



# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

## NOVEMBER 2023

### COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello Comrades, Auxiliary, Post Members,

The post is moving towards the off season,



summer time baseball is ending, and our 2 favorite teams have made us proud. Both the Orioles and Phillies made the playoffs. No world series, but we can always say, "We will get there next year." I was so hoping for the 40 year return series with the O's and Phillies. Now we turn our attention to

football, yes, Ravens, Eagles, some skins fans, Oh, sorry I mean Commanders, and at least one Giant fan, won't mention his last name, but John is a diehard Giant fan.

October has been a rather busy month. The refurbishing of the Post continued. We were closed for 2 days for insulation in the ceiling. This will help with our heating and air conditioning. I'm sure you've noticed the new ceiling fans and the new lighting. Next biggie, the new flooring to start after Super Bowl Sunday. Did you notice the sign at the entrance displaying the achievement award for our post. #1 in Delaware's VFW Community Service. We are striving to be #1 again in the coming year. With the unselfish help of our many volunteers we can be. In our "help a vet" we've accomplished our first installation of a ramp, along with help and donation and time from UPS

Coordinator Kevin Garvey, and our committee chairman of the program "Ramp it up" Jeff Ringel. Together, set up the installation for Vincent Glass, a Veteran of U.S.N. a lifetime member of Post 7234.

Through all of this, we decided to take a break. We had our annual Volunteers appreciation dinner and dance. All had a wonderful time dancing to the vibes of our favorite post band "On the Edge". Over 200 meals were served in under 2 hrs. Many thanks to Mark and the hard working staff. While speaking about the staff. John is back after a 3 week medical absence. Great to have you back in the kitchen. I want to give a well deserved shout out to Mark. During John's absence, Mark, Gina really stepped up. I can't let it slip by. Gina's husband Paul was available as standby. Mark, worked honestly bell to bell. Thank all of you!

Oh, and don't forget to wish  
DALE WEESE, President of our Auxiliary,  
a HAPPY BIRTHDAY

He's a HALLOWEEN baby

Next is Veterans Day Ceremony at Post. 11-11 at 11 am with Luncheon to follow All invited!!

P.S. remember ARMY. NAVY Game 12-9. 3pm. Downstairs Tailgating starts at 1pm

Burgers, dogs, wings, salads and all the fixins and fun, fun and more fun. Wearing colors allowed.

Tickets go on sale 11-6 at Monthly meeting. Only 75 tickets to be sold! \$12.00 PER.

Signing off

Jim Jensen,

Commander Post7234

## AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

October was an eventful month, starting with our Department President's visit and inspection and culminated with our participation in the Cops and Goblins event on October 28th at John West Park. Our Department President, Alice Burrell and other Department staff attended our October meeting for a visit and inspection and found



our Auxiliary to be a healthy Auxiliary and operating at an exceptional level in every category. This is attributed to all the hard work and dedication of our officers, chairpersons, and members. I thank you all for your devotion and time.

The Cops and Goblins event was a success. Thanks to the generous donations of candy from Auxiliary and Post members as well as friends. Our members are extremely generous. If you need something all you have to do is ask. Through this event we were able to reach hundreds of kids and parents. Not only did we hand out candy but promoted the post, membership, and contests / scholarship being held. These included Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, essay contest, Get excited for Red, White, and Blue and Patriotic Art contest (2D & 3D Art). Thank You to Volunteers Kathy Impallomeni, Christine Davis, Thea Mariano, and Cindy Weese. Thanks to Lori and Richard Showalter for the creation of the Halloween balloon sculpture. It was a big hit with the kids. Even Commander Jensen and Past Commander Gossart paid a visit.



### Show You Care with Underwear

Throughout the month of October we collected donations of new underwear and undershirts for the children at the Nemours (A.I DuPont) Children's Hospital Center for Cancer. Due to the generosity of our members we were able to fill three large boxes with boys and girls undergarments. These will be delivered by our Auxiliary member Denise Limmer who lost her nine year old granddaughter to cancer in 2019. Thank You to everyone for showing You Care with Underwear.



