



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

OCTOBER 2018

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

Fall is approaching and that gives us time to start relaxing from a very busy summer and to start planning for next spring. If you are a new member and want to meet people, come on out and volunteer for one of our happenings. It was our pleasure again this year to host the seas the day luncheon. This is a great experience for the people who come and the people that help out. The Bethany Beach boardwalk festival was cancelled this year. This is always a good event to attend and talk to people about the VFW and our Auxiliary for new members. Our buddy poppy donations have been great this year. We have donated over \$5000 to the



Children's Home from this great program. Thanks to the chicken shack for having a donation box available. As many of you may have noticed we had Boy Scout Troop 999 from Hockessin, De. Camping out for a couple of nights. While they were here they did a beach cleanup and a nature trail cleanup. We are thankful for their help and their work helps them in earning merit badges. I had the pleasure of attending a Veterans get together on a cruise; Ellen and I were on in September. Each cruise tries to have one. This one was well attended with at least 100 veterans attending. It is great to hear as each vet introduced themselves and briefly told about their service. If you want to have some good laughs, come on out to the Auxiliary's paint party on Sunday October 7th as I will attempt to paint a picture. This will benefit veteran's causes.

Remember to check the calendar and bulletin board for upcoming events.

Please 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

Hello Members, Fall is here and it is my favorite season. Weather is cooler, trees are showing their brilliance, and time again for outdoor fires and hot chocolate. It is also the time we look forward to celebrating many holidays with family and friends. As we enjoy all of this, however be ever mindful of those around you who may be suffering. September was Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month. Suicide claims the lives of 20 active-duty service members and military veterans every day. Recognizing the signs may save the life of a veteran. Watch for signs of hopelessness, anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, mood swings, rage, and increasing drug or alcohol abuse. If you recognize any of these signs, get help by calling the Veteran's Crisis Line 800-272-8255. One Veteran suicide is too many. It is now time for all of our annual members to renew their auxiliary membership for 2019. Renewal dues are \$35.00. Dues can be mailed to the VFW to the attention of the Auxiliary treasurer, Laurie Corsa. It is best to renew now to avoid any risk of your membership lapsing. If dues are not received by 12/31/2018, you will not be a member in good standing. You don't want to risk being denied entry



to our beautiful VFW and all the fun activities. In my September newsletter, I made a plea for a contribution to the VFW Auxiliary Cancer Fund. I am sure the reason for a poor response was simply forgetting about it or misplacing the newsletter with instructions on how to contribute. I am again reaching out to all members to make a \$5.00 contribution to this fund. Do it now before you forget. Send your contribution to the VFW to my attention. I am counting on all of you to step up for this worthy cause available to all members.

September was also National Service Dog Month. This is a month to celebrate all service dogs who have blessed and saved the lives of many of our veterans. Our Delaware Department President, Margo Ellers, has made her special project, for her year of service, the WAR DOGS. If you will be visiting the VFW over the next month, please consider dropping off something to help make the lives of our war dogs happier. Items included are large rope chews, shampoo and conditioner, grooming tools, and dog treats made in the USA. The US War Dog Association will insure the items will get to the dogs. A quick reminder that "Wine Dine and Paint the Town" will be held on October 7th from 2-4 at the VFW. Tickets are still available. The children's Halloween Party will be held on October 28th and is open to the public. Attendance has ranged from 25 to 125. If you can help at the party it would be greatly appreciated. We also need un-iced cupcakes for the children to decorate. Spread the word to your family and friends, the kids have a great time. Finally, always try to do one thing to improve someone's day. This may range from mowing a neighbor's grass who is ill, driving them to a doctor's appointment, picking up some groceries for them, visiting a veteran or auxiliary member confined to a hospital or nursing facility, making a phone call to chat, or just smiling and saying hello. We all have so much to be grateful for, just take time to help someone who may be in need or to lift their spirit. I encourage all members to attend our meetings. Many good things are happening and we have a very motivated group attending the meetings. You may just find you like them and have a lot to offer. Together we can achieve more. Hope to see you on October 1st.

Let us always remember those who served and always try harder to serve them better.

Loyally yours,
Carol Weber
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.



*Herbert V. Melson
John F. Murphy*

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

FLU Shots will be given at the Post by Beebe



Healthcare on November 6,
Tuesday from 4 to 7 PM.
This is free of charge.

