

# THE CENTURION

## DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

*Robbins Bldg – 802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100, Dover, Delaware 19904*

(302) 739-2792 or (800) 344-9900 (in State)

Internet Address: <http://www.state.de.us>

Fax (302) 739-2794

*Ruth Ann Minner, Governor  
Dr. Harriet Smith Windsor, Secretary of State*

*Robert D. Marcinkowski, Chairman  
Antonio Davila, Executive Director*

Volume 10, Number 2

April-June 2003

## CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

As hostilities in Iraq are seemingly drawing to a close, we must continue to support our Armed Forces in every way possible. Many of our veterans' organizations are supporting the families of those deployed, as well as providing meaningful and useful conveniences to those in harm's way. The ceremonies slated for the celebration of Memorial Day will have renewed meaning by the addition of those who have fallen in combat in Iraq, as well as those who had died in past wars. Governor Minner will dedicate the MIA memorial on May 27, 2003, 2:00 PM. The Commission and the Grande Voiture du Delaware La Societe 40-8 will sponsor the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Delaware Memorial Bridge on May 30, 2003, 10:30 AM. This ceremony will also integrate the dedication of the Korean War Monument at the War Memorial Plaza. The ceremony at the Bear Cemetery will follow at 2:00 PM that afternoon. Everyone is welcome to join us for these gatherings. I encourage those who have never attended to take the time to honor the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and for us.

Sincerely,  
Robert D. Marcinkowski, Chairman

**THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER**

*“If health is wealth, how come it’s tax free?”*

**NEWARK ARMED FORCES PARADE  
DELAWARE’S LARGEST MILITARY AND  
VETERANS PARADE TO CONTINUE**

The City of Newark will again host the annual Armed Forces Memorial Ceremony and parade on Sunday, May 18, 2003. For the past 67 years, our purpose has remained the same, to honor and remember those who have served our country. We encourage all veterans and veterans’ organizations to participate by parading with us on foot or by vehicle. During this time of terrorism and threat of war, the visual strength of our living history veterans will provide a sense of comfort and hope to the citizens of Delaware. For more information contact: Linda Burns at (302) 366-7110 x142 or [lburns@newarkpd.state.de.us](mailto:lburns@newarkpd.state.de.us).

**MIA MEMORIAL DEDICATION**

Governor Ruth Ann Minner will dedicate a new memorial, at the new public Archives bldg. in Dover, Tuesday, May 27, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. for 17 Delawareans listed as missing in action from the Vietnam and Korean wars. The names and ranks of those on the 10-foot high, granite obelisk will appear as they do on the official registry at the Department of Defense.

**MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES**

The Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs and Grande Voiture du Delaware La Societe 40-8 will host its annual Memorial Day service on **Friday, May 30, 2003**. The service will be held at the Memorial Bridge Plaza, Delaware Memorial Bridge, New Castle, DE, beginning at 10:30 A.M. Following the service at the Memorial Bridge Plaza, the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear, Delaware, will hold its service at 2:00 PM. For further information, please call (800) 344-9900 (in state only) or (302) 739-2792.

**WILMINGTON CELEBRATES 136<sup>TH</sup>  
CONSECUTIVE MEMORIAL DAY  
OBSERVATION**

This year marks the 136<sup>th</sup> consecutive observance of the traditional Memorial Day, May 30, in Wilmington. The parade steps out at 6:00 PM from Rockford Park. Participants march down Delaware Ave to the Civil War Monument at Broom St, where we honor the dead of all wars at a memorial service. Grand Marshal is State Department Commander of the Korean War Veterans, Dave Gillan. Guest speaker is Major General Frank Vavala.

**ANHEUSER-BUSCH GIVES TROOPS, THEIR  
FAMILIES FREE ADMISSION TO  
SEAWORLD, BUSCH GARDENS, SESAME  
PLACE**

*‘Operation Salute’ Expresses Appreciation For  
Their Service, Sacrifices*

Anheuser-Busch announced it will give free single-day admission to its SeaWorld, Busch Gardens and Sesame Place parks to active duty military, active reservists, U.S. Coast Guard, National Guardsmen and as many as four of their direct dependents, beginning the Friday of Memorial Day weekend and concluding Veterans Day, November 11, 2003. The offer also has been extended to all coalition forces serving with U.S. troops in Operation Iraqi Freedom. “The men and women in our armed forces have made tremendous sacrifices, risking their lives and being separated from their families during the war,” said August A. Busch III, Chairman of Anheuser-Busch Cos., Inc., which operates nine U.S. theme parks. “We wanted to express our deep gratitude for their service, and this gives those who serve and their families some needed relaxation and enjoyment.” “It is our privilege to offer our parks to the men and women of our armed forces and their families,” said Patrick Stokes, president and chief executive officer, Anheuser-Busch Cos., Inc. “It is a small gesture of thanks for the hardships endured

