

# 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 Website: <http://www.state.de.us/veteran/>  
Fax (302) 739-2794

*Ruth Ann Minner, Governor*                      *James L. Thompson, Chairman*  
*Dr. Harriet Smith Windsor, Secretary of State*      *Antonio Davila, Executive Director*

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## \$\$\$ SMALL BUSINESS LOANS AVAILABLE \$\$\$

Interested in a small business loan? Representatives from Innovative Bank, First State Community Loan Fund (First State) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will conduct a workshop on small business lending on Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The workshop will be held at the office of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, located in the Robbins Building, 802 Silver Lake Blvd., Suite 100 in Dover, DE. The workshop is geared towards veterans who own or would like to start a small business, but **EVERYONE** is welcome to attend. Innovative Bank, a California-based institution, will discuss its Small Office – Home Office (SOHO) loan program, through which it makes SBA guaranteed loans ranging from \$5,000.00 to \$25,000.00. As part of the SBA Express Program, Innovative Bank, through First State, also offers technical assistance to SOHO borrowers. First State also will discuss its own loan programs, including its Microloan program—through which a small business owner can borrow from \$500 to \$15,000.00—and its Business Growth Fund, through which a business owner can borrow up to \$50,000.00. A representative of the SBA will attend and be available to answer questions about SBA guaranteed loan programs, which allow business owners to borrow up to \$1 million through SBA participating lenders. For more information, please contact Bob Williamson of the SBA at (302) 573-6315 or the Delaware Commission Veterans Affairs at 1-800-344-9900 (in-state only) or (302) 739-2792 for directions to the workshop.

**THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER**  
*“Drive carefully! Uncle Sam needs every taxpayer he can get.”*

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**MEDAL OF HONOR RECOGNITION DAY**

The Fourth Annual National Medal of Honor Recognition Day will be hosted by the Delaware Medal of Honor Historical Association on March 25, 2004 (Thursday) at 7 PM at the Veterans Hospital Kirkwood Hwy, Elsmere, Delaware. Ceremony will take place in the auditorium; please use the rear parking lot. The public is invited to honor our nation’s Medal of Honor Heroes.

**LETTER FROM SENATOR CARPER**

Dear Fellow Veteran:

As America gives special recognition and thanks to our veterans, I would to take a moment to share some important information about veteran’s health service in Sussex County. As one who served for 23 years of combined active and reserve duty, and as one of your United States Senators, I know many, many dedicated veterans who depend on VA health services. Those veterans are entitled to competent, efficient and compassionate medical care. My staff and I have been working hard to ensure that veterans in southern Delaware have access to that care-as close to home as possible. As you may know, up until very recently, Sussex veterans faced a very long waiting list to become eligible for health services in Sussex County. The VA has worked hard to reduce that list and the result has been a good one. With the opening of the new VA satellite office in Seaford, and with other efforts undertaken by the VA, the waiting list that was once well over 1,000 had been reduced to only three hundred by the end of November. By the time you read this, that waiting will have been eliminated. There were many obstacles to the opening of the Seaford satellite office that my staff and I, working closely with the VA, helped to overcome. For example, we worked with the State Division of Public Health to obtain required physician assignment authorizations for the satellite office. We worked with the federal Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (formerly the INS) and the Department of State to

expedite the recruitment of two physicians – one for the Millsboro satellite office and one for the Seaford satellite office. We also worked with Nanticoke Hospital officials, the Seaford Volunteer Fire Company and the State Fire Marshall’s Office to ensure that the building would be ready to open on time, in full compliance with all fire safety regulations. In these and other ways, we sought to expedite the opening of the Seaford satellite office as quickly as possible. We were all very happy when the Seaford satellite office opened its doors on March 18, 2003. Today, more than 200 veterans are utilizing the satellite office and several hundred more are in the process of transferring to Seaford.

