

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.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 2894

Meetings

2nd Wednesday of month – 7:00 pm
VFW Post 2894 Headquarters
3329 Battlefield Boulevard South
Chesapeake, Virginia 23322

Email: cdpost2894@vfwva.org

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

Webpage: <https://vfw2894.org>

Visit us on Facebook.



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

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President.....	Sharon Peterson
Sr. Vice President.....	Grace Schweers
Jr. Vice President.....	Nelia Macasaet
Secretary.....	Sandy Dunbar
Treasurer.....	Donna Kust
Chaplain.....	Diane Hostetlar
Conductress.....	Diane Hostetlar
Guard.....	Tara Frederick
Patriotic Instructor.....	Anne Thompson

NATIONAL

www.vfw.org

STATE

www.vfwva.org

VFW VA DISTRICT 2

www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2

VFW Post 2894 GoFundMe

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



VFW POST 2894 14TH ANNUAL BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL RUN/WALK A SUCCESS

On a misty Saturday morning in early April, supporters of the 14th Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Run/Walk gathered for some spirited competition and cameraderie as we remembered the sacrifices of those servicemen who endured the grueling 66-mile forced march in the Philippines during World War II. A variety of organizations participated in the run, from area Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets to active duty service personnel currently assigned to various military units/organizations in the area.(continued on page 3)



Area supporters of the 14th Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Run/Walk kickoff the event in the Great Dismal Swamp Trail in Chesapeake, Virginia, on Saturday, 5 April, 2025.

COMMANDER'S CORNER



WOW! What a way to end the year! We made All-State and have met all requirements for All-American and once again, our Post newsletter won the 2025 National VFW Publication Grand Award this time in the large frequency category.

I would like to thank everyone for all the hard work this past year. These last couple of months have been extremely busy and successful. Once again, we had another successful Bataan Memorial Death March Memorial Walk. I would like to send out a personal thanks to all who participated in this event: from the BDM Committee, to all the volunteers who showed up at 0530 to make sure the event went off without a hitch; from the cooks who slaved over the hot grills and of course to the Auxiliary. I could not be prouder to be associated with such a caring and hard-working team.

Next came the AFJROTC annual awards ceremony. I was proud to present VFW Awards to twelve outstanding future leaders. It could not have been prouder to meet these outstanding young men and women.

Thanks to our Junior Vice Commander Mike Kust for once again coordinating another successful Buddy Poppy Drive. Thanks to all who gave up either all or parts of their weekend supporting this event. Members of the Post participated in the City of Chesapeake's Memorial Day ceremony and lastly, we held our Annual Post Awards Ceremony where we gave out over \$2000 to awardees. None of this would have been possible without the hard work of each and every one of you! BZ to all!

Remember our success derives from our priority of being about "Service to Others" and living up to our Post moto of "Honoring the Fallen by Helping the Living".

It has been an honor to work hand in hand with our Auxiliary President, Sharon Peterson, on many of these events. Many could not have been successful without her leadership and the support of the best Auxiliary in the Department of Virginia!

We held our annual officers election and installment. Our outgoing District 2 Commander, Ron Riffle presided over the installment ceremony.

Summer is here and the planning for the upcoming new fraternal year is in full swing! The new year starts on July 1, quickly followed by the Annual South Norfolk Forth of July Parade and our push to continue to be recognized as the little Post that gets the job done!

Semper Fidelis!

Bob Gregory, Commander

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Greetings from the Auxiliary!

May has been a very busy month for us. The Auxiliary helped serve Mission BBQ, hamburgers and hot dogs (grilled by Post members) to the residents of the Cyprus Landing veterans housing facility as well as making donations to their pantry. The same weekend we helped pass out Buddy Poppies at two Walmart locations in Chesapeake. The Memorial Day Ceremony at Chesapeake City Hall was attended by Post and Auxiliary members, and on Tuesday, May 27, there was a funeral at Horton National Cemetery in Suffolk. May 29th was Post 2894's Annual Awards Ceremony at City Hall.

On May 21st, Post 2894 treated us to an amazing party to celebrate our 10th Anniversary. The building had beautiful decorations, the food was delicious, music and soft lighting—it was a great party!

June 7th the Post and Auxiliary will join in a Flag Retirement Ceremony held at the American Legion building in Chesapeake. Don't forget June 14th is Flag Day, and of course June 15 is Father's Day. Last but not least, on July 4th we'll be in the parade in South Norfolk!

At our monthly June meeting we will be holding our new officer installation ceremony. The following are our officers for the 2025-2026 year:

President:	Sharon Peterson
Sr. Vice:	Grace Schweers
Jr. Vice:	Nelia Macasaet
Secretary:	Sandy Dunbar
Treasurer:	Donna Kust
Chaplain:	Dianne Hostetlar
Trustee #3:	Anne Thompson
Trustee#2:	Tara Frederick
Trustee#1:	Kirsten McGinn
Patriotic Instructor:	Anne Thompson
Conductor:	Dianne Hostetlar
Guard:	Tara Frederick

Summer has arrived. There will be cookouts, swimming, family gatherings, and maybe a family vacation to a fun destination. Don't forget your sunscreen and bug spray. And don't forget to celebrate the USA: The home of the free because of the brave!

Sharon Peterson, President
VFW 2894 Auxiliary

VFW POST 2894 14TH ANNUAL BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL RUN/WALK (Continued from page 1)

VFW Post 2894 members got an early start, setting up shop on Friday afternoon to ensure everything was positioned correctly and the course was ready for the early runners at 0700 on Saturday morning. Post Commander Bob Gregory and wife Rosie, along with Carl Dozier and Jean, brought out their respective campers to enjoy some “glamping” as everyone worked through the administrative and operational aspects of sponsoring such an event involving numerous organizations, not only those participating, but also those supporting the requirements necessary to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all.



VFW Post 2894 members prepare hamburgers and hotdogs as they are serenaded by the roving accordion player.



Guests participating in the annual BDM Memorial event look over items available during the silent auction.



