



# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

## FEBRUARY 2018

### COMMANDERS COMMENTS

#### HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE

Here we are ending the 1<sup>st</sup> month in the new year. We had a lot happening last year and I can't see this year being any less active. The post hosted a lot of parties for the Christmas season including National Guard, Coast Guard, Deaf Assoc., Post party, Kids Party, Staff party and of course our Famous New Years Eve



Party. The post was represented at the Wreaths Across America Ceremony at the Veterans Cemetery. Thanks once again to Sally Kubicki for her years of participation coordinating this affair. We will be needing volunteers to move things out of the dining area in

preparation for the annual cleaning on Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup>. If you can help, please show up at the post at 10:00 Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget, we will have our annual Super Bar Bingo before the Super Bowl Game beginning at 3:00 PM February 4<sup>th</sup>. Let's all work together recruiting new members for our Post. I hope everyone has a happy, healthy New Year. 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

VFW Post and Auxiliary Members,



**FEBRUARY**—the month for Love! Do your plans for this month include showing your love for a veteran or their family? Just thanking a veteran for their service or remembering to show your

appreciation to their family is a beautiful thing! Giant Thanks to member, Shirley Stong who crocheted and raffled off an Eagles' afghan. She raised \$579; the lucky winner was Gerry Tkac. This act of volunteerism has become an annual event for Shirley. 'WE LOVE OUR VETERANS' Valentines Dinner Dance will be held at the



Gen. W.W. Atterbury VFW Post in New Castle, De. on 2/10/18. This is a state fundraising event for the Department of DE Auxiliary. Several Auxiliary members have quilted a beautiful quilt & matching pillow for raffle purposes. (See photo of same on our bulletin board). I have tickets to sell if anyone is interested in purchasing some. Our Post Valentines Dinner/Dance is also scheduled for Saturday, 2/10/18; mark your calendar, tickets are to be sold at the door. Come early, stay late, and treat your valentine! Our Auxiliary donated to George Hickman in support of his Polar Bear Plunge efforts for Special Olympics. We also considered a donation to the Gold Star Families of Delaware to assist them in their efforts to raise funds for a Memorial Monument to be located in the Veterans Memorial Park in New Castle, De. Our VFW family and I lost two very special members in January. James (Beav) Atkins was the first VFW Commander with whom I served at this Post. Most of you know Peg Atkins, Beav's

devoted spouse and a past Auxiliary president. Our condolences go out to the family.

I also lost a dear friend and mentor, Past Dept. President, Nadine Slack. A daughter of Nadine's, Amanda Slack, is a member of our Auxiliary. Nadine was instrumental in encouraging me to serve on a state department level. Our thoughts & prayers are with Nadine's family and friends. February is a short month so I will keep my message short also: Show your LOVE for a veteran and/or their family this month! Hope to see you at our February meeting, Monday 2/5/18 at 7:00 pm.

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.



*Frank P. Bryson  
Rollin L. Hudson Jr.  
Richard Stafford  
Joseph P. Sninsky  
Phillip J. Flanagan  
James J. "Beaver" Atkins*

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

For my comrades who served in Iraq and Afghanistan I thought this article would be of interest.



Former Vice President Joe Biden said he thinks toxins found in smoke from burning waste at U.S. military installations in Iraq and at other facilities abroad could "play a significant role"

in causing veterans' cancer. "Science has recognized there are certain carcinogens when people are exposed to them," Biden said in an interview with Judy Woodruff last week. "Depending on the quantities and the amount in the water and the air, [they] can have a carcinogenic impact on the body." Biden's comments shed light on a debate that has roiled physicians, former service members and the Department of Veteran Affairs about whether the health of some U.S. military personnel was compromised by garbage disposal methods used by contractors and the military at overseas bases in Iraq and Afghanistan. Often, waste was burned in open-air pits, with jet fuel sometimes used as an accelerant. At many bases, virtually all waste was burned, ranging from paints, solvents, tires, plastics and Styrofoam to batteries and electronic equipment. Depending on the burn locations and prevailing winds, smoke frequently permeated these outposts and adjacent areas. Biden, who was tapped by former President Barack Obama in early 2016 to lead the "[Cancer Moonshot](#)" initiative, noted in the PBS NewsHour interview that "a lot higher incidence of cancer [is] coming from Iraq now and Afghanistan than in other wars" and "a lot of work is being done" to research it. You can read the full article at:

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/health/biden-addresses-possible-link-between-sons-fatal-brain-cancer-and-toxic-military-burn-pits>

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

Respectfully, Robert P. Corsa, Service Officer

## CANTEEN CORNER

We all survived the Snow storm and we are getting closer to summer. February which is usually a very slow month at the Post, will heat up fast with The Eagles in the Super Bowl. Please join us on Sunday 2/4 starting at 3pm for Super Flip 5, with more winner take all games and bigger pots. Then at about 5-5:30, bring a covered dish to share with the group before the game. This year should not be different from any other and we should have a huge spread. Then the game will begin. With all the Eagles Fans we have, the Post will be full of Green Jerseys and I am sure very loud. I hope we hear Fly Eagles Fly many times that because that will mean that they are beating those Patriots ( sorry Rick ). The following Saturday Night we will be having our Valentine's Day Dinner Dance. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$15 which will feature a tremendous Buffet. Doors will open at 4:30 and you must buy a buffet ticket to attend. On Sunday 2/11 we will go downstairs as we do some work on the floors and in the kitchen. There will be no food available from 2/11 - 2/18. Starting On the 19<sup>th</sup> we will be having our normal evening selection. Saturday 2/24 we will have a seafood buffet downstairs starting at 5pm. We will come back upstairs on 2/26 and get back to our normal activities. Tickets for our April Bull & Oyster Roast will go on sale starting the 12<sup>th</sup> of February. This year's Roast will be held on Saturday 4/7 starting at 3pm. Tickets are \$30. These events sell out fast, so get your group together and get your tickets and table before they're gone. A date to put on your calendar is Saturday 3/17, which is St Patrick's Day. We will have our Party starting at 6pm and will feature Corn Beef , Ham Cabbage and all the St Patrick's Day fixins. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

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!!!  
Ed (Albert) Pike

## UNUSUAL ROMANCES: PART TWO

With Valentine's Day approaching, our thoughts turn once again to love and romance. (And for some of us, hopefully, chocolate.) Some of the romantic relationships we see or hear about might seem unusual, but there's no accounting for love. We have to try to keep an open mind. You may recall that last October, I reported on a man who married his best



friend, which happened to be his laptop computer, in a ceremony in New Mexico. My speculation was that with all the rapid advancements in artificial intelligence and the close attachment people have with their smart phones and other electronic devices, man (or woman) – machine marriages and romantic cyber

relationships, could be a preview of things to come. Since then, I've seen news accounts about amazing robotic assistants in the home and the almost human qualities of the holographic projection of human images you can turn on and off and interact with. To some extent anyway.

The evidence increases every day that people form emotional bonds with their devices and that romantic cyber relationships are a growing trend. Just recently, I read a report in the Washington Post about the annual consumer electronics show in Las Vegas. One of the biggest sellers was SOMNOX, a soft, cuddly robotic bed companion. You hug it and it simulates human breathing (snoring optional) and mimics heart beats. It's supposed to help you sleep. It can also provide lullabies, guided meditation and other benefits. On sale for only \$600! They also had a robot companion for seniors, named ELLiQ. It tells you when to get up; when to eat; when to take your medication; when to exercise; when to watch TV (and what to watch); and when to sleep. A perfect gift and maybe romance for the unmarried senior. If you already have all the direction that ELLiQ provides, you won't need it. Now if all those developments aren't enough for you to digest, here's a new one. Sologomy. As reported in the Washington Times, it's another emerging trend: Single people who marry themselves. The example cited was a woman who married herself in a ceremony in Italy last year—complete with wedding gown, bridesmaids, 3-tier wedding cake and a lot of guests. The wedding song was one by Stephen Stills: "If you can't be with the one you love, love the one you're with." (I added the song part.) The woman was quoted as saying that if

she hadn't found her soul mate by the time she was 40, she would marry herself. So she did. She is not alone in her planning. One newspaper tracking the trend says that more and more women and men are deciding on sologamy ceremonies. Some of the big advantages are reduced expenses and fewer disagreements over invitations, the reception menu and seating arrangements. I'm not sure what all this means, or if there are implications for the VFW Post. I suppose any unconventional wedding plans will depend on individual choices and Mark's scheduling calendar. So, it's probably too early to form a study committee. For now, we just have to follow the trends and watch what goes on at our social events. Stay tuned.

