

Veterans' Voice



As we close in on the end of 2024, I would like to look back on some of what the Nobles Pond Veterans Association has been able to accomplish over the years. The numerous fundraisers since 2015 have enabled us to donate more than \$35,000 to various veteran entities including the USO at Dover AFB, the Veterans Home in Mil-

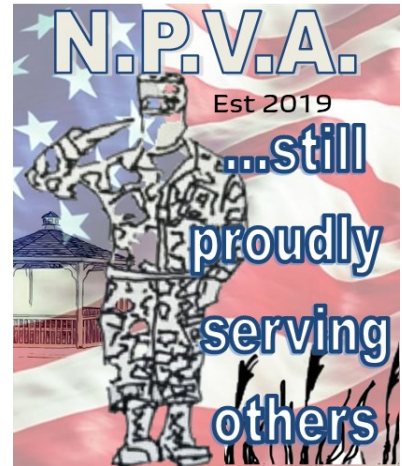
ford, Honor Flight, and the veterans at the Home for the Chronically Ill, to name a few. We have also donated scholarship monies to the Military Officers of America and the First State Military Academy. The generosity within the Nobles Pond community has been amazing. Your support at our pancake breakfasts, pig roasts, veterans grilling, and other events has made all of this possible.

In addition, we have laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns, advocated for the installation of the flag pole, purchased and installed the POW/MIA chair. We have also brought in the VA and DAV on a number of occasions to talk about disability claims. In addition, we have conducted many Fourth of July and holiday parades throughout the community.

We are also the only group within Nobles Pond that can obtain the permits from the State Gaming Commission for both bingo and the MS event.

All of this has been accomplished because of the hard work by many within the Nobles Pond veteran community working together to not only reach our goals, but in many cases to far exceed them. This all starts at our monthly meetings with ideas and suggestions that turn into accomplishments. It is my hope that more of the approximately 127 Nobles Pond veterans will attend the meetings to provide input and help make the Nobles Pond Veterans Association even better. As always, our meetings are open to all in the community. Thank you.

Walt Waite
President



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NPVA Officers

President:	Walt Waite
Vice President:	Bob Sly
Secretary:	Trish White
Treasurer:	Patrick Gaudett
Sargent at Arms:	Jim Ullman
Past Presidents:	Joyce Jamison, Bob Sly

Dover AFB Pharmacy can use a few Good People



NP Vet John Hansen is a longtime volunteer at the Dover AFB Pharmacy. According to John, “a typical commitment is 4-5 hours a week at a time convenient to the volunteer.” Volunteers need not have any specialized medical knowledge. John describes the volunteer work as “dispensing medication, manning the pick-up windows, and other tasks that free-up the military and staff to concentrate on the more technical aspects of the pharmacy system.” A posting on the [Dover AFB website](#) praises volunteers like John who “take

up to 25 percent of the workload, enhancing the readiness of the active-duty personnel.”

The web site goes on to report that pharmacy relies on six active-duty military and 20 civilian volunteers to serve over 31,000 Tricare beneficiaries and 168,000 patients per year.

If you’re interested, contact John Hansen for details. His phone and email address are available on the community website <https://www.npscommunitywebsite.com/>. Click on the link for the Website Resident Directory.

Dover AFB AMC Museum Seeks Volunteers

The *Daily State News* reports that the AMC Museum store is seeking volunteers to assist with routine jobs, including stocking shelves, taking inventory, bagging purchases and ringing up sales.



Those interested in volunteering at the Air Mobility Command Museum’s retail gift store are asked to contact Mike Hurlburt, opsamcm@comcast.net or 302-677-3855.

Pig and Chicken Roast



NPVA Boosters Donna and Coleen serve pulled pork to Walt

Saturday, 14 September was the date for this year's Pig Roast. Over a hundred people joined in the feast, which was held in the ballroom. In addition to pork and chicken, the menu included baked beans, corn on the cob, and salad. Special thanks to Donna and Coleen and all the vets and vet supporters who made this year's roast a success!



Flags, Flags, and Flags

Each patriotic holiday, Noble's Pond residents can expect to see our nation's flag waving next to their mail boxes. It doesn't happen by magic. It takes a small army of vets to distribute and retrieve the hundreds of flags that grace our most patriotic holidays. In military fashion, the operation requires two teams—one for the east side of Noble's Pond, and one for the west side. Captained by Howard Goodhand and Bobby Turner, 20 plus vets accomplish the mission, which has grown dramatically with the increasing size of Noble's Pond.

