



THE CENTURION

DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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

Internet Website: <http://www.state.de.us/veteran>

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Ruth Ann Minner, Governor

Dr. Harriet Smith Windsor, Secretary of State

Volume 13, Number 4

Gary “Mo” Morris, Chairman

Antonio Davila, Executive Director

Oct-Dec 2006

CHAIRMAN’S UPDATE

My Fellow Veterans,

We are now in the final planning stage for the Dedication Ceremony of the Delaware Veterans Home in Milford, Delaware. If you have never attended a veterans gathering before, this is one event you should put on your calendar. Governor Minner has selected December 7th for two very important reasons. First, it is Delaware Day, the first of the 13 original states to ratify the U.S. Constitution. Secondly, it is Pearl Harbor Day. These two dates have significant importance in Delaware for its citizens, the citizen soldier, veterans and the military in general. The dream to build a veterans home pre-dates my tenure on the Commission and has been in the works for more than 15 years. I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank Governor Minner and all the members of the General Assembly for their outstanding support of the project. The dream will become a reality better than two years earlier than the State’s normal funding and construction cycle. Also, I want to thank our Congressional delegation for ensuring that the federal funds were available when the State passed legislation. Again, **THANK YOU!**

The Commission labored diligently this year monitoring veterans’ legislation and meeting with members of the General Assembly to discuss individual concerns. Our elected officials have the responsibility of weighing legislation that no doubt has fiscal implications when considering all the needs of their constituents / taxpayers in Delaware. There are many deserving citizens but no one group has sacrificed more than the military veteran. The popular song “All Gave Some Some Gave All” epitomizes the life of a veteran. If you were drafted, enlisted or chose the military as a profession, you are well aware of the meaning of the song.

On a final note, the November elections will soon occur. Regardless of your political affiliation, I implore you to speak to the candidates and show up at the polls. **YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT!**

Gary “Mo” Morris
Chairman

THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER

“We are sorely in need of a voting machine with a space for ‘Remarks’.”

VETERANS DAY SERVICES

The Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs and Waves National will host Veterans Day Services on **Saturday, November 11, 2006**. The service will be held at the Memorial Bridge Plaza, Delaware Memorial Bridge, New Castle, Delaware, and will begin at 10:30 AM. For more information call 1-800-344-9900 or (302) 739-2792.

VETERANS HOME DEDICATION

The Veterans Home Dedication has been scheduled for December 07, 2006 at 11:00 AM. The Veterans Home is located in Milford, Delaware off of Airport Rd & Rt. 15. *Due to parking limitations it is highly recommended that attendees car pool for the dedication ceremony.* For additional information, contact the Commission of Veterans Affairs at (800) 344-9900 or (302) 739-2792.

PARK SEEKING WWII STORIES

White Clay Creek State Park is hosting a HOME FRONT APPLE PIE SOCIAL WWII storytelling event at the historic Judge Morris Estate in honor of Veteran’s Day, November 11, 2006 from 2pm to 4pm. We are looking for volunteers to tell their stories, or stories of someone close to them, about World War II or life on the home front. Were you in combat, working for the war effort, managing a home and family, or maybe even still in school during that era? Would you like to share your story with others and join in this timeless event? If so, please contact Jen Papillo at (302) 368-6560, Jennifer.Papillo@state.de.us. The Judge Morris Estate is located on Polly-Drummond Hill Road in Newark, Delaware. All stories will need to be reviewed prior to the program. Storytellers receive 4 free tickets to the event.

IT’S OFFICIAL DD-214’S ARE NOW ONLINE

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214’s online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>. This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records center’s mailroom processing time. Please pass this information on to former military personnel you may know and their dependents. (*The Veteran Leader, Edition 3, 2006*)

BE AWARE OF MYPAY LOOK-A-LIKES

DFAS-Denver myPay office officials have advised all DOD organizations and members beware of copycat or look-a-like websites being developed to make people think they are accessing official sites. These websites may use the words “myPay” as part of their web address. While they may be legitimate business concerns, they are not in any way affiliated with DFAS and myPay. The official myPay Website is <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. (*military.com, 09/27/06*)