### On to November

Veterans Day and Thanksgiving are coming up. November is a month to sit back, take inventory of what you are thankful for and count the blessings in your life. Be sure to attend our Veterans Day Service on Nov. 11th at 11:00a.m. at the Post. Come join us and honor our Veterans. Veterans Day honors all of those who have served the country in war or peace, deceased or alive, although it's largely intended to thank living Veterans for their sacrifices.

Our National President Carla Martinez will be visiting the State of Delaware at the beginning of the month. She expressed a wish to see where the largest Auxiliary in the country is located. With that said, she will be stopping by our Post on Thursday November 9th for a quick visit. Time is tentatively set for around 11:30 - 12:00 following her tour of Fort Miles and prior to her scheduled luncheon in Seaford at 2:30. This will be open to any member who wishes to meet the National President and welcome her to Delaware and our Post. There is no formal program taking place and is meant to be an informal meet and greet. We are very proud to take this opportunity to show off our Post and Auxiliary and provide an opportunity for President Martinez to take a breath before resuming her scheduled itinerary. Speaking of membership.....as of this writing we have 2023 members in our Auxiliary. I encourage all

annual members to consider converting to life membership. This can be done by utilizing the form included by Treasurer Roberta Walter in your annual renewal notice or by logging onto MALTA and renew from there. IF you have not created an account go to [Malta.VFW Auxiliary.org](http://Malta.VFW Auxiliary.org) to do so.

Our Youth program is currently in the planning stages of another Breakfast with Santa event to be held at the post on December 17th. Further details to come. Some of our members have received their Auxiliary shirts that they ordered. If you wish to order one please contact me to place your order. Remember monthly meetings are the first Monday of the month at 7:00pm. Come join us, get involved and meet fellow members. Thank You to all our program chairs for their hard work and dedication to our veterans. Please remember to submit your reports to your respective Department Chair Persons. Let us all remember our veterans both past and present, especially during this month of thanks. Remember those that are not able to be with their family during the Thanksgiving Holiday and pray they return safely.

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving,

Dale Weese, Jr.,  
President Auxiliary 7234  
(443) 324-1244  
[aux7234.de@gmail.com](mailto:aux7234.de@gmail.com)

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOTES**

Comrades, Auxiliary, Post Members;

Members of your Board of Directors were kept busy in October. We participated in the Meet & Greet at the Post, the Blue Star - Gold Star Memorial Dedication at Evans Park, a Memorial Service at the Veterans Cemetery, the Quarterly District 4 Meeting in Milton, the Annual Post Volunteer Dinner, and our first Ramp It Up installation to Help a Vet. For November, the Committee is being formed to judge the entrants for this year's Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen essay contests which just concluded at the end of October. Our Post, along with the Auxiliary, will award prize money to 1st, 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners. Our 1st place winning entry gets forwarded to District 4 no later than November 20th, to compete at the District level, for a chance to possibly move to State and National levels. Many thanks to

Sharon Ruest for the hard work she put into these programs.

The Events Committee continues to pursue possible entertainment alternatives.

Preparations continue for Veterans Day as we celebrate our own heroes. Finally, the BOD wishes you and your loved ones a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Thanks to all who completed the recent Event Survey, there were a lot of surveys submitted. Some of the surveys did include other ideas not on the survey. An even bigger thank you goes to the Events Committee, Jim Jensen, Chad Myers, Phyllis Scully, Mike Tuckman and Dale Weese! The results are tabulated and we are researching the feasibility of bringing some of the ideas to the Post. Stayed tuned for more details once the research is complete!

As a sneak peek, though, we are working on theme buffet nights, an event to benefit Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Campaign and a celebration of the 124th Army-Navy Football Game!

Chad Myers  
Acting Chairman  
Board of Directors

## 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.



With Honor & Gratitude  
**We Remember**

*Thomas "T--Bone" Taylor  
Alberta Ralph (PP)*

Please call Phyllis Scully at 30-381-539-9981 for the VFW or Eileen Healy at 302-539-9981 for the Auxiliary, if a member is sick or has passed away.

