

VFW OBJECTIVES:

- TO ENSURE THE NATIONAL SECURITY through maximum military strength
- TO ASSIST THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
- TO SPEED THE REHABILITATION of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
- TO PROMOTE AMERICANISM through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live.



Meetings

2nd Wednesday of month – 7:00 pm
VFW Post 2894 Headquarters
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Chesapeake, Virginia 23322

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Web Site: <https://www.vfw2894.org>

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POST OFFICERS

Commander.....	Bob Gregory
Sr. Vice Commander.....	Susan Vitale
Jr. Vice Commander.....	Mike Kust
Adjutant.....	Dan Eaker
Quartermaster.....	John Peterson
Chaplain.....	Joseph McGourn
Surgeon.....	David Weber
Staff Judge Advocate.....	Matt Hamel
Service Officer.....	Jim Ireland

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President.....	Sharon Peterson
Sr. Vice President.....	Rosie Gregory
Jr. Vice President.....	Grace Schweers
Secretary.....	Sandy Dunbar
Treasurer.....	Donna Kust
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Conductress.....	Laura Etheridge
Guard.....	Theresa Lynn Sein
Patriotic Instructor.....	Jean Dozier

NATIONAL

www.vfw.org

STATE

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VFW VA DISTRICT 2

www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2

VFW Post 2894 GoFundMe

<https://gofund.me/483584b0>



VFW POST 2894 HOSTS VFW VIRGINIA DISTRICT 2 QUARTERLY MEETING FOR SECOND TIME

Since the VFW Post 2894 occupied the old Chesapeake Fire Station #7 in April of 2023, the building has undergone some significant improvements that were showcased at the recent District 2 meeting held at our Post. After a complete painting and carpeting of main areas, the Post proudly hosted the many District 2 representatives from the ten posts as well as their associated Auxiliaries for the second time on Saturday, 8 February. After a quick welcome and introduction of various guests present at the meeting, Post Commander Bob Gregory turned the floor over to District 2 Commander Ron Riffle, who opened the(continued on page 3)



VFW Post 2894 Commander Bob Gregory welcomes VFW District 2 representatives at the quarterly District 2 meeting hosted by the Post in February.

COMMANDER'S CORNER



Greetings Comrades! I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health and ready for spring. As you all know, the Post recently lost several of our comrades: Chris "Mule" Mulholland, our former Commander, succumbed after a four-year battle with ALS;

Corporal Eddie Vincek, USMC, our 100-year-old WWII Iwo Jima Vet; and our oldest WWII veteran, Corporal Leroy Brinkley, who landed on Normandy with the 320th Barrage Balloon Battalion. They will all be missed.

The planning for our 14th Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk, our biggest Post fund raiser of the year, is in full swing and coming down to the wire. With about two weeks to go until the event (Apr 5) we seem to be doing well with our sponsor donations - as of 24 March we are just north of \$15,000 in donations - this may be another record-breaking year! Thanks to the BDM Committee, headed by Ted Roberts and John Peterson, for their dedication and hard work to make this a truly historic event!

On the home front: As you all know, work continues in many areas. We got the bays painted, new flooring installed, new lighting in the Mulholland room, and the propane hooked up to the kitchen stove. We are checking to see what we must do to put A/C in the bays so we can use them year-round and checking to see about getting another shed in the back for storage. So, we are busy. Of course, we are not yet where we want to be, but I think we are well on our way to making this a home to be proud of.

We continue our way to achieving our 10th All-American Post award again this year. As of 24 March, we met the 102% membership requirement, along with all other requirements except for the National Day of Service in May. The project we have notified National that we are planning on doing is taking care of a veteran's yard - cutting, edging spreading mulch, etc. This is tentatively scheduled for 3 May starting at 0900, weather permitting. More to follow! As you can see by our meeting the 102% requirement we're doing quite well - thanks to each of you for pushing membership, but we cannot stop now. Keep up the great work and bring in more new members. If you know someone who is already a member and he or she hasn't paid their annual membership, please talk to them and see if you can get them to "re-up" and let them know, if they sign up for a Life Membership, we'll cover the cost for their new cover.

Remember our post elections will be held at our next meeting on 9 Apr 2025.

Thanks again to all for your service to our Chesapeake Veteran Community, our Post and the VFW!

Semper Fidelis!

Bob Gregory, Commander

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Greetings from the Auxiliary!

What a busy time of year! Now that spring has arrived the days are longer and warmer. Time to shake off the winter blues and start planning gardens.

In March, we joined the VFW Post 2894 on a tour of the new VA Medical Center opening in April. It's a beautiful facility that is really needed on the south side of Hampton Roads. It will also provide another volunteer opportunity for us to serve our military community.

This year we have started collecting paper products and cleaning supplies for the veterans who live at Cyprus Landing in Chesapeake.

At our last meeting, we selected the theme for our entry into the Buddy Poppy Display contest at our Department Conference held in June.

Our 14th Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk is scheduled for April 5th. We help the Post during the event with registration for the three walks, sorting and bagging the t-shirts, and generally helping wherever extra assistance is needed to make it a successful event. We will also be donating a basket for the Silent Auction.

May is always a very busy month for the Auxiliary. Besides Mother's Day, we're planning a picnic with the VFW at Cyprus Landing. Over Memorial Day, the Auxiliary helps the Post with the Buddy Poppy drive as well as attending the Chesapeake Memorial Day Ceremony at City Hall. Other days to fly Old Glory are the Persian Gulf War Cease-Fire on April 6th, Victory in Europe Day on May 8th, Armed Forces Day on May 17th, in addition to Memorial Day on May 26th.

It is hard to believe the 2024-25 fiscal year is coming to a close. Time to think about running for office positions, holding those elections, selecting delegates for District, Department, and National conferences, as well as attending local events that recognize or support our veterans.

Last but not least—Happy 10th Anniversary to Us! Our Auxiliary was Instituted and Installed on April 8th, 2015. Since that time, we've increased our number to 33 strong, and still growing. I want to thank all our amazing members of VFW Post 2894 Auxiliary. If not for your hard work and dedication, we could not support the VFW or the many veterans and their families who live among us.

Sharon Peterson, President
VFW 2894 Auxiliary

VFW POST 2894 HOSTS VFW VIRGINIA DISTRICT 2 QUARTERLY MEETING (Continued from page 1)... official meeting, for the conduct of business relating to the District as well as to the various Posts impacted by policy decisions.

The meeting was well attended, with almost one hundred VFW members from various Posts throughout the region present. Mitch Rubenstein, VFW Virginia Department Commander, as well as several past District 2 Commanders were in attendance. Ms. Dawn Kuhn, VFW Department of Virginia Auxiliary President, was also at the meeting.

From a logistics perspective, everything went smoothly, even though our parking area is a bit limited and always challenging with events of this size. Because the weather was fantastic, we had no issues with heating (not really needed due to the unusually warm month). Coffee and donuts were appreciated by all.

We can expect to host another meeting next year, so if anyone has recommendations for improvement, please let the staff know we can sort out any shortcomings before then.



Members of VFW Post 2894 and its Auxiliary pose for a picture with Clinic Manager David Kim (in suit) after touring the new VA facility.

The Post and Auxiliary members were escorted through the facility by Clinic Manager David Kim, who stated that there are plans for the facility to add dental services and women's medical care in the future.



