



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

APRIL 2018

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

By the time the newsletter is available, hopefully March will have exited like a lamb. It's been a rough month. But, activity at the post didn't skip a beat. After a brief relocation to the downstairs bar so we could do some cleaning and maintenance, we welcomed return to upstairs once again. Thanks to everyone that helped moving tables and chairs so the floors could be refinished and then put them all back

again. Also thanks to food runners from the kitchen to downstairs. A fun day was had by all at our second annual Bar Olympics. The food was delicious and plentiful. Special thanks to John Fry who kept track of the scoring and who was suppose to play where. The Post hosted the ROTC



Ball. It was an honor for us to have them and refreshing to see a fine group of young people. St. Paddy's day was a huge success. All that green! Mark and his staff did a fabulous job feeding us all and making sure no one got thirsty. It was an extra busy weekend for them. A meeting was held with the Inland Bay folks. John Hickman is the chairman heading up this project. We are attempting to get funding for the plan to help protect the shoreline around the post from further erosion. So much has been lost already. Please remember we have nominations and elections for post officers in April and nominations for two Board Positions. Your input is welcomed. Check the post calendar for upcoming activities. Just a reminder that the post is raffling off a kayak and all the accessories; please purchase your tickets at the Post. It's important to remember to welcome new members to our post. It's a great place for socialization. We want everyone to feel at home and participate in post activities. This holds true

especially for our returning vets, young and old. A handshake and a few kind words can go a long way. Please remember the sick from our post and see if we can help in any way.

**God bless all veterans.
Those who served
Those who are now serving
& Those who didn't return.
God bless America**

Dean Levering
Commander
443-553-1167

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

VFW Post and Auxiliary Members,

WELCOME TO SPRING! No more snow, ice storms, or frigid temperatures should be in our forecasts, we hope! Let's get out of the house and volunteer for a new project to benefit our veterans. April's Auxiliary meeting is the most important



meeting of the year. This is your opportunity to elect new officers for the coming year and to step up to the plate and volunteer to participate in one of our programs. **YOUR** suggestions to improve our Auxiliary are important, please come and share them with us. We are excited that we have

been offered a new fundraising opportunity! The Auxiliary will be selling "official Chicken Shack T-shirts". Adult and youth shirts have been ordered and we will be ready to tackle our latest challenge with **YOUR** help. We need weekly volunteers to sell shirts at the Chicken Shack on Saturday mornings,

help keep accurate inventories, and most of all, spread the word! Come check out all the details at our April meeting. Congrats to Connie Weber for another successful Easter party for the young people in our community. A special Thank You goes out to all those volunteers who helped Connie. Final details concerning the State Convention and the Testimonial Dinner for our State Commander and President will be presented at our April meeting.

Our membership has now reached 115.27%. Remember to continue to RECRUIT, REJOIN, and RETAIN members!

REMINDER: April's Auxiliary meeting is very important and I encourage you to make it a point to attend! See you there?

Loyally yours,
Roberta Walter
Auxiliary President

CHAPLAINS' CORNER

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families who have lost loved ones. Eternal rest grant unto them O' Lord, may the perpetual light shine upon them, and may they rest in peace. Amen.



With Honor & Gratitude
We Remember

*Kenneth J. Dunn
Martin A. Basara
George H. Warner*

Please call John Mitchell at 302-381-9934 for the VFW or

Theo Loppatto at 302-537-5661 for the Auxiliary, if a member is sick or has passed away.

Honor Guard



The ranks of our Honor Guard are diminishing and our current members are aging. The Honor Guard is the pride of Our Organization. The service they provide at Ceremonies and Funerals gives great respect to our veterans and our country. Please consider joining this great organization. We provide all uniforms, transportation to functions, etc. There are usually about 20 functions a year; you are only asked to attend as many as you can. Please call Paul if you are interested. Thank You

