



DCN: 7205
**DELAWARE MEDAL OF HONOR
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**

PRES PAUL L. CATHELL, JR.
303 ROTHWELL DR
STANTON, DE 19804-3437
DMOHIA@AOL.COM TEL: 994-2061

BRAC Commission

AUG 08 2005

Received



July 23, 2005

Mrs. Christine Wesley
Friends of the Delaware Air National Guard
P. O. Box 163
New Castle, DE 19720

Dear Mrs. Wesley:

My wife and I attended the rally you organized to kick off the petition drive to save the Delaware Air National Guard. For your information, I wear two hats. I am president of the Delaware Medal of Honor Historical Association and a member of UAW Local #435 Veterans Committee. After attending the rally, I felt compelled to request signatures from my fellow General Motors employees and from those who receive the Delaware Medal of Honor Historical Association Newsletter.

Enclosed are 20 pages of signatures along a copy of the Delaware Medal of Honor Historical Association Newsletter. Hopefully, others who receive our newsletter will mail their signatures directly to the Friends of the Delaware Air National Guard.

Your friend,

Paul L. Cathell, Jr.
President



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This petition requests the President of the United States to consider reviewing Major George S. Welch for the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions on December 7, 1941. Major Welch was the first "ACE" of WWII and should have been its First Medal of Honor Recipient accredited to Delaware the Nation's First State.

This has been long overdue for Major Welch when the first shot was fired as at Concord the United States was at War.

PRINT

SIGNATURE

<u>PRINT</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
Name: PAUL A. BOOTH Address: 116 TAMMIES DR DEWON DE 19804	<i>Paul Booth</i>
BOB BUSSIERE 1318 HILLSIDE RD, WILM, DE 19803	<i>Robert Bussiere</i>
TOM OLEKSY 13 TUCKAHOE RD NEW CASTLE DE 19720	<i>Tom Oleksy</i>
HOWARD E. HARRIS 7 BONDROCK CT NEWCASTLE DE	<i>Howard E Harris</i>
DONALD LEE SANDERS	<i>Donald Lee Sanders</i>
MARY BRODSKY 1804 NORTHCREST DR. WILM. DE 19810	<i>Mary C. Brodsky</i>
ROSALIE MCKENNA 427 DELAWARE ST NEWCASTLE DE	<i>Rosalie McKenna</i>
DONCY M WILLIAMS 1 HAYES CT WILM DE 19808	<i>Dancy M Williams</i>
ELIZABETH BARD 3111 DUNCAN RD WILM. DE 19808	<i>Elizabeth Bard</i>

Delaware Medal of Honor Historical Association

PRIN PAUL L. CATHELL, JR.
303 ROTHWELL DR.
STANTON, DE 19304-3437
DMOHHA@AOL.COM TELE 302-994-2061



July August
2005

"LEST WE FORGET"

