



# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS MASON DIXON POST 7234

## DECEMBER 2024

### COMMANDER'S CORNER

Happy Holidays Comrades, & Friends,

The year is coming to an end. But before we end one of our more productive years, we have a few more events to cover. First, let me congratulate everyone involved in our first Halloween party in 15 yrs.

From the decoration committee - Debbie, Pam, Olive, Terri, another Debbie, Joe, and Bob. The best decorations we've seen in quite some time. I've heard the Christmas decorations will just blow us away. Can't wait to see. The party turned out to be the largest turnout we've seen in sometime. Everyone is now looking forward to our Christmas Party Dec. 13., we are doing prizes for the ugliest sweater, so dig it out and wear it to win. A lot is going on at the post in December. Raven/ Eagle tailgate party on game day. Dec 1. On Dec. 7, "On the Edge" makes an appearance. No tickets needed. Cash or dry goods donations to feed the hungry being accepted at the door. Don't forget line dancing classes DEC 6 and DEC 20 - \$5.00 donations. 1pm to 3pm bring your friends & neighbors Lunches start at noon. Army/Navy football Sat. Dec 14 tailgate party, drink specials, bucket of beer deals. Doors open at noon; game at 3; Wear your colors. AYCE Tailgate foods for \$15.00 per. Check out the \$1000.00 Basket of cheer. Top shelf stuff. Tickets are \$10.00 or 3 for \$25.00.



Mingo or trivia every other Monday. Prizes, music, and Food served 5 to 7.

Games start at 6pm and all are welcomed; come spend the best 2 hours of fun you'll find in Ocean View. Singing and dancing in the Aisles and featuring Tommy "D" Spinning the tunes.

Thanks for all the Help with our traditional Thanksgiving Day dinners

Frozen turkeys, pies, cakes and all deserts were generously donated - Thank You

Once again, we had a huge turnout in the community for our 12<sup>th</sup> year.

Join us for all of the season's festivities!!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you and your Family

Jim Jensen  
Commander

## AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

The Holiday Season is officially upon us. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving as we move onto December, preparing for Christmas and the excitement of a New Year. November provided us with a few memorable experiences and events, from the election of new leaders for our country to the celebration of our Veterans on Veterans Day, culminating with giving thanks for our blessings with our family and friends on Thanksgiving. We remember all those serving abroad that could not spend the Holiday with their family. Our



Auxiliary purchased and supplied Thanksgiving dinners to those serving in our Coast Guard at our local unit at Indian River, thanking them for their service and letting them know they are not forgotten.

During the last week of October our Auxiliary hosted residents and Veterans of Brandywine Assisted Living for Tuesday cheese steak night at the Post. Residents enjoyed a night out at the Post enjoying delicious cheese steaks and a fabulous view.

Thanks to Barb and John Frye and the cheese steak

crew for accommodating this event and making their night special. Residents enjoyed speaking with them as well as B.O.D Vice President Chuck Guido and Past Post Commander John Gossart. Thank you to Auxiliary members Cindy, Donna and Kathy I. for organizing this. Everyone really appreciated it.





We began Veterans Day weekend by Auxiliary members Kathy I., Sandra, Diane L. and Cindy holding a Buddy Poppy Drive at G&E Hockers Hardware store. On the 11th we all celebrated Veterans Day at the Post. A special program began the day at 11:00 am. Numerous Post members were recipients of Quilts from the Quilts of Valor Foundation. Art work Honoring our Veterans was created by students at Love Creek Elementary 1<sup>st</sup> graders, taught by member Jodi Dean, and Stevenson Methodist Sunday School, taught by Kathy I, were posted throughout the post. It was great to remember and honor our Veterans.



### Scholarship Program

Our Auxiliary partnered with the Post in the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen competition for our youth. Entries were judged and winners of our Post were selected and forwarded to the District level. Winners at our Post level will receive monetary awards from the Post and our Auxiliary. Next up will be Auxiliary sponsored Art contest for youth from K-12. Contests include Illustrating America K-8<sup>th</sup> graders, and Patriotic Art 2D & 3D for 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> graders. Entries and more information can be found at the Post or on the National Auxiliary website at [VFWAuxiliary.org](http://VFWAuxiliary.org).

