

New Castle * Kent * Sussex * New Castle * Kent * Sussex * New Castle * Kent * Sussex * New Castle * Kent * Sussex * New Castle * Kent * Sussex

www.veteransaffairs.delaware.gov

802 Silver Lake Blvd. Suite 100
Dover, DE 19904
(302) 739-2792
Fax (302) 739-2794



<https://www.facebook.com/DELCOMMVeteransAffairs>

Jack Markell, Governor
Jeffrey Bullock, Secretary of State
Larence Kirby, Executive Director

Commissioners:

Dr. Ronald Sarg, Chairman
William Farley, Vice Chairman
Charles Armbruster, Jr.
Bill Carroll
Robert P. Corsa
John Hampton
Paul Lardizzone
Bill McMullen
Mark Newman
Barry Newstadt
Earl Seppala
Angela Showell
MyRon Smith
Albert Weir

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

"Thank you for your Service!" As veterans, we frequently hear this when someone learns of our service to country. Our Vietnam War veterans did not receive this warm greeting and were instrumental in the phrase's use today. I remember USO volunteers reciting this phrase, at the Bangor International Airport, during an aircraft refueling on my way to Afghanistan. As I heard the words, I wondered if I'd come back to the U.S. alive as I was comforted by their concern. Our Commission Chairman, a retired senior officer, frequently uses this phrase when he speaks to veterans, regardless of their rank or branch of service. His words remind them that we're all on the same team. While the words are sincere, there's so much more we can do to thank veterans. We can thank veterans by working on ending veteran homelessness. This can be done by participating in Point in Time counts, where we go out to Delaware sites overnight and identify homeless veterans. Through this identification, we can offer social services and housing. We can thank veterans by having employers provide job opportunities. This can be done through job fairs or job postings that are available for veterans. We can thank veterans by offering behavior health services that treat veteran issues such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injuries, and Suicidal thoughts. Words of thanks are extremely appreciated but the "actions" of agencies and people, throughout our state, will go a long way in actually thanking veterans for their service.



WITH OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION



We Hereby Honor

*Cornelius C. "Bill" Carroll
Commissioner*

**With this gift in recognition
for your passion
and unconditional commitment
for our Delaware Veterans
and their Families!**

*Happy
90th Birthday
Bill!*



**2ND ANNUAL
GOLD STAR VICTORIAN TEA**

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 83's Gold Star Program will be hosting its 2nd Annual Gold Star Victorian Tea on Saturday, February 13, 2016, at the beautiful "Tea for Two" tea room in historic Dover, Delaware. This event was such a success last year that the ladies requested it be an annual event. For more information, please contact, Gold Star Representative, Judy C. Campbell at (302) 593-5991.



Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Wives, Gold Star Children and Gold Star Siblings will join in an afternoon of festive fun as they take time

to reflect on the memory of their loved ones. Ladies are encouraged to wear their favorite hat. *(Judy Campbell)*

"Grief never ends...but it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith...It is the price of love." - Author Unknown



TRUST FUND DONATION

Many thanks to the members of Delaware's Military Order of the Purple Heart for their very generous \$5000 donation to the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund. It will go a long way to help out Delaware's neediest veterans in their time of crisis. *(December 15, 2015, Col (Ret.) Sarg Chairman, DCVA.)*

VETERANS APPLE PIE SOCIAL AT WHITE CLAY CREEK STATE PARK

Sunday, November 8, 2015

White Clay Creek State Park honored veterans at the Judge Morris Estate with their **Veterans Apple Pie Social**. This program is held at the former home of Judge Hugh Morris on Polly Drummond Hill Road every year the Sunday before Veterans Day.

WWII, Korean and other veterans shared their memorabilia and stories with guests over pie and coffee. The Perkins Family Restaurant donated several delicious apple pies which were served with tea or coffee in the estate.

We were honored to have Korean War veteran George Taylor play the Star Spangled Banner and closed the program with Taps.

Warner Schlaupitz, WWII Army veteran, of Dover, spoke of his infantry experiences in the Philippines. Robert Austin, US Marines veteran, of Wilmington, read his poem recalling the battle of Saipan. These two then joined the other veterans with displays at tables throughout the estate for the social.

Bill Kitchen, WWII Navy veteran of New Castle, Kamikaze survivor, shared information about his experiences in the Pacific Theater.

Joseph Gwiazdowski, WWII Navy veteran of Newark, set up a wonderful display including a silk handkerchief map given to sailors and a photo of his wife, Ruth, also a Navy veteran who was unable to attend the social this year.

Korean War veteran, Al Lawler from Newark, set up a large display of weapons and soldier's uniform and essentials.

Joe LaRosch brought his restored 1944 WWII Jeep again this year and invited new WWII veterans to add their autographs on this mobile memorial.

Park volunteers and veteran James Kniskern helped with the event and Richard Albertson took photos.

Donna Johnson read a poem honoring her father and all veterans.



Warner Schlaupitz



George Taylor



Al Lawler talking with Guest



Joe Gwiazdowski and Bob Austin



Joe Gwiazdowski signing 1944 jeep restored by Joe LaRosch.

The **Veterans Day Apple Pie Social** is a special annual event that all are encouraged to attend: either as a volunteer to share your stories or to display your wartime memorabilia or join family and community members at the social to honor all veterans past and present.