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

Respectfully,

Robert P. Corsa, Service Officer

CANTEEN CORNER

We made it thru September dodging the Hurricane and without a Northeaster hitting us. With all the Weddings and events we had planned during the month we were lucky and got them all in. The Labor Day picnic and the Crab feast were great successes and I would like to thank everyone that helped to make these events possible. We will start October with our Bull & Oyster Roast on Saturday 10/6. Tickets are \$35 and can be bought at the Bar. Do not get shut out of this fun day. Thursday Night Crabs have been very busy this year and the crabs have been getting better & better. We will continue to have crabs in October as long as Copps will be able to get them from their supplier. Please call each week to determine the availability. I have to personally thank the Thursday Night Crab crew as they have worked

very hard this year to make this the best crab year yet. After the first 3 Sundays in the NFL season the Ravens, Eagles, and the Redskins are all 2-1 and creating a lot a buzz around the Post. As the Fall and Winter approach, Football Sundays at the Post is the place to be. Come in and cheer on your favorite team and bring a covered dish for all to share. We eat at half time of the first game and settle in to cheer our team to victory in the second half. Go Ravens!! Some dates to put on your calendar for November are 11/10 Veterans Day Dinner Dance, 11/11 Veterans Day Ceremony 11am, and 11/22 Thanksgiving Dinner. We will need your support for Turkeys again this year and I will let you know when they go on sale at Giant. Again our hope is that nobody in the community eats Thanksgiving Dinner alone. If there is someone in your neighborhood that would be alone, bring them to the Post for our traditional Thanksgiving Dinner.

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. Beginning in October signup is not required, however please show-up at 8:30 a.m. for 9:00 a.m. tee time. Remember all are welcome!!! We held our Fall Tournament on September 25 at the Salt Pond. Everyone enjoyed the competition and the luncheon celebration at the Post following golf. Please see our September newsletter for details from the tournament. If you are thinking about joining the Golf Association, please call our President, Ken Smith, at 267-228-7285 or email him at madriverken1946@gmail.com for more information.

CHICKEN SHACK RACKS UP ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SEASON



With Ken Weber serving in his sixth year as “Crew Chief”, the team of Chicken Shack volunteers recorded another successful, maybe record-breaking, season. About sixteen Saturdays make a season and there were a number of sell-out Saturdays this year. This is good news because the revenue generated by the effort of all the volunteers supports a long list of Post contributions to help veterans, active duty personnel and their families, as well as worthy causes in our local community. There may be adjustments in



the Chicken Shack numbers, but just take a minute to consider what we know today. The group prepared, grilled and sold about 454 cases of chicken this year, which works out to approximately 12,700 chicken halves sold (or donated). But those numbers only tell part of the story. Think about the personal aspects too, in terms of volunteer hours spent from

dawn’s early light to sell-out and clean up time in the afternoon, in good weather and bad, every Saturday.

The back of the Chicken Shack T-shirt says “Smoke Eaters”, and that’s part of the story too. Ken estimates that the team of volunteers devoted about 1800 hours of their personal time to the mission. Here’s a close-to-complete roster of volunteers this year:

Greg Albertson, George Bennett, Josh Bolles, Chuck Bologna, Paul Brennan, Paul Burbank, Ed Burke, Frank Cappella, Mike Carlin, Tony Collichio, Warren Eastburn, Jim Fiske, Herb Fogelman, Doug Foutenot, Rob Gill, Doc Hnilcka, Roger Kramp, Carl Langford, Pete Lavoie, Jack Lynch, Paul Perlik, Frank Silva, George Smith, Rick Smith, Paul Stehlek, Mike Sullivan
Ken Weber (Crew Chief)

There were a number of other volunteers during the year for whom I only have first names: Randy, Smitty, Jeff, Wes and Fred. Not everyone, except Ken and a group of hard-core regulars, worked every Saturday. Personal events often take priority. Usually, about 24 volunteers will serve on any given day. And, of course, we can’t forget those in the Auxiliary who prepare the delicious “secret” BBQ sauce every week that keeps people coming back, including: Hazel, Judy, Ruth Ann and Millie. My apologies to those who should have been included on the lists or whose names I misspelled. When I was gathering information for this article, Ken emphasized the work of everyone else: “We would not have been successful without this valuable group of volunteers.”