## SERVICE OFFICER OUTREACH

### On-demand care that saves you time

**With Tele Emergency Care, you can receive prompt care for many acute medical issues without the need for a visit to an emergency department.**

### Pharmacogenomics: When one size does not fit all

Using phone or secure video, A VA team of triage



nurses and licensed medical providers can diagnose a variety of common illnesses and begin treatment the same day. There is no appointment necessary and *no copayment for your visit*. Veterans receiving health care at VA medical centers throughout VISN

4 can call your main VA medical center and select Option 3 (speak to a nurse) from the menu or dial 1-833-Tele Urgent (1-833-835-3874).

Tele Emergency Care is available from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., 365 days/year.

Tele Emergency Care supports but does not replace in-person care. If you believe that your condition is life threatening, call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest emergency department but notify the VA as soon as possible to prevent being billed.

If Tele Emergency Care isn't the best option for your condition, our experienced emergency medicine providers can help recommend the most appropriate plan.

To learn more about Tele Emergency Care, visit [www.visn4.va.gov/tele-urgent](http://www.visn4.va.gov/tele-urgent)

Common conditions we can evaluate include:

- Cough, cold, flu and COVID symptoms
- Sore throat
- COPD and asthma flares
- Eye redness & irritation
- Tick and other insect bites
- Rashes

- Skin infections
- Minor allergic reactions
- GI illness
- Urinary tract infections
- Gout flares
- Muscle sprains/strains

Not sure what kind of care you need? A quick call to our triage nurses can help!

**How to Obtain Copies of Medical/Dental Records.** In 2014, the military services discontinued the practice of retiring medical/dental records to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). In order to determine where a medical record is located, please go to: <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/medical-records.html>. Veterans who submit a medical claim should contact the VA to determine if their record is already on file. The VA Toll Free number is: 1-800-827-1000 and will connect you to the nearest VA office.

**VA Disability Compensation.** Disability compensation received from the VA is tax-exempt, but mere entitlement to the payment will not result in any tax savings until a formal waiver of equivalent retired pay, if applicable, is executed. If you were retired for length of service or age, it may be to your advantage to waive a part of taxable retired pay in favor of tax-free VA compensation. This is true also for those who entered a uniformed service on or after 25 September 1975, and retired for disability, since their disability retired pay is taxed. On the other hand, the disability portion of retired pay for a Retired Soldier who entered a uniformed service on or before 24 September 1975 is untaxed. Therefore, there would be no tax advantage gained by waiving military retired pay unless VA compensation exceeded the portion of the retired pay that is based on disability. For more information, go to: <https://www.va.gov>.

**TRICARE for Life.** Military retirees and their eligible dependents who are entitled to premium-free Medicare Part A and who have Medicare Part B regardless of age or place of residence, are automatically covered under TRICARE for Life (TFL), provided they meet all other TRICARE eligibility requirements. TFL acts as a second payer to Medicare. Detailed information on coverage can be found at <https://tricare.mil/tfl/>. Be sure to read the Under 65 Brochure and the Turning 65 Brochure for important action steps and timing, based on your circumstances. Brochures are listed under “Related Downloads” on the TFL site. The Defense Health Agency awarded this contract to the Wisconsin Physicians Service (WPS) Military and Veterans

Health in Madison, Wisconsin. Beneficiaries may call WPS TFL at 1-866-773-0404 Monday Friday: 7:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m. (CST), for assistance. For more information refer to their page at <https://www.tricare4u.com/wps/portal/tdb/tricare4u/home>. TRICARE beneficiaries who are entitled to premium-free Medicare Part A and have Medicare Part B may use TFL even if they have other health insurance, such as a Medicare supplement or an employer sponsored plan. However, by law, TFL will pay only after all other health insurances have paid. Given this relationship between plans, you may find that you no longer need a supplemental plan. The TFL contract is a single, nationwide contract for health care claims processing and customer service. The Defense Health Agency awarded this contract to the Wisconsin Physicians Service (WPS) Military and Veterans Health in Madison, Wisconsin. Beneficiaries may call WPS TFL at 1-866-773-0404 Monday–Friday: 7:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m. (CST), for assistance. For more information refer to their page at <https://www.tricare4u.com/wps/portal/tdb/tricare4u/home>.

