



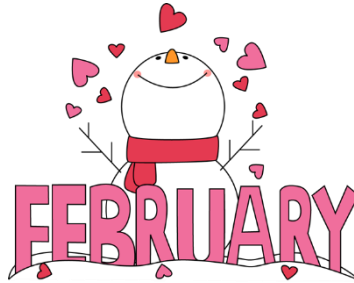
# Gerry No. 5 VFA

Established 1956

WWW.GERRY5.COM

GERRY 5 VFA NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024



## Membership Renewal Report

Thank you to everyone who paid their dues. We have a 97% renewal rate, which may be a record. Out of the entire membership, we will have less than 3% Read Out. If you paid, pat yourself on the back and enjoy the gifts a Gerry membership brings you. We also had 11 resignations for various reasons and 9 deaths.

There were many kind and generous members who also made additional donations along with their renewals. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We have received total donations of \$4,100.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The following were voted membership at the February 7th meeting: Patricia DeCotis, Dan Liebenrood, Jack Marotta, and Brendan O'Brien all of Marblehead.

The following applicants were read and posted for voting at the March 6th meeting: Gary Amberik, David Assa, Scott Desgrosseilliers, Rob Ferro, John Guanieri, Leanne Homan, Rhonda Johnstone, Robert Kliss, Dan Leavitt, Brendan Locke II, Sean McShane, Frank Plati, Nick Rancis, John Spiridakis, Charles Svirik, Megan Sweeney, Henry Turner, Dawn Weed, Michele Weed, Steven Weed, and Cyndi Wilkins all of Marblehead.

## FAREWELL AND WELCOME

Kathy Tankersley Bernier has been serving as Secretary since 2012 when she was drafted by the Board of Directors to fill the position. She also volunteered for numerous committees with an emphasis on Entertainment and Scholarships. It has been a roller coaster ride through these years (loss of revenue source, COVID, Craft Fairs, Gerry Gear, trivia and meat raffles, and numerous member

events) but it has been a privilege to serve the Gerry #5 in the position. All in all, it's been a fun ride. Kathy resigned in Fall 2023 with an end date of February 29, 2024. That date will soon be here. Kathy thanks everyone for their assistance, support, kind words, and teamwork over these years.

Her work on communications, the membership database, and the website has brought us up to date with technology and introduced new processes to streamline the duties involved. Her volunteerism has contributed to raising quite a tidy sum of money over the years. Kathy intends to remain a member and will continue some of the volunteer work. She became a member when the first class of women were permitted to become members and is quite proud of this. Kathy will be available for consultation as the transition is made and beyond. There is a wealth of knowledge to be shared.

We welcome Bernadette McDermott who will be taking over the role of Secretary from Kathy and look forward to her contributions. We owe our thanks and gratitude to Kathy for her hard work these past 12 years.

### **SAVE THE DATE – St. Patrick's Day Celebration, 1 – 5 p.m.**

Details will be available very soon. Prepare to enjoy entertainment, music, and food for sale.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, Super Bowl Sunday  
Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, Mardi Gras Day  
Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, Valentine's Day  
Ash Wednesday (Lent begins)  
Monday, February 19, Presidents Day Holiday  
(open regular hours)  
Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.  
Friday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, Leap Day

### ***Passages***

**Philip Norcross Jr, father of** member Derek Norcross, passed on December 22, 2023 at the age of 91 after a brutal battle with Parkinson's. Born in Salem, he was a life-long resident of Marblehead.

He was active in the community on the Recreation and Parks Commission and the Water and Sewer Board. He was a founder of the Marblehead Youth Football program and official games for more than 30 years. He was a member of the Marblehead Philanthropic F & A M. He graduated from Marblehead High School, attended Kimball Union Academy, and graduated from Middleburg, College, Vermont. He worked with the insurance industry and the US Treasury Department as an Enrolled Agent.

Upon retirement he enjoyed traveling, being involved with the YMCA, and town activities.

Our sympathy to family and friends.

**Virginia Walsh**, mother of member Jill Homan, mother-in-law of member Walter Homan, passed peacefully but unexpectedly on January 11, 2024 at the age of 82. Born and raised in Iowa she moved to Marblehead in 1964 and fell in love with the town. She made lifelong friendships, loved the outdoors, her garden, and the beauty around her. She especially loved museums, art, and travel. Her career spanned 30 years from Sail Magazine to her retirement from Pell Rudman.

The loves of her life were her grandchildren which brought her love, laughter, and great pride. She will be missed.

Our sympathy to family and friends.

**Allen Mace**, father of member Bob Mace, father-in-law of member Jayne Mace, passed on January 31, 2024 at the age of 89.

Our sympathy to family and friends. Details will be published on the website when available.

**Bob Lilly**, father of member Sean Lilly, passed in early February 2024. Our condolences to the family and friends. Details will be published on the website when available.

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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 at an all-time low but we can order items for you (a minimum order may be required). 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.

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

**Thank you for reading!**