SMITH

SHILLING

NELSON

CONNOR

BUCKINGHAM

CHADWICK

DUPONT

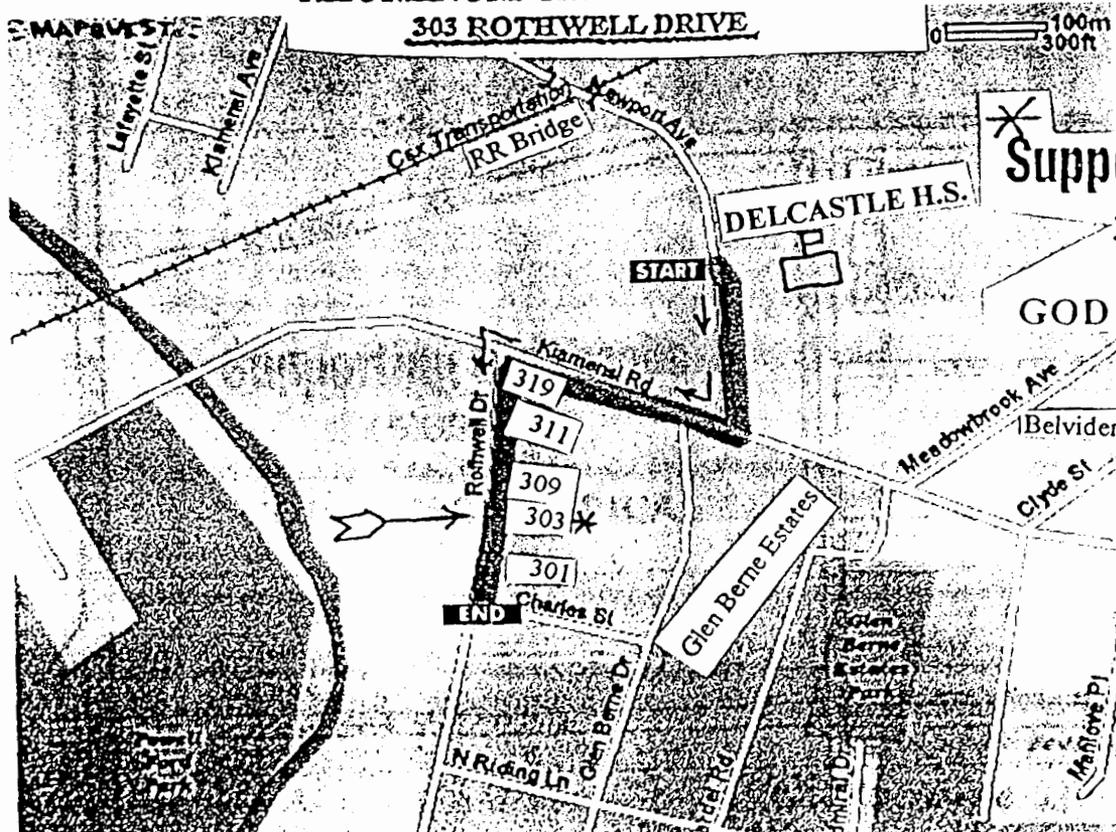
VANTINE

POSTLES

TANNER

MABERRY

* ALUMINUM CAN DROP-OFF POINT
303 ROTHWELL DRIVE



Supporting the Troop
3'X5' US FLAG
415.00
GOD BLESS AMERICA

Kiamensi Gardens

JULY/AUGUST 2005

Dear Members,

Happy 229th Birthday, America! Hope you are enjoying your Summer. There are six **Delaware Medal of Honor Recipients for the months of July and August**. The DMOHHA will be placing an American Flag and a Medal of Honor flag at their gravesites.

JULY MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS:

James Parke Postles	July 2, 1863-Battle of Gettysburg- Wilmington-Brandywine Cemetery, Wilmington, DE
John B. Maberry	July 3, 1863-Battle of Gettysburg- Glenwood Cemetery, Smyrna, DE
Bernard McCarren	July 3, 1863-Battle of Gettysburg- All Saints Cemetery, Wilmington, DE
Alexander Hand	July 9, 1862 Roanoke River, North Carolina (gravesite unknown; memorial at Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery Summit, DE)

AUGUST MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS:

