



### Director's Corner

The year 2018 has begun and is accompanied by new goals, new ideas and new aspirations. The commission boasts of a new teammate, our new Kent County Veteran Service Officer, Josh Matticks. Josh is a retired Air Force veteran who brings a wealth of knowledge on veteran benefits and veteran resources. He is personable, gladly working veteran issues ranging from disability compensation through Delaware Veterans Trust Fund applications. In addition, our New Castle County Veteran Service Officer position should be filled by the end of January. We will employ a veteran focused individual willing to go the extra mile for that county's veterans. This teammate will be headquartered at the Bear Veterans Cemetery office, but will spend time at the Wilmington VA Benefits Office so they can assist that population. Both service officers will engage with county veterans, exhibiting outstanding customer service and participating in local outreach venues. We understand veterans raised their right hand to defend our nation, so when they need assistance, we will have teammates in place to make that happen. Our new service officers will work to recognize veteran service, work to ensure veteran needs are addressed, and work with exemplary customer service. These positive elements are not limited to our service officers. They will continue to be embraced by the executive director, commissioners, administrative and cemetery staff who proudly assist Delaware's 78,000 veterans who helped keep our nations safe. Why, because we served too!

### DE Commission of Veterans Affairs

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**Larence Kirby, Executive Director**

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## *Thank you to readers who contributed to the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund in 2017!*

*The Trust Fund was signed into law in 2013 under the auspices of the Commission of Veterans Affairs to assist honorably-discharged veterans but is not part of the state budget. To provide funding, the nonprofit Friends of Delaware Veterans was formed in 2014. Its board is made up of volunteers tasked with raising funds throughout the year. All are veterans and serve without compensation.*

*Although the majority of funding comes from community and private sources, we are sometimes asked if veterans contribute to help their fellow veterans. The answer is yes. Some log on to [www.DelawareVeteransTrustFund.com](http://www.DelawareVeteransTrustFund.com) to make a one-time contribution or to make an ongoing monthly contribution from their checking account.*

*The veterans organizations below contributed to the Veterans Trust Fund in 2017. Some made contributions from post charitable funds while others held a fundraiser for the cause.*

*Air Force Sergeants Association*

*American Legion*

*AMVETS & Auxiliary*

*Delaware Veterans Coalition*

*Delaware Veterans, Inc.*

*Disabled American Veterans*

*Korean War Veterans Association*

*Marine Corps League*

*Military Officers Association of America*

*Vietnam Veterans of America*

*Warrant Officers Association*



### *Some facts about the Trust Fund*

- Applicants from all three counties apply and are interviewed but not all are approved due to circumstances or available funds. Applicants are also directed to other services offered through the Commission.*
- About \$8,000 monthly in one-time grants go to veterans residing in Delaware.*
- No cash is handed out. Bills are paid directly to utility companies, lending institutions and other debtors to prevent utility shutoff, auto repossessions, evictions, to make emergency repairs to homes, assist with medical bills, and sometimes to put food on the table.*

*In closing, I cannot think of a more direct way to assist our fellow veterans in emergency need than the Trust Fund. All contributions are valued and encouraged. We look forward to continuing our work in the coming year in conjunction with veteran leaders.*

*Our board is planning to invite post leaders to a meeting in January or February to discuss the Trust Fund, its role, and to invite involvement at any level.*

*Dave Skocik, president  
Friends of Delaware Veterans Inc.  
[ds kocik@aol.com](mailto:ds kocik@aol.com)*





### Del-One Foundation gives back on Giving Tuesday

On Nov. 28, Giving Tuesday, the Del-One Foundation began their yearly Give Back campaign by donating \$2,000 to the Delaware Veteran’s Trust Fund, a nonprofit corporation which provides financial assistance or grants to assist Delaware Veterans with health care requirements, housing assistance including utilities, and education or training programs. On this global day of giving, the Del-One Foundation is happy to assist this amazing organization in their charitable efforts. In 2016, the Del-One Foundation donated over \$47,000 to worthy local charities, and will continue their philanthropic efforts by giving back to several charities this year. More information on the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund and the Friends of Delaware Veterans, Inc. can be found by visiting [www.delawareveteranstrustfund.com](http://www.delawareveteranstrustfund.com).



*Above, Larence “Kirby” Kirby, executive director of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, accepts the donation from Del-One Foundation Board members and employees of Del-One Federal Credit Union.*

### AMVETS Post 2 Auxiliary contributes to Veterans Trust Fund

Christine Bradley of the Ladies Auxiliary of AMVETS Post 2, Millsboro, presents a \$450 check for the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund to Dave Skocik, left, and Bill Farley, chairman of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs. Skocik is president of the organization that raises money for the Trust Fund that assists Delaware veterans in emergency need. The contribution was made following the Commission’s monthly meeting on December 19 in Dover.



## Veterans Helping Veterans Veterans Helping Veterans



### Korean War Veterans contribute to the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund

Commissioner, Edward J. Johnson, left, a member of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, presented a \$5,000 check from the Korean War Veterans Association's Chapter 1 Wounded Warrior Fund, to Dave Skocik, president of the Friends of Delaware Veterans, Inc., for the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund. Signed into law in 2013, the Trust Fund assists Delaware's veterans in verified financial emergency with a one-time, hand-up grant. It has prevented cutoff of utilities, repossessions of property, evictions, and sometimes put food on the table. Contributions are tax deductible. The presentation took place after the Commission's monthly meeting on November 16.

## Veterans Helping Veterans Veterans Helping Veterans

### Transferring military skills to a career in education

Lora Bates of Barnes & Noble, Concord Mall, Wilmington, hands a check for \$1,015 to Charles 'Chuck' Baldwin on November 16, in conjunction with his book signing of "Carrier to Classroom," at the store on November 4. The money represented a portion of the proceeds from other business conducted in the store during the event. The book encourages military veterans to enter teaching. It details 10 'Deckplate Leadership Lessons' for all teachers learned during his 28-year career in the U.S. Navy followed by years of experience as a public school principal and later founding of the Delaware Military Academy in 2003. "Carrier to Classroom," can be ordered on Amazon.com. All proceeds from the book are going to the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund.



