



# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

## NOVEMBER 2016

### COMMANDERS COMMENTS

October once again was an amazing success, with all the activities that were held. Of course once again the volunteers for the bull and Oyster feast did a great job, even though our loved Brownie was not able to assist after recently being released from the hospital, Pat Manie took charge with the help of the entire team pulled it off, Great Job! We once again had a great celebration of our Volunteers hard work, we estimate that you all donated over 20,000 hours!



Dean and I had the greatest job of welcoming all of you at the doors and giving out flowers to all the lovely women. Our volunteer celebration would not of been so successful without our great cooks Steve and Roger and of course Mark, who even made the night with many of our ladies who got to see Elvis, yes,

he was in the building, thought he was dead, guess not. Thanks to Connie and all the volunteers for the Halloween party for the kids. We will be honoring our Veterans from all services, their spouses, and families and our POWs and MIAs on Veteran Day on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM. A luncheon will follow the service. Our guest speaker will be Chief Boatswain's Mate Jim Pond, who is currently the officer in charge of the United States Coast Guard Station Indian River inlet. We once again are going to adopt some families for Christmas and once again George Hickman and his wife Barbara are going to head this up, a list will be up on the bulletin board as to what they need to help these needed families. Mark is planning to have Thanks Giving Dinner at the VFW, and once again he will need donations of turkeys for the meal, this is open for all. As always keep our sick members in your thoughts and prayers. As winter is coming upon us remember those who are less fortunate in our community by dropping food

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,

Autumn leaves are falling, crisp temperatures have replaced the warm days of Indian summer, and we finally got back that hour of sleep we lost last spring—sure signs that the holiday season is quickly approaching! Any time of the year is the perfect time to **“SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS FOR OUR VETERANS”** but what better time to work for our

veterans & families than by combining holiday traditions with those of our veterans' programs? We will be electing a new Auxiliary Treasurer at our December 5th meeting. Our past treasurer, Carol Black has relocated to PA and Renee McDorman has



been appointed to serve until the election. Carol sent us an update that she & her husband are settling in but miss all of their Delaware friends. Stocking stuffers for the residents of the VA Hospital and Nursing Home in Elsmere, DE are being collected. Traditionally, VFW

and Auxiliary members will visit and distribute the stockings on Christmas morning. Suitable items are small toiletries, playing cards, paperback & puzzle books, etc. Items need to be in our Post collection box by 12/5/16. Operation Cookie is fast approaching; mark your calendar! Cookies may be dropped off at

our Post on 12/7, 12/8, 12/9 and early morning of 12/10. Packing tips include: NO round tins, square pans OK but packing cookies flat in gallon freezer bags is perfect! Nuts, hard candy, etc. also allowed. Not interested in baking? Donations for shipping costs are greatly appreciated. If you know someone deployed overseas currently, please bring their mailing address to our November meeting so that we may be sure they receive cookies and a **“Taste of Home”**! Our adopted National Guard unit representative, Colonel Barry has been deployed for a training refresher before leaving for Afghanistan. We are looking forward to collecting items and supporting Colonel Barry and her “battle buddies” in the future months. Special congratulations to member Shirley Stong for being named our “Unsung Hero” for the month of October. Shirley is one of our talented face painters at our children’s parties in addition to being a creative crafter! Many veterans in nursing homes have been the happy recipients of one of Shirley’s beautiful lap afghans. Shirley also volunteers for the Hospice Transitions Program where she visits those in need of support. Thank you, Shirley, for all that you do for others! I would like to express a note of gratitude for all of the cards, phone calls, and support during my time of recovery from knee surgery and my bout with pneumonia. One never realizes how very much it means when one is remembered at these times. A special thanks to Carol Weber for conducting a great Auxiliary meeting last month and to everyone else who supported her. Remember our Veterans this month by attending a Veterans Day service. Two Buddy Poppy drives will be conducted this month: Dottie Barber will be at Giant and Shirley Stong & Rita Robinson will be at G&E to distribute Poppies. Thank you ladies for volunteering!

**THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:**

**“May your stuffing be tasty, may your turkey be plump, may your potatoes & gravy have nary a lump; may your yams be delicious & your pies take the prize, and may your Thanksgiving dinner stay off your thighs!!”**

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.



