



JUNE 2024

Editor: Donna Schilling  
Reporters: Numerous

## MEMBERSHIP:

### 1<sup>st</sup> READING

#### Present:

Aaron M Metzner – Air Force/Army *[active duty]*

#### NOT Present

Raymond L. Kern – Navy *[active duty]*

Paul Swezey – Navy *[active duty]*

William DeJesus – Air Force *[active duty]*

Logan E Malloy – Air Force/Army *[active duty]*

### 2<sup>nd</sup> READING

#### Present:

Ryan Michele Rustark – Army

#### NOT Present:

William J. Barnett – Navy

William J. McBride – Navy

General Membership Meeting  
**First Wednesday of every Month. Time: 7:30pm**  
Please try to attend!

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT:

### DEATHS:

**Dave Price** Life Assoc. joined 5/1/72 passed 5/24/24

Sue Gorman's dad Bill Raftovich passed 3/1

Jen McKelvy's mother Barbara Boyd passed 4/23

Rick Gilbert's mother passed

**Gerry Gellar** former member passed away

*The Post sends our sincerest condolences to our members for their recently departed family members.*

### ILLNESS:

*The Post wishes a speedy recovery to everyone who may be under the weather.*

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello Post Members,

What a proud Memorial Day weekend for Del Vets. Our ceremony had a lot of participants with different roles and it's impressive to watch when it all comes together. We recognized Del Vets Past Chaplain Joe Reardon for his service in the U.S. Army Ordnance Corp during the invasion of Okinawa in WWII and his



many contributions as a dedicated member of Del Vets. The Reardon Family was very moved by our presentation. Our guest speaker, Col Vincent Ciuccoli, was personable, professional, and presented a very serious message about keeping our younger citizens engaged to protect our freedom. Sarah Freville did a beautiful job on her Art Contest entry explaining how much she learned about Memorial Day over the years. Sarah's mom and grandparents were proud as could be and there may have even been a tear or two. Thank you to our Memorial Day Committee and everyone involved. As good as it was, it's never perfect. We left you in the blazing sun a little too long and our pool almost opened on time (that's another story for another time).

We had a great turnout for our grave visitations on Sunday morning. This is one tradition we must continue to strengthen since our list of deceased members seems to grow faster every year. A sincere thank you to Gerry Stauffer who has been overseeing our grave visitations for years. All of the grave sites get visited year after year, there's always coffee and donuts in the morning, lunch is always ready when we return, and we never run out of flags. Well done, Gerry. We had some rain on Monday but that didn't dampen the fun in the lounge. Bruce Donnelly worked his last shift as a bartender at Del Vets and retired in front of a packed house. We had lots of funny stories, a few words of wisdom from Bruce, a tasty buffet from our kitchen and of course an Irish toast.

There was no doubt that Bruce was feeling a lot of love on Monday. You will be missed Bruce, and we wish you all the best and hope all your dreams come true. If you haven't heard, Erin Doyle-Facciolo has

stepped down as our Bar Committee chair. Don't worry, you'll still get a healthy dose of wit and sarcasm when she is behind the bar. She chaired the Bar Committee for over 5 years and will be sorely missed by our bartenders, our Bar Committee, Post Leadership and especially this Commander. Thank you, Erin, for all of the many contributions you made to our bar and our Post.

We will continue with all of our usual Pool and Post events in June but please take a look at a couple of new activities that should be lots of fun. Our Honor Guard is hosting a Bourbon Tasting on Sunday, June 9th at 3 pm in our hall. Family and friends are welcome. Our kitchen will be putting out some heavy appetizers, the bar will be open for other beverages with one free drink ticket, there will be a 50/50 and some great door prizes will be awarded to the lucky ticket holders. Event tickets are available from our bartender. Hope to see you there. On Saturday, June 15th we're going bowling. We are resurrecting an old, very popular tradition here at Del Vets. Tickets for the bowling outing include a bus ride to and from the bowling alley, beverages on the bus and 2 hours of bowling with lunch and awards to follow in our hall. I celebrate every time the ball doesn't end up in the gutter, so you don't need to throw strikes to have fun with this crew. See the bartender for tickets. Friends and family are welcome for this one too.