## Veterans Helping Veterans Veterans Helping Veterans

### Retired Navy Master Chief assists veterans through his book

Charles 'Chuck' Baldwin, (left) a member of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, presented a check for \$2,700 to Dave Skocik for the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund on November 21. The check represented the initial proceeds of his recent book "Carrier to Classroom," which details management lessons learned during a 28-years of experience in education Navy Command Master Chief, 5,500 member crew of the nuclear Eisenhower (CVN 69). He later Charter School and in 2003 founded charter school whose students participate in Navy Jr. ROTC. In 2011 Mr. Baldwin served on the founding committee of the Delaware Military Academy, whose students participate in Marine Jr. ROTC. His book is available on Amazon.com. The check represented the amount earned from the book, which was pledged to contribute to the ongoing Delaware Veterans Trust Fund, which was created in 2013 to assist Delaware's veterans in financial emergency with a one-time, hand-up grant. It has prevented cut off of utilities, repossessions of property, evictions, and sometimes put food on the table. Contributions are tax deductible.



Mr. Baldwin, a retired served as the top enlisted man on the powered aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. served as principal of Wilmington the Delaware Military Academy, a committee of the Delaware Military Academy, whose students participate in Marine Jr. ROTC. His book is available on Amazon.com. The check represented the amount earned from the book, which was pledged to contribute to the ongoing Delaware Veterans Trust Fund, which was created in 2013 to assist Delaware's veterans in financial emergency with a one-time, hand-up grant. It has prevented cut off of utilities, repossessions of property, evictions, and sometimes put food on the table. Contributions are tax deductible.



*Retired Maj. Gen. Frank Vavala;  
Salvatorica and retired Navy  
Master Chief Chuck Baldwin*

*Roseann Skocik; Tammy and re-  
tired Rear Adm. Frank Thorpe IV*



*Dover Symphony Orchestra:  
Nancy Parish; Nikita Burris;  
Nancy Pikulik; Cheryl Schier.*

*Larence Kirby; Rep. Trey  
Paradee; Roslyn Gale;  
Sen. Dave Lawson.*



*Chuck Boyce; Tori Ann Parker;  
Shannon Diaz*



*Suha and Mashoor Awad;  
Brenda and John Bridgeford.*



*Paul and Justine Davis; Trish Rodriguez;  
Jason and Nena Stewart.*



**Photo L-R:**  
 Stan Twardus, Ryan Wade, Jeromy Newton, Scott Estep, John Guhl, Kelly Dignan, Brandon Cale, Kris Hoffman, Jennifer Thompson, Steven Stewart, Mark Benson, Eric Webb, Jenny Yoder, Susan Fleming, Matt Healy, Heather Shupe, John DeMatteis, Pat Lynam, Neal Donaldson, Mike Burchfield, and Bill Boyd.

### Nickle Electrical Energizes Delaware Veterans Trust Fund

Nickle Electrical Companies with offices in Newark and Georgetown, Delaware, has contributed \$4,260 to the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund in conjunction with Veterans Day.

"This is the second consecutive year the good folks at Nickle have done this, and it will be truly appreciated by all of the veterans this will help," said Dave Skocik, president of the Friends of Delaware Veterans, Inc., the official fundraising organization of the Veterans Trust Fund.

Founded in 1986, Nickle Electrical Companies performs commercial, industrial, residential, and service work throughout the entire state of Delaware, southeast Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia.

"Steve Dignan, president and chief executive officer of Nickle Electrical Companies, approached us last year at this time as the weather was getting colder asking how he and his employees could help the state's veterans going through tough times," said Skocik. "They conducted a fund drive and came through then and have done it again."

The Friends is made up of veteran leaders from across the state who volunteer their time, resources and effort throughout the year to provide a one-time hand up to veterans in financial emergency. The Trust Fund has prevented cutoff of utilities, repossessions, evictions, made emergency repairs to homes, and sometimes put food on the table.

### Hall Appointed Friends' Liaison with State's High School ROTC Programs

Donyale Hall, a board member of the Friends of Delaware Veterans, has agreed to become the board's liaison with the state's high school ROTC programs, according to Dave Skocik, Friends president. Ms. Hall, a U.S. Air Force veteran, is the mother of a recent Caesar Rodney High School graduate who was active in its ROTC program. The Friends is the official fundraising organization of the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund that assists Delaware veterans in financial emergency. Its board is made up of veteran leaders from across the state who volunteer their time and effort to raise money for the Trust Fund. All contributions are tax deductible.

Visit [www.DelawareVeteransTrustFund.com](http://www.DelawareVeteransTrustFund.com) for more information on upcoming events.





*Sussex County Delaware  
Community Based Outpatient Clinic  
Ribbing Cutting Ceremony  
Oct. 27th, 2017*



*Pictures by: Patrick J. Hughes U.S.M.C. ChuLai 67-68  
Rolling Thunder® Inc. National Photographer*



On a very chilly Saturday morning of Nov. 4th, 2017, we had two successful events in Dover. Kudos to the DCVA staff & crew for coordinating the Dover Veterans Parade. Thank you Dave Skocik for your MC contribution. Much appreciation to Ms. Lori Christiansen and our monument committee. Thank you to all who showed up to support and participate in these events.  
*(Parade pictures by: TSgt Matt Davis, 436th Airlift Wing PA)*



## IG Inspection Finds FSMA MCJROTC Program 'Mission Capable' in All Areas

Dan Bates

FSMA completed their first ever MCJROTC Inspector General (IG) inspection on November 30 and received a grade of "mission capable" in all evaluated areas. Mission capable is the highest rating during an IG inspection.

In addition, all of the cadets were evaluated through a personnel inspection and received the grade of "exceeded expectations" from the IG inspector. "Overall, the cadets performance was excellent, especially considering it was our first IG inspection," said Col. Robert Wallace, USMC, (Ret.) Senior Marine Instructor. "Our program is very unique giving our size and that we're a full time MCJROTC academy, so I wasn't sure what to expect from the IG team."

"I'm proud of our cadets," said Col. Wallace. "They really put forth a solid effort and strove to do their very best." IG Inspector LtCol. Mark Stroman, USMC (Ret.) lead the inspection, and was augmented with 12 guest inspectors from Dover Air Force Base, and the Delaware Army and Air National Guard.

The results of FSMA's IG inspection will be sent to the office of MajGen Kevin Iiams, Commanding General, Training and Education Command. FSMA will not undergo another IG inspection for two years or school year 2019-20.

"Special thanks and appreciation to our local military community and the augment inspectors they provided," said Col. Wallace. "Their presence was very helpful to a smooth and efficient personnel inspection".

