



March / April

2024

CHIN STRAP

Published by the Maryland Region for all members of the 29th Division Association, Inc.

- ★ Alsace - 25 July 1918 - WWI
- ★ Meuse Argonne - 8 Oct - 29 Oct 1918 - WWI
- ‡ Normandy - 6 Jun 1944 - WWII
- ★ Normandy - 6 Jun - 24 Jul 1944 - WWII
- ★ Northern France - 25 Jul - 14 Sep 1944 - WWII
- ★ Rhineland - 15 Sep 1944 - 21 Mar 1945 - WWII
- ★ Central Europe - 22 Mar - 8 May 1945 - WWII

- ★ Iraqi Governance - 2004 - 2005 - Iraqi War
- ★ National Resolution - 2005 - 2007 - Iraqi War
- ★ Iraqi Surge - 2007 - 2008 - Iraqi War
- ★ Consolidation I - 2001 - 2006 - Afghanistan War
- ★ Consolidation II - 2006 - Present - Afghanistan War

Post Reports

Stonewall Post 116, Staunton, VA
Southern Region

Commander: Barent Parslow

Post 116 members held our February meeting on Thursday the 8th in the evening at the 29th Division Museum in Verona VA. We provided great local mom & pop pizza paired with BYOB. After the "bull" session our discussion focused on setting up a predictable Post meeting schedule for 2024!

All of our meetings will be an evening meeting at Museum, starting at 1800, held on every Second Tuesday of EACH Month.

Save the Date! The 29th Division Reunion will be held in Staunton VA this year from 15 to 18 August at the Hotel 24 South. Stay Tuned for registration info and we hope to see you there!

POST EMAIL ADDRESS: post116hqs@gmail.com

The next 116th Regiment Muster will be held on Saturday, 9 November 2024! Friday Night reception at the Museum on Friday 8 November. Mark your calendars now!

Check our Facebook pages and websites to confirm if these meetings below will be occurring or not!

*****FUTURE POST 116 MEETING*** 12 March 2024, 1800 hours** evening meeting at the 29th Division Museum! Pizza Night and BYOB. **Check our Facebook Page!**

The **Winchester 3-116th** veteran's group is meeting at the GOLDEN CORRAL in Winchester, VA. Meetings are on the second Monday of each month @0900. Next Meetings should be March 11th and April 8th.

ANY Post 116 Member, former Stonewaller, or 29er is invited, welcome, and encouraged to attend!

Dues for Post 116 are \$12 a year. Please make check payable to: Post 116 and mail to: Post 116, 566 Lee Highway, Verona, VA 24482

Jimmy Kilbourne, Finance Officer
post116hqs@gmail.com

Lantern Post 729, Waynesboro, PA
Maryland Region

Commander: George Hill

Winter still has its grip on the Waynesboro area with two recent snow storms. Lantern Post 729 held its February meeting

Thursday the 15th at a new time of 9 AM. Attendance was basically no change.

Next meeting is March 21 at 9 AM. Hope to see more members returning to the meeting.

*Dues for Post 729 are \$15 a year. Please make check payable to: Lantern Post 729 and mail to: **Lantern Post 729, P.O. Box 831, Waynesboro, PA 17268-0831.***

George Hill, Commander
Gfhill1460@aol.com

Rudolph M. Price, Jr., Post 5, Norfolk, VA
Southern Region

Interim Commander: Fred Bolton

Hope all are well and safe. Thanks for all your support for the 29th Division Association, Norfolk Post 5 (NP5), and all associated events.

Memorial / Veteran's Day Events: On 11/11/23 at 1100, we had a ceremony for Veteran's Day at the Forest Lawn Cemetery. Memorial Day for this year is on Monday, 24 May and Veteran's Day is on Monday, 11 November. Will let you know of any tentative plans for events in the May Chinstrap newsletter and sooner via email as we have more information. Stay tuned!

ZOOM Meetings: We are holding recurring Zoom meetings every other month, on the 4th Thursdays of the even months, to continue discussing museum room progress as well as other Post 5 business as appropriate. I notify members via email with the ZOOM link before the meeting date. If you want to join us and have not provided me with your email, please email me your information. I will be sending out renewal and membership status letters soon. You will have the opportunity to update your information there as well.