### Hospital Program

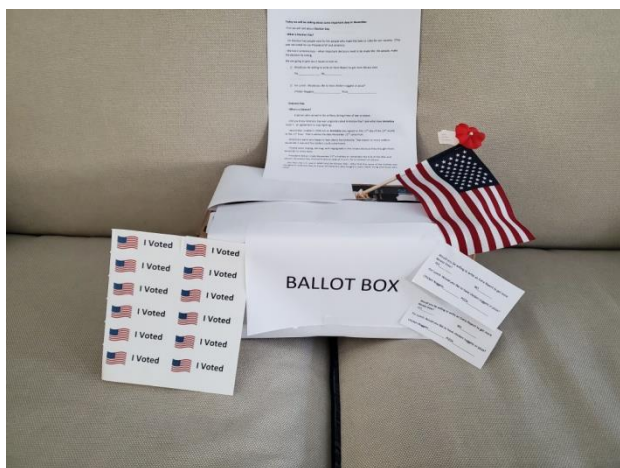
Our Hospital program led by Shirley Stong continues to serve and care for our Veterans at various facilities in Sussex County. Members Theo Loppatto, Eileen Healy, and Rita McConnell recently delivered 21 lap blankets



made by various members and friends to the residents of the Veterans Home in Milford. Thank You Ladies for your time and compassion.

### Americanism & Youth Program

Our Youth and Americanism Chairs Cindy Weese and Susan Clark taught a class to the Lord Baltimore after School Program at the Mariner Bethel Hope Center on Democracy in regards to Voting, Patriotism, what Veterans Day is, and the meaning of Thanksgiving. Students were taught the voting process and given ballots with two lunch items to choose from and whether they would do a written essay for more recess time. Students cast their ballots and were given an "I Voted sticker" and an American Flag. They were taught what Veterans Day was and what it meant and some spoke about their family members who served or are serving. They then made and signed Christmas cards for our Troops overseas. These were added to cards signed by members of the Auxiliary and Post and delivered to Mission BBQ in Rehoboth for delivery to active Service Members.



On the 30<sup>th</sup> of November a "Make One, Give One" craft event was held with the kids. Kids made Christmas Ornaments for themselves and also made Ornaments to be given to residents of the Veterans Home as well as other Veterans.

We begin December by recognizing and remembering the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7<sup>th</sup>. We will be hosting our 4<sup>th</sup> annual breakfast with Santa on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The event last year was a success and we are looking forward to this year's event being equally successful. Preparations are well under way and going good. A pancake breakfast will be served, Night before Christmas read and Santa and Mrs. Clause will visit children with gifts.

Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> is National Wreaths Across America Day. This is an event at local Veteran cemeteries that honors our Veterans to ensure that every Veteran Hero receives a wreath for the Holiday Season. The ceremony to "Remember and Honor" will begin at 10:00 am at Delaware Veterans Cemetery in Millsboro. As an Auxiliary we



are looking to go as a group to participate. If you wish to participate you can contact me by phone or email listed at the end of this article or by signing up at the monthly meeting on December 2nd. Come out to this event it is worth your time. And of course Christmas is the 25<sup>th</sup>. I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Remember our monthly meetings at the Post are the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. If you have not renewed your membership, don't forget to do so. Have a safe and healthy Holiday Season.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Dale Weese, Jr, President  
Auxiliary VFW #7234  
(302) 614-6298  
aux7234.de@gmail.com

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOTES

Comrades and Auxiliary Members,

Your Board of Directors hope that your Holiday Season is progressing well. During November, your Board Members participated in the Post's Halloween Party, the Annual Veterans Day Ceremony and Quilts of Valor Presentation, the Salute to Veterans Program conducted by the students of Lighthouse Christian School, our initial Line Dancing Class, our Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner with all the Trimmings, Bar and Canteen Management Meetings, Events Planning Committee Meeting, Mingo and Trivia Game Nights, the monthly Board of Directors Meeting, and the monthly General Membership Meeting. Most importantly, for our Members and their Guests, Post Officers and Board Members continue to be present, on site at the Post. This helps to demonstrate your Board's commitment to the success of our Post and continuity of operations for our Members and their Guests.