Participants at the 14th Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Run/Walk prepare for the event.



Tactical vehicles from Marine Corps Training Unit Northwest Annex were on display during the event.



Guests at the BDM Memorial Run/Walk discuss issues with the various organizations present at the event.



Marines from Marine Corps Training Detachment Northwest Annex provided information on a myriad of modern infantry weapons.



Captain Albert Head, U.S. Navy and Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. Bataan, provides rousing comments during the closing ceremony.



Marines talk with Post 2894 Auxiliary member Donna Kust about training emotional support dogs through the Mutts With a Mission organization.

VFW POST 2894 ELECTIONS AND OFFICER INSTALLATION 2025-26

Election of Post officers was held at the April membership meeting with the following results for Fiscal Year 2025-26:

- Commander – Bob Gregory
- Senior Vice Commander – Susan Vitale
- Junior Vice Commander – Mike Kust
- Quartermaster – John Peterson
- Chaplain – Joseph McGourn
- 1st Year Trustee – Joe Hammers
- 2nd Year Trustee – Mark Rios
- 3rd Year Trustee – Phil Miller

Post Auxiliary Holds Annual Elections: The Auxiliary officer slate for the 2025-26 year is:

President	Sharon Peterson
Sr Vice	Rosie Gregory
Jr Vice	Grace Schweers
Secretary	Sandy Dunbar
Treasurer	Donna Kust
Chaplain	Dianne Hostetlar
Conductor	Laura Etheridge
Guard	Theresa Lynn Sein
3 rd yr Trustee	Kirsten McGinn
2 nd yr Trustee	Anne Thompson
1 st yr Trustee	Grace Schweers
Patriotic Instructor	Jean Dozier

Congratulations to everyone – thanks for stepping up in these important leadership roles!

OTHER POST NEWS

• Spring Buddy Poppy Fund Drive Again a Success.



The VFW Post 2894 Spring 2025 Bea Oakley/Gary Dunbar Memorial Buddy Poppy Fundraiser was conducted the weekend prior to Memorial Day, 17-18 May, at two local Walmart Supercenters. Post and Auxiliary members were present at both entrances/exits, providing poppies to those who would accept them and providing some history to many who wanted to know more about the origins of the Buddy Poppy tradition. The weather was extremely cooperative, although there were some wind concerns at times that tended to

blow the tents in a menacing manner, but all ended well with a total donation collection of over \$4700!



VFW Post 2894 members man a tent at the spring Buddy Poppy Fundraiser. Left to right: Mike Kust, Ron Mayfield, Bob Gregory and Jose Vazquez.



VFW Post 2894 members at Battlefield Walmart during the spring Buddy Poppy Fundraiser.



VFW Post 2894 Auxiliary members Sharon Peterson, Laura Etheridge and Julie Boyer man a post during the spring Buddy Poppy Fundraiser at the Edinburg Walmart in Chesapeake.

• **VFW Post 2894 and Auxiliary Members Host Cookout for Homeless Veterans.** On Saturday, 17 May, the VFW Post 2894 and Auxiliary members joined hands and prepared hamburgers and hotdog plates for veterans residing at Cypress Landing Apartments in Chesapeake, Virginia. Coordinated by Joe McGourn, the Post Chaplain, and assisted by Jim Ireland, the Post Service Officer, the event received dozens of veterans living at the facilities, as well as seeing many Post and Auxiliary members participating to ensure an extremely successful event for all involved. Mrs. Debbie Ritter, Chesapeake City Council representative, and Sheriff Dave Rosado also dropped by to enjoy



VFW Post 2894 Commander Bob Gregory talks with a veteran participating in the Cypress Landing cookout.



VFW Post 2894 and Auxiliary members serve veterans at the Cypress Landing event. Left to right: Kevin Wilkinson, Keith Neilsen, Jim Keiper and Rosie Gregory.



VFW Post 2894 members prepare hamburgers and hotdogs on the grill for guests during the Cypress Landing cookout.

a burger and talk with all those who happened to come out for the event.

A tremendous thanks to Mission Barbeque who provided delicious, barbequed chicken, mac'n'cheese and buns in addition to the grilled delights prepared by Post volunteers.



VFW Post 2894 members Jim Ireland and Frank Sgromolo (back to camera) talk with Chesapeake Sheriff Dave Rosado and City Council member Debbie Ritter at the Cypress Landing cookout.



VFW Post 2894 and Auxiliary members enjoy dinner at the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Auxiliary's establishment.



VFW Post 2894 Comrade Kimball Thompson strikes a pose as he provides bartending service for the Auxiliary's 10th Anniversary dinner celebration.

• **VFW Post 2894 Celebrates 10th Anniversary of Auxiliary Establishment** On Wednesday evening, 21 May, VFW Post 2894 hosted the Auxiliary members to a fabulous catered dinner to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Auxiliary's founding. The dinner was well attended, with several dozen members from both groups enjoying a meal of baked chicken, green beans, baked ziti and rolls, topped off with peach cobbler for dessert. The wine was free-flowing to add to the festivities. Thanks to all those that assisted with ensuring this was a truly remarkable event, with special thanks to Becky Waters for her superb coordination that guaranteed its success!



Current Post 2894 Auxiliary President Sharon Peterson (center) cuts the anniversary cake with past Auxiliary Presidents Anne Thompson (left) and Sandy Dunbar (right).

• **VFW Post 2894 Members Remember Memorial Day at Chesapeake City Hall.** On Monday, 26 May 2025, members from numerous veterans organizations in Chesapeake gathered at Chesapeake City Hall to honor those service men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of our country. Although the weather forced the ceremony to move indoors, there was standing room only in the packed Council Chambers that hosted the event.

Mayor Rick West provided opening remarks and paid tribute to one of Chesapeake's revered veterans who recently passed away. Corporal Edward Vincek, U.S. Marine Corps, was a World War II veteran and Iwo Jima survivor who had just celebrated his 100th



VFW Post 2894 Commander Bob Gregory and Chaplain Joseph McGourn place the memorial wreath during the Chesapeake City Memorial Day Ceremony at City Hall.

birthday in September of 2024. The City of Chesapeake honored his community service and memory with a plaque displaying many of the photographs taken of Eddie over the past several decades, presenting it to his two surviving

daughters and son.