Veterans interested in touring First State Military Academy should contact Mr. Dan Bates at [dbates@fsmilitary.org](mailto:dbates@fsmilitary.org) to make arrangements.



I just wanted to thank everyone for all of their efforts in making the 2017 Wreaths Across America ceremony a success! Your insight, talents and dedication were essential in putting it all together.

As always, it was a pleasure working with each of you. I look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

Again, many thanks and Happy Holidays!  
Lori Christiansen



Photo caption - (Above, center) LtCol. Mark Stroman, USMC (Ret.) debriefs the drill team following their performance during the Inspector General inspection November 30. (Photo by Dan Bates, FSMA)





### Back packs for Soldiers 2017

The Wilmington Church of God members Mr. & Mrs. Ken Frederick have for the eighth year led a team of church members to provide for our Delaware Veterans during the holidays. In past years the back packs began as individual Holiday Stockings sewn by members of the Congregation including Mrs. Clough, an eighty-seven-year-old, that finds enjoyment in serving our veterans by knitting over a thousand hats for veterans.

Over the past two years the stockings became back packs so that veterans could use all year long. With the donation from Horizon Services, President, Mr. Aitken, the Congregations monthly donations, and many more companies donating over forty items for each bag, this made the 2017 year a huge success!

"Our thanks and gratitude to each of you that participated to make the 2017 back pack event an outstanding event, I know that your thoughtfulness has touched the hearts of many veterans as they receive their back packs said," Ms. Liz Byers-Jiron, Director of the Veterans' Awareness Center.

*Pictured: Victory Village Back Pack recipients.*



The Veterans Awareness Center "Give A Vet A Smile" has assisted veterans that could not afford dental care and has provided a Smile once again! To date the Partnership with the Delaware Dental Society and the Awareness Center has provided \$100,000 in cost avoidance to our Veterans that cannot afford dental care. Poor Dental care is a leading cause for oral cancer and should not be avoided because some cannot afford the care. Delaware is blessed to have the finest dentists throughout the State, dentists that wish to give back to Veterans that have done so much for our Great Nation. Dr. Kaczmariski, Past President of the Delaware Dental Society witnessed this great need at the Delaware Veterans Stand Down in 2016 and has been instrumental in supporting a greatly needed program. Liz Byers-Jiron, Director states "the dental care provided is world class dental care" this was witnessed by Mr. Jeff Sutcliff, a Navy Veteran who now has a permanent Smile. *For information contact the Veteran Awareness Center Foundation at 302-349-4898.*





A Hero's Welcome Delaware together with Msgt. Merriella McMillan, Army(reitred) Sgt. Carol Holtmeyer, Army, USAF, (retired) Becky Beckford, USMC, Bob Kwiatkowski, (retired Army, NCCP) Dan Kapitanic, Army(Retired) Sgt John Greene, USAF, Cpl. Biehl, Cpl. Rodrigues, NCCP, and Minquadale Fire Co. ready to deliver Christmas presents to an adopted family in New Castle. (12/16/17)



**Lighthouse Christian School in Dagsboro**

Annual honoring to veterans. Pat Viguei works months preparing for this event every year to salute the veterans of the community. The ceremony is held annually the Friday after Veteran's Day. This year's main topic, "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans." A special guest this year was former POW, WW II SgtSgt. William Fleischauer, Army, 94 years old.



**Dinner with our Veterans**

A Hero's Welcome Delaware spent December 21st afternoon with the residents of Victory Village in Port Penn. A home cooked meal and Christmas cookies wrapped up for each. We cooked and had dinner together. Left to Right. Becky Beckford, USMC, Bob Kwiatkowski, Army, Rosely Robinson AHW-DE, Becca Bristow, Miss New Castle County 2018 and Carol Holtmeyer, Army, USAF (12/21/17)



Vietnam Veterans showing support!



On October 22, Karli Crenshaw (co-chair of Grass Roots Rescue) made a donation from Grass Roots Rescue to Kent County Chapter 850, Vietnam Veterans of America, toward the purchase and training of a companion dog for a Delaware veteran. "This gift of \$3,500 is part of our chapter's ongoing effort to provide service dogs for veterans," said Joe Startt Jr., president of Chapter 850. Left to right: Ken Bodine, Joe Startt Jr., Karli Crenshaw, Dan Watson.



Baking cookies for our troops at Middletown High School, with Major General Frank Vavala. (11/15/2017)

### POW/MIA Chair Dedication

Rebecca Bristow dedicated two POW/MIA Chairs of Honor at her Sussex Central High School to honor the 92,000 still missing men and women that never came home.

A project with A Hero's Welcome Delaware and supported by many of her friends, local Hogs and Heroes, Patriot Guards, Nam Veterans MC, Rolling Thunder, Second Brigade, DSP, and other MC Veterans Clubs and Marine Corps League and Veterans in Sussex County. (10/20/17)



## Veterans United Outreach of Delaware, Inc. Had a Great 2017!

Veterans United Outreach of Delaware had a highly successful 2017. In May we became an independent 501(C) (3) charity, separating from VVA Kent County Chapter 850, of which we had been a part of since our founding in 2001. During the event season we had our Mobile Education Unit at such diverse locations as VVMC/LVMC's Poker Run to Fire Base Lloyd, Dover Days, Wyoming Peach Festival, Milford Riverwalk Freedom Festival, Delaware State Fair Armed Forces Day, Delaware City Day, Salute to DELAWARE Veterans at Ft. DuPont, First State Corvette Club's Wheels 'N Wine car show at *Pizzadili Winery*, *22in22's Vet Fest in Town of Whitehall*, *Veterans Day at Cabela's, Christiana*, and finally *Delaware Veteran's Stand Down*.