If you are interested in participating in next year's program—Sunday November 6, 2016-- please contact Kathleen Sullivan at the White Clay Creek State Park at 302-368-6560 or kathleen.sullivan@state.de.us

FROM MARINE TO BEEKEEPER



(From left, Delaware State Apiarist Robert Mitchell; veteran Ronnie Hazlett; Planting Hope Project Manager Faith Kuehn; and University of Delaware assistant professor of apiculture Debbie Delaney, in the Department of Entomology & Wildlife Ecology. Below with Dir. Kirby)

Dan Shortridge, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, has been selected as the first participant in the Planting Hope with Honey Bees project. Ronnie J. Hazlett II, of Wilmington, will receive training, mentoring, supplies and equipment to operate two beekeeping hives to be installed at the Planting Hope in Delaware Urban Farm. The Urban Farm is located on the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services' Herman Holloway Campus in New Castle. "I'm excited about this opportunity to learn about beekeeping and eventually pass the knowledge on to fellow veterans," Hazlett said. "I've been interested in having my own hives ever since I was a kid. What really got me interested was receiving a huge hunk of honeycomb filled with honey from a local farmer. Maybe one day I'll hand my child or grandchild a piece of honeycomb and give them that same memory."

Planting Hope with Honey Bees is a joint venture between the Delaware Beekeepers Association, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension and the Delaware Department of Agriculture. Supplies were donated by Brushy Mountain Bee Farm and Mann Lake. Ken Outten, president of the Delaware Beekeepers Association, said that the partners wanted to give a veteran the opportunity to learn new skills and get involved in beekeeping. "Ronnie will be an excellent beekeeper. His enthusiasm and interest was evident, and we're looking forward to working with him," Outten said. Born in Kentucky, Hazlett enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1998. He served as a marksmanship instructor at Stone Bay, N.C., teaching rifle and pistol skills. After leaving the Corps, he enrolled at the University of Kentucky in 2003. He moved to the Wilmington area in 2010. The hives will be installed in the spring at the Planting Hope in Delaware Urban Farm.

Delaware Living Articles and Co-op News, Jan. 28, 2015.



See more at: <http://www.delaware.coop/news/delaware-living-articles-and-co-op-news/marinebeekeeper#sthash.zdQUHlic.dpuf>

GEORGETOWN POW/MIA DEDICATION



Georgetown municipal officials recently dedicated a POW/MIA chair and plaque on the circle in Georgetown, DE to commemorate those veterans lost and unaccounted for in all wars.

The Korean War and Korean Service Veterans Association honor guard participated in the dedication on the circle in Georgetown on December 7, 2015. Honor guard members pictured are Ed Johnson and Charles Giangeruso of the KWVA. *(Bill Carr Chapter 1, Sussex County DE., 013—Jack McGinley, Pres. KWVA)*

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Under the leadership and organizational skills of Bill Conley, the Pencader Heritage Museum hosted a Wreaths Across America event on Saturday, December 12, 2015. This is to honor the 24 colonial soldiers who died at the Battle of Cooch's Bridge. They were thought to have been buried somewhere on the battlefield at the corner of Old Baltimore Pike and Route 72.

The event was part of an annual Christmas time ceremony that is repeated across the United States. As the volunteers gathered at Pencader, so too did groups at Arlington National Cemetery and in 1,100 other towns.

The Wreaths Across America project began in 1992 when the Worcester Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine, had a surplus of wreaths and arranged to have them laid on graves at Arlington National Cemetery. The tradition continued, largely unnoticed, until 2005, when a photo of the wreaths went viral online.

Today, more than 540,000 wreaths are laid in all 50 states and in cemeteries on foreign soil.

At the Pencader ceremony, several veterans and other volunteers laid wreaths, two local Girl Scout troops formed a color guard, and Judy C. Campbell, director of Delaware Gold Star Families, gave the keynote speech. *(Judy C. Campbell)*

HOLLOWAY CAMPUS “SPIRAL CEMETERY” TOUR

Dr. Faith Kuehn and Kathy Dettwyler invited me to the Holloway Campus for their “Spiral Cemetery” tour. The cemetery contains the remains of DE State Hospital members (patients/staff) from the 1800s through 1983. I learned about the hospital, campus, and cemetery and was surprised to learn that three veterans (one Spanish-American War/two Civil War) are interred at the site. I was even more surprised to learn that one of the Civil War Union veterans was an African-American, from Dover, named Arnold Morris. Private Morris had an interesting military career during a time when African-American service was limited. There are plans to install an historical marker and monument to honor those buried on site.

If you want to donate or learn more about the cause visit www.delawarerecovery.org/spiralcemetery or www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheSpiralCemetery.

I want to thank Faith and Kathy for their hospitality and here's a photo of me placing one of three flags next to a veteran's marker as it's important to honor those who came before us.



L. Kirby, Executive Director, DCVA Oct 30, 2015

PURPLE HEART MEDAL PRESENTED TO NATIVE DELAWAREAN WILLIAM BRADY

TOM CARPER
UNITED STATES SENATOR for DELAWARE



U.S. Sen. Tom Carper (D-Del.) presented the Purple Heart to 90-year-old United States Army and Navy veteran Lt. William Brady for wounds he suffered during his service in the Korean War. Lt. Brady, a native of Delaware, was joined at the presentation at the Brick Hotel by his wife Edith, and 26 family members and friends.

