



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

MARCH 2018

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

Well, the ground hog saw his shadow so we can look forward to six more weeks of winter. (I never liked groundhogs!) By the time you read this, we will be open upstairs again. I know a lot of you don't like being downstairs, but this is necessary to give the upstairs a well deserved sprucing up and a chance to do whatever other maintenance that needs to be done so that we can continue to enjoy all the activities of our post. We have had quite a few of our members



and volunteers on vacation, so we welcome them back hoping they had a good time and are refreshed and ready to go. I had a request from a member to write a letter to his grandson on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. I was pleased to write this letter to Holden Conner for his

outstanding list of accomplishments both in the scouts and with his church. He truly is a fine young man and a role model for any one that has the privilege to interact with him. Remember, we will be having election of officers and board members this month. Please consider becoming more involved. The strength and success of our post depends on people willing to commit to taking an active role in the decisions and making suggestions affecting the good of the post. If you feel you could become more involved, please see myself or another officer. Our Post meeting is March 5th at 7:00. Any member can attend these meetings. Even if you can't make a commitment at this time, attend a meeting and see what goes on and perhaps you will consider it in the future. 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,

MARCH "IN LIKE A LION, OUT LIKE A LAMB" or the reversal, what will March bring? Whatever the weather, we can look forward to St. Patrick's Day, the return of Daylight Savings time,



March madness, Little League tryouts, and daffodils! The month may be busy but there's always time to help our veterans and their families. I would like to take this opportunity to showcase one of our programs, Youth Activities. The main goal of this program is to encourage

our youth to display patriotism and loyalty towards our country and to encourage them to appreciate & support our military & their families. We extend invitations to youth groups to assist us with our various endeavors. Our Youth Chairman, Connie Weber does an outstanding job in planning & hosting three community youth parties a year. In addition, Connie collects General Mills coupons (specific products list on our bulletin board) that may be exchanged for needed school items. Recently she

donated \$200 of these coupons to the Lighthouse Christian School. We also collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. The funds from this recycling program help to pay for their young patients' needs. Connie would like to remind everyone to start saving their BJ's ice cream coupons; it's almost time to begin selling ice cream again (Connie's profitable fundraiser). Connie always welcomes volunteers so please consider being a helper. Thank you Connie for an outstanding job! Next month we will be electing new Auxiliary officers. Please consider taking an office or assisting with a program. Your Auxiliary is only as strong as you & your officers make it! Please make it a point to join us a little early at our March meeting. The VFW and Auxiliary will be presenting Post awards for Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Scholarship winners. Join me in congratulating these young people: 6:45 pm, March 5th,
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Details about the State Testimonial Dinner and State Convention will be presented at the March meeting. Remember the Community Children's Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for 3/25; Connie will present details and a request for volunteers at our meeting.

Remember to notify our Chaplain, Theo Loppatto, of anyone who may be ill or need our assistance. Also, if you would like to be included in our email notification listing, see Theo also!

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH: "MAY YOUR NEIGHBORS RESPECT YOU, TROUBLES NEGLECT YOU, ANGELS PROTECT YOU, and HEAVEN ACCEPT YOU" IRISH PROVERB

Hope to see you at our March meeting.....

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.



*Earl L. Beaver
 Elmer B. Sauerhoff
 William W. Robinson Jr
 Garth C. Troescher Jr
 Helen S. Dean*

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

March 29th is National Vietnam War Veterans Day.



A Ceremony conducted by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1105 will take place on 29 March 2018 at the Circle in Georgetown at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial with Opening Ceremonies beginning at 3PM. Program to highlight reading of the names of the Vietnam War

Dead from Sussex County and the Placing of a wreath at the Memorial.



A new granite memorial is being added to Arlington National Cemetery honoring the nearly 5,000 pilots and crew members who perished serving our country in Southeast Asia. The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association is paying for the monument, the culmination of a multi-year effort to gain the support and approvals. The dedication ceremony is set for 18 April 2018. For more information about the memorial, visit www.vhpa.org/legacy.htm. For my comrades who served in Iraq and Afghanistan I thought this article would be of interest.

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

Respectfully,
Robert P. Corsa, Service Officer

CANTEEN CORNER

February was a great month at the Post, starting with Superbowl Sunday. What a crowd we had in the afternoon for Super Flip 5, and then all in attendance feasted on Covered Dishes that covered 24ft of tables. As everyone settled in to watch the game, Ken Weber led the crowd in Fly Eagles Fly. The Eagles must have heard us as they soared to a Superbowl Victory. What a day and congrats to all the Eagle fans. All repairs and cleanup is complete on the upstairs area and we are gearing up for the upcoming season. We start the month on a high note on 3/3 with a new band performing. On The Edge will be playing at the Post from 6-10 Pm. On Sunday 3/11 we will be holding the 2nd annual Bar Olympics. We will draw 2 person teams which will complete in 3 games. The game will be Dart's, Shuffleboard, and Corn Hole. The entrance fee will be \$10pp and will be awarded in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes. There will be a blind draw for partners and each team consists of a

man and a woman. We ask that those who can bring a covered dish to share while we play.

On Saturday 3/17 we will be having our St. Patrick's Day Party. Doors will open at 5:30 Pm, and the traditional fare of Corned Beef, Ham, Cabbage, and all the fixings will be served from 6-8pm. Thin Ice will be the band that Night and will play from 7-11Pm. Tickets are going fast for the 4/7 Bull & Oyster Roast. As this event always sells out, I would not hesitate in getting your tickets. See the bartenders for details. This month for our Friday Night Buffet Dinners we will featuring food from all over Globe. Steve and Roger will be featuring their heritage with a Polish and Brazilian Night. Check the calendar for the rest of the menus.