VA DISABILITY BUYOUT

The concept of Government buyout of military benefits is mostly attributed to David Stockman, a politician and businessman who served as U.S. Representative from the state of Michigan 1977-1981 and as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 1981-1985. Stockman was the Director of OMB during the Reagan administration and is well-remembered for labeling military retirement pay as scandalous, calling it a dangerous drain on the economy. Stockman then proposed lump-sum buyouts of military retirement pay because he deemed it less expensive to pay once than to pay for life. He even toyed with the idea of buyouts for Social Security payments. Stockman's buyouts never happened but his cost-cutting ideology lives on today in the person of arch-conservative Grover Norquist who urges the current administration to downsize government and its associated financial obligations. Norquist is the president of the noted anti-tax lobbying group Americans for Tax Reform, and a well-connected conservative activist with close ties to business and the media. In an effort to control spending on entitlement programs the present administration has incorporated the concepts of Stockman and Norquist into their marching orders for the Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission (VDBC) on the issue of lump-sum buyouts of veteran disability compensation.

The Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission (VDBC) met in Washington D.C. and, once again, took up the issue of lump-sum buyouts. The VDBC was created by the Bush administration in 2003 and tasked with determining whether the death or disability of a veteran should be compensated and at what level, if any. The Republican politicians making it likely to fall in step with the current administration's goals. The President often speaks of controlling spending on entitlement programs lumping Medicare, Medicaid and veterans' benefits under the "entitlement umbrella" by consistently using them in the same sentence. This gives the impression that all three of these programs are some kind of welfare when in fact Medicare is an insurance program and veterans' disability

compensation is provided to those who have been wounded or injured while serving the country. The administration strongly believes that entitlement programs are out of control and therefore should fall under a sharp budget knife. The VA is the second-largest government agency with a budget of over \$80 billion for fiscal year 2007. The largest portion of the VA budget goes to disability compensation for veterans wounded or injured while on military active-duty. Lump-sum buyouts of VA disability compensation could save the government billions of dollars every year.

Key to the argument for the buyouts is a report from the VA's Office of Inspector General (VAOIG) which recommended that the VA revise disability rating criteria to reflect expected lifetime impairment so that VA could offer lump-sum payments to veterans. VA Secretary Nicholson supported the VAOIG report saying that the VA will review prior VA studies concerning lump-sum payments to veterans with disability ratings. Nicholson considers this a public policy issue. The VDBC has tasked the Center of Naval Analyses (CNA) with studying the concept of lump-sum buyouts. In the CNA's Literature Review they write of substantial potential savings associated with a lump-sum disability settlement both in terms of reduced debt cost and administrative burden. There is a great deal of support on Capitol Hill for the lump-sum buyouts. Leading the charge is Rep. Steve Buyer (R-IN), Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, who sees the buyouts as a logical cost-cutting move. When it comes to the work of the VDBC and what cost-cutting moves they should study Buyer has stated he thinks everything should be on the table. To date not one veterans' service organization is in favor of the move. The American Legion has reminded its members that Chairman Buyer and other government officials have publicly expressed their desire to use the VDBC as a vehicle to institute radical changes in the VA disability system that would negatively impact and restrict entitlement to benefits for a large number of veterans.

How would the lump-sum buyouts work? Initially the VDBC will look at lump-sum payments to veterans who receive 10% or 20% disability

payments, those veterans currently receiving \$112 or \$218 a month. The buyouts would be based on life expectancy with only a percentage of the total value offered. Most commonly mentioned is a 50% buyout, but some have mentioned 30% as a more prudent offer. (Example: If a veteran gets \$218 a month from the VA and has a live expectancy of 20 years, has a total compensation would be \$52,320. The proposed buyouts would offer a cash settlement of somewhere between \$15,696 and \$26,160). One of the main arguments for lump-sum payments, besides saving the government money, is that the veteran can then invest his buyout and do much better financially in the long run. However, the CNA says the literature does not support that theory and told the VDBC younger, less educated, and lower ranking personnel would be more inclined to accept a VA lump-sum offer, and funds received in lump-sum payments are often spent on consumer goods rather than spent on long-term investments.

There are more questions than answers. A few of the potential problem areas are:

- If the veteran's service-connected condition worsened, would he be able to file a claim or would the condition now not be compensable? Many veterans will initially receive a 10% or 20% disability rating and then see it jump to as high as 100% as they age and their particular condition worsens.