In May, Judge Jane M. Brady, former Attorney General in Delaware, requested assistance from Sen. Carper to locate military records that would identify her father, Lt. Brady, as a candidate to receive the Purple Heart. Sen. Carper's office was able to locate Brady's service records, which detailed the cause and extent of the injuries he suffered while stationed in Korea, and verified that he should receive the award.

"I am honored to present the Purple Heart Medal to Lt. Brady in front of his wife, friends and family today," said Sen. Carper, also a veteran of the Navy. "Our veterans put their lives on the line to defend our nation, and I am proud we were able to finally deliver to Lt. Brady the honor he deserves on behalf of the U.S. Army and the President of the United States."

Born March 1, 1925, in Wilmington, Delaware, Lt. Brady attended Richardson Park Elementary School and Conrad High School. He served in the U.S. Navy from May 1943 to March 1946 as part of the amphibious force on the English Channel that prepared for the invasion of Normandy during World War II. When he was honorably discharged from the Navy, he returned home to Delaware, enrolled in the University of Delaware and joined the Army ROTC.

In April 1952, just days after the birth of his son, Lt. Brady was deployed by the U.S. Army to Korea. On Oct. 21, 1952, Lt. Brady's platoon in the 40th Infantry Division was attacked by enemy fire. At the time of the attack, Lt. Brady was positioned near the top of a hill where he was spotted and fired upon. As Lt. Brady began to retreat down the hill, a mortar landed near enough to him to blow him off his feet, sending his body downhill where he landed on his back. Although Lt. Brady was badly hurt and could barely move, he crawled 30 yards to take cover under a Jeep until the bombing stopped and he could be rescued by fellow soldiers. The injuries he suffered during the attack kept him from walking on his own for a year. Today, Mr. Brady is a loving husband, devoted father of seven children and successful business man. (Nov. 23, 2015, Katie Wilson, Katie_wilson@carper.senate.gov)

SHORT-TERM SKILLS TRAINING AT DELAWARE TECH

Veterans: Does the following sentence describe you? You know that you need skills to secure a good-paying job; but you are just not ready for two or more years of school right now? If this is you, Delaware Technical Community College can help. Delaware Tech offers a variety of short-term skills training at its campus locations in Dover, Georgetown, Stanton, Wilmington and at the Innovation and Technology Center in New Castle. If you attend training full time, you can usually complete the biggest programs in four months or less. The skills taught relate to current needs in the marketplace, and the training content is reliable because it has been informed by business and

industry. College certifications are available in: Welding, HVAC, Manufacturing, CompTIA A+, Retail Management, Phlebotomy and much more. Yes, you will have to work hard; but veterans don't seem to mind because this training is short-term, hands-on and relevant to the job market.

Thank you for your service. We look forward to welcoming you on a Delaware Tech campus soon.

Here is how you get started: <https://www.dtcc.edu/continuing-education/workforce-training>.

(Jan, 2016, Tom McCarthy, Delaware Technical Community College)

DSU FARM SCHOOL HELPS GET VETERANS INTO FARMING

The Delaware State University Cooperative Extension Small Farm Program has kicked off its inaugural class of its new DSU Farm School mentoring program. The goal of the program, which is being funded by a grant from USDA, is to assist veterans and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers own and operate successful farming operations as well as participate in USDA programs. DSU extension staff will provide educational opportunities and technical assistance to help new and beginning farmers enhance their skills in farm sustainability. This will be accomplished in three phases. The first phase is comprised of bi-monthly classes held at the various DSU facilities. During this phase participants will learn about on-farm planning, marketing and financial management; production and marketing of alternative enterprises. After successfully completing phase-one, participants will choose one of five enterprises (meat goats, ethnic vegetable crops, small flock poultry, beef cattle, or aquaculture) to undertake. In this second phase, production will be done at the respective DSU Outreach facility under the guidance of DSU extension staff. This will provide participants with hands-on learning in an experience without financial risk. The third phase and final phase of the program will be for the participants to apply their knowledge of their selected enterprise on their own farm with mentoring from DSU extension staff.

This program is free, and after completion of the first and second phases, participants will receive any profits that were made through their enterprise. After completion of all three phases of the program they will receive a certification of completion that will help them qualify

for various USDA Farm Bill Programs including capital and operating loans.



For more information please contact: Ms. Olivia Everett, Extension Educator. oevrett@desu.edu, 302-857-6366.



First State Military Academy Opens its Doors: Sponsored by USMC

Delaware's newest military charter school, First State Military Academy (FSMA), opened its doors this past August.

The school, located off Duck Creek Road in Clayton, in the old St. Joseph's Industrial School, started with over 200 cadets in the ninth (freshman) and tenth (sophomore) grades. The school will be adding a grade for the next two years, graduating their first class of seniors in June of 2018.

The school received Delaware Board of Education approval in June 2013 for the military academy, which is modeled after the Delaware Military Academy (DMA).

On September 18th, an Induction Ceremony was held to officially open the school. U.S. Senators Thomas Carper and Christopher Coons and Delaware National Guard Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Francis Vavala were guest speakers.

The school receives part of its funding through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development program. Ms. Lisa Mensah, Under Secretary of USDA Rural Development, joined the senators and general in providing remarks at the ceremony.