every day by our soldiers and those closest to them.” “Operation Salute” will give free admission at Busch Gardens Tampa Bay; Busch Gardens Williamsburg; SeaWorld Orlando; SeaWorld San Diego; SeaWorld San Antonio; and Sesame Place in Langhorne, PA. “Operation Salute is exactly what we mean at the USO when we talk about the incredible power of ‘Thank You’” said Edward A. “Ned” Powell, president and chief executive officer of the United Service Organizations (USO). “It is an extraordinary example of a company’s recognition of the sacrifices our military makes on behalf of all Americans.” Anheuser-Busch has supported the U.S. armed services for nearly 150 years. In 1921, Adolphus Busch’s widow, Lilly, opened the Busch family garden to the public, donating admission fees to disabled veterans. Anheuser-Busch has previously honored U.S. armed forces with free admission to its theme parks. Nearly 1 million service members and their families visited free during Yellow Ribbon Summer following the first Gulf War and during the Anheuser-Busch Salute to America’s Heroes, a post-9/11 tribute that included all branches of the U.S military. (*Anheuser-Busch Co., April 17, 2003*)

#### **GRAHAM SECURES FUNDING IN SENATE BILL FOR RETURNING VETERANS**

In a significant victory for America’s veterans, Senator Bob Graham, ranking member of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, secured funding in the Senate for \$155 million through the end of the current fiscal year for the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide health care for service members that will return from the current conflict in Iraq. The funding was added to the Fiscal Year 2003 Supplementary Appropriations bill, S.762. “The cost of this war will not end with the war itself and will not be confined to the borders of Iraq”, said Graham, D-Florida, on the floor of the Senate. “Veterans will continue to pay those costs for years to come. We must be prepared for this neglected cost of war by assuring that the VA will be prepared when the newly created veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom seek care”. Graham and 16 Democratic

Senators offered an amendment to S. 762 that would provide \$375 million for the health care of returning veterans for the next calendar year. The amount was based on data from the 1991 Gulf War, where one-third of all combat veterans used VA healthcare services. Republicans agreed to provide \$155 million beginning in May through the end of the 2003 fiscal year. While debating on the floor, Graham said, “The issue seems to be when we should make this commitment. My answer to the question would be now. The fact is that unless this war goes much longer than the Administration or any American prays that it will, there will be returning veterans, particularly reservists...who are going to be eligible for health care. And I hope that we are not taking the position that this war is going to drag on so long that no reserve or National Guard member will be eligible for these benefits prior to September 30 of this year.” (*Bob Graham U.S. Senator, Florida, April 03, 2003*)

#### **FORGOTTEN WIDOWS**

To date, more than 900 individuals have applied to the Air Force for the Annuity for Certain Military Surviving Spouses (ACMSS) with more than 600 of them being approved. The Army has approved over 900 applicants. Approved applicants receive a monthly annuity of \$188.36. Since there is a six-year statute of limitations on payments, the 1 December 2003 date becomes most significant since it’s the six-year anniversary of the program’s effective date. Currently, if approved, an annuity will be paid retroactive to December 1997 for active duty spouses and as late as October 1999 for some Reserve spouses. There is not a statute on applications, meaning that while no one will be barred from applying in the future, they will be barred from receiving more than six years worth of retroactive payments. Currently, widows who receive an annuity retroactive to December 1, 1997 are receiving in excess of \$11,000 plus the \$188.36 monthly pension. Eligibility criteria remain the same. For spouses of active duty retirees, the member must have retired before September 21, 1972, and died prior to March 21, 1974. For

spouses of Reserve retirees – member must have retired; been entitled to pay except for not attaining age 60; and died prior to October 1, 1978. In addition, applicants must not have remarried or be receiving any other military survivor annuity. The burden of proof of eligibility through documentation rests with the applicant. If you believe you, or someone you know, is eligible, contact the Retiree Services Branch of the service concerned for further information and to obtain a DD form 2769 application. To reach the Air Force Personnel Center call (800) 531-7502. (*AF Retiree News, April 10, 2003*)

