



MAY 2026

**Editor: Donna Schilling
Reporters: Numerous**

MEMBERSHIP

1st READING

Present:

Mark J Roberts - Navy

NOT Present

Charles McKee – Navy/Army
Nolan S Lewis – Army
Maria C Puka – Nav7 (Cadet)

2nd READING

Present:

James Elliott - Army
Daniel E Vink – Army/Navy

NOT Present:

Rebecca L Gargan - Air Force

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

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT:

DEATHS:

Wilmer Hunter – Army – joined 1/09 passed 3/20/26

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

ILLNESS:

Anna Lee is in the hospital

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

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello Post Members,

Where has the time gone. We are preparing to dive into May next week and with Memorial Day fast approaching it leaves little time for breathing room.

If you are not aware our pool cover is off, the pool has been cleaned and is filled. Our pool committee is hard at work getting things ready downstairs for what I believe will be a great summer.



Our recent bowling trip was another fun time; the only requirement is to survive the bus trip down and back! Our dedicated bus driver Roger Lee once again took care of us, occasionally providing some guidance from the sidelines. I want to thank our committee, Leah Bell, Donna Schilling and Brian Thomas.

On another note, I had the distinct privilege of traveling to Norfolk, Va. With several of our senior veteran members to be present for the commissioning of the Navy's latest warship, The USS Barnum, DDG 124. There was some nostalgia for me as this was my home port for three and a half years. I will say it was a little rough being the only sailor with six marines, God help me! In the end it was a great time and an experience we will not forget.

Last, I want to thank one of our members, Nick DiPinto for donating a picture of the Vietnam Veterans Wall, which is now displayed in the Post lounge, thank you Nick for such a nice gift, it is greatly appreciated.

Well folks that does it, please keep an eye on upcoming events, especially the Post cleanup. Remember, step up, get involved. Spring has sprung and I don't know about you, but the recent burst of warm weather has me looking forward to some outdoor activities.

Mark Schilling, Commander

WAC's

We are about to wrap up our year, but we had one last fundraiser in April. On April 26, the WAC participated in the Spring Craft Fair with a Bake Sale chaired by Laura Wyatt. Thanks to our volunteers who



manned the sale, Kathy Edwards, Theresa Flynn and Patty Rosbrow, and all who made baked goods! Thanks also to our WAC members who volunteered in the kitchen, helping to make this day a success for both the WACs and the Post!

This month we will hold our end of year celebration on Friday, May 15. This is always a great opportunity to socialize and reflect on all our accomplishments this year! Once again, we will have heavy hors d'oeuvres, stations, and cocktail specials! We will have a sign-up sheet at our next meeting, on Tuesday, May 5 at 7:15.

Hope to see you then!

Lauren Cullumber, WAC President

HONOR GUARD

Next meeting: May 13th @ 7pm

With the Memorial Day ceremony getting closer make sure you have a beret so you can be in full uniform. Anyone who cares to be in the honor guard be advised that is now part of class A and B uniform. If you don't have one yet see the HG commander.

The final Honor Guard meeting before the ceremony will be on Tuesday 12 May. I hope to have most assignments finalized by then.

Regards, Bill Redheffer

OTHER PASSINGS

David Swayze – son of Charter member William Swayze



Saturday 23rd Memorial Service 10:30am
Pool Opens 12:00pm

Sunday 24th Grave Visitations 9am
More details in the weekly E-blast



PIZZA & WINGS

Thursday 7th & 21st
5 – 7 pm



DVETS RAFFLE

Wednesday's
7:15
13th, 20th, & 27th



CORNHOLE (6:00) SHUFFLEBOARD (7:30)

Monday's
4th, 11th, 18th & 25th



DEL VETS SWIM TEAM CAR WASH

Saturday, May 16th
Time: TBD
EXXON at Foulk & Silverside Rd

HORSE RACES

Kentucky Derby Saturday, May 2nd
Preakness Saturday, May 16th
Belmont Stakes June 6th



SPORTS CORNER BY SAM MINUTOLA

Brayden Coho (7), son of Post members Mr. & Mrs. Shawn Coho, had a big day playing for Brandywine LL Team: Expos. Playing third base, he turned an unassisted triple play: he caught a pop fly, then tagged third base before the runner from third could get back and then tagged out the runner from second who had also advanced. Later, he recorded an unassisted double play—catching another pop fly and tagging out the runner who strayed off second. Brayden also went 3-for-3 with three singles.

Emily Coho (14) is a competitive cheerleader for the Brandywine Warriors, football program. She is headed to Florida Wednesday, to compete in her fourth national title.

Concord HS baseball players; **Jake Kelly** pitched 5 innings with 4 strikeouts. **Josh Quinn** had a big day hitting 3 triples and 4 runs batted in.

Pat Fyock, who also coaches the Springer Middle school softball with his daughter are off to another banner season. Their team is currently 3-0, scoring 57 runs and allowing only one run so far.