The entire student body are members of the Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training program, and receive leadership and drill instruction from Col. Robert Wallace, USMC, (Ret.) and MSgt. Terrance Jordan, USMC (Ret.).

The Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program instills in students the values of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility and a sense of accomplishment.

The school's color guard and drill teams have participated in parades, including Veterans Day and Christmas celebrations, as well as University of Delaware football games.

The school hosted a Marine Corps Ball November 20 and capped off the evening with a Marine Corps traditional cake-cutting ceremony.

Veterans, especially Marine Corps veterans, interested in a tour or finding out more information, please contact Dan Bates at dbates@fsmilitary.org or call the school at 302-223-2150.

VETERANS SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE SYSTEM THEY DEFEND

Many Veterans spend twenty to thirty years of their lives **defending** what this nation stands for... but rarely take the time to **participate** in the freedoms they have helped protect. This is a real shame. If anyone deserves to reap the benefits of being an American, such as our Free Market Economy, it is those who have devoted, and in many cases, sacrificed life and limb, for its preservation.

There are two great opportunities for veterans (or anyone for that matter) to participate in the economy of our nation. One is through **investing**. The market is blind to race, color, creed, sexual preference, gender and age... all the market asks is for you to participate and be patient. But that is a topic for another day.

The other great opportunity to participate in Capitalism is **business ownership**. As much as business owners love to complain about taxation, regulation, or some building restriction (myself included), small business ownership provides an "opportunity" to be a participant in the economy.

Some insight into why Veterans make great business owners:

- Vets want to be in control, and are used to doing so.
- Vets want to take responsibility.
- Vets have learned to embrace and evaluate risk.
- Vets volunteered, at least in part, out of a desire to help others.

Vets enjoy the "Corporate Culture" of a tight knit unit, and can recruit and train to replicate that culture.

Additionally, Military service develops the skills most needed in business owners:

- Goal setting and Mission Accomplishment Focus
- Prioritization
- Planning and execution
- Conservation of Resources
- Talent Optimization of others
- Proficiency in the 'Great aces': Communicate, Delegate, and Motivate
- And others from years of Military Service

Many businesses seek out Veterans to hire as employees, and many vets find great jobs with great pay filling these jobs. But, our veterans should consider another option: become an employer rather than an employee. Become an owner and set your own course. **Participate in the system you defended.** As Abraham Lincoln said... "The best way to predict your future is to create it."

Jim Provo is an Economic Development Specialist and a Veteran Business Development Officer with the U.S. Small Business Administration, a Navy Submariner, and a business owner. Contact him at james.provo@sba.gov or 302 573 6294 x 227 to attend a class on starting a business.

MARCELLA'S HOUSE RESIDENTS START WORK ON VETERANS MURAL



Residents of Marcella's House, a 16-unit residential facility for formerly homeless veterans in Wilmington, began preliminary work on the Veteran's Freedom Mural on Jan. 6. That was the first of two kickoff sessions.

The veterans who live at Marcella's House, brainstormed with members of Creative District Wilmington. Lead mural artist, Eric Okdeh, and officials from Connections Community Support Programs, Inc., which owns and operates Marcella's House, continue to complete this mural.

The mural will appear on the side of Marcella's House, which is located at 901-903 Washington St. The veterans who live in the house will have significant input into the mural's content and can take part in the community painting process if they wish. The mural is expected to be completed in July.

In addition to running Marcella's House, Connections administers the Supportive Services for Veterans Families program statewide. This program offers housing assistance and case management services. To get SSVF services, call Connections' offices in Wilmington (302) 250-5868, Dover (302) 518-5338 or Seaford (302) 332-9013. (January 6, 2016, Adam Taylor)

UNIQUE TRAINING CENTER PLANNED FOR US VETS

Honorably discharged veterans may soon have the opportunity to train for a much sought-after profession at a unique training center in Delaware. The new center, which will be the only technical training facility in the US dedicated solely to veterans, will train up to 40-students at a time to become professional watchmakers.

Why Watch making?



An architect's rendering shows what the VMI training center will look like when completed. It will be the only technical school in the country for US veterans.

There's a major resurgence in the popularity of mechanical watches around the world right now, and far too few watchmakers to maintain and repair them. There are an estimated 4,000 watchmaker jobs available in the US alone.

That's good news for a veteran population – especially among disabled veterans, who suffer from an 82% unemployment rate.

Even better news is that the training will be free. No veteran will be charged a penny for the tuition or room and board, nor will veterans need to tap into their VA benefits for the training. That is a tradition started by the famous Bulova School for veteran watchmakers which trained an entire generation of watchmakers after World War II.

All of the costs will be covered through contributions made by the watchmaking industry, by grants and by personal and corporate donations.

The new training center is being developed by The Veterans Watchmaker Initiative (www.vwmi.org) a 501C3 non-profit organization. The Initiative has acquired four acres of land for the Center in Middletown, Delaware; technical equipment, office and classroom equipment and supplies, and even three temporary buildings which will house the first technical classes.

According the Watchmaker Initiative, "Veterans have the intelligence, the discipline and the motivation to become master professionals in a craft which will give them dignity, purpose and the ability to provide well for themselves and for their families."

