



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

APRIL 2026

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Comrades, Members and Guests;

There is nothing like a terminal, Stage 4, Pancreatic Cancer diagnosis, which has also spread to the liver, to remind us that the Supreme Commander of us all is really in charge. Such was the case for me and my Family on March 12. It blind-sided all of us, hit us like a ton of bricks. Our world turned upside down, and inside out. Some of you can relate.



I am drawing strength from all of you who have reached out in prayer, well wishes and just to offer hugs. Me and my Family thank you all very much. Some of the best medicine I can receive is the knowledge that you will all continue to frequent our Post, continue to Volunteer your time, and continue our vital mission of **Serving Our Veterans, Helping Our Veterans and Honoring Our Veterans.**

What does this mean for VFW Post 7234 – the Post and the people that I love?

1. As you may recall when I accepted the position as your Post Commander, I told you that I would do the best I could, for as long as I could. That is still my intent.

2. My preference is to continue as your Post Commander and attempt to complete my term in mid-June.

3. However, I must withdraw my name from nomination to be considered for your next Post Commander for the term of June 2026 - June 2027.

4. There are times when the pain is greater than at other times. There will be days going forward, between now and mid-June that the Senior Vice Commander may need to step in and be the Acting Post Commander in my absence.

There are many opportunities during April to make lasting memories at the Post. Check out the Post Calendar, mark your own calendars, and come to your Post for:

April 6: Monthly General Membership Meeting, 7 PM.

April 10: Help-A-Vet Town Hall and Veteran Outreach Event. Jim Jensen and Mike Tuckman have assembled an All-Star list of Speakers and Resources to be at the Post.

April 11: Bull & Oyster Roast, AYCE, Open to the Public, \$50 per person.

April 17: Line Dancing, 1 PM.

April 24 – April 26: VFW Post 7234 80th Anniversary Celebration Weekend. More details are to be found in a separate article in this Newsletter.

April 28: Old Timer's Softball League Opening Day Ceremony in Dagsboro. Info Table set up, and Honor Guard Posts Colors.

During May: Volunteer VFW "Day of Service" Events throughout the Month.

Some details regarding our upcoming VFW Post 7234 80th Anniversary Celebration:

a. This will be a 3-day weekend long Anniversary celebration event (**April 24 - 26, 2026**) for all Post Members (VFW, Auxiliary, Mason-Dixon) and Guests.

b. One of the Anniversary celebration centerpieces is the Saturday Night Dinner & Dance featuring Delaware Hall of Fame Band - " On The Edge ". This event is open to Members plus one (1) Guest. The ticket to enter is your current, active VFW Membership Card if you are in good standing. There will be Door Monitors checking on this. Once capacity is reached (approx 180 attendees), Door Monitors will unfortunately have to turn people away. There is no charge for admission, but dinner and beverages will be cash only. Entry for our previous Past Post Commanders (and one Guest) will be reserved upfront, to ensure entry.

c. 80th Anniversary Commemorative VFW Post 7234 **Shirts** are in and are for sale!! We plan to bulk order short-sleeves male and female. Lead POC: Debbie Jensen.

d. Commemorative, specially designed VFW Post 7234 80th Anniversary **Coins** have been ordered (200 initially) from our Vendor - 4heroes. Projected delivery date is late March. Since they are numbered coins from 1 - 200, the lowest numbers are reserved for our Past Post Commanders first, with Honorary Past Post Commander for Life, Irv Hudson, getting the #1 Coin. (Lead POC: Post Commander Myers and Post Quartermaster Guido).

e. A Commemorative VFW Post 7234 80th Anniversary **Lapel Pin** has been specially designed and 300 have been ordered for sale from the same Vendor - 4Heroes.

f. A Commemorative VFW Post 7234 80th Anniversary **Hat** will be specially designed and ordered for sale from the same Vendor as the shirts - Logo Motive.