**PREPARING SURVIVORS.** Overview, this section will suggest some of the things you can do now to help your family prepare for the future. It will also summarize the major benefits to which your surviving spouses and, in some cases, children or parents may be entitled. In planning for the future, it is important to remember that retired pay stops when you die unless you elected to participate in the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP). Participation in the Retired Serviceman’s Family Protection Plan (RSFPP) is also possible if your retirement date was prior to 21 September 1972. Retired Soldiers were permitted to participate in both plans. You are responsible for ensuring your family understands that they must apply to the appropriate government agencies before survivor benefits can be paid. It is also your responsibility to advise your family to file applications for all benefits for which they might be eligible. **Preparing a Will.** First, you should prepare a will, which expresses your desires for the distribution of your estate. A private attorney or a military legal assistance attorney should prepare your will. It is wise to use witnesses who live in the community and whose addresses are fairly permanent. Choose an executor who will be available to administer your estate and who qualifies under applicable State laws. Keep your will in a safe, known, and easily accessible place. The Military does not maintain a repository for wills. Estates can be settled faster if the will is retained locally. **Personal Affairs.** Your family’s lack of knowledge of your personal affairs may result in considerable

inconvenience and even a loss of benefits to your survivors. To minimize difficulties, keep a list of assets and the location of documents that will be needed to apply for them. A checklist is provided for your use at:

<https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Retirement/post-retirement> listed under Information for Retired Soldiers and Family Members. Various papers and documents should be readily accessible to your next of kin at the time of your death. These include your will, life insurance policies, bank books, stocks and bonds, deeds to property, Social Security card, birth certificate, most recent retired pay statement, and final DD Form 214-Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, (and DD Form 215-Correction to DD Form 214, if applicable), and if you are a Gray Area Retired Soldier, the "Notification of Eligibility for Retired Pay" letter (aka "20 Year Letter").

In Comradeship,  
H. Rich Fales, Post Service Officer  
Cell: (301) 325-3813  
Email: [Smokey1st@netzero.net](mailto:Smokey1st@netzero.net)



## HONOR GUARD NEWS

On October 9<sup>th</sup> members of the Honor Guard participated in the Quilts of Valor presentation to Michael Ryan, brother of Post Chaplain Phyllis Scully at the Post Memorial Park. The presentation of the Quilt of Valor was presented by Delaware State Coordinator Marguerite Niemoeller, Quilts of Valor Foundation. Many family members were in attendance to include Michael's 4 brothers. All served in the military during Vietnam with 4 brothers in country. Michael was seriously wounded during his tour in Vietnam.



On October 14<sup>th</sup> the Honor Guard participated in the Blue Star Memorial dedication at Evans Park in Millville. The Honor Guard posted colors and rendered a Volley and Tapes.

On October 18<sup>th</sup> the Honor Guard paid tribute to fallen comrade Thomas "T-Bone" Taylor, retired Captain US Coast Guard and life member of our Post with a Volley and Taps at the Veterans Cemetery. Bone was a personal friend of Honor Guard Captain John Gossart. They played men's softball together for over 25 years.  
Rest in Peace Comrade!

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, the Honor Guard posted colors for the Moose Association at their 90<sup>th</sup> Convention.

Finally, the Honor Guard says so long and thank you to Honor Guard member Ed Krusey who returns to Denver on Sunday. Ed spends six months at his DE home and 6 months at his Denver home each year. While here Ed participates in every Honor Guard

function. Ed is a member of our Post and a Vietnam veteran. We will miss you, Ed! “Esse incolumem manere bene”.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Honor Guard, especially our younger members, please contact me. I plan to conduct an orientation over the summer months.

