

## 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.



Post 2894

### Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month – 7:00 pm  
Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge,  
110 Kempsville Rd, Chesapeake, VA

### Post Address:

VFW Post 2894  
PO Box 15842  
Chesapeake, VA 23328

Email: [cdrpost2894@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost2894@vfwva.org)

Visit us on FaceBook



### POST OFFICERS

Commander..... Chris Mulholland  
Sr. Vice Commander..... José Vazquez  
Jr. Vice Commander..... Bob Gregory  
Adjutant..... Matt Hostettlar  
Quartermaster..... Mike Kust  
Chaplain..... Kimball Thompson  
Surgeon..... Dave Weber  
Staff Judge Advocate..... Matt Hamel  
Service Officer..... Jim Ireland

### AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President..... Sandy Dunbar  
Sr. Vice President..... Christina Zinn  
Jr. Vice President..... Bea Oakley  
Secretary..... Barbara Mulholland  
Treasurer..... Donna Kust  
Chaplain..... Diane Hostettlar  
Conductress..... Anne Thompson  
Guard..... Jean Dozier  
Patriotic Instructor..... Kevin Mulholland

### NATIONAL

[www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

### STATE

[www.vfwva.org](http://www.vfwva.org)

### VFW VA DISTRICT 2

[www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2](http://www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2)



## 2021 “VIRTUAL” BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK

Greetings All,

We at the Jonathan K. Dozier VFW Post 2894 are pleased to announce registration began Saturday 13 February, 2021 for our Virtual Bataan Death March (BDM) Memorial Walk/Run. We of course would prefer to have our live event at the Dismal Swamp Trail, but Covid has made that undoable this year. So we are going virtual. This opens up the opportunity to participate wherever you are and with all of your family and friends. Just go to our registration page and sign up for the virtual 1, 5 or 16 mile walk or run.

Covid has had a big effect on us all, but our post has continued to support our veterans and their widows in the Tidewater Area. The BDM is our post biggest fundraiser as well as being a great family friendly event. We would love to have you and everyone you know participate. We truly would like maximum participation from people of all ages. This is a good time to get the family outside and away from computer screens. The BDM is self-paced, you can spread your walks or runs out over the

next two months. Challenge family, friend coworkers to the 16 miler.



Our Post is blessed with a large family of returning supporters, volunteers and marchers, we ask you spread the word and take part this year. Of course we are looking for sponsors and donations, but we would really like to see pictures, videos and posts of you walking or running in your own BDM. We have already had participants who have ridden stationary – as well as real – bikes, treadmill runners, and we've heard that there may be some swimmers!

Please share this information and accept our thanks for taking part as a member of our extended family.

*(continued on page 43)*

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Lots of local events have already been cancelled including the Chesapeake Jubilee but we will survive and thrive! Our mission of helping veterans and their families continues on, covid or no covid. In this newsletter you'll read about a couple of recent projects that our erstwhile Jim Ireland coordinated for us to help two disabled veterans in dire need. That's what this Post is about and why we exist!



Well, we're almost there! *We are well on the way to making our SIXTH All-American Post status in a row!* We have successfully completed all our requirements for the year except for membership. As I write this, we still need 11 more new members. If you know of anyone

who is eligible for the VFW and would like to give back to the community while helping veterans, please encourage them to consider joining our Post.

Additionally, the Auxiliary needs just a couple more to achieve their recognition. Let's help them out by talking them up. Anyone who is related to a combat vet as child/grandchild, spouse, sibling, parent/grandparent is eligible.

Our biggest event of the year – our annual **Bataan Death March Memorial Walk** – has already started! This year's event is "virtual" – participants can take part wherever they are, however they want (walk, run, bike, swim, erg, etc.), whenever they want (until 17 Apr), all at once or over a period of time, and receive t-shirts and medals in recognition of their success. We have already had interest expressed from around the world.

The purpose of this annual walk is to honor and remember all those who endured one of the most harrowing events in US and Filipino history. Our goal is to ensure that the sacrifices of the greatest generation are not forgotten.

We should all be supporting our own event so I'm asking everyone to sign up and register for this. Because it's "virtual" this year, we're not asking for your physical assistance on-site, but we'd appreciate your moral and financial assistance! The registration site is: <https://walkchesapeake.wixsite.com/chesapeakebataan/register>. Be sure to share the registration link and the attached poster with everyone you know!