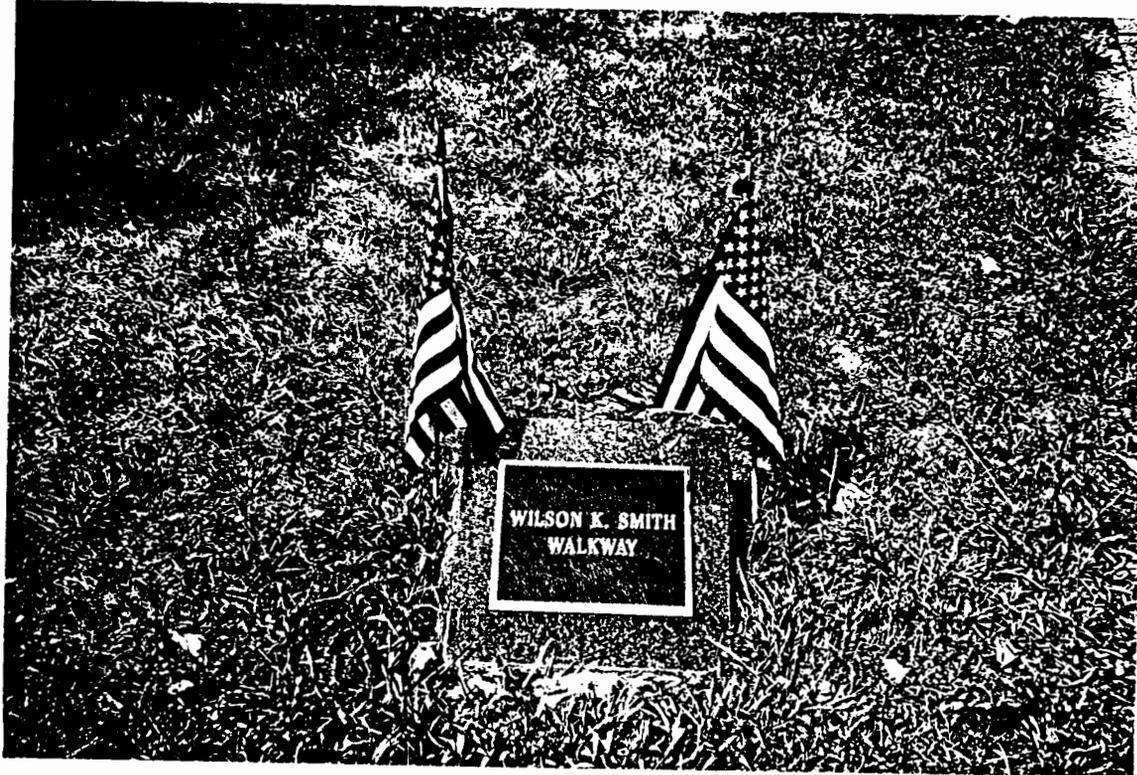
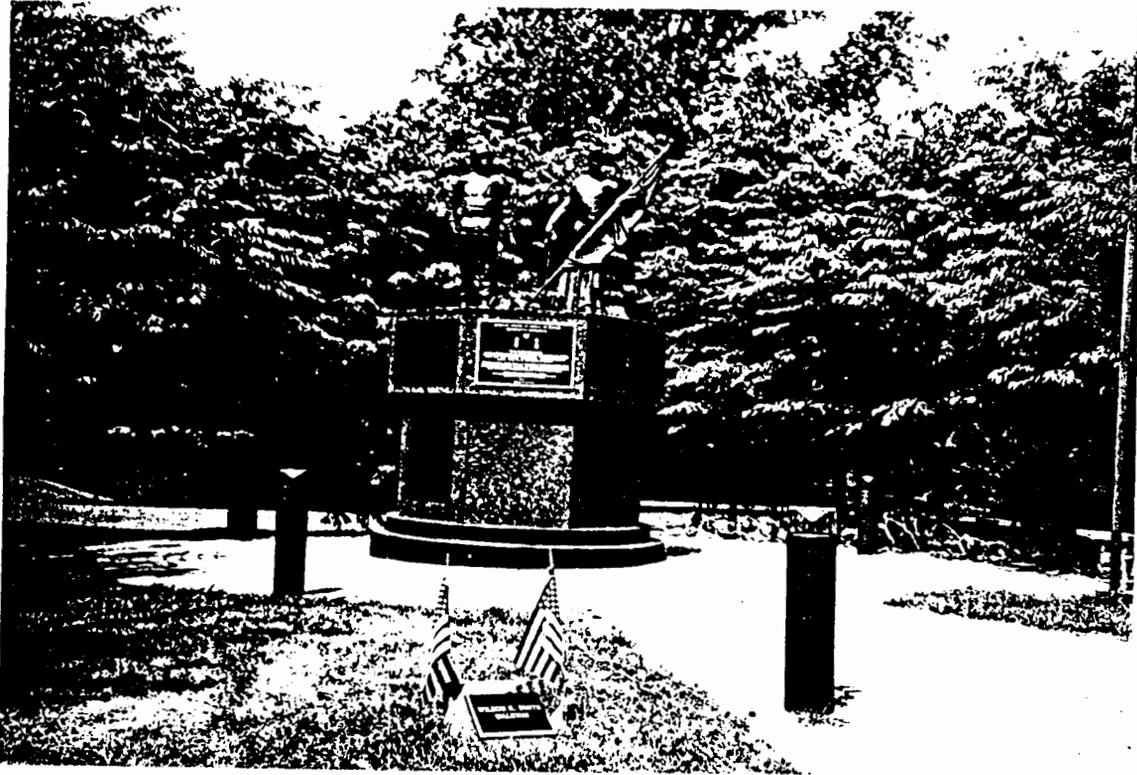
James P. Connor	August 15, 1944-Cape Cavalaire, France- Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery Summit, DE
John Shilling III	August 21, 1864-Petersburg, Virginia- Riverview Memorial Cemetery, Wilmington, DE

