



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

JANUARY 2017

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

Once again our post has stepped up to help those who are in need during the Christmas holidays. Our VFW provided gifts and food to seven needy families in our community. Thanks goes out to all who contributed generously! Thanks to George and Barbara Hickman for organizing and purchasing gifts, thanks to all the women who wrapped the gifts and thanks to George Hickman and Jack Fry for delivering all the packages which took 2 trucks! Great work done by



all! Thanks to Connie and her helpers for a great Christmas party for the children including a visit from Santa Claus, thanks to our one and only Ray! Thanks to the cooks for a great meal at our annual Christmas party! It was a great success with everyone having fun, dancing and socializing. Keep in mind that

even though many of our members have departed for their winter homes we continue to have plenty of activities; so check our Marks Canteen corner and certainly our monthly calendar. It's amazing how Fulton gets all that information on one page. As we wrap up another successful year at the VFW, we have to thank all of you for your support, for your volunteering, without you we would not be so successful, Thank You! We will be remodeling the VFW a little by finishing floors, painting the walls, and tidying up the place a bit. Yes, we will have to go downstairs for a few weeks but I am sure Mark will have some surprises for us while we are down there. I also want to mention that the Cookie drive this year brought a tremendous response from some of our local communities. Bay Forest delivered 562 dozen cookies! Amazing number since this was the first year for them to contribute! Thanks to all those bakers, the troops will love them! In addition to the 562 dozen, there were hundreds more contributed,

and I believe the ladies have the total number. We can always depend on all of you at our VFW when the word gets out we need help, you all respond. Thank you all for a very successful Cookie Drive for our Troops all over the world! Please keep our sick members in your thoughts and prayers. As winter approaches please remember those who are less fortunate in our communities by dropping off donations at our entry for our local food bank, and thanks to Dean for delivering them. Please let us know if you or someone you know is in need or sick. The officers and I would like to wish everyone a prosperous New Year and pray all our wishes come true. God Bless our Veterans, God Bless the Auxiliary who support them, and God Bless America.

John Hickman
Commander
302-448-0723

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

VFW Post and Auxiliary Members,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! As survivors of the 2016 holiday season, we face the new year of 2017

exhausted but full of fresh resolutions and plans for the months ahead. Hopefully one of your resolutions is to become more involved in one of our Auxiliary programs by joining us in ["Soaring to New Heights for Our Veterans & their Families"](#). Speaking of soaring, you and many in our generous community did just that for "Operation Cookie Drive"; we collected approx. 2,200 DOZEN (that's 26,400 cookies) cookies!! A special Thank You goes out to Mike Gillease and members of the Bethany Forest Homeowners Association; they contributed



over 550 dozen cookies! The final count of collected & shipped cookies reached (in excess of) 4,200 dozen cookies (50,400). To see some of the smiling faces of Military recipients, check out the photos on the Operation Cookies Facebook page. Our tradition of giving dominated our actions last month. The Auxiliary donated to the Ronald McDonald House, A.I.DuPont DeNemours Children's Hospital, USO, Alzheimer's Research, and others (as per our standing rules) in addition to various other special projects. Effective January 1, 2017, Auxiliary Annual Dues have been increased to \$35/yr. renewal and \$50 (\$15 joining fee & \$35 dues) for new annual members. The new 2017 membership applications are now available; please note that Life Membership Fees have been increased.

Any NEW membership applicant presented to the Investigating Committee for consideration at our January meeting must remit the 2017 dues amount. National bylaws clarify that the dues amount is determined by when an applicant is approved for membership, NOT by when the applicant applied for membership. Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard during 2016 to recruit new members and special thanks to Renee McDorman who weathered the avalanche of last minute memberships in November & December! At press time, we were at 104.9%! Join me in giving our new members a WARM WELCOME! The New Year will surely be full of challenges for everyone. We need to be watchdogs of our newly elected leaders and hold them accountable for their actions and their stand on Veteran issues. 2017 will be a highly challenging year financially once again for our Auxiliary. Please join us at our January 2nd, 2017 Auxiliary meeting when we will make plans for the New Year. GOOD LUCK with those New Year Resolutions and stay healthy!!

Loyally yours,
Roberta Walter
Auxiliary President
(302)537-2634 phone

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.



*Ralph E. Sipes
Oscar H. Orr
Edward G. Courtney
William F. Wood*

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.