The guest speaker for the occasion was Pastor Heartsille "Bones" Reynolds, a retired Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy, who rose through the ranks as an aviation ordnance technician to become an Ordnance Handling Officer on Navy carriers. Retiring after thirty years in the Navy, he returned to take on the position of Explosives Safety Inspector for U.S. Navy ships on the East Coast, a civilian position he held for another thirteen year. After over forty years of service to the country, Pastor Reynolds followed his calling to the ministry, where he currently serves as the Senior Pastor for Turning Point Church in Virginia Beach.



Pastor Heartsille "Bones" Reynolds, Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy (retired), delivers emotional comments during the Memorial Day Commemoration.

Veterans Day, explaining how remembering our fallen comrades is a solemn occasion that calls not for celebration, but for paying tribute to all those who were called in to the service of their country and gave their lives so we can continue to enjoy the freedoms we often take for granted.

After the guest speaker's comments, each of the veterans organizations attending presented a memorial wreath in honor of the fallen.



VFW Post 2894 members take a moment for a photo after the Memorial Day Commemoration at Chesapeake City Hall.

- **VFW Post 2894 Pistol Raffle a Great Success.** On Monday morning, 26 May 2025, at the conclusion of the Chesapeake Memorial Day Ceremony, the drawing was held to determine the winner of the Sig Saur 9mm pistol. Pastor Heartsille Reynolds, guest speaker for the Memorial Day event, did the honors and pulled out the winning ticket: Shane Roberts, U.S. Coast Guard. Congratulations Shane! Enjoy your new weapon acquisition!



Pastor Heartsille Reynolds, guest speaker at the Chesapeake Memorial Day Ceremony, draws the winning raffle ticket for the VFW Post 2894 Spring Pistol Raffle.

- **VFW Post 2894 Officer Installation for Fiscal Year 2025-26.** During the April Post membership meeting, Post officers were installed by Ron Riffle, the Commander for VFW District 2 in Virginia. Most positions remained the same, as many officers extended their term for another year. We say goodbye to Matt Hostetlar, who has been a Trustee for the past three years, and welcome Phillip Miller as the new Third Year Trustee. Joe Hammers moves up to the 1st Year Trustee slot, followed by Mark Rios as the 2nd Year Trustee.



VFW Post 2894 Fiscal Year 2025-26 officers are installed by District 2 Commander Ron Riffle.

VFW Post 2894 Members Elected to District 2 Positions.

Congratulations are to our very own Jim Ireland and Bob Gregory who were elected and installed as the District 2 Service Officer and Surgeon respectively. It is great to see our members providing representation on the staffs at higher levels of the VFW organizations.



VFW Post 2894 members Bob Gregory (left) and Jim Ireland (right) are sworn in as District 2 Surgeon and Service Officer.



Six Air Force Junior ROTC female cadets received VFW medals/certificates at the Grassfield High School Awards Ceremony, 13 May 2025.



Six Air Force Junior ROTC male cadets received VFW medals/certificates at the Grassfield High School Awards Ceremony, 13 May 2025.

POST Awards VFW Medals



At the annual Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFJROTC) Awards Ceremony hosted at Grassfield High School on May 13, Bob Gregory, the Post Commander, awarded VFW medals to AFJROTC members in six of Chesapeake's high schools. The awards recognize the achievements of the cadets and fosters their morale and esprit de corps. The awards went to two outstanding cadets, one male and one female, at the respective schools. This year's awardees are:

- Deep Creek – Kaleah Mann & Thomas Gibson
- Grassfield – Payton Williams & Anthony Beggs
- Great Bridge – McKenna Gay & Christopher Zombar
- Indian River – Jessica Weifert & Devin Hurley
- Oscar Smith – Amariyah Naftali & Andric Morales
- Western Branch – Daris Martin & Anthony Gagliardi

JUNE 6, 1944

A PARATROOPER REMEMBERS HIS JUMP INTO FRANCE

June 6, 1944, will always be etched in our military minds as D-Day, the Allied operational landings on the beaches of Normandy, France. There were many aspects to that enormous military undertaking that included numerous Services from nations involved in combating the Axis Powers.

The book Band of Brothers, by Steven Ambrose, recalls the exploits of the airborne soldiers from Easy Company, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment. One of those soldiers was Sergeant Bill Guarnere – here is his account of his introduction to France on that momentous occasion.

“Sergeant Bill Guarnere sat towards the back of the C-47 cargo plane over the English Channel, seething with rage.

“A few short hours before he was supposed to fly across the Channel to parachute in and begin the D-Day invasion of Nazi-controlled Normandy, he had accidentally grabbed the wrong jump jacket while headed to the latrine.

“He only realized his mistake when he found a letter in the pocket from the wife of one of the other men in the platoon. But before putting it back, he saw his name in the letter. When he looked closer, it read ‘Don’t tell Bill Guarnere, but his brother Henry was killed in Cassino.’

“Bill cried, he felt faint, he shook with anger, but he tried to put aside his rage for the Nazis who killed his brother until he jumped out of his plane.

“In all of human history, there may never have been a more motivated man at a more pivotal moment to throw out of a plane into the heart of enemy-occupied territory to begin the largest invasion that mankind had ever seen.



Then Corporal Bill Guarnere during training in Georgia, 1943.

“The son of immigrants, Bill had six brothers and three sisters. He was the youngest of the ten growing up in the humble South Philadelphia home. It was the Depression, and the family often went hungry.

“None of his siblings graduated high school, they just went to work. After Pearl Harbor was attacked, Bill quit high school to work in a defense factory building Sherman tanks. But Bill’s Mom wanted desperately to have one high school graduate in the family, and as the youngest, he was her last chance.