g. VFW Post 7234 **Essay Contest** continues through April 10. Themes are: **What does your VFW Post 7234 Membership meant to you? How has the Post impacted your life?** This is advertised on our social media sites, Bulletin Board and Flyers at the Post. There is a \$250 Cash Prize award for the winning Essay. Please encourage participation. POC: Debbie Jensen.

h. **Videotape** of Past Post Commanders, Past Auxiliary Presidents and other Members on their recollections of the Post throughout the years. Keith Simpson has agreed to be our videographer, and John Gossart the Interviewer. It will play on a "loop" on Post TV screens over the Anniversary weekend. Also, for sale as part of the 80th Anniversary Memorabilia.

i. The existing (older) Time Capsule was extracted from the exterior Post wall. It was opened and the contents to be revealed at the Opening Ceremony on April 24 at 12 Noon. Capsule contents disposition to be determined. A **new Time Capsule** will be re-inserted into the wall and sealed to be opened at a later date – perhaps at the 100th Anniversary Celebration.

j. "**History of Mason-Dixon VFW Post 7234** " is being researched and assembled for inclusion into the 80th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet. It will detail the history of the Post, with pictures, captions, quotations, etc. Our Past Post Commanders Fulton Loppatto, Danny Steele and John Mitchell are assembling this historical publication. Together with the videotape it will record our proud Post history for generations to come.

k. Assemble and print **VFW Post 7234 80th Anniversary Commemorative Booklets** for distribution to attendees (POC: Fulton Loppatto, Post Auxiliary and UPS partners). We will be selling advertising space (whole page, half page, quarter page, business card sizes). These will mention local Business and Individual Sponsors who have contributed to the 80th Anniversary events or purchased advertising space. Sponsorship, Contributor and Advertiser Categories are Donor is up to \$100, Patron: \$101 - \$499, Bronze: \$500 - \$999, Silver: \$1,000 - \$1,999, and Gold: \$2,000 and above. Individuals can also purchase space such as " In Honor of ", "In Memory of ", or just their names. We expect individual Members to donate \$50 to get their names printed in the booklet and receive a free Commemorative Coin. The Post Auxiliary mailed Letters detailing our 80th Anniversary Celebration to nearly 200 area

businesses requesting contributions or to purchase advertising space. **10 - 15** positive responses received thus far! The Auxiliary will also maintain a list of donors for Thank You Letters to go out later. Many thanks to the Auxiliary for stepping up and being the lead. Mass production of the Booklet (5.5" x 8.5") to be done by UPS - Branden.

1. **Notify Neighboring Homes and HOA's** of our planned activities for that weekend. Email was sent to the Quillens Point HOA. I will also mail further notification correspondence to local residents as the event dates get closer.

During the Anniversary Weekend:

- Thursday Morning: VFW Post 7234 Golf Association to hold an open play **Golf Outing** for Post Members (also to encourage new Members to join the Golf Association). This event was changed from Friday to Thursday to allow maximum participation at both the Golf Outing and the Anniversary Opening Ceremony on Friday. (POC: John Rywelski and Ken Smith).
- Friday Morning:
 - **Opening Ceremony** is held at 12 Noon at Memorial Park with luncheon to follow. Inclimate weather site is inside the Post.
 - **Time Capsule(s)**. Existing (old one from 1960) recovered from building cornerstone and examined / identified. New one have items ready to encapsulate.
- Friday Afternoon: Veteran information tables set up inside with Veteran Benefits, Health matters, and Post and Auxiliary Membership applications. Also, sales of our Commemorative 80th Anniversary Memorabilia (Coins, Shirts, Lapel Pins, Hats, Videotape, etc.) and Booklets. Cold cuts and salads are available. The bar is open.
- Friday Night: **Dinner and " Sock Hop " Dance** w/ DJ.
- Saturday Afternoon: Activities to occur at the downstairs bar. Upstairs bar closed to set up for Saturday Night Dinner / Dance. Veteran information tables set up inside with Veteran Benefits, Health matters, and Post and Auxiliary Membership applications. Also, sales of our Commemorative 80th Anniversary Memorabilia (Coins, Shirts, Lapel Pins, Hats, Videotape, etc.) and Booklets. Cold cuts and salads are available. The bar is open.
- Saturday Evening: **Dinner and Dance** to the live music of the Hall of Fame Band: " On The Edge "
- Sunday Morning:
 - **Memorial Service** in the Memorial Park begins at 9 AM. Concludes with Volley and Taps by our **Post Honor Guard**
 - Then, a small dedication service to re-**encapsulate the new Time Capsule contents** inside the exterior wall of the Post for future recovery.
 - Followed by a Buffet **Breakfast** in the Dining Room similar to Summer Buffet Breakfast, but with one time celebration additions of Steamship Round Beef carving station and Steamed Shrimp. Donations were graciously accepted.
- Sunday Afternoon: **Exhale**. Sit around and reminisce, tell stories, take pictures. Veteran information tables set up inside with Veteran Benefits, Health matters, and Post and Auxiliary

