



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

MAY 2017

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

The month of May is going to be a busy month, start of a lot of activities. The breakfast will start May 7th, price is still \$9.00, what a deal, what a great group of volunteers. The world renowned VFW Chicken shack will start their cooking of the birds, I can smell the smoke already, another great hard working group of VFW volunteers. We will be doing three



Memorial Day Services, the first will be in Bethany Band Stand at 11 AM on May 29th, the 2nd will be at Brandywine retirement home at 2pm, and the 3rd will be at Mason Dixon VFW on May 30 at 11 AM, all are welcome to all of these services. We are planning on having Crabs on Thursday

night, starting May 11th, along with steaks and other seafood as we have done in the past years. The Sunday afternoon barbecue is going to start May 7th, along with the steel band. Looks like Summer is about to strike again, hold on to your hats it is going to be a busy summer again at the VFW, come out enjoy your VFW. Congratulate Bill Hensley, he is once again the top recruiter in the state of Delaware. Please keep our sick members in your thoughts and prayers and remember those who are less fortunate in our community by dropping off donations at the entry. 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,



SPRING has sprung! Welcome to my favorite season of the year. Flowers in bloom, birds chirping, lawns being mowed, and young people playing outside—sure signs of spring! Can you believe that



we are on the “last lap” of the 2016-17 program year? Although it seems as though we’re winding down, we still have ample time to make a difference in the lives of veterans and their families. **MAY** is the month to celebrate our heritage by honoring several patriotic days: Loyalty Day, V-E Day,

Armed Forces Day, and Memorial Day. Fly your flag proudly and share your passion for this country.

Remember the debt we owe every veteran and their families. Mark on your calendar the Memorial Day service (5/29) in Bethany Beach and the one at our Post (5/30) and plan to attend at least one of them. The VFW began distributing Buddy Poppies in 1922. Since that time, this program has grown to help fund VFW and Auxiliary Relief Funds. Volunteers are needed to help collect donations for this program (only a couple of hours). Our fundraising committee has a couple of ideas that they are recommending we proceed with ASAP; details to be presented at our May meeting. Speaking of fundraising, our first Friday night AYCE Buffet is slated for **May 19th** (Baked Chicken), and features a baked goods sale. We will need volunteers to work the dinner and lots of **BAKED GOODIES!** Please remember that your friends and neighbors are good sources with whom to share the dinner details. If you are unable to volunteer to assist with a dinner, consider attending! Should you have a few spare hours and love

volunteering with a terrific group of people, consider signing up to help the VFW with one of their weekly events. Connie Weber, Youth Chairman, did an outstanding job hosting the children's Easter Party. Another outstanding job was performed by Shirley Stong when she and fellow Auxiliary members presented over 100 stuffed animals to the Millville Fire Department for their use. We are blessed with many **GREAT** volunteers!! **THANK YOU!** Installation of newly elected officers will be at our May meeting (MAY 1ST). Thank you for your continued support; it is an honor to be serving as your president again. Also elected: Carol Weber, Sr.Vice; Donna Paddock, Jr. Vice; Ellen Reilly, Conductress; Rene McDorman, Treasurer; Theo Loppatto, Chaplain; Shirley Stong, Guard; 3 yr Trustee, Connie Weber; and 2 yr Trustee, Debbie Vischer-Jensen. Susan Wallace as Secretary and Jackie Umstetter as Patriotic Instructor will continue to serve.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH: "THE LIFE IN FRONT OF YOU IS FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE LIFE BEHIND YOU":

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.



*Theodore Stegura
 Thomas Neary*

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

Sad News: Bob Corsa's 48 year old son died last week in his sleep of natural causes. Bob and Laurie are currently in New York for the funeral and caring for the son's family. Condolences may be mailed to:

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Corsa

30488 Oak Ridge DR

Millsboro DE, 19966



CANTEEN CORNER

As the summer season begins a couple activities will start in May. Our Sunday morning breakfast will start the 1st Sunday of May and then in the afternoon we will have Burgers & Dogs on the grill starting at 4pm. Come spend your Sundays at the Post. We will be starting Steamed Crabs on Thursday night starting on May 11th. Crabs will be \$37 a dozen and you need to place your order at the Bar by 1pm on Thursdays. The outlook for Crabs this year is very good and I am looking forward to some big and heavy crabs. On Friday afternoon from 12-4pm we have created some Bar Specials for your enjoyment. Steamed Shrimp, and Steamed Clams are just a few that we will be offering. Join us on Fridays to begin your weekend .We will be having our second Bus trip of the year on Sunday may 21st, to Don's Seafood in Chincoteague, Va. The cost is \$16 per person for the Bus and you are responsible for your own food. As of this writing we had some space available , so see the bartenders to sign up. On Sunday May 28th we will have our Memorial Day Indoor picnic starting at 4pm. BBQ Chicken will be the feature dish with all your favorite Picnic sides. Come start the Summer season with us and meet some new friends. Monday night Darts will continue into the summer and it has grown every week. Come enjoy one of Rodger's Pasta dishes and then join us for a night of fun throwing Darts. As the summer season approaches the crowds

will begin to grow. We will ask that you use your key card to come in the door as this lets us see that you are a member. If you need a key card please see the bartender.

As always if you have any suggestions please let me know.

See you at the Post Mark

VFW GOLF ASSOCIATION



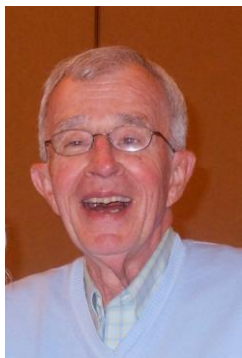
VFW Golf Association

members play golf each Tuesday at the Salt Pond Golf Course. After a long, but relatively mild winter, it is time for Spring golf! Come join us, reunite with everyone, and welcome our new golfers. Please sign-up at the Salt Pond Pro Shop by noon Sunday for the following Tuesday's golf. Show-up at 8:30 a.m. for 9:00 tee time. Remember all are welcome!!! Mark your calendars for our first Sunday Morning Buffet Breakfast of the year on May 21. Please call our Breakfast Coordinator, Phil Dulk at 973-722-5124 to offer your help.

Ed (Albert) Pike

Thoughts on Memorial Day

Looking at the calendar for May I started thinking about Memorial Day coming up on May 29. We've all seen and participated in a lot of Memorial Day ceremonies and I'd bet we're always moved by the solemnity of the ceremony and memories evoked by the occasion. To us and many other Americans it's a special day set aside to remember and honor all those who died serving our country and to preserve our freedoms. Yet there are those who, without lessons in history and patriotism at home or school, are just not aware of the significance of the day. Others forget and, like those who never learned, just see the day as the beginning of another fun summer. Still others remember but think the memories of loss are too sad to dwell on and that it would be better to put those feelings of loss behind us. Many writers and speakers have identified



reasons why Memorial Day is necessary and important. To me, the best of the commentators on the subject is U.S. Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. Before his 30-year career on the Court, Justice Holmes served during the

Civil War in the 20th Massachusetts Regiment of Volunteers and was wounded in action at Bulls Bluff, Antietam and Chancellorsville. After the war, Justice Holmes spoke eloquently about the meaning and importance of days like Memorial Day not just to veterans, but also to the public and the nation. He once said, in answer to those who ask why we continue every year to remember and honor those who died: "We do not live in the past alone, but remember and live to be worthy of the past." Distilling the thoughts of Justice Holmes and other commentators, there are essentially four main reasons why Memorial Day is necessary and important. First, obviously, is to remember and honor all those who gave their lives for our country. And in recognizing their sacrifice we also recognize the enormous debt we owe them. The simple truth is that we live in freedom because of them.

Second, we recognize and honor the sacrifice and courage of the families of the fallen, and try to ensure that those still living realize with a sense of pride that their loved ones will never be forgotten.

Third, publicly honoring those who died to preserve our freedoms, we impart the example of their lives as a lesson for others, especially younger generations. In doing so, we may, hopefully, encourage and maybe even inspire them to live lives of service and make a difference for good.

Fourth, we continue a long-standing patriotic tradition that originated as "Decoration Day" after the Civil War, a special day set aside to decorate the graves of those who died in that war with flowers. For many years, May 30 was the designated day. The preferred name for the occasion gradually changed to "Memorial Day" and encompassed appreciation for those who died in subsequent wars. Eventually, in the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which became effective in 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a Federal legal holiday and designated the last Monday in May for its observance.