John F. Gossart, Jr.  
Captain of the Honor Guard  
240-304-8183  
[Judge800@yahoo.com](mailto:Judge800@yahoo.com)

Or:  
Mike Schiffer  
Assistant Captain of the Honor Guard  
[Rschiffer0@gmail.com](mailto:Rschiffer0@gmail.com)

\*The purpose of the Honor Guard is to provide funeral honors for our fallen comrades and guard national monuments. An Honor Guard may also serve as the ‘guardians of the colors’ “by displacing and escorting the national flag on ceremonial occasions at official functions.”

## **CANTEEN CORNER**

As we head in to November, we should take time to remember our Veterans. On Saturday 11/11 at 11am we will be honoring our Veterans with our Veterans Day Ceremony. This is the time we should stop to honor all the people that gave so much.

We will be having a Sunday Brunch on Sunday 11/12. Brunch will be served from 9am -12pm and will be AYCE for \$14. The menu will consist of our normal Breakfast items plus a Roast Beef carving station & Steamed Shrimp. Bring your family and support the Post and enjoy a delicious breakfast.

Again this year we will be hosting Thanksgiving Dinner for our Members and their Guests. Like previous years, I will need your help in purchasing the Turkeys. Giant Foods generally will have Turkeys on sale in November. Please stop by and get a turkey and drop it off at the Post. Please help us make this a Great Thanksgiving Dinner.

Please remember those in our community who need our help. Items for the Food Bank can be left in the Lobby anytime the Post is open.

See you at the Post  
Mark

## **Thanksgiving Dinner**

As the holidays are approaching, we at the Post have a lot to be thankful for. We would like our members, and their quests to join us for Thanksgiving Dinner.

Our goal is that no member spend the day alone. The Dinner will be open to all Members and Their Guests. We would hope that as a member, you will reach out to your communities, church groups, and organizations to bring as your guest any individuals who will spend this day alone or cannot afford to eat. Also as a member, if cooking is just not your thing, bring your family to share dinner with us. All guests must be accompanied by a member. There will be no charge for this dinner, but a donation jar will be available. Donations will be accepted, but not expected. Please help us show our Members and our Community how much we care.

Mark, Post VFW and Aux. Officers

## **New Years Eve**

I know it's seems early to be thinking about New Years Eve, but people are already wanting to buy Tickets. This Night has become very popular and we sell out as soon as tickets go on sale. The system for tickets sales that we used in the past made it very smooth and fair to all. We will use the same system this year, and it is as follows.

Tickets will go on Sale Monday 11/27

3 pm-5pm VFW, Mason Dixon ,and AUX members only( Must show Card )

5 pm-6pm Guests of the Post

Each Person may purchase:

2 Bar seats

1 Bar table

1 Hall or Atrium Table ( 6 or 8 seats)

Tickets Must be paid for at the time of reservation.

We will have 2 options for your dining that evening.  
Option 1: Dinner and Hors D'oeuvres Buffet \$45 per ticket

Option 2 : Hors D'oeuvres Buffet \$35 per ticket

Hors D'oeuvres

Dinner

Md. Crab Soup  
Burgundy Gravy  
Cocktail Meatballs  
Steamed Shrimp  
Cheese Tray  
Vegetable Tray

Sliced Beef in  
Chicken Marsala  
Lobster Tail  
Red Roasted Potatoes  
Mixed Vegetables  
Rolls & Butter

Come join us on the 27th for our Fried Chicken Dinner and buy your tickets for New Years.

## VFW GOLF ASSOCIATION

VFW Golf Association members play golf each Tuesday at the Salt Pond Golf Course. Register to play by sending an email to [vfwgolf7234@gmail.com](mailto:vfwgolf7234@gmail.com) NLT noon on the Monday before the date of play. All are welcome!!! Please note that beginning September 5 our times change to show up at 8:30 a.m. for a 9:00 a.m. tee time.