Membership applications. Also, sales of our Commemorative 80th Anniversary Memorabilia (Coins, Shirts, Lapel Pins, Hats, Videotape, etc.) and Booklets. Cold cuts and salads are available. The bar is open. **End of Event.**

- Post Commander Chad Myers.

Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Spring has finally arrived, at least on the calendar! Let's hope it will be a pleasant season. This month we will welcome home all our snowbird neighbors; boy did they miss some weather for the ages! Hope



you have a snowball or two left over to share with them.

Opening Day- rushed in before April this year, certainly hope all baseball fanatics are ready for a wonderful season!

April is Auxiliary Election time! Nominations and elections will be conducted at the April 6th general membership meeting. All members in good standing are entitled to vote. You need to be present to accept a nomination and an office, unless you submit a letter stating you will accept due to your absence. All offices are up for election. President, Senior Vice President, Junior Vice President, Treasurer, Conductor, Guard, and one Three-year Trustee. Nominations may be made from the floor or from the President's station. No seconds are required. If elected and accepted, Induction will take place at the May meeting

and Officers will assume their positions after the June Statewide Convention.

The Statewide Convention of the Auxiliary will take place on the weekend of June 13th-14th at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel at 4727 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803.

Dale Weese, Jr., our current Senior Vice President and past Auxiliary President will be sworn in as the Department of Delaware State Auxiliary President for 2026-2027 at the State Convention. Attendance at the Convention on Saturday, the 13th by as many Post 7234 Auxiliary members as possible, will provide Dale with a great boost in his new position. Plan to attend to find out more about all the other State's Auxiliaries and plans for next year under Dale's leadership.

Connie Weber has decided to step down as the Ice Cream Chair after 13 years. Thank you for the great work, Connie! Welcome to the new Auxiliary Ice Cream Chair, Jean Magee. Jean will be initiating Ice cream sales on April 9th with her tremendous group of volunteers. She will be looking for volunteers to not only sell ice cream at the Post, but to assist in picking it up from BJs. She is currently working out logistics.

The Post calendar is quite full for the month of April, with the culminating event of the 80th Anniversary Celebration weekend of April 24th-26th. Take a page from the Easter Bunny's book and hop over to the ceremonies and festivities that start at noon on Friday, April 24th. Keep on "hopping to the sock hop" on Friday night and be back for more activities Saturday and Sunday.

Donations are still requested from all members for the Anniversary Celebration to have your name placed in the Anniversary Booklet.

Commemorative coins, hats, shirts and lapel pins will be on sale for the Anniversary Celebration!

I hope everyone was able to participate in the Vietnam Veterans Ceremony on March 29th. We do celebrate their sacrifice and courage throughout the year, but March 29th is always a special day to say, **"WELCOME HOME!"**

The Veteran's Help-A-Vet Town Hall is on April 10th. Veterans, Spouses, Family Members and Caregivers can obtain benefit information and discuss, with knowledgeable people, issues they may be encountering and learn about benefits that may be available. Please be sure to share the date and invite anyone who would be interested to attend the event. I encourage all Auxiliary members to stop by to see where you can assist or just show your support to our Veterans.