Delaware MOH Recipients Gravesites:

Your President edged and weeded the gravesites of Delaware MOH Recipients James Parke Postles, Samuel Rodmond Smith, and John Shilling III. John Shilling III is buried in the Riverview Gardens Cemetery at 33rd & Market Sts in Wilmington. Riverview Gardens has been taken over by the Eighth Street Baptist Church which is located next to the cemetery. The cemetery is not being maintained as one would expect. The grounds and fencing are in sad shape even though it has been a year since the Church's takeover. Many cemeteries throughout the country just disappear. This is how it starts – a neglected cemetery – yes, right in the center of a city.

DMOHHA ACTIVITIES:

- **Newark Memorial Day Parade – May 15, 2005**
- **Yesterday's Chevrolet Club hosted a Tribute to our Armed Forces Program May 29** at Kahunaville. Thanks to DMOHHA member Brian Lee Hart (Scratchy Groove WVUD 91.3FM) for inviting us to this Tribute. A great turnout! James Connor, Jr., son of Delaware's 14th MOH Recipient Sgt. James P. Connor, attended and displayed his father's Medal of Honor, his medals, and his U.S. Flag. Sue, Jim's wife, and daughter, Becky, attended as well. Thanks to Delaware Military Academy Cadet Andrew Feeley who played *TAPS* and to DJ Marty.





CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR SOCIETY

Recipients

- Full List
- Living Recips
- Most Recent
- Recently Departed
- Contact Recips
- Community Programs
- Featured Recip

Living Recipients

120 Living Recipients as of July 8th, 2005

PHOTO CITATIONS BY LAST NAME
FROM FULL LIST

FULL CITATIONS BY LAST NAME
A-B, C, D, E-G,
H-J, K-L, M-Mi,
Mo-O, P-R, S, T-Z,
FULL LIST

SIMPLE LIST OF NAMES
A-D, E-L, M-R, S-Z,
FULL LIST

Surviving Recipients by conflict:

World War II - 42
Korea - 17
Vietnam - 61

The Medal

Gallery

Community

The Society

Members Section

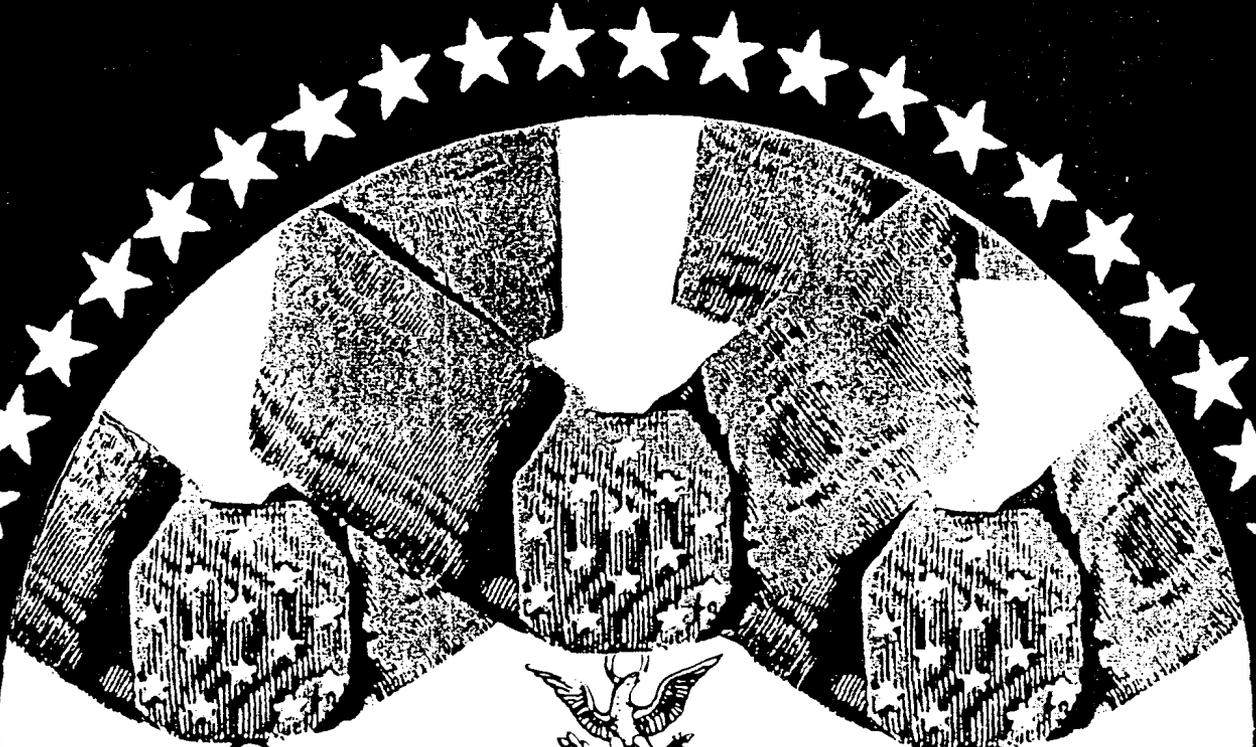
Please contact us if there are any inaccuracies on these pages. We will immediately fix them.
medalhq@earthlink.net

DCN: 7205
Delaware Medal of Honor Historical Association

6th Annual National Medal of Honor Ceremony

The Medal of Honor is the highest distinction which can be awarded to a member of the Armed Services of the United States. It is presented by the President, in the name of Congress, to an individual who while serving in the Armed Forces "distinguished himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty."

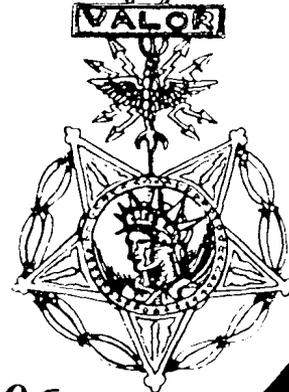
AMC MUSEUM DOVER AIR FORCE BASE



NAVY, MARINE
COAST GUARD



ARMY



AIR FORCE

MARCH 25, 2006

12 NOON

SATURDAY

Guard supporters petition to save NCCo base

'It's a big part of our community.' Why close it down? one says

By BETH MILLER
The News Journal

Delaware's battle to save its Air National Guard base entered a new phase Saturday, when 204 people took pen in hand at a rally near New Castle to kick off a petition drive. They hope to persuade the Base Realignment and Closure Commission not to take away the Guard's eight C-130 aircraft, as the Pentagon has recommended.

