



May / June

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

New England Post 93, Northeast & Worldwide

At-Large Region

Commander: Fran Sherr-Davino

In advance of the 80th Anniversary of D-Day, Post 93 member Mike van den Dobbelen held a commemorative group hike from Omaha Beach to Saint Lô, following in the footsteps of the 115th Infantry Regiment.



Kate Bolcar (granddaughter of Cpl. Robert Branin, 115th Infantry), Marie Saint-Lô, Gerard Cortese and Mike van den Dobbelen in Saint Lô.

The route took them via Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer, Longueville, Canchy, Colombières, through Bricqueville, Tesson and Sainte-Marguerite-d'Elle to Le Pont de la Pierre, where Mike and his wife Deb have a B&B. On the second day, the hike took them through Saint-Clair-sur-l'Elle, via Les Foulons, Bois de Bretel, Bellefontaine into Saint Lô to finish at Major Johns' Command Post during the liberation of Saint Lô on 18 July 1944.

"To have been able to walk in the footsteps of the 29ers has given us all an unequaled sense of connection," he said.

Post 93 will be represented at the ceremonies in Normandy next month. Mike (alliedvictorytours.com) and Stephen Oliver-Crockett (d-daydetective.com) will be battlefield guides on the trip.

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

It is with deep sadness that Florida West Post 2 must announce the passing of PFC Joseph Steimel, K/175th, 29th Infantry Division, United States Army, WWII. Mr. Steimel passed on 2 March, 2024 with family and friends close by.

Mr. Steimel had joined the effort of the Normandy Invasion arriving one month past the initial conflict on the beaches of Normandy, France. He was assigned to the US Army's Transportation Corps



French Legion of Honor Ceremony 12, Dec 2017. Fr. L to R: Judy Steimel, Joseph Steimel, K/175th, 29th ID, US Army, Brigadier General, Thierry Ducret, French Military Liaison, CENTCOM. Awarded in Tampa, Florida.

and fought his way into Normandy, Brest and into Eastern France. He eventually made it into Germany, suffering wounds on the battlefield. Mr. Steimel was awarded The Purple Heart with cluster for his effort in battle.

Once home after the war he met his wife Judy who predeceased him. Judy and Joe were at "tag team" at Florida West Post 2 always playing off each other to the delight of other attendees at our Post meetings. The highlight of Mr. Steimel's loyalty to our Post was a visit by actress Loretta Swit, who played "Hot Lips Houlihan" on the award winning tv show MASH. Both celebrated their birthdays at the Post. Joseph Steimel also was awarded the French Legion of Honor by Brigadier General Theirry Ducret, French Military Liaison at CENTCOM. The ceremony was in Tampa, Florida in 2017.

Joseph will be missed greatly by all of us at Florida West Post 2. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time.

Florida West Post 2 is out for Summer Break beginning in June and will return in September. Our meetings will continue on the third Saturday of every month at 12pm at the Bradenton Red Lobster.

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*

Stonewall Post 116, Staunton, VA

Southern Region

Commander: Barent Parslow

Post 116 members held our April meeting on Tuesday the 9th in the evening at the 29th Division Museum in Verona VA. We had 10 in attendance and hope Mr. R.B. Retired had a great trip while he missed the meeting. We posted some info about the meeting on our Post 116 Facebook page and got more comments and "likes" from those who could not attend. We hope this will generate more interest!

We provided great local mom & pop pizza paired with BYOB. After the "bull" session our discussion focused on reviewing the coming 29th Division Reunion in August to be held in Staunton, what we can do to help, AND, pitching in to help fundraise for the new WWI 29th Division monument to be built in France. We discussed pledging \$500 as a post and challenge each post in the Association do the same!

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 MEETINGS*** 14 May and 11 June, 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 May 13th and June 10th.

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

Post 729 monthly meeting was held April 18 at the Parlor House restaurant at our new time, 9:00 AM. Since moving our time from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM, our attendance has increased and more than doubled at this meeting.

Election for new officers occurred at the April meeting and new positions will begin serving at the May meeting.

Hope all are enjoying the spring weather. Stay safe!

*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 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: 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 these events via email and in future Chinstrap newsletters as plans develop. 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 recently sent out renewal and membership status letters. Please update your information as requested.

Member Dues Update: There are no dues required this year for new, renewing, and reinstated/lapsed members. Please follow the instructions provided in the letter all should have recently received. Please shoot me an email if you did not receive a letter or send any updates to your information to 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!!

Our next meeting will be May 1, 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.

We are planning a trip to the National D-Day Memorial for the 80th anniversary of D-Day. We would be departing after the June meeting and staying overnight. Anyone interested in attending please notify me ASAP. Thank you!

Stay healthy and safe as possible. **The next meetings will be June 5, July 3, and August 7, 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,

The Post is still looking for a good meeting location. The Commander received a suggestion that will be looked at. **The next meeting will be June 12, 2024, at 13:00 with location to be determined** after recon of suggested location. I was told this the suggested restaurant has a private room.