### **SS TAX FREE EARNINGS 2003**

If you work while getting Social Security survivors or retirement benefits and haven't yet reached your full retirement age, you can earn up to \$11,520 in 2003 and keep all of your Social Security benefits. The amount was \$11,280 last year. If you make more than \$11,520, \$1 will be taken out of your Social Security benefits for every \$2 you earn over the limit. If you reach full retirement age during 2003 (that's 65 and 2 months for people born in 1938), \$1 will be taken for every \$3 you earn above \$30,720 until your birthday month. After you reach your full retirement age, you can keep getting your full benefit no matter how much you earn. To learn more about working and collecting Social Security benefits check out [www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2/whileworking.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2/whileworking.htm). To find out your full retirement age refer to <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/retire/chartred.htm>. (*Social Security eNews, April 2003*)

### **IMPROVED METHOD OF REQUESTING DOCUMENTS FROM THE NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER (NPRC)**

Veterans who are seeking their military records can now do so on line at <http://vetrecs.archives.gov> (no www is necessary). The new web-based application will provide better service on those requests by eliminating mailroom-processing time. Requester will be prompted to supply all information essential to process request and will cut back on delays that

occur when more information is needed. (*National Personnel Records Center, April 01, 2003*)

### **VA FORMS WEBSITE- ONE STOP SHOP FOR VETERANS**

Veterans can now find and print electronic copies of VA, VGA, VHA and NCA forms through a VA website [www.va.gov/vaforms/](http://www.va.gov/vaforms/). Veterans and VA customers may apply for benefits and services and transact business with VA. The sites can be searched using the form number, keywords or title. Links to other useful forms websites are also provided. VA has invested in technology which will allow forms to be filled and printed and eventually be electronically transmitted. Forms will be added to the site as they are redesigned with this capability. VA forms managers from VBA, VHA, and OA&MM maintain the site and you may refer questions to them online or by calling Ms. Mary Stout at (202) 273-8664. (*Department of Veterans Affairs, March 25, 2003*)

### **VET FRAN: VETERANS TRANSITION FRANCHISE INITIATIVE**

The International Franchise Association (IFA) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs have joined in an effort to encourage veterans to acquire franchised business. Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs Leo S. Mackey Jr. and IFA signed a Memorandum of Understanding earlier this year to jointly promote franchise ownership among former military personnel. In the early 1990's, Don Dwyer, Sr., founder of The Dwyer Group, launched the Veterans Transition Franchise Initiative (VetFran) with the support of the International Franchise Association and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in an effort to share the VetFran Program. IFA's franchisor members have agreed to help veterans acquire their franchise business by making every effort to keep the veteran's cash investment at about 10% or less of the initial investment for the franchise. IFA has appointed a VetFran Task Force. The Task Force has recommended that IFA members contribute a

portion of the franchise fee as part of the initial earned equity. The amount is flexible, but sufficient to enable the veteran to acquire the franchise with a 10% down payment, assuming the franchisee qualifies for a SBA 85% loan guarantee package.

*VetFran Program Examples:* Here are two examples of how the program with your franchise fee contributed as earned equity to the deal would play out:

**Example #1**

Total investment (Incl. franchise fee of \$25,000) = \$ 125,000  
 SBA Loan Guarantee 85% = \$ 106,250  
 Equity Required 15% = \$ 18,750  
 25% of Franchise Fee Earned Equity Credit = \$ 6,250  
 Total cash down by veteran (10%) = 12,500

(In example #1, 25% of the franchise fee is treated as earned equity credit and would count as part of the franchisee’s equity investment.)

**Example #2**

Total investment (Incl. franchise fee of \$25,000) = \$ 150,000  
 SBA Loan Guarantee 85% = \$ 127,000  
 Equity Required 15% = \$ 22,500  
 30% of Franchise Fee Earned Equity Credit = \$ 7,500  
 Total cash down by veteran (10%) = \$ 15,000

(In example #2, 30% of the franchise fee is treated as earned equity investment.)