A final point: a problem that surfaced during the VA’s process of contacting Sussex veterans about the satellite office was that the contact information for many veterans was out of date or incomplete. I urge all veterans to keep their contact information at the VA up to date so you can be notified of important information like the opening of the Seaford satellite office. You can update your information by contacting Richard Reverdito at 1-800-461-8262, ext. 4998. As always, my staff and I are anxious to assist veterans with any problems or concerns with any federal agency. If we can be of assistance to you, just call any one of my offices in Sussex County at 302-856-7690, Kent County at 302-674-3308 and New Castle County at 302-573-6291.

Thank you for your service to America.

Sincerely,  
Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senator

**HELP NEEDED IN NEW CASTLE, KENT  
AND SUSSEX COUNTIES**

Volunteers are needed to drive veterans to the VA Medical Center, Elsmere, DE. The Disabled American Veterans are looking for driver volunteers, Monday thru Thursday 6 AM to 3 PM, schedules are flexible. Individuals will have to fill out an application and take a physical at the VA

Medical Center. If interested please call the DAV Headquarters and leave a message. (302-697-9061 for Mark Wischmann or 1-800-461-8262 ext 2414 for Margot Brennan, or 302-629-6879 for Ruth McBride)

### **CONCURRENT RECEIPT PAY BECOMES REALITY**

Military retirees will begin receiving both retired pay and Department of Veterans Affairs disability compensation as the VA disability offset is phased out, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service has announced. Previously, the offset reduced the amount of the military retiree's pay by an amount equal to any disability payment received from the VA. Public Law 108-136 (Sections 641 and 642) authorizes a 10-year, phased elimination of the VA disability offset to retired pay. This will affect members with non-disability retirements, without regard to years of service. Those who retired as a result to a service-related disability are also eligible. These members must have at least 20 years of qualifying service. In all cases, the retiree must be rated at least 50 percent disabled by the VA. Today, more than 200,000 military retirees meet the criteria required to received an increase in their retired pay. This legislation expands the field of eligibility for Combat-Related Special Compensation to include retirees with 20 years of qualifying service, who have a combined disability rating of less than 60 percent. It expands eligibility for a tax-exempt payment to replace retired pay lost to the concurrent receipt ban and is open to retirees with 20 or more years of service and disabilities tied to combat or combat-related training. Reserve retirees are included; people who retired under Temporary Early Retirement Authority are not. While this change expands the number of veterans currently receiving CRSC from about 4,800 today, eligible retirees may not receive both concurrent receipt payments and combat-related special compensation at the same time. The act requires an annual "Open Season" to be conducted to allow veterans eligible for both concurrent payment and CRSC to choose between the two options. Details on how the annual open season will be conducted

will be published separately, according to DFAS. Because the act also repeals the authorization for Special Compensation for the Severely Disabled (SCSD) which provides veterans benefits for those with disabilities greater than 60 percent, about 37,000 SCSD recipients will be the first to see increases to their retired pay effective January 1, 2004, for the payment dated February 2, 2004. System changes are required to fully implement the legislation and will take several months to complete. DFAS is working with the VA to implement this legislation and issue the payment to all eligible retirees as soon as possible. When full implementation is completed, payments will include monies that are due retroactively to January 1, 2004. (*Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, January 2004*)

### **H.R.100, THE SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT**

The President, on December 19, signed H.R.100, legislation to help ease the economic and legal burdens on military personnel called to active duty status in Operation Iraqi Freedom. It is now Public Law 108-189. The *Servicemembers Civil Relief Act* updates and strengthens current civil protections enacted during World War II. In addition, the new law contains dozens of provisions to assist soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines to help manage their financial and legal obligations while they are away from home in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other locations around the world. This law will help these brave men and women, as well as their families back home, by strengthening and expanding the current civil relief statute. For example, Servicemembers deploying to new duty stations will have the ability to terminate automobile leases without having to pay early termination penalties. Furthermore, it will prevent personal property (such as automobiles) from being repossessed without a specific court order in order to take into account their military duty status. In addition, it is often difficult for Servicemembers to be physically present during civil court proceeding when they have been called up to active duty or deployed to new duty stations. To protect their rights, H.R.100 will provide

