



Gerry No. 5 VFA

Established 1956

DECEMBER 2023

WWW.GERRY5.COM

GERRY 5 VFA NEWSLETTER



Presenting the 2024 Board of Directors and Officers

The December member meeting signaled the end of voting and the election for our 2024 Officers and three Directors was closed. After rounds of counting by the Bishop Brothers and Bill Richardson, we present your 2024 Board. The winners are marked in bold and the actual vote count is given. We thank all who voted. We also thank those who served in 2023.

Gerry 5 V.F.A. Inc. 2024 Election RESULTS 2024	
PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR <u>ONE</u>)	
Mark Lausier	133
VICE PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR <u>ONE</u>)	
Carol McHugh	131
SECRETARY (VOTE FOR <u>ONE</u>)	
Kathy Tankersley Bernier*	113

DIRECTOR (THREE positions, TWO-year term) Vote for no more than <u>THREE</u>	
Jim Caswell	63
Joan Champlin	113
Terry Raustad	38

Walter Homan	108
Michael Hull	97

Gerry 5 V.F.A. Inc. 2024 OFFICERS & DIRETORS	
President - Mark Lausier	
Vice President - Carol McHugh	
Secretary = Kathy Tankersley Bernier*	
Treasurer – Peter Martin	
2024 Board of Directors	
Nate Burke	
Joan Champlin	
Ryan Glavin	
Walter Homan	
Michael Hull	

Membership Renewal Time is Here!

The 2024 Membership Renewal forms are being mailed this month. Renewals and dues payments have a deadline of **February 7, 2024**. We strongly encourage members to renew as they are able (sooner rather than later preferred) but prior to the deadline. Membership renewals are **officially due in January 2024 with February 7th as the final deadline**.



Members who desire to Resign may do so using the Membership Renewal form. Resignation provides members with the ability to rejoin when they are ready to do so by paying the going rate for membership dues. Resigned members remain in good standing.

Non-payment of dues will result in your membership status becoming “read out”. This means you are no longer a member in good standing and have lost your membership privileges. To rejoin as a “reapplicant”, you must go through the membership process like a new member including having sponsors, paying the going rate for dues and our administrative fee, and being voted on by the membership. All “Read Out” members will be notified of their status following the closure of the membership renewal period (February 7, 2024).

Thank you in advance to the members who make extra donations when paying their dues. We deeply appreciate your dues payments and any additional donations, no matter how large or small.

November Pool Tournament Results

On Sunday, November 12th, Steve Jenkins and Dick Taylor defeated Doug Gatchell and Mike Alkonis in a rousing tournament.

Dick and Steve – the November 2023 winners



Holiday Village Returns!

The Holiday Village returned to the Function Hall again this year. This beautiful depiction of a snowy town resembling Marblehead has become a staple of the Gerry holiday season. Come and see it! The train is awesome! Special thanks to Chicki Curtis and her crew of elves for all their work assembling the village.

Kids' Christmas Party

Sunday, December 10th, 2 - 5 p.m.

Santa and Elves Return!
Parents should bring a gift
With their child's age and name
To place beneath the tree
Santa will pass them out
And a photo you can snap
With the Elves and your child
Sitting on Santa's lap.

The Gerry will have a gift
And other treats as well
A lunch that day is served
To be enjoyed by all.
Fun and food for everyone
And best of all it's free.

Open to Members & Guests



Anyone with questions about the Gerry's Kids' Christmas Party should call Elf Paul at 781 632-3682

9th Annual Craft Fair Sells it!

The Annual Craft Fair held on November 18th proved to be a success for the vendors, shoppers, and the Gerry itself. It started as a dark, drizzly day but when the doors opened for vendors at 7:00 a.m., it was evident the day was getting brighter. By the time we officially opened for sales at 9:00 a.m., we happily saw all vendors in place and a steady stream of customers arriving. Customer traffic was steady throughout the day. All vendors, with a couple of exceptions, were very happy with their sales and customers seem to be so as well. The Gerry 5 VFA/Angel Fund table with the raffles was busy all day and we made a nice donation for the Angel Fund. Overall, we made almost \$1,300 for the scholarships and charities.

Thank you to all the vendors and shoppers, to Art and the set-up crew, to Kathy Tankersley Bernier and Joan DaSilva for running the show. We hope to see you next year.