The Post is participating in the Olde Tymers Softball League opening day ceremony at the Dagsboro Church of God, on April 28th at 8:30 a.m. It is a **recreational slow-pitch softball league for players 60 years of age and up, and many** team members are veterans. The Post Honor Guard will be there for the opening. We will have information tables for joining both the Post and the Auxiliary. Come out and enjoy the day meeting new people and watching the Olde Tymers play softball.

April brings a smile to my face with the start of the VFW Post 7234 Golf League. The league plays on Tuesday mornings at the Salt Pond Golf Course, starting April 14th. This is fun for all levels of golfers. Sign up, come out, play 18 holes and enjoy lunch back at the Post to see if you and your team finished in first, second or third place. You can also win closest to the Pin! The League is looking for new members, both men and women.

Don't be a stranger at the Post. Come out to enjoy the camaraderie, food, drink and of course the view! Make it a habit to volunteer when you can to help.

Kevin Conlon
Auxiliary 7234 President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board and Post Officers have been busy planning our 80th Anniversary Celebration, scheduled for April 24–26. Many volunteers have stepped forward to assist, and we offer a special thank you to the Post Auxiliary for their participation. Commemorative coins, lapel pins, and shirts have arrived; the initial shirt order has already sold out, and more are currently on order.

We are also eagerly anticipating the Help-A-Vet Town Hall event organized by Past Post Commander Jim Jensen and Board Member Mike Tuckman. They have assembled an impressive array of veteran advocates, leaders, and speakers. As the ranks of the Help-A-Vet Committee have dwindled over the years, anyone interested in volunteering for the committee is encouraged to contact Jim Jensen.

In maintenance news, John, Marty, Rielly, and Jeff have been hard at work painting the bar and dance floor area, as well as installing a new rubber baseboard and anti-slip material on the bar step. A big shout-out to Mark and his team for their assistance with the painting.

Regarding VFW National Grants, our applications have been submitted and we expect an update shortly. We have already received a \$1,500 #StillServing Grant for community service projects involving direct member engagement, such as providing holiday meals, visiting veteran facilities, or distributing clothing. I am currently correcting a minor error on the final grant application and will resubmit it soon.

Our food donations have slowed over the winter, and we are in need of supplies for our food bank to support area distributors. Our casserole program continues to be successful; thank you to Jim Jensen and Mike Tuckman for delivering these to our supported churches. We are also continuing our annual "Coats and Sweats for Vets" drive. Please drop off men's or women's clothing in the plastic container located in the Post lobby.

Finally, the Board will have several vacancies to fill starting this June. We encourage all VFW members to consider joining the Board to help make the crucial decisions necessary to keep our Post vibrant.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew Artemchuk
Board Chair

DECEASED MEMBERS



*Herman Oberg
John Barrett
George Bunting
Robert Lesperance*

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families who have lost loved ones. Eternal rest grant unto them O' Lord, may the perpetual light shine upon them, and may they rest in peace. Amen.

Please call Jeannette Twigg at 30-381-539-9981 for the VFW or Annie Berger at 302-539-9981 for the Auxiliary, if a member is sick or has passed away

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings from Jeannette

Spring has a way of reminding us that change is part of life. After a long winter, we welcome the signs of new growth, longer days, warmer breezes, and the quiet promise of renewal. Spring can lift the spirit, but it also brings change, and not all change arrives easily or by choice.

Something to Ponder

There are times when life's journey grows quieter, and the road ahead feels uncertain. For those facing serious or terminal illness, these days call for a different kind of strength—one that veterans understand well. Not every battle is loud, and not every act of courage is seen.

Your service, your stories, and the bonds you've built remain strong. Illness does not erase the honor of a life lived with purpose, nor the impact you've had on others.

Strength takes many forms. Some days it looks like resolve; other days it looks like rest. There is honor in accepting what is, and grace in allowing companionship along the way; found in a shared memory, a kind word, or a moment of peace. You do not have to walk every step alone. You are surrounded by care and by a presence greater than all of us.



