



NEWSLETTER

DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Volume 20, Issue 3

Jul — Sep 2013



802 Silver Lake Blvd., Suite 100, Dover, DE 19904 (302) 739-2792 or (800) 344-9900 Fax (302) 739-2794

Jack A. Markell, Governor

Jeffrey W. Bullock, Secretary of State

John R. Knotts, Executive Director

Commissioners

Paul V. Lardizzone, Chairman

George T. Goss, Vice Chairman

Charles T. Armbruster, Jr.

Cornelius C. "Bill" Carroll

Robert P. Corsa

William C. Farley

John F. Hampton

Ruth B. Harden

Charles W. Keithley

William C. "Bill" McMullen

Mark M. Newman

Barry B. Newstadt

Ronald G. Sarg

Earl E. Seppala

Angela F. Showell

Albert W. Weir

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joe Lank (MOWW) and Maurice Evans (AL) for their exemplary service with the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs. I would like to welcome our three new Commissioners who have been recently appointed by the Governor: Charles T. Armbruster, Jr. (AL); William C. Farley (MCL); and Earl E. Seppala (MOWW). Several bills were passed by the 147th General Assembly of interest to Delaware's veterans. Among them was the provision to establish a Veterans Trust Fund and to provide a World War II memorial to be placed in front of Legislative Hall. I appreciate all the support on both of these initiatives. The trust fund was established with a one-time appropriation. To perpetuate the Trust it will require donations and I encourage our Veteran Service Organizations to consider this when they allocate funds to community resources. A large contingent of the Delaware National Guard continues to serve with distinction in Afghanistan. Please continue to support our military personnel and Delaware's Veterans. Hope you enjoyed Independence Day!

2013 MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

Memorial Bridge Plaza

The La Societe 40&8 and the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs hosted a very successful Memorial Day Service on Thursday, May 30, 2013. The service began at 10:30 am at the Memorial Bridge Plaza, Delaware Memorial Bridge, New Castle, Delaware which is a nationally recognized site, and many key dignitaries attended. Some of the highlights of the service included Flag presentations by the U.S Marine Corps, music by the Delaware National Guard Band, and songs by Mrs. Goldstein, Mr. Peters and "The NOTEables".



Some of the highlights of the service included Flag presentations by the U.S Marine Corps, music by the Delaware National Guard Band, and songs by Mrs. Goldstein, Mr. Peters and "The NOTEables".

Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery

Following at 2:00 pm, the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs and Air Force Sergeants Association hosted services at the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear, Delaware. The Master of Ceremonies was Commissioner William C. McMullen. The Colors were presented by the Korean War Veterans Organization, the Honor Volley by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 475 and Taps was played by George 'Taps' Taylor. Mr. Ed Sterling has faithfully donated his services for the Invocation, Benediction and live music befitting our nations heroes since 2002. For the first time this year, we were privileged to have with us the Delaware State Police Bag Pipe Band. On this somber occasion it has been our privilege to conduct this memorial tribute to our state and nations fallen veterans for over 20 years. Always Remember! Submitted by Barbara Cooke, Cemetery Administrator.



STATE OF DELAWARE LAUNCHES VETERANS SERVICES DIRECTORY

On June 18, 2013, Governor Jack Markell was joined by Delaware Secretary of State Jeffrey Bullock, State Representative Earl G. Jaques Jr. and representatives from the Delaware Commission of Veteran Affairs to announce the launch of the Veterans Services Directory (VSD). The VSD is an online, searchable database of public and private organizations that provide services to Delaware military veterans and their families. The VSD can be accessed via www.delaware.gov/vsd, and features links to Employment Services, Housing Services, Medical Services, and Education Services, among others. The VSD currently has over thirty (30) organizations profiled, with information ranging from general knowledge and social media links to videos provided by some providers. To increase the user experience, VSD is searchable by geographic location and type of service offered, and also offers quick links to important state and federal veterans' agencies. VSD will provide an array of essential services for Delaware's vast military community and simplify the process of obtaining needed services for military veterans and their families. Delaware Governor Jack Markell said, "Veterans have served and we are obligated to do everything in our power to ensure they



Delaware Governor Jack Markell said, "Veterans have served and we are obligated to do everything in our power to ensure they



get the services they have earned. The VSD is an innovative way to connect those in need of housing, healthcare, jobs and many other benefits with those organizations that have a passion to serve veterans. I want to personally encourage organizations to register for free today and help us get the word out about the Veterans Services Directory.” Delaware Secretary of State Jeffrey Bullock said, “The Veterans Services Directory is part of the solution to a problem that has existed for years. There are many benefits available to military members, veterans and their families. There are many organizations whose mission it is to provide a wide range of services to veterans. The issue has been connecting the veterans to the services. Our hope is that the Veterans Services Directory is a big part of the solution.”