Looking ahead to December, several events are worthy of special mention. On December 1<sup>st</sup> at 4 PM, come out for the NFL rivalry game between the Eagles and the Ravens. Local bragging rights are on the line. Staying with the Football theme, on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, our annual ARMY – NAVY Game Tailgate Party starts at noon. This is an AYCE ticketed event (\$15) with bragging rights on the line. We will continue Line Dancing at the Post on two Fridays, December 6<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 3 PM with a \$5 charge to participate. Our Post Holiday Party is on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> and includes an Ugly Sweater

Contest. On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, the Annual Children's Holiday Party and Breakfast with Santa will be held. The Post will close early (6 PM) on Christmas Eve and will remain closed all day on Christmas Day. Then, to cap off this busy December, our Annual New Year's Eve Gala ticketed event starts at 6 PM with an extraordinary menu planned. We hope you can come and participate in some, if not all, of these events. While you are at it, please consider donating new, unwrapped toys for the annual Toys for Tots drive. Collection boxes are located at the Post. Of course, we will continue to have Monday Game Nights alternating between Mingo and Trivia; the staples of Cheese Steak Subs on Tuesdays and Flip Five on Wednesdays (**although these will be altered somewhat during Christmas Week and New Year's Week**); either Pizza and Wings or AYCE Buffet Meals on Friday Nights; and Prime Rib with Live Music on Saturday nights. **There truly is**



**something for everyone.** We invite all Members to visit and bring their Guests to the bright new atmosphere that helps make your Post all that it can be.

Important opportunities for you to serve our Veterans in crucial Post 7234 positions become available in 2025. These include the position of Post Quartermaster and Treasurer, as well as other Post Officers and several Board of Director Members. There are many opportunities to step forward and serve your Post and our Veterans. Please consider this opportunity as your opportunity. If you are interested, I urge you to talk with the present Quartermaster, Bill Healy, or any Post Officer or Board Member to answer questions you may have. Our Post needs YOU. Our Veterans need YOU.

Our Canteen Manager, Kitchen Crews, Bartenders, and an outstanding array of Volunteers are committed to serving those who served our country. We could not keep our doors open without these dedicated Employees and Volunteers. Having said that, we are in constant need of Volunteers as Kitchen Helpers, Servers, Clean Up Crews, etc. We hope to see some new, fresh faces soon. We can work around your schedule. It only involves a few hours per week.

Your VFW Family wants to see you at the Post and continues to ask for your patience in dealing with Post employees, volunteers, and staff members. We all want you and your guests to have an enjoyable experience at the Post. Keep in mind that we are an organization operated primarily by a small paid staff and augmented by many Volunteers. Each one is devoted to doing their best. Feel free to respectfully complain when it is warranted, but better yet, fill out a Volunteer Application Form and pitch in to make our Post, your Post, the best that it can be.

In December, temperatures turn chilly, but Family Gatherings bring us warmth. Your Board of Directors wish you and yours a Happy Holiday Season and a Healthy and Prosperous 2025. We continue to Honor and Serve all Veterans – first, last, and always.

Chad Myers  
Chairperson  
Board of Directors

## CHAPLAINS' CORNER



*Bob Corsa  
Patricia Steele*

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 Phyllis Scully at 30-381-539-9981 for the VFW or Eileen Healy at 302-539-9981 for the Auxiliary, if a member is sick or has passed away

## SERVICE OFFICER OUTREACH

### VA helps to avoid foreclosure.

If you fall behind on your mortgage payments, your mortgage servicer (the company that handles collecting the money for your lender) can take your house to cover the money owed.



This process is called foreclosure. Find out how our VA loan technicians can help you avoid foreclosure and keep your house.

