



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

AUGUST 2018

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

As I start my August post for the newsletter, I am looking out at the view from the 22nd floor of beautiful Kansas City at the 119th VFW National Convention. What a great experience it has been to be with veterans and auxiliaries from all over the United States and Europe exchanging ideas and fellowship within this wonderful organization. Of course we are looking forward to getting back to our post and continuing to work towards improving it for our members. The post has had another busy month especially with all our summer visitors. Again this provides an excellent opportunity to sign up new members. I believe we should



emphasize the benefits of the VFW, not just our post. Remember a smile and a hello goes a long way. As we travel, stopping in at VFW posts along the way, we remember most the ones who welcomed us and made us feel comfortable. With the increase in activity at the Post, our volunteers are working extra hard running food and helping out wherever they can. So as always a special shout out to them and of course our chefs and bartenders for keeping up with the demand. Our kayak raffle was a big success. Our winner was Bob Myers of Millville. Thanks to all who sold tickets. Cabinets Unlimited installed our new cabinet in the dining room on Tuesday the 24th. Not only is it attractive but will aid in storing and keeping track of our inventory of supplies. Again this year, we will be doing the Bethany Beach Boardwalk Festival. We will have a table there with flags, and other giveaways. If you can spare a couple hours to help set up the table it would be appreciated. Contact myself or Jim Jensen (443-278-5056) if you can help out. We teamed up again this year for the 4th of July parade with the National Guard. It was great watching the team of volunteers get the float ready in

record time. Riding it is always special, and seeing everyone dressed in patriotic dress and celebrating the anniversary of our great country. Of course the kids loved getting treats along the way. Remember to check the calendar on the bulletin board for upcoming events. Please remember the sick from our post.

**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

Hello Members, On July 4th, several members of our auxiliary, myself included, joined with our Post members and the Bethany based National Guard and



boarded the float for the parade in Bethany Beach. Prior to the parade, and during the parade we distributed, with the help of the National Guard, over 1400 flags with Poppies. Every street along the parade route was lined with people cheering and thanking the veterans and active military for their service. The love for our country and our freedom was present everywhere that day. It will always be a great memory for me. T-shirts sales continue at the chicken shack through Labor Day. We have paid for all of the shirts and are now in the process of making money to help our veterans. Thank you to Ken Weber for allowing the auxiliary

to take the lead on this fundraiser and thank you to all of the auxiliary members for the hours they spent at the chicken shack. Our fundraising efforts allow us to assist the veterans, their families and the community. The gazebo recently received a freshening up to the landscaping. Thank you to Bill Hensley for arranging this and funding it from the Post. It is a beautiful location to enjoy the fabulous sunsets and a great venue for a wedding. At my first meeting in July, I called upon the members to consider chairing one of our many committees. I was fortunate to have several members volunteer and they are busily reviewing their duties and eager to accept volunteers to join their committee. It is not too late to become part of committee and help out where needed. Many of our committees involve fundraising, recognition, educating, and advocating, all focusing on our veterans and the community. Please consider giving a few hours of your time. The auxiliary National President will be visiting Delaware from August 25th through August 27th. Our auxiliary is in the process of planning an event surrounding her visit. As soon as we finalize the plan, we will notify all members via an email. If any of you would like to join our email mailing list, visit us at our next meeting or drop off a note at the Post to the attention of the auxiliary. Chloe Loppatto will be joining us at our August meeting. Chloe is the granddaughter of Fulton and Theo Loppatto. Chloe won first place in the State for her entry in Patriotic Art. Her art work is displayed on the auxiliary board at the Post. Please join us to congratulate her on her great work. There are several awards and scholarships available to students from the auxiliary. To find out more information, just ask any of the auxiliary officers and they will point you in the right direction. Encourage your children or grandchildren to apply and submit the required information. There are scholarships available at the local, State and National level.

Our membership continues to grow and we average about 20 new applications monthly. Our auxiliary is currently the 4th largest in the Nation. With all of our members, we can achieve great things for the veterans we serve. Please join us on Monday, August 6th at our next auxiliary meeting.

Let us always remember those who served and
Always try hard to serve them better.

Loyally yours,
Carol Weber
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.



*George T Draper Jr
Donald C Hanson*

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



We would like to thank everyone who purchased raffle tickets for our Honor Guard Fund Raiser. Funds will help to provide uniforms and equipment necessary to conduct Ceremonies and Funerals that give great respect to our veterans, their families and our Country. The winners of the raffle were Jim Jensen - member of our post and newly appointed Guard and Diane Shaw - Potomac, MD resident, staying in Fenwick Island. Thank You, Paul Burbank
Captain of the Honor Guard

SERVICE OFFICER OUTREACH

All VFW members & AUX
Veterans Mission Act

Please read the summary of the VA Mission Act that was just signed into law prepared by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs:
https://veterans.house.gov/uploadedfiles/va_mission_act_summary.pdf



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

Respectfully,
Robert P. Corsa, Service Officer

CANTEEN CORNER

What a summer we are having at the Post. The weather has been great and the crowds have been big. I would like to thank you all for supporting the Post. August is typically a very busy month and I am hoping the nice weather will continue. As the crowds increase it takes a little longer to get your food after placing your order. Most restaurants will tell you have a wait to be seated, but we take your order and everyone is working hard to prepare your food. I ask that you sit and relax and be patient. Giving the volunteers a hard time does not speed up the process. I will tell you that our staff and volunteers who work in the kitchen are as good as any restaurant in town. On Sunday 8/12 we will be having our Pig Roast and Clam Bake. This event will be outside on the Bottom parking lot. Come spend the day on the beach and then stay for the Party. Food will be served from 4-7. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at the Bar. Please purchase your tickets early so we know what size Pig to cook.