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI) INFORMATIONAL MEETING

In partnership with the Brain Injury Association of Delaware (BIAD), Commissioner Robert Corsa is attempting to establish a veterans support group for persons suffering TBI or family members living with someone who does. TBI is the signature wound for veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Brain Injury Association of Delaware’s mission is to create a better future through brain injury prevention, education, advocacy, and support. They provide programs throughout Delaware for people living with brain injury. An informational meeting will be held at Easter Seals, Georgetown, Delaware on July 10, 2013 at 1:00 P.M. For more information or to show your support for this initiative, contact Commissioner Corsa at kco326@aol.com.

CUB SCOUTS HELP AT VETERANS CEMETERY

Cub Scouts from Bear Pack 1 in Lewes helped out at the Delaware Veterans Cemetery near Millsboro



April 7 by erecting patriotic birdhouses. The houses, made by Positive Points in Wilmington, were placed near the pond at the cemetery and out

front near the building, enabling the Scouts to complete some of their community service.

Shown carrying one of the birdhouses to the site are (l-r) Justin Marsh, Dylan Weyant, Jack Wiggins, and Josh and Jake Hunsicker. Getting the pole straight



are Scouts Dillon Koster, left, and Jake Hunsicker with help from Delaware Veterans Cemetery supervisor Steve Montgomery, left, and den leader Steve

Marsh.

Backfilling the post holes are (l-r) Nick Keenen, Dillon Koster and Mike Keenan. (*Cape Gazette, Apr 21, 2013*) Submitted by Sam Spiegeiman and photo by Steven Billups.



FLAG DAY CEREMONY AT MILLSBORO CEMETERY

The annual Flag Day Ceremony at the Millsboro Facility was held on 14 June.



The event was pulled inside this year due to a cool rain, but received a good turnout despite the weather. The guest speaker was Paul Davis

from the VVA and the Delaware Veterans Coalition



and there was a new singer this year, Ms. Judy Mangini from local radio station WGMD. There were two cakes for the Army’s 238th birthday and the

ceremony received support by several Honor Guard Groups that came for the “Massing of Colors”. Robert Corsa was this year’s Flag Day Chairman and emcee and did a bang up job. We are looking forward to next year’s event, with hopes that it will keep growing.

Submitted by Gregory Bee, Cemetery Administrator.

IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN VETS SEEK REPRESENTATION IN DELAWARE

An organization called IAVA (Iraq Afghanistan Vets of America) has a national presence and is lobbying for items like the numbers behind the VA disability benefits backlog -- over 565,000 vets waiting too long to get their claims resolved. But it's not enough to talk about the numbers. Whether a vet is a part of those official backlog numbers or stuck in the appeals process, the wait for benefits can be a heavy burden. Many of our fellow veterans are struggling through the emotional and financial stresses of not receiving the benefits they earned. Survey data that has been collected and fellow comrades who have served wanted to use technology to not only give them a voice, but to also raise awareness around an important issue. There is now a data visualization tool that shines new light on the backlog through the power of our stories. It's called The Wait We Carry. www.thewaitwecarry.org. Delaware Commissioner, John Hampton, who is an "At Large" representative along with fellow Commissioner, Angela Showell, are in the works of connecting with this organization in an attempt to establish a Delaware Chapter of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans that will educate, empower and connect the right people to the right information. *Submitted by John Hampton, Commissioner "At Large", Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs.*



AMERICA COMMEMORATES THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR ARMISTICE

July 27, 2013 is the 60th Anniversary of the Armistice signed by the United States, North Korea and China to bring about the end of the Korean War. Still to date, the Republic of Korea (South) and Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea (North) have not signed a peace treaty. At the time, the War was referred to as the Korean Conflict, a Police Action.

Sandwiched between World War II and the Vietnam War, the Korean War is often described as the Forgotten War. On the Commemoration Event this July in Washington, D.C., 2.3 million Korean War veterans still living, will pause to reflect on the 36,316 Americans who lost their lives in this war and the 8,176 that were listed as missing-in-action. If there is a signature wound of the Korean War, I'd have to say it is cold weather injury. Temperatures were as low as 35 degrees below zero during the winter. Personnel were inadequately equipped for the harsh winter, many suffering frostbite and are still plagued with circulatory and nerve damage. Sixty-one Delawareans lost their lives in the Korean War and approximately 8,702 veterans of the Korean War are residents of Delaware. The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee will host an event, "Heroes Remembered", in Washington D.C. July 27, 2013 at the Korean War Memorial. The program begins at eight o'clock in the morning – rain or shine. For more information about the Commemorative Events you can visit www.koreanwar60.com, or contact the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs. *Submitted by George Goss, Vice Chairman, Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, and Commander, Korean War Veterans Association of Delaware.*