Servicemembers with automatic 90-day stays in civil proceedings. Furthermore, if an additional stay is subsequently requested but denied, the court will be required to appoint a counsel to protect the servicemembers's rights while he remains on active duty. The new law will even allow the possibility of Servicemembers reopening default judgments rendered against them when the failure to appear was caused by military service. And, the civil protections under this law will now also be applied to administrative proceedings, such as licensing and zoning matters, which are much more common today. For National Guard and reserve members called to active duty, especially for extended periods such as Operation Iraqi Freedom, the reduction in income can place significant economic pressure on them and their families. The *Servicemembers Civil Relief Act* recognizes that these men and women need and deserve special relief to meet a number of financial obligations and liabilities, such as rent, mortgages, installment contracts and leases.

Other key features include:

- Expand current law that protects Servicemembers and their families from eviction from housing while on active duty due to nonpayment of rents that are \$1,200 per month or less. Under the new provisions, this protection would be significantly updated to meet today's higher cost of living covering housing leases up to \$2,400 per month, and then be adjusted annually to account for inflation.
- Provide a servicemember who receives permanent change of station orders or who is deployed to a new location for 90 days or more the right to terminate a housing lease.
- Clarify and restate existing law that limits to 6 percent interest on credit obligations, including credit card debt, for active duty servicemembers. H.R.100 unambiguously states that no interest above 6 percent can accrue for credit obligations while on active duty, nor can that excess interest become due once the servicemember leaves active duty. Instead, that portion above 6 percent is permanently forgiven. Furthermore, the monthly payment must be reduced by the amount of interest saved during the covered period.

- Update life insurance protections provided to activated Guard and reserve members by increasing from \$10,000 to \$250,000 the maximum policy coverage that the federal government will protect from default for nonpayment while on active duty.
- Prevent servicemembers from a form of double taxation that can occur when they have a spouse who works and is taxed in a state other than the state in which they maintain their permanent legal residence. H.R.100 will prevent states from using the income earned by a servicemember in determining the spouse's tax rate when they do not maintain their permanent legal residence in the state. (*Bill Bradshaw, December 30, 2003*)

### **VA SERVICES FOR VETERANS OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM AND OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DOD) are working as partners to meet the needs of our newest veterans—the men and women who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom—by creating a seamless transition from active duty to civilian life. VA's goal is to ensure that every seriously injured or ill serviceman and woman returning from combat receives priority consideration and world-class service. Together VA and DOD are finding ways to move records more efficiently between the two agencies; share critical medical information electronically; protect the health of troops stationed in areas where environmental hazards pose threat; process benefit claims as one shared system; and in every way possible, hold open the doors to an uncomplicated passage from soldier to citizen. Veterans Benefits Information <http://www.vba.va.gov/> (*Department of Veterans Affairs, January 2004*)

### **OMB BACKS DOWN ON RETIREE PHARMACY COPAY**

In a Special Legislative Alert, we reported that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) was pushing a budget proposal they envisioned significantly increasing retiree cost shares for the

TRICARE pharmacy benefit, and initiating retiree co pays for drugs obtained in military hospitals and clinics. Faced with resistance from the Defense Department and strong objections from MOAA and other military associations, OMB has elected to shelve the proposal. In return, the Pentagon has agreed to study the co pay issue, and then make any recommendations on this subject next year for the FY2006 Budget. We expect that any such study will face budget pressures to increase co pays, so the issue is not likely to go away for the longer term. As a practical matter, the OMB decision defers any budget action until after the November election, which means any recommended change wouldn't come before October 2005. As a result, we have removed the MOAA Web site alert that urged members and others to email the President and Secretary of Defense on this subject. Our thanks go out to the more than 13,000 people who sent messages to these leaders on this subject via our Web site. (*MOAA Legislative update, January 05, 2004*)