SERVICE OFFICER OUTREACH

All VFW members & AUX

A new study in the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine last week details how higher rates of hypertension among Vietnam era veterans who handled Agent Orange directly and indirectly were otherwise exposed to the deadly dioxin. Agent Orange contains the chemical dioxin,



which Vietnam era veterans have maintained harmed their health, including conditions which have been passed on to their children, and in some cases, grandchildren. The new study found that the Army Chemical Corps of Engineers who directly handled Agent Orange had a higher rate of

hypertension than those who did not. But Corps members, who served in Vietnam, even if they did not handle Agent Orange directly, were also affected by the chemical. A working group has been studying whether other illnesses should be added to the VA presumptive Agent Orange list for Vietnam veterans, Korean war veterans, and veterans who saw action in Southeast Asia. The VA was expected to announce their judgment about expanding eligibility this year, but that decision will now be left for the administration of President Elect Donald Trump.

Please remember in the Corsa Household (Veterans are our only business).

Please if I can assist in any way let me know

302 933 0119

Respectfully Robert P Corsa, Service Officer

CANTEEN CORNER

As we start a New Year I want to take a moment to thank everyone for a very successful 2016. We had many events that were sold out and a good time had by all. For the Canteen to be successful it needs you the customers, and boy did you turn out. It was good to see, how all during the year, new friends were being made on each visit. That goes to show that Post 7234 is in fact the best Post in the country. Thank You! Turning the corner to 2017, we are going to continue the events that were successful and add some new activities. We will begin a Dart League on Monday nights on 1/9 at 6pm. John Frye will be the administrator of the league and will provide more details. Then on Sunday 1/29 we will be having a Chili Cook-off at 3pm. For those of you, who think you make the best Chili, step up the plate to enter your recipe. For those of you who want to taste all the entries, it will cost \$3 to taste them all and the winner will receive the total purse. You could be crowned The Champion of Chili of Post 7234. Some upcoming events you want to put on your calendars are Super Bowl Sunday on 2/5 and Valentines Dinner Dance on 2/11. We will begin Superbowl Sunday with Super Flip 5 at 3pm. There will be more winner take all games and the fee is \$30 to play all the games. We will follow Flip 5 with our Covered Dish Meal before the big game. So practice your best recipe, so you can perfect it and share with the whole group. If cooking is not your thing, a store bought dessert will do just fine. Tickets for our Valentines Dinner Dance are now on sale at the Bar. The cost is \$20 each or \$35 a couple. Overtime will be the band for the evening and will rock the place with their horn section. We will be serving Carved Prime Beef and Lobster Tails. Tickets for these events sell out fast, so get your tickets early. As we plan our events for 2017, we need volunteers to help. If you have a few hours, just let me know and we will fit you in. As always 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. Please sign-up at the Salt Pond Pro Shop by noon Sunday for the following Tuesday's golf. Starting October Show-up at 8:30 a.m. for a 9:00 tee time. Remember all are welcome!!!

Ed (Albert) Pike

Electric Slide Power

Recently I learned that over a period of time the well-managed Post has achieved significant energy cost savings by converting from electricity to propane natural gas for a number of purposes. That achievement raises a question. Is it possible for the Post to be completely energy independent, without windmills or solar panels? The answer is, Yes; and



it's in our feet. According to an article in the Washington Post in December, a British inventor, Laurence Kimball-Cook, and his company, Pavegen, have developed technology to capture and use the kinetic energy of footsteps. As I understand it, using a system of interlocking triangular tiles called "kinetic pavers" connected to small

generators underneath, the force of each step on the tiles is collected and converted into electrical energy for useful purposes. This is not just an interesting theory. A successful demonstration project is now underway in the Dupont Circle area of Washington, DC. Kinetic pavers have been imbedded in a sidewalk and connected to underground generators which convert the energy from every step of every passerby to power the lights in a small park in the vicinity. Amazing! Better yet, the energy is constantly renewable because people are using that sidewalk in the busy area all the time. Now imagine what this could mean for the Post. With a system of kinetic pavers on the dance floor, and maybe around the buffet line and bar, we could generate the energy to meet all of the Post's needs. When you look at the calendar of events every month you can see the potential. Think about it. Every time you go through the buffet line, you're providing power for all the kitchen appliances. So why not go back for second or even third helpings if you really want to be helpful? Every time you go up to the bar or get out on the dance floor, you're keeping the lights shining brightly. The beauty of it is, everyone contributes something. The line dancers and Twisting Sisters will

contribute more of course. The only downside I see other than the initial cost of installation, which can be quickly recovered in energy savings, is that reportedly there is a slight give in the tiles when you step on them. This was described by one person as feeling like you're stepping on a thin rubber mat. But walkers say you quickly get used to it. And it puts a little bounce in your step. I'm envisioning big improvements on the dance floor. I'm not talking about generating power to sell on the regional grid. I'm just talking about energy independence for the Post. Skeptics may argue that this would only work on busy city sidewalks, airports, train stations and Starbucks. Or Michael's and Walmart at Christmastime. But when is the last time the skeptics were right about anything? National elections? Think President-elect Trump. My feeling is that if it's working in the District of Columbia, of all places, it could work at the Post on Quillan's Point. This is America after all. We can do anything we put our minds to.