DELAWARE PROCLAIMED AS A PURPLE HEART STATE

The 147th General Assembly passes House Joint Resolution No. 8, proclaiming Delaware as a Purple Heart State to honor the service and sacrifice of our Nation's men and women who served in the U.S. Armed Forces and were wounded or killed during enemy action while protecting the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans. The Joint Resolution was sponsored by Representative Brady on behalf of all Representatives and Senator Bruce Ennis for all members of the Senate. The Resolution was carried with all members of the House and Senate voting in favor of the proclamation. Representative Brady introduced the outgoing Commander of the Military



Order of the Purple Heart, Richard M. Magner and their new Commander, Gary “Mo” Morris. Commander Morris and Commander Magner are former members of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs. The Purple Heart Medal is the oldest military decoration still in use, and the first award made available for the common soldier. Delaware is the fifteenth State to be a recognized as a Purple Heart State.

AFSA PRESENTS AF ENLISTED MEDAL OF HONOR PLAQUE TO THE DELAWARE VETERANS HOME

On June 12, 2013, the Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) Chapter 201, Dover AFB, presented a plaque to the Delaware Veterans Home with the pictures of the Air Force Enlisted Medal of Honor Recipients. The plaque was designed by MSGT (Ret.) John Navitsky, a member of the chapter and is used throughout the Air Force as an award at Leadership Schools and NCO Academies.



WHAT IS AFSA?

AFSA is the Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) is a federally chartered 501c19 non-profit organization representing the professional and personnel interests of active duty, retired and veteran Total Air Force and their families. AFSA was founded on 3 May 1961 and has evolved in to an organization highly respected by congressional members and the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs Officials. AFSA works closely with the White House staff, Pentagon and Air Force officials to ensure we adhere to our Preamble “desire to assist in obtaining the highest caliber of men and women for our Air Force, our interest in the welfare of persons who served and are serving in the Air Force”. With headquarters in Suitland, MD AFSA’s representatives are on Capitol Hill daily representing members and all veterans needs and the Association is also a member of the

Military Collation. AFSA is governed by an all-volunteer 11 member Executive Council composed of an Internationally Elected President, Vice President, Trustee Retired/Veterans Affairs and 7 elected Division Presidents. Our current membership is approximately 114,000 one of the few growing organizations. Chapter 201, Dover AFB, is in Division 1 and represents Delaware with 1,284 members. Chapter 201 meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month in the Paterson Hall, the dining facility of the Base Bowling Alley, Dover AFB, @1200. Some of the activities of the Dover Chapter are involved in are Santa in the cockpit, 436th Airlift Wing Awards Programs, Picnics, and other events for our Air Force Families. Also the Bi-Annual Gettysburg clean-up with the Dover First Sergeants, Dover Days Parade, NASCAR, Adopt-a-Highway clean-up, JRAFROTC Awards, and visits to the Delaware Veterans Home. Recently have put in many hours to improve and spruce up the grounds and gardens of the Veterans Home. If you are an Active Duty, Air National Guard, Reserve, Retiree, Veteran or Family Member and want to become a member or would like more information about AFSA, contact me at mcmullenb@aol.com. Submitted by CMSGT William C. (Bill) McMullen, USAF (Ret.), Commissioner, Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs.

DELAWARE OKS SLOTS FOR VETERANS AND FRATERNAL GROUPS

A bill allowing veterans groups and fraternal organizations in Delaware to operate slot machines has won final approval in the state legislature. The Senate approved the measure overwhelmingly shortly after the House stripped a provision that expanded its scope to include local fraternal societies, not just groups with national affiliations. The legislation stemmed from an effort by the Markell administration and lawmakers to appease veterans groups and fraternal organizations that were told late last year to stop their illegal slots operations.



Representatives of veterans groups expressed anger about the amendment expanding its scope to local clubs. The bill requires organizations to return at least 60 percent of slots proceeds on an annual average basis to the players. The state would keep 40 percent of the remaining portion. (*WBOC-TV16, July 01, 2013*)

**DELAWARE HOSPICE'S
VET TO VET PROGRAM IN ACTION:**

*Veteran Volunteer Coles Marsh visits with Veteran
Ralph "Flip" Domenic, CWO3*

LZ. DMZ. Huey's. VC. How to lead. Fort Rucker. Parris Island. CWO3 and MOS—these are meaningless expressions to many of us, but they can bring quite distinct, vivid and sometimes traumatic memories to military veterans. To understand their meaning and, more important, to really appreciate what our veterans went through during their service, one just had to be there. Delaware Hospice cares for veterans every day and launched its Vet to Vet Volunteer