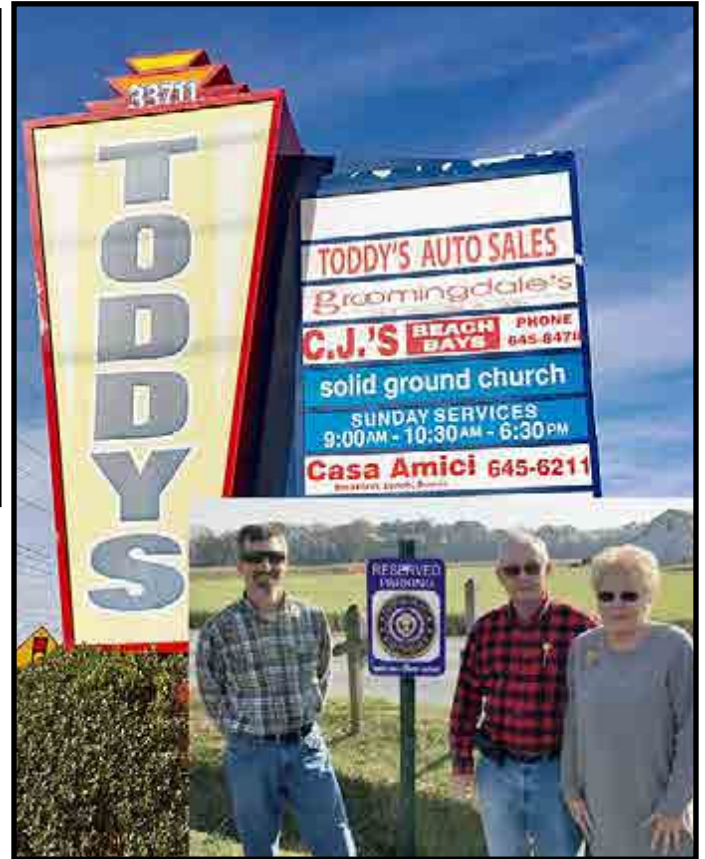
*Our final event* was participating with Bob Reese and his "Feed The Troops" initiative on December 19<sup>th</sup> to provide a holiday meal to everyone on duty at Dover Air Base and their families. Bob has done this for 14 years. Veterans United Outreach has been involved for 3 years providing turkeys, 30 for this year's event. We physically participated for the first time this year, greeting the men, thanking them for their service and handing everyone a candy cane to finish off the meal and bring a holiday smile.

Lastly, the Outreach Team provided 66 meals to less fortunate families plus a number of miscellaneous turkeys for families and homeless holiday meals over Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Veterans United Outreach is on the streets year round helping Veterans get the help they have earned and deserve. If you would like to hang out with us and our Mobile Education Unit at community events across the state and help vets and their families contact us at [email@vuofde.com](mailto:email@vuofde.com). You do not have to be a veteran or connected to a veteran to volunteer with us.



Thank you to Ms. Karen Favors at the Dover CBOC, for sharing the donated Bombas socks. DCVA paid it forward and donated to the Veterans United Outreach. They in turned, passed it out to our homeless veterans in the Delaware area. Please visit [giving@bombas.com](mailto:giving@bombas.com), for more information on the Bombas socks.



**Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol Club  
in Bridgeville**  
L-R Club Member Tom Perry  
(Middletown, DE), Gleen Struck  
(Milford, DE)

**Toddy's Auto Sales in Lewes**  
L-R Phillip Todd, Richard Todd  
(Toddy), and Kathy Todd

Two parking spaces for Purple Heart Receipts have been reserved in Sussex County, Delaware. One space is located at the Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol Club. For more information on the Club, visit their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bridgeville-Rifle-Pistol-Club/398253480226799>.

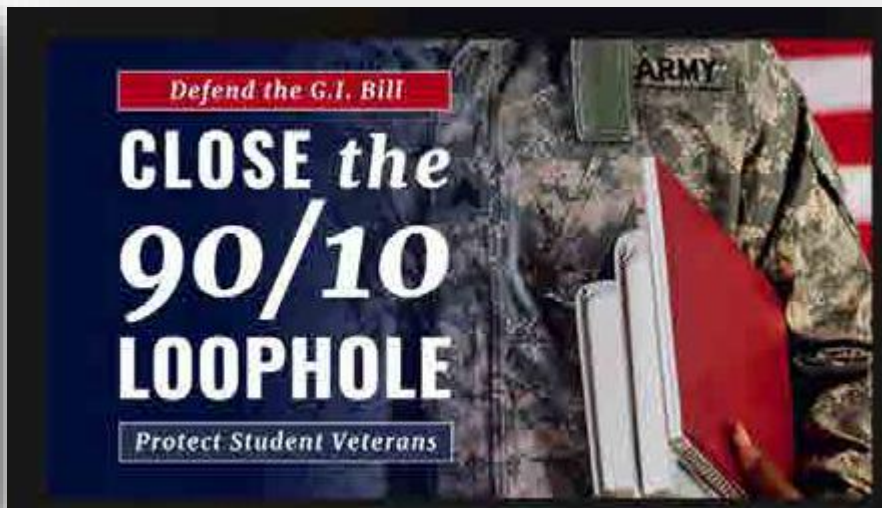
One parking space has been reserved at Toddy's Auto Sales in Lewes, Delaware. Visit their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Toddys-Auto-Sales/138923559488462>. The Purple Heart Signs are part of the Purple Heart Trail Program established by The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH). This is a symbolic trail throughout all 50 states to commemorate and honor all men and women who have been wounded or killed in combat while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The Rifle & Pistol Club and Toddy's Auto Sales join the Milford Cheer Center and AutoWorks in providing these spaces in Sussex County.

If you are interested in having a Purple Heart Parking sign placed at your location, contact John Jackson at MOPH1787@gmail.com or call him at 302 228-9577.

Chapter 1787 is a non-profit, 501(c) (19) veterans' service organization. We serve combat wounded veterans in both Kent and Sussex counties.

The chapter meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month from October through May. The meeting location is the Pizza King, 358 East DuPont Hwy (RT 113 South), Millsboro, DE. Meetings begin at 10am. You do not need to be a member to attend the meeting.

Visit the Chapter 1787 Facebook page for current veteran health care and benefit information: <https://facebook.com/moph1787>.



## Sen. Carper Reintroduces Military and Veterans Education Protection Act with Groundbreaking Support from Veterans Service Organizations

*Momentum builds to pass legislation that would close the 90/10 loophole and protect veterans from predatory for-profit schools*

On Nov. 9, 2017, U.S. Senator Tom Carper (D-Del.) was joined by Sens. Richard Durbin (D-Ill.), Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Patty Murray (D-Wash.) and Jon Tester (D-Mont.) to reintroduce the Military and Veterans Education Protection Act, legislation that would close a loophole that allows for-profit schools to avoid having to secure at least 10 percent of their revenue from non-federal sources.