Our annual election of Post officers for the coming fraternal year (1 July-30 June) will be held at our meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>. We have an outstanding slate of nominees

thanks to John Guill and the names were presented at our March meeting:

Commander	José Vazquez
Senior Vice Cdr	Bob Gregory
Junior Vice Cdr	Mark Rios
Quartermaster	Craig Devonshire
Chaplain	Kimball Thompson
1 Year Trustee	Brad Waters
2 Year Trustee	John Guill
3 Year Trustee	Carl Dozier

If you are interested in holding an elected or appointed office, there's still time to throw your hat in the ring.

Our annual Post Awards Ceremony is on May 12<sup>th</sup>. We will be inviting a number of dignitaries from around the area to attend and help honor our award winners.

This Memorial Day, don't forget to set aside the weekend of 22-23 May for the Buddy Poppy Drive (we hope), and the 31<sup>st</sup> for the ceremony in front of City Hall.

Lastly I want to thank everyone who made our March meeting so much fun. From Becky Waters who outdid herself with the cake and cupcakes, to her husband Brad for the incredible coin display holder, and to my wife, Barbara, who organized the surprise party. I was humbled, silenced, and overcome with your friendship, camaraderie, and love. I can't thank all of you enough. Money doesn't make a man rich – friends do!

And, as always, Bravo Zulu to all of you for your service to our country! Semper Fidelis!

*Chris Mulholland, Commander*

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from the Auxiliary. We hope everyone is well and staying safe.

On February 27<sup>th</sup> Grace Schweers and Sandy Dunbar worked with Post Members from 2894, 993, US Veterans Reserve Corp. and Allen Loree (contractor) getting Ron Kavitsky's home ready for him to come home. Ron came home on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Members from the Auxiliary started walking on February 25<sup>th</sup> at the Dismal Swamp for the Bataan Death March. We are trying to meet weekly to reach our goal of 16 miles each. Some of the members have already met their goal.



Great Job Everyone.

March 5<sup>th</sup>, the Auxiliary provided desserts for the VFW Auxiliary National President's visit that was held at Post 392. Sandi was very interested in how the Auxiliaries are doing and what challenges we are experiencing. Both Sandi and Maggie (Department Auxiliary President) offered a few suggestions for recruiting Members.



Thank You for all you do for the Veterans!  
*Sandy Dunbar, President*

remember those who died while serving in the military.

Over the past 50 years, the nature of war and the composition of the military have not changed significantly, despite the ending of the draft and inclusion of women into combat roles. A small segment of society bears the burden, and the desire to collectively mourn those lost in service remains powerful. Memorial Day offers an opportunity to celebrate the perseverance of those who have endured such losses and know the real meaning of the holiday all too well.

A half century ago, a family and community gathered to honor the sacrifice of one of the more than 58,000 American soldiers killed in Vietnam. Just after Thanksgiving 1969, Marine Sgt. Clive Garcia Jr., who hailed from Morenci, Ariz., tried to defuse an enemy booby-trap. But, something went wrong, and he died in the blast.

A few weeks later, on Dec. 14, his family, friends and the Morenci community gathered at the Holy Cross Catholic Church on a dreary day where clouds barely topped the always belching smelter smokestacks. Reporters from ABC News and Time observed the funeral, tying it to five other deaths in a group of nine soldiers including Garcia who left for boot camp in July 1966.

It was solemn affair, with tears flowing freely. Garcia's parents and three siblings listened as the popular Irish-born Father Cornelius McGrenra talked about sacrifice and grief.

Soon after, at the gravesite, mourners gathered. The family laid Garcia to rest next to his friend, Robert Moncayo, whose body he had accompanied home in June 1968. At the end, Garcia's mother, Julia, sitting next to his fiancée, Susie Hibbard, rose to say: "Thank you for being my son. Oh, my dear boy, thank you so much." A reporter noted: "And so Sgt. Garcia, U.S. Marine Corps, was laid to rest in the rocky, red earth he loved so well."

The following day, Julia Garcia sat down for an interview with ABC, talking about Garcia and his friends who also died in Vietnam. She concluded: "I thank God for lending him to me. I had him so long, 22 years, and now God wants him back."

After the public scrutiny ended, Garcia's loss never left his family or friends. Morenci erected memorials to him and his friends who joined together, including one outside the new high school built in the 1980s.