SERVICE OFFICER OUTREACH

All VFW members & AUX

2018 TRAP SHOOT REGISTRATION
Carney Rod & Gun Club - Carney, MD

Paralyzed Veterans of America Colonial Chapter



would like to let our members and others know about our Keith Lewis Memorial fun Trap Shoot. The shoot will take place on June 2, at the Carney Rod and Gun Club in Carney Maryland. It is open to all shooters, chair or upright. The Trap Shoot will take

place at the Carney Rod & Gun Club on June 2. The entry fee is \$30.00 per event. The shoot will consist of 3 events 100 targets each in 3 disciplines (Singles, Handicaps and Doubles). A T-Shirt and lunch ticket are included if you shoot two events. Guests are welcome and may purchase additional meal tickets for \$7.00 dollars and a T-Shirt while supplies last for \$10.00 dollars. Whether you're a seasoned trap shooter or a novice, this is one shoot you won't want to miss.

For more information contact the Colonial Chapter at 888-963-6595 or visit our website at www.colonialpva.org for registration information.

Please if I can assist in any way let me know
302 933 0119

Respectfully,
Robert P. Corsa, Service Officer

CANTEEN CORNER

Well spring is finally in the air, and here at the Post we are gearing up for the warm weather. We have a lot of activities planned in April so make sure you look at the calendar so you won't miss any of the fun. We start the month on the 1st by celebrating Easter Sunday. The Post will open at 2pm and we will be having a covered dish dinner from 3pm-5pm. The Post will supply Ham, Turkey and a few side dishes. Our goal is that our members do not spend the holiday alone and can join us for a good meal. If this is like all the other Holiday's we will have a tremendous amount of food to share. I look forward to some great creations. On the 7th will be the Oyster & Bull Roast and as of this writing there are a few tickets left for sale. This is one of our most popular events and it benefits the Veterans Relief

Fund. So do not hesitate and get your tickets from the bartenders. Sunday the 8th will be our first Bus Trip to local restaurants. If you have never been on one of our trips you are missing out. It is a great way to meet other members and have a great meal at the same time. This trip we are going to Don's Seafood in Chincoteague, Va. This was a group favorite from last year as the food was very good. If you are interested please see the bartender to sign up. The bus leaves at 3pm. On Sunday the 15th we will have the 2nd annual Dart Tournament. This is a team event and will consist of a random draw for teams which will be made up of one woman and one man. See Mark or John Frye to sign up or Register at 1pm the day of the event. Registration is \$10 and games begin at 1:30. Please bring a covered dish to share with the group at 3pm. One of the biggest questions I get is why we cannot get the French Fries or Onion Rings that are served at other restaurants in town. The answer is I can , but everyone has a different opinion of what is good. It is not feasible to have so many kinds of each. You have the opportunity to pick what kind of French Fries and Onion Rings we serve at the Post. On Sunday the 22nd we will cook different Fries and Onion Rings from the different food companies we buy from. I will like to invite you to come in between 2-5pm and taste each and vote for your favorite. At the end of the day, the winners will become the French Fry and Onion Ring that we will serve at the Post. You can make the difference. On Saturday the 28th the band On The Edge will be performing. If you missed them on their 1st visit you were one of the few. We had a full house and the Dance floor was full all night. We heard a lot of Motown that night and it brought back memories. Put this date on your calendar so you will not forget.

See you at the Post, Mark

VFW GOLF ASSOCIATION

VFW Golf Association members continue enjoying golf each Tuesday at the Salt Pond Golf Course. Weather permitting, VFW Golf Association members will golf each Tuesday throughout the Winter at the Salt Pond Golf Course. You do not need to sign up in advance. Show-up at 8:30 a.m. for the 9:00 tee time. Remember all are welcome

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Looking at my notes over the past few months I saw a number of newsworthy items I wanted to tell you about, but didn't have enough to report on each one for an article. So I put some of them together in this column.