“So for his mother, Bill worked the graveyard shift at the factory and went to school in the day for five months until he graduated. He said he ‘made Mom the happiest gal in the world.’

“Bill would have been exempt from the draft because of his job in a munitions factory, but he wanted to serve his country in uniform. Initially, he thought he would join the Marines, but when he went down to the recruitment station, he saw a poster for the Army paratroopers.

“At the time, people thought you were crazy if you joined as a paratrooper or a submariner – jumping out of a plane or going under the water was just too new – but what caught Bill’s attention was that they were all volunteer.

“He reasoned those would be the best, that they would be the ones he could trust his life to.

“He was right.

“Bill ended up in ‘Easy Company’ of the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment. They went through five months of hellish physical and mental conditioning, and only 1,500 of the over 5,000 men who first joined the 506th made it through training. From there

they learned how to jump out of planes despite the fact that most of them had never even been in a plane before.

“They were attached to the newly-formed 101st, known as the Screaming Eagles, who were meant for the biggest operation of all – the impending invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe.

“Their general told them ‘We have no history, but we have a rendezvous with destiny.’

“They finished their training in England, and just before D-Day they were given their specific mission. There were four causeways leading up from the Normandy sands which the landing troops would need to take to get off the beach to avoid being pushed back into the sea.

“The 101st was to parachute inland and work back towards the beaches to take those causeways and destroy the German artillery

positions aimed at the sands where the troops would land. They were ordered to take no prisoners – in the middle of enemy territory, they would have had no place to keep them.

“Shortly after their briefing, Bill learned about his brother’s death at the hands of the Germans in Italy. And before he knew it he was in the night sky, soaring over thousands of ships in the invasion armada that steamed towards the shore to meet them in the morning.

“The flight was two and a half hours, and everyone was quiet under the roar of the engine motors. Some prayed, some fell asleep, some just sat

staring and smoking. But all Bill could think about was revenge.

“‘I was wide awake thinking about Henry. I was obsessed. I was a madman. You never want to feel that kind of rage.’ But ‘I didn’t forget I was a sergeant, I had a squad to lead, and there was a larger mission at stake. I was still thinking clearly about the men. I looked around at their faces and thought, I hope everything goes right for these guys. They were like brothers to me too.’

“They reached the shore just after midnight, clouds rolled in, and the planes were separated. Then the Germans lit up the sky with more flak and anti-aircraft fire than the paratroopers could have ever imagined.

“‘Your only thought was ‘get me the hell out of this plane!’ The sky looks like ten thousand Fourth of Julys... We weren’t in the drop zone, but we didn’t care. We just wanted out. We got the order to jump even though the plane was moving too fast.’

“Bill was the second one out. He prayed his parachute would open, that he wouldn’t get tangled with another trooper, that he



Soldiers with the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment (attached to the 101st Airborne Division) at Utah Beach, 1944.

wouldn't land in one of the fires burning on the ground, or on a German, or hung in a tree. That part was all left to chance.



Paratroopers of the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division prior to jumping into Normandy during D-day.

“Bill hit the ground so hard he thought he had broken bones. He was lucky he hadn't landed where he was supposed to. The men who did, also misdropped in the confusion and melee, were slaughtered instantly by the Germans waiting for them there.

“But there was no time to pause where Bill landed either. Enormous bundles of medical supplies, ammo, guns, and paratroopers were drooping from the sky, and he had to look up instead of around to avoid being hit.

“When his parachute had jerked open, Bill lost his gun and his ‘cricket,’ clicked by paratroopers to identify themselves to other paratroopers in the dark, and had nothing but a knife and bent carbine.

“As he moved past the bodies of dead paratroopers hanging caught in the trees and dead Germans littering the ground, he managed to scrounge up a German MG-42 machine gun.

“But the paratroopers were so well-trained that they could identify a Nazi gun just by the sound. So anytime Bill fired the gun in the dark, other Americans started shooting in his direction. He quickly found a Thompson submachine gun instead.

“He joined up with a growing mishmash of men dropped from several different outfits – the 82nd, the 501st, the 502nd – and they began working their way to shore. At about 4 a.m., two hours before troops began landing on the beaches, they ran into a German supply train – carts, donkeys, horses, dogs, and troops – pulling supplies to the front. Bill and the paratroopers with him wiped them out.

“For so many soldiers, the first brush with combat can be traumatic. Not so for Bill. ‘People ask if the first kill is hard. It was easy as squashing a bug. I released a lot of anger – it was kill or be killed, period.’

“As daylight broke, Bill and his mishmash of men got close to the shore. They came across a German gun emplacement containing four 105mm cannons pointed right down Causeway No. 2 onto Utah Beach. They had not been briefed about these guns because Allied planners did not know about them. Additionally, the

sides of the road were flooded and mined, which would have forced Allied troops coming off the beach to march unknowingly right into the line of fire of these guns. Those guns would have killed hundreds, if not thousands of Americans. They could have endangered the invasion.

“Bill and ten other men from Easy Company knew they had to take them out. The guns were embedded in a long, winding L-shaped trench system. And they had no idea how many Germans were in there.

“Easy Company stealthily set up on three sides of the gun emplacement, then opened up mortar and machine gun fire to keep the German heads down while Bill and two other men sprinted across an open field and towards the trenches. They made it in, and immediately started lobbing grenades towards the Germans so the other eight men could sprint across the field and join them in the trenches. Then they pushed down the trench, shooting the whole way. They needed just fifteen to twenty seconds to take the first gun, chasing Germans down the trenches, though one of the Americans was mauled by a grenade but would live.



June 7th, 1944 in the square of Sainte-Marie-du-Mont, Paratroopers of “Easy” Company, 2nd Battalion, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division pose with three Soldiers (behind) that came from Utah Beach.