If you are interested in joining the Golf Association, please contact our President, Ken Smith, at 267-228-7285 or [madriviken1946@gmail.com](mailto:madriviken1946@gmail.com) for more information.

Ed Pike



## TWO TATTOOS FOR VETERANS

Thinking about Veterans Day this year, one of the things I've noticed about younger veterans, besides their ability to stay awake later, is their tattoos. There are a lot of tattoos. It used to be that tattoos were a Navy thing. Something to do with being cramped together on a ship for months and then released on shore leave. Imagine the pent-up excitement and disorientation. "What should we do?" "Let's get a tattoo."



"Great idea! Let's go." That's the way I think it went.

A tattoo wouldn't have been my first choice, but it's a personal call. And those shore leave tattoos were mostly personally meaningful, like the name of a sweetheart, their ships, or just "Mom." If in doubt, get an anchor. There were a lot of anchors. A Navy friend told me that getting a tattoo of a sweetheart could be a problem later, and they often had to be removed in a painful process. But not as painful as having it in some marital situations.

Tattoos clearly are a long-standing tradition in the Navy. There's even an extensive exhibit on the tradition in the National Museum of the American Sailor at the Great Lakes Naval Station near Chicago, Illinois.

Other Services. In the Army I knew, there weren't a lot of tattoos. They were usually limited to a unit name, insignia or motto, or some sentimental thought like "Death Before Dishonor." I don't know about the Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard. Those service veterans could fill us in on their tattoo cultures. My understanding is that whatever the service, personnel were advised to rein in the artistic imagination. There were restrictions and you were considered "government property." There was a threat in that, but was anyone ever court martialed for defacing the government's body with a tattoo? I think most tattoos were covered by uniforms so they weren't a major issue. Somewhere along the line that began to change.

The New Culture. I don't know exactly when, but tattoos ("body art") became more popular, prevalent and accepted in society. It takes a lot of decorative body art to get anyone's attention in public today. In a 2023 survey, 32% of Americans said they have gotten a tattoo. Of those born between 1981 and 1996, 38% said they have at least one. Looking at our younger veterans, I think it's more.

Because of regulatory restrictions, the military services began to have problems recruiting when

otherwise well qualified recruits had to be rejected because of extensive visible tattoos. Consequently, regulations have been updated to afford patriotic young people the opportunity to serve in uniform. From summaries, it appears that tattoos are more widely permitted than they were before 2022. That's all to the benefit of our nation.

**The Second Tattoo.** There are two uses of the word "tattoo." I found out that as used in the body marking process, it is derived from a Polynesian word "tatau." Something picked up and mispronounced by sailors in the Pacific while getting "tataued." The second use refers to a military ceremonial drumbeat derived from the Dutch word "taptoe." Sounds right for a rhythmic snare drum beat. The second use will be familiar to veterans from time spent on military bases, where periods of the day are announced by bugle calls broadcast on post loudspeakers. Tattoo is the bugle call played in the late evening, usually about 15 minutes before "Taps." I think it was supposed to signal "lights out" and "quiet time." Some elaborate military ceremonies are also known as "tattoos." Whatever the use, it's the longest of the Army's bugle calls and good to hear it at the end of the day.

**Veterans Day.** So on Veterans Day coming up on November 11, we will honor all veterans who have served our country in war and peace, at home and throughout the world, with or without tattoos. All have sworn an oath or affirmed the duty to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic" and have worn the uniform of our military services. All are our brothers and sisters.

Looking forward to November, here are some dates to keep in mind, in addition to all the events on the Post calendar.

- Nov. 5. Daylight Savings Time ends. (Set clocks back one hour.)
- Nov. 10. 248<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps, founded in 1775. (Semper Fi)
- Nov. 11. Veterans Day honoring all who served and continue to serve.
- Nov. 23. Thanksgiving Day, with so much to be thankful for.

Hope you enjoy every day in November.

Jerry Hardiman

## LITTLE KNOWN FACTS

Halloween facts

Early 1800s the trick or treater's had to dance for their treat.

(Our Norman could have accumulated buckets of candy)

Halloween has been around longer than Christianity .