But, he and the others remained frozen in time while family and friends aged. In particular, the three who returned from the group bore survivor's guilt, trying to understand why they survived when their friends did not. Holidays were especially hard, and

## The Real Meaning of Memorial Day

**Families that endure the loss of service members deserve a day of collective remembrance**



*Pam Barba pauses at her parent's grave while visiting Leavenworth National Cemetery on May 23 in Leavenworth, Kan. (Charlie Riedel/AP)*

*by Kyle Longley, May 24, 2020 at 6:00 a.m. EDT*

In normal times, for most Americans, Memorial Day conjures up the start of summer — beach and lake trips, barbecues, pool time, warm weather. Many don't even stop to think about the purpose of the holiday. And those who do sometimes confuse Memorial Day with other holidays honoring veterans. But, with covid-19 leaving many Americans stuck at home or unable to enjoy these usual holiday celebrations, this might be an opportunity to recall that Memorial Day is actually intended to be a day to

even 51 years later, a mix of pride blended with the sorrow of loss.

Garcia's death was far from unique in American history as highlighted by his name's place on the Vietnam Memorial (Panel 16W, Line 124) with so many thousands of others.

The war in Vietnam was fought primarily by the working class and lower middle class, mostly young men barely beyond their teens, often led by college-educated officers. The draft snared many or coerced others to join before they received their draft notices, and many followed in the footsteps of their fathers who served in World War II. But, this war proved much more divisive, and they returned home to a country bitterly divided over it. The deaths of more than 58,000 service members like Clive Garcia were nonetheless as painful as those of America's preceding wars. And American service member deaths did not stop after the United States departed from Vietnam in 1973.

Since the attack on Sept. 11, 2001, about 6,800 Americans have died in Afghanistan and Iraq. By 2001, the military itself had transformed into an all-volunteer force supplemented by the National Guard that continued to draw many of its members from the working and lower middle class (although typically older in this war). These service members were driven by economic necessities and opportunity, patriotism after 9/11 and a tradition of military service in families. Increasingly, women joined them, a significant number from the same strata of society.

While the class composition of the military hadn't changed from Vietnam, Americans coming of age in the new millennium witnessed caskets arriving in large numbers from combat zones for the first time. One of those caskets was that of a Navy SEAL and U.S. Naval Academy graduate, Lt. Brendan Looney. He died when his helicopter crashed on Sept. 21, 2010, in Afghanistan. He was on his last mission.

His widow, Amy, who he'd married just one day before he shipped out, struggled with the loss. But she had support, including the parents of his good friend, Travis Manion, who had died in Iraq several years earlier.

She asked the Manions to reinter Travis to Arlington National Cemetery. She wanted Looney lying next to his college roommate in Section 60, which increasingly had become the final resting place for many who died in Afghanistan and Iraq. For the Looneys, it was not far from their home in the D.C. suburbs, and it connected their sacrifice to those which other families had endured over the previous century and a half.

A few days before Looney's burial, the Manion family honored the request and reburied their son.

Then on Oct. 4, 2010, more than 4,000 people lined the cemetery streets as six white horses pulled a carriage moving Looney's casket. There, Defense Secretary Robert Gates stood alongside members of Looney's SEAL team, noting: "Your men have to follow your orders. They don't have to go to your funeral." But in Looney's case, they did show up.

As they prepared to lower the body into the ground in Section 60, a gun salute interrupted the sobbing followed by SEALs pounding more than 50 tridents into the casket. The family, including Looney's two brothers, stood by their parents grieving the loss. As a close friend approached Amy, she repeatedly said: "No regrets. No regrets."

There may not have been regrets, but just like for the Garcias and their friends in an earlier generation, the pain of loss will remain with them.

The sorrow will intertwine with pride of service and sacrifice. President Barack Obama visited Section 60 on Memorial Day 2011. He told the stories of the two Naval Academy roommates and concluded, "Warriors for freedom," reads the epitaph written by Manion's father. "Brothers forever."

Many others have joined Garcia and Looney in their final resting places as a result of military service throughout American history. Separated by four decades, however, these Gold Star families never will forget them, nor will many friends and comrades.

Memorial Day is a chance not only to remember the hundreds of thousands who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country, but also their families and friends who continue to grieve. It is a significant burden to bear and Memorial Day has a special meaning for them.