“Crouching down as continuous German machine gun fire sprayed the top of the trench, they took out the second gun next. The men were now running low on ammo and radioed for more, then set off for the third gun. Private John D. Hall from Company A had joined the group. Here he got his head above the trench and was killed instantly by a German sniper. Bill said ‘Nothing we could do. Wrong place, wrong time. You thank God it's not you, and you wonder if you're next, but you don't have time to think about it. You learn real fast about war. Men drop dead right in front of you, and you better keep moving. You don't get used to it, believe me. Later, when you're alone with your thoughts, you can think back to all the men you lost, and then it hits you.’

“But Bill didn't have time for that now. Men from D, or ‘Dog’ Company showed up, and while men from Easy Company blew the barrels of the three cannons they had captured in case the Germans re-took the trench, D Company went after the fourth gun. But Bill was so gung-ho he joined Dog Company to take out the fourth gun

too, covering from the rear. They lost two more men, but they took that final gun.

"The men found a map detailing where all of the German gun emplacements were along the Cotentin Peninsula – a major intelligence breakthrough that would save countless lives. They forwarded it to headquarters so they could begin devising plans to neutralize those guns to get the invading troops off the beach as safely as possible.

"With the four guns disabled, they withdrew. Bill fell asleep as soon as he sat down. 'We were awake for two days at that point and had nine or ten hours of straight combat – I was thankful to come out alive. It took my body a long time to stop shaking. I don't know how I made it. Never thought I'd last one day. If I could make it through D-Day being as stupid as I was, then maybe I could make it one more day. When the events of the day started to sink in, I thought I done a good job, accomplished the mission, got out alive. If you get most of your men in and out alive, you done a good job.'

"As Bill fell asleep for a quick, but much-needed rest, men from Utah Beach began marching down the causeway he had helped clear to begin the liberation of Europe in earnest. Their lives were spared from the wrath of those four 105mm German guns because of the heroism of Bill Guarnere and the men of Easy Company.

"It took a week for all of Easy Company to get organized from the air drop and begin moving forward into France. But once they got moving, they were unstoppable. Bill fought all the way through Europe until he lost his leg at the Battle of the Bulge. What was left of Easy Company kept going after that, liberating concentration camps, and ending the war all the way in the Austrian Alps in the 'Eagles Nest', Hitler's personal hideout.

*Ref: National D-Day Memorial Museum, www.dday.org; photos available online.

- Practice gratitude toward others, even for the little things.
- Go out with friends.
- Practice self-acceptance ... look for the positives in life.
- Set goals. Accomplishing a goal, no matter how small, boosts your sense of purpose and overall satisfaction.

Finally, as you go through life, if you think you need help, ASK FOR IT! There is no shame in checking in for a mental

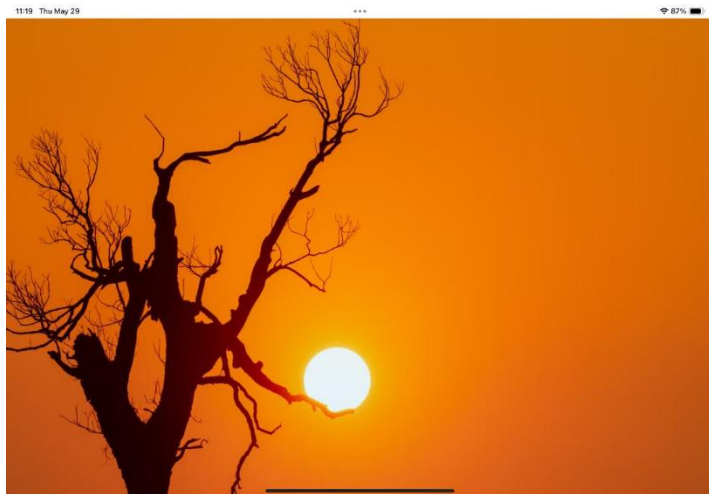


evaluation. Just talking through your perceptions and problems with a mental health specialist can often turn things around. Live life to the fullest!

+ SAFETY CORNER + **JULY IS HOT WEATHER SAFETY MONTH**



For July, let us focus on Surviving Hot Weather! We are well into the notorious semi-tropical coastal wetlands summer heat. No matter if we are working in the yard, lounging at the beach or pool, or engaging in summer sports, we are at the mercy of Mother Nature, and her desire to warm the planet. (For us more experienced/older adults, we are at increased risk as our mature bodies find it harder to regulate our temperature.)



The best way to cool off in the Tidewater summer is ... AC! Unfortunately, that means we are limited to indoor activities. To cope with the outdoors, there are several things we can do.

- Dress in lightweight, loose clothing. Wear a hat.

+ SAFETY CORNER + **JUNE IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**



June means that summer is upon us, and we are looking forward to fun with family and friends. To really enjoy the fun and games, we need a good attitude. And we must be in our best mental health!

Mental Health Awareness ... this means more than being aware of the mental disorders that can affect us or the ones that we love or care for. For any of us, we may just experience episodes of slight depression, the "blahs", or "just not enjoying life".

There are things we can do to help us maintain that feeling of happiness and fulfillment. Try to emphasize the positive aspects of your life ... your family, your accomplishments, your friends. Boost that emotional wellness quotient. Some specifics strategies are:

- Exercise regularly, eat well, and limit caffeine or alcohol.
- Do activities you enjoy, like sports, fishing, or reading.

- Drink fluids even if you are not thirsty. Water is best ... beer is not.
- Work or play in short sessions, resting often.
- Don't take salt tablets. You are already low on fluids. Drink fruit juice or sports drinks to replenish electrolytes (yes, salt is one).

Watch out for yourself and others. Be aware of early signs of heat exhaustion. Pale or ashen moist skin is obvious. Muscle cramps start when electrolytes get low. Soon you will notice weaknesses, dizziness, and headaches. The heart rate increases to try to shunt blood to the brain and internal organs. Nausea kicks in. Time to call 911. Move the individual to a cool or shaded spot. Wet clothes applied to the armpits and groin areas will help cool the body.

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

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, Kimball Thompson, Carl Dozier, Summer Logue and Chuck Wolff
- **Membership/Recruiting Committee:** Bob Gregory, Susan Vitale, José Vazquez, and Dan Eaker
- **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 jpetereson310@gmail.com.