Summer is here! Crank up the fun factor but please be careful out there.

**Bob Onorato, Commander**

## WAC's

Our last WACs meeting of the 2023-2024 year was on Tuesday, May 7. This year the WACs donated \$12,965.97 in monetary and non-monetary contributions to over 25 organizations. 57% of our donations were to Veteran-related causes. This is the highest cash total the WACs have donated (\$11,650)!

Thank you to all our members who pitched in to make it our best year yet for donations!

Our End of Year Party was held on Friday, May 17th. The cocktail party theme was such a hit last year that we decided to stick with it. The food was amazing, and it was great to see so many of our members and their guests. Special thanks to Andi and Art Chernekoff, Sylvia Briscoe, John Ratkevic, Jon Beeson, John DeScioli, and the rest of the kitchen crew and servers! They went above and beyond to make it a wonderful evening.

We're getting a head start for next year throughout

the summer we will be collecting hygiene items to benefit Communities in Schools of Delaware at Gauger-Cobb Middle School. There are flyers up with details and lists of what items are needed. There will be boxes for donations in the lounge and by the pool throughout the summer months.

Hope everyone has a wonderful summer, and we'll see you on September 3rd for our first meeting!

**Lauren Cullumber, WAC President**

## HONOR GUARD

Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> the Honor Guard will be hosting a bourbon tasting event in the hall. \$45 ticket includes light hors d'oeuvre, informational explanation on what makes bourbon unique from other whiskey and the distilling process, information, and background of the five locally owned and operated (PA/DE) Distilleries and their bourbons that we will be tasting.

50/50 and raffle tickets will be sold

Contact with questions:

Sean Maclaren at [smaclaren912@gmail.com](mailto:smaclaren912@gmail.com)

**Vince Knoll**

## DEL VETS 2024 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Congratulations to our 2024 DelVets Scholarship awardees. Each is receiving a \$2000 scholarship.

**Isabella Chermak**, Daughter of Post member Michael Chermak, will be graduating from Brandywine High School. She will be attending Cornell University where she plans to study architecture.

**Paige Keeley**, granddaughter of Post member Richard Angelini, will be graduating from Sun Valley High School. She will be attending West Virginia University where she plans to study to become a Forensic Examiner.



Flag Day Ceremony

6pm in the parking lot



**DVETS RAFFLE  
7:30**

Wednesday's  
12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, & 26<sup>th</sup>



**ENTERTAINMENT  
7:30 – 10:30**

Saturday 15 Benny, Bill & Boy on box  
Saturday 22 Jerry Lee Watkin

**COUNTRY LINE DANCING  
7:00**



7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>  
\$8 cover



**BELMONT STAKES**

Saturday June 8  
Time TBD

**SPORTS**

**Del Vets Baseball Team**

DelVets Baseball @ Frawley Stadium Jun16 @10am  
more details in weekly blaster

**Del Vets Swim Meets  
Home games**



**June**  
Tuesday 18  
Thursday 27  
**July**  
Tuesday 9

**Marty "DOC" Londergan Golf Outing**

Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Rock Manor Golf Club

There will be a shotgun start at 8:00 am. The format will be "Superball". There is a signup sheet at the bar, please be neat when signing. The cost per player is \$90 and is due by July 12<sup>th</sup>. Pay at the bar and get a receipt. Food, drinks, and prizes back at the Post.

**CORNHOLE LEAGUE**



Monday nights @ 6:00  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

**LADIES SHUFFLEBOARD LEAGUE**



Monday nights @ 7:30  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>



WHO'S UP FOR SOME SATURDAY FUN  
WITH YOUR DEL VETS FRIENDS?

**LETS GO BOWLING!**

ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!!

