

CHAPTER NEWS

* Support for Soldiers; All Components, All Ranks *

Army JROTC Awards

Each year the Chapter participates in the Spring Awards ceremonies of the 5 Delaware High Schools that have Army Junior ROTC programs; Appoquinimink, Mount Pleasant, Sussex Central, Sussex Tech, and Cape Henlopen.

The Chapter President, Gary Dawson, presented certificates and medals to cadets at Sussex Central and Appoquinimink. Chapter member Stephan Murphy presented at Mount Pleasant, and MG (Ret) Fran Mahon made presentations at Cape Henlopen.



All five Delaware Army

JROTC programs and one from Maryland will conduct a combined summer training at the National Guard's Bethany Beach Training Site during the week of 18-22 June this year. Our Chapter will visit either for the training or their closing ceremony on Friday.

Delaware Chapter Lunch and Tour of ** Fort Miles **

The Delaware Chapter had their Spring Chapter Members Lunch meeting on April 21, 2018 at Fort Miles in the Cape Henlopen State Park. As you may know, Ft Miles was an active Army installation constructed in World War II to protect the Delaware coast and shipping near the Delaware Bay. It was linked to the many observation towers along the Delaware shoreline.

After an overview of the construction and layout of the Fort, Dr Gary Wray, the Executive Director of the Ft Miles Historical Association, conducted a tour of Battery 519. This Battery was the last one built in 1944 and has been refurbished, and includes a 12-inch gun and a museum.



After the tour, we had lunch from Capriotti's, a short meeting, then we presented Dr Wray with a \$100.00 donation to the Historical Foundation.

* 243rd Army Birthday - June 14, 2018 *

Veterans Corner

As part of VA’s ongoing efforts to help transitioning service members navigate and understand VA’s various benefits, the agency recently updated VA’s briefing portion of the [Transition Assistance Program \(TAP\)](#) – an interagency initiative authorized as a voluntary program in 1991 under the National Defense Authorization Act and made mandatory under the VOW to Hire Heroes Act in 2011 to help service members adjust to civilian life.

The new VA briefing is designed to be more collaborative and stimulating, helping service members make informed decisions about their health care, employment, housing and other benefits.



This June, VA joins the nation in recognizing **Men’s Health Month**—a time to spread awareness of preventable health issues and encourage early detection of disease among men and boys. Activities including screenings, health fairs and other educational and outreach events to teach men how to achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle. At VA, we provide quality care to over 17 million male Veterans, and every day, we empower them to take charge of their health through daily exercise, a balanced diet, stress management and regular medical exams.

Army News

Continued Afghanistan Mission

U.S. military operations in Afghanistan are entering their 17th year with signs of improvement in stability and living conditions, says Army GEN John W. Nicholson Jr., commander of Resolute Support and U.S. Forces-Afghanistan. Al-Qaida has been “devastated” by the “great work of our counterterrorism forces” and pressure on the Islamic State group is keeping it in check, he said.

Note: Leaving soon is unlikely, Nicholson said, noting there are 21 terrorist organizations existing in the region. “Our choice is fairly simple,” he said. “We either keep the pressure on them here, or they bring the fight to our doorstep.”

Four R’s and an S

With respect to Afghanistan and Southwest Asia, Army Chief of Staff GEN Mark A. Milley said the U.S. current strategy is the “four R’s plus S.” The R’s stand for regionalizing the issue, realigning efforts, reinforcing with additional capabilities and reconciling, in some way, with the Taliban. The S stands for sustaining the effort, Milley told the Senate Appropriations Committee.



Note: Milley is hopeful of reconciliation between the Afghanistan government and various insurgent groups, with the U.S.’s own interest being “to support them in order to prevent future attacks on the homeland and the United States.”



Quote of the Month:

Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.”

— T.S. Eliot

Golf Event Benefits the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund

On May 18th, the Chapter conducted the First Annual AUSA Golf Scramble at the Salt Pond Golf Course in Ocean View, DE. 60 golfers signed up to support the event with proceeds donated to the Delaware Veterans Trust Fund.

Sadly, it rained the night before and into that morning. Some were willing, but several holes were under water.

Prizes were awarded, lunch was served early, and we were able to donate \$2400.00 to the Trust Fund. Thanks to all who came out. The Club offered a 'rain check' to all participants.



AUSA conducts the 7th Annual 'Our Community Salutes' High School Enlistee Recognition Dinner



On May 23rd, the Chapter conducted the 7th Annual Enlistee Recognition Dinner at the Cavalier Country Club near Newark, DE. This event recognizes high school seniors who have chosen to join the military after graduation. Enlistees and their guests were treated to a reception where the USO, the VA, Military OneSource, as well as key sponsors, **Summit Aviation** and USAA, provided info on their products and services.

After the reception, attendees enjoyed a sit-down dinner; then Tim Furlong of NBC10 conducted the formal portion of the program. Speakers included the COL (Ret) Gary Dawson, BG Mike Berry (Delaware National Guard), and CMSgt (Ret) Larence Kirby (Executive Director, Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs).

Each student enlistee received a Letter of Appreciation signed by Senators Carper, and Coons and Representative Blunt-Rochester, and a Letter of Commendation signed by the Chairmen of both the State House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees.

The event was covered by Town Square Delaware, and they did a story with photos of the event.

View the story and photos at: <http://townsquaredelaware.com/2018/05/29/young-patriots-heralded-for-their-service-ahead/>

Future Events...

Delaware Commission for Veterans Affairs Flag Day Observance - Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 10am at the Sussex Veterans Cemetery in Millsboro, DE

National Meeting and Exposition, Association of the U.S. Army - 8-10 October 2018, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC. 14, 2018

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June 14th is also the Birthday of the U.S. Army. Join AUSA members at the Flag Day celebration at the Veterans Cemetery in Millsboro at 10AM.