Currently, companies who have indicated a range of initial investment below \$150,000 are being asked to participate in this program. That is the maximum loan amount on which the SBA will offer 85% loan guarantees through the financial services system. SBA does offer 75% guarantees on loans above \$150,000, but currently loans above \$150,000 are not a part of this program. To obtain more information for the VetFran program and a list of franchise companies who are participating in this

program you can contact the IFA at: International Franchise Association, 1350 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20005-4709 Phone:(202) 628-8000 Fax:(202) 628-0812 E-mail: [ifa@franchise.org](mailto:ifa@franchise.org) Website: <http://www.franchise.org> (Texas Veterans Commission, January/February 2003)

**TRICARE STANDARD SURVEY RESULTS**

Veterans organizations and military retiree groups are telling Congress that Tricare’s fee-for-service plan, Tricare Standard, is a sick stepchild of Tricare. Problems brought before the House Armed Services total force subcommittee include communication weaknesses, insufficient reimbursement rates and bureaucratic roadblocks. Meanwhile 44 percent of respondents to an online survey conducted by the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) said they were unable to find a primary care provider and 51 percent could not find a specialist that would take Tricare Standard patients. Improvements suggested: (1) increase payments to providers; (2) require contractors to assist users in finding providers; (3) maintain a current list of providers who accept Tricare Standard; and (4) educate providers about Tricare Standard. (*Armed Forces News, April 25, 2003*)

**CERTAIN VETERANS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR COPAYMENT REFUNDS**

Veterans insured by the Hartford Life Insurance Company or the USAA Life Insurance Company may be eligible for a refund of their VA copayments. In a recent settlement with the Department of Veterans Affairs and a coalition of insurance industry groups, Hartford and USAA paid VA approximately \$11.1 million. The settlement involves payments for care provided by VA to insured veterans with Medicare or Tricare supplemental coverage from January 1, 1995 through December 13, 2001. “This settlement clarifies the claims reimbursement process,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. “It’s not only resolves the litigation but also

reimburses those veterans whose copayments to VA should have been covered by their insurance.” Veterans insured by Hartford or USAA who paid VA copayments for VA medical care they received from January 1, 1995 through December 13, 2001 may ask VA for a refund of their copayments on a first-come, first-served basis. All requests for refunds must be postmarked by April 1, 2004. VA will notify by mail those veterans who may be eligible for refunds according to records on file. Other veterans who believe they may be eligible for a refund may obtain a claims application by calling a special toll-free number (1-866-258-2772) between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., EST, Monday through Friday. They also may download the application from the VA website at [www.va.gov/hottopic/](http://www.va.gov/hottopic/).

### **HEPATITIS C DRUG BREAKTHROUGH**

New drugs to fight hepatitis C reduce the virus to nearly undetectable levels in a matter of days, according to scientists. Clinical trials are currently under way to examine the effects of these new drugs on patients with the virus. But tests carried out in the United States suggest they will have a dramatic impact on the health of people with hepatitis C. They belong to a class of drugs called protease inhibitors, which have been used to treat patients with HIV. Drugs work by blocking a part of the virus called the protease enzyme. With the protease enzyme blocked, hepatitis C makes copies of the virus that are defective and cannot infect new cells. But scientists at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas have found these types of drugs have other major properties. They have discovered the drugs stop hepatitis C from suppressing the immune system. This in turn enables the body to fight back using its own natural defenses. They have also found the impact is swift. Virus levels are reduced within days. “We found that the new protease inhibitors could actually prevent the virus from blocking this immune response and basically restore the innate antiviral response in human cells,” said Dr. Michael Gale, assistant professor of microbiology at UT Southwestern. The findings will offer hope to

thousands of people with hepatitis C around the world. At present, 85% of those who are infected with hepatitis C develop chronic infections that are not responsive to drugs. Around 70% of these go on to develop liver cancer and nearly 3% of those with long-term infections die of related illnesses. There is currently no cure for hepatitis C although a number of companies are working on potential vaccines. The virus is found in the blood and can be passed on by intravenous drug users who share needles, from contaminated blood products and sexual contact. Doctors at the University of Texas Medical Branch, which has a major hepatitis research center, welcomed the findings. Its dean of medicine, Dr. Stanley Lemon said: “These new findings with hepatitis C virus suggest that protease inhibitors will become an important addition to existing interferon treatments for hepatitis C and that they will have equal if not greater impact on the treatment for this important form of liver disease.” (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/2956755.stm>)