- Would the VA continue to treat the veteran for the condition even though he wasn't getting compensation? Or, would the condition now be considered not to exist? The cost-savings to the government would be great and the cost to the veteran could be catastrophic.

- What about another condition that occurs that is secondary to the original service-connected conditions? How would that fit in? An example would be a veteran who receives disability for a bad knee. As that knee gets worse with age, back problems can arise and that could constitute a secondary disability that could be compensated.

- Would the VA stop at the 10% and 20% disability ratings? Many feel that this would be just the beginning and that once that door is open, all disability ratings could be up for a lump-sum buyout.

- Would the buyouts be retroactive? Or, would only new veterans fall under the plan? The largest savings for the government would be gained by including veterans currently receiving disability.

- Would the buyouts be mandatory or optional? The savings for the government would be greatest with a mandatory buyout plan. Could this be imposed on veterans?

The biggest question of all is: How can you buy-out a disability? Veterans receive disability compensation because their ability to perform everyday tasks has been diminished by wounds or injuries sustained while on active-duty. The compensation paid by the VA is meant to make up for income lost due to the disabilities. A lump-sum payment is antithetical to the concept of on-going compensation for an on-going disability. The VDBC's report to the President and Congress is due in late 2007. Washington watchers feel the VDBC will approve the concept of lump-sum buyouts. Obviously, the White House will approve. But, will Congress fall into line? One more thing to consider when veterans go to the polls in November 2006. (VAWatchdog.org, September 17, 2006)

THE FORGOTTEN HERO- VIETNAM EXPERIENCE

By Gale White

*Sometimes as he lies in the quiet of the night
He can still feel the panic; he can still feel the fight
The visions and the sound keep filling his head
How can he forget the memory of seeing someone
shot dead?*

*He went to serve his country in a strange and
foreign land*

*In the jungles of Vietnam, a boy soon to become a
man*

*He would rather not have been there, but his
country he pledged to serve*

*He thought the cause was worthy for freedom and
the world.*

The war waged on and no victory was at hand

*Many of our countrymen dissented, they chose to
take a stand*

*Against our country's policies and the position it
had taken*

*But the soldiers became the villains; they felt they had been forsaken.
 At home the families waited feeling all alone
 There was no where to turn in their lonely hours of concern
 Along with the pride they felt in him there was a sense of shame
 Somehow he took the fall became the one who took the blame
 They couldn't share with others all their fright and fears
 People wanted to forget that there were others shedding tears.
 He returned not as a hero, but as a fallen man
 No bands were playing for him when he came home to his land
 They called him names and spat on him, his dignity was lost
 And he still had his memories to haunt him like a ghost.
 There's no glory in war, a soldier knows this best
 Just death and destruction is the result of such a quest
 Someday there may be a world where we can live in peace
 That's what we want for everyone at the very least.
 We've learned from this experience it's not the soldier who is to blame
 The years have passed; many of our views have since changed
 But it can't erase the memories of the times of strife on both terrains
 The wounds may have healed, but the scars still remain.*

**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
 TO DELAWARE VETERANS**

In January 1946, Walter W. Bacon, then elected Governor, authorized a state award to those who served in World War II. To honor this commitment to Delaware Veterans, Governor Ruth Ann Minner has announced that the State of Delaware will provide a "Certificate of Appreciation" to all Delaware residents who shall have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States during time of peace, conflict or war. To request a

"Certificate of Appreciation" the veteran/spouse or next of kin must submit the enclosed application (see page 11) along with a copy of a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, (DD Form 214). DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL.