Memorial Day Ceremony 2024 at Noble's Pond



At 11am on Monday, May 27, 2024, the Noble's Pond Veterans' Association held its yearly Memorial Day ceremony. The ceremony included bagpipers, a wreath laying, the playing of Taps, the hoisting of colors, patriotic songs by the Noble's Pond choir, and a poem recital. With the weather clearing, Noble's Pond residents and guests lined the street with members holding flags of the armed services for the start of the ceremony, which included Bagpipers playing *Amazing Grace*. After the pipers concluded their portion of the program, Howard Goodhand played Taps and Walt Waite hoisted the colors.

After the hoisting of the colors, the crowd filed into the ballroom for the remainder of the program, which began with a moving performance by the Noble's Pond Singers. The standing-room crowd enjoyed the program, and more importantly, realized the importance of the Memorial Day program. A video sample of their inspirational program can be viewed online at <https://youtu.be/ji9ABY0E-oQ>. After the choir finished their performance, Walt Waite took the podium for his Memorial Day message, and then invited attendees to enjoy refreshments.



Many thanks to Don Lindberg the photography and text used in this posting. His supplemental newsletter covering the Memorial Day Ceremony should arrive in your inbox soon. Also appreciation goes out to the many residents of Noble's Pond who contributed this year's event. Special mention goes out to the following:

Color Guard: Ron Hunsicker, Sal Waters, Santo Faronea, Jim Ullman, Fred Ziegler, Joe Field, John Keeley, Jim Hill, Gordon Childers, Bill Gerard, and Ed Toole.

Traffic Control: John Hansen, Matthew Lewandowski, and Leo Shepherd.

Cake: Tom and Lucy Mehl, Pat Gerard, Isabel Lehnhoff, and Debbie Kluska.

NPVA Waves its new Flag



NPVA's members received our newly designed flag at the September membership meeting. Presented by the Flag Design Committee, which included Ron Hunsucker, Joyce Jamison, Santo Faronea, Corlyn Yusuf, Trish White, and Bill Newmiller, the flag incorporates elements that express the values and aspirations of the Noble's Pond Veterans' Association.

At the center of the flag's creation was Ron Hunsucker who worked tirelessly to ensure that the flag represented NPVA and the Noble's Pond community. In designing the flag, the committee decided on certain parameters consistent with organizational standards and stated purpose. At the presentation ceremony, Ron reflected on the flag and what it means with the following comments.

The stars and stripes form the backdrop for the other elements because it stands for our nation, its history, principles, and values and the sacrifices made to keep this great nation steadfast in hope, opportunity, strength, freedom, democracy, and unity.

The next element is a soldier at attention, a formal acknowledgement of respect, humility, and an attitude of gratitude which forms the foundation for serving others. Notice also, that the soldier is transparent with no defining, race, gender, or branch of service as service to others should be from the heart, sincere, and without prejudice.

The motto "...still proudly serving others"...incorporates what service to our nation stands for... the oath we all took: "To support and defend the Constitution of the United States" and our continuing support by unselfishly serving others.

And lastly, the elements of the gazebo and pond complete the branding by making this Veterans' Association our own.

Ron concluded saying "We thank the Noble's Pond Veteran's Association for their support of our efforts and pray this flag will continue to remind this community of our continuing commitment to serving others!"

Many thanks to Ron and everyone who supported this project and brought it to completion.

Noble's Pond Celebrates Independence Day 2024

The Noble's Pond retirement community celebrated the 4th of July with a heartwarming and spirited event sponsored by the Noble's Pond Veterans' Association.



In a touching display of patriotism, members of the association placed American flags in front of every resident's mailbox before the parade. The community buzzed with excitement as residents gathered at The Point, the community's clubhouse, half an hour before the parade's start time of 11 a.m. They arrived in

festively decorated golf carts, cars, and bikes, proudly adorned in red, white, and blue. Even pets joined in the fun, sporting patriotic outfits. Adding to the festive atmosphere, a food truck selling donuts was stationed at the staging area, allowing residents to munch on delicious treats and socialize while the parade was being organized.

At 11 o'clock, the parade began, winding its way through all the roads in the



community, passing by over 400 homes and filling the neighborhood with a vibrant and celebratory spirit. Special thanks go to Colleen Ostafy, Life Style Director, and Walt Waite and Bob Sly, the President and Vice President of the Noble's Pond Veterans' Association, for their outstanding efforts in organizing this memorable event.