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

USO AT QUILLEN'S POINT

Looking at the Post calendar every month and the



entertainment Mark arranges, I've often thought: This is like having our own USO center with visiting bands and DJs. Something every week. When you add the great meals and always friendly bar service, we are truly fortunate. I've always had an appreciation for the USO for all the good it does for the morale and welfare of those serving in the military. One of my cousins had been in show business before World War II and was living in Honolulu when Pearl Harbor was attacked. She volunteered to help the USO organize and expand its programs and services for all the military personnel in Hawaii, and

continued that work throughout the war. In 1941, the USO was a new organization. It had been established in New York City in February of that year, with the encouragement of President Franklin Roosevelt, by the YMCA, YWCA, National Catholic Community Service, National Jewish Welfare Board, Salvation Army and Travelers' Aid Association. It was named the United Service Organizations for National Defense, but quickly became known simply as "the USO". (FDR is honored as "Founder".) When the USO is mentioned, many people think of the well-publicized overseas and stateside shows with celebrity entertainers, like Bob Hope. That's understandable. It's estimated that the USO staged more than 400,000 live shows during WWII, and tens of thousands more since that time, in the United States and around the world, including Korea, Vietnam, the Middle East, Afghanistan and other places where our military has served and continues to serve. For all of you who went on the cruise to the Panama Canal last year, here's an interesting fact from USO history. After the defeat of Nazi Germany in WWII, a number of units were transferred to the Pacific theater for the anticipated invasion of Japan. For those on ships passing through the Panama Canal, the USO put on shows on both sides of the Canal locks to entertain the troops lining the sides of their ships. What a beautiful, inspiring sight that must have been. However, there's a lot more to the USO than the shows; and not all of the millions of USO volunteers over the years were (or are) entertainers. A couple of things we know about are the USO's Operation Phone Home program and the Wish List campaign collecting comfort items for those serving overseas. I have to take a moment here to acknowledge and thank Gigi Vanderman, who served for over 13 years as the USO Delaware local coordinator, gathering donations of Wish List items (and more) in our area. Gigi filled many van loads of items for our military personnel over the years and her dedication and accomplishments are very much appreciated. Then there are the 200 USO centers around the world today which provide libraries, movies, sports equipment, refreshments, a place to relax and a number of relatively new support services and programs for military personnel and their families. This is a long history of service to our military by a non-profit private organization funded by donations.

Speaking of USO centers, anyone who was ever stationed at Ft. Bragg may be interested to know that the first USO center was established in Fayetteville, North Carolina, shortly before December 7, 1941. Here's another little interesting fact. Did you know that Bob Hope was a veteran? He was declared an honorary veteran by Act of Congress in 1997,

because of all he did from 1942 to the 1990's for the morale of so many serving in the military. Back to Quillen's Point. Like the USO, there's more to the Post than the entertainment nights. It's the welcoming atmosphere, getting together with friends, sharing a meal and, importantly, being part of something really worthwhile. Just look at the list of worthy causes, including veterans, active duty military, civic and community causes, supported by the Post; all funded by Post activities and made possible by volunteers. Just a final random thought: Does it make any practical sense to offer movies at the Post (afternoon/evenings)? Or to set up a dedicated book exchange or lending library in some small area? Something like some USO centers provide, but on a smaller scale. Just something to think about.

Looking forward to March, here are some dates to keep in mind, in addition to everything on the Post calendar.

March 2. World Day of Prayer
March 3. The Star Spangled Banner established by Congress as the National Anthem (1931)
March 6. Remember the Alamo!
March 8. International Women's Day
March 11. Daylight Savings Time begins. (Is it spring forward or spring back?)
March 14. National Pi Day (3.14, etc.)
March 15. Ides of March
March 17. St. Patrick's Day (Sláinte!)
March 20. Spring begins
March 29. National Vietnam Veterans Day
March 30. Good Friday and Passover begins at sundown.

Hope you enjoy every day in March.
Jerry Hardiman

Appointed Positions

Last month we talked about the nomination and election of Post Officer Positions for the next year. This month we want to talk about the Post Positions that the Commander appoints to support him and the Post in providing service to our Veteran Members. As we are a large Post these positions are very important in helping our community of Veterans. It also is an opportunity to meet your fellow veterans. First we have Appointed Post Positions which must be filled by the bylaws and reported to National. These include Service Officer, Adjutant, Judge Advocate, Officer of the Day, Guard, Surgeon.

Second we have Committees; most are standing Committees that include: Chicken Shack, Breakfast, Ways & Means, Membership, VOD/Patriots

Pin/Teacher, Community/Americanism, Communications/Public Relations, National Home and Youth Activities.

Each committee would welcome new members; Especially the Chicken Shack and Breakfast which are our biggest fund raisers and require a lot of Volunteers. Please contact the Commander if you are interested in any of these Positions or Committees. Remember our meetings are on the First Monday of each Month at 7PM.

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

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



**MASON DIXON VFW
PRESENTS A
MONTH
OF INTERNATIONAL
DINING**

March 2 - Polish Night
March 9 - Brazilian Night
March 16 - Mexican Night
March 23 - Oriental Night
March 30 - Cajun Night

FRIDAY BUFFET - AYCE - \$10.00
FOOD 5-7 pm MUSIC 6-10 pm



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

SATURDAY, APRIL 7th, 2018

BEEF RAW OYSTERS
OYSTER STEW STEAMED SHRIMP
SAUSAGE & PEPPERS COLE SLAW
POTATO SALAD BAKED BEANS
DRAFT BEER & SODA

**FOOD SERVED
3-7 pm**

AYCE

**MUSIC
4:30-9:30 pm**

DONATION: \$30

Sponsored by: **MASON DIXON
VFW to BENEFIT VETERANS
RELIEF FUND**



COMMUNITY WELCOME

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