More than two decades ago, Republican President George H.W. Bush signed a bipartisan law that limited how much federal funding for-profit schools may receive from taxpayers. Now called the 90/10 rule, this limit requires for-profit schools to obtain at least 10 percent of their revenues from non-federal sources. However, a loophole in the law excludes Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Department of Defense (DOD) education funds, like the Post-9/11 GI Bill and Tuition Assistance (TA), from being counted as federal funds. Some for-profit schools exploit this 90/10 loophole by using aggressive recruitment practices and deceptive marketing tools to enroll service members, veterans and other GI Bill beneficiaries. The Military and Veterans Education Protection Act would close the 90/10 loophole by counting VA and DOD funds as federal dollars.

Since 2009, more than 1.7 million service members, veterans and their families have used the Post-9/11 GI Bill to finance their higher education. However, over the past several years, about 40 percent of Post-9/11 G.I. Bill tuition benefits have gone to for-profit schools, even as questions continue about their graduation, default and job placement rates. Additionally, some of the largest recipients of Post-9/11 GI Bill funds have closed down after years of delivering poor outcomes to students and taxpayers. Two now-shuttered for-profit colleges, ITT Technical Institutes and Corinthian Colleges, received over \$1 billion in Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits before suddenly closing their doors, leaving nearly 7,000 student veterans and every American taxpayer in the lurch. Far too many veterans and service members have exhausted their hard-earned benefits at now-defunct schools. In response, a broad coalition of Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) and other advocacy groups are rallying behind this commonsense effort to close the 90/10 loophole to protect military and veteran students, as well as taxpayers, from bad actors in the for-profit educational sector.

**Organizations supporting the Military and Veterans Education Protection Act include: The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Student Veterans of America, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Veterans Education Success, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Military Officers Association of America, Blue Star Families, Military Child Education Coalition, Veterans for Common Sense, Non Commissioned Officers Association, VetsFirst, VetJobs, High Ground Veterans Advocacy, AMVETS, Wounded Warrior Project, The Retired Enlisted Association, Got Your Six, National Guard Association of the United States, Association of the United States Navy, Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, Non Commissioned Officers Association, National Military Family Association, Swords to Plowshares, Air Force Association and the Air Force Sergeants Association.**

## Monument to honor Delaware's Women Veterans

Delaware's women have served on the fields of war and at home in the First State, and in 2018 their sacrifices will be recognized with a new monument on the grounds of Legislative Hall, according to Richard Carter, chairman of the Delaware Heritage Commission.

The monument also will recognize those who call Delaware their home even though they weren't born here, Carter said. The design will echo that of the state's World War I commemorative, erected Nov. 4 at the southwest corner of Legislative Hall and stand on the northwest corner of the capital building's grounds.

And like the Great War's monument, it will be highlighted with laser-etched images of real Delawareans. The Heritage Commission has been working with the Delaware Public Archives, and gathered candidates for inclusion on the monument but is hoping others will be found in photo albums or among other family memorabilia that will be representative of all Delaware women. When the dedication takes place, the Heritage Commission also will publish a commemorative booklet including many of the photos not used on the structure.

While other monuments have acknowledged women's roles in Delaware history, there are none specifically dedicated to women veterans. Between March 2003 and Dec. 15 of this year, the United States military has suffered 6,930 deaths in the Middle East. Of those, 207 have been women, including Air Force Senior Airman Elizabeth Loncki of New Castle. The 23-year-old explosives expert died Jan 7, 2007, in Iraq while she and two others examined a car bomb.

The monument can also recognize women who never wore the uniform such as those who worked at New Castle's Bellanca Aircraft and the five women killed in a March 1943 blast at the Milford Ordinance Company. Carter is hoping people will contribute photos and personal stories toward the monument project and what it stands for. "We want as much public input as possible," he said. Members of the Heritage Commission hope to have the design finalized by the end of January or early February, which includes selecting the six to eight photographs that will represent all Delaware women on the memorial.

Tentative plans are to dedicate the monument around Mother's Day 2018. To contribute photographs and memorials, contact Dick Carter at 302-245-0670. Photographs and a brief synopsis of each individual can be sent to [dick.carter@state.de.us](mailto:dick.carter@state.de.us). Image files must be 300 dpi or higher. Photos may also be dropped off at Carter's office in Legislative Hall; all originals will be returned.

*A public meeting about the Delaware Women's Service Monument will be held in the Senate Hearing Room on the second floor of Legislative Hall, Dover, on **Thursday, January 11, from 10 a.m. until noon.***

## HR 4635, Increased Use of Women Peer Specialists in VA Health Care

Congressman Mike Coffman (CO) introduced legislation, HR 4635, to increase the number of women hired as peer counselors for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) suicide prevention program to specifically address the special needs of women veterans.

Women veterans face unique challenges reintegrating in their homes and communities after deployment. They are more likely to be divorced, single parents, and lack a social network. They are also more likely to be unemployed and struggle financially, despite higher educational attainment than male peers. Exposure to military sexual trauma and substance abuse disorders make women veterans more prone to homelessness and at a higher risk for suicide.

Because women comprise a small, but growing portion of the veterans population using VA services, VA providers are not always knowledgeable or understanding of women veterans' needs. Peer specialists have been shown to be especially successful in engaging veterans who need VA mental health services. Ensuring that culturally competent women peer specialists are available will ensure increased understanding of the barriers to care women veterans face, such as lack of child care, legal assistance and assistance with job placement or training.

DAV Resolution Nos. 225 and 245 support the enhancement of services for women veterans, including mental health services, and increased use of peer specialists, which allows DAV's strong support for this bill.

Please use the prepared letter to urge your representative to cosponsor H.R. 4635 and move it forward for final passage.

Thank you for your support of the Commander's Action Network.

Click the link below to log in and send your message:

<https://www.votervoicenet/BroadcastLinks/cje84w5P6qR4UvoEQwk1nA>

## Annual Gold Star Ladies Victorian Tea



Saturday, February 10, 2018, Gold Star Mothers, Wives, Children and Siblings will gather, with supporters of Gold Star Families, for the annual Ladies Victorian Tea at the historic Tea for Two Tea House in Dover, Delaware. Upon arrival each lady will draw a ticket for an important drawing later in the day.

This event has been a favorite of the ladies where we gather to honor and remember our fallen, but also to have warm fellowship. We learned the history of tea dating back over 5,000 years where legend has it that a Chinese emperor discovered it accidentally when some tea leaves blew into a pot of boiling water. Games kept us laughing as we discovered hidden artistic talents in our midst.

The ladies have enjoyed a festive Victorian tea with tea sandwiches. Each Gold Star Lady was presented with a presentation rose, gift bag with a personalized gift(s) that contained the name, rank and KIA/DOD of their loved one. Nobody went home empty handed, because every ticket drawn had a Victorian gift attached with it. The Gold Star Ladies expressed their continued appreciation for being honored and remembered, especially on Valentine's Day.