**WHEN & WHERE:**  
SATURDAY, JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> FROM  
11am-1pm @ PLEASANT HILL  
LANES  
**MEET:** POST PARKING LOT  
AT 10:15, BUS LEAVES AT  
10:30

40 SPOTS AVAILABLE / COST  
**\$30 PER PERSON**  
SEE BARTENDER FOR  
TICKETS  
4 PEOPLE PER LANE (LANE  
SIGN-UP SHEET IN LOBBY)

- COST INCLUDES:**
- BUS TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE BOWLING ALLEY + 2 HRS OF BOWLING
  - BEER ON THE BUS
  - 1 DRINK TICKET AND LUNCH IN THE POST HALL UPON OUR RETURN
  - PRIZES FOR CATEGORY WINNERS

- PLEASE NOTE AT THE BOWLING ALLEY:**
- BOWLING SHOES NOT INCLUDED, RENTALS AVAILABLE AT COST OF \$3.50
  - SOFT DRINKS, SNACKS AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE



\*Last Day for ticket sales is Saturday, June 8th

\*All tickets must be sold to cover the cost of the event

**BEER AND BREAKFAST WITH BRYCE  
Phillies are in London on June 9<sup>th</sup>**

Bar will Open at 9:30am  
Game starts at 10:10  
Sausage and Gravy \$6  
Breakfast sandwiches choice of bacon, sausage or  
scrapple \$6  
Bloody Mary or Mimosa \$3



## JULY 4<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATION

Picnic at 12pm

More details in the weekly blaster

### DEL VETS ONLINE STORE

Del Vets now has an online store available to all

<http://delvets.qbstores.com/>



Some of you may prefer an alternate logo, such as the Bartenders have been wearing, please see Jim Durborow at the Post to order.

## JUNE MEETINGS/EVENTS

|           |    |      |                            |
|-----------|----|------|----------------------------|
| Monday    | 3  | 6    | Cornhole                   |
|           |    | 7:30 | Ladies Shuffleboard        |
| Wednesday | 5  | 7:30 | General Membership mtg     |
| Friday    | 7  | 7    | Country Line dancing       |
| Saturday  | 8  | TBD  | Belmont Stakes             |
| Sunday    | 9  | 9    | Breakfast w/Bryce & Phills |
|           |    | 3    | HG Bourbon Tasting         |
| Monday    | 10 | 6    | Cornhole                   |
|           |    | 7:30 | Ladies Shuffleboard        |
| Tuesday   | 11 | 7    | Honor Guard meeting        |
| Wednesday | 12 | 7:30 | DVets Raffle               |
| Friday    | 14 | 6    | Flag Day ceremony          |
| Saturday  | 15 | 10   | DV Bowling                 |
|           |    | 7:30 | Benny Bill & Boy           |
| Saturday  | 16 |      | FATHER'S DAY               |
|           |    | 10   | DV baseball @ Frawley      |
| Monday    | 17 | 6    | Cornhole                   |
|           |    | 7:30 | Ladies Shuffleboard        |
| Tuesday   | 18 | 7    | E Board meeting            |
|           |    | ?    | DV Home Swim meet          |
| Wednesday | 19 | 7:30 | DVets Raffle               |
| Friday    | 21 | 7    | Country Line dancing       |
| Saturday  | 22 | 7:30 | Jerry Lee Watkins          |
| Monday    | 24 | 6    | Cornhole                   |
|           |    | 7:30 | Ladies Shuffleboard        |
| Wednesday | 26 | 7:30 | DVets Raffle               |
| Thursday  | 27 | ?    | DV Home Swim meet          |

## JULY

|           |    |      |                    |
|-----------|----|------|--------------------|
| Wednesday | 3  | 7:30 | Gen membership mtg |
| Thursday  | 4  | 12   | Picnic             |
| Tuesday   | 9  | 7    | Honor Guard mtg    |
|           |    | ?    | DV Home Swim meet  |
| Tuesday   | 23 | 7    | E-Board meeting    |

*Donna Schilling, Editor*

If you would like anything printed in the newsletter, please send an e-mail by the 20th of each month.

[dschill925@gmail.com](mailto:dschill925@gmail.com)



# Hygiene Goods Drive

To Benefit Communities In Schools DE  
at Gauger-Cobb Middle School

**WACs are collecting the following items at our  
End of Year Party and throughout the summer!**

**Deodorant**

**Pads**

**Underwear (Boys & Girls\*)**

**Socks (Boys\*)**

**Bar Soap**

**Toothpaste**

**Toothbrush**

**Wipes**

**Hand Sanitizers**

**Shampoo**

**Lotion**

\*Boys & Girls Sizes 8-14 or adult sizes are all welcome!