Program to better meet their needs. Research has shown that veterans may experience a better quality of life when they



(PHOTO CAPTION: Delaware Hospice Volunteer and Vietnam War Veteran, Coles Marsh (right) enjoys his visits with Delaware Hospice's Transitions client and Veteran Ralph "Flip" Domenic.)

have a comrade they can really open up and talk to about their military experiences. Thus, Delaware Hospice has recruited and trained volunteers who are veterans to spend time with hospice patients and Transitions clients who are also veterans. With his service in Vietnam, Coles Marsh decided to sign up to be a Vet to Vet volunteer. He regularly visits other veterans in Sussex County and enjoys it tremendously. Coles said, "I really get a kick out of meeting these guys and sharing stories. We know what it was really like, for example in Vietnam; and we can hear the courage and resolve that goes unspoken in some of those stories. This volunteer role has given me an opportunity and the great honor

to meet some real heroes, like Flip." Ralph "Flip" Domenic, Chief Warrant Officer 3 (CWO3), served in the military through three wars. He signed up for the Marines at the age of 17 and was stationed in the U.S. during WWII. He also served in the U.S. Army in Korea and in Vietnam during his long, distinguished career. Rhoda, Flip's wife, remembers Coles' first visit: "From the moment Coles walked in the room, those guys started chatting away. I could see I wouldn't be needed for a while. They talked for a couple of hours and really enjoyed themselves, laughing about their experiences in the military." Flip flew Huey helicopters during the early years of the Vietnam conflict, from 1965 to 1966, and Coles was stationed there from 1966-67. Flip flew troops and supplies in the same neighborhoods that Coles was stationed as a supply specialist, in the central part of Vietnam. They could easily have been in the same place at the same time. Flip remembered, "We delivered a lot of ammunition, food, water, and all kinds of stuff out to the troops. Then during an assault, we would fly people in to fight the Viet Cong (VC), and on the next trip, we would bring in more troops and take the wounded back to field hospitals." His helicopter was under fire regularly and received "a few pings." He said, "The good thing is that they didn't know how to lead (or shoot ahead) as you were flying out. We were lucky because they were hitting behind us, hitting the tail of the aircraft, so I never had to make an emergency landing." Flip will never forget looking down the barrel of a gun. "One day I had to sit the chopper down, because the Vietnamese troops I was bringing in wouldn't get out. They were hiding from enemy fire behind the metal and we had to just about throw them out.



(PHOTO CAPTION: Veteran Ralph "Flip" Domenic shows a model of the Huey helicopter that he flew delivering supplies and transporting troops during the Vietnam War.)

As we were approaching the LZ (landing zone), a Viet Cong popped up out of the grass in front of me and aimed straight at me from a distance of across the street. I thought this might be it, but suddenly my

door gunner got him.” During his service in Vietnam, Flip flew about 30 missions. He wanted to stay longer, but was grounded due to a neck injury and sent to Fort Rucker, a training school for pilots. He eventually retired from the military and, just 17 days later, went to work for Boeing Helicopter in Claymont as an engineer. Although he wasn’t in Korea, volunteer Coles Marsh enjoyed hearing about Flip’s experiences there as well. Flip remembered, “I was in Korea in a unit, when they needed a pilot for the commanding general. So they called down to the company for a Chief Warrant Officer and I ended up spending quite a few months as an aide, flying General John Ryan in an H13 (helicopter) every day and some nights around Korea. It was a good assignment and I learned a lot about the army.” Coles asked Flip to talk about how he became a pilot. He remembered, “When I was a kid, I built a lot of airplane models, so I was always interested. But it was pretty tough to get in. I was stationed in an army security agency, working with classified stuff. I told my operations officer that I wanted to go to flight school. He said, ‘No, we need you guys.’ I was one of twenty Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) in the army. I argued that he couldn’t say no, he had to say approved, disapproved, or under consideration. He agreed to sign it ‘under consideration’. Then I went to the post commander and did the same thing. Next my application went to Arlington Hall, where I was told I wouldn’t be able to go because we were so short-handed, and I was one of the top in my MOS. Well, what they didn’t know was that I had a friend in the Pentagon who snuck it in and they said, ‘Yes, we need him,’ and Boom! Off I went!” “You had to go through physicals and be examined by surgeons and psychologists. It was good for me because I used to bite my fingernails, and I knew the psychiatrist was going to ask about that. So I stopped, and when he asked if I bite my nails, I could honestly answer ‘No, I don’t bite them.’ So I passed and went on to complete 150 hours of flight training at Fort Walters in Texas.” There are so many great stories shared through the Vet to Vet Program. Coles said, “It’s hard to tell who enjoys the visit more, me or the veteran I’m assigned to—I really appreciate the camaraderie and learning even more about the history of the U.S. military actions.”