*May peace find you where you are.
May comfort steady you.
And may you know, without doubt,
that you are held—now and always*

BENEFITS ADVISOR OUTREACH

[VA moves to speed up community care appointment scheduling](#)

3/9/2026 11 a.m. ET

WASHINGTON — Technology that will help the Department of Veterans Affairs schedule community care appointments faster than ever before is now up and running at all VA facilities, and VA will be expanding its use in 2026 so Veterans can more easily choose the health care they've earned.



The [External Provider Scheduling](#) system gives VA employees instant access to the scheduling systems of all community care providers who participate in this program. With that information, VA can immediately book appointments for Veterans that fit their schedules.

Without EPS, VA employees often have to make multiple calls to multiple community care providers and relay that information back to Veterans before a single appointment can be booked. Under this traditional method, a single VA employee can only book a handful of community care appointments per day, and it can take days or even weeks to book a single appointment.

But EPS enables VA employees to book as many as 25 appointments per day, a vast improvement that means less waiting time for Veterans.

Today, 27,000 community care providers are participating in the EPS program covering 78 medical specialties. VA's goal is to sign up thousands of additional community care providers in 2026 as part of VA's ongoing effort to deliver timely, Veteran-centered care. It costs nothing for providers to participate in EPS — community care providers can [learn more](#) here about how to participate.

"When President Trump signed the MISSION Act, Veterans eligible for community care were guaranteed the right to choose the health care that's best for them, whether at a VA facility or a community provider," said **VA Secretary Doug Collins**. "We are making it easier and more convenient than ever for those who have worn the uniform to choose the care that best fits their lifestyle."

Download these free handbooks for helpful guidance for veterans and their families.

<https://www.aarp.org/lp/veteran-resources/>

H "Rich" Fales-Post Benefits Advisor

Cell# 301-325-3813

mail: richfales@gmail.com (NEW!)



HONOR GUARD NEWS



The Honor Guard participated in the funeral services for Robert Lesperance, US Navy (ret) at the Veterans Cemetery on March 6th. Ten members rendered Volley and Taps in honor of our fallen comrade. Rest in Peace Comrade!

On March 13th in Ocean City, MD, seven members of the Honor Guard posted colors to begin the Moose International Convention. Afterwards, Captain John treated us to coffee and bagels!

On March 29th, National Vietnam War Veterans Day, thirteen members of the Honor Guard rendered Volley and Taps in remembrance of our fallen Vietnam War comrades.



FACTS YOU MAY NOT KNOW:

The VFW Post 7234 Honor Guard was established in the late 1950s shortly after the Mason-Dixon Post 7234 was established. It continues in service today with twenty-one members. It serves as a dedicated unit performing solemn precise military funeral honors and ceremonial duties.

Our Post is an Honor Guard.

There is a distinct difference between an Honor Guard and a Color Guard. Every Honor Guard is also a Color Guard. Color Guards are NOT Honor Guards as their duties and responsibilities are limited. A Color Guard will carry the colors, post the colors and march in parades.

Our Post is an Honor Guard!!!

Honor Guards are known for their precision and attention to detail. They perform a variety of ceremonial duties, including:

***Presenting and guarding the colors (national, state, and organizational flags)**

***Rendering honors, such as presenting arms, saluting, volley and taps at funerals or memorial services**

***Providing escort services for dignitaries or fallen comrades**

***Participating in parades, change of command ceremonies, and other official events**

***Posting and retiring colors**

Each month our Post recognizes a member of our Honor Guard for his dedicated service to VFW Post 7234 and for his commitment to honor our deceased comrades. This month we recognize Honor Guard member and Commander Chad Myers.



Chad is a life member of our Post and joined in 2017. He served in the US Army for 1975 to 1999, in Germany, Korea, APG, Picatinny Arsenal and MDARNG. He is a Quilt of Valor recipient from our Post.