VFW Virginia District 2 Commander Ron Riffle and Auxiliary President Dawn Kuhn discuss common issues with District 2 representatives.

OTHER POST NEWS

• **VFW Post 2894 and Auxiliary Members Tour New Veterans Affairs Facility.** On Thursday, 13 March, the VFW Post 2894 and Auxiliary members received a personal tour of the new Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic on North Battlefield Boulevard in Greenbrier (address: 70 Knells Ridge Road, Chesapeake). The facility is expected to open April 17, and is a 196,000 square foot, two-story facility built to provide outpatient services such as primary care, mental health and eye clinic services to area veterans. The new clinic will make it possible for more than half of the systems nearly 70,000 enrolled veterans to no longer be required to cross from the Southside to the Peninsula for care.

• **VFW Post 2894 and Auxiliary Members Honor Fallen Comrades.** VFW Post 2894 lost three members in the beginning of the year. Past Post Commander Chris Mulholland passed away at the end of January after a four-year battle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. He was remembered by scores of friends, colleagues and VFW comrades at both his visitation and funeral mass. Many fond and cherished memories were shared among those in attendance, as well as some hearty toasts honoring the lifelong Red Sox fan.



VFW Post 2894 Commander Bob Gregory enjoys a bourbon shot with Barbara Mulholland and other family and Post members as they honor Chris Mulholland's memory at the February funeral mass.



VFW Post 2894 Comrade Jose Vazquez, a New York Yankees die hard, donned a Boston Red Sox ballcap to honor his friend and sports rival, Chris Mulholland.

Corporal Eddie Vincek, our World War II Marine and veteran of the battle for Iwo Jima, passed away in February. Eddie had just celebrated his 100th birthday in September 2024.



World War II Marine veteran Eddie Vincek is surrounded by young Marines from Marine Corps Training Detachment during his centennial birthday celebration.

The Vincek family is presented with the National Ensign in honor of their father's military service during World War II.



The Post also lost another of its oldest members in early February – World War II Army veteran Leroy Brinkley. Leroy was 104 years old. The Post Commander had the honor of attending the funeral and talking with family members, who were eager to share memories of Corporal Brinkley, a member of the 320th Barrage Balloon Battalion that operated in Normandy during the D-Day invasion.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the families of our dear departed comrades.



VFW Post Commander Bob Gregory poses for a picture with Ms. Demetrias Brown, granddaughter of World War II veteran Leroy Brinkley.

• **FW Post 2894 Prepares for 14th Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk.**



Keep your calendar clear for the fourteenth annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk on Saturday, April 5th at the Dismal Swamp Canal Trail in Deep Creek just off Route 17. Since Post 2894 is hosting this event, we would like to see all the members participate in some form, whether by walking the route or assisting with the operations. We will also be receiving assistance from the Marines of Northwest Security Group, the Chesapeake Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, and more as we host this commemorative event. Donations for this year's event are expected to exceed previous years' totals due to the aggressive solicitation of the BDM Committee.

We will close with a memorial ceremony dedicated to the survivors and families of Bataan/ Corregidor as well as all the veterans of World War II and the Korean War. The event is free and open to all. The flyer for this event can be found at the end of this newsletter along with additional details from the press release. PLEASE SHARE WITH FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, FAMILY – EVERYONE! We are also looking for sponsors. If everyone in the post asks at least one business for their support, we can really make this a successful event.

• **Buddy Poppy Fund Drive Set for Weekend of 17-18 May.**



The VFW Post 2894 Spring 2025 Bea Oakley/Gary Dunbar Memorial Buddy Poppy Fundraiser is scheduled for the weekend prior to Memorial Day, 17-18 May. Sign up for this event is currently underway, so please make plans to participate if your personal plans will allow for it. Supporting this worthwhile effort by working one or two of the four-hour shifts, or even a full day shift (about eight hours) gives you an opportunity to meet residents and veterans in our community and teach them a little history about the origins of the Buddy Poppy and its association with World War I history. Plan is to man the primary entrances of the Walmart Center at Battlefield-Sam's Circle and Edinburgh both days from 0900 until 1600. Contact Mike Kust for further details and to get your name in a time slot of your choice.

• **Post Pistol Raffle to be held in May.**



The VFW Post 2894 will be holding a raffle for a Sig Sauer P320-M18 with 3-inch barrel on Memorial Day, the 26th of May. It also includes two 21-round magazines and one 17-round magazine. The Post will only be selling 400 tickets for \$10 each, so get yours now if you are interested in this state-of-the-art, high-quality pistol. Our thanks to Freedom Shooting Center for their generous donation!

IN MEMORIAM

Comrade Leroy Fenton Brinkley

1920 – 2025



Leroy Fenton Brinkley, 104, of Chesapeake, Virginia, passed away peacefully at home on February 3, 2025.

Born on June 13, 1920, in Edenton, North Carolina, Leroy was the second child of Norman L. Brinkley and Adell Cross Brinkley. Longevity ran in his family, as his father lived to be 102 years old, and his oldest sister, Reva, passed away at 104—just 10 months shy of her 105th birthday. Leroy, too, came close to reaching that remarkable milestone, as he was only four months shy of turning 105. He often said, "My goal is to reach 105 years old, but I'll be here until the

good Lord says so." His faith and positive outlook on life were central to his spirit and resilience.

Leroy was a dedicated student and athlete at Edenton High School, where he earned a Letter E from the Athletic Association in 1938 and graduated in 1939. He then attended North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (North Carolina A&T) for two years before being drafted into World War II.

Leroy married the love of his life, Odessa Privott, on July 31, 1947. They shared a beautiful life together for over 68 years. Their union was a great blessing to many. Together, they raised their sons in a stable and loving home environment, instilling values of love, wisdom, and hard work. Leroy was a dedicated family man, always helping his wife with chores and cooking. His culinary specialties included roast beef, salmon cakes, and tomato pudding—favorites that became family traditions.

A true renaissance man, Leroy was an avid gardener who grew green beans, sweet potatoes, collard greens, peaches, apples, pears, muscadine grapes, and much more. He was also a skilled builder and mechanic, always busy with projects and never bored. Leroy built an addition onto his home and created a green workshop in his backyard, where he crafted furniture and worked on various other projects. His work ethic and love for learning passed down to his grandchildren, who cherished the time spent with him as he taught them practical skills and life lessons. Even at the age of 100, Leroy continued to garden, cook, and work on small projects.

Leroy was a strong and independent man, maintaining his active lifestyle well into his later years. He rode his ten-speed bike until he was 89 years old—a testament to his vitality and determination. After his wife's passing, Leroy was able to live alone from the age of 95, until he was 103 years old, at which time he moved in with his son and daughter-in-law (Leroy loved all his family to include all his in-laws, i.e. "in-love").

Leroy proudly served as a Balloon Chief in the 320th Barrage Balloon Battalion during World War II. This battalion, composed entirely of African American soldiers, made history as the only unit to storm the beaches on D-Day. Their courageous efforts were crucial in protecting Allied ships and soldiers from enemy aircraft.