**COMBAT VETERANS COUNSELING
 SERVICES AVAILABLE IN
 KENT & SUSSEX COUNTY**

Angela Hoag, MSW, LCSW, Clinical Social Worker is presently conducting a **War Veteran's Support Group** every Thursday afternoon at 2:00 PM. This group is for combat veterans struggling with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Ms. Hoag also facilitates a **Significant Other Support Group** every Friday morning at 9:00 AM for wives, significant others, and family members of a veteran diagnosed with PTSD. This group is a Psycho-Educational program to assist family members in understanding the symptoms of PTSD, and teaches effective coping techniques. Ms. Hoag also facilitates a **Military Sexual Trauma Group** every Friday morning at 11:00 AM for female veterans who have experienced military sexual trauma during their active duty service. All groups are held at the Dover Vet Center Outreach Office located at the Commission of Veteran's Affairs Office, 802 Silver Lake Blvd., Suite 100, Dover, DE 19904. Similar services are held at the Vet Center Outreach Office in Georgetown, Sussex County, and the Vet Center in Elsmere, Wilmington, DE. For additional information or to request individual therapy, please contact Ms. Hoag, MSW, LCSW, at (302) 739-2792 x. 1003 or (800) 344-9900 x. 1003.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

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

VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS

Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs

(New Castle County) - Mr. John K. Williams - located in Bear, DE, may be reached Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, (302) 834-8046. Please call for an appointment.

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

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

MOBILE VETERANS SERVICE CENTER

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

OCT 17 Laurel Town Hall
OCT 20 Seaford Senior Center
OCT 24 Bridgeville Town Hall
OCT 25 Georgetown Service Center
OCT 31 Ocean View Town Hall

NOV 14 Laurel Town Hall
NOV 17 Seaford Senior Center
NOV 28 Bridgeville Town Hall
NOV 29 Georgetown Senior Center

DEC 05 Seaford Service Center
DEC 06 Ocean View Town Hall
DEC 12 Georgetown Service Center
DEC 15 Seaford Senior Center
DEC 19 Bridgeville Town Hall
DEC 20 Ocean View Town Hall

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

American Legion

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

OCT 20 Walter L Fox, Post 2 674-3922
OCT 27 David Harrison, Post 14 633-1711

NOV 03 Oak Orchard/Riverdale, 945-1673
Post 28 (8:00-12:00)

NOV 17 Walter L Fox, Post 2 674-3922

DEC 01 Oak Orchard/Riverdale, 945-1673
Post 28 (8:00-12:00)

DEC 08 Walter L Fox, Post 2 674-3922

DEC 15 Laurel Post #19 875-9948

DEC 29 David Harrison, Post 14 633-1711

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

Paul Lardizzone, Dept. Service Officer (DAV).

Every Tuesday: DAV Headquarters Building
& Wednesday 183 South Street
(Kent) 8:00-12:00 Camden, DE 19934
(302) 697-9061

Every Thursday: Department of Labor
(Sussex) 8:00-12:00 Div. of Emp & Trng
(302) 856-5230 600 N. DuPont Hwy.
Georgetown, DE 19947

Paralyzed Veterans of America (DE/MD PVA)

Darrell Johnson, Sr., National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 26, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 633-5325 or (302) 633-5392. Mr. Johnson will make home visits upon request for vets who do not have transportation to the VA. He will be in the Oak Orchard area the 1st Tuesday, Dover the 2nd Tuesday, Frederica the 3rd Tuesday and at the Home of the Brave on the 4th Tuesday of each month. In addition to our service officer at the Wilmington VA Regional Office, we also have a representative, David Timberman, National Liaison Service Officer, at the Home of the Brave on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. The Home of the Brave is located at 6632 Sharps Rd, Milford, DE (302) 424-1681 or 1682.

Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)

Richard Magner, National Service Officer, VA

Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 633-5508.

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)

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

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

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

1ST Thursday

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

2nd Thursday

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

3rd Thursday

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

4th Thursday

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

5th Thursday

Delaware DOL (633-5326) 8:00-11:00 AM

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

NOTE: persons desiring assistance at the Thursday-downstate locations should be at the Delaware DOL no later than 9:00 AM or at the afternoon locations by 2:00 PM. The VFW provides services to veterans and their dependents without respect to veteran service organization affiliation; membership in the VFW is NOT required for service.