About Delaware Hospice’s Vet to Vet Program

Vet to Vet volunteers provide a meaningful service to Delaware Hospice patients and Transitions Program clients who are military veterans. They give their fellow veterans the opportunity to share military stories, many for the first time, helping them find inner peace from experiences of conflict, war sacrifice, and loss. Many agree to have their stories recorded on an audio CD that is presented to the veteran and his family as a “Lasting Legacy” for generations to come. Learn more about this worthwhile volunteer program at Delaware Hospice by contacting Ralph Plumley, Volunteer Coordinator, at 302-478-5707, or rplumley@delawarehospice.org.



(PHOTO CAPTION: (L to R) Delaware Hospice’s Transitions Coordinator and Vietnam War Veteran, Al Morris, Ralph “Flip” Domenic, and Delaware Hospice Volunteer and Vietnam War Veteran Coles Marsh.)

About Delaware Hospice

Since 1982, Delaware Hospice has provided exceptional care and support to 42,000 patients and their families. Its mission is to help each patient, each day, live the fullest, most comfortable life possible. Delaware Hospice is the largest and only licensed, nonprofit, community-based hospice serving Delaware and southern Chester and Delaware counties in Pennsylvania. Delaware Hospice is honored to be accredited by the Joint Commission, the nation’s leading health care standards-setting and accrediting organization. For more information about Delaware Hospice’s programs and services, upcoming events, or employment opportunities, call 800-838-9800 or visit our website, www.delawarehospice.org/get-help-now/resources/end-of-life-planning.

Submitted by Beverly Crowl, Public Relations Specialist, 302-547-1816, bcrowl@delawarehospice.org
 Twitter: @PR4DEHOSPICE
 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DelawareHospice>

NEW AUTOMATION PROCESS CUTS POST-9/11 GI BILL CLAIMS PROCESSING TIMES BY MORE THAN HALF

As part of its ongoing transformation from paper-based to electronic claims processing, the Department of Veterans Affairs has continued to improve the automated payment of benefits for Veterans participating in the Post-9/11 GI Bill education program. As a result, VA is now providing benefit payments to currently enrolled students in an average of six days – cutting by more than half the processing time experienced during the spring enrollment period last year. This enhancement to VA's automated processing system, called the Long Term Solution (LTS), uses approximately 80 business rules to support end-to-end automation of Post-9/11 GI Bill claims, ensuring accurate payments without the need for manual handling. During the month of February, 46 percent of incoming documents (over 115,000) for enrolled students were fully automated, and an additional 33 percent were partially automated. For enrolled students starting a new semester of classes, processing is taking an average of six days to complete. For new students using the benefit for the first time, the average time to establish their eligibility under the Post-9/11 GI Bill is around 24 days. "We are happy to report that our newest technology has substantially reduced the amount of time it takes to process Veterans' education claims," said Under Secretary for Benefits Allison A. Hickey. "It's a good example of VBA's transformation that is delivering better service to the fast-growing number of Post 9/11 GI Bill participants." The rules-based processing approach LTS uses is also being built into VA's technology for VA's paperless disability claims processing—the Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS). Over the past three and 1/2 years, VA has provided \$27 billion in Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to approximately 938,000 Veterans, Servicemembers, and their families, and to the universities, colleges, and trade schools they attend. For more information on VA education benefits go to <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>. (VA News Release, March 13, 2013)

HUNTING, TRAPPING AND FISHING LICENSES UPDATE

Previously, the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs had issued disabled veterans a basic Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Licenses in compliance with Title 7, Chapter 5, Section 502 of Delaware Code. Newly imposed regulations require that the license be issued by the Department of Natural Resources (DNREC). Delaware veterans with a sixty percent disability or greater are eligible for the fee exempt license. There are several methods available for making your application. DNREC does require a letter of disability rating from the VA and proof of residency. *For additional information contact the Division of Fish & Wildlife at 302-739-9918, or www.dnrec.delaware.gov.*

VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs

(New Castle County)



Mr. John Williams - Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Bear, DE may be reached Monday-Friday, (8:00 AM-4:00 PM) at (302) 365-8231. Please call for an appointment.

(Kent County)

Mr. Charles Murrell - Dover may be reached Monday-Friday (8:30 AM-4:30 PM) at (302) 739-2792 or (800) 344-9900 (in State). Please call for an appointment.