During the battle, Leroy and a fellow comrade captured a German soldier. Despite the circumstances, Leroy spared the soldier's life and turned him in to his commanding officers as a prisoner of war, demonstrating his compassion and sense of justice. Leroy's bravery and service earned him several honors, including the American Theater Campaign Medal, the EAMET Campaign Medal with 2 Bronze Service Stars and 1 Bronze Arrowhead, and the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Campaign Medal. After his Army service, Leroy joined the Navy Reserves as an aircraft mechanic, retiring on February 3, 1962.

Following his military service, Leroy spent 31 years as a mail carrier with the United States Postal Service. He was a longtime member of the National Association of Mail Carriers and VFW Post 2894 (Veterans of Foreign Wars). Leroy was also a long-time resident of Fernwood Farms, where he remained active with the neighborhood civic league and served as a trustee of First Baptist Church Crestwood for many years.

On May 28, 2021, Leroy was honored as one of 16 local heroes from the Greatest Generation during a ceremony at Indian River High School, which recognized World War II veterans. Teacher Craig Blackman and student Jelani White interviewed Leroy and presented a report about his life and service via Zoom due to pandemic restrictions. Leroy was deeply moved by this recognition and treasured a special gift he received following the event.

His legacy of courage, service, love, wisdom, and a life well-lived will remain in the hearts of all who had the privilege of knowing him.



IN MEMORIAM

Comrade Edward "Eddie" J. Vincek

1924 – 2025



Edward "Eddie" James Vincek, born September 19, 1924, in Saratoga Springs, NY, passed away peacefully on March 9, 2025. He was 100 years old. Eddie dedicated his life to taking care of his family, serving as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather.

Eddie was preceded in death by his loving wife of 77 years, Mary Roth Vincek, father, George J. Vincek, mother, Kristina Gavenda Vincek, siblings, Mildred,

Irene, George (6 years old), George J, and Cecilia Swartwout; his grandson, Gregory and son-in-law, Russell Gwynn. Eddie leaves behind a legacy of love and devotion that will be carried on by his surviving family, including his son, Ed Vincek (Nancy); daughters, Mary Taylor (Emory) and Anne Gwynn; grandchildren Tommy Gwynn (Shaina), Eddie Vincek (Meggan), Danny Vincek (Kaleigh); four great-grandchildren, Liam and Declan Gwynn and Luke and Penny Vincek; as well as many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Eddie was a faithful member of Saint Mary Catholic Church, Charter Member of Grassfield Ruritan Club for 69 years, U. S. Marine Corps World War II Veteran and survivor of the battle for Iwo Jima. He retired from Globe Iron Construction Company after 42 years. He volunteered for Meals on Wheels, was a dedicated blood donor and avid gardener. He loved to travel and was very dedicated to his community.

He was laid to rest in Chesapeake Memorial Gardens. Friends are invited to send condolences and to sign the online guest book at www.omanfh.com.

YOUNGEST MARINE TO BE AWARDED THE MEDAL OF HONOR

Growing up during the Great Depression, Jacklyn "Jack" Lucas was a product of the time. Tough, gritty, and always in trouble, you might say he would make a great Marine. And you would be right if not for one little problem – he was just fourteen years old, and back then, they were not making exceptions.

But Jack was not going to let anything stand in his way. After going back and forth with the recruiter, Jack forged his mother's signature, bribed a notary to sign off on a fake birth certificate, and enlisted in the Marines on August 8th, 1942.

After basic training and a short stint as a gate guard, fourteen-year-old Private Jack Lucas was sent to Camp Geiger to become a

machine gunner. He proved so skilled on the gun that he was selected to stay on as an instructor.

But Lucas was a warrior. He did not want to be an instructor – he wanted to fight! So, he hid his orders and hopped on a train with the other Marines headed to the Pacific. You can imagine his thought process – worst case scenario, they would find out and ship him back where he would stay as an instructor; best case, he goes into combat.

It almost worked. In November 1943, his entire unit was sent to Hawaii where they learned that they were invading an island called Tarawa, but when it was time to load up on the boats, Jack got called into the Colonel's office.

At that time, all the letters written and sent home by the troops were being screened to make sure that our enemies would not gain any strategic information if they intercepted the mail. Jack, in a momentary lapse of judgement, had admitted that he was just fifteen years old in one of his letters and that made its way up his chain of command. The jig was up. But instead of sending him to the brig or kicking him out of the Corps, his commander instead decided to keep him on the base where he could keep an eye on him and keep him out of trouble.

It did not work. Private Lucas got arrested eighteen times for getting in eighteen fights in eighteen different liberty incidents! His punishment was forty-five days confinement in the brig on bread and water, which, is a punishment so severe that today it cannot be imposed for more than three consecutive days.

After forty-five days in the brig with no news of the outside world, life on the island looked a little different when he got out. The harbor was full of ships and the streets were full of sailors and Marines. One of those ships, the USS Deuel, had Private Lucas' cousin, Sam Lucas on board. Realizing that this might be his last opportunity to get a taste of combat, Private Lucas stowed away on the ship and at barely seventeen years old, he joined the invasion of Iwo Jima.



Marines of the 27th Regiment prepare to move inland on Iwo Jima, February 19, 1945.

During the assault on the airfield, Jack and his fire team captured a Japanese trench and forced the Japanese troops to retreat into their cave network. As they waited for support from a Sherman

tank, three Japanese soldiers charged his position. He shot two and his rifle jammed. Ducking for cover to clear the malfunction, the Japanese threw three grenades into his team's position. Accepting that he was going to die on that cursed island at just seventeen years old, Private Lucas jumped on the first grenade and pulled the other underneath him. By the grace of God alone, he survived the blast.

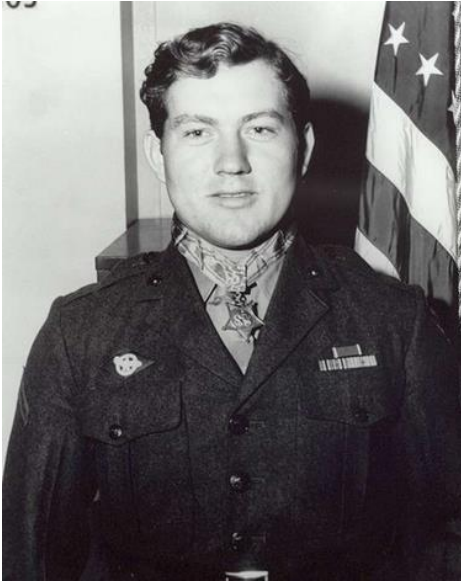


Figure 1 Jack Lucas after receiving the Medal of Honor on October 5, 1945.

By the time he made it back to California, he had undergone over twenty surgeries that removed over 250 pieces of shrapnel from his body. They could not remove the eight pieces lodged in his brain, the six in his right lung, or the other one hundred pieces throughout his body. His body looked like it was tattooed by the ash and rock from the volcanic island shot into his flesh.

Because of Jack's sacrifice, he was awarded the Medal of Honor and promoted to Private First Class. When President Truman handed him the medal, he said, "I'd rather have this medal than be President of the United States, to which PFC Jack Lucas replied, "I'll trade you."