### **HEALTH CARE INFORMATION THEFT**

The TRICARE Management Activity announced that computer equipment and files were stolen on December 14, 2002, from its TRICARE Central Region health contractor, TriWest Healthcare Alliance Corp. in Phoenix, Ariz. TriWest contracts with the Military Health System to provide health services to service members, their families and retirees residing mostly in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming and western Texas. The theft does not affect beneficiaries’ TRICARE eligibility or their access to TRICARE services. The stolen equipment and files contain personal information including social security numbers, addresses, phone numbers and some claims data. TRICARE remains focused on the need to advise affected beneficiaries on ways to protect themselves from potential identity theft. The total impact of the theft is still being assessed. The case is being investigated by the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, FBI and other law

enforcement agencies. The Defense Department, after learning of the theft from TriWest on December 20, began working with them to ensure uninterrupted delivery of medical benefits in the wake of the break-in. As more information is known about the theft, the department will ensure that TriWest will be in touch with affected beneficiaries. TriWest will contact affected individuals and will establish both a toll-free number and an e-mail address for TRICARE beneficiaries who have questions about what they need to know and do. The department has ordered all contractors working with the TRICARE system to assess their current physical and electronic security. For further information, TRICARE beneficiaries can call toll-free (888) 339-9378 or e-mail questions to [computertheft@triwest.com](mailto:computertheft@triwest.com). (*American Military Society Advocate, January/February 2003*)

### **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION TO DELAWARE VETERANS**

In January 1946, Walter W. Bacon, then elected Governor, authorized a state award to those who served in World War II. To honor this commitment to Delaware Veterans, Governor Ruth Ann Minner has announced that the State of Delaware will provide a "Certificate of Appreciation" to all Delaware residents who shall have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States during time of peace, conflict or war. To request a "Certificate of Appreciation" the veteran/spouse or next of kin must submit the enclosed application (see page 13) along with a copy of a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, (DD Form 214). DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL.

### **50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR**

For updates and information veterans may call the commemoration committee at 1-866-567-3250 or visit their website [www.korea50.mil](http://www.korea50.mil). Armistice day Weekend – Schedule of Events, July 25-27, 2003  
Friday, July 25, 2003  
5:00 PM – Fairfax High School – Korean American Cultural Foundation Dance Troupe Performance

and Medallion presentation

10:00 AM – Wreath Laying Ceremony, Arlington National Cemetery, Tomb of the Unknowns.

4:30 PM – MCI Center, National Salute to Korean War Veterans Host, Ed McMahon, Wayne Newton, Charlie Pride Parade of Flags, United Colors

Sunday, 27 July 2003

10:00 AM – Armistice Day Ceremony, Korean War Veterans Memorial Hosted by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Free Tickets for Saturday's National Salute at the MCI Center can be ordered by calling 1-866-751-4403. All tickets that can be, will be mailed in advance. Tickets not mailed will be available at the will-call desk at MCI Center. For discount hotel reservations veterans and their family members may call 1-866-554-2220 ex 102. (*Department of Veterans Affairs, Commemoration Committee, April 28, 2003*)

### **WWII VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT**

In support of Lt. Governor John C. Carney, Jr.'s and Secretary of State Harriet Smith Windsor's WWII Veterans History Project, we are soliciting your participation and support in creating and preserving a permanent record of your personal wartime experiences for future generations of Delawareans and other Americans to share and consult. The effort also will be used in support of the National Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress. Some questionnaires will be selected for a videotaped oral history, while all will be used to create a volume of written histories of WWII veterans from Delaware. Those selected for the videotaped portion of the project will be chosen based on the uniqueness of their questionnaire and the narrative they provide. If you are selected for the videotaped portion of this project, a Veterans History Project staff member will contact you to arrange for a personal interview. To participate in this preservation effort, please complete the attached questionnaire on pages 11/12 and return it to the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, 802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100, Dover, DE 19904. If you need assistance or further clarification on

completing the questionnaire, please call 1-800-344-9900 or (302) 739-2792.

**HUNTING, TRAPPING AND FISHING LICENSES**

The Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs (DCVA) in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), Division of Fish & Wildlife is now issuing Hunting, Trapping and Fishing ID cards for those Delaware veterans and members of the Armed Forces who meet the exceptions to requirements for licensing under Title 7, Chapter 5, Section 502 of the Delaware Code.