The next MD Region Meeting will be taking place in a few weeks that the Adjutant and I will be attending as usual and if all goes as planned, I will become the next Maryland Region Commander. I look forward to this challenge to continue the legacy of the association.

Memorial Day is also coming up and the two below events are taking place with participation from Post members. I hope to see many 29ers at these events.

The first will be at Long Wharf by the Post Memorial and the second is the Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery. A wreath will be presented at both events. Hope to see everyone. Commander Black will be attending the parade in Sharpsburg representing the Post and MD Region on May 25, 2024.

Adjutant Liswell and Commander Black are still meeting regularly attending the Futures Committee and making great progress with ideas to be presented to the NEC and membership.

If you have not paid, please rejoin and send dues to Bernie Liswell. My goal is still to reach 200 and to get free members to pay dues.

Until we meet again. Yours in service,

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 March 13th and on April 10th.

Our next Post 78 meeting will be on May 8th beginning at 6:30 pm at William Talley Recreation Center (Old Frederick Armory), 3rd floor. Meetings are open to anyone.

In Post business, the purchase of the 2025 Calendar for the annual fundraiser was approved; the Post declined an offer from the Frederick County Community Foundation, holder of the Cresap's Rifles Fund, to change the investment profile for the Fund; welfare reports of several Post members were given, and the losses of a Post member and a Post member's spouse were noted. The Historian and the Commander continue to search for a double-sided outdoor flag (i.e., durable and not printed) to replace the aging flag on the 29th Memorial on Fort Dietrick. Also regarding the Cresap's Rifles Fund, the Post decided not to try revert the Fund to a scholarship effort as the Foundation funding requirements have become prohibitive.

Upcoming Post activities include placing flags on graves of 29ers in Frederick County on May 18th in advance of Memorial Day; having a float in the Sharpsburg Memorial Day Parade on May 25th and the Woodsboro Memorial Day Parade on May 26th. The National Commander has expressed intent to ride again this year in the Sharpsburg Memorial Day Parade. The annual Post Family Picnic has been scheduled for August 10th and a date for a Fall Seafood Fest will be chosen in the near future.

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 continue to see on social media many posts from the children and grandchildren of WWII era 29er's. Other than directing them to join our association can any other Post members think of a way that won't get blocked from certain social media sites to let them

know about our group? Yes, anything that looks like I'm trying to sell something on some websites (you know who I'm talking about, ha ha) may not make it!

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

Post 48 held its late monthly meeting on 28 March at the American Legion in Westminster. Our meeting was fairly well attended as compared to recent months. Our post has had little activity since our last regular meeting.

Just a few items were discussed for future planning and meetings. Possibilities of Zoom meetings for our members who are unable to attend. But our current meeting location is not suited for Zoom set up.

Nominations for next year's officers were made and there is very little change from our current officers.

Elections will occur during our next regular meeting providing attendance allows.

I had 3 historic books relating to the 29th donated by Ms. Jane Horst, wife of former 1SG John Horst of Battery "A" 2nd 110th Field Artillery. Those books are currently on loan to members of the post.

Our post will be participating in a Carroll County proclamation recognizing the upcoming 80th anniversary of the "D" day landings in Normandy.

Post 48's next meetings will be 30 May and 27 June at the American Legion in Westminster @ 1900 Hours.

Just a reminder that annual dues are now due. \$15 can pay in person or mailed to: PO Box 1564, Westminster, Md. 21158.

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.

We are pleased to report that work has begun on the NCO Club and will last for approximately one year with a grand opening in late spring or early summer. 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.

80th Anniversary of D-Day Landings

On behalf of the 29th Division Association, I invite all our members and their families to join us on 6 June at the National D-Day

Memorial in Bedford, VA. I would like to see a large throng there that day to honor our soldiers who landed on Omaha Beach. We will have a pavilion in place for seating and relief from the sun. I am assured that April Cheek-Messier will have a memorable program to present that day with veterans and dignitaries in attendance.

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*

Limestone Post 1-72, Baltimore, MD

Maryland Region

Commander: Lee Hofmann

Greetings from your Limestone Post 1-72. Now that the armory is fully open, we will return to our monthly meeting schedule on the third Monday of each month, at 11:AM sharp. As in the past, we will not meet during the months of July, and August.

Comrades I find it necessary at this time, due to health reasons, to step down from the Commanders position. The post will be steadfastly guided by Brian Becker, and Bruce Roush, until further notice. All current elected, and appointed Officers will remain the same, until further notice.

I thank each of you for the opportunity to serve. And, my sincere thanks go out to men such as Brian Becker, Bruce Roush. Franklin Shilow, & Bill DeHaven for their hard work, and dedication to our Post.

*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*

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*

Harry M. Richardson Post 64, Roanoke, VA

Southern Region

Commander: Richard Carr

No report.