PFC Lucas Medal of Honor citation reads:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with the First Battalion, Twenty-sixth Marines, Fifth Marine Division, during action against enemy Japanese forces on Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands 20 February 1945. While creeping through a treacherous, twisting ravine which ran in close proximity to a fluid and uncertain front line on D-plus+1 Day, Private First Class Lucas and three other men were suddenly ambushed by a hostile patrol which savagely attacked with rifle fire and grenades. Quick to act when the lives of the small group were endangered by two grenades which landed directly in front of them, Private First Class Lucas unhesitatingly hurled himself over his comrades upon one grenade and pulled the other one under him, absorbing the whole blasting force of the explosions in his own body in order to shield his companions from the concussion and murderous flying fragments. By his inspiring action and valiant spirit of self-sacrifice, he not only protected his comrades from certain injury or possible death, but also enabled them to rout the Japanese patrol and continue the advance. His exceptionally courageous initiative and loyalty

reflect the highest credit upon Private First Class Lucas and the United States Naval Service."

References:

1. Admiral Nimitz Foundation

2. Wikipedia:

<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/private-first-class-jacklyn-h-lucas-medal-honor>

APRIL 1942

B-24 BOMBER RAID ON TOKYO

Conceived in January 1942 in the wake of the devastating Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, the "joint Army-Navy bombing project" was to bomb Japanese industrial centers, to inflict both "material and psychological" damage upon the enemy. Planners hoped that the former would include the destruction of specific targets "with ensuing confusion and retardation of production." Those who planned the attacks on the Japanese homeland hoped to induce the enemy to recall "combat equipment from other theaters for home defense," and incite a "fear complex in Japan." Additionally, it was hoped that the prosecution of the raid would improve the United States' relationships with its allies and receive a "favorable reaction [on the part] of the American people."

Originally, the concept called for the use of U.S. Army Air Force bombers to be launched from, and recovered by, an aircraft carrier. Research disclosed the North American B-25 Mitchell to be "best suited to the purpose," the Martin B-26 Marauder possessing unsuitable handling characteristics and the Douglas B-23 Dragon having too great a wingspan to be comfortably operated from a carrier deck. Tests off the aircraft carrier *Hornet* (CV-8) off Norfolk, and ashore at Norfolk soon proved that although a B-25 could take off with comparative ease, "landing back on again would be extremely difficult."

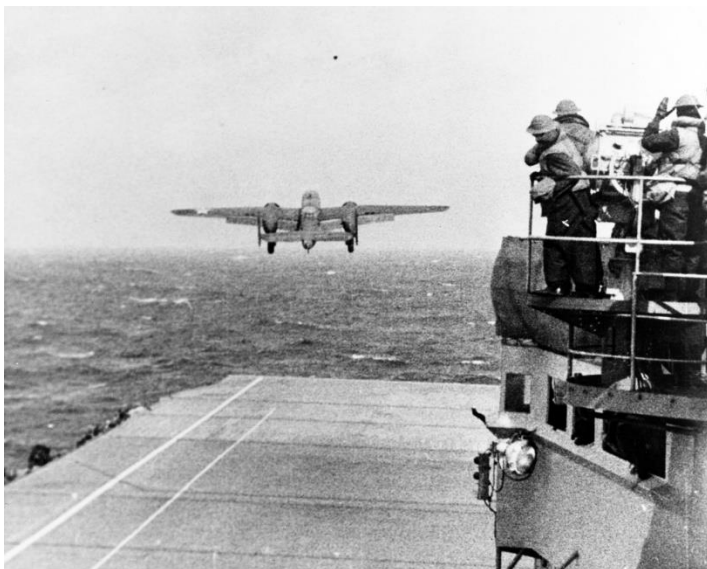


U.S. Army Air Corps B-25 Mitchell bombers line the flight deck on the aircraft carrier Hornet prior to their attack on Japan in April 1942.

The attack planners decided upon a carrier transporting the B-25s to a point east of Tokyo, whereupon it would launch one pathfinder to proceed ahead and drop incendiaries to blaze a trail for the other bombers that would follow. The planes would then proceed to either the east coast of China or to Vladivostok in the Soviet Union. However, Soviet reluctance to allow the use of Vladivostok as a terminus and the Stalin regime's unwillingness to its neutrality with Japan compelled the selection of Chinese landing sites. At a secret conference at San Francisco, Lieutenant Colonel James H. Doolittle, USAAF, who would lead the attack personally, met with Vice Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr., who would command the task force that would take Doolittle's aircraft to the very gates of the Japanese empire. They agreed upon a launch point some 600 miles due east from Tokyo, but, if discovered, Task Force 16 (TF-16) would launch planes at the respective point and retire.

Twenty-four planes drawn from the USAAF's 17th Bombardment Group were prepared for the mission, with additional fuel tanks installed and "certain unnecessary equipment" removed. Intensive training began in early March 1942 with crews who had volunteered for a mission that would be "extremely hazardous, would require a high degree of skill and would be of great value to our defense effort." Crews practiced intensive cross-country flying, night flying, and navigation, as well as "low altitude approaches to bombing targets, rapid bombing and evasive action."

With everything not deemed essential stripped from the planes, *Hornet* loaded 16 B-25s (all that could be shipped) on board at Alameda (31 March–1 April 1942) and sailed to rendezvous with the carrier *Enterprise* (CV-6) to form part of Halsey's TF-16.



A U.S. Army Air Corps B-25B bomber takes off from the deck of the USS Hornet at the beginning of the raid, 18 April, 1942.

The Japanese, monitoring U.S. Navy radio traffic, deduced that a carrier raid on the homeland was a possibility after 14 April 1942 and prepared accordingly. TF-16 approached to within 650 miles of Japan on 18 April 1942. Lacking radar, the Japanese "early warning" capability lay in parallel lines of picket boats—radio-equipped converted fishing trawlers—operating at prescribed intervals offshore. One of these little vessels, *No.23 Nitto Maru*,

discovered the task force on the morning of 18 April and radioed a sighting report. Although Halsey had agreed to take TF-16 within 400 miles of Japan to ensure maximum success, as Doolittle had requested while enroute, the admiral recognized the potential threat of Japanese land-based air assets to half of the U.S. Navy's carrier force in the Pacific. The exigencies of war dictated that Halsey order *Hornet* to launch the sixteen Mitchells earlier than planned.

The Japanese 26th Air Flotilla, expecting the Americans to approach within 200 miles of Japan as they had done in the raids in February and March on Wake and Marcus, and in the Marshalls and Gilberts, launched 29 medium bombers equipped with torpedoes from Kisarazu, escorted by 24 carrier fighters equipped with long-range tanks, to find TF-16.

The unexpected employment of long-range U.S. Army bombers, however, took the Japanese by surprise. Taking a little over an hour to launch, Doolittle's B-25s, carrying high-explosive and incendiary bombs, flew on and hit targets in Tokyo, Yokosuka, Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagoya, against negligible opposition. One B-25's ordnance damaged the aircraft carrier *Ryūhō* (being converted from the submarine depot ship *Taigei*) at Yokosuka and thus delayed her completion. Of the 16 B-25s, 15 crashed in occupied China, where the Japanese inflicted brutal reprisals against the Chinese populace who had sheltered the American airmen. The Japanese also managed to capture the survivors of two crews, later executing three of them. One B-25 landed intact at Vladivostok, where the Soviets interned the aircraft and its crew.