- ❑ Any veteran having at least a 60% service-connected disability (certified by the Veterans Administration);
- ❑ Or 65 years or older;
- ❑ Or blind

For more information, please call (302) 739-2792 or (800) 344-9900.

**FAMILY ADVISORY CEMETERY COMMITTEE (FACC)**

The FACC will hold its next meeting on June 9, 2003 at the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Bear, Delaware. The meeting is scheduled for 6:30 PM. All interested individuals are invited to attend. For further information please call 1-800-344-9900.

**COMMISSION MEETINGS**

The Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, 11:00 AM, 802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100, Dover, DE. The meeting schedule varies for June and December of each year. These meetings are open to the public. Any individual requiring special accommodations, shall contact this office one week prior to the meeting date. If you would like to attend, please call 1-800-344-9900 (in State) or (302) 739-2792.

**MOBILE VETERANS SERVICE CENTER**

Ms. White will be providing services for veterans from the mobile office at the following locations:

MAY 07	Bethany Beach Town Hall
MAY 13	Laurel Town Hall
MAY 14	Georgetown Service Center
MAY 20	Bridgeville Town Hall
MAY 27	Fenwick Town Hall
MAY 28	Ocean View Town Hall

JUNE 03	Seaford Service Center
JUNE 04	Bethany Beach Town Hall
JUNE 10	Laurel Town Hall
JUNE 11	Georgetown Service Center
JUNE 24	Bridgeville Town Hall
JUNE 25	Ocean View Town Hall

For more information, contact Ms. White at the Pyle State Service Center, (302) 732-9560.

**VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS**

**Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs**

(Kent County) – Ms. Melanie E. Bronov - Dover office - may be reached Monday –Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM, (302) 739-2792 or (800) 344-9900 (in State). Please call for an appointment.

(Sussex County) - Ms. Laurie A. White - Pyle State Service Center located in Roxanna, DE, may be reached Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, (302) 732-9560. Please call for an appointment.

**American Legion**

Robert McBride, Dept. Service Officer, (302) 633-5323, will visit the following posts between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM on the following dates:

MAY 16	Nanticoke, Post 6	629-9915
MAY 23	David Harrison, Post 14	653-1711
MAY 30	Laurel, Post 19	875-9948
JUNE 06	Oak Orchard/Riverdale, Post 28 (8:00-12:00)	945-1673
JUNE 13	Walter L Fox, Post 2	674-3922
JUNE 20	Laurel, Post 19	875-9948
JUNE 27	David Harrison, Post 14	653-1711

**DE/MD Paralyzed Veterans Association (DE/MD PVA)**

Darrell Johnson, Sr., National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 26, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 633-5325 or (302) 633-5392. Mr. Johnson will make home visits upon

request for vets who do not have transportation to the VA. He will be in the Oak Orchard area the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, Dover the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, Frederica the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday and at the Home of the Brave on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. In addition to our service officer at the Wilmington VA Regional Office, we also have representatives David Timberman and Mike Wynetar, National Liaison Service Officers, at the Home of the Brave on Tuesday from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. The Home of the Brave is located at 6632 Sharps Rd, Milford, DE (302) 424-1681 or 1682.

**Disabled American Veterans (DAV)**

Paul Lardizzone, Dept. Service Officer (DAV).  
 Every Tuesday: DAV Headquarters Building  
 & Wednesday 183 South Street  
 (Kent) 8:00-12:00 Camden, DE 19934  
 (302) 697-9061  
 Every Thursday: Department of Labor  
 (Sussex) 8:00-12:00 Div. of Emp & Trng  
 (302) 856-5230 600 N. DuPont Hwy.  
 Georgetown, DE 19947

**Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)**

Richard Magner, National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 633-5508.

**Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)**

Terry Baker, National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 633-5357

**Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)**

James Withrow, Dept. Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 21, Wilmington, DE 19805, (800) 461-8262 ext. 5326 or (302) 633-5326.