The petitions then spread from the rally to wherever those attending it were going next – to the New Castle County Ice Cream Festival, to sports events, to area businesses, to swim clubs and civic associations.

Stephen Foster, 19 of New Castle, was signing one about 30 minutes later while waiting for his lunch at Capriotti's Sandwich Shop just across West Basin Road from the base.

AIR GUARD PETITION

To reach Friends of the Delaware Air National Guard, write to P.O. Box 163, New Castle DE 19720.

"I know a bunch of kids I went to school with at William Penn whose dads work with the National Guard, and one of my friends is in Iraq with the National Guard right now," Foster said after putting his name on the line. "It's a big part of our community. I don't see why they'd close it down."

The Pentagon wants to ship Delaware's C-130 planes to bases in North Carolina and Georgia as part of its plan to streamline military holdings. But Delaware officials say removal of the planes will kill the state's only Air National Guard base. They say they need the air wing and the benefits it gives the community.

"The Guard needs to stay here," said William F. Nutter, 87, a World War II veteran and Bronze Star recipient who is in the state's Hall of Heroes. "If you take the National Guard planes out of here, it's like going to Dover to see an automobile race with no cars."

The rally was held the day after Delaware's top elected officials – Gov. Ruth Ann Minner and congressional representatives – made their case before the BRAC Commission at a hearing in Towson, Md.

"We proved yesterday beyond a shadow of a doubt that this base needs to stay," said Delaware's adjutant general, Maj. Gen. Frank Vavala, who in May was elected vice president of the Adjutant Generals Association of the United States. "And in light of what happened two days ago [the bombings of London's transit system], how can

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FROM PAGE B1

you not dial in homeland security and the value of the Delaware Air National Guard?"

"I'm increasingly optimistic," said Col. Ernest Talbert, former commander of the 166th Airlift Wing, "but I don't believe we can rest on our laurels or that we made such a great case that our logic convinced all the decision-makers."

Christine Wesley, whose husband, Ron, is a C-130 navigator and spent two years deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq, coordinated Saturday's rally. She hoped the petitions would send another message to the commission about the community's support of the Air Guard.

"This downsizing is very different than a corporate downsizing," she said, "due to the nature of the sacrifices made – putting lives on the line, missing holidays and kids' birthdays, asking kids to do without their parents for two years. They need to step forward and take care of them and treat the Guard members honorably."

The Rev. John Mink, Air Guard chaplain and pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, agreed.

"Over the last couple of years, the Air National Guard has been deployed two, three, four times at great personal sacrifice to jobs, families and communities," he said. "They were told they were essential and needed at that time. We believe



The News Journal/CARLA VARISCO

Maj. Gen. Frank Vavala, state adjutant general, says there's no doubt the base must stay.

they continue to be essential and needed."

Erin Bailey, 23 of Wilmington, participates in Special Olympics events and said National Guard members have often supported them. That's why she showed up for the rally.

"They help us raise money and now we're going to support them," she said. "After we do competitions, we have the National Guard to put the medals around our neck."

The Guard's two dozen firefighters represent enormous assistance to the county's volunteer fire companies, said Stephen Meikle, chief of Wil-

ington Manor Fire Company. He said they often respond to structural fires and accidents and they provide essential coverage at New Castle County Airport.

Losing the base would also devastate area businesses and – more important – send the wrong message to the troops, said Mike Ramone, owner of Delaware Swim & Fitness Center.

"These families who have supported our community for years and years and years – now we're bailing on them? That's the worst thing at the worst time," Ramone said. "If you can show them how much of a mistake they're making, sometimes you can make a difference."

New Castle City Council member Janet Churchill said she was worried about homeland security and read a resolution from the council, urging the commission to not only keep the base, but add four more C-130s.

The commission is expected to make its final recommendation to Congress and President Bush by September.

"Keep engaged in this fight," New Castle County Executive Chris Coons told those at the rally. "It has only just begun."

Contact Beth Miller at 324-2784 or bmiller@delawareonline.com.