Although the material damage inflicted by Doolittle's raiders proved small, the effect of the air raid on the Japanese capital itself was enormous. Admiral Yamamoto Isoroku's fear of a U.S. carrier strike against the homeland, deemed "unreasonable" by the Naval General Staff, had occurred unimpeded. The Doolittle Raid dissolved the "residual doubts" harbored within the Naval General Staff whether or not a thrust against the important U.S. advanced naval base at Midway, an important element in Yamamoto's plan to draw out the hitherto unengaged U.S. carriers, should be attempted. The Japanese army, hitherto reluctant about the enterprise, went along with the navy's plan, and the resulting naval and air battle would be a turning point in the war for U.S. naval forces.

Ref: Naval Heritage and History Command;
<https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/wars-conflicts-and-operations/world-war-ii/1942/halsey-doolittle-raid.html>

FROM THE EDITOR

If you are interested in submitting articles, photos, updates on events, for inclusion in the newsletter, please send them to me at: 3329 Battlefield Blvd S., Chesapeake, VA 23322, 757-572-3946 or adjpost2894@vfwva.org. Comments are always welcome.

If you know of a business or anyone who would like to help sponsor Post 2894, please let them know that their help will be recognized in the newsletter.

The newsletter is disseminated to the membership and friends of the Post via e-mail as well as being available on the Post website: Newsletters (vfw2894.org)

Semper fidelis - Dan Eaker, Newsletter Editor

+ SAFETY CORNER +
APRIL IS DISTRACTED DRIVING
AWARENESS MONTH



April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. But you are a safe driver, right? OK. You are driving along at about 55 mph, thinking about your day. You get a text on your cell phone lying near you. In the 4 seconds you glance away to read your text, you have traveled the length of a football field. If traffic has suddenly slowed, or a car has turned into your lane, or a pedestrian has stepped onto the roadway ... **DISASTER!**



Distracted driving results in over 3000 deaths each year. Some tips to keep you safe and not become a traffic statistic while driving are:

- Set your phone to *DoNotDisturb*, or put it in your pocket, glove compartment or the back seat.
- If you have a passenger, designate them to be your answering service.
 - If alone, pull over to check your phone, or make a call.
 - Don't drink coffee or hot beverages while driving.
- Nothing distracts your attention like burning hot liquid in your lap.
- Don't try to save time by eating your fast food while driving. Stay parked and stay safe.
- Don't search for new music, or a different radio station, or an alternate GPS route while you are supposed to keep your attention on the road ahead.
- Don't have serious discussions, disagreements, or tell jokes with your passengers. Their lives are in your hands.

Pay attention to the road and traffic while driving and avoid becoming a road hazard. See you at our next meeting.

+ SAFETY CORNER +
MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH



May is Electrical Safety Month. Electrical accidents and problems are the cause of many home fires each year. To increase your safety and decrease the chances of an electrical fire:



- Avoid overloading electrical outlets. Don't plug too many devices into one outlet or one extension cord.
- Don't plug a space heater into an extension cord.
- Don't plug two extension cords together.
- Don't use an extension cord as a permanent solution.
- Use three-prong (grounded) extension cords both inside and outside.
- Don't use frayed or worn electrical cords.
- Don't run electrical cords under rugs or carpet.
- Don't use electrical devices in wet or damp areas.
- Don't unplug a cord by pulling on the cord; pull on the plug.

Most people leave electrical appliances and devices plugged in all the time. Arcing and overheated outlets can start a fire while you are sleeping or busy doing something else. Ensure you have working smoke detectors throughout your house, but especially in sleeping areas.

Safe practices and attention to detail will reduce your chances of suffering a home electrical fire. Take the time to routinely examine your electrical devices and electrical outlets. Stay alert and stay safe.

POST COMMITTEES – YOU CAN HELP!

If you are looking to get involved and help the Post improve its work for and with veterans, think about joining one of the recently established committees. Contact one of the members of the committees you are interested in and let them know you would like to help:

- **Bataan Death March Committee:** Ted Roberts, John Peterson, Matt Schweers, Grace Schweers, Ann Jones, Becky Waters, Brad Waters, Matt Hostetlar, Diane Hostetlar, Jose Vazquez, and Bob Gregory
- **Budget Committee:** John Peterson, Bob Gregory, Susan Vitale, Mark Rios, Brad Waters, Mike Kust, Dan Eaker and Carl Dozier
- **By-Laws Committee:** Bob Gregory, Matt Hostetlar, Frank Sgromolo and Jose Vazquez
- **Community Service Committee:** Jim Ireland, Susan Vitale, John Guill, David Weber, Frank Sgromolo, Kimball Thompson, Ron Mayfield, and John Peterson
- **Awards/Scholarship Committee:** Mark Rios, Mike Kust, Dan Eaker, Joe Hammers, Otmar Guzman, Ron Liston, Kimball Thompson, and Chuck Wolff
- **Membership/Recruiting Committee:** Bob Gregory, Susan Vitale, José Vazquez, and Dan Eaker
- **Building Renovation Committee:** Kimball Thompson, Jim Ireland, Susan Vitale, Anne Thompson, Ken Belkofer, Matt Overbeck and Jim Keiper
- **Visiting Committee:** Chaplain Joe McGourn and Dan Eaker
- **Health/Safety Committee:** Surgeon David Weber, Frank Sgromolo
- **Activities Committee:** Dan Eaker, Susan Vitale, Joe McGourn

QUARTERMASTER DESK



Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$35 IF you go through our Post – if you go through National make sure you indicate Post 2894!

Annual dues can be paid via mail (see our new address on the front of the newsletter) or to the Quartermaster at one of our meetings.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

You can become a VFW Life Member by paying a one-time fee as listed in the table below or making an initial \$35 payment and then paying the remainder over an 11-month installment plan. You will be issued an annual membership card and can elect, upon receipt of the first monthly invoice, to pay via check, credit card or ACH Debit. The applicable Life Membership fee is determined from the schedule using the applicant's age on Dec. 31 of the installment plan year in which the application is submitted, regardless of actual date of birth. A permanent Life Membership card will be issued upon completion of this agreement.

Annual Members!

Renewals are due now and must be paid by 31 June.

VFW Post 2894 will purchase your LIFE member hat when you convert to Life. \$50 value!

Join the 150 Life Members in the Post.

See Senior Vice Cmdr Susan Vitale or the Quartermaster, John Peterson

Life Member Options

AGE as of DECEMBER 31 st	One-Time Payment	\$45 + 11 Payments of
18-30 Years Old	\$425.00	\$38.64
31-40 Years Old	\$410.00	\$37.27
41-50 Years Old	\$375.00	\$34.09
51-60 Years Old	\$335.00	\$30.45
61-70 Years Old	\$290.00	\$26.36
71-80 Years Old	\$225.00	\$20.45
81 Years & Over	\$170.00	\$15.45

Installment plan requires member approval from National and must be validated before purchase of hat.

Life and Annual Dues can be paid on line at our web page
<https://vfw2894.org/join-the-vfw>

Points of contact for Annual dues and Life Conversion: susan.vitale@verizon.com and jpeterston310@gmail.com.