**1<sup>ST</sup> Thursday**

Dover Armory (741-7516) 8:00-11:00 AM  
 Milford VFW (422-4412) 1:30-4:00 PM

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday**

Dover Armory (741-7516) 8:00-11:00 AM  
 Milton VFW (684-4975) 1:30-4:00 PM

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**

Dover Armory (741-7516) 8:00-11:00 AM  
 Rehoboth VFW (227-3469) 1:30-4:00 PM

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

Dover Armory (741-7516) 8:00-11:00 AM  
 Seaford VFW (629-3092) 1:30-4:00 PM

**5<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

Dover Armory (741-7516) 8:00-11:00 AM

NOTE: All persons interested in Outreach Services should first call our office so that some advance information may be obtained to accelerate the application process. Kent & Sussex County residents may call 1-800-461-8262 ext 5326. New Castle County residents may call 633-5326.

NOTE: persons desiring assistance at the Thursday-downstate locations should be at the Dover Armory not later than 9:00 AM or at the afternoon locations by 2:00 PM. The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) provides services to veterans and their dependents without respect to veteran service organization affiliation; membership in the VFW is NOT required for service.

**VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS POC**

**Military Order of the World Wars**

LTC (Ret) Michael C Wilgen.....(302) 292-1964  
 E-Mail [mwilgen@udel.edu](mailto:mwilgen@udel.edu)

**American Legion**

Ed Phillips Jr.....(302) 628-5221  
**AMVETS**

John Navitsky.....(302) 994-5657

**DE/MD Paralyzed Veterans Association**

Wayne Carter.....(302) 368-4898  
**JWV**

Bob Barnett.....(302) 475-1832

**MOPH**

Bill Carroll.....(302) 655-3820

**POW/MIA**

Howard Melson.....(302) 539-1808

**WAVES Int'l**

Ruth Harden.....(302) 998-1373

**KWVA**

Charles Farrell.....(302) 684-1876

**VFW**

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

**The Reserve Officers Association**

CWO John V. Hawkins, Sr. (Ret)...(302) 328-8115

**DELAWARE VETERANS  
MEMORIAL CEMETERY**

New Castle Co. Section (Bear, DE).....834-8046  
Sussex Co. Section (Georgetown, DE).....934-5653

**VETERANS ADMINISTRATION**

Claims, Benefits, Veterans Services  
(Regional Office).....1-800-827-1000  
VA Hospital Scheduling.....1-800-461-8262  
.....302-994-2511  
Veterans Outreach Center  
(New Castle County).....302-633-5360  
(Kent and Sussex Counties).....302-422-8011

**EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

Al Barclift (Wilmington).....302-761-8093  
Michael Companion (Wilmington).....302-761-8096  
Desiree Young (Newark).....302-453-4350 ext. 218  
Mike Wolanski (VA Regional Ofc)...302-633-5492  
Steve Flaherty (Dover).....302-739-5473  
Charley Roberson (Dover AFB).....302-677-6942  
Ron Bythwood (Dover).....302-739-5473  
Norris Townsend (Georgetown).....302-856-5230

**RETIREE ACTIVITIES**

**Retired Activities Office**

Lt. Col Ken Smith, (USAF RET), Bldg 520, Room 105, Dover AFB, DE 19902, (302) 677-4612.

**Retired Navy Activities Affairs Office**

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

**COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Commissioners may be reached by calling (800) 344-9900.

Bob Marcinkowski (Chairman).....TROA  
Jim Thompson (Vice Chair).....MCL  
Bob Barnett.....JWV  
Cornelius "Bill" Carroll.....MOPH  
Charles Farrell.....KWVA  
Ruth B. Harden.....WAVES NAT'L  
George K. Hastings.....MOWW  
Paul Lardizzone.....DAV  
Richard M. Magner.....AMVETS  
Gary "Mo" Morris.....AMERICAN LEGION  
Reese Phillips.....40&8  
David W. Timberman.....DE/MD PVA  
Robert E. Wasson.....DELVETS  
George Webb.....VVA

\*\*\*\*\*  
The Centurion 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

\*\*\*\*\*  
If you are not already on our mailing list and wish to receive this newsletter on continual basis, please provide the following information below: (Articles should be submitted to the Commission Office directly)

**NAME/ORGANIZATION** \_\_\_\_\_  
**STREET** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO: DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
ROBBINS BUILDING  
802 SILVER LAKE BLVD, SUITE 100  
DOVER, DE 19904**



# STATE OF DELAWARE

"Serving Delaware's Veterans"

**Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs  
Robbins Building  
802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100  
Dover, Delaware 19904**

**PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
DOVER DE  
PERMIT NO 120**

DCVA 20-01-02-03-04-01