Tickets for our Sept. 9th Crab Feast will go on sale on 8/1. Tickets will be \$40 and include AYCE crabs, steamed shrimp, fried chicken, hot dogs, crab soup and all the fixings. This event sells out fast, so get your group together and get your tickets and reserve your table. Tickets can be bought at the Bar.

August and September are our busiest months for rentals. Please pay close attention to the calendar to know when the upstairs will be closed. Income from these events helps to keep the everyday prices down.

If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

See you at the Post, Mark

VFW GOLF ASSOCIATION

VFW Golf Association members play golf each Tuesday at the Salt Pond Golf Course.

Come join us, reunite with everyone, and welcome our new members. To signup, please send an email to vfwgolf7234@gmail.com by noon Sunday for the following Tuesday's golf. Show-up at 7:30 a.m. for 8:00a.m. tee time. Remember all are welcome!!! If you are thinking about joining the Golf Association, please call our President, Ken Smith, at 267-228-7285 or email him at madriverken1946@gmail.com for more information.

KNOW YOUR BARTENDERS:

PART ONE

When you think about all the activities at the Post every month, the dinners, special events, Sunday breakfast/brunch and cookouts during the summer, and the enjoyable lunches, it's clear that one of the essential ingredients of the fun and success of every event is our staff of bartenders. If you took them out of the picture, it would be like deflating a balloon. Whoosh!! Flat! Think about it. Other than our patriotic and memorial ceremonies, would you go as



often? Probably not. The bartenders (and what they're serving, of course) keep things moving, lively and enjoyable, with their always friendly, efficient service. Sometimes they even know what you're going to order. (Nothing wrong with being consistent.) We are truly fortunate to have a great staff of seven bartenders: Sharon Clark; Beverly Farley; Bob Malatz;

Terri Parker; Karen Taylor; Marie Vogt; and Debbie Wood. They're also all very interesting and fun to talk to. For those who don't already know all the bartenders, Fulton and I thought members might like to know something about each of them. Just some brief get-acquainted type information for conversation when you get the chance. But to do that we had to spend a lot of time at the bar talking with whomever was on duty. (This may be the best reporting project ever!) After about a month, I'm able to report on three of our bartenders.

Bob Malatz. Bob is the bartender I know best because of time spent with him after our Breakfast Crew's scheduled Sundays during the summer. So,



we start with him. Bob is originally from Baltimore and now lives in Ocean City. He started working as a bartender at the Post about eleven years ago. Albert Einstein once said that a bartender is a pharmacist with a limited inventory. So bartenders have to be more

creative. Bob, for example, is known for some of his remedies. Bloody Mary's on Sundays probably top the list. But I've seen some of his other creations (like the Orange Crush and Blue Mermaid) for Breakfast Crews restore many a sense of humor and put a spring back in tired feet. Better than any doctor's prescription! One interesting thing we found out is

that Bob is also a professional golfer. A PGA caliber golfer. I was surprised because, unlike a lot of golfers, he's not always talking about birdies, slicing, dicing, or what he did on the 8th hole. Bob said he started playing golf at age five or six with his father, who cut down a set of clubs for him. He won the Junior Championship at the Naval Academy Golf Course five years in a row. In one memorable moment, he finally won a game playing with his father when he was twelve years old. By one stroke. On Father's Day. That was a happy day for both of them. But you don't have to talk to Bob about golf. Ever the good host, Bob will talk about whatever you want.

Sharon Clark. Sharon is originally from Baltimore and grew up in Baltimore and Harford Counties in Maryland. Her family has had a home in South Bethany for over 40 years and she moved here full time about eleven years ago. She started helping out as a volunteer at the Post and was offered a job as bartender. She found she enjoyed it and has continued helping ever since. Sharon's family has a special



historic tie to the military. Her grandfather James Clark, then 26-years old, was the first man in Maryland drafted into the U.S. Army in World War I. As reported in one newspaper story, the night before the draft began he predicted that his number (258) would be selected. Lucky Jim, he was number one. Sharon is a dog lover, especially Yorkies. She has two of the little dogs, the third pair she has raised. Instead of an alarm system, she has a cockatoo, a tropical bird about 40 years old now. (Have you ever heard a cockatoo call? (Actually they scream!) You will jump out of your seat, I assure you.) Then add in two parrots, who talk to the Yorkies, the cockatoo, each other and Sharon, of course. Sounds like a lively, fun household. Lucky for us, Sharon brings this fun to the bar at the Post.