## GOLD STAR MEMORIAL



Abraham Lincoln was quoted as saying, "I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming." Our Gold Star Families live with the unimaginable loss of a life cut short. We may not know what to say, but we can show them how much we care. A committee, in conjunction with the Hershel "Woody" Williams Medal of Honor Foundation, has formed to build a Gold Star Memorial to be located at the Delaware River and Bay Authority's Veterans Memorial Park in New Castle. The site is a very fitting location where Delawareans join together annually on Memorial Day to honor and remember.

The local committee is focused on raising \$45,000 to fund the project. To date they have raised over \$10,000.00 of their target goal.

### Committee Members:

Charles Baldwin, Retired US Navy Command Master Chief  
 Judy C. Campbell, Gold Star Family  
 TJ Healy II, Producer/Director  
 Val Huot, Veterans Advocate  
 Billie M. Meeks, Gold Star Family  
 To include: Dan Alvaraz, Joe Gorman and Joyce Proctor



Half of the funds are needed prior to a groundbreaking dedication date, which the committee is hoping to have in mid-April. The target date for the Memorial unveiling is September 25, 2018, in time for the National Gold Star Mothers and Families Day, which is always the last Sunday of September.

If every Delawarean gave what they could, we would surpass our goal. To make a tax-deductible donation to this project visit: <http://hwwmohf.org/wilmington-de.html> or mail a check payable to HWWMOHF and notate "Delaware GSFMM" in the memo section and mail to:

The Hershel "Woody" Williams Medal of Honor Foundation or (HWWMOHF)  
 12123 Shelbyville Road, Suite 100  
 Louisville, KY 40243

For additional information, please feel free to contact:  
 Judy C. Campbell (302) 593-5991 / [HerdSis1@gmail.com](mailto:HerdSis1@gmail.com)  
 Chad Graham (859) 621-5531 / [chad.graham@hwwmohf.org](mailto:chad.graham@hwwmohf.org)



# GOLFER'S DREAM RAFFLE

BENEFITTING

## WARRIOR WEEKEND PROGRAM

*Providing Weekends of Rest for America's Wounded Heroes*

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**Cost Per Ticket \$20**

### FIRST PRIZE

**2 TICKETS TO THE FINAL ROUND OF THE  
2018 MASTERS TOURNAMENT INCLUDING  
HOSPITALITY PACKAGE, PLUS 2 NIGHTS LODGING**

**DATE: APRIL 8, 2018**

### SECOND PRIZE

**2 TICKETS TO THE FINAL 2 ROUNDS OF THE  
2018 U.S. OPEN INCLUDING  
HOSPITALITY PACKAGE AND 2 NIGHTS LODGING**

**DATES: JUNE 16 & 17, 2018**

### THIRD PRIZE

**2 TICKETS TO THE FINAL ROUND OF THE  
2018 PGA CHAMPIONSHIP INCLUDING  
HOSPITALITY PACKAGE AND 2 NIGHTS LODGING**

**DATE: AUGUST 19, 2018**

To purchase tickets on line,  
please go to

**[www.warriorweekend.net](http://www.warriorweekend.net)**

and click on fundraisers.

*only 5600 tickets will be sold*

**DRAWING WILL BE HELD**

**MARCH 1, 2018**

Must be 21 years of age to win

The Warrior Weekend Program is not associated  
with either the Wounded Warrior Project or the  
Warrior Weekend Foundation.



## Widener University Delaware Law School

The Veterans Law Clinic at Widener University's Delaware Law School is hosting three Military Monday events during the spring semester. Military Monday is a free program in which Clinic attorneys and law students meet with veterans (by appointment only) for a one-hour free consultation regarding veterans benefits appeals.

The program is held at the Starbucks in downtown Wilmington. Interested veterans can call 302-477-2090 for more information.



### Delaware Heritage and Education Foundation (Delaware Military Museum)

1st Regiment Rd  
Wilmington, DE 19808

For more information, please contact:  
Mr. Terry Wiley  
(302) 373-2434  
twileybg@aol.com



### Valued Veteran Program

Moose International has a program designated as "Valued Veterans". The Valued Veterans program allows Moose veterans to self-identify themselves to the organization so that Moose International and their Lodge can help supply them with, not only the recognition they deserve, but any support that they may require that may not be available to them elsewhere. The program is not intended to replace full-fledged veterans service organizations, but will provide recognition and support to veteran members.

As part of the program Moose lodges will designate a "Valued Veteran of the Year" to receive recognition for their service, not only to the Lodge, but to their community. This program is available at all Moose Lodges and Chapters.

East Sussex Moose Lodge 2542 in Frankford, DE has been a big supporter of this program and has supported the local chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America by hosting several of their family day picnics and by recognizing Nelson Kelly, President of that organization as the Lodges "Valued Veteran of the Year". Mr. Kelly was also recognized at the same presentation ceremony by the Delaware State Legislature for his on-going services to the community.

Moose International also has a program that waives all first-year dues and application fees for any new or re-enrolled members who are active military personnel or active first responders. The program also includes National Guard and Border Patrol members.

(John McDermott 12/2017)

*The Board Members for the Veterans' Awareness Center hoped everyone had the "Happiest of Holidays" and a "Great New Year!" We thank each of you for your participation whether you joined one of the Awareness Center Committees in 2017 or if you have been a member for several years.*

*The Delaware 2018 Stand Down "Kick Off" is scheduled for Thursday 25 January 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs and I look forward in planning the tenth annual Delaware Veterans' Stand Down, with you! If you would like to join the Planning Committee, the Committee meets the fourth Thursday of each month except for February. Please leave a message at the Awareness Ctr. 302-349-4898 or email: lbjnavcret@hotmail.com.*

*The tenth Stand Down event is for all Veterans, with a little more emphasis on the Homeless or "At Risk" Veteran. We want all Veterans to know that they are a part of a Team that truly cares about their issues and to share the Camaraderie!*

*To each of you, I thank you for your continued support and look forward to another successful Stand Down event!*

*Sincerely,  
Liz Byers-Jiron*



# Women's Military Tea

*We would like to invite all women veterans to this special event, celebrating women in the military.*

*Saturday  
March 24th @ 2pm*

*R.S.V.P. by March 12th  
Liz Byers-Jiron  
302-349-4898  
LBJNAVCRET@hotmail.com*

*DELVETS Post 2  
720 Pear St.  
Dover, DE 19904*



Delaware Co-Producers T.J. Healy and Katharine Gilbert launched the Veterans Story Project- USA Vietnam Veterans- Delaware Tour November 11th, 2017 – Veterans Day in Delaware. Following the renowned Voices of War WW II - The Series, created by Healy and now Delaware Governor John Carney, Healy is committed to continuing his digital oral histories program for Korea and Vietnam veterans. Healy, a Navy veteran, knows the importance of capturing the sight and sound of first person accounts as he stated the veterans we interview “... also speak for those veterans who cannot.”