**With Honor & Gratitude  
 We Remember**

*Jacqueline Miller  
 Jonathan E. Emrick  
 Lester G. Cheek*

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

There is an increase in the number of phone inquiries I have been receiving ! That is good news.



The not so good news is that the wait time for a decision is anywhere from six 6 months to a year / year and a half. In addition if you feel you have a claim for a service connected injury and feel that it was not adjudicated properly or you have evidence of an injury which maybe was over

looked  
 Please call me. A case or example would be the Camp Lejeune mess please call me.

The Veterans Court of Sussex County De. Is looking for Veterans to act as mentees for Veterans that have run a foul of the law . Contact me ( Corsa 302 745 1668 )

In addition , Mrs Corsa is available to answer questions and file claims . (302 ) 648 3068. Please remember in the Corsa House hold (Veterans are our only business).

In closing Veterans VOTE

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

Respectfully Robert P Corsa, Service Officer

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Installing water line to gazebo in progress, gazebo looks great, decorations inventory in progress, Environmental study of Post property will be conducted during Nov. Chas Brown Glass Co. installed new main entry door and locking system.

RJ Lock and Security replaced all existing locks, add panic bars as required and added ramp door key.

## CANTEEN CORNER

I cannot believe that we are going into November already. We have had such a great time at the Post this year , I do not want it to end. October was no exception. We started the month with our Volunteer Dinner. What a great crowd. This is the event that we have every year to say Thank You ! It takes a lot of help to have all the events that we have at the Post, and thanks to all of the volunteers we can continue to plan activities. We continued with our Bull and Oyster roast, and without our leader, Brownie who had just got out of the hospital, it was a great success. A Special thanks to Pat Maney, who took over as leader of the kitchen. The good news is that we raised \$2300 for our Veterans Relief Fund which is used to help our members who have a need. November will be a busy month, as we will Honor our Veterans on 11/11 with a ceremony at 11am followed by a luncheon. On Saturday 11/12 have our Veterans Day dinner Dance with Music by Overtime. Tickets are \$25 a couple or \$15 a person and are available at the bar. Then again we will be hosting a Thanksgiving Dinner for our Members and their guests. Like last year I will need your help in purchasing the Turkeys, when they go on sale at the supermarket. I will make some announcements, when I find the best Sale. Like always if you have any suggestions please let me know.

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 guests to join us for Thanksgiving Dinner. Our goal is that no member spend this 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. If you would like to donate a dessert, a signup sheet will be at the bar. 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 last year 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 11/28

4 pm-6pm VFW, Mason Dixon ,and AUX members only( Must show Card )

6 pm-8pm 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 \$35 per ticket

Option 2 : Hors D'oeuvres Buffet \$25 per ticket

Come join us on the 28<sup>th</sup> for our Italian Night Menu Items and buy your tickets for New Years.

## 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

# **Volunteer Appreciation Day Every Day**

At the Volunteer Appreciation Party on Friday, October 7, the dining room, atrium and bar were full to capacity. It was an impressive sight and you were glad, and maybe a little proud, to be part of it. These were the volunteers that make all the Post activities and events not only possible but successful, including:



the Sunday breakfasts and Chicken shack operation during the summer; the Tuesday cheese steak nights; seafood and steak nights; and Auxiliary's family buffet dinners and all the other events throughout the year. Have you ever wondered why so many at the Post volunteer? Why do people give up their personal leisure time to work and help

make all those Post activities and events happen? Is there one reason or are there different reasons?

When you read about other posts and organizations struggling with a lack of sufficient volunteers, what makes VFW Post 7234 so special? Curious, I looked for answers from some of the regular volunteers at the Chicken Shack and our Sunday Breakfast Crew during the summer, and followed up talking to other volunteers at the dinner. Here's what I found out in my quick survey. Paul Brennan and others thought volunteering was in the DNA or basic nature of many. Others, like Ken Weber, thought most volunteers want to be part of something worthwhile, helping in a good cause. Still others, like Frank Capella and Al Sletto, got involved because friends asked them to help on occasion and then continued on because they were made to feel welcome and appreciated. Closely related to that answer, a number of volunteers like Dan Carr, said they started and continue to help because it's a lot of fun working with friends to help others. Jack Lynch, everyone's role model at the Chicken Shack, spoke for many, saying: "You can't just join and go to meetings. You have to help out where there's a need." Echoing that sense of duty, Vic Beiriger said: "Volunteering is the right thing to do. You just don't sit back and watch others do the job. You pitch in and help." I didn't find anyone who volunteered for the team T-shirts, even considering how attractive and highly coveted they are every year. Whatever the individual motivation, and it's probably a combination of reasons, the spirit of volunteerism at the Post is extraordinary. The reward, other than a T-shirt for some and occasional liquid refreshment for hydration, is in knowing that your efforts are helping veterans and their families in time of need,