#### Can I get VA counseling to help avoid foreclosure?

- **If you're a Veteran or the surviving spouse of a Veteran**, we'll provide counseling—even if your loan isn't a VA-guaranteed loan.
- **If you have a VA-guaranteed loan**, you can contact us anytime to discuss your loan.
- **If you have a VA-guaranteed loan and it's 61 days past due**, we'll

automatically assign a VA loan technician to review your loan.

### What should I do if I'm having trouble paying my mortgage?

- If you're having trouble making your mortgage payments, contact your loan servicer right away. They will work with you to try to find a solution to your situation.
- If you're nervous about contacting your servicer, or if you'd like our help and advice, please contact a VA loan technician at [877-827-3702](tel:877-827-3702). You can also send us a message online through our home loan guaranty support portal.
- [Go to our Loan Guaranty Support portal](#)

### Be careful of potential scams.

If you're behind on your mortgage payments, contact us or the servicer of your mortgage to get help. And be careful of scams. Work only with trusted organizations.

### How can I avoid foreclosure?

There are 6 general ways you can try to avoid foreclosure. Our VA loan technicians can help you figure out which option is best for you. Contact a VA loan technician at [877-827-3702](tel:877-827-3702).

#### These are your options for trying to avoid foreclosure:

1. **Repayment plan:** If you've missed a few mortgage payments, this plan lets you go back to making your regular payments, with an added amount each month to cover the ones you've missed.

2. **Special forbearance:** This plan gives you some extra time to repay the missed mortgage payments. Missed payments aren't automatically added to the end of your loan. You must contact your servicer to discuss how you'll make payments after the special forbearance ends.

3. **Loan modification:** Sometimes you need a fresh start. This plan lets you add the missed mortgage payments and any related legal costs to your total loan balance. You and your servicer then come up with a new mortgage payment schedule. **Note:** Due to rising interest rates, the modified payment amount could increase.

4. **Veterans Affairs Servicing Purchase program:** Starting May 31, 2024, if you have a VA-guaranteed loan, you may be able to participate in the Veterans Affairs Servicing Purchase (VASP) program. Through VASP, VA buys the modified loan through your loan servicer. Your servicer must first have tried all other options to help you keep your home.

[Learn more about VASP](#)

5. **Extra time to arrange a private sale:** If you need to sell your home, this plan lets you delay a foreclosure, so you have time to sell.

6. **Short sale:** If you owe more money than your house is worth, your servicer might agree to a short sale. This means the servicer will accept the total proceeds from the home sale (even if it's less than the full amount you owe on the mortgage) as full payment of the debt you owe. **Note:** This option could result in a loss or reduction in your future home loan benefit. Contact a VA loan technician at [877-827-3702](tel:877-827-3702) for more details.

7. **Deed in lieu of foreclosure:** This plan lets you avoid the foreclosure process by signing over the deed to the home to your servicer. The home will then belong to the servicer. **Note:** This option could result in a loss or reduction in your future home loan benefit. Contact a VA loan technician at [877-827-3702](tel:877-827-3702) for more details.

## **If I can't avoid foreclosure, will I have to pay back my loan?**

**If your loan closed before January 1, 1990,** and we have to pay back the amount of your loan to the servicer, you may need to pay this amount back to the government. If you can't repay a VA debt, you may be able to get a waiver. [Learn more about waivers for VA debt](#)

**If your loan closed on or after January 1, 1990,** and we have to pay back the amount of your loan to the servicer, you'll need to pay this amount back to the government if we find evidence of fraud, misrepresentation, or bad faith on your part.

## **How does foreclosure affect my future home loan benefit?**

If your loan ends in foreclosure, short sale, or deed in lieu of foreclosure, you'll need to pay back the amount we lost on your loan to restore your future benefit. We call this process "restoration of entitlement."

To find out the amount you need to pay to restore your entitlement, contact a VA loan technician at [877-827-3702](tel:877-827-3702).