An Evening at the Gerry Delivers for the Marblehead Counseling Center and the Food Pantry

Saturday, November 25th, brought another successful fundraiser – a giving times two event – to the Gerry. Featuring the Guy Ford Band as entertainment, the second year of this event resulted in raising much needed funds and food donations for these two Marblehead organizations. Over 35 bags of food were delivered to the Food Pantry and the Counseling Center raised more than last year's fundraiser. We thank all who attended, all who donated money and/or food, and to those who organized the event: the Counseling Center, the Food Pantry, and the Gerry 5 crew.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The following applicants were read and posted for voting at the January 3rd meeting: Penny Blaisdell, Jo Ann Fratini, Pamlea Giblon, John Howard, Margot Hunson, Brian Kane, George Ladd, Andrew LaFlair, Cate Mann, Jamie Slavet, Daniel Sullivan, George Ulrich, James Weed all of Marblehead, John Lazarou of Lynn, and Johnny Gold of Swampscott.

The following were voted membership at the December 6th meeting: Tristan Benoit, Kathryn Carey, Kyle Edwards, Eric Galardi, Michael Harsip, Michael O'Neil, Johnny Ray, Richard Tracchia all of Marblehead, Laurie Rodolico of Beverly, Beth Yazbak of Delray Beach, FL, and Leo Tracy of Whitefish, MT.

The current membership stands at 791. 160 members have renewed their membership as of the date of this writing and we've received \$2,160 in donations so far.

CHRISTMAS EVE OPEN HOUSE – Members and Guests

December 24th, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Club closes at 5:00 p.m.

Join us as we gather to wish one another Happy Holidays and bring good cheer.

Food, fun, camaraderie at our home away from home. Ho Ho Ho!



Annual Holiday Food Drive – Please Donate!

Annual Holiday
FOOD
DRIVE

Join the Gerry 5 in supporting
The Marblehead Food Pantry and those in
need!



Bring any shelf-staple, unexpired food item or toiletry when you visit the Gerry. Drive runs through beginning of January. Drop off your donations any time during open hours.

Thank you for helping us help others.



IMPORTANT DATE REMINDERS!

Sunday, December 10th, Kids Christmas Party, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 17th, Patriots vs. Kansas City (1:00 p.m.)

Sunday, December 24th, **Christmas Eve Open House, 2 – 5 p.m.**

Club Closes @ 5 p.m.

Patriots @ Denver (8:15 p.m.)

Monday, December 25th, **MERRY CHRISTMAS** – Closed

Sunday, December 31st, Stadium Bar & Grill

Patriots @ Buffalo (1:00 p.m.)

Sunday, December 31st, Kid's New Year's Eve Party, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Monday, January 1, 2024 – **HAPPY NEW YEAR** - Open

Sunday, January 7, 2024, Jets @ Patriots, 1:00 p.m.

Passages

Karl Johnson, member, passed on November 5, 2023, at the age of 80. Born in Rhode Island, he graduated from URI and received his Masters of Education from Boston State. He taught school for several years and spent summers as a carpenter. He owned KA Johnson Buildings specializing in remodeling homes for over 50 years. He was a lifelong fitness enthusiast. He was a member of the Army Reserves, a gourmet cook, flower whisperer and storyteller. Our heartfelt condolences to family and friends.

Thomas John (T J) Reintges, Jr. son of member *Janet Reintges*, passed on November 20, 2023, at the age of 66. A unique, adventurous, intelligent guy with a devil may care attitude, he was always humorous and had a story to tell. We will miss him and listen for a whisper in the silence. Our heartfelt condolences to family and friends.

Remember there are always things to do at the Gerry. Whether you want to socialize or just relax, we're here for you.

Gerry Gear Available! Existing inventory is dwindling See [Gerry Gear In Stock](#) (bottom of page) or information at the Gerry. Order forms are available with a catalog coming (I promise). For orders or queries, contact Secretary or Manager.

Privacy Policy: The Gerry 5 VFA privacy policy protects all member and potential member data. Its primary purpose is for internal record keeping. We are committed to ensuring member information is secure and will never be shared for non-business purposes and will never be sold.

Notice: It is the policy and objective of the Gerry 5 Veteran Fireman's Association (Gerry 5 VFA) to provide a pleasant, inviting, and safe social facility to all who enter. The Gerry 5 VFA welcomes, and will not tolerate discrimination against, applicants, members, and guests based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, or marital status.

Comments? Questions? Complaints? Please address these to the manager or the Board in writing, via email, or in person.

Thank you for reading!