That all for this week. I'd like to hear from some other post members that have kids or grandkid's who participate in sports, such as baseball, soccer, golf, swim team, etc. They need our support.

MEMORIAL DAY PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST

Every family has a relative or a friend that has worn a United States military uniform and made the sacrifices needed to protect our freedom. Parents and grandparents – here's your chance to teach your children about our heroes. Let them share those stories with our Del Vets family by participating in our Memorial Day Patriotic Art Contest, one of the highlights of our Memorial Day Program. The Memorial Day Committee invites all children and grandchildren of Del Vets Post members and all children of Del Vets pool members (ages 8 to 18) to submit a patriotic drawing, sketch, photograph, poem, essay, or short story. It's a great way to learn about Memorial Day and all entries will be eligible for a prize.

Entries should be submitted to Vice Commander John Pastor or Bob Onorato at the Del Vets Post on Wednesday May 20th and Thursday May 21st from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. Please include your name, age, address, and phone number on the back of your artwork. No identifying marks should be visible on the front. You must be present for our Memorial Day Ceremony on Saturday May 23rd and present your artwork to the audience to receive a prize. Please contact John at 302-345-6697 or Bob at 302-220-1499 if you have any questions.

MEMORIAL DAY GRAVES VISITATION

Every year, on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, the Post—along with members and friends—visits local cemeteries to place flags on graves and pay tribute to members who have passed away. We will meet at the Post at 8am for coffee and donuts and a brief overview of how to conduct the visitation. Teams will then be assigned, and cemetery lists and maps will be distributed.

A little history of this Post activity: Many years ago, Jack Houck oversaw Graves Visitation Day. Over time, members such as Sam Minutola and Mark Schilling would gather volunteers, hand out paper lists with cemetery locations and the names of deceased members in each cemetery and then head out. If a grave could not be located, they would stop at the cemetery office to obtain the correct information.

After one year of doing Grace Lawn Cemetery, Sam and Mark were back at the Post for a drink and talked about how the process could be improved. They agreed that if something happened to Jack, the information could be lost. Sam asked Jack for the paper notes they had been using and then enlisted his IT contact at the credit union—Jack Hiner, also a Post member—to build a computer database of cemeteries and a deceased member list. Jack Hiner visited each cemetery and grave site to record the information we still use today, and he contacted out-of-state cemeteries to collect their details. From that data, he created the cemetery maps and lists, produced a CD, and passed the information to Jim Ebridght, who has maintained and enhanced the lists and maps over the years. Jim prints the maps and lists for Graves Visitation and created and updates three additional cemetery manuals that are maintained by three other members. Another key contributor is Jerry Stauffer, who orders the flags, organizes team clipboards, and visits between 10 to 13 out-of-state cemeteries before Memorial Day Weekend to place flags for members not buried in Delaware. Jerry also coordinates the bronze name plates for the memorial tables under the flagpole.

These are just a few of the people involved in Graves Visitation and how it began. Many others work behind the scenes to make this activity successful, even though you may not see or hear about their contributions. Graves Visitation is a post-wide function, and everyone is invited to participate—members (Veterans and Associates) and friends of the Post. Thank you to Sam Minutola for sharing the history of Graves Visitation. If anyone would like to start early and visit a few out-of-state cemeteries, Jerry Stauffer and Bob Morris will be covering some local Pennsylvania cemeteries on May 12th and 13th. Please meet at the Post at 8am.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the Post Bulletin Board for the Memorial Day Weekend Graves Visitation. Please sign up (so we know how many gallons of coffee to get that morning).

DEL VETS ONLINE STORE

Del Vets now has an online store available

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



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

MAY MEETINGS/EVENTS

Saturday	2	4	Kentucky Derby
Monday	4	5:30	Mess Hall open
		6	Cornhole
		7:30	Shuffleboard
Tuesday	5	7:15	WACS meeting
Wednesday	6	7:30	Gen Membership mtg
Thursday	7	5	Pizza & Wings
Saturday	9	8:30	Spring Clean up
Monday	11	5:30	Mess Hall open
		6	Cornhole & Shuffleboard
		7:30	Shuffleboard
Tuesday	12	10	Blood Drive
		7	Honor Guard meeting
Wednesday	13	7:30	DVETS Raffle
Thursday	14	7:30	DV Golf Tournament
Friday	15	6	WACS End-of-year dinner
Saturday	16	TBD	Swim Team Car Wash
		4	Preakness
Monday	18	5:30	Mess Hall open
		6	Cornhole
		7:30	Shuffleboard
Tuesday	19	7	E-Board meeting
Wednesday	20	7:30	DVETS Raffle
Thursday	21	5	Pizza & Wings
Saturday	23	10:30	Memorial Day Ceremony
		12:00	Picnic & Pool opening
Sunday	24	9	Grave Visitations
Monday	25	5:30	Mess Hall open
		6	Cornhole
		7:30	Shuffleboard
Wednesday	27	7:30	DVETS Raffle

JUNE

Monday	1	5:30	Mess Hall open
		6	Cornhole
		7:30	Shuffleboard
Wednesday	3	7:30	Gen Membership mtg
Saturday	6	4	Belmont
Tuesday	9	7	Honor Guard meeting
Tuesday	16	7	E Board meeting

Need to submit an event for future E-Blast and the Newsletter? Send emails to:

Newsletter: By 23rd of each month
dschill925@gmail.com

E-Blast: by Monday at 9pm
DELVETSP0ST1@GMAIL.COM



1ST ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Join us for a day of golf, food, prizes & supporting our Veterans!