## What if I need help or more information?

- [Talk to a housing counselor](#)
- [Play our video to learn about your options for trying to avoid foreclosure \(YouTube\)](#)  
**Note:** This video addresses 2 topics. The first part of the video is a reminder to change your address when you move. The second part outlines your options for trying to avoid foreclosure.
- [Read HUD's homeowner's guide to success \(PDF\)](#)
- Read the consumer advisory that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) posted about how to identify a foreclosure relief scam. [Learn about the advisory on the CFPB website](#)
- Find out how the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) helps Veterans and their families who are behind on their mortgages and other housing-related expenses due to the impacts of COVID-19. [Learn about the HAF on the National Council of State Housing Agencies website](#)
- Schedule a free consultation with a credit or financial counselor through our Veterans Benefits Banking Program (VBBP). [Get more information about financial counseling on the VBBP website](#)

In Comradeship,  
H. Rich Fales, Post Service Officer  
Cell: (301) 325-3813  
Email: Smokey1st@netzero



## HONOR GUARD NEWS

During the month of November, the Honor Guard was called upon as follows:

On Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup> six Honor Guard members participated and posted colors at the Rehoboth Convention for the City of Rehoboth to commence their Patriotic Concert honoring veterans.



On Veterans Day at our Post eleven Honor Guard members participated in the Ceremony and Service and rendered Volley and Taps.

On November 15<sup>th</sup> nine Honor Guard members journeyed to the Christian Lighthouse School in Dagsboro to participate in their Honoring Veterans Day Program. Our Honor Guard posted colors, provided a showing and explanation of the POW/MIA Table of Remembrance, and played taps in honor of all MIA/POW comrades. In addition to the Honor Guard, Post Officers/Board of Directors members were in attendance to include Fulton Loppatto, Chuck Guido, Chad Meyers and Jeff Ringel. Post life member, Captain Sharon Ruest (USN ret) was the guest speaker and spoke about the honor and importance of service in the military.

At the end of the program all military, active and retired formed a line as all school children, teachers and administrators shook hands and thanked us for our service. The kids and the program were outstanding.





**Our 3 new Honor Guard members, Charlie Plis, USAF, Vietnam, Jay MacDonald, USAF, Vietnam, and Mark Modzeleski, USMC successfully completed training and are now available to participate in our funeral services, ceremonies and events. Our Honor Guard now has 21 members, and we are grateful for their dedication and commitment.**

**Honor Guard member David Holden continues on the IR recovering from hip surgery. Hurry back, Dave!**

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

**REMEMBER NOT EVERY COLOR GUARD IS AN HONOR GUARD  
BUT EVERY HONOR GUARD IS ALSO 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](mailto:Judge800@yahoo.com)**

**Or:**

**Mike Schiffer  
Assistant Captain of the Honor Guard  
302-448-1877**

**[Rschiffer0@gmail.com](mailto: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.”**



## **CANTEEN CORNER**

I would like to start off by thanking all the volunteers and those who donated turkeys for helping make our Thanksgiving Dinner another huge success. It was nice to see everyone relaxing and enjoying themselves.

December will be a very busy month. The following events will keep the post active:

### **Indoor Tailgate Party**

**Eagles vs Ravens**

**Sunday Dec. 1**

**1 - 4 pm**

**\$10 Buffet**

**Music DJ Denny**

**Game starts 4:30**

**Come out and enjoy a fun and exciting afternoon of football.**

**Line Dancing**

**Friday Dec.6**

**\$5 per person**

**1 - 3 PM**

**Lunch served 12 - 3**

### **Saturday Dec. 7 - "On the Edge"**

This is a non-ticketed event, seating is limited so come out early for dinner. Our Prime Rib Saturday Menu will be available from 5 - 7. We ask that if you plan to attend if possible, please make a donation to our food bank located in the lobby.

### **Army Navy Game Party**

**Saturday Dec.14**

Tickets are \$15 and will feature a tailgate Buffet. Tickets can be purchased at the bar. Wear your colors and we will see which team has the most fans.