DEWARE VETERANS POST #1  
 2535 VETERANS DRIVE  
 WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19810  
 Phone: (302) 475-9891

[www.DelVets.com](http://www.DelVets.com)

## 2024 OFFICERS & "E" BOARD

| <u>Office</u>                | <u>Name</u>             |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Commander                    | Bob Onorato (CG)-(PC)   |
| Vice-Commander               | John Pastor (A)         |
| Secretary                    | Mark Schilling (N)-(PC) |
| Treasurer                    | Michael Janes (A)       |
| Treasurer-Elect - Ex-Officio | Ed Herman (A)           |
| Sergeant-at-Arms             | Bill Allison (A)        |

| <u>Executive Board Members</u> | <u>Name</u>     | <u>Year</u> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| PRESIDENT                      | John Pastor (A) | 2024        |
| MEMBER                         | Bob Morris (A)  | 2025        |
| MEMBER                         | Jim Hague (NG)  | 2025        |
| MEMBER                         | Vince Knoll (A) | 2024        |
| MEMBER                         | Ed Brinkman (A) | 2024        |
| MEMBER                         | Roger Lee (AF)  | 2024        |

## 2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

| <u>COMMITTEE</u>                   | <u>Name</u>                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| BAR                                |                                     |
| BY-LAWS                            | Ex-Officio Mark Schilling (N)-(PC)  |
| CHAPLAIN                           | Randy Scott (M)                     |
| ENTERTAINMENT                      | Vince Vandenaab                     |
| FINANCE                            | Bob Morris (A)                      |
| GROUNDs                            | Bill Carpenter                      |
| HONOR GUARD                        | Vinny Knoll (A)/Sean MacLaren (ANG) |
| HOUSE                              | Chip Roop                           |
| INSURANCE ADVISOR                  | Webb Bell II (AF)-(PC)              |
| KITCHEN                            | Andi Chernekoff / John Ratkevic     |
| MEMBERSHIP                         | Ex-Officio Jim Biddle (AF)          |
| POST ACCOUNTANT                    | Vince Knoll (A)                     |
| POST ACCOUNTANT                    | John Descioli                       |
| POST ACCOUNTANT                    | Bob Morris (A)                      |
| POOL                               | Shawn Coho (NG)                     |
| PROGRESSIVE RAFFLE                 | Art Chernekoff                      |
| PUBLIC RELATIONS                   | Florie Henry                        |
| PURCHASING AGENT (Liquor-Supplies) | Jen Avery                           |
| RENTALS                            | John Descioli                       |
| SPORTS                             | Mike Buono                          |
| VETERAN'S AFFAIRS                  | Rick Rambo (N)                      |
| WAC's                              | Lauren Cullumber                    |
| WEB SITE                           | Denise Bernstein                    |

### HOME, INC.

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Frank Dobson (A)                | 2023 - 2026 |
| Jerry Stauffer (N)              | 2023 - 2024 |
| Rich Delitta (A)                | 2023 - 2024 |
| Bob Bostedo (A)                 | 2023 - 2025 |
| Jim Brannon (NG)-(PC) President | 2023 - 2025 |

### Newsletter Staff:

**EDITOR:** Donna Schilling

**REPORTER:** Numerous

**PRINTER:** Jim Biddle (AF)

**EMAIL:** Denise Bernstein

### State Board of Directors

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Joe Rodriguez (A)(PC) Commander | 2023 - 2025 |
| John "Moon" Riley (M)-at Large  | 2023 - 2025 |
| Bill Frank (A) -at Large        | 2021 - 2025 |
| Jack McKelvey (AF)              | 2023 - 2024 |

### Service Designations

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| A = Army            | AF = Air Force      |
| N = Navy            | CG = Coast Guard    |
| M = Marines         | NG = National Guard |
| PC = Past Commander |                     |

Delaware Veterans Post #1 Member of the Year 2023

**Harvey Freville**

Commander Service Awards Year 2023

**Mark Parson - John Ratkevic - Denise Bernstein**