APRIL MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1863 US adopts conscription for Civil War
1893 USN establishes rate of Chief Petty Officer
1945 Okinawa: 60K U.S. soldiers & Marines land on Easter Sunday
1945 US First & Ninth Armies meet to form Ruhr pocket
1954 US Air Force Academy established
1954 US Army forms first helicopter battalion, Fort Bragg, NC
1991 Warsaw Pact officially dissolves
- 2** 1827 Construction of 1st U.S. Naval Hospital begins, Portsmouth, Va
1865 Battles of Petersburg/Ft Gregg/Sutherland's Station, Va: Robert E. Lee forced to evacuate Richmond
1917 Wilson asks Congress to declare war against Germany
1982 Argentina invades Falkland Is, initiating 72-day losing war with Britain
- 3** 1865 Union forces occupy Richmond & Petersburg, to tune of "Dixie"
1948 Harry Truman signs Marshall Plan
- 4** 1776 First USN victory at sea: USS 'Columbus' captures HM Tender 'Hawke'
1862 Yorktown: First serious fighting of Peninsular Campaign
1865 Lincoln sits in Jeff Davis' chair, in Confederate White House
1942 Bataan: Fil-American forces fall back after Japanese break through
1943 4th Marine Div activated at San Diego
1949 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) formed
- 5** 1951 Julius & Ethel Rosenberg, atomic spies, sentenced to death
1986 Berlin: 2 US servicemen & Turkish woman die in terrorist bombing
1991 Iraq: US begins relief air drops to Kurds in north
- 6** Army Day and National Tartan Day
1862 Battle of Shiloh, Day 1: Confederate success
1866 Union vets form Grand Army of Republic
1917 US declares war on Germany, entering WWI
1945 Okinawa: Massive kamikaze attack on US fleet sinks six ships
1991 Operation Provide Comfort initiated to defend Kurdish refugees fleeing their homes in Northern Iraq after the Gulf War ended.
- 7** 1862 Battle of Shiloh, Day 2: Grant defeats Confederates
1942 USN agrees to accept black Americans for general service
1943 Japanese inflict heavy losses on Allied shipping around Guadalcanal
1945 First Navy Nurses land on Iwo Jima: Lt, jg, Ann Purvis & Ens Jane Kendeigh
1980 President Jimmy Carter breaks relations with Iran over hostage crisis
2017 U.S. conducts missile strike on Shayrat Airbase, Syria, in response to chemical attack on the town of Khan Shaykhun
- 8** Feast of St Walther Gautier of Pontoise, Patron Saint of POWs
1865 Lee's retreat cut off near Appomattox Court House
1956 Parris Is, SC: 6 Marine recruits drown during unauthorized night exercise
2015 VFW Post 2894 Auxiliary founded
- 9** 1865 Appomattox: Robert E Lee & Army of Northern Virginia surrender
1898 Lt Andrew Rowan leaves for Cuba with "a message for Garcia"
- 1942 Bataan: 75,000 U.S. & Filipino troops surrender to Japanese
- 10** 1918 Near Toul, in eastern France, 104th Infantry begins 4 day determined defense against German assault, to become 1st American regiment awarded Croix de Guerre
1945 Allies liberate Buchenwald concentration camp
1963 USS 'Thresher' (SSN-593) sinks east of Cape Cod, 124 die
- 11** 1863 Battle of Suffolk, VA
1898 Pres McKinley asks for Declaration of War against Spain
1899 Treaty of Paris: Spain cedes Puerto Rico, Philippines, Guam to US
1900 USN accepts first submarine, USS 'Holland', originally designed for Fenians
1942 American merchant mariners are authorized to receive DSM
1951 Harry Truman fires Gen Douglas MacArthur
1991 Persian Gulf War Armistice Signed
- 12** 1861 Confederates shell Fort Sumter, initiating Civil War
1911 First US naval aviator: Lt Theodore Ellyson
1916 Battle of Hacienda Santa Cruz de la Villegas: Maj. Charles Young, senior black officer in US Army, leads squadron of 10th Cav ("Buffalo Soldiers") to rescue white 13th Cav, besieged by Mexicans
1924 Off Balboa, Panama, 19-year-old hooker Madeline Blair found aboard USS 'Arizona' (BB-39), plying her trade since ship left New York one month earlier
1942 Bataan: Japanese massacre four hundred Filipino officers
1966 First B-52 raids on North Vietnam
1981 First US space shuttle launch (Columbia)
1993 Bosnia: USS 'Theodore Roosevelt' (CVN-71) & NATO initiate no-fly zone
- 14** 1818 US Army Medical Corps formed
1865 Abraham Lincoln mortally wounded by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theatre, on Good Friday
1898 USS 'Solace' commissioned, first hospital ship in USN since 1865, and only purpose-built hospital ship in history of fleet
1912 RMS 'Titanic' strikes iceberg, 11:40 pm
1945 Tokyo firebomb raids: B-29s damage Imperial Palace
1986 U.S. warplanes bomb Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi in retaliation for Berlin discotheque bombing
2018 U.S. and allies launch missile strikes on targets in Damascus, Syria, in response to Douma chemical attack
- 15** 1861 Ft Sumter surrenders
1861 Lincoln calls for 75,000 volunteers
1865 Stars and Stripes are again hoisted over Ft Sumter
1947 Former Army 2nd Lt Jackie Robinson begins playing for Brooklyn Dodgers, integrating modern Major League baseball
1952 First test flight of prototype B-52
1986 US bombs terrorist bases in Libya, following Berlin disco bombing
- 16** 1916 French Army forms Escadrille Americaine
1945 US troops enter Nuremberg
1945 USS 'Laffey' (DD-724) survives six kamikaze hits, off Okinawa
1946 Okinawa
1947 US launches captured V-2 rocket, White Sands, NM
Congress grants Navy Nurses full commissioned status
- 17** 1846 Battle of Cerro Gordo: Winfield Scott defeats Mexican Army
1861 Virginia is eighth state to secede from Union