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS POC

Air Force Sergeants Association

Bill McMullen.....(302) 697-9750

American Ex-Prisoners Of War

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

American Legion

Don White.....(302) 628-5221

AMVETS

Loyd Harris.....(302) 945-0406

DE/MD Paralyzed Veterans of America

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

Disabled American Veterans

Paul Lardizzone.....(302) 697-9061
40 & 8

Eugene "Chip" Rosan.....(302) 678-8077

Jewish War Veterans

Barry Newstadt.....(302) 475-2820

Korean War Veterans Association

Richard Ennis.....(302) 653-6765

Military Order of the Purple Heart

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

Military Order of the World Wars

COL (Ret) Eugene A. Hebert.....(302) 335-0110

E-Mail gene@hebert.net

The Reserve Officers Association

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

U.S. Navy Veterans Association

Jim Anderson.....(302) 295-7051

Veterans of Foreign Wars

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

Vietnam Veterans of America

Tom Daws.....(302) 738-8875

WAVES Nat'l

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

**DELAWARE VETERANS
MEMORIAL CEMETERY**

New Castle Co. Section (Bear, DE).....834-8046

Sussex Co. Section (Georgetown, DE).....934-5653

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Claims, Benefits, Veterans Services

(Regional Office).....1-800-827-1000

VA Hospital Scheduling.....1-800-461-8262

.....302-994-2511

Veterans Outreach Center

(New Castle County).....302-633-5360

(Kent and Sussex Counties).....302-422-8011

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Al Barclift (Wilmington).....302-761-8093
James Williams (Newark).....302-368-6622
Steve Flaherty (Dover).....302-739-5473
Cliff Rumph (Georgetown).....302-856-5230

VETERANS UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

Sandria D. Johnson (USAF-Ret.) Counselor/
Associate Director and James A. Perrine Delaware
Counselor/Recruiter State University, 1200 N
DuPont Hwy, Dover DE 19901, (302) 857-6135
and 6137. E-mail sjohnson@desu.edu or
jperrine@desu.edu.

RETIREE ACTIVITIES

Retired Activities Office

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

Retired Navy Activities Affairs Office

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

COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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

Gary Morris (Chairman).....AMERICAN LEGION
Richard Ennis (Vice Chairman).....KWVA
Cornelius "Bill" Carroll.....MOPH
John Endres.....40 & 8
Ruth B. Harden.....WAVES NAT'L
Jesse Kitson.....VFW
Joseph "Joe" Lank.....MOWW
Paul Lardizzone.....DAV
Richard M. Magner.....AMVETS
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Barry Newstadt.....JWV
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Jim ThompsonMCL
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George Webb.....VVA

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the following information below: (Articles should be submitted to the Commission Office directly)

NAME/ORGANIZATION _____
STREET _____
CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

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

If you have a name or address change, please contact our office immediately at (302) 739-2792 or in Delaware,
1-800-344-9900.

Press Release Title: **Gov. Ruth Ann Minner Joins Governors Council of
the National Museum of the Marine Corps**

Subtitle:

City: Dover—**Text of Press Release:** Governor Ruth Ann Minner announced today that she has officially joined the Governors Council of the National Museum of the Marine Corps and appointed Eugene R. Bailey, Executive Director, Port of Wilmington, as the state’s liaison to the museum in its efforts to locate all Delawareans who have ever worn the uniform of the United States Marine Corps. Gov. Minner has asked State Sens. Harris B. McDowell, James T. Vaughn and George H. Bunting, all former Marines, to be honorary co-chairs of the Delaware committee supporting the museum’s efforts.

The museum, set to open November 2006, will be a lasting tribute to Marines—past, present and future—and share the Marines’ unique role in shaping American history.

“I am honored to be a part of the museum’s Governors Council and look forward to engaging all Marines from Delaware in this project,” said Governor Minner. “Eugene Bailey is an ex-Marine and will serve as a dedicated and always faithful leader in this effort.”

The Governors Council is a 50-state initiative to locate every member of the United States Marine Corps, past and present, and their families, so that all Marines can be directly involved with the National Museum of the Marine Corps. It will also ensure that every Marine has the opportunity to be included on the Museum’s Roll of Honor and participate in Museum activities. The council is co-chaired by Missouri Governor Matt Blunt, Oregon Governor Theodore Kulongoski and former Virginia Governor Mark Warner. Each member of the Governors Council nominates a liaison upon joining to spearhead the search in their states.