Member Dues: *Dues for renewing members of NP5 are \$15 for one year, \$12.00 per year if you renew for 2 or more years by mail. There are no dues required for new members the first year. You may renew on line via PayPal for \$15 at*

www.29thdivisionassociation.com. This online portal distinguishes between new (no dues) and renewing members. Website renewal payment limits dues to only one year with a charge of \$15. Please be sure to describe the online renewal payment as "Post 5 Dues." Please shoot me an email that you have renewed online. Other-

wise, make checks payable to "Norfolk Post 5", and mail to me: Mr. Randy Hess, 2076 Timmerman Rd., Myrtle Beach, SC 29588-5472.

Randy Hess, Adjutant
rjshess@verizon.net

Eder-George Post 85, North East, MD
Maryland Region

Commander: Valerie Simmers

Greetings to all from the members of Eder-George Post 85!! Welcome 2024!!

We are sorry to report the loss of our comrade Floyd Bowman. We had a good representation for a final salute at his service in January. He will surely be missed!!

Our next meeting will be March 6, 2024. We will be meeting at the North East VFW. The meeting will start at 10am. Keep in mind, if Harford or Cecil county schools are canceled due to inclement weather, there will be no meeting.

We are hoping to get some new members interested in joining our Honor Guard, please let me know if you might be interested. Our current members are looking for some younger members to be able to carry on the tradition. We have made the decision to greatly reduce the opportunities for our Honor Guard. Unless we get new members for the Honor Guard, we will be holding 3 events each year. The next one will be Memorial Day. If more information is requested, please contact me.

Stay healthy and safe as possible. **The next meetings will be April 3, May 1, and June 5, 2023.**

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Dues for Post 85 are \$10 a year. Please make check payable to: Post 85 and mail to: Valerie Simmers, 5 Shore Drive, North East, MD 21901-3327.

Valerie Simmers, Commander
vhawk0926@gmail.com

Eastern Shore Post 88, Cambridge, MD
Maryland Region

Commander: Jon Black

Greetings from Delmarva,

Since the last newsletter the officers of the Post have been very busy at all levels of the association. The Adjutant and I have attended multiple meetings of the National Futures Committee and made the first briefing at the National Executive Committee. This committee has met again since briefing the NEC. At the Post level, Adjutant Liswell and I will attend the Region meeting and preparing for our upcoming elections in March.

In February, Commander Black met with the Maryland Army National Guard Museum staff at the Easton Readiness Center. The staff walked around the Readiness Center to identify all artifacts that belonged to Post 88. These artifacts were on display in the 1990's then removed when the old armory closed and placed back in the new Readiness Center. The staff of the museum was astounded with some of the artifacts accumulated by the Post. Immediate recommendations made to the Commander, to further preserve the items. The Museum Staff will make a full report of the visit. There was no mention of artifacts not belonging to the Post. This was a concern of many Post members.

The next meeting of Post 88 will be held at the Cambridge Diner on March 13, 2024 at 13:00. Members will order off the menu. Adjutant Liswell has already emailed and mailed announcements of this meeting. If you have not received this correspondence, please contact one of us. Elections for the 2024 officers will occur at this meeting as well. If interested in an office please contact the Adjutant.

If you have not paid, please rejoin and send dues to Bernie Liswell. My goal for this year is still to reach 200. The post has never reached this yet but have gotten closer each year. The annual convention information is out for members to review. I would like to see more Post 88 members attend as the networking and presentations given are remarkable.

As most are aware the Commander Black is dual hatted as the senior vice Commander of the Maryland Region. Commander Black in the spring will be nominated as the Maryland Region Commander following the chairs for the last few years. I appreciate the opportunities and support given to me by the Post as I endeavor to support the Association.

Dues for Post 88 are \$12 a year and \$5 for Auxiliary members. Please make check payable to Post 88 and mail to: Bernie Liswell, 24690 Pealiquor Road, Denton, MD 21629-2301.