(Sussex County)

Ms. Laurie Corsa may be reached:
Mondays & Fridays - Georgetown Vet Center (8:00 AM-4:30 PM) at (302) 994-2511 Ext 2361
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays - Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Millsboro, DE (8:30 AM-4:00 PM) at (302) 648-3068. Please call for an appointment.

American Legion



Joseph T. Houghton, Dept. Service Officer, (302) 993-7256, will visit the following posts on the following dates:

- JUL 12 Walter L Fox, Post #2 302-674-3922
(11:00-3:00)
- AUG 02 Oak Orchard/Riverdale, 302-945-1673
Post #28 (10:00-2:00)
- AUG 09 Walter L Fox, Post #2 302-674-3922
(11:00-3:00)
- SEP 06 Oak Orchard/Riverdale, 302-945-1673
Post #28 (10:00-2:00)
- SEP 12 Walter L Fox, Post #2 302-674-3922
(11:00-3:00)
- SEP 20 William T. Spooner 302-645-1751
Post #17 (10:00-2:00)

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)



DAV Dept. Service Officers: 302-697-9061
Paul Lardizzone: 302-382-3448
H. Mark Wischman: 302-382-3449

Kent County Schedule:

DAV Headquarters Building, 183 South Street,
Camden, DE 19934

Monday thru Thursday 8:00-12:00 PM (Walk-ins)
1:00-3:00 PM (Appt only)

Sussex County Schedule:

Department of Labor (Div of Employment & Trng)
20093 Office Circle, Georgetown, DE 19947

Thursday 8:00-12:00 PM (Walk-ins) 302-856-5230
Kent & Sussex evening appointments prescheduled
by request only.

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) 993-7252 or (302)
993-7253. 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 1st
Tuesday, Dover the 2nd Tuesday, and Frederica the
3rd Tuesday of each month.

Purple Heart NSO (MOPH)



Cheryl Yard, National Service Officer, VA Regional
Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE
19805, (302) 993-7263 M-F 8:30 to 4:00. Walk-ins
welcome.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)



Jerry Brooks, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood
Hwy, Room 21, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 993-
7260.

1ST Thursday

Delaware DOL (993-7260) 8:00-11:00 AM
Milford VFW (422-4412) 1:30-4:00 PM

2nd Thursday

Delaware DOL (993-7260) 8:00-11:00 AM
Milton VFW (684-4975) 1:30-4:00 PM

3rd Thursday

Delaware DOL (993-7260) 8:00-11:00 AM
Rehoboth VFW (227-3469) 1:30-4:00 PM

4th Thursday

Delaware DOL (993-7260) 8:00-11:00 AM
Seaford VFW (629-3092) 1:30-4:00 PM

5th Thursday

Delaware DOL (993-7260) 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 1-302-993-7260. 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 VFW
provides services to veterans and their dependents
without respect to veteran service organization
affiliation; membership in the VFW is NOT required
for service.

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)

Terry Baker, National Service Officer, VA Regional
Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE
19805, (302) 993-7250 or (302) 993-7251.

**DELAWARE VETERANS MEMORIAL
CEMETERY**

New Castle Co. Section (Bear, DE).....302-834-8046
Sussex Co. Section (Millsboro, DE).....302-934-5653

DELAWARE VETERANS HOME

100 Delaware Veterans Blvd.....302-424-6000
Milford, DE 19963

HOME OF THE BRAVE

Main Office - 302-424-1681
Denise Dudley- Intake Coordinator
302-424-0358

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Cleopatra Jones (Wilmington).....302-761-8077
Allen Jones (Wilmington).....302-761-8141
Lisa Smith (Newark).....302-451-3457
Toney Frasier (Newark).....302-451-3453
Cliff Rumph (Dover).....302-857-5866
Kevin Gunning (Dover).....302-857-5870
Dawn Smith (Georgetown).....302-858-5233

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
.....302-761-8275

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VA Regional Office (Claims & Benefits)
1601 Kirkwood Hwy
Wilmington, DE 19805.....800-827-1000

VA Medical Center (Healthcare)
1601 Kirkwood Hwy
Wilmington, DE 19805.....800-461-8262
.....302-994-2511

Dover VA Outpatient Clinic
1198 S. Governors Ave
Dover, DE 19904.....800-461-8262 x2400

Georgetown VA Outpatient Clinic
20653 DuPont Hwy
Georgetown, DE 19947800-461-8262 x2300

Readjustment Counseling

Vet Center (New Castle Co.).....800-461-8262 x5434
Vet Center (Kent Co.).....800-461-8262 x2430
Vet Center (Sussex Co.).....302-225-9110

The Vet Center provides counseling services for:

- Post Traumatic Stress and Other Disorders
- Military Sexual Trauma
- Marital/Family problems
- Bereavement

Vet Center services are provided at no cost to eligible veterans who served in combat areas and their families or to those who experienced sexual trauma or bereavement challenges without combat area restriction.