Asked about the digital oral history project, Gilbert stated Our digital oral history project ‘USA Vietnam Veterans – Delaware Tour’ is dedicated to preserving the accounts and experiences of our brave Korea and Vietnam veterans. It is the compelling nature of these experiences that will capture the attention of a national audience, veterans and civilians alike.

As the Official Partner of the Delaware Public Archives, The Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration and The Library of Congress - Veterans History Project - Healy and Gilbert were recently featured on Delaware WHYY as a local tie to the Ken Burns Vietnam War program.

Over the next year, the Veterans Story Project team will travel the State of Delaware in a bus, equipped for interviews, but also dedicated as a resource center with up-to-date information and material (Jobs and Education) for all veterans. Gilbert’s goal for the team is to complete over one hundred Korea and four hundred Vietnam veteran interviews within that time.

The Veterans Story Project will donate the collection to the Delaware Public Archives, Veterans History Project - Library of Congress and the Vietnam Veterans Education Center in Washington, D.C. The complete Collection, all digital oral histories and transcripts, will be available to all United States Service Academies and for use in classrooms throughout the United States. (For further information, please call (302)644-4600 or email: [contact@veteransstoryproject.com](mailto:contact@veteransstoryproject.com))

**Let Their Voices Be Heard...**

**Veterans Story Project: KOREA and VIETNAM VETERANS – DELAWARE TOUR**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Today’s Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County: NC \_\_\_ KENT \_\_\_ SUSSEX \_\_\_

Phone (home/cell) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**SERVICE HISTORY (KOREA \_\_\_ VIETNAM \_\_\_)**

Branch of Service: ARMY \_\_\_ NAVY \_\_\_ MARINE \_\_\_ AIR FORCE \_\_\_ CG \_\_\_ ARMY NG \_\_\_ AIR NG \_\_\_

Date entered: \_\_\_\_\_ Date discharged: \_\_\_\_\_ Highest rank held: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit/Ship(s) assigned to: \_\_\_\_\_

What wars, theaters, campaigns, or locations were you in? \_\_\_\_\_

*Please attach additional sheet(s) if necessary.*

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

**ARTIFACTS:** Do you have any photographs, letters or documents from your service? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

**ORAL HISTORY:** Would you be willing to do an interview on video for the project? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

*If you have any questions, please call: 302.644.4600 or email: [contact@veteransstoryproject.com](mailto:contact@veteransstoryproject.com)*

*When completed, mail to: VETERANS STORY PROJECT, PO Box 15, LEWES, DE 19958*

**<https://www.veteransstoryproject.com>**



The effect of military service can be profound and lasting. There are a number of financial, social and health issues that result from military service. Some Wounded Warriors and Veterans who have a compensation rating of 100% P&T are unaware that Social Security may expedite the processing of their disability claims.

Benefits available through Social Security are different than those from the Department of Veterans Affairs and require a separate application.

The expedited process is used for military service members who become disabled while on active military service on or after October 1, 2001, regardless of where the disability occurs.

Starting March 17, 2014, veterans who have a VA compensation rating of 100% permanent and total (P&T) may receive expedited processing of applications for Social Security disability benefits.

Both Social Security and VA pay disability benefits. However, their programs, processes and criteria for receiving benefits are very different. A VA compensation rating of 100% Permanent and Total does not guarantee that you will receive Social Security disability benefits. To be approved for Social Security benefits, you must meet Social Security's definition of "disability." To be found disabled:

**What do I need to know about the VA & Social Security programs?**

- You must be unable to do substantial work because of your medical condition (s); and
- Your medical condition (s) must have lasted, or be expected to last, at least one year or to result in death.

If you receive VA compensation, this will not affect your Social Security benefits.

Even active duty military who continue to receive pay while in a hospital or on medical leave should consider applying for disability benefits if they are unable to work due to a disabling condition. Active duty status and receipt of military pay does not necessarily prevent payment of Social Security disability benefits. Although a person cannot receive Social Security disability benefits while engaging in substantial work for pay or profit, receipt of military payments should never stop someone from applying for disability benefits from Social Security.

For those who return home with injuries, Social Security is a resource they can turn to for disability benefits. Social Security's Wounded Warriors website is at [www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors).

With over 80 years of experience and compassionate service, Social Security is proud to support our veterans and active duty members of the military. Both today and tomorrow these heroes can count on us when they need their earned benefits.

**For more information please visit:**

<https://www.ssa.gov/people/veterans/>

**Call or visit your local Social Security Office:**

**1-800-772-1213**



Veterans United Outreach of Delaware has become Delaware's newest Veterans 501(C)(3) tax deductible charity. Since its founding at Dover Days in 2001 Veterans United Outreach of Delaware has been a committee of Vietnam Veterans of America, Dover Chapter 850. We have separated from the Chapter 850 for a two primary reasons: to eliminate restrictions on how the Outreach Team operates that existed by adhering to the national by-laws of Vietnam Veterans of America; to allow us to freely recruit volunteers and team members from all veterans' organizations. While Veterans United Outreach as an entity is separating from Chapter 850 all of our veteran team members remain loyal active members of the VVA Chapter.

The Outreach networks with federal, state and local agencies and coordinates with all veteran organizations in Delaware. It has expanded from Kent County to the entire state of Delaware. Through it all we are constantly changing and growing.

We are a veteran's outreach with a foundation in God, Country, and Freedom, to which we credit the sacrifices of our active duty military, our veterans, and their families.

We have a mobile educational unit, with an extensive library of information for all veterans and their family members.