### **Children's Christmas Party**

**Sunday Dec. 15**

**9 - 12**

### **\*\* Important Cheesesteak / Flip 5 Announcement!!**

During the week of Christmas and New Years the following dates and times will be as followed:

**Monday Dec. 24 Cheesesteak Nite**

**4:30 - 6:30 - Cheesesteaks**

**6:30 - 8:30 - Mingo**

**Thursday Dec.26 - Flip 5**

**Monday Dec 30 - Cheesesteak Nite**

**4:30 - 6:30 - Cheesesteaks**

**6:30 - 8:30 - Trivia**

**Thursday Jan. 2 - Flip 5**

### New Years Eve

Tickets will go on sale Monday Dec.2

3 - 6 pm

Each member may purchase one ticket and up to three guest tickets. After Dec. 2 tickets can be purchased at the bar.

Tickets are \$55 and include a buffet dinner, music and midnight champagne toast.

### Hor D'oeuvres

MD Crab Soup

Cocktail Meatballs

Steam Shrimp

Cheese Tray

Vegetable Tray

### Dinner

Sliced beef in gravy

Chicken Marsala

Shrimp Mac & Cheese

Lobster Tail

Mixed Vegetables

Caesar Salad

Rolls & Butter

Wishing everyone a safe and Happy Holiday season.

John Frye

Canteen Manager

## 2024 MASON DIXON MEMBER RENEWALS

It is that time of year when Mason Dixon members whose membership expires on December 31, 2024 will begin the process of renewing their memberships. **Beginning November 01, 2024**, the Post will begin accepting renewal dues for Mason Dixon members whose cards show an expiration date of 12/31/2024. All dues for 2024 expiring Mason Dixon memberships must be received by December 31, 2024. **Please check your card and make payment, if necessary. You will not receive any further notice of your need to renew.**

Effective January 1, 2023, membership renewals and new memberships were changed to a two-year term. So, please remit \$150.00 before December 31, 2024 and your new card will expire on December 31, 2026. New membership cards will be available the middle of November. Dues payments may be mailed, placed in the Mason Dixon box at the membership station, or dropped off at the bar. If you wish to receive your card by mail, you will need to submit a self-addressed stamped envelope with your renewal payment. Otherwise, new cards will be available for pick up at the bar once your payment has been received.

Thank you for being a member of Mason Dixon Post No. 7234 VFW of the U.S., and we especially thank you if you volunteer!

Canteen Board of Directors

# CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS



There's a tradition in all the U.S. military services to try to make Christmas merry and bright for kids near their bases, at home and overseas. You've probably all seen this and been part of it. Everyone gets involved. Even the toughest hard cases. Gathering toys, some sweet treats and other gifts, some sent from the folks at home. Maybe food, too, even military rations, depending on the situation. Someone "volunteers" to play Santa. The extent of support is sometimes surprising, like the Marine Corps annual "Toys for Tots" campaign. And then you wonder who had more fun, the kids or Santa's helpers.

I was reminded of this when I saw the announcement of the Post Auxiliary "Breakfast with Santa" program for kids on December 15. This will continue our military tradition and the Post's tradition of making the Christmas season merry and bright for some local

kids.

It will be a fun time for the kids, with a pancake breakfast (Don't tell me it comes with scrapple and SOS); a photo-op visit with Santa; and a little present from their lists. Then time to hear again (or maybe for the first time) the delightful poem about The Night Before Christmas, with Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen and the rest of the team in supporting roles. That always gets the imaginations going.

Here's a brief digression about that famous poem, because I thought the history, as reported in the Economist, was so interesting. It was written over 200 years ago, in 1823, by Clement Clarke Moore, a Biblical scholar and seminary professor in New York City. His father was an Episcopal bishop. He wrote the poem, entitled "A Visit from St. Nicholas," for his children. But a friend sent a copy to a newspaper in Troy, New York, and it quickly became widely popular and better known by the first sentence: "Twas the night before Christmas." Moore said it was more popular than the Hebrew-English dictionary he worked on for years.