Chad learned about the Honor Guard while volunteering at the Post Chicken Shack. He joined our ranks for camaraderie, to honor veterans, and to give back. He states:

“The honor guard is a representative extension of our Members and our Post. In some cases, it may be the only lasting memory that a family and loved ones have of their departed Veteran. Take your solemn duties seriously. Have fun afterwards or when you pay visits to Brandywine and Soldier’s Home.”

Mason Dixon VFW Post 7234 thanks and salutes Honor Guard member and Post Commander Chad Myers.

We are grateful to all our Post Honor Guard members for your dedication and service, and “salute” you for your service and representation of Mason Dixon VFW Post 7234.

**REMEMBER NOT EVERY COLOR GUARD IS AN HONOR GUARD
BUT EVERY HONOR GUARD IS A COLOR GUARD!**

To learn more about Mason Dixon VFW Post 7234 Honor Guard and our duties and responsibilities, please contact me.

John F. Gossart, Jr.
Captain of the Honor Guard
240-304-8183
Judge800@yahoo.com

Or:
Mike Schiffer
Assistant, Captain of the Honor Guard
302-448-1877
Rschiffer0@gmail.com

*The purpose of the Honor Guard is to provide funeral honors for our fallen comrades and guard national monuments. An Honor Guard may also serve as the ‘guardians of the colors’ “by displacing and escorting the national flag on ceremonial occasions at official functions.”

POST FLAG DUTY FOR APRIL 2026
ANDREW ARTEMCHUK
GREG ALBERTSON

CANTEEN CORNER

Spring has sprung and April presents many exciting opportunities at our Post. The Bull and Oyster will be held on Saturday April 11. Tickets are \$50 and are available at the bar and will be sold day of event. The event is open to the public, so come out and enjoy. The downstairs bar will be open will all day happy hour. Doors open 2:30.

The weekend of April 24 - 26 we will be celebrating the Posts 80th Anniversary. Friday we will host a 50's Sock Hop. Saturday will feature on "On the Edge" with our Prime Rib Dinner Menu. Saturday will conclude with a brunch from 10 - 1.

Sundays April 12 & 19th will feature music from 4 - 7pm and burgers and dogs from 4:30 - 6:30. Monday Mingo will be held April 13 & 27th with the ever-popular Friendly Feud on the 20th. Tuesday is our ever popular cheesesteak nite followed by Wednesday Nite Flip 5. Thursday is game

day with Mahjong, Texas Hold'em in the afternoon and darts from 6- 8pm. Thursday also features our Fried Chicken and grilled fish dinners. Exciting things happening on Fridays in April with Seafood Nite on the 3rd, County Nite dinner on the 17th, along with DJ Buddy Ray. April 24th will feature 50's nite.

Saturday nite entertainment schedule is as follows:

April 4- Robin & Hoods

April 18 - Identity Crisis

April 25 - On the Edge

Dinners are served from 5 - 7pm

Bands playing from 6 - 9pm.

One Last Public Service Announcement

No food or beverages are to be brought into the Post. Birthday cakes, anniversary cakes etc. must have prior approval by Canteen Manager.

Thank you

John Frye

Canteen Manager

WE'RE ALL AMERICANS

Looking at the calendar for April, I noticed that April 9 is the anniversary of the surrender of Robert E. Lee, Commander of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia, to Ulysses S. Grant, Commander of the Union army, at Appomattox, Virginia. In 1865. The event essentially marked the end of our terrible Civil War, that began in April 1861 (although there was still some scattered fighting), and the preservation of our republic. It came at a high cost, with over 500,000 lives lost in battle and from disease and other causes. (A low estimate.)



Coincidentally, I came across an article by Peggy Noonan in the Wall Street Journal about that historic event with some lessons for us today. Drawing on the biographies of Grant and Lee and eye witness accounts, she tells the story of how the two adversaries treated each other with courtesy and respect as they worked out the terms of the surrender. Lee in a perfect formal dress uniform and Grant, riding in from the field ahead of his baggage, dressed in a regular soldier's uniform and mud-splattered boots.

Grant was guided by and implemented the compassionate, reconciliation and unifying policy direction of President Lincoln, expressed so many times in speeches and conversations. Such as: "To bind up the nation's wounds" . . .and "with malice toward none and charity for all."