Green Fees - \$125.00



MAY 14
2026

7:30 Registration
8:00 Shotgun Start

Rock Manor Golf Course

Includes:

- 18 holes of golf
- Hole-in-One Prize
- First Place Prize
- Lunch & awards ceremony

Hole sponsorship \$125

For more information, contact:



Delaware Veterans Post #1

Florie Henry
302-753-0874

Email
biaglow0725@msn.com



Blood Drive

Delaware Veterans Post #1 Prepare to donate

Tuesday, May 12, 2026
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Hall
2535 Veterans Dr
Wilmington, DE 19810

-  Eat well and hydrate
-  Bring a photo ID
-  Feel good and symptom free
-  Must be 17+ or 16 with parental consent form
-  Meet minimum weight requirements

For full eligibility requirements and COVID-19 information, visit delmarvablood.org/eligibility.

Sign up at delmarvablood.org/drives and use code DVP1

888.8.BLOOD.8 • delmarvablood.org

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Del Vets Post #1 Spring Clean Up

Saturday, May 9th

Starts at **8:30am** in Post parking lot



All volunteers are welcome!
Tools will be provided!

Rain Date: Saturday, May 16, 8:30am

Questions? Ask Bill Carpenter, Grounds Chair



KENTUCKY DERBY



Come out and enjoy the Run for the Roses!

SATURDAY, MAY 2ND
FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 4PM

The Post will provide a main dish.

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share!

**REMEMBER TO
WEAR YOUR HAT
FOR OUR
CONTEST -
GET CREATIVE!**



Enjoy the afternoon with food and friends!



DELAWARE VETERANS POST #1
 2535 VETERANS DRIVE
 WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19810
 Phone: (302) 475-9891
www.DelVets.com

2026 OFFICERS & "E" BOARD

Office	Name
Commander	Mark Schilling ^{(N)-(PC)}
Vice-Commander	John Pastor ^(A)
Secretary	Vince Knoll ^(A)
Treasurer	Sean MacLaren ^(NG)
Treasurer-Elect - Ex-Officio	Kristy Chester ^(A)
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bill Allison ^(A)

Executive Board Members	Name	Year
PRESIDENT	Ed Brinkman ^(A)	2026
MEMBER	Bob Onorato ^{(CG)-(PC)}	2026-2027
MEMBER	Bob Morris ^(A)	2026-2027
MEMBER	Jim Hague ^(NG)	2026
MEMBER	John Squire ^(A)	2026

2026 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

COMMITTEE	Name
BAR	Brian Thomas / Jay Henry
BY-LAWS Ex-Officio	Joe Rodriguez ^{(A)-(PC)}
CHAPLAIN	Sam Waltz ^(A)
ELECTION COMMITTEE	Chip Roop
ENTERTAINMENT	Vince Vandenbraak
FINANCE	Bob Morris ^(A)
GROUNDs	Bill Carpenter
HONOR GUARD	Bill Redhefer ^(AF)
HOUSE	Chip Roop
INSURANCE ADVISOR	Webb Bell II ^{(AF)-(PC)}
KITCHEN	Andi Chernekoff / John Ratkevich
MEMBERSHIP Ex-Officio	Jim Biddle ^(AF)
NEWSLETTER	Donna Schilling
POST ACCOUNTANT	Vince Knoll ^(A)
POST ACCOUNTANT	John DeScioli
POST ACCOUNTANT	Bob Morris ^(A)
POOL	Bill Conaway ^(N)
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.

Harvey Freville (M)-(PC)	President	2026
Frank Dobson ^(A)	Vice President	2026
Jerry Stauffer ^(N)	Secretary	2026
Rich Delitta ^(A)		2026
Bob Bostedo ^(A)		2026

Newsletter Staff:

EDITOR: Donna Schilling
REPORTER: Numerous
PRINTER: Jim Biddle ^(AF)
EMAIL: Denise Bernstein

State Board of Directors

Joe Rodriguez ^{(A)-(PC)}	Commander	2026
Bill Frank ^(A)	-at Large	2026
Rick Rambo ^(N)		2026
Roger Lee ^(A)		2026

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 2025

Mark Parsons

Commander Service Awards Year 2025

Andi Chernekoff