Jon D. Black, Commander
cdrb2115@comcast.net

Cresap's Rifles Post 78, Frederick, MD
Maryland Region

Commander: Pete Hinz

Post 78 met on January 10th; the February meeting was cancelled due to inability of officers to attend. In the January meeting, a review of the "Christmas Gifts for Veterans" was conducted – while once again the effort was a success, we noted some issues to resolve for next year.

The Historian produced documentation regarding the Post's use of the room in the Talley Recreation Center and requested assistance with obtaining 29th Division flags to replace flags that are becoming old and worn.

Other new business included looking at holding one monthly meeting per quarter on a different time/day of the week at a location that could support a meal – the intent is to inject a social aspect to the meeting to attract more members to at least one meeting per quarter. Old business items were discussed with particular attention to the issue of the Post's account with the Frederick Community Foundation and the intent to restart the Post scholarship program.

Our next Post 78 meeting will be in 2024 on March 13th beginning at 6:30 pm at William Talley Recreation Center (Old Frederick Armory), 3rd floor. Meetings are open to anyone.

Please send any welfare information or updates to Patti Humphreys at **Pahumphreys@outlook.com**.

Dues for Post 78 are \$12 a year. Please make check payable to: Post 78 and mail to: Cresap's Rifles, Post 78, P.O. Box 1882, Frederick, MD 21702-0882. Any questions about dues that are reported as not paid, please email Patti Humphreys **Pahumphreys@outlook.com**.

Kelly Toms, Adjutant
kjt063@gmail.com

Silver Spring Post 94, Silver Spring, MD
Maryland Region

Commander: Jay Garrison

Greetings again to all members of Post 94 far and wide. I hope everyone is doing well. Feeling excited these days to see that we have already identified dates in August for our next convention. The Annual Reunion and Conference will be August 15-18, 2024, Staunton, Virginia.

I've also been keeping an eye of the D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA and their plans for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. My father's Company landed on Omaha Beach on D+1 and we attended the inauguration of the Memorial along with busloads of other 29er's when it opened on June 6, 2001. Perhaps I'll see some Post 94 members there!

That's it for now! Please stay safe and I hope to see some of you soon?

*Donations to Post 94 are encouraged. Please make check payable to: **Silver Spring Post 94** and mail to: **William Mund, 441 Chalfonte Drive, Baltimore, MD 21228-4017.***

*Jay Garrison, Commander,
clgarrison@verizon.net, 703.303.2150.*

Jerome L. Day Post 48, Westminster, MD
Maryland Region

Commander: Bill Rosier

Greeting fellow 29er's from our members at Post 48. Our last meeting was pretty well attended by 12 members and the following items were discussed.

- ◆ Low attendance at our meetings
- ◆ Possible meeting change date and location. To be discussed in the future.
- ◆ BIO still be requested by a number of members

I was able to attend the groundbreaking ceremony at Pikesville Military Reservation (PMR) on 22 January along with several other members from Post 48. Additionally, Post 48 voted to donate \$200.00 to the PMR project.

Our Post still has several members recovering surgeries at home. We wish all a speedy recovery at home.

Annual dues are now due (\$15.00). Our adjutant has sent out a reminder by email and letter to all current members as a reminder. Dues can be paid at our next meeting or by mail to PO Box 1564, Westminster, MD. 21158.

Our next 2 meetings will be on **28 March and 25 April 2024** at the American Legion in Westminster at 1900 hours.

Annual dues are due. \$15 a year can be paid in person at our next meeting or mailed to: PO Box 1564, Westminster, MD. 21158. Please make check payable to: Jerome L. Day, Post 48.

*Bill Rosier, Commander
bill9153@hotmail.com*

Larkspur Post 110, Pikesville, MD
Maryland Region

Commander: PNC David Ginsburg

The Larkspur Post sends best wishes to all of our comrades. January 22 was a momentous day for the historic Pikesville Military Reservation. On that very frigid Monday, the Pikesville Armory Founda-

tion broke ground on the \$100M + project to convert the facility into a vibrant community center with something for everyone.

The level of support for the project is at the highest levels within the state of Maryland, exemplified by such speakers that day as Governor Wes Moore, Senator Ben Cardin, Congressman Dutch Ruppersburger and County Executive Johnny Olszewski as well as numerous state and local leaders. TAG MG Janeen Birkhead was also in attendance.