The Confederate soldiers had to give up their military supplies and equipment, but could keep their personal weapons. When Lee asked if his soldiers could keep a horse or mule to help with Spring planting when they got home, Grant readily agreed. When Lee mentioned that his army, then about 25,000 men, had been surviving on corn for about ten days, Grant directed his commissary to provide them with Union army rations.

The final surrender agreement was prepared by Lieutenant Colonel Ely Parker, a native American leader of the Seneca Tribe in New York, engineer and lawyer who served as military secretary to General Grant. When Lee saw Parker, he remarked: "I'm glad to see one real American here today." To which Parker replied: "We are all Americans, sir." That was the overarching theme then and, hopefully, could be today.

Lee for his part returned to his troops, informed them of the surrender, that this war was over, that they had done their duty, and dissuaded those who wanted to continue fighting. He said: "Leave the result to God. Go to your homes and resume your occupations. Obey the laws and become as good citizens as you were soldiers." And so began the reconciliation of Americans.

Here are some other dates to keep in mind, in addition to all the events on the Post calendar.

April 1. Passover begins.

April 5. Easter Sunday

April 7. National Beer Day. The effective date of the Beer Permit Act in 1933, that legalized the sale of beer (and wine) with an alcohol content of 3.2 percent, as an exception to the 1920 Prohibition Act. The legalization revitalized the U.S. economy.

April 9. National Former POW Recognition Act.

April 14. Anniversary of the establishment of the Air Force Reserve in 1948.

April 15. Income Tax Day

April 23. Anniversary of the establishment of the U.S. Army reserve in 1908.

Hope you enjoy every day in April.

Jerry Hardiman

**Mason - Dixon VFW Post 7234
29265 Marshy Hope Way
Ocean View, DE 19970**

Bull & Oyster Roast

Saturday, April 11, 2026



3 pm – 7 pm

\$50 per Ticket



Open to the Public !!

Menu: Oysters, Roast Beef, Shrimp, Sausage & Peppers, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Baked Beans



50 / 50 Raffle

Money Wheel



**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE POST
RELIEF FUND TO SERVE, HELP &
HONOR OUR VETERANS**

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Mason Dixon Post 7234



29265 Marshy Hope Way,
Ocean View, DE 19970

TOWN HALL

VETERAN OUTREACH EVENT

Health Care & Benefits Support

Recommended to Bring DD214

Friday, April 10th, 2026
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Continental Breakfast & Lunch Provided

Mason Dixon VFW Post 7234
29265 Marshy Hope Way
Ocean View, DE 19970

Veterans · Spouses · Children · Caregivers

VSOs · The Veterans Home · The Vet Center · DE VA Representative · Patient Advocate

WHAT YOU CAN DO AT THIS EVENT

File Claims & Sign Up for VA Health Care	Veterans Disability Benefits <i>— Never Too Late to File!</i>	Healthcare Enrollment <i>Veteran Access & Coverage</i>
Widow & Spouse Pension Benefits & Eligibility	Homeless & End of Life Care & Support Services	Get Questions Answered <i>Learn About New Benefits</i>

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS

NAME	TITLE & ORGANIZATION
Karen Berry	<i>Delaware Secretary of Veterans Affairs</i>
Anthony Bourdeau	<i>Director, Delaware Office of Veterans Affairs</i>
Valarie Harwood	<i>Public Affairs Officer, VA Wilmington, DE</i>
John Richter	<i>The Vet Center, Georgetown, DE</i>
Edith Devore	<i>The Veterans Home, Milford, DE</i>

FREE EVENT · ALL ARE WELCOME · NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

80TH ANNIVERSARY ESSAY CONTEST

Mason-Dixon VFW Post 7234 of Ocean View, Delaware proudly celebrates its 80th Anniversary in April 2026. It honors decades of dedicated service to Veterans and our southern Delaware community neighbors. We are looking forward to a vibrant future and to our continuing mission of serving, helping and honoring Veterans while strengthening our community ties for decades to come. Every VFW Member has a story uniquely their own. We want to know yours, and we are offering a prize to hear it. The Themes:

- What has your Membership in VFW Post 7234 meant to you?
- How has the Post impacted your life?