*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*

**Maryland Region
Commander: Pete Hinz**

As we approach the 80th anniversary of D-Day, the seminal event in the European Theater of Operations in World War II, and now an iconic event in American history, we should be re-inspired by the words in our preamble that we all cite throughout the year "...to keep alive the spirit that never knew defeat; to honor our dead; and to further keep before our country the record of the 29th Division in all the wars..." Certainly traveling to Normandy to honor the anniversary is a worthy effort, but for most of us who will be staying stateside, we must continue to look for ways to implement our preamble – ways to "...keep alive...honor...and keep before." Simply wearing and displaying our honorable patch, so recently validated as a symbol of the unity that has made America great, is one of the best, easiest, and most effective ways. And participating in community events such as local parades, celebrations, and grave site flag-placing underscores our commitment to our Association.

I would also like to beat the drum a bit for National initiatives – the annual 29th Division Reunion and Conference in Staunton, Virginia from the 15th to the 18th of August; and the creation and installation of a monument in Consenvoye, France, commemorating the 29th Infantry Division's service in the Meuse-Argonne battle of World War I. It is just as important for all to support and participate in these initiatives – I hope to see many of you at the Reunion!

And finally, as my tenure as Region Commander comes to a close, I would like to thank all for support and participation in Maryland Region meetings and activities. And I know you will continue to support Jon Black, the incoming Region Commander

The next Maryland Region Meeting will be **on Monday, 13 May 2024, at 11:00 a.m.** at Pikesville Volunteer Fire Department (40 E. Sudbrook Lane, Pikesville, MD 21208).

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

The All Seeing Eye

On some of our currency and in some churches, there is "the all seeing eye". This represents the fact that we are always on God's radar, as His eye is upon "the birds of the air and the lilies of the field." Most of us are aware of the song "The Eyes of Texas are Upon You." The Eye of God is upon us—Meditate in the lines of the famous hymn.

There's an Eye that never sleeps.

There's an Ear that never shuts.

There's an Arm that never fails.

There's a love that never fails.

"And God Says to Joshua 'As I was with Moses, so shall I be with you'"

John Schildt

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

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Commander	Pete Hinz	mailbox5@verizon.net
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Junior Vice Commander	Bruce Kahl	brucekahl@gmail.com
Finance Officer	Valerie Simmers	vhawk0926@gmail.com
Adjutant & Editor, <i>Chin Strap</i>	William Mund	duster197329@gmail.com

Join us for our 105th Annual Reunion & National Convention 15-18 August 2024 in Staunton, Virginia



Hotel 24 South in Staunton, Virginia is the site of our annual reunion and convention. The group room rate is \$139 per night plus taxes, single or double occupancy room.

The 29th Division Association Reunion and Convention Committee is very excited to extend an invitation and welcome you to this year's Reunion and Convention events which will be held in Staunton, Virginia from the 15th to the 18th of August 2024.

Immediately after assuming his duties National Commander Dick Snyder outlined that his two-year reunion and convention concept which was to hold one event in Maryland and one in the Shenandoah Valley near Staunton Virginia.

The Valley of Virginia is forever connected to the 29th Division as it is the home area of the historic 1116th Infantry Regiment and the current home of the Headquarters of the 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the 29th Division. In addition, The Valley is host to many cultural and historic sites to provide plenty of activities for our annual reunion and convention, not to mention the 29th Division Museum is located in the area as well.

The reunion and convention planning committee turned to the same hotel where the 116th Infantry Regiment holds its annual Muster every Veterans Day weekend. We asked the Hotel 24 South for a weekend in late September to mid-October which have been the time period for our reunions over the last several years.

The Shenandoah Valley is a busy place during those months due to the many nearby college football games, fall leaf color change and numerous local festivals and events. Only one weekend in mid-August was open that could accommodate our typical format of activities and we grabbed it!

We already have a nearly full schedule of events planned at our host hotel and attractions in the area. Our weekend will begin on Thursday with early registration that afternoon and a fully stocked hospitality suite in the evening to help you relax and get prepared for the coming events. Friday we will travel to Luray Caverns by bus and get private, guided tours of the caverns, visit two museums and

have a picnic lunch. That evening we will return in time to get freshened up and attend a wonderful "Night at the Museum" reception with food and drinks, museum guides and special events throughout the evening.

Saturday begins with a breakfast, followed by our business meeting and installation of new Officers, and then some great seminars for the Posts and Members about the future of the Association. We have a great evening banquet and meal with a fantastic guest speaker lined up to follow our afternoon activity, followed up with great fellowship in our hospitality suite after dinner.

Sunday we will close out our events with the traditional Memorial Service to departed comrades. We will continue our a la carte pricing that proved to be popular and effective last year. You will be able to register to attend either Friday or Saturday events, or come for the whole weekend. More registration details will be published soon! See You There!

*Submitted by Jimmy Kilbourne,
National Vice Commander*