JUNE MILITARY HISTORY

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 1774 British close Port of Boston in punishment for "Tea Party"</p> <p>1862 Battle of Seven Pines: Confederate Gen. Joe Johnston wounded, relinquishes command to Robert E. Lee</p> <p>1864 Battle of Cold Harbor, Day 1</p> <p>1866 Fenians attack Fort Erie, Ontario, from US soil</p> <p>1871 US Sailors & Marines land in Korea, to protect U.S. citizens</p> <p>1877 US troops authorized to pursue bandits & Indians into Mexico</p> <p>1914 SecNav Josephus Daniels' G.O. 99 bars alcohol in fleet</p> <p>1939 Director of Naval Research Laboratory, proposes research in atomic energy for use in subs</p> <p>1944 Allied forces begin covering much of Britain with smoke screens, as troops crowd assembly areas for D-Day</p> <p>2 Feast of St. Elmo, Patron of Sailors</p> <p>1774 Parliament passes Quartering Act, billeting troops in private homes</p> <p>1784 Congress disbands last elements of Continental Army, save for 100 troops guarding supplies at West Point and Ft. Pitt</p> <p>1865 Confederate Trans-Mississippi Department surrenders to Union forces</p> <p>1914 Glenn Curtiss flies his 'Langley Aerodrome'</p> <p>3 1784 Congress creates US Army, forming 1st American Regt (now 3rd Infantry) on a cadre of 100 troops left over from Continental Army</p> <p>1916 Congress establishes ROTC (based on Norwich Univ. program)</p> <p>1942 Planes from two Imperial Japanese aircraft carriers bomb Dutch Harbor, a U.S. Naval base in the Aleutian Islands, Alaska.</p> <p>1959 First US Air Force Academy graduation</p> <p>1965 First American "spacewalk", Maj. Edward White, Gemini 4</p> <p>4 1789 Constitution of United States goes into effect</p> <p>1918 US & French halt Germans at Chateau-Thierry</p> <p>1942 Battle of Midway: Japanese lose four CVs, USS Yorktown severely damaged</p> <p>1944 Allied forces liberate Rome</p> <p>5 1917 US begins draft registration: 10 million eventually sign up</p> <p>1944 First B-29 raid over Tokyo; one lost to engine failure</p> <p>1947 SecState George C Marshall outlines "Marshall Plan"</p> <p>1967 Six Day War begins between Israel & Arab neighbors</p> <p>6 1898 Marines land at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba</p> <p>1898 Action at Santiago, Cuba: US ships exchange fire with Spanish batteries</p> <p>1918 US Marines secure Belleau Wood</p> <p>1942 Aleutian Campaign: Japanese troops occupy Kiska Island, Alaska.</p> <p>1944 D-Day – www.strategypage.com/cic/docs/cic174b.asp#three</p> <p>1944 Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., earns Medal of Honor on Utah Beach</p> <p>1945 Okinawa: Marines capture Naha airfield</p> <p>7 1775 "United Colonies" change name to "United States"</p> <p>1912 US Army Air Service tests an airplane-mounted machine gun</p> <p>1917 Liverpool: first American troops reach Europe</p> <p>1942 Aleutians Campaign: Japanese troops land and occupy Attu in the Aleutian Islands.</p> <p>1942 Midway Campaign: 'Yorktown' (CV-5) sunk</p> <p>8 1965 US troops ordered to fight offensively in Vietnam</p> <p>1967 Israeli air and naval forces attack USS 'Liberty' (AGTR-5), 34 Americans die</p> <p>9 1863 Battle of Brandy Station; largest cavalry fight of Civil War</p> | <p>1944 Normandy: U.S. VII & V Corps link up to form continuous beachhead</p> <p>1945 Luzon: Sixth Army manages to isolate Japanese forces.</p> <p>1945 Premier Kantaro Suzuki declares Japan will never surrender</p> <p>1959 First ballistic missile sub launched, USS 'George Washington' (SSBN-598)</p> <p>10 1776 Congress appoints committee to write a Declaration of Independence</p> <p>1801 Tripoli declares war on US, for refusing to pay protection, initiating First Barbary War (1801-1805)</p> <p>12 1987 Ronald Reagan says, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."</p> <p>1999 NATO peacekeeping forces begin operating in Kosovo, Yugoslavia</p> <p>13 1900 Boxer Rebellion begins in China</p> <p>1912 First successful parachute jump from airplane, Capt Albert Berry, Jefferson, MS</p> <p>14 1775 US Army formed from New England forces before Boston</p> <p>1777 Congress replaces "Grand Union Flag" with "Stars & Stripes"</p> <p>1777 John Paul Jones takes command of USS 'Ranger'</p> <p>1942 Bazooka goes into production at Bridgeport, Ct</p> <p>1949 State of Vietnam formed within 'French Union' under Emperor Bao Dai</p> <p>1982 Falklands: Argentines surrender to Britain; 74-day war ends</p> <p>1985 Lebanese Shiite gunmen hijack TWA 847 after takeoff from Athens</p> <p>15 1776 Americans burn and abandon Montreal</p> <p>1864 Battle of Petersburg: Grant's first assault</p> <p>1864 Robert E Lee's home, Arlington, becomes military cemetery</p> <p>1877 Henry O Flipper becomes first black cadet to graduate from West Point</p> <p>1944 US Marines land on Saipan</p> <p>1955 First nationwide civil defense drill - "Duck and Cover!"</p> <p>1978 Soyuz 29 carries two cosmonauts to Salyut 6, to stay 139 days</p> <p>1991 Mt Pinatubo, Philippines erupts, closes Clark Air Force Base</p> <p>16 1858 Lincoln says "A house divided against itself cannot stand"</p> <p>1864 Siege of Petersburg & Richmond begins</p> <p>17 1745 American colonials capture Louisburg, Cape Breton I., from French</p> <p>1775 Battle of Bunker Hill (Breeds' Hill)</p> <p>1777 19-year-old Marquis de La Fayette (Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier) & several other French volunteers for American Revolution land at Charleston</p> <p>1898 Navy Hospital Corps ("Corpsmen") established</p> <p>1916 Pershing leads Punitive Expedition into Mexico in unsuccessful attempt to kill Pancho Villa</p> <p>1945 Final Japanese defensive line on Okinawa breached</p> <p>1965 Vietnam: First B-52 raid, 50 km north of Saigon</p> <p>1972 Watergate: Republican operatives break into Democratic Party offices at Watergate Hotel in Washington</p> <p>18 1778 British evacuate Philadelphia</p> <p>1812 US declares war against Britain</p> <p>1878 Congress creates US Life Saving Service ("Coast Guard")</p> <p>19 1778 Washington's troops leave Valley Forge</p> <p>1878 Congress passes Posse Comitatus Act, to prevent military from enforcing civil rights laws</p> |
|--|---|