Veterans Outreach Program

Mike Rowe - Listening Post-Lower Delaware
302-422-8033x173

RETIREE ACTIVITIES

Retired Activities Office

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

Retired Navy Activities Affairs Office

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

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS POC

Air Force Sergeants Association
Bill McMullen.....(302) 697-9750
American Gold Star Mothers
Pauline Anderson.....(302) 633-0239
American Legion
Richard "Ric" Santos.....(302) 628-5221
AMVETS
Albert Weir.....(302) 629-4141
Colonial Paralyzed Veterans of America
Ron Hoskins.....(302) 365-5670
Delaware Veterans Coalition
Dave Skocik.....(302) 736-8500
E-mail: delawareveteranscoalition@gmail.com
Disabled American Veterans
Paul Lardizzone.....(302) 697-9061

Fleet Reserve Association
James M. Jackson.....(302) 834-1719
40 & 8
Eugene “Chip” Rosan.....(302) 678-8077
Jewish War Veterans
Len Markovitz.....(302) 234-4785
Korean War Veterans Association
George Goss.....(302) 424-0461
Marine Corps League
William C. Farley.....(302) 242-7926
Military Officers Association of America
Tom Kelly (New Castle Co.).....(302) 834-9659
Ron Sarg (Kent Co.).....(302) 678-1603
Fred Seth, Jr. (Sussex Co.).....(302) 519-0611
Military Order of the Purple Heart
Cornelius “Bill” Carroll.....(302) 655-3820
Military Order of the World Wars
Karen Kelly.....(302) 834-9659
E-mail: karenleakelly@verizon.net
Survivor Outreach Services Support Coordinator
Judy C. Campbell.....(302) 326-7787
The Reserve Officers Association
LTC Richard Chappell (Ret).....(302) 234-1418
E-mail: rwc49ps54ud@comcast.net
Veterans of Foreign Wars

Paul Phillips Jr.....(302) 656-5022
Vietnam Veterans of America
Paul Davis.....(302) 697-8384
WAVES Nat’l
Ruth Harden.....(302) 998-1373

COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Paul Lardizzone (Chairman).....DAV
George T. Goss (Vice Chairman).....KWVA
Charles T. Armbruster,..... American Legion
Cornelius “Bill” Carroll.....MOPH
Robert P. Corsa.....VVA
William C. Farley.....MCL
John Hampton.....At Large
Ruth B. Harden.....WAVES NAT’L
Charles Keithley.....40 & 8
William “Bill” McMullen.....AFSA
Mark Newman.....VFW
Barry Newstadt.....JWV
Ronald Sarg.....MOAA
Earl E. Seppala.....MOWW
Angela F. Showell..... At Large
Albert W. Weir.....AMVETS



Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Informational Meeting

July 10, 2013 @ 1:00 PM

Easter Seals
22317 DuPont Blvd
Georgetown, DE 19947

Everyone is invited to attend!

The Brain Injury Association of Delaware's mission is to create a better future through brain injury prevention, education, advocacy, and support. They provide programs throughout Delaware for people living with brain injury. In partnership with BIAD, Commissioner Robert Corsa, Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, is attempting to establish a veterans support group in Sussex County.

For additional information,
please contact Robert Corsa at kco326@aol.com

**TBI IS A SIGNATURE WOUND
OF OEF/OIF VETERANS.**

Attention Veterans!

Are you training at least $\frac{3}{4}$ time and interested in a paid VA Work Study Opportunity at the Wilmington VA Medical Center?

- ❖ Paid Work Study Positions are available in all areas of the hospital.
- ❖ Participants are paid Min Wage Tax Free and may work up to 25 hours a week.
- ❖ Get valuable experience while being paid!!!!

Please contact **Michael Merrill, VA Program Manager** at 302-994-2511 ext. 4447 to learn more about this exciting opportunity.

Are you a veteran with a disability studying for a job in the health care field?

Opportunities available for gaining paid
Nursing Assistant clinical experience
at the VA Medical Center in Wilmington, Delaware.
\$10.00 per hour, 20 hours per week for 6 Months.
Job placement assistance following training available.