A number of the speakers recognized our Post Commander, and PNC David Ginsburg for all his contributions to the realization of the project. The Post and the National Association are very proud of PNC Ginsburg who represented the veterans' groups on the Board and now serves as Executive Director spearheading the project.

Work will begin on the NCO Club in late March and last for approximately one year. In the interim PNC Ginsburg secured two meeting rooms at the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Department, just around the corner from the NCO Club, for our meetings during the restoration and rebuilding stage. One of the rooms is a board room for smaller meetings and the other is a small auditorium, both are equipped with A/V capabilities and WiFi.

Deaths and Distressed

It is with great sadness that we share the death of Walt Cayce, long time faithful member of the Post. He passed on December 31, just 26 days before his 94th birthday. He will always be remembered.

Future meetings/events:

Next Meeting date **TBD**

*Donation checks to Post 110 should be made payable to: **Post 110** and mailed to: **Ed Rodier, 13344 Cove Landing Rd., Bishopville, MD 21813-1102.***

If you are not getting the email updates on the Post or the electronic version of the Chin Strap, please contact the Commander at dginzu@gmail.com"

*Frank Armiger, Executive Director
dginzu@gmail.com*

Harry M. Richardson Post 64, Roanoke, VA
Southern Region

Commander: Richard Carr

Greetings from SW Virginia, our next meeting will be on **6 March at the New Yorker Deli in Roanoke at 11:30**. Followed by meetings on **3 April and 1 May**. Location is TBA.

We are starting to plan events for the spring, mainly the 80th Anniversary D-Day at the National D-Day Memorial. The program will begin at 11:00. If you plan on attending this great event, please let us know so we can add you to our count. And this is for any member of the Association no matter what Post you belong to. I would like for all our members to be together on that day. I know that our National Executive Director will be attending.

Our National Reunion will be 15 – 18 August in Staunton, please be on the look out for more information in the coming months and in upcoming 29'er.

Just a reminder to submit your 2024 dues to Dean Jones. The amount for 2024 is \$20.00. That is not a lot of money but we put every penny to good use in SW Virginia.

Looking forward to seeing as many as we can on **6 March** but even more on **3 April**.

Dues for Post 64 are \$20 a year. Please make check payable to: Post 64 and mail to: **Dean Jones, 931 West Point Road, Salem, VA 24153-2727.**

*Richard Carr, Commander
rcarr7102@yahoo.com*

New England Post 93, Northeast & Worldwide

At-Large Region

Commander: Fran Sherr-Davino

We mourn the passing of World War II veteran Max Bou-dakian.. Max served in the 29th Division from 1943 to 1946 and was awarded a Purple Heart. In 2018, he was awarded the French Legion of Honor for his service in liberating their country. After his military service, Max worked for Olin Corporation where his pharmaceutical research generated 13 patents.

Member dues were used to make a contribution in Max's name to Honor Flight which flies veterans to Washington to see the memorials that honor them.

A shout-out to Post 93 vice-commander Carl Yusna for his work on the history of the military gliders built in Connecticut by Pratt, Read & Co. The gliders were used in the Normandy invasion, along with other major landings. Carl has produced a commemorative calendar (photo left) which is available for sale. Contact Carl at yusnaphoto@cs.com



A Happy Birthday to Post 93 member Mort Waitzman who just turned 100. Mort, along with PNC Alvin Ungerleider, were among the 29th Division soldiers who liberated the Nazi slave labor camp Dora-Mittlebau in April 1945.

On the 80th Anniversary of D-Day, member dues will be used for commemorations in the Normandy cities and towns liberated by the 29th Division in the months after the landing. Post 93 members will be in attendance with memorial wreaths to be placed at the sacred monuments in these communities. If you have not paid your 2024 dues, please do.

