patient wasn’t sure he wanted a back scratcher. Once he realized he could choose as many items as he wanted, he gladly accepted the back scratcher. What fun it was to see him using that back scratcher throughout the evening; apparently an item he really needed. Another veteran kept his back scratcher down the back of his shirt to be able to get to it quickly. Good thinking!

Along with the chance of winning several Canteen Coupon books during the Bingo games, another highlight for the patient/veteran is finding out that everyone receives two free Coupon books at the end of the evening as a small way for Arlington-Fairfax 2188 to say “Thank You” for their service. Volunteers making the trip to the Martinsburg VAMC included ER Tim Knotts, 2188; Georgianna Knotts, 2188; Kathy Shower, 2188; Maria Jordan, 2188; PER Patti Graves, 2188; Dick Owen, KoC; Leo Weston, KoC; and Bob Bubniack, KoC