For More Information Contact:

Mike Merrill 302-994-2511 ext 4447

Or

Cindy Sterling 302-765-1232



ServiceSource

*A Joint Project of the Department of Veterans Affairs and ServiceSource Delaware,
with support from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund*



**IN SUPPORT OF SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH
DELAWARE PRESENTS VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT and CARNIVAL OF
WELLNESS**

The summit will be held at the Embassy Suites in Newark, DE Wellness on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at the Newark Embassy Suites (854 South College Ave. Newark, DE 19713). The Delaware Suicide Prevention Coalition is hosting this event from 8AM until 8PM. The event will be divided into two sections, a daytime mental health summit and a carnival-like event in the evening. The Veterans Mental Health Summit will include a keynote address from Clark Flatt, president of The Jason Foundation, Inc., a panel session on veterans in recovery, and multiple breakout sessions on topics ranging from PTSD to Women Veterans. There will be CEU sessions held from 9am to 4 pm by pre-registration Registrations for the CEU's can be done at <http://dtool.dhss.delaware.gov> or send an e-mail, including name, telephone number(s) and business address to: DSAMH.Training@state.de.us

The Carnival of Wellness will be held for Veterans and their families from 5 to 8 pm and will be a fun-filled night with games, yummy carnival food, and resources for military families. Last year's event drew around 150 individuals in the daytime and approximately 100 family members in the evening.

Exhibitor registration is now being accepted. We urge you to sign up promptly because space is limited. All exhibitors are asked to provide information about the services they offer and resources to veterans, service members, families and support members in Delaware. The exhibitor fee is \$25 gift card of your choice to be donated for door prizes during the Carnival of Wellness. We hope you will be able to join us for this important event to support our service members and continue.

**“In Support of Suicide Prevention Month
DELAWARE PRESENTS
2013 Delaware Veterans Mental
Health Summit”, 9- 4 PM**

Registrations for the CEU's can be done at <http://dtool.dhss.delaware.gov> or send an e-mail, including name, telephone number(s) and business address to:

DSAMH.Training@state.de.us.

& Military Family Carnival of Wellness, 5-8PM

Embassy Suites in Newark, DE 19713

September 10, 2013

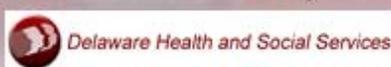


EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITY

In support of Suicide Prevention Month, Delaware presents
2013 Veterans Mental Health Summit & Carnival of Wellness

**Embassy Suites
854 South College Ave.
Newark, DE 19713
Tuesday September 10, 2013 8AM-8PM**

The Delaware Suicide Prevention Coalition is pleased to announce the **2013 Veterans Mental Health Summit & Carnival of Wellness** in support of Suicide Prevention Month. This event will present and disseminate information and resources to veterans, service members, families and support members in Delaware. The day portion of the event will emphasize workshops for service providers who may work with veterans and the military, and the evening portion will be a fun-filled night with games, food, and resources for military families.

Exhibitor registration is now being accepted. We urge you to sign up promptly because **space is limited**. All exhibitors are asked to provide information about the services that they offer.

Exhibit Fee: \$25 gift certificate of your choice to be donated for door prizes
(Please bring the gift card with you and give to Jennifer Seo on the day of event)

We hope your organization will want to be included, so please complete the attached exhibitor form as soon as possible. Do not miss out on this important event. There are a limited number of spaces available, so **REGISTER NO LATER THAN MONDAY AUGUST 19, 2013.**

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday September 10, 2013. Should you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to call Jennifer Seo at 302-654-6833 or via email at jseo@mhainde.org. Thank you for your support and your ongoing commitment to preventing suicide in Delaware.



MeadowWood
Behavioral Health System

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

**In support of Suicide Prevention Month, Delaware presents
2013 Veterans Mental Health Summit & Carnival of Wellness**

**Embassy Suites
854 South College Ave.
Newark, DE 19713
Exhibitor set-up time:
Tuesday, September 10, 2013 @ 7:30am**

Company/Organization: _____

Address: _____

Contact Name(s) : _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Description of Information Display/Screening Service:

Please check if

- Electricity Needed : _____

*Exhibit includes one 6' table and two chairs; 2 people maximum for exhibiting from each organization

*You will need to exhibit for the entire day (8AM-8PM)

* Please bring \$25 gift card with you on day of conference and give to Jennifer Seo

SIGNATURE OF EXHIBITOR'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Date

SEND FORM VIA MAIL, EMAIL OR FAX TO:

Jennifer Seo

jseo@mhainde.org

Mental Health Association in Delaware

100 West 10th Street, Suite 600

Wilmington, DE 19801

302-654-6833

1-800-287-6423 (Kent & Sussex Counties)

Fax: 302-654-6838

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.

“The Centurion” newsletter is now distributed electronically. To receive your copy by email, subscribe to “The Centurion” at our web site: www.veteransaffairs.delaware.gov. To obtain a hard copy of the newsletter, visit one of our office locations or your local veterans post home. This policy will remain in effect until further notice. Thank you for your consideration and understanding.

STATE OF DELAWARE
"Serving Delaware's Veterans"