Happy Valentine's Day to all, human, electronic and robotic. Hope you enjoy every day in February.

Jerry Hardiman

## Post Positions

In March we will begin nominations for Post Positions for the next year. The process starts with nominations for Post Positions in March; in April we ask for any other nominations for Post Positions and then Elect the Post Officers for the next year, also in April we ask for Nominations for the Board of Directors (2 positions open for next year); in May we ask for any other nominations for Board Members and then Elect members to the Board; Finally in May we have the installation of Post Officers for the Next Year. Please consider running for a Position or asking to be appointed to a Position. Remember all Positions are open to all members. We are a Fraternal Organization established to promote comradeship among members and assist worthy comrades. Please consider being an active member of your Organization. We guarantee you will find it a rewarding experience. Several of our members have assumed positions in the last few years and we hope that this trend will continue. With the support of your fellow officers you will find that assuming a position is easier than you think; it is truly a team effort. A list of Post Positions is on the last page of the Newsletter. Please talk to our Commander or one of the other Officers if you are interested in serving in a position. Remember our meetings are on the First Monday of each Month at 7PM.

## SUPER BOWL SUNDAY FEB 4TH



## SUPER FLIP FIVE



## STARTING AT 3PM

**SUPER BOWL GAME TO FOLLOW  
BRING A COVERED DISH TO SHARE**

## Membership Dues

Those VFW Members, who pay their dues on a yearly basis, please pay your dues so you can continue your membership in our organization. Your membership is valuable to us as we strive to leave no veteran behind. We continue to have an active schedule for members to come with friends to enjoy friendship and good times. As any Past Commander will tell you they received numerous calls for help from veterans in need of support and in need of help with VA benefits. We strive to keep up with current changes in Veteran issues and offer contacts to experts to help you. We also participate with local government leaders and other local veteran groups to champion veteran causes. Also through your membership and participation in our events we are able to help veterans in need and other causes in our local community. We also have a program to help those members who cannot afford their membership dues. So please call us or drop us a note or email. If you can afford it please consider a Life Membership; join the 1000+ Life Members of our Post. We look forward to your continued membership and hope that you will become more active in our Post. Thank You

**VFW FRIDAY  
FAMILY BUFFET**

**FEBRUARY 2nd, 2018**

**SALISBURY STEAK  
MASHED POTATOES &  
GRAVY  
BUTTERED CORN  
FRIED FISH  
TOSSED SALAD  
ROLLS & BUTTER**

**Donation: \$10 AYCE**  
**Food Served 5-7 pm**  
**MUSIC 6-10 pm**

**MASON DIXON VFW POST#7234  
OCEAN VIEW, DE**

**COMMUNITY WELCOME**

**VFW FRIDAY  
FAMILY BUFFET**

**FEBRUARY 23rd, 2018**

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

**Donation: \$10 AYCE**  
**Food Served 5-7 pm**  
**MUSIC 6-10 pm**

**TGIF - COME JOIN US**

**MASON DIXON VFW OCEAN VIEW, DE**

**COMMUNITY WELCOME**

**VFW FRIDAY  
FAMILY BUFFET**

**FEBRUARY 9th, 2018**

**PORK TENDERLOIN  
SAUERKRAUT  
MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY  
GREEN BEANS  
FRIED FISH  
TOSSED SALAD  
ROLLS & BUTTER**

**Donation: \$10 AYCE**  
**Food Served 5-7 pm**  
**MUSIC 6-10 pm**

**TGIF  
COME KICK OFF THE  
WEEKEND WITH US**

**MASON DIXON VFW OCEAN VIEW, DE**  
**COMMUNITY WELCOME**

**VFW  
VALENTINES  
DAY  
DINNER  
DANCE**

**SATURDAY  
2/10/2018**

**GRILLED SHRIMP  
SIRLOIN FILETS  
BAKED FISH  
FRIED CHICKEN  
RED ROASTED POTATOES  
BROCCOLI W/ CHEESE SAUCE  
TOSSED SALAD  
ROLLS & BUTTER  
Dinner 5-7 pm**

**MUSIC by  
OVERTIME  
6-10pm**

**Donation:  
\$15 pp**

Note: Tickets sold at door  
Doors Open 4:30 pm

## 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](mailto:vfwpost7234@vfw7234.com)**