*Kyle Longley is the Snell Family Dean's distinguished professor of history and political science at Arizona State University, whose books include the edited works "Deconstructing Reagan: Conservative Mythology" and "America's Fortieth President and Reagan and the World: Leadership and National Security, 1981-1989" (with Bradley Coleman).*

[www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2020/05/24/real-meaning-memorial-day/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2020/05/24/real-meaning-memorial-day/)

**"10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BATAAN DEATH  
MARCH MEMORIAL WALK,  
17 APR 2021**

We are going to post videos, photos, and stories of our VFW Team helping those who laid it on the line for us. There are some historic posts that you can use to explain the BDM to your children. On 17 April there will also be a live streamed closing ceremony.

Thanks and more to follow. De Oppresso Libre

Matt Schweers

BDM Coordinator

VFW Post 2894



Post 2894 Auxiliary members have already logged many miles in support of this year's BDM

Keep your calendar clear for the tenth annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. This will be a totally different type of event than we have held before. Due to the state's restrictions because of the Chinese flu, this will be a "virtual" event. We still plan on offering t-shirts, hope to have guest speakers like Dan Crowley join us on-line, and use this event to increase our presence in Chesapeake. Planning for this event is going fast and furious and we will provide information it comes out via email and Facebook.



Bob Gregory completed his 16 miles on a stationary bike "virtually" riding across Okinawa

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. We have three levels of sponsorship:

- **Legion of Merit Sponsor - \$1000** Donation: Large name or company logo on our tee shirts and banner as well as special recognition in media and in the closing ceremony.

- **Distinguished Service Sponsor - \$500** Donation: Name or company logo on our tee shirt and banners
- **Meritorious Service Sponsor - \$250** Donation: Name or company logo on our tee shirt

**10<sup>th</sup> Chesapeake Bataan Death March Medal Sponsors**

**Legion of Merit - \$1000**

**ITCDEFENSE**  
INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY & CULTURE

**C5BDI** Transtecs Corporation

**Distinguished Service - \$500**

**ITA** INTERNATIONAL

**State Farm**  
Andy Saunders

**Meritorious Service - \$250**

- Matthew R. Hamel, Esq.
- R. Stephen Best, Sr.
- Ron & Debbie Ritter
- José Vazquez

VFW SSG DOZIER MEMORIAL POST 2894

**VFW**  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
Post 2894

Here are our Medal Sponsors as of 14 March

You can find more information on the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/pages/Chesapeake-Bataan-Death-March/464188050284397](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Chesapeake-Bataan-Death-March/464188050284397)

**OTHER POST NEWS**

- **Matthew Zinn is Now a Sailor!** Matt, son of Auxiliary Sr. Vice President Christina and CPO Jimmy Zinn, completed basic training on December 17<sup>th</sup> and is has started his specialty training as an "MM" (Machinist Mate). He and his brothers Lucas and Jacob are all Eagle Scouts. His father Jimmy has 25 years in the Navy as a CMC (Construction Mechanic Chief Petty Officer). Congratulations to Matt and the family and good luck at your first duty station!



**• Post Auxiliary Member Commissioned in Army Reserves.**

Post Auxiliary member Chris Mulholland graduated from Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Benning, Georgia as an Honor Graduate on February 19<sup>th</sup> and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the US Army Reserves. He will be traveling to Fort Huachuca in July for his basic officer Military Intelligence course.



**• Post Assists with Clean-up and Remodel of Disabled Veteran's Home.**

About a year ago, Gary and Sandy Dunbar discovered a veteran living in squalid conditions in a group home. He was covered in bed sores – one of which had reached his bones. They called 911 who helped take him out of the home and the Dunbars talked the VA into accepting him for treatment. They were later



Demolishing the bathroom to prepare for remodeling

told that the vet was literally days away from dying if they hadn't removed him. The vet has his own home in Portsmouth but it was full of boxes and not accessible for the wheelchair that he now has to use permanently. To prepare the house for his return, Jim Ireland coordinated with VFW Post 993 Portsmouth to move 100's of boxes from the 1st floor to the 2<sup>nd</sup>; gut the bathroom for reconstruction; raise a ceiling to accommodate a wheelchair lift; widen 4 doorways; rework kitchen plumbing; reconfigure kitchen cabinets; arrange for a donated dumpster; and clean up the debris for contractors to come in and provide donated material and labor. Jim also steam-cleaned the carpets, and arranged for the donation of a hospital bed and a hooyer lift. The veteran finally returned home at the end of February after nearly a year in hospitals and nursing homes.