Reportedly, the poem reshaped our Christmas season from a time of little public attention, even religious, to a popular and peaceful family holiday with a focus on children and the joy of childhood. The poem crossed the ocean to England and is said to have "tamed" December from a rowdy winter festival in the same way. Beyond the history, we've seen the enjoyment of children in the story every year.

Cindy Weiss agreed to coordinate the program for the children this year, giving Connie Weber a well-deserved break after several years of dedicated work in that role. I don't know the lucky Santa. Definitely a saint. Theo Loppatto is our narrator for the kids when it's time for "The Night Before Christmas." Thanks to each of them and all the volunteers who purchased and wrapped gifts and will take care of all the arrangements for the program. With their help, it's sure to be a success. Tradition fulfilled in the joy of children.

Looking forward to December, here are some dates to keep in mind, together with all the dates on the Post calendar.

- Dec. 7. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Dec. 13. Anniversary of the National Guard based on the organization of the first militia regiments in American in Massachusetts in 1636.
- Dec. 20. Happy Birthday to the U.S. Space Force, established in 2019.



**Dec. 21. Winter begins.**

**Dec. 25. Merry Christmas and in the words of Tiny Tim (credit to Charles Dickens): God bless us, everyone. Hanukah begins at sundown.**

**Hope you enjoy every day in December.**

**Jerry Hardiman**

## **Community Care**

**I want to thank all the Members who picked up casserole pans,  
Brought food for the Food Bank,  
And donated coats and clothes  
To date we have delivered over 4000 pounds of casseroles  
a truck load of food for the food bank each week  
and a truck load of clothes**

**Please remember those in need in our community. Continue to bring food items for our food bank. Also continue to bring in casseroles.**

**Andy Artemchuk  
Chairman**



**P.S. Much THANKS to Andy for taking on the task of delivering all your donations.**



## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Commander	James Jensen
Sr. Vice Cmdr	Chad Myers
Jr. Vice Cmdr	Mike Tuckman
Quartermaster	Bill Healy
Adjutant	Fulton Loppatto
Chaplain	Phyllis Scully
Judge Advocate	John Gossart Jr.
Surgeon	Richard Wagner
Officer of the Day	Andy Artemchuk
Guard	Jeff Ringel
Service Officer	Rich Fales
Honor Guard Capt	John Gossart Jr.
Trustee	Greg Albertson
Trustee	Rob Gill
Trustee	Skip Coale

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman	Chad Myers
President	James Jensen
Vice President	Chuck Guido
Treasurer	Bill Healy
Secretary	Ken Weber
Board Member	Andy Artemchuk
Board Member	Fulton Loppatto
Board Member	Mike Tuckman
Board Member	Jeff Ringel
Board Member	Rick Delaney
Board Member	Paul Kerstanski
Board Member	Dale Weese

## AUXILIARY TEAM

President	Dale Weese
Sr Vice Pres	Karen Ware
Jr Vice Pres	Susan Clark
Secretary	Ty Magliola
Treasurer	Robertta Walter
Chaplain	Eileen Healy
Guard	Shirley Stong
Conductress	Connie Weber
Patriotic Ins	Peg Atkins
Trustee	Connie Weber
Trustee	Carol Weber
Trustee	Chuck Bologna

### Veteran Claims Assistance

Our state Veterans Service Officer comes to our Post the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 1:30PM; to make an appointment you can contact him at [david.hilliard@va.gov](mailto:david.hilliard@va.gov) or 302-994-2511 ext 7586

### 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](mailto:VFWpost7234@gmail.com)**

### Member Sick or Deceased

**Please call:**

**For VFW – Phyllis Scully 302-539-9981**

**For Aux – Eileen Healy 302-539-9981**

### Assistance with VA claims or benefits

**Please call:**

**Rich Fales (301)325-3813 or email me at**

**[Smokey1st@netzero.net](mailto:Smokey1st@netzero.net)**

### For the Latest Updates and News

**Please send your email to**

**[vfwpost7234@gmail.com](mailto:vfwpost7234@gmail.com)**