- 1864 Grant suspends POW exchanges over Confederate refusal to treat black troops as soldiers
- 1961 Bay of Pigs: 1,400 Cuban exiles land to overthrow Castro
- 18** 1644 Thousands of Pamunky and allied Indians raid Virginia Colony, killing 500 settlers, initiating 32-months' long Second Tidewater War, in which colonists triumph
- 1775 Paul Revere, Samuel Prescott, & William Dawes make "midnight ride"
- 1934 US Army stops issuing sabers to cavalry
- 1942 Doolittle Raid: 16 B-25Bs off CV Hornet strike Tokyo
- 1942 WWII edition of "Stars & Stripes" begins publication in England
- 19** 1775 Battles of Lexington & Concord -- "The Shot Heard 'Round the World"
- 1783 Congress orders hostilities with Britain at end, 8 years after "The Shot Heard 'Round the World."
- 1909 Canonization of Joan of Arc, Patron of Soldiers, & Women in Military Service
- 1919 Leslie Irvin of US makes first free fall parachute jump
- 1941 US Marines begin construction of airfield on Wake Island
- 1989 USS 'Iowa' (BB-61) gun turret explosion, 47 die
- 20** 1789 George Washington sworn in as 1st President, Federal Hall, NY
- 1861 Union forces burn & abandon Gosport (Norfolk, Va) Navy Yard.
- 21** 1836 Battle of San Jacinto: Texas secures independence from Mexico
- 1898 US declares war on Spain
- 1914 US Marines and sailors occupy Vera Cruz, Mexico
- 1918 Baron von Richtofen, known as the "Red Baron" is shot down and killed during the Battle of the Somme
- 1995 1st Lt Sarah Deal becomes first U.S. Marine Corps pilot
- 22** 1944 New Guinea: U.S. Army troops land near Hollandia
- 23** Feast of St. George, Patron of Soldiers
- 1861 Robert E Lee named major general and commander of Virginia state forces
- 1945 Allies in Italy reach Po River
- 24** 1863 War Department issues GO No 100, The Law of Land Warfare, first US ROE.
- 1943 US 7th Inf Div. trained for desert warfare, sails from San Francisco to Alaska
- 1944 1st Boeing B-29 arrives in China over Himalayas -- "the Hump"
- 1980 "Desert One": US operation to save 52 hostages in Iran fails, eight die
- 25** 1862 Farragut occupies New Orleans, La
- 1875 Combat on Pecos: Lt. John Bullis and Black Seminole Indian Scouts SGT John Ward, Trumpeter Isaac Payne, & PVT Pompey Factor rout 25-30 Lipan Indian raiders, for which Scouts are awarded Medal of Honor
- 1914 First USN air combat mission: Lt. Patrick Bellinger conducts a reconnaissance over Veracruz, receiving some damage from machine gun fire.
- 1945 Last Boeing B-17 attack against Nazi Germany
- 1945 US & Soviet forces meet at Torgau on Elbe River
- 1960 USS Triton completes first submerged circumnavigation of globe
- 26** 1607 English colonists land at Cape Henry, VA
- 1805 William Eaton and Lt Presley O'Bannon attack Derna, Libya, and phrase, "to the shores of Tripoli" enters national lexicon.
- 27** 1773 British Parliament passes Tea Act, leading to Boston Tea Party
- 1778 John Paul Jones begins 2-day raid on Whitehaven, U.K.
- 1813 Toronto captured by Americans under Gen Zebulon Pike
- 1861 Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson assumes command at Harper's Ferry
- 1945 US 5th Army liberates Genoa
- 28** 1945 US 5th Army reaches Italian-Swiss border
- 1956 French leave Vietnam
- 1965 US Marines land in Dominican Republic, stay until Oct '66
- 1967 Mohammad Ali refuses induction into army
- 1971 Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr., promoted to Rear Admiral; first black admiral in US Navy
- 29** 1863 Battle of Chancellorsville begins
- 1945 US liberates Nazi concentration camp in Dachau
- 1970 US & South Vietnamese troops invade Cambodia
- 1975 Last US personnel pull out of Vietnam
- 30** 1492 Ferdinand & Isabella agree to bankroll Columbus
- 1798 US establishes Department of the Navy
- 1900 US annexes Hawaii
- 1908 1st Co., Signal Corps, 71st Reg, NYNG, formed to conduct aeronautical operations; now 106th Rescue Wing, oldest Air Guard unit.
- 1945 American & Soviet forces link up at Torgau in Germany
- 1975 Vietnam War Ends
- 1980 Terrorists seize Iranian Embassy in London

MAY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1862 David Farragut captures New Orleans
- 1898 Battle of Manila Bay: Adm Dewey orders, "You may fire when ready."
- 1931 Empire State Building opens
- 1960 Francis Gary Powers' U-2 spy plane shot down over Sverdlovsk
- 1982 British bomb Argentinean positions at Port Stanley; Falkland Islands War begins
- 2** 1863 Stonewall Jackson wounded by own men at Chancellorsville, dies May 10th
- 1945 Berlin formally surrenders to Red Army
- 1945 German forces in Italy surrender
- 2011 U.S. Special Operations Forces kill Osama bin Laden in Abbottabad, Pakistan
- 3** 1846 Mexican army invades Texas
- 1861 Lincoln orders expansion of Army by 23K & Navy by 18K
- 1943 US 1st Armored Div captures Mateur, Tunisia
- 1946 Military Tribunal in Tokyo begins war crimes trials
- 4** 1946 US Marines recapture Alcatraz from rioting prisoners
- 1942 Battle of Coral Sea begins
- 1970 Ohio National Guard kills four students at Kent State
- 5** 1814 British attack Ft Ontario, Oswego, NY
- 1862 Cinco de Mayo: Mexican forces defeat French at Puebla
- 1862 Peninsular Campaign: Battle of Williamsburg, VA
- 1864 Battle of Wilderness: Germanna Ford/Wilderness Tavern
- 1908 Great White Fleet reaches San Francisco
- 1942 Philippines: Japanese troops land on Corregidor