Dues for Post 93 are \$20/year, but \$12/year for veterans. Dues may be paid for two years: \$35/two years, but \$20/two years for veterans. Please make check payable to: Post 93 and mail to: **Neil Ungerleider, 34 Maple Avenue, Boxford, MA 01921-1424.**

*Neil Ungerleider, Finance Officer
neilungerleider@gmail.com*

Florida West Post 2, Sarasota, FL

At-Large Region

Commander & Finance Officer: Sean Malloy

The Special Luncheon for Florida West Post 2 was held at The Bradenton Red Lobster on 17 February. A small but loyal group of 29ner's were in attendance; Mr. Cosmo Uttero, 175th, 29th Infantry Division, WWII who recently celebrated his 100th Birthday accompanied by his daughters Elizabeth

and Maggie, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Eiss (nephew of Angelo Lombino, 29th Infantry Division, WWII), Mr. James Sutton, Vietnam War Veteran, and myself. Everyone was gathered to raise a glass high in honor and memory of our friend Mr. Milton "Mike" Crouch, 121st Combat Engineers, 29th Infantry Division, WWII who recently passed in Hudson, Florida due to complications with pneumonia. Mr. Crouch was just shy of his 99th birthday (April 28) .

Mr. Crouch always kept our meetings lively with his "Bronx Comedy", but kept it clean in case there were ladies present. Throughout the years he would travel many miles to see his buddies and reignite those friendships, even through knee and hip operations, cancer treatments and even soon after a heart attack. It wasn't unusual to see Mike attend our meet-



L to R : Cosmo Uttero, 175th, 29th Infantry Division, WWII and Milton " Mike" Crouch, 121st Combat Engineers, 29th Infantry Division, WWII, holding a framed representation of the newly installed 29th Infantry Monument at Sarasota National Cemetery.

ings alone at times, making that two-hour trip from New Port Richey, but as poor health took over, his son Paul would make the trip with him. Mr. Crouch had been a longstanding member of Florida West Post 2 and the 29th Division Association for many years. We will all miss his wit and wisdom, and most of all we will miss the man. The family has announced memorial services for Mr. Crouch on 10 May, 2024 in Clearwater, Florida. More information will be forthcoming.

I am gratified to hear that our upcoming Annual Convention of the 29th Division Association will be held this August in Staunton, Virginia. I am actually hoping to arrive early this time around to meet up with other Post Commanders to talk strategy on how to fortify our Posts; recruitment and retention and new ideas on how to attract younger members and families of our heroes. Hopefully we can discuss fundraising ideas to keep our Posts solvent and thriving. This should be an important round-table discussion at our next convention. I am looking forward to another great convention this August!

Lastly, I would like to hear from those in our membership who have possibly moved or who are no longer receiving our publications. I have written to many of you during the Winter but sadly have not heard back. Thank you for your support of our Post. We

need to keep our engines running strong for many years to come with your loyal support. Thank you and "29 Let's Go!"

Dues for Post 2 are \$12 a year. Please make check payable to: Florida West Post 2, 524 Rio DeJaneiro Avenue # 202, Punta Gorda, FL 33983

Sean P. Malloy, Commander
sean.malloy@rocketmail.com

HQs Post 29, Richmond, VA

Southern Region

Provisional Commander: Tim Williams

No report.

If you are interested in joining our Post, please email: hqpost29@gmail.com. Please remember to pay this year's dues (\$15.00) at 29thdivisionassociation.com, or mail to Post 29 / Todd Hubbard at 13903 Highpaige Way, Chester VA 23831.

Todd Hubbard, Finance Officer
HQPOST29@gmail.com

Limestone Post 1-72, Baltimore, MD

Maryland Region

Commander: Lee Hofmann

Meetings of the Post are temporarily suspended due to the closure of the Fifth Regiment Armory. Duration of the closure is unknown as two reasons have been named –asbestos contamination and heating problems.

Dues for Post 1-72 are \$15 a year. Please make check payable to: Limestone Post 72, and mail to: **Bill DeHaven, 139 Chestnut Hill Lane, Reisterstown, MD 21136.**

Lee Hofmann, Commander
jazzzer6@comcast.net

Maryland Region

Commander: Pete Hinz

Now that we are a couple of months into 2024, we can see that it will be a year of change and challenge.

Our meetings will change – after our March meeting, the NCO Club at the Pikesville Reservation will close for renovation as part of the Pikesville Foundation's plans for the entire site as part of its transformation to a community attraction. As of this writing, after March we will be meeting at the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Company a very short distance from the Reservation.