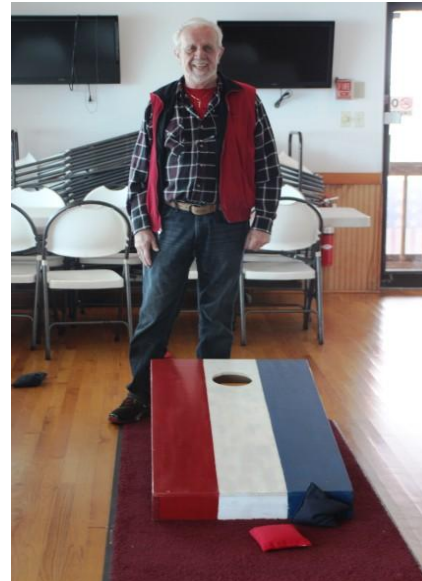
Bar Olympics Winners

At the Second Annual Bar Olympics on March 11, 2-person teams that were formed in random drawings for extra fairness, competed in the three challenging athletic events: shuffle board; Corn Hole toss; and



darts (electronic, thankfully, not the steel-pointy things). The winning teams this year were: Jean McGee and John Mitchell (Gold); John Vitsorek and Lori (Silver); and Jack Frye (the Elder) and Barbara Frye (the Very Much Younger) (Bronze). Another reward was that they didn't have to climb up and down a podium. From what

Rosemary and I could see, it looked like everyone there, whether competing or not, was a first-place winner in the fun category. We had a chance to spend



some time with Jerry Michael before the games began. Jerry, a Maryland Air National Guard veteran, built and donated the set of Corn Hole boards to the Post. This apparently is one of his wood working specialties, as he's built several sets with football and baseball

themes for his grandchildren and others. The set he donated to the Post is beautifully painted red, white and blue. The whole project takes several days.

Thanks to Jerry for his craftsmanship and generosity. Incidentally, he doesn't brag about it, but Jerry and Devon McGee (Jean's daughter) were the winning team in the inaugural Olympics event last year. The Bar Olympics is going to be a great Post tradition. If you want to get in shape for next year and have fun doing it, Mark has noted on the calendar that there's shuffle board fun every Tuesday, starting at noon; and darts practice and competition every Thursday at 6 p.m.

Chili Champion

The winner of the chili cook-off competition this year was Pam Oleszewski. Her winning entry was a Buffalo Chicken Wing Chili dish. I didn't get a chance to taste it, but Pam generously shares the recipe. You can adjust the ingredients, like the diced

jalapeno peppers (hot!) to taste. Just ask her for the preparation tips.

Valentine's Day Dinner Surprises

The Valentine's Day dinner party this year, always a fun event, included a couple of extra surprises: two groups of unexpected guests. One group of family and friends were there to celebrate the engagement of Tiffany Stevens and Steve Harrison. What an appropriate evening for the occasion! We celebrated with them and wished the young couple all the best on their new adventure together. The other group was a contingent from the 193rd Delaware National Guard Regional Training Institute (RTI), assigned to the Bethany Beach Training Site. It was good to see them there. Mark and others made sure they felt welcome and part of the Post family. With the great meal prepared by Roger and Steve and the range of music provide by Over Time, it was a wonderful evening for everyone there.

Year of the Dog

The Chinese New Year (referred to as "Tet" in some Asian areas), began on February 16. It ushered in the Year of the Dog, one of the twelve signs in the Chinese Zodiac calendar. In Asian astrology, it's believed that a person's birth year and zodiac sign determine many of the individual's personality traits. People born in dog years are supposed to be very loyal, helpful and sincere. Some are also known to lick your face when they're happy, bark at odd moments, and some may experience gas problems. Some prior dog years are: 2006, 1994, 1982, 1970, 1958, 1946, 1934, 1922. You can count back twelve years from there if you need to. The Chinese New Year celebration extends over two weeks and involves eating a lot of meals together. Sounds like a good tradition.

Beetle Bailey Lives On

Mort Walker, creator of the Beetle Bailey comic strip, passed away on January 27, at age 94. The long-running strip began its syndication in various newspapers including Stars and Stripes, in 1950. You remember the world and recognizable cast of characters Mort Walker created at Camp Swampy: the hapless, malingering Private Bailey, of course; Sergeant Snorkle and his look-alike dog Otto; General Halftrack; Miss Buxley, the General's civilian secretary; Lieutenant Fuzz; Cookie Jowls, the mess sergeant; Chaplain Stanglass; and some of Beetle's buddies. Mort Walker said that his inspiration and ideas came from his four years in the Army and the characters he encountered. The comic strip was banned from Stars and Stripes for a while after the Korean War because of concerns that it might inspire disrespect for officers. (Sounds like a comic strip decision.) But in the end, Beetle Bailey was recognized as innocent fun and a morale booster.