In addition, as noted, Memorial Day is a holiday. Based on our family experience, it's not a formal and solemn occasion all day. It's also a day to celebrate and enjoy with family and friends. And yes, it does mark the unofficial beginning of summer with all that brings, including tourists. (Time to put on the happy face again for the Sunday Breakfast and Chicken Shack Crews.) As to the formal aspects of Memorial Day, at sunrise the American flag will be raised briskly to the top of the staff and then solemnly lowered to half-staff, where it will remain until noon, in remembrance of all those who died while serving the nation in the armed forces. It will then be raised to full height, from noon to sundown, with our resolve that their sacrifice will not be in vain. And starting at 11:00 AM, VFW Post 7234 officers will conduct a traditional Memorial Day ceremony at the Bethany Beach Band Stand for the area community, with remembrance poppies distributed to all present. Clearly, this patriotic

ceremony is one of the most meaningful services provided by the Post in our community for residents and visitors, because of its immediate and potentially lasting positive effects. Many thanks to all the officers and volunteers involved. Talking about Memorial Day, I was recently reminded about something that's often forgotten (at least by me) about this special day. In December 2000, Congress passed the National Moment of Remembrance Act. The Act designates 3:00 PM local time throughout the country on this day for a minute of silence to remember and honor all those who sacrificed their lives to ensure our freedoms. Hopefully, we'll do so on May 29.

As for the rest of May, here are some other dates in the month to keep in mind.

- May 4. National Day of Prayer
- May 6. Nurses Day
- May 8. V-E Day, 1945
- May 12. Military Spouses Day
- May 14. Mother's Day
- May 15. Women's Army Corps founded, 1942
- May 20. Armed Forces Day

Hope everyone enjoys every day this month.

Jerry Hardiman

*Memorial Day Service
Town of Bethany Beach
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7234*



*Bethany Beach Bandstand
Bethany Beach, Delaware
Monday May 29, 2017
11:00 AM*

Memorial Day Service

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7234



*VFW POST 7234
Ocean View, Delaware
Tuesday May 30, 2017
11:00 AM*



**CELEBRATE
MEMORIAL DAY--
SPEND THE DAY WITH
VETERANS
ENJOY OUR INDOOR PICNIC**

**SUNDAY, MAY 28th, 2017
4:00 pm 'til 7:00 pm
FOOD SERVED**

**BBQ CHICKEN
HAMBURGERS HOT DOGS
OVEN BAKED BEANS
POTATO SALAD COLE SLAW**

DONATION: \$ 8.00 A.Y.C.E.

**MUSIC by DJ DISNEY
5:00 pm 'til 8:00 pm**

**MASON DIXON VFW
POST #7234
SPONSORED
MARSHY HOPE ROAD
OCEAN VIEW, DE**



COMMUNITY WELCOME



**JOIN US
FOR OUR
WEEKLY
CRAB
FEAST**

**STEAMED CRABS - \$37 dozen
Must call in order by 12 noon each
Thursday (539-9981)**

**SEAFOOD MENU AVAILABLE
5-8 pm**

**MASON DIXON VFW POST #7234
MARSHY HOPE WAY
OCEAN VIEW, DE**





MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MAY 5th, 2017

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

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

Serving 5 pm 'til 7 pm

Donation: \$10 A.Y.C.E.

**D.J. RAY DISNEY
6pm - 10pm**

COMMUNITY WELCOME



VFW AUXILIARY FRIDAY FAMILY BUFFET

MAY 19th, 2017
5:00 pm 'til 7:00 pm

BAKED CHICKEN
MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
STRING BEANS
FRIED FISH
TOSSED SALAD
ROLLS & BUTTER

Donation: \$10 AYCE

**Music by
DJ RAY DISNEY**

Sponsored by:
MASON DIXON VFW
AUXILIARY
Marshy Hope Road
Ocean View, DE

**HOMEMADE
BAKED
GOODS for
SALE**

COMMUNITY WELCOME



VFW FRIDAY FAMILY BUFFET

FRIDAY, MAY 12th, 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
6pm - 10pm**

COMMUNITY WELCOME



VFW THANKSGIVING in MAY BUFFET

MAY 26th, 2017
5:00 pm 'til 8:00 pm



ROASTED TURKEY
MASHED POTATOES &
GRAVY
STUFFING CORN
SAUERKRAUT
CRANBERRIES
FRIED FISH
TOSSED SALAD
ROLLS & BUTTER

Donation: \$10 AYCE

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

**MUSIC
6pm - 10pm
D.J. 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	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	Rene McDorman
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