And following in the footsteps of fellow organizations, we may incorporate remote access to our in-person Region meetings to make sure we maximize attendance. In recent months, we have seen changes in key positions at National, Region, and Post levels, and we will continue to see new people in different positions as well.

The Region, in keeping with initiatives at the National level, will continue to move increasingly to digital and on-line operations and products. These changes will present challenges to us, as we are conditioned to regular and standard ways of doing things from our military service.

Another great challenge that will take off in 2024 is the Association initiative to commission the creation and installation of a monument in Consenvoye, France, commemorating the 29th

Seize the Day

Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow is not yet here; however, at midnight we receive 24 hours and a new day. It has never been here before and will never come again. It is a gift from God.

However, some will miss it as they hold onto the past or worry about tomorrow. May God help us to be alive to this day and live life to the fullest.

Seize the moment for this is the day the Lord has made. Stop and smell the roses. Watch the flight of the birds, rejoice in the wonder of springtime. **Seize the Moment.**

John Schildt

Infantry Division's service in the Meuse-Argonne battle of World War I. The monument is long overdue, and will take a total Association effort to fund the memorial. I am sure National will be providing a great deal more specific information so we can meet this challenge!

And finally, we will welcome the change from the cold and snow of winter to the warmth of spring and summer, and we can all look forward to great Post activities!

The next Maryland Region Meeting will be **on Monday, 11 March 2024, at 11:00 a.m.** at the soon to be renovated NCO Club building at the Pikesville Amory.

*.PNC Pete Hinz, Commander
mailbox5@verizon.net*

29th Division Ranger Battalion

Morning Reports are now available on our website, 29div.com, courtesy of member **Julie Belanger of Post 93.**

Now online at 29div.com

115th Regiment Journals: June to July 1944

**Includes D-Day Landing
and After-Action Reports.**

**In Morning Reports section
for dues-paying members.**

To all WWII Veterans of the 29th Division

Preparations are being made for the upcoming 80th anniversary of Operation Overlord, the June 06, 1944 D-Day landings in northwestern France.

The Greatest GENERATIONS Foundation offers any World War II veteran in good health who wishes to return to Normandy free airfare, hotel accommodations, and private transportation. The dates for programs are 01 to 10 JUNE 2024. **Applications must be received no later than 30 MARCH 2024.**

PLEASE NOTE: The veterans must have served in the Battle of Normandy (Jun 6, 1944 – Aug 30, 1944) and provide a copy of their military discharge papers, also officially known as DD Form 214 or DD214. All veterans receive this Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty once they are out of the military. In a nutshell, the DD214 is proof of your military service. All branches use this same form. Please submit inquiries directly to The Greatest GENERATIONS Foundation if you are interested.

Email: info@tgff.org or visit us online at: www.TGGF.org

Sincerely,

Timothy DAVIS

President and CEO

The Greatest GENERATIONS Foundation

“Every Day is Memorial Day”

Chin Strap Supporters

We have received financial support for the *Chin Strap* from the individuals listed below in the last 2 months. Thanks to those of you who have helped by providing your monetary support as well as the kind words. Both are deeply appreciated. Please continue to contribute so we may continue to provide you a quality newsletter.

All donations are greatly appreciated. Checks for contributions to the *Chin Strap* should be made payable to the: **Maryland Region—29th Division Association, Inc.** and mailed to: **William Mund, 441 Chalfonte Drive, Baltimore, MD 21228-4017.**

American Alloy Steel, Houston, TX, *In honor of Arthur J. Moore, F/115*

Post 93, New England, *in remembrance of all who served and sacrificed 80 years ago on D-Day.*

Florida West Post #2, *In memory of Milton L. “Mike” Crouch, 121st Engineers.*

Earl Lauer, Post 110

James Vandergrift, Post 85

The *Chin Strap* is published by the Maryland Region for all members of the 29th Division Association, Inc. Comments may be forwarded to William S. Mund, Jr., 441 Chalfonte Drive, Baltimore, MD 21228-4017. at the email address that is listed below. Deadline for copy is the 17th of every even numbered month for the following odd numbered month's issue.

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