Ancient Celts started it over 2,000 years ago. Halloween is the second largest commercial money making holiday behind only Christmas. During WW2 not much trick or treating; there was a sugar shortages. Most popular costumes during the 50s and 60s, vampires zombies and princesses.

BEWARE of THE DARK  
YA,AH ,AH. I'll be 👁 looking  
And coming for you  
At the bewitching

Jim Jensen

## HELP A VET PROGRAM

Volunteers needed to help with this special program. We are reaching out to all of our VFW Post 1200 members to say hello, see how they are, and see if there is anything we can do for them. ALL Post members are invited to help. If you are interested in joining us, please contact.

Frank (semperfi-marines@mediacombb.net)

Veterans Day



CEREMONY AT POST

NOV 11 11AM

## OPERATION RAMP IT UP

Officers of VFW Post 7234, Ocean View stand alongside US Navy Veteran Vincent Glass in front of a newly installed ambulatory ramp provided by Operation Ramp It Up. The officers also presented to Mr. Glass a Flag of Valor plaque, provided by the Flag of Valor organization, in recognition of Mr. Glass' service to the United States. Also at the presentation is UPS representative Kevin Garvey who coordinated the actions between the Operation Ramp It Operation and the VFW Post 7234.



Operation Ramp It Up is a national non-profit organization that raises funds from corporate sponsors to cover the cost of the aluminum ramps for US Military Veterans in need. To date, Operation Ramp It Up has installed ambulatory ramps in all fifty states. The ramp installed at Mr. Glass' residence was generously provided by Bob's Discount Furniture. Volunteer installers were store managers from Bob's Discount stores located in the Philadelphia region. Volunteer installers were Kate McLain (May's Landing, NJ), Co-Ko Parker (Cherry Hill NJ), Ken Floyd (Wilmington De), Shawn Thomas (Dover De), Javier Medina (Dover De), and Judey Troy (Regional Philadelphia Manager). The Flags of Valor is a Veteran-owned business employing over 70 Veterans. Flags of Valor(FOV)provide veteran designed and crafted goods from this generation to pass onto the next. Part of their fundamental believes is "... our time in service may end but our commitment to serving and helping those in need did not."Its lifetime contribution to other Veteran and Law Enforcement charities totals over \$1.5 million. Find out more by visiting @flags of valor.

VFW Post 7234 identified Mr. Glass via its Help-a-Vet program. Post Commander James Jensen

commented that the Help-a-Vet program actively seeks out Veterans in the local Sussex Country area to determine what assistance and services these Veterans may need. VFW Post 7234 has coordinated support for Veterans in acquiring VA benefits, providing transportation to VA appointments, and assisting in other matters. VFW Post 7234 is the largest VFW Post in Delaware with over 2000 registered members. The VFW Auxiliary Post is the largest Auxiliary in the country with over 4000 members. In 2022 Post 7234 was awarded the National Community Post of the Year Award. If you know any Veteran needing assistance, please contact the Post at phone (302) 539-9981. Please leave a message and a Post representative will contact you.

Vincent Glass served in the US Navy from 1968-1974. While in the service he was assigned to the USS Newport News (CA-148) and completed tours to the Mediterranean Sea, Caribbean Sea and North Atlantic Ocean. Following a recent stroke Mr. Glass' mobility was greatly diminished. He commented that the new ramp has greatly enhanced his mobility and his quality of life. His sister, who was present at this presentation, was extremely happy with the ramp and commented that both the Operation Ramp It Up ramp and Flags of Valor plaque were the nicest things anyone has done for their family.