- 1945 Oregon: Japanese balloon bomb kills pregnant woman and five children
- 1965 First large US ground units arrive in South Vietnam
- 6** 1937 Hindenburg disaster, Lakehurst, NJ, thirty-six die
- 1941 Bob Hope stages his first USO show, March Field, California
- 1945 Axis Sally makes her last broadcast
- 1962 USS 'Ethan Allen' (SSBN-608) fires first nuclear warhead from submerged sub
- 7** 1915 British passenger ship Lusitania torpedoed by German submarine
- 1942 Battle of Coral Sea begins
- 1954 Dien Bien Phu: Vietnam overrun French after 55-day siege
- 1989 Panama: Manuel Noriega seizes power after losing election
- 8** 1886 Confederate veteran John S. Pemberton invents Coca Cola
- 1911 Birth of Naval Aviation: USN orders first airplane, Curtiss A-1
- 1942 Battle of Coral Sea, Day 2: USS 'Lexington' (CV-2) sunk
- 1945 V-E Day; Germany signs unconditional surrender
- 1952 US conducts first H-Bomb test, Eniwetok Atoll
- 9** 1831 Alexis de Tocqueville arrives at Newport, RI, for ten-month tour
- 1926 Lt Cdr Richard Byrd & CMM Floyd Bennett fly over North Pole
- 10** 1676 Bacon's Rebellion begins in Virginia
- 1775 Benedict Arnold, Ethan Allan, & Green Mountain Boys capture Ticonderoga
- 1862 Confederates torch & evacuate Norfolk/Pensacola Navy Yards
- 1940 Battle of France begins (WWII)
- 1960 USS 'Triton' (SSN-586) completes first submerged circumnavigation
- 1968 Vietnam War: Paris peace talks begin; Battle of Hamburger Hill
- 11** 1862 CSS 'Virginia/Merrimac' scuttled in James River
- 1938 First USCG award of DFC, LT C. B. Olsen, for rescue at sea
- 1978 Margaret Brewer becomes U.S. Marine Corps' first female general officer
- 12** 1607 Foundation of Jamestown, Virginia
- 1789 NYC Revolutionary War veterans form Society of St Tammany
- 1943 Trident Conference: Roosevelt and Churchill plan strategy
- 1975 US merchant ship 'Mayaguez' seized by Cambodian force
- 13** 1908 Navy Nurse Corps is established
- 1943 USN Bureau of Navigation becomes Bureau of Naval Personnel
- 14** 1653 Massachusetts Council declares that 1/8th of each militia company be available to march on 1 day's warning.
- 1801 Tripoli declares war on US, initiating First Tripoli War
- 1804 Lewis & Clark Expedition sets out from St Louis
- 1836 Mexican President Santa Anna, prisoner of Texans, signs Treaty of Velasco, conceding Texan independence.
- 1845 USS 'Constitution' lands Marines at Danang, Indochina
- 1856 USS 'Supply' delivers 50 Turkish camels to US Army at Indianola, Texas
- 1942 US Army forms Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC)
- 1945 US offensive on Okinawa, Sugar Loaf Hill captured
- 1975 US raids free Cambodian-held ship 'Mayaguez' with heavy losses
- 15** 1862 Ben Butler issues famous "Woman Order," and proves every woman in New Orleans is a lady
- 1939 Dupont introduces nylon; within year Japanese sales of silk to US fall 30 percent
- 1940 First successful test flight of American helicopter, Vought-Sikorsky US-3
- 17** 1987 USS 'Stark' (FFG-31) hit by Iraqi missiles, thirty-seven sailors die
- 18** 1775 1st USS 'Enterprise' enters service, prize taken by Benedict Arnold on Lake Champlain
- 1861 Battle of Sewall's Point, VA
- 1917 Congress passes Selective Service Act
- 1984 Jerome G Cooper becomes first African-American general officer in U.S. Marine Corps
- 19** 1951 UN begins counter offensive in Korea
- 1958 NORAD formed
- 1967 US bombs Hanoi
- 20** Armed Forces Day
- 1912 Battlecruiser SMS 'Moltke' reaches Hampton Roads, on only visit to US by German capital ship
- 1930 President Hoover reviews US Fleet off Virginia Capes
- 21** 1861 Richmond, Va, designated Capital of Confederacy
- 1881 Clara Barton founds American Red Cross
- 1917 Leo Pinckney first American drafted during WW I
- 1944 West Loch, Pearl Harbor: ammo-laden LST blows up, 6 LSTs lost, 200 killed, "2nd Pearl Harbor"
- 1968 USS 'Scorpion' (SSN-589) sinks off Azores, ninety-nine die
- 22** National Maritime Day
- 1959 Benjamin O Davis Jr. (USMA '36) becomes first African-American Army general
- 1985 US sailor Michael L Walker arrested for spying for USSR
- 23** 1862 Valley Campaign: Stonewall Jackson takes Front Royal, Virginia
- 1862 Valley Campaign: Stonewall Jackson takes Front Royal, Virginia
- 24** 1764 James Otis coins phrase "No taxation without representation!"
- 1861 Benjamin Butler declares fugitive slaves Frank Baker, Shepard Mallory, & James Townsend "contraband of war"
- 25** 1787 Constitutional Convention opens in Philadelphia
- 1961 JFK pledges US will put man on moon by 1970
- 27** 1607 Battle of Jamestown: English settlers repulse attack by two hundred Indians
- 28** 1830 Congress authorizes Indian removal from Eastern states
- 1980 First fifty-five women graduate from U.S. Naval Academy
- 29** 1945 Okinawa: 1st Marine Division Captures Shuri Castle
- 30** 1868 First "Decoration Day" [now "Memorial Day"], designated by GAR CINC Maj Gen John Logan
- 1943 Aleutian Islands off coast of Alaska retaken by U.S. 7th Infantry Division
- 1958 Unknown soldiers of WWII & Korean War entombed in Arlington National Cemetery
- 1962 USS 'Arizona' Memorial dedicated in Pearl Harbor
- 31** 1900 Boxer Rebellion: Multi-national relief forces reach Peking

POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u>APRIL '25</u>	
5	Bataan Death March Memorial Walk Great Dismal Swamp
7	Post Staff Meeting, Post HQ
9	Post Meeting/ Post 29 th Birthday Celebration
13	Palm Sunday
20	Easter Sunday

<u>MAY '25</u>	
2	VFW Day of Service
5	Cinco de Mayo
8	WWII Victory in Europe
10	District 2 Quarterly meeting VFW Post 3160
11	Mothers' Day
12	Post Staff Meeting, Post HQ
14	Post Meeting, Post HQ
14	Air Force JROTC Awards Ceremony
17	Armed Forces Day
17-18	Buddy Poppy Fundraiser
26	Memorial Day Memorial Day Ceremony, City Hall
29	Post 2894 Annual Awards Ceremony

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!!!

BUSINESS CARD - \$25/ISSUE; \$100/YEAR

QUARTER PAGE - \$35/ISSUE; \$150/YEAR

HALF PAGE - \$45/ISSUE; \$200/YEAR

VFW MEMBERS/VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES RECEIVE A
20% DISCOUNT

VFW POST 2894



Gun Raffle



**SIG SAUER P320-M18 3.9" BARRELL
W/2 X 21 AND 1 X 17 ROUND MAGAZINES**

MILITARY ISSUED AND OFFICIAL MARINE CORPS SIDEARM:

- (1) Slide is optic ready, allowing for customization
- (2) Comes standard with SIGLITE night sights
- (3) Equipped with an M1913 accessory rail
- (4) Commercial Version with Military Features



***\$10 per ticket, only 400 to be sold
(buy nine and get tenth free!!)***

***Drawing at Chesapeake Memorial Day Service at
City Hall, Monday, 26 May 2025***

Need not be present to win

Must 21 years of age and legally eligible to purchase a firearm

**Contact a VFW Post 2894 member to purchase
your ticket(s) today!!!**



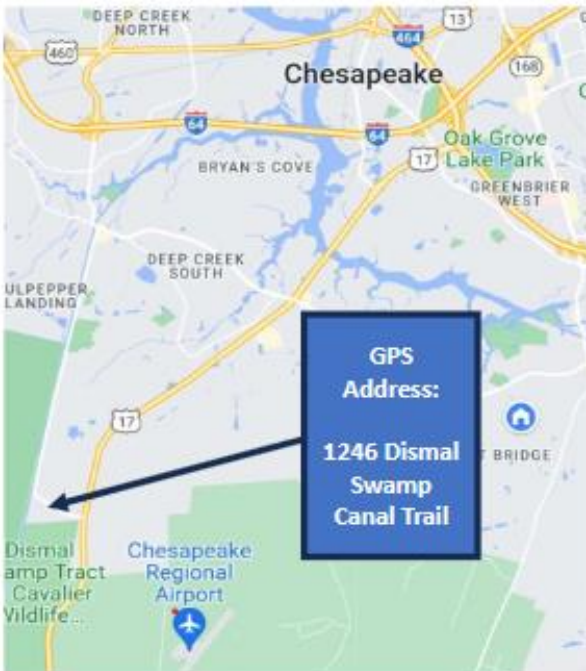
VFW Post 2894 - Chesapeake, VA



**14th Annual
Bataan Death March
Memorial Walk
April 5, 2025
Dismal Swamp Canal Trail**



In memory of thousands of American and Filipino prisoners who died on the 1942, 66 mile, force march during WW II.



APRIL 5th ON-SITE EVENTS

Registration Starts: 6:00 AM
16.6 Mile Walk: 7:00 AM
5 Mile Walk: 10:00 AM
1 Mile Walk: 11:00 AM
Closing Ceremony: 12:00 PM
Historical and Veteran Remembrance Displays
Food Sales
Silent Auction and Raffles

Virtual Walk at Your Leisure

Not Available to Participate April 5th?
Runners and walkers can participate anywhere in the world between February 5, 2025 to April 05, 2025. The run/walk can be done safely and at your own pace.

Registration and Sponsors: www.vfw2894.org
\$5 Walk Only / \$16 With Shirt - Age 16 and Under /
\$30 With Shirt - Age 17 and Older / Group Discounts
Pre-Registration Ends: April 5, 2025
Walk.Chesapeake@gmail.com