### **COMMISSION REPORT ON VA'S REALIGNMENT DELAYED**

The chairman of the independent panel assessing the network of health care facilities operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced a delay in the commission's final report. "We need more time to examine the 208,000 letters, faxes and e-mails we have received from the public, along with the testimony of over 770 witnesses who appeared at 38 field hearings," said Everett Alvarez Jr., the commission's chairman. "Our recommendations will affect the availability of health care for veterans, and we're committed to making the right recommendations." Alvarez said the commission's recommendations, originally due in the office of Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi in late December, will now be delivered February 6, 2004. Alvarez's commission is examining VA's draft plan for a major restructuring of health care services known as CARES, short for "Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services." After the commission's recommendations go to the VA secretary in

February, Principi will make the final decision on infrastructure changes. The CARES study is the most comprehensive examination of VA's health care system in decades. The effort is designed to ensure the VA, which operates 162 hospitals and more than 800 clinics, is providing services to veterans in the right locations. VA officials plan to post the commission's recommendations on the Internet as soon as the final report goes to Principi. (*Department of Veterans Affairs, December 2003*)

### **VA GETS RECORD BUDGET FOR FY 2004**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will receive a record budget of \$64 billion for the current fiscal year, up \$4.2 billion from the previous spending level. "I'm grateful for President Bush's leadership in ensuring that VA can honor our nation's commitment to its veterans," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi, "I'm also appreciative of the support that Congress has shown when it comes to taking care of veterans." The budget for fiscal year 2004, which began October 1, 2003, comes as VA is putting the finishing touches on the administration's proposed budget for fiscal year 2005, which will be formally unveiled February 2. Among the major items in fiscal year 2004 budget are \$28.4 billion (including \$1.7 billion in collections) for health care, up \$2.9 billion from the previous year, and \$32.8 billion in benefits programs. Other budgetary categories include:

- \* \$143.4 million for the National Cemetery Administration, and \$11 million hike over last year, plus nearly \$32 million in grants for state cemeteries;
- \* Full funding to expedite the handling of veterans' claims for disability compensation and pensions – a total of \$1 billion for all programs;
- \* Nearly \$176 million for health care and other programs to assist homeless veterans, an increase of over \$22 million from fiscal year 2003;
- \* \$101 million to support state extended-care facilities, \$3 million more than last year; and

\* \$522 million for construction, plus the authority to transfer another \$400 million to health care construction.

“This budget will ensure VA is able to meet the needs of the latest generation of combat vets who are now returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan, while continuing to care for those from earlier conflicts,” Principi said. (*VA News Releases, January 28, 2004*)

### **SENATE BANS INSTANT CASH SCAMS TARGETING VETERANS**

The Senate has approved legislation by U.S. Senator Bill Nelson that bans companies from offering veterans up-front cash in exchange for their long-term benefits. The practice resulted in financial scams that cost military veterans up to two-thirds of their future pension or disability. “People who rob veterans of their retirement should be punished,” Nelson said. While current federal law prevents the federal government from paying benefits to anyone other than a veteran, companies have skirted the law by convincing veterans to open joint bank accounts from which the company withdraws the benefit checks. In exchange, the veterans receive an up-front payment worth as little as 30% of their benefits. About 1.7 million veterans reside in Florida and 250,000 receive disability benefits. Dozens of companies made arrangements with veterans or retirees to sign away their benefits, typically for eight years, in return for a cash payment. For instance, a veteran might get a lump sum of \$40,000 in return for his or her monthly benefit check of \$1,000 for eight years, totaling \$96,000. The legislation—which is backed by Disabled Veterans of America, the Vietnam Veterans of America, AMVETS and the Paralyzed Veterans of America—now goes to a conference between the House and the Senate (*Alvaro Arce, DPC, November 05, 2003*)

### **STUDY LINKS GULF WAR SERVICE WITH LOU GEHRIG’S DISEASE (ALS)**

Veterans who served in the Persian Gulf in 1990 and 1991 have a nearly twofold risk of Lou