Jeff Ringel  
Committee Chairman

## 2023 MASON DIXON MEMBER RENEWALS

It is that time of year when Mason Dixon members whose membership expires on December 31, 2023 will begin the process of renewing their memberships. **Beginning October 16, 2023**, the Post will begin accepting renewal dues for Mason Dixon members whose cards show an expiration date of 12/31/2023. All dues for 2023 expiring Mason Dixon memberships must be received by December 31, 2023. **Please check your card and make payment, if necessary. You will not receive any further notice of your need to renew.**

Please refer to the Post website for the policy changes that were effective January 1, 2023. At that time membership renewals thereafter and new memberships were changed to a two-year period. So, please remit \$150.00 before December 31, 2023 and your new card will expire on December 31, 2025, and new cards will be available some time in late November or early December. Dues payments may

be mailed, placed in the box at the membership station, or dropped off at the bar. If you wish to receive your card by mail, you will need to submit a self-addressed stamped envelope with your renewal payment. Otherwise, new cards will be available for pick up at the bar once your payment has been received.

Thank you for being a member of Mason Dixon Post No. 7234 VFW of the U.S., and we especially thank you if you volunteer!

Canteen Board of Directors

## THANK YOU NOTE

October 16, 2023

Dear VFW Post 7234 Commander Jensen, Officers, Auxiliary, Honor Guards, Riflemen and Flag Bearers, and All Others:

Thank you very much for your extraordinary support in the development of the Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Dedication, your participation in the Ceremony, and your generous donation to Gardeners by the Sea Garden Club (GBTS). It was through your support and guidance that ensured the success of the October 14th program that was so memorable and moving to many Gold Star Families, Veterans, and participants.

It has been my honor and great privilege to serve as GBTS Chair for this program. If the Gardeners by the Sea Garden Club can be of assistance to VFW Post 7234, please let us know.

Respectfully yours,

Maryanne Green  
Chair, Blue Star and Gold Star Memorials  
Gardeners by the Sea Garden Club  
703-307-5669 (cell)





## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Commander	James Jensen
Sr. Vice Cmdr	Chad Myers
Jr. Vice Cmdr	Vacant
Quartermaster	Bill Healy
Adjutant	Fulton Loppatto
Chaplain	Phyllis Scully
Judge Advocate	John Gossart Jr.
Surgeon	Richard Wagner
Officer of the Day	Andy Artemchuk
Guard	Jeff Ringel
Service Officer	Rich Fales
Honor Guard Capt	John Gossart Jr.
Trustee	Danny Steele
Trustee	Skip Coale
Trustee	Rob Gill

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman	Chad Myers
President	James Jensen
Vice President	Chuck Guido
Treasurer	Bill Healy
Secretary	Ken Weber
Board Member	Vacant
Board Member	Fulton Loppatto
Board Member	Mike Tuckman
Board Member	John Mitchell
Board Member	Rick Delaney
Board Member	John Hickman

## AUXILIARY TEAM

President	Dale Weese
Sr Vice Pres	Karen Ware
Jr Vice Pres	Theo Loppatto
Secretary	Ty Magliola
Treasurer	Roberta Walter
Chaplain	Eileen Healy
Guard	Shirley Stong
Conductress	Connie Weber
Patriotic Ins	Peg Atkins
Trustee	Connie Weber
Trustee	Debbie Vischer-Jensen
Trustee	Debra Craven

### Veteran Claims Assistance

Our state Veterans Service Officer comes to our Post the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 1:30PM; to make an appointment you can contact him at [david.hilliard@va.gov](mailto:david.hilliard@va.gov) or 302-994-2511 ext 7586

### 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 JOHN GOSSART  
240-304-8183**

### HELP A VET PROGRAM

**Veterans - Need help assistance, a friendly call, a visit, etc.  
Contact our Post: 302-539-9981 or  
[Vfwpost7234@gmail.com](mailto:Vfwpost7234@gmail.com)**

### Member Sick or Deceased

**Please call:  
For VFW – Phyllis Scully 302-539-9981  
For Aux – Eileen Healy 302-539-9981**

### Assistance with VA claims or benefits

**Please call:  
Rich Fales (301)325-3813 or email me at  
[Smokey1st@netzero.net](mailto:Smokey1st@netzero.net)**

**For the Latest Updates and News  
Please send your email to  
[vfwpost7234@gmail.com](mailto:vfwpost7234@gmail.com)**