"Watch making is a revered, honorable, high paying profession which can be practiced in a manufacturing setting, in local jewelry stores, as a freestanding storefront business - and can even be practiced at home for those with mobility issues." (Sam Cannan, chief Executive Officer)



Today there are various Veterans Support Groups throughout Delaware. Some are federally funded, some are offered by the state and others are being provided by local and national non-profits. Many businesses offer discounts to veterans. Many other service organizations include these various offerings through their websites. It pays to check these sites by searching for the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, etc.

As a Delaware Veteran, local assistance is provided in many ways from Easter Seals Delaware. Easter Seals with its history of providing rehabilitation to persons with disabilities is uniquely positioned to help veterans with disabilities, whether they are service connected or civilian related. They welcome the opportunity to help all.

Here in Delaware there are many ways that Easter Seals can help veterans and their families. The adult day care locations at Easter Seals provide care each year to many veterans who have physical disabilities or limitations. This program works well for persons who need care and help during the day while the primary caregiver at home goes to work or gets needed rest. The adult day care program can also provide needed therapy services on site while a person is recovering from an illness or injury. In some cases Easter Seals can also provide an in-home caregiver who can help with the activities of daily living such as dressing, grooming and light household chores. For those with a physical disability who qualify, there is also a personal attendant program whereby individuals can hire an attendant who provides support at home, work or school. The Easter Seals Resource Center can identify assistive devices and technology that alleviate the effects of disability at home or work, and can even in some cases arrange for low interest loans to finance assistive devices. For active duty Air Force families, there is a new program to provide respite care to families with special needs children.

The first step in accessing the help you may need is contacting Easter Seals at 800-677-3800 or by email contact@esdel.org or learn more at www.de.easterseals.com (Milt Warren, USMC Veteran and Easter Seals Advisory Board Member)

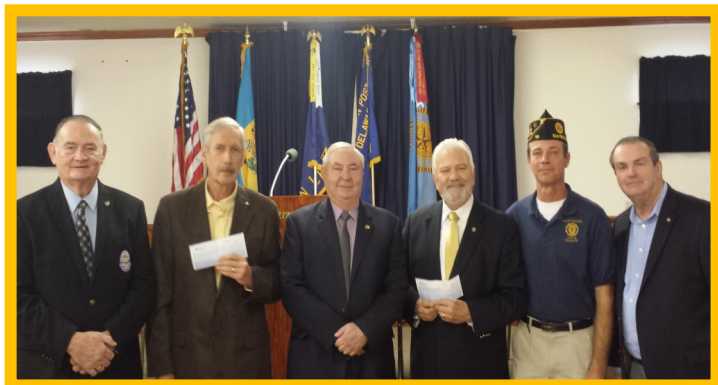
SMYRNA AMERICAN LEGION POST 14 CONTRIBUTES TO VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

"Veterans still serving veterans and the community is our mission," said Commander Scott Holmes, David C. Harrison Post 14, American Legion, Smyrna, after presenting checks to two veterans organizations at a January 9 ceremony.

Each organization, The Friends of Delaware Veterans, and Delaware Veterans Post 2, Dover, received \$2,500.

The Friends of Delaware Veterans, Inc., is the official fundraising organization of the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund, working under the auspices of the Commission of Veterans Affairs. Delaware Veterans Post 2, Dover, under Commander David Curnock, has established a fund to assist wounded veterans.

"We are very grateful for this generous contribution to assist our fellow veterans throughout the state," said Friends President Dave Skocik. "The Veterans Trust Fund was signed into law in 2013. One hundred percent of contributions are deposited in a special account to help all generations of Delaware veterans in proven need."



Pictured left to right: Paul Davis, VP, Friends of Delaware Veterans; David Curnock, commander, Del Vets Post 2, Dover; Rep. Bill Carson; Dave Skocik, president, Friends of Delaware Veterans, Inc.; Scott Holmes, commander, Post 14, American Legion, Smyrna; Rep. Earl Jaques. Representatives Carson and Jaques, both military veterans, serve on the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

Visit www.DelawareVeteransTrustFund.com for information.



Director Kirby and Holy Cross students salute the Gulf War / Afghanistan Memorial



The DCVA Team are all set for the Dover Veterans Day Parade: November 2015

*Job well done
Ms. Lori Christiansen!*

*We appreciate all the hard work
you and your team
provided at both of these
great events.*

*You even had time the night
prior, to sing the Nat'l Anthem
at the Veterans Trust
Fundraising Dinner.*

Thank you!



PROMISE PURSES

For Homeless Females

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 28, Millsboro, DE is collecting gently-used handbags for homeless females.

Promise Purses will be filled with donated items on **MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY**, January 18, 2016 at 10 AM in the Memorial Hall at American Legion Post 28, Route 24, Millsboro, DE.

Completed purses will be donated to Home of the Brave II (female facility), Peoples Place, Homeless Shelters, domestic abuse facilities, Vet Center in Georgetown and to any other DE organizations that help homeless females.



PROMISE PURSES

Items needed for MLK
Day of Service
January 18, 2016

Gently-used purses,
Small packs tissues,
individual sanitary
items, small flashlights,
hand sanitizer, mints,
small soaps, shampoo,
lotion, brush, comb,
compacts, nail polish,
gloves, deodorant, wet
wipes.