- 1944 "Marianas Turkey Shoot" - Battle of Philippine Sea: in 2 days Japanese lose 3 CVs, 426 a/c, US 70 a/c.
- 1967 Muhammad Ali convicted of refusing induction into Army
- 20 1675 Wampanoag Indians raid Swansea, Mass., initiating "King Philip's War" (1675-1676)
- 1782 Congress adopts Great Seal of United States
- 1813 War of 1812: US gunboats engage three British ships at Hampton Roads, VA
- 1867 US buys Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million
- 1941 US Army Air Corps is reorganized as Army Air Forces
- 1947 Cold War: Congress charts CIA
- 1963 Cold War: Washington-Moscow "hot line" established
- 21 1876 Gen Terry sends Custer's 7th Cav to scout Little Bighorn River
- 1948 Berlin Airlift begins
- 22 1938 Joe "Brown Bomber" Louis KO's Max "Hitler's Heavyweight" Schmeling at 2:04 into their rematch, in Yankee Stadium
- 1942 US introduces "V-Mail" for military personnel
- 1944 FDR signs "Servicemen's Readjustment Act", better known as "GI Bill of Rights"
- 1945 Okinawa secured: 110,000 Japanese troops, 100,000 civilians, 17,520 US troops died
- 23 1938 Congress establishes US Maritime Service
- 25 1864 Petersburg: Union troops begin a tunnel under Confederate lines
- 1876 Battle of Little Big Horn: Crazy Horse does in Custer
- 1942 Eisenhower takes command of US forces in Europe
- 1950 North Korea invades South Korea. claiming "self-defense"
- 1996 Dhahran, Saudi Arabia: Islamists bomb Khobar Towers, 19 Americans die, 500 Saudis & Americans injured
- 26 1917 First American combat troops arrive in France
- 1924 US Marines leave Dominican Republic, after 8 years of occupation
- 1963 Berlin: Kennedy's "Ich bin ein Berliner" is wildly applauded
- 27 1927 USMC adopts "Sgt Jiggs," an English bulldog, as its mascot
- 1950 US sends 35 military advisers to South Vietnam
- 28 1948 Berlin Airlift begins
- 1965 President Johnson orders US ground forces to Vietnam
- 29 1863 Lee orders his forces to concentrate near Gettysburg
- 1945 Operation Olympic: Truman sets invasion of Japan for Nov 1st

JULY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 1: Lee wins, but Union troops fall back on very strong positions
- 1864 Battle of Petersburg (to July 31)
- 1867 Dominion of Canada formed
- 1870 James W Smith becomes first black man to enter West Point
- 1918 Marines secure Belleau Wood
- 1950 First US ground troops arrive in Korea
- 2 1776 Continental Congress declares Thirteen Colonies independent
- 1777 Vermont abolishes slavery, first "state" to do so
- 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 2: A draw
- 1903 US leases Guantanamo Bay from Cuba for \$2,000 a year
- 1926 US Army Air Corps established and Congress authorizes Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1942 JCS authorize "Operation Watchtower," seizure of Guadalcanal
- 1957 'Seawolf' (SSN 575) completed, first sub with liquid metal cooled reactor
- 3 1754 Col. George Washington (22) surrenders Ft. Mifflin to French
- 1775 George Washington assumes command of Patriot forces investing Boston
- 1863 Battle Gettysburg, Day 3: "Pickett's Charge" is shattered
- 1950 First US-North Korean clash: TF Smith overrun
- 1988 USS 'Vincennes' (CG-49) accidentally shoots down Iranian airliner, 290 die
- 4 1776 Independence Day: Two days after voting for independence, Continental Congress adopts formal "Declaration of Independence"
- 1777 John Paul Jones hoists Stars and Stripes on USS Ranger, Portsmouth, NH
- 1801 1st Presidential Review of Marine Band and Marines, at White House.
- 1802 US Military Academy opens at West Point
- 1818 Congress rules flag shall have 13 stripes and one star for each state
- 1832 Samuel Francis Smith's "America" sung in public for first time
- 1863 Vicksburg surrenders to US Grant
- 1942 First American bombing mission over Nazi-occupied Europe
- 1942 American Volunteer Group ("Flying Tigers") becomes 14th AF
- 1950 Carriers USS 'Valley Forge' (CV-45) & HMS 'Triumph' make first UN air strikes of Korean War
- 5 1814 Battle of Chippewa: "Those are regulars, by God!"
- 1814 US Sloop-of-War 'Peacock' captures four British ships
- 1861 Skirmish at Newport News: US retakes Gosport Naval Base
- 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 5: Lee retreats
- 6 1777 Burgoyne's British & Hessians capture Fort Mifflin
- 1785 Congress introduces dollar
- 1911 First naval air station established, Annapolis, MD
- 1976 Women admitted to US Naval Academy for first time
- 7 1846 Commodore John D. Sloat takes Monterey, claims California for US
- 1920 USN aircraft tests "radio compass", Norfolk, VA
- 1941 Iceland: US Marines relieve British forces so they can fight elsewhere
- 1944 Saipan: Japanese troops make final "banzai" charge
- 1944 US B-29s from China attack Japan.
- 1966 Marines initiate "Operation Hasting" - to clear NVA from DMZ
- 8 1853 Commodore Perry sails frigate Susquehanna into Tokyo Bay
- 1865 C.E. Barnes receives US patent for machine gun
- 1945 TF38 arrives off Japan with 20 carriers; to stay until war is over
- 1950 Douglas MacArthur named CinC UN forces in Korea
- 9 1755 Braddock's Defeat: Battle of Monongahela - Daniel Boone is wagon driver
- 1776 Declaration of Independence read to Washington's troops in NY, whereupon citizens pull down George III's statue to make musket balls
- 1918 Congress establishes Distinguished Service Cross
- 1944 US secures Saipan: 3,200 US, 27,000 Japanese KIA, & many civilian suicides