**• Post Comrade Serves as a Docent at Local Historical Museum.**

Post comrade Kimball Thompson is a member of the 7<sup>th</sup> Virginia, a group that participates in recreating the era of the American Revolution. Kimball is also a charter member of the Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways History Foundation. Combining these two interests, Kimball now serves as a docent at the museum, portraying the events of 1775 as "living actor" to visitors and school groups several days a week.



**• Post Service Officer Coordinates New Roof for Disabled Vet.**



[www.wtkr.com/news/army-vet-worried-about-deteriorating-roof-for-a-year-and-then-the-community-stepped-in-to-help](http://www.wtkr.com/news/army-vet-worried-about-deteriorating-roof-for-a-year-and-then-the-community-stepped-in-to-help)

**Community steps in to help Portsmouth Army Veteran with deteriorating roof**



Jim Ireland, COL, USA (ret), Service Officer, VFW Post 2894  
By: [Margaret Kavanagh](#). Posted at 2:08 PM, Mar 02, 2021

PORTSMOUTH, Va. – The community took action for an Army Veteran who has suffered from a leaky roof for about a year.

The roof to her Portsmouth home had major problems.

Danja Miller had pots and pans inside to catch the water.

Jim Ireland from the Chesapeake VFW 2894 Service Officer said Jason Hanbury, the Quartermaster of Portsmouth VFW Post 993, Habitat for Humanity South Hampton Roads, Superior Distribution and the SRS Raise the Roof Foundation all got together to fix the problems at her home.

They pooled their resources and Tuesday showed up to give her a new roof.

"I will never forget it," said Miller, "Service to my country comes back to serve me. Can you believe this? Come back to help me."

Miller said she served 10 and half years as a Motor Transport Operator for the Army and has traveled all over the U.S. and the world.

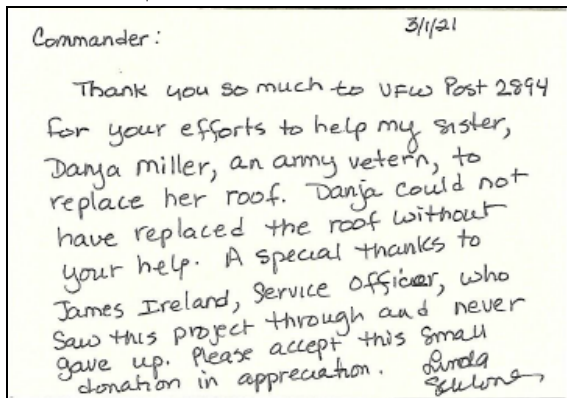
She pulled out her uniform from the closet and held it with pride as she showed us her memorabilia from different deployments.



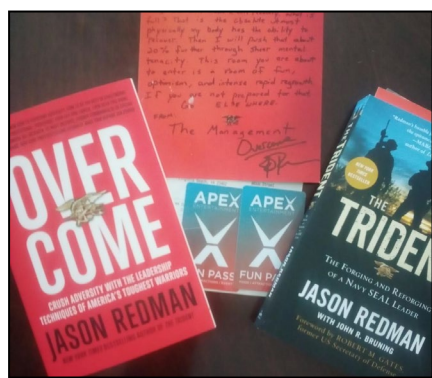
Photo by: Jim Ireland

Miller said the generosity from the different groups is overwhelming.

The Post received a very nice card from the veteran's sister as well as a \$100 donation:



**• Post Comrade Donated Gift Bags to Children of Vets.**



Post comrade Jay Redmond donated two gift bags to the children of veterans. Each bag contained two autographed books authored by Jay, a copy of the Bethesda Hospital sign that first gained him fame, and two gift cards worth \$150 to a local game arcade. One of the



kids is recovering from a recent surgery that removed a tumor from his hip. Thanks Jay!

**• Post Comrade Teaches Martial Arts to Disabled Child.** Post comrade Nelson Lebron is a champion ultimate fighter who gives back

by teaching kids martial arts and self-defense. In February he took on the challenge of teaching a young disabled child in a wheelchair.