In 2000, Mr. Walker received the Secretary of the Army's highest civilian service award. Fortunately, for all who have enjoyed the comic strip it is expected to continue with the work of Mort Walker's sons, who worked on it with their father. RIP Mort Walker. Onward, Private Bailey.

In addition to all the events on the Post calendar, here are a few dates in April to keep in mind:

- April 3. World Party Day! (I'm not kidding about this. It's an official designation, as if you needed one. You have to participate on this day.)
- April 6. Army Day (Designated on the VFW calendar)
- April 7. National Beer Day!! (Does it get any better than this?)
- April 9. National Former POW Recognition Day
- April 11. US Navy commissioned first submarine in 1900
- April 16. Annie Oakley hit 100 clay targets in a row, setting a women's record in 1922.
- April 17. Federal income tax filing day.

Hope you enjoy every day in April, even the 17th!
Jerry Hardiman

Chicken Shack

To all VFW and VFW Auxiliary Members:

As we all work our way through this winter season, it is not too soon to begin thinking about spring and summer at our Post and the many events that are upcoming. None of these could be accomplished without a strong volunteer force made up from our Post and Auxiliary members.

I am Ken Weber and one of my volunteer positions at the Post is as VFW Bar-B-Q "Chicken Shack" Committee Chairperson. Every summer from the Saturday before Memorial Day weekend until the Holiday Saturday of Labor Day weekend we Bar-B-Q at our Chicken Shack facility adjacent to the Delaware National Guard Training Site along RT 1 in Bethany Beach. This concession has been very successful for the Post for many years. I would like to extend an invitation to anyone in the Post or Post Auxiliary who thinks they would enjoy helping us to volunteer to become a member of the "Chicken Shack Crew". I know I can speak for all of us at the Shack, when I say that it is a most satisfying and fulfilling way to volunteer at our Post. If you want to volunteer, talk to me at the Post, or call me at home, 302-829-8723 or cell, 570-460-7153. So come join all of the "Smokeaters" at the Chicken Shack this season!

Thanks, Ken Weber

Children's Easter Party

Thank you to everyone who donated cupcakes, helped set up, helped during the party and helped

cleanup. We had 117 children and 109 adults attend our annual Easter party. Hopefully everyone had a great time. A special thanks to our balloon ladies, Lori and Devon, and our face painter, Shirley. The children stood in line several times during the day and were great. I could not do these parties without your help. THANK YOU EVERYONE.

Connie Weber

MASON DIXON VFW POST 7234

KAYAK RAFFLE

WHEN: Drawing July 4th
COST: Tickets \$5 each, 3 for \$10
HOW: See bartender for tickets

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- ★ **KAYAK**
 - Sentinel 100x Sit-On-Top Kayak
 - 10 feet long, 30 inches wide
 - Weighs 45 lbs.
 - Color shown at left
- ★ **KAYAK SEAT** Upgraded to Outfitter Adjustable Kayak Seat
- ★ **KAYAK PADDLE** Upgraded to 200-230cm Adjustable Aluminum Kayak Paddle
- ★ **LIFE JACKET** Dynamic Move Paddle Sports Life Jacket
- ★ **TURBOMITE KAYAK CART**
- ★ **BASEBALL HAT** West Marine Tech Fast-Dry Baseball Hat
- ★ **4 DRY BAGS** to keep valuables dry

★ PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MASON DIXON VFW POST 7234 CHARITABLE AND FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES.