Now, after spending almost every Saturday during the summer over the past six years, plus many additional hours every week in planning, ordering and organizing the work, Ken is going to hand over those responsibilities to a new Crew Chief. That will give him more well-deserved time with Connie and their family during the summer. And it’s not like he’s moving to a new duty station. Ken will help with the transition and continue to work as a volunteer as time permits. He wants to log more hours than Jack Lynch! If we were a sports team, I’d recommend that we retire Ken’s player number and put his jersey on display. But I think displaying one of his “post-game” Saturday T-shirts as is, is probably not a good PR idea. So, maybe just a framed picture in the Chicken Shack with Roger’s collection of chicken memorabilia. As far as any other possible personal recognition is concerned, Ken, ever the team player, just said: “Please express my sincere thanks and deep appreciation to everyone involved for their dedication, outstanding support and performance in ensuring that the Chicken Shack has been such an incredibly successful [activity] for our VFW Post.”

I’m sure we all want to add our deep appreciation to Ken for all he’s done over the past six years to make that happen and make it fun for everyone. What a great guy to work with!

Jerry Hardiman



MARK YOUR
CALENDAR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6th 2018

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

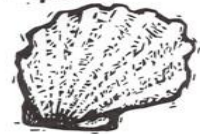
FOOD SERVED
3-7pm

AYCE

MUSIC
4:30-9:30pm

DONATION: \$35

Sponsored by: MASON
DIXON VFW to BENEFIT
VETERANS RELIEF FUND



COMMUNITY WELCOME

1 Complimentary
DRINK

Light
Refreshments

Tickled Paint ARTworks
FUNdraiser
Wine Down & Paint The Town
VFW Post 7234
29265 Marshy Hope Way
Ocean View, Delaware
Sunday October 7th
2pm – 4pm



Cost: \$40 per seat that can be purchased
Call Carol Flood @ 302-530-9262 or
Ellen Reilly @ 908-451-0624

All proceeds benefit unmet needs of Veterans, Active Duty Military
and their families.

Auxiliary VFW Post 7234

MASON DIXON
VFW AUXILIARY CHILDREN'S
HALLOWEEN PARTY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28th, 2018
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

PRIZES & TREATS
FOR EVERYONE



COSTUMES WELCOME – EVERY CHILD A WINNER!

VFW FRIDAY BUFFET
OCTOBER 12th, 2018
5:00-7:00 pm

BAKED HAM
MAC & CHEESE
STEWED TOMATOES
VEGETABLE OF THE DAY
FRIED FISH
TOSSED SALAD
ROLLS & BUTTER

Donation: \$12 AYCE

MUSIC – DJ ROCKIN RAY
6:00-10:00 PM

VFW FRIDAY BUFFET
OCTOBER 5th, 2018
5:00-7:00 pm

SALISBURY STEAK
MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
VEGETABLE OF THE DAY
FRIED FISH
TOSSED SALAD
ROLLS & BUTTER

Donation: \$12 AYCE

MUSIC
6:00-10:00 PM

VFW FRIDAY BUFFET
OCTOBER 26th, 2018
5:00-7:00 pm

FRIED CHICKEN
MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
STUFFING
VEGETABLE OF THE DAY
FRIED FISH
TOSSED SALAD
ROLLS & BUTTER

Donation: \$12 AYCE

MUSIC – THE JONES BOYS
6:00-10:00 PM

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Commander	Dean Levering
Sr. Vice Cmdr	Hal Dietrich
Jr. Vice Cmdr	Rich Fales
Quartermaster	Bill Hensley
Adjutant	Fulton Loppatto
Chaplain	John Mitchell
Judge Advocate	John Gossart Jr.
Surgeon	George Hickman
Officer of the Day	Rob Gill
Guard	James Jensen
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	Fulton Loppatto
Treasurer	Bill Hensley
Secretary	Ken Weber
Chairman	Hal Dietrich
Board Member	Rick Smith
Board Member	Rich Fales
Board Member	Hal Barber
Board Member	John Mitchell
Board Member	Rick Delaney
Board Member	Mike Grabowski

AUXILIARY TEAM

President	Carol Weber
Sr Vice Pres	Ellen Reilly
Jr Vice Pres	Chuck Bologna
Secretary	Ty Magliola
Treasurer	Laurie Corsa
Chaplain	Theo Loppatto
Guard	Shirley Stong
Conductress	Karen Vitsorek
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:
Dean Levering 443-553-1167**

**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**