Gehrig’s disease compared to veterans of the same era who did not serve in the Gulf, according to research funded by VA and the Department of Defense. Lou Gehrig’s disease, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), is a progressive neurodegenerative disease. Experts don’t know what causes the disease, but they say it can take 10 years or longer to develop. This study, published in *Neurology*, was the first to track Gulf veterans for at least a decade and the first to include all military personnel on active duty during the war—regardless of whether they were deployed to the Gulf. Based on preliminary findings released in 2001, VA announced it would provide benefits to Gulf War veterans who subsequently develop ALS (*VA Research and Development, September 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 19) along with a copy of a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, (DD Form 214). DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL.

### **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 17/18 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.

**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:

- FEB 10 Laurel Town Hall
- FEB 11 Bethany Beach Town Hall
- FEB 17 Seaford Service Center
- FEB 18 Ocean View Town Hall
- FEB 24 Bridgeville Town Hall
- FEB 25 Fenwick Island 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:

- FEB 13 Walter L Fox, Post 2 674-3922
- FEB 20 Laurel, Post 19 875-9948
- FEB 27 David Harrison, Post 14 653-1711
- MAR 05 Oak Orchard/Riverdale, 945-1673  
Post 28 (8:00-12:00)
- MAR 12 Walter L Fox, Post 2 674-3922
- MAR 19 Laurel, Post 19 875-9948
- MAR 26 David Harrison, Post 14 653-1711

**DE/MD Paralyzed Veterans of America (DE/MD PVA)**

Darrell Johnson, Sr., National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 26,

Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 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**

Delaware DOL (633-5326) 8:00-11:00 AM  
 Milford VFW (422-4412) 1:30-4:00 PM

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

Delaware DOL (633-5326) 8:00-11:00 AM  
 Milton VFW (684-4975) 1:30-4:00 PM

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

Delaware DOL (633-5326) 8:00-11:00 AM  
 Rehoboth VFW (227-3469) 1:30-4:00 PM

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

Delaware DOL (633-5326) 8:00-11:00 AM  
 Seaford VFW (629-3092) 1:30-4:00 PM

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

Delaware DOL (633-5326) 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 Delaware DOL no 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 of America
- Wayne Carter.....(302) 368-4898
- Jewish War Veterans
- Barry Newstadt.....(302) 475-2820
- Korean War Veterans Association
- Dave Gillan.....(302) 737-2242
- Military Order Of The Purple Heart
- Bill Carroll.....(302) 655-3820
- MOAA
- Robert Marcinkowski.....(302) 475-6647
- American Ex-Prisoners Of War
- Howard Melson.....(302) 539-1808
- WAVES Int'l
- Ruth Harden.....(302) 998-1373
- Vietnam Veterans of America
- Robert Corsa.....(302) 933-0119

Veterans of Foreign Wars

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**

Mike Wolanski (VA Regional Ofc)...302-633-5492

Al Barclift (Wilmington).....302-761-8093

Michael Companion (Wilmington).....302-761-8096

Ron Bythwood (Newark).....302-739-5473

Steve Flaherty (Dover).....302-739-5473

Charley Roberson (Dover AFB).....302-677-6942

Norris Townsend (Georgetown).....302-856-5230

Cliff Rumph (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.

Jim Thompson (Chairman).....MCL

George K. Hastings (Vice Chair).....MOWW

Cornelius "Bill" Carroll.....MOPH

Richard Ennis.....KWVA

Ruth B. Harden.....WAVES NAT'L

Jesse Kitson.....VFW

Paul Lardizzone.....DAV

Richard M. Magner.....AMVETS

Bob Marcinkowski.....MOAA

Gary "Mo" Morris.....AMERICAN LEGION

Barry Newstadt.....JWV

Reese Phillips.....40&8

David W. Timberman.....DE/MD PVA

Robert E. Wasson.....DELVETS

George Webb.....VVA

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If you are not already on our mailing list and wish to receive this newsletter on a 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**

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