“We welcome Governor Ruth Ann Minner to the Council and look forward to working with Eugene R. Bailey to connect with all the proud Marines in Delaware,” said Lt. Gen. Ron Christmas (ret.), President of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. “The Museum is a true national treasure that will share the history and lore of the Marines with all Americans. We look forward to continuing our work with Governor Minner and the people of Delaware.”

The National Museum of the Marine Corps is under construction on a 135-acre site adjacent to the U.S. Marine Corps Base at Quantico, Va., and will serve as the centerpiece of the Marine Corps Heritage Center. Construction of the building is more than 75 percent complete, with several major artifacts, including aircrafts, tanks, landing vehicles and artillery pieces already installed. The museum’s dedication is set for November 10, 2006, with a public opening to follow on November 13. For more information on the National Museum of the Marine Corps, please visit www.usmcmuseum.org. If you are a Delaware Marine interested in becoming involved, please visit www.portofwilmington.com/marines/ or contact Eugene R. Bailey at (302) 472-7800.



MARINES
THE FEW. THE PROUD.



MARINES
THE FEW. THE PROUD.

Delawareans: The National Museum of the Marine Corps Wants You...

REGISTER WITH YOUR LOCAL STATE LIAISON TODAY!

For information: www.portofwilmington.com/marines/ or contact Eugene R. Bailey at (302) 472-7800

The Governors Council is a fifty-state initiative to locate every member of the United States Marine Corps, past and present, and their families, so that all Marines can be directly involved with the National Museum of the Marine Corps. It will also ensure that every Marine has the opportunity to be included on the Museum's Roll of Honor and participate in Museum activities.

The National Museum of the Marine Corps will open its doors this November 10, 2006 in Quantico, VA and as a United States Marine, or a family member of a U.S. Marine, the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation wants you to get involved. The Foundation has created the Governors Council, co-chaired by Governor Matt Blunt (Mo.), Governor Theodore Kulongoski (Ore.) and former Governor Mark Warner (Va.), as a fifty-state initiative to reach out and provide more information to Marines and their families about their museum.

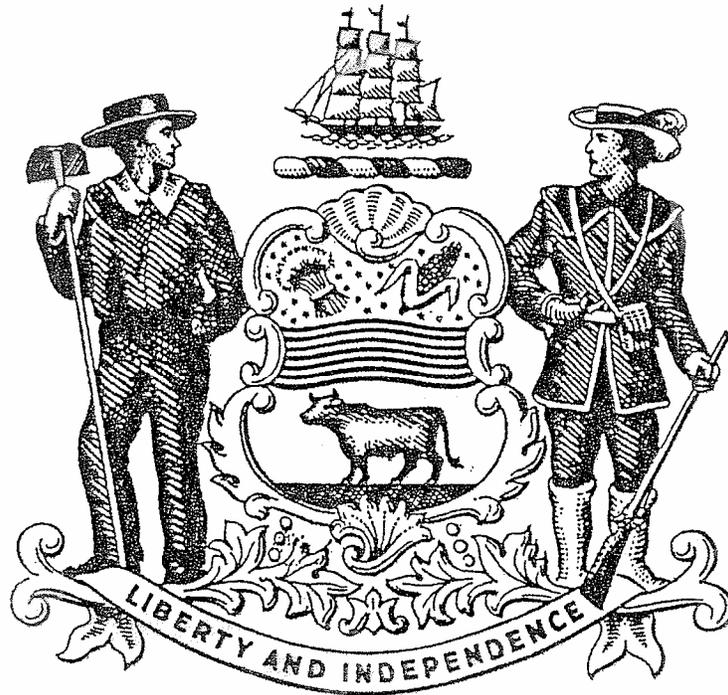
"The cooperation and dedication of Governors from across the country in our endeavor signifies the importance of the National Museum of the Marine Corps to our nation" -- Gen. Michael W. Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps.



The National Museum of the Marine Corps is being built as the result of a public-private venture between the Marine Corps and the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. When completed, the Museum will be the centerpiece of a campus called the Marine Corps Heritage Center - a place where Marines from across the country can convene together, share experiences, celebrate victories, and honor their fallen. It will also become a gateway for the American people to have the opportunity to learn and understand just what it takes to be a Marine and the role that Marines have played in the history of our nation.

STATE OF DELAWARE

"Serving Delaware's Veterans"



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

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