VFW FRIDAY FAMILY BUFFET

APRIL 13th, 2018
5:00 pm 'til 7:00 pm

BAKED HAM
 MAC & CHEESE
 STEWED TOMATOES
 BUTTERED CORN
 FRIED FISH
 TOSSED SALAD
 ROLLS & BUTTER
 TOSSED SALAD
 ROLLS & BUTTER

Donation: \$10 AYCE
MUSIC by DJ PAT
6:00 -10:00 pm

MASON DIXON VFW POST #7234
 OCEAN VIEW, DELAWARE
COMMUNITY WELCOME

VFW FRIDAY FAMILY BUFFET

APRIL 20th, 2018
5:00 pm 'til 7:00 pm

FRIED CHICKEN
 MASHED POTATOES
 GREEN BEANS
 FRIED FISH
 TOSSED SALAD
 ROLLS & BUTTER

DONATION: \$10 AYCE
MUSIC 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
DJ Pat

MASON DIXON VFW POST #7234
 OCEAN VIEW, DELAWARE
COMMUNITY WELCOME

MASON DIXON VFW FRIDAY NIGHT BUFFET

APRIL 6th, 2018

ROASTED PORK TENDERLOIN
 MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
 SAUERKRAUT
 BROCCOLI TOSSED SALAD
 FRIED FISH
 ROLLS & BUTTER

DONATION: \$10.00 AYCE
MUSIC by DJ Rockin Ray
Food Served: 5-7 pm
Music: 6-10 pm

COMMUNITY WELCOME

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

MASON DIXON VFW FRIDAY NIGHT BUFFET

APRIL 27th, 2018
5:00 pm 'til 7:00 pm

POT ROAST
 RED ROASTED POTATOES
 ROASTED VEGETABLES
 FRIED FISH
 TOSSED SALAD
 ROLLS & BUTTER

MUSIC by DJ CONRAD
6-10 pm

COME JOIN YOUR FRIENDS
CELEBRATE T.G.I.F.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

VFW LEADERSHIP TEAM

Commander	Dean Levering
Sr. Vice Cmdr	Robert Criswell Jr.
Jr. Vice Cmdr	John Hickman
Quartermaster	Bill Hensley
Adjutant	Fulton Loppatto
Chaplain	John Mitchell
Judge Advocate	John Mitchell
Surgeon	George Hickman
Officer of the Day	Rick Delaney
Guard	Rick Smith
Service Officer	Bob Corsa
Honor Guard Capt	Paul Burbank
Trustee	Danny Steele
Trustee	George Smith
Trustee	Ed Wolfe

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Dean Levering
Vice President	Hal Barber
Treasurer	Bill Hensley
Secretary	Ken Weber
Chairman	Robert Criswell Jr
Board Member	Rick Smith
Board Member	John Hickman
Board Member	Fulton Loppatto
Board Member	John Mitchell
Board Member	Rick Delaney
Board Member	Mike Grabowski

AUXILIARY TEAM

President	Roberta Walter
Sr Vice Pres	Carol Weber
Jr Vice Pres	Connie Weber
Secretary	Susan Wallace
Treasurer	Laurie Corsa
Chaplain	Theo Loppatto
Guard	Shirley Stong
Conductress	Ellen Reilly
Patriotic Ins	Jackie Umstetter
Trustee	Connie Weber
Trustee	Debbie Vischer-Jensen
Trustee	Larry Hamby

Our Quartermaster, Bill Hensley is a notary. He will provide notary services to members at no cost. Donations to the VFW will be accepted. Please call the post at 302-539-9981 to schedule.

FOOD BANK

Please continue to drop off food items at the entry way. We continue to support our local families in need. Thank you for your donations.

**VFW POST 7234 HONOR GUARD TO BECOME A MEMBER, PLEASE CONTACT PAUL BURBANK
757-288-6248**

**Member in Need of Assistance
Please call:
John Hickman 302-448-0723**

**Member Sick or Deceased
Please call:
For VFW – John Mitchell 302-381-9934
For Aux – Theo Loppatto 302-537-5661**

**Assistance with VA claims or benefits
Please call:
Bob Corsa 302-745-1668**

**For the Latest Updates and News
Please send your email to
vfwpost7234@vfw7234.com**