**• Post Celebrates 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Post Commander's Retirement and Birthday.**

The Post was chartered on March 26, 1996 so at our March meeting we organized a celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. What Commander Chris DIDN'T know, is that his plans were sabotaged from within by his wife, Barbara, and others when the Post also included a celebration of his birthday and his retirement! Becky Waters showcased her baking skills with a cannoli cake and cupcakes while her husband Brad



surprised Chris with an incredible coin display plaque! It was a fun night for everyone!



**CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE**

**A Prayer for Memorial Day: Remembering Those Who Have Fought for Our Freedom**

by Debbie McDaniel

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13



Freedom is a gift, it's a treasure. And though we all may agree on that truth, it's often easy to take for granted the greatest gifts that God has given us in our lives.

But those most precious gifts are never free. They came with a price. With sacrifice. They were worth fighting for. And are still worth fighting for today. Many brave men and women were willing to face hard battles in order for us to enjoy that gift of freedom today.

For all those who have protected our nation, for the men and women in uniform, together, we say "Thank You."

We take time to remember today, and say a prayer of gratefulness for the many who have been willing to pay a great price for our freedom. May God help us to live so courageously, may we follow the brave examples of those who have gone before us...

Thank you for reminding us that there's incredible love and sacrifice displayed when one is willing to stand strong and fight for freedom.

This service of love and sacrifice on behalf of all people, points us directly to the greatest love of all, the very gift and sacrifice of Christ.

Our Savior was willing to pay the ultimate price, so that we can live free. Forever. May God bless America, and all of those who have sacrificed so greatly for our freedom, and faithfully served our nation!

**+** SAFETY CORNER **+**  
**APRIL IS NATIONAL DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH**

Drivers today are more distracted than ever. From texting to eating to settling sibling disputes in the back seat, there are countless distractions that can fatefully take your focus off the road. It's no wonder that in 2013 as many as 424,000 people were involved in accidents relating to distracted driving.



National Distracted Driving Awareness has been celebrated every April since 2009. As such, many organizations and public personalities have launched road safety campaigns and initiatives to raise awareness of the dangers of distracted driving.

**Calls Kill**

The National Safety Council (NSC) launched a country-wide campaign, Calls Kill, to illustrate that hands-free cell phones are not risk-free, and no call is worth a life. The NSC urges drivers to take the Focused Driver Challenge to not use a cell phone while driving, even a hands-free device. Participants are then encouraged to share it on their Facebook walls. The NSC writes, "In your post, state why you've taken the pledge, tag the National Safety Council and tag three friends you

want to stay safe. Please use #CallsKill." Visit [nsc.org/CallsKill](http://nsc.org/CallsKill) for more information.

**Scary Statistics About Distracted Driving**

Think about the time it takes you to enter an address into a map app on your phone, or type a message to a friend telling them you're running a few minutes late. In your mind it only takes a second or two, but in reality, it takes *at least* five. To put that into perspective, if you were going 55 mph, that's like driving the length of one football field without looking. In fact, texting while driving makes a crash 23 times more likely. (By the way, texting while stopped at a stop sign or red light counts, too.) And if texting weren't bad enough, one in five people have admitted to surfing the web while driving. In these scenarios, dangerous would be an understatement. Even though technology has caused us to become more and more distracted, it has also evolved to provide us with solutions to this epidemic.

Being distracted, even while backing out of your own driveway can have fatal consequences. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration cites an average of 210 fatalities and 15,000 injuries due to back up incidents every year, the majority of those being hurt fall under the age of five years old. In an effort to improve backup safety, new NHTSA regulations require all new cars to have back up camera systems for rear view safety, allowing the driver to see a 10-by-20 foot area behind the vehicle from a dashboard display.

So don't text and drive!

**+** SAFETY CORNER **+**  
**MAY IS NATIONAL MOTORCYCLE SAFETY MONTH**

**Overview**

The number of motorcyclists killed in crashes dropped to 4,985 in 2018, an almost 5% decrease, but motorcycle riders are still overrepresented in traffic fatalities. To keep everyone safe, we urge drivers and motorcyclists to share the road and be alert, and we're reminding motorcyclists to make themselves visible, to use DOT-compliant motorcycle helmets, and to always ride sober.

**Motorist Awareness**

Safe riding practices and cooperation from all road