Purses & Items can be
dropped off at Post 28
marked "Promise
Purses"

American Legion Auxiliary
Unit 28

31768 Legion Rd.
Millsboro, DE 19966

Contact Info:

Beth McGinn 947.2984
Tina Washington 329.9090
Linda Shelly 945-5387



*The Veterans' Awareness Center Foundation
would like to honor you for your service to our country.*

*Your presence is requested on
Saturday, January 30th 2016
at 2:00 PM*

*Del Vets Post 2
720 Pear Street, Dover, DE 19903
for a*

***Womens' Military Tea.**
(Women Currently Serving or Veterans)*

*Please take this opportunity to
share your military experiences.*

***RSVP** By Friday, January 15th 2016
302-349-4898*

**2016 African American
Medal of Honor Recipients
Memorial**



Hosted by:
24th Infantry Regiment Combat Team Buffalo Soldiers
Northeast Chapter
Nat'l Association for Black Veterans Inc. Wilmington, DE
Chapter 94
The DE Medal of Honor Historical Association

Monument Upgrade Ceremony Tribute to Heroes Denied

Henry Johnson (WWII)

SSG Melvin Morris (Vietnam)

Friday March 25, 2016 @ 3PM
Brandywine Park
18th St. & Baynard Blvd.
Wilmington, DE 19802

**Reception/banquet following ceremony - held at Warner Elementary School*



DEPARTMENT OF DELAWARE
PRESENTS
2016 NATIONAL COMMANDER'S BANQUET
FRIDAY - MARCH 18, 2016
AT WALTER L. FOX POST #2

HONORING



Cash Bar at 5:45 PM
**Followed by Dinner &
Program**
\$30 per Person
Tables of 8



**Cutoff Date -
March 13, 2016**
**Entrée Choice: Crab
Cakes or Prime Rib**
Coat & Tie

**National Commander
Dale Barnett
Department of Georgia**

Checks Payable & Send To: The American Legion
Department of Delaware
PO Box 930, Seaford, DE 19973
Tel: (302) 628-5221 Email: adjutant@delegion.org



Bailey-Brennan-Chandler
Veterans Of Foreign Wars Post 5892 Hockessin DE
Celebrating 70 Years Of Unwavering Support
1946 - 2016

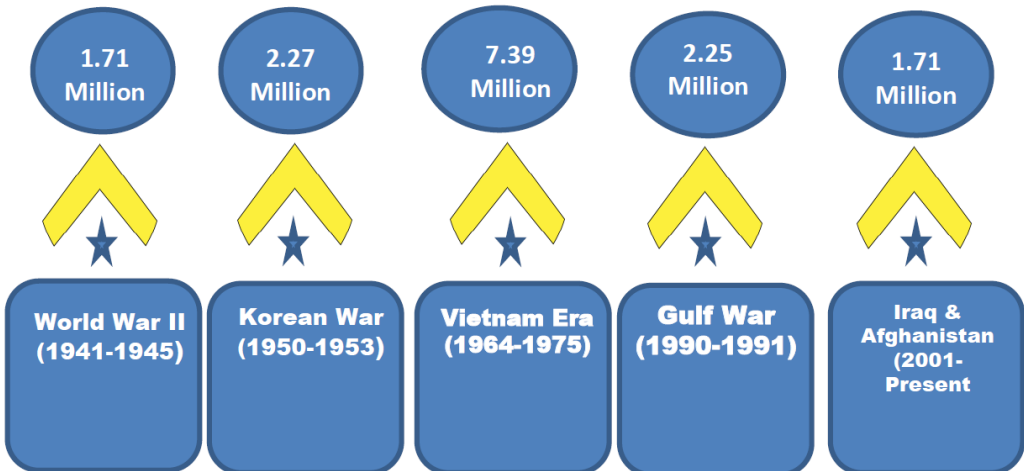
VFW Post 5892, Hockessin DE will be celebrating their 70th Anniversary of service and support to our nation’s Veterans in February 2016.

To celebrate this event, our Auxiliary is compiling a commemorative book that details our history of service to veterans and their families in our community, our state and our nation.

Our members volunteer thousands of hours each year for fundraising as well as assistance to our Veterans of Foreign Wars helping veterans and family members of veterans in distress. Our members are like family and the work is fun and very rewarding! We welcome all Veterans in the community to contact us about becoming a member.

For details on how to join our Post or Auxiliary, call 302-239-0797, or email us at vfw5892@gmail.com; 70years@vfw5892.org

TODAY’S LIVING VETERANS
 The last World War I Veteran died in February 2011 at the age of 110 .
 The Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that 800-1,000 World War II veterans die every day.





The **Veterans United Outreach of Delaware** was started in May 2001, under Kent County Chapter 850, Vietnam Veterans of America. The VVA motto is "Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another." This motto has been taken to heart by those who started the outreach program. The purpose of this program is to reach out to all military/veteran brothers and sisters on educational, physical, mental, emotional and spiritual levels, so as to guide them to freedom and comfort in their own lives. They work with all who are willing to help accomplish their goals.

The Outreach networks with federal, state and local agencies and coordinates with all organizations in Delaware. Through it all, they are constantly changing and growing.