Karen Taylor. Karen is originally from New Castle County in Delaware, where her parents moved to from Pennsylvania. She and her family vacationed in the "lower, slower" beach area and she always enjoyed it. When she and her husband, Mike, retired about fifteen years ago, they moved here and Karen became active as a volunteer at the Post. About eleven years ago she

was asked if she'd be interested in helping out with a job as a bartender. She agreed to see how it worked out. Apparently, it did, because she's been serving members and guests from behind the bar ever since. We didn't have a lot of time to talk with Karen when we caught up with her during lunch one day, because she was kept busy with the lunch crowd. But one of the things we learned is that Karen is not a "winter person," one who loves the cold and snow and all that goes with that. She and Mike are more "fun in the sun" people and spend about three months every winter in Florida. Then in the Spring when they return, Karen is back serving customers at the Post. We're glad about that every year.

Obviously, this bartender project is going to take a lot longer. But Fulton and I are dedicated to keep going until completion. It's for the good of the order!"

Heading into August, here are some dates to think about, together with all the events on the Post calendar.

August 1. Air Force Day.

August 4. U.S. Coast Guard established in 1790 as the predecessor Revenue Cutter Service. The U.S. Life Saving Service, which was established in 1878, was merged with the Revenue Cutter Service in 1915 to form the newly named U.S. Coast Guard.

August 14. VJ Day in 1945, when Japan surrendered, officially ending World War II in the Pacific.

August 15. National Relaxation Day (Observance is mandatory, unless of course, like me, you're in a permanent state of relaxation.)

August 16. National Airborne Day ("All the way!" still echoing the distance.)

August 19. National Aviation Day.

August 24. NATO established in 1949.

Hope you enjoy every day in August.
Jerry Hardiman



VFW FRIDAY BUFFET
 AUGUST 3rd, 2018
 5:00-7:00 pm

PORK TENDERLOIN
 MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
 SAUERKRAUT - GREEN BEANS
 FRIED FISH
 TOSSED SALAD
 ROLLS & BUTTER
 Donation: \$12 AYCE

MUSIC – DJ J.T. CRUISE
 6:00-10:00 PM

VFW FRIDAY BUFFET
 AUGUST 24th, 2018
 5:00-7:00 pm

ROAST BEEF
 MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
 BUTTERED CARROTS
 FRIED FISH
 TOSSED SALAD
 ROLLS & BUTTER
 Donation: \$12 AYCE

MUSIC – THE JONES BOYS
 6:00-10:00 PM

VFW FRIDAY BUFFET
 AUGUST 10th, 2018
 5:00-7:00 pm

CHICKEN MARSALA
 RED ROASTED POTATOES
 BROCCOLI
 FRIED FISH
 TOSSED SALAD
 ROLLS & BUTTER
 Donation: \$12 AYCE

MUSIC – DJ WISPER
 6:00-10:00 pm

VFW FRIDAY BUFFET
 AUGUST 31st, 2018
 5:00-7:00 pm

FRIED CHICKEN
 MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
 STUFFING - ASPARAGUS
 FRIED FISH
 TOSSED SALAD
 ROLLS & BUTTER
 Donation: \$12 AYCE

MUSIC – DJ CONRAD
 6:00-10:00 pm

VFW FRIDAY BUFFET
 AUGUST 17th, 2018
 5:00-7:00 pm

MEATLOAF
 MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
 BUTTERED CORN
 FRIED FISH
 TOSSED SALAD
 ROLLS & BUTTER
 Donation: \$12 AYCE

MUSIC – DJ ROCKIN' RAY
 6:00-10:00 PM

VFW CRAB FEAST
 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th 2018
 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm
 DONATION: \$40 pp
 AYCE

STEAMED CRABS
 STEAMED SHRIMP
 FRIED CHICKEN
 HOT DOGS
 MD. CRAB SOUP
 CORN ON THE COB
 BAKED BEANS
 COLE SLAW
 POTATO SALAD

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Commander	Dean Levering
Sr. Vice Cmdr	John Hickman
Jr. Vice Cmdr	Hal Dietrich
Quartermaster	Bill Hensley
Adjutant	Fulton Loppatto
Chaplain	John Mitchell
Judge Advocate	John Gossart Jr.
Surgeon	George Hickman
Officer of the Day	Rob Gill
Guard	James Jensen
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	Fulton Loppatto
Treasurer	Bill Hensley
Secretary	Ken Weber
Chairman	John Hickman
Board Member	Rick Smith
Board Member	Hal Dietrich
Board Member	Hal Barber
Board Member	John Mitchell
Board Member	Rick Delaney
Board Member	Mike Grabowski

AUXILIARY TEAM

President	Carol Weber
Sr Vice Pres	Ellen Reilly
Jr Vice Pres	Chuck Bologna
Secretary	Ty Magliola
Treasurer	Laurie Corsa
Chaplain	Theo Loppatto
Guard	Shirley Stong
Conductress	Karen Vitsorek
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:
Dean Levering 443-553-1167
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**