local area assistance programs for seniors and others, research for cures of various medical conditions, and many other worthwhile causes. Thanks to all who "pitch in and help." As a postscript, I want to add special thanks to Vic Beiriger, who is moving out of the area. Vic served the Post as a volunteer for many years, particularly with his work on the Sunday breakfasts during the summers, recruiting and organizing volunteers and helping to make that activity so successful. And that work was during the years when you had to keep up with regular plates and silverware. Vic, who was originally from Wilmington, started volunteering at an early age. He joined the Army at 19, right out of high school in 1945. He volunteered for airborne training and assignment and served with the 187<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (Airborne) in the occupation of Japan. That regiment had the mission, among others, of securing areas and disarming Japanese military forces. After his military service, graduation from the University of Delaware and civilian career, Vic and his wife Dee moved to this area. He says he joined the Post through the encouragement of a friend and then quickly became involved with the golf group and as a volunteer in activities like the Sunday breakfasts. Like so many others, Vic and Dee were also involved as volunteers in the community, particularly with their church, St. Ann's in Bethany Beach. A lot of people are going to miss them, especially Vic's golf buddies. We wish them all the best in their new home and say thanks again for their service. By the way, here are a few dates to remember in November, if you haven't already marked them on your calendar.

**November 10.** Happy 241<sup>st</sup> Birthday to the U.S. Marine Corps founded in 1775. Ooh Rah! [Note: this date is also celebrated by non-marines as the anniversary of the debut of Sesame Street on PBS in 1969.]

**November 11.** The Veterans Day ceremony at the Post begins at 11:00 AM.

**November 24.** Thanksgiving Day. . .with a lot to be thankful for, including all our good friends at the Post.

**Jerry Hardiman**

**VFW  
FRIDAY FAMILY  
BUFFET**

**NOVEMBER 11th, 2016  
5:00 pm 'til 7:00 pm**

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

**Donation: \$10 AYCE**

**MUSIC by  
THE JONES BOYS  
6-10 pm**

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

**COMMUNITY WELCOME**



**VFW FRIDAY  
FAMILY  
BUFFET**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25th, 2016

**SHRIMP SCAMPI  
BUTTERED LINQUINE  
STEWED TOMATOES  
FRIED FISH  
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  
FRIDAY FAMILY  
BUFFET**

**NOVEMBER 18th, 2016  
5:00 pm 'til 7:00 pm**

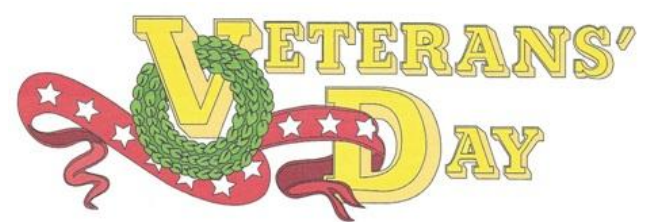
ROAST BEEF & GRAVY  
MASHED POTATOES  
GREEN BEANS  
FRIED FISH  
TOSSED SALAD  
ROLLS & BUTTER

**Donation: \$10 AYCE**

**MUSIC by DJ RAY DISNEY  
6-10 pm**

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

**COMMUNITY WELCOME**



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12th, 2016

**DINNER DANCE  
HONORING VETERANS**

DINNER SERVED: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**MUSIC by  
OVERTIME**

Music 6-10 pm



Donation: \$15 per person, \$25 couple

Sponsored by MASON DIXON VFW POST #7234  
Ocean View, Delaware

TICKETS NOW ON SALE  
BUY TICKETS EARLY  
SURE TO BE A SELL OUT

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