By the way, here are some dates in January you may want to remember and celebrate:

- January 7. Eastern Orthodox Christmas
- January 16. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 20. Inauguration Day.
- January 28. Chinese New Year (Begins a Year of the Rooster.)

Happy and Healthy New Year to all.

Jerry Hardiman

Post Positions

In March we will begin nominations for Post Positions 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. This year we need to fill the position of Quartermaster, a very important position of the Post. Bill who has held this position for 3 years has done an excellent job. He has established several new procedures to enhance our ability to make better informed decisions that make this one of the top Posts in the world. This position is a paid position, compensating the individual; so this is ideal for someone interested in a part time job in retirement. It pays more than a golf starter and you are your own boss and can set your hours; even performing some functions from home. This position has a private office and the latest state of the art support systems to make this job easier. We have been blessed with a long history of high quality Quartermasters, each has improved the process which makes it easier to assume. Bill will help with the transition. Please contact Bill to discuss the position.

**VALENTINE'S DAY
DINNER DANCE**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11th, 2017
DINNER 5:30-7:00pm
MUSIC: 6-10pm

- MD. CRAB SOUP
- CARVED PRIME OF BEEF
- LOBSTER TAILS
- BAKED FISH
- RED ROASTED POTATOES
- BROCCOLI W/CHEESE SAUCE
- TOSSED SALAD
- ROLLS & BUTTER



**Music By:
OVERTIME**

Tickets: \$20/ea
\$35/couple

MASON DIXON VFW
POST #7324
OCEAN VIEW, DE.

CHILI COOKOFF



1/29 3 PM

DART LEAGUE



EVERY MONDAY
STARTING AT 6PM

**VFW
FRIDAY FAMILY
BUFFET**

JANUARY 6th, 2017
5:00 pm 'til 7:00 pm



CHICKEN CARBONARA
ZITI with WHITE
SAUCE
STEWED TOMATOES
FRIED FISH
CEASAR SALAD
GARLIC BREAD

Donation: \$10 AYCE

MUSIC by DJ RAY DISNEY
6:00 - 10:00 pm

Sponsored by:
MASON DIXON
VFW POST #7234
Marshy Hope Road
Ocean View, DE

COME JOIN
THE FOOD,
FUN, &
FRIENDSHIP

COMMUNITY WELCOME

**VFW
FRIDAY FAMILY
BUFFET**

JANUARY 13th, 2017
5:00 pm 'til 7:00 pm

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

Donation: \$10 AYCE

MUSIC: DJ RAY DISNEY

Sponsored by: Mason Dixon
VFW Post #7234 AUXILIARY
Ocean View, DE

**COMMUNITY
WELCOME**



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

JANUARY 20th, 2017

HAM & CABBAGE
BOILED POTATOES
CARROTS
FRIED FISH
TOSSED SALAD
ROLLS & BUTTER

**MASON DIXON VFW #7234
FRIDAY NIGHT BUFFET**

Serving 5 pm 'til 7 pm
DONATION: \$10.00 AYCE

MUSIC by: DJ RAY DISNEY
6-10 pm

COMMUNITY WELCOME

**VFW FRIDAY
FAMILY
BUFFET**



FRIDAY, JANUARY 27th, 2017

**SHRIMP SCAMPI
SAUSAGE CACCIATORE
SAUTEED VEGETABLES
CAESAR SALAD
GARLIC BREAD**

DONATION: \$10 AYCE
Served 5-7pm

Sponsored by:
MASON DIXON VFW POST #7234
MARSHY HOPE WAY
OCEAN VIEW, DE

Music by:
DJ RAY DISNEY



COMMUNITY WELCOME

VFW LEADERSHIP TEAM

Commander	John Hickman (302-448-0723)
Sr Vice Cmdr	Dean Levering
Jr Vice Cmdr	Robert Criswell Jr
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	Mike Grabowski
Trustee	Danny Steele
Trustee	George Smith

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

AUXILIARY TEAM

President	Roberta Walter
Sr Vice Pres	Carol Weber
Jr Vice Pres	Connie Weber
Secretary	Susan Wallace
Treasurer	Carol Black
Chaplain	Theo Loppatto
Guard	Shirley Stong
Conductress	Ellen Reilly
Patriotic Ins	Jackie Umstetter
Trustee	Ruth Ann Sagers
Trustee	Donna Paddock
Trustee	Debbie Morlock-Wood

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