*Mike Snyder: 302-678-1285*

*Gary Kalmus: gmkskier@gmail.com*

**DCVA: VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS**

**New Castle County:** (Currently vacant)  
Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear, DE  
Monday – Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
*Please contact Josh Matticks at the Dover office.*

**Kent County:** Josh Matticks  
DCVA office in Dover, DE  
Monday–Friday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
*Please call for an appointment: (302) 257-3119*

**Sussex County:** 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) 993-7255

**2018 Quarterly Scheduled Post Visits:****Friday, January 5, 2018:**

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

**Friday, January 12, 2018**

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

**Friday, February 2, 2018:**

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

**Friday, February 9, 2018:**

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

**Friday, March 9, 2018:**

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

**Thursday, March 15, 2018:**

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

**Thursday, March 29, 2018:**

Post #19, Laurel, DE  
10:00 AM- 1:00 PM: (302) 875-9948

**Disabled American Veterans:**

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 8:00-11:00 AM (*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)**

VA Regional Office  
1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 26  
Wilmington, DE 19805 (302) 993-7252/7253

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

Dover CBOC: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. = 1PM – 4PM

Georgetown CBOC : 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs. = 1PM – 4PM

**Purple Heart NSO (MOPH)**

Cheryl Yard, Nat'l 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 – 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday             | 8:30-11:30 AM  |
| Dover DOL                                  | (302) 993-7260 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday                   | 1:30-4:00 PM   |
| Blue Hen VFW Post 6483                     | (302) 422-4412 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> 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's**

**DELAWARE JOINING FORCES**

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



*Please visit our website  
[www.delaware.gov/djf/](http://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:**

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



**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 -CBOC**

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

**Georgetown VA –CBOC**

21748 Roth Ave  
Georgetown, DE 19947  
(800) 461-8262 x 2300

**Commissioners' Organizations:**

William Farley (Chairman).....Marine Corps League  
Angela Showell (Vice Chair)..At Large-*DE Nat'l Guard*  
Charles T. Armbruster.....American Legion  
Charles W. Baldwin.....VVA  
Eugene Bradley.....AMVETS  
Edward Johnson.....KWVA  
Paul Lardizzone ..... DAV  
Anna Lopez.....At Large-*DELVETS*  
Richard Magner.....MOPH  
William "Bill" McMullen.....AFSA  
Mark Newman.....VFW  
Barry Newstadt.....At Large-*JWW*  
Dr. Ronald Sarg.....MOAA  
Earl E. Seppala..... At Large-*MOWW*  
Jason Stewart.....At Large

**Veterans Outreach Programs:**

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

**SSVF: Supportive Services for Veteran Families****Connections:**

(302) 250-5868 New Castle Co:  
(302) 518-5338 Kent Co. - Mindy Bacchus  
(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

**Delaware Veterans Awareness Center:**

Liz Byers: (302) 349-4898 [Veteransawarenesscenter.org](http://Veteransawarenesscenter.org)  
*Veterans' Stand Down \* Military Women's Tea*  
*"Give a Vet a Smile" (Dental Program)*

**Retired Activities Office:**

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

**Retired Navy Activities Affairs Office:**

Naval & Marine Corps Reserve Ctr. - (866) 827-5672

**Veterans Justice Outreach Program:** 302-468-5670

**Veterans Treatment Court Program:**

Assist justice-involved veterans with mental health & substance abuse issues to obtain necessary services and reduce recidivism.  
**302-255-0646 (New Castle Co.) 302-735-1915 (Kent Co.)**

**Widener Law Clinic:** Pro Bono Representation for Veterans  
302-477-2090 [Delaware.widener.edu](http://Delaware.widener.edu)

**Veteran Organizations:****Air Force Sergeants Association**

Alexander Collazo, MSgt.....(302) 677-5264

**American Legion**

Richard "Ric" Santos..... (302) 628-5221

**AMVETS**

Eugene Bradley..... (302) 945-2170

**Colonial Paralyzed Veterans of America**

Ron Hoskins..... (302) 861-6671

**Delaware Veterans (DELVETS)**

Post 1.....(302) 475-9891

Post 2.....(302) 674-9956

**Delaware Veterans Coalition**

Dave Skocik..... (302) 736-8500

E-mail: [delawareveteranscoalition@gmail.com](mailto:delawareveteranscoalition@gmail.com)

**Disabled American Veterans**

Paul Lardizzone..... (302) 697-9061

**First State Military Women Warriors**

Paula Witcher..... (302) 505-0849

**Fleet Reserve Association**

Philip Pushel..... (302) 322-0681

**Gold Star Families**

Judy Campbell..... (302) 593-5991

**Gold Star Mothers**

Judith Faunce..... (302) 475-8272

**40 & 8**

Eugene "Chip" Rosan..... (302) 678-8077

**Jewish War Veterans**

Len Markovitz..... (302) 234-4785

**Korean War Veterans Association**

Edward Johnson..... (302) 933-0228

**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**

Gary "Mo" Morris.....(302) 422-6760

**Military Order of the World Wars**

Earl Seppala..... (302) 239-0641

E-mail: [eseppala@aol.com](mailto:eseppala@aol.com)

**Nat'l Association of Black Veterans**

Nolan S. Lewis..... (302) 345-6911

**The Reserve Officers Association**

LTC Richard Chappell (Ret)..... (302) 234-1418

E-mail: [rwc49ps54ud@comcast.net](mailto:rwc49ps54ud@comcast.net)

**Veterans of Foreign Wars**

Paul Phillips Jr..... (302) 656-5022

**Vietnam Veterans of America**

Paul Davis..... (302) 697-8384





DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Certificate of Appreciation Application

Veterans Name: \_\_\_\_\_
First Middle Last

Address: \_\_\_\_\_
Street City State Zip

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work or Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Date Entered Service \_\_\_\_\_ Date Separated \_\_\_\_\_ Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Discharge \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Rank Achieved \_\_\_\_\_
(Only required if requesting rank on certificate)

Is Veteran Deceased? Yes or No (please circle one)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: A current resident of the State of Delaware or resident when he or she entered the Armed Forces of the United States and honorably discharged.

Please submit this application with a copy of Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, (DD-214) to:

Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs
Robbins Building
802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100
Dover, DE 19904
Phone: (302) 739-2792 or 1-800-344-9900 (in State only)

Signature of Veteran/spouse or next of kin \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name and Relationship if not veteran \_\_\_\_\_

Provide alternate address if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Please anticipate 2 to 3 weeks in receiving your Certificate

TO BE COMPLETED BY DCVA: \_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_ Pending \_\_\_ Disapproved

Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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](http://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”



DCVA 20-01-02-18-01-01