- 10** 1821 US takes possession of Florida from Spain
 1943 Operation Husky: US & Commonwealth forces invade Sicily
 1953 American troops abandon Pork Chop Hill, Korea
- 11** 1786 US pays Morocco \$10,000 to "protect" merchant ships from piracy
 1798 Congress reactivates USMC, disbanded in 1784
 1812 US invades Canada near Detroit
 1919 US Navy Pay Corps becomes Supply Corps
 1943 USN surface ships break German-Italian tank attack at Gela, Sicily
 1955 USAF Academy opens with 300 cadets at Lowry AFB, CO
- 12** 1942 U-Boat lands four German saboteurs on Long Island, soon captured
- 14** 1813 Lt John M. Gamble, becomes only US Marine to command a ship, prize 'Greenwich'
 1825 Lafayette reviews 2nd Bn, 11th NY Arty (7th NY), which adopts name "National Guard"
 1900 "China Relief Expedition" captures Tientsin from Boxers
 1959 First nuclear-powered cruiser commissioned, USS 'Long Beach' (CGN 9)
 1972 Vietnam: Jane Fonda makes first of 10 broadcasts on Radio Hanoi.
- 15** 1958 Marines land in Lebanon, to support government
- 16** 1861 Bull Run Campaign: Gen McDowell advances from Washington toward Fairfax Courthouse
- 17** 1927 USMC pilots conduct first combat dive bombing, Ocotol, Nicaragua.
- 18** 1863 54th Mass. leads gallant attempt to storm Fort Wagner, near Charleston
 1914 US Army Air Service formed within Signal Corps
 1944 US troops capture St. Lo, Normandy
- 19** 1812 1st Battle of Sackett's Harbor: Americans beat off British attack across Lake Erie
 1886 'Atlanta' commissioned, first USN steel cruiser
 1897 Lt Robert E. Peary departs on year-long Arctic Expedition
- 20** 1881 Sioux leader Sitting Bull surrenders to federal troops
 1942 Congress creates Legion of Merit
 1942 First WAACs begin basic training
 1944 Marines land on Guam.
 1948 US reinstitutes draft, for Cold War
- 21** 1823 Lt David G. Farragut leads raid to destroy pirate base in Cuba
 1861 First Battle of Bull Run/Manassas: Confederate Victory
- 1930 Veterans' Administration established
 1969 Neil Armstrong's "small step" on moon - 2:56:15 AM GMT
- 22** 1802 US Frigate 'Constellation' defeats 9 corsair gunboats off Tripoli
 1905 Remains of John Paul Jones removed from Paris for transportation to Annapolis
 1943 Patton captures Palermo
 1987 USN begins escorting re-flagged Kuwaiti tankers in Persian Gulf
- 23** 1944 US forces land on Japanese-held Tinian from nearby Saipan
- 24** 1948 Soviets initiate blockade of Berlin
 1969 Muhammad Ali convicted of refusing induction in US Army
- 25** 1866 David G. Farragut appointed first Admiral in US Navy
 1866 US Grant is named first full general in US Army
 1947 US Army, Navy, & Air Force subordinated to new DoD
- 26** 1948 Truman initiates integration of Armed Forces
- 27** 1909 Orville Wright demonstrates plane for Army, flying 72 minutes
 1953 North Korea & UN sign armistice
 1954 Armistice divides Vietnam in two
 1995 Korean War Veterans Memorial dedicated in Washington
- 28** 1898 Skirmish at Ponce, Puerto Rico, which shortly surrenders to US
- 28** 1914 Austria-Hungary attacks Serbia, igniting WW I
 1931 Congress makes "Star-Spangled Banner" national anthem
 1932 Douglas MacArthur routs Bonus Army against orders
 1945 Kamikaze sink their last ship, USS 'Callaghan' (DD-792), off Okinawa.
 1945 US Army B-25 crashes into 79th floor of Empire State Bldg, 14 die
- 29** 1949 Berlin Airlift ends, as Soviets end blockade
 1967 Fire aboard USS 'Forrestal' (CV-59), Gulf of Tonkin, 134 killed
- 30** 1864 Petersburg Campaign: Battle of Crater
 1909 US Army accepts delivery of first military airplane
 1942 WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) created
 1945 USS 'Indianapolis' (CA-35) torpedoed & sunk; nearly 900 die over next 4 days
 1966 US airplanes bomb demilitarized zone in Vietnam
- 31** 1777 Marquis de Lafayette becomes major-general in Continental Army
 1813 British attack Plattsburgh, NY
 1925 Last Allied occupation forces leave Rhineland

POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u>JUNE '25</u>	
6	D-Day: Allied Invasion of Europe 1944
7	Flag Retirement Ceremony American Legion Post 280
9	Post Staff Meeting, Post HQ
11	Post Meeting/
14	U.S. Army Founded (1775) Flag Day
15	Fathers Day
20	Summer begins

<u>JULY '25</u>	
2	U.S. Army Air Corps Established (1926)
4	Independence Day
5	South Norfolk 4 th of July Parade Post 4 th of July Party
7	Post Staff Meeting, Post HQ
9	Post Meeting, Post HQ