They are a veterans committee with a foundation in God, Country, and Freedom, to which they credit the sacrifices of our active duty military, our veterans, and their families. (Mike Snyder, 302-678-1285)

VETERANS TBI SUPPORT GROUP



The Veterans TBI Support Group meets every fourth Wednesday, 12:00 PM, at the American Legion Post #8, 673 North Bedford St., Georgetown, DE 19947. If you have questions or would like additional information about the Veterans TBI Support Group, please contact Robert Corsa at (302) 933-0119 or kco326@aol.com.



Calling All Disabled Veterans, Active Military and National Guard. Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing offers free fly fishing classes to disabled Veterans and active duty military including fly tying, fly casting and fishing on local outings. You can put all you learn together and catch fish on the flies you tie. Centered in Northern Delaware at the Wilmington VA Medical Center we hold classes every 2nd Monday of the month in the Community Living Center at 6:30 PM. In Northern Delaware we will began meetings using conference space provided by the Cabela's Store at the Christina Mall if demand permits. We are pleased and very grateful Cabela's has stepped forward to offer their conference space.

Project Healing Waters is a growing organization and is increasing its capacity to include more Veterans in its fly fishing programs. We expect to expand into South Jersey where more Veterans are transitioning as outpatients from the Coatesville and Philadelphia VAMC's to Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) located in the South Jersey area.

Project Healing Waters is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled Veterans, active duty personal and Guardsman through fly fishing. Fly fishing is an adaptive sport with therapeutic benefit that addresses physical injuries as well as the invisible injuries. (Submitted by George W. Person)

Please call me at 804 334-0031 or stop by one of our meetings and meet our experienced Volunteers

DCVA: VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

New Castle County: Ms. Natasha Scott-Knight
Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear, DE
Monday – Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Please call for appointment: (302) 365-8231

Kent County: Mr. Charles Murrell Jr.
DCVA office in Dover, DE
Monday–Friday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Please call for an appointment: (302) 257-3119

Sussex County: Ms. Laurie Corsa
Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Millsboro, DE
Monday-Friday: 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Please call for an appointment: (302) 648-3068

**American Legion**

Joseph T. Houghton, Dept. Service Officer:
(302) 993-7256 Scheduled Post Visits:

OCT 02: Oak Orchard/Riverdale/Post #2
10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 945-1673

OCT 09: Walter L Fox/Post #2
10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 674-3922

NOV 06: Oak Orchard/Riverdale/Post #2
10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 945-1673

NOV 13: Walter L Fox/ Post #2
10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 674-3922

DEC 04: Oak Orchard/Riverdale/Post #28
10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 945-1673

DEC 14: Walter L Fox/ Post #2
10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 674-3922

DEC 18: Dagsboro Post/Post #24
10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 732-3120
**Times/dates are subject to change.*

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

DAV Dept. Service Officers: (302) 697-9061
Paul Lardizzone: (302) 382-3448
H. Mark Wischman: (302) 382-3449

Kent County Schedule:

DAV Headquarters Building
183 South Street
Camden, DE 19934
Monday thru Thursday 8:00-12:00 PM (*Walk-ins*)
1:00-3:00 PM (*Appt. only*)

**Sussex County Schedule:**

Department of Labor - Div. of Employment & Tng.
20093 Office Circle, Georgetown, DE 19947
(302) 856-5230: Thursday 8:00-12:00 PM (*Walk-ins*)

*Kent & Sussex evening appointments prescheduled
by request only.*

Paralyzed Veterans of America (DE/MD PVA)

Darrell Johnson, Sr., National Service Officer
VA Regional Office
1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 26
Wilmington, DE 19805 (302) 993-7252/7253

*Mr. Johnson will make home visits upon request for Vets
who do not have transportation to the VA.*

2114 S DuPont Hwy, Suite 2, Dover DE
Thursdays: 8:00 AM - 12 PM

Dover CBOC: 1st & 3rd Thursdays: 1PM – 4PM

Georgetown CBOC : 2nd & 4th Thurs. 1PM – 4PM

Purple Heart NSO (MOPH)

Cheryl Yard, National Service Officer
VA Regional Office
1601 Kirkwood Hwy
Wilmington, DE 19805
M-F 8:30 to 4:00: (302) 993-7263
Walk-ins welcome.



Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

David Hilliard, VA Regional Office
1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 21,
Wilmington, DE 19805



(302) 993-7260 *Please call for appointments.

1st – 4th Thursday 8:30-11:30 AM
Dover DOL (302) 993-7260

1st Thursday 1:30-4:00 PM
Blue Hen VFW Post 6483 (302) 422-4412

2nd & 4th Thursday 1:30-4:00 PM
Virgil Wilson VFW Post 4961 (302) 629-3092

3rd Thursday 1:30-4:00 PM
Rehoboth VFW (302) 227-3469

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)

Terry Baker: National Service Officer
VA Regional Office
1601 Kirkwood Hwy
Wilmington, DE 19805
(302) 993-7250/7251 or (302) 540-8772 (c)

**DELAWARE VETERANS HOME**

100 Delaware Veterans Blvd
Milford, DE 19963
(302) 424-6000: Bill Peterson

HOME OF THE BRAVE

Main Office: (302) 424-1681
Jessica Finan (Executive Director)
Denise Dudley (Case Manager)

**DCVA with
DELAWARE JOINING FORCES**

Christine F. Kubik
DE Nat'l Guard
Community Relations
(302) 326-7582
christine.f.kubik.nfg@mail.mil