SHARE YOUR STORY!

Entries can be a specific story, or your overall assessment of Mason-Dixon VFW Post 7234's impact on your life. It can be a few lines, or multiple pages.

HOW TO ENTER

- OPEN TO ALL VFW POST 7234 MEMBERS (VFW, AUXILIARY, MASON-DIXON)
- SUBMIT ALL ENTRIES TO vfwpost7234@gmail.com BY APRIL 10, 2026
- WINNING ENTRY WILL BE REVEALED DURING OUR 80TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND CELEBRATION (APRIL 24 – 26, 2026)

WHAT DOES THE WINNER(S) GET?

- \$250 CASH PRIZE
- YOUR SUBMISSION FEATURED IN OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
- YOUR ENTRY SUBMITTED TO THE COASTAL POINT NEWSPAPER FOR PUBLISHING

*** NOTE: BY SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY, YOU GIVE THE MASON-DIXON VFW POST 7234 OFFICERS AND BOARD PERMISSION TO USE ALL, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, FOR ANY PROFESSIONAL AND FUTURE MARKETING MATERIALS DEEMED APPROPRIATE.**

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR LOAN

Our Post maintains a large inventory of Medical items for loan. Items such as canes, walkers, wheel chairs, toilet seats, etc. Please contact Tom StClair for availability. Tomst48@aol.com

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Commander	Chad Myers
Sr. Vice Cmdr	Andy Artemchuk
Jr. Vice Cmdr	Phyllis Scully
Quartermaster	Chuck Guido
Adjutant	Fulton Loppatto
Chaplain	Jeannette Twigg
Judge Advocate	John Gossart Jr.
Surgeon	Richard Wagner
Officer of the Day	Jeff Ringel
Guard	Jay MacDonald
Benefits Advisor	Rich Fales
Honor Guard Capt	John Gossart Jr.
Trustee	Greg Albertson
Trustee	Rob Gill
Trustee	Paul Kerstanski

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman	Andy Artemchuk
President	Chad Myers
Vice President	Phyllis Scully
Treasurer	Chuck Guido
Secretary	Ken Weber
Board Member	Sharon Ruest
Board Member	Steve Kern
Board Member	Mike Tuckman
Board Member	Jeff Ringel
Board Member	Tom StClair
Board Member	Jay MacDonald

AUXILIARY TEAM

President	Kevin Conlon
Sr Vice Pres	Dale Weese
Jr Vice Pres	Sandra Magera
Secretary	Theo Loppatto
Treasurer	Roberta Walter
Chaplain	Annie Berger
Guard	Katherine Cole
Conductress	Connie Weber
Patriotic Ins	Peg Atkins
Trustee	Connie Weber
Trustee	Carol Weber
Trustee	Chuck Bologna

Veteran Claims Assistance

Our state Veterans Benefits Officer comes to our Post the 2nd Thursday of every month at 1:30PM; to make an appointment you can contact him at david.hilliard@va.gov or 302-994-2511 ext 37586

FOOD BANK

Please continue to drop off food items at the entry way. We continue to support our local families in need. Thank you for your donations.

**VFW POST 7234 HONOR GUARD
TO BECOME A MEMBER, PLEASE
CONTACT JOHN GOSSART
240-304-8183**

HELP A VET PROGRAM

**Veterans - Need Assistance, a friendly call, a visit, etc.
Contact our Post:
VFWpost7234@gmail.com**

Member Sick or Deceased

**Please call:
For VFW – Jeannette Twigg 302-539-9981
For Aux – Annie Berger 302-539-9981**

Assistance with VA Questions & Issues

**Please call:
Rich Fales (301)325-3813 or email me
richfales@gmail.com**

**To signup for our email List
For the Latest Updates and News
Please send your email to
vfwpost7234@gmail.com**