*Please visit our
www.delaware.gov/djf/*

**DE VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERIES****Bear Cemetery**

2465 Chesapeake City Road
Bear, DE 19701

(302) 834-8046: Barbara A. Cooke

Millsboro Cemetery

26669 Patriots Way
Millsboro, DE 19966

(302) 934-5653: Gregory A. Bee

Employment Services: DE Dept. of Labor

Cleopatra Jones (Wilmington): (302) 761-8077

Allen Jones (Wilmington): (302) 761-8141

Lisa Smith (Newark): (302) 451-3457

Cliff Rumph (Dover): (302) 857-5866

Kevin Gunning (Dover) : (302) 857-5870

Gail Gartner (Georgetown): (302) 858-5232

Division of Vocational Rehab. : (302) 761-8275

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**Wilmington Regional Benefit Office**

1601 Kirkwood Highway
Wilmington, DE 19805
(800) 827-1000

<http://www.wilmington.va.gov/>

Patient Advocate: (302) 633-5556

**For all medical facilities*

VA Medical Center

1601 Kirkwood Hwy
Wilmington, DE 19805
(800) 461-8262 or (302) 994-2511

Dover VA Outpatient Clinic

1198 S. Governors Ave
Dover, DE 19904
(800) 461-8262 x 2400

Georgetown VA Outpatient Clinic

15 Georgetown Plaza
Georgetown, DE 19947
(800) 461-8262 x 2300

Veterans Outreach Programs:

People's Place: Listening Post Lower Delaware
Mike Rowe: (302) 422-8033 x 173

SSVF: Supportive Services for Veteran Families
(302) 250-5868 New Castle Co: – Eulita Smith
(302) 984-3380 x 1121 Kent Co. - Aniela Meinhardt
(302) 332-0913 Sussex Co. - Gary Boas

VMC: Veterans Multi-Service Center
Paula Witcher: (302) 505-0849

Vet. Centers (Readjustment Counseling):

Vet Center/New Castle Co: (800) 461-8262 x 5434
Vet Center/Kent Co: (800) 461-8262 x 2430
Vet Center/Sussex Co: (302) 225-9110

Retired Activities Office

Bldg. 520, Room 105
Dover AFB, DE 19902
MSgt (R) Bill Oldham: (302) 677- 4610
(William.Oldham.2@us.af.mil)

Retired Navy Activities Affairs Office

Naval & Marine Corps Reserve Ctr. (302) 998-5194
3920 Kirkwood Hwy.
Wilmington, DE 19808



- Ronald Sarg (Chairman).....MOAA
- William C. Farley (Vice Chairman).....MCL
- Charles T. Armbruster.....American Legion
- Cornelius “Bill” Carroll..... MOPH
- Robert P. Corsa..... VVA
- Paul Lardizzone DAV
- John Hampton..... At Large
- William “Bill” McMullen.....AFSA
- Mark Newman..... VFW
- Barry Newstadt.....JWV
- Earl E. Seppala.....MOWW
- Angela F. Showell..... At Large
- MyRon W. Smith.....DELVETS
- Albert W. Weir.....AMVETS

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS POC:

- Air Force Sergeants Association**
Bill McMullen.....(302) 697-9750
- American Legion**
Richard “Ric” Santos..... (302) 628-5221
- AMVETS**
Albert Weir..... (302) 629-4141
- Colonial Paralyzed Veterans of America**
Ron Hoskins..... (302) 861-6671
- Delaware Veterans Coalition**
Dave Skocik..... (302) 736-8500
E-mail: delawareveteranscoalition@gmail.com
- Disabled American Veterans**
Paul Lardizzone..... (302) 697-9061
- Fleet Reserve Association**
James M. Jackson..... (302) 834-1719
- Gold Star Mothers – Delaware Chapter**
Judith Faunce..... (302) 475-8272
- 40 & 8**
Eugene “Chip” Rosan..... (302) 678-8077
- Jewish War Veterans**
Len Markovitz..... (302) 234-4785
- Marine Corps League**
William C. Farley..... (302) 242-7926
- Military Officers Association of America**
Tom Kelly (New Castle Co.)..... (302) 834-9659
Ron Sarg (Kent Co.)..... (302) 678-1603
Fred Seth, Jr. (Sussex Co.)..... (302) 519-0611
- Military Order of the Purple Heart**
Cornelius “Bill” Carroll..... (302) 655-3820
- Military Order of the World Wars**
Earl Seppala..... (302) 239-0641
E-mail: eseppala@aol.com
- Nat’l Association of Black Veteran**
Nolan S. Lewis..... (302) 345-6911
- The Reserve Officers Association**
LTC Richard Chappell (Ret)..... (302) 234-1418
E-mail: rwc49ps54ud@comcast.net
- Veterans of Foreign Wars**
Paul Phillips Jr..... (302) 656-5022
- Vietnam Veterans of America**
Paul Davis..... (302) 697-8384

The “DCVA Newsletter” is published for informational purposes only and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Commission of Veterans Affairs or the State of Delaware. Paid for with State Funds.

The “DCVA Newsletter” is now distributed electronically. To receive your copy by email, subscribe at our web site: www.veteransaffairs.delaware.gov. To obtain a hard copy of the newsletter, visit one of our office locations or your local veterans post home.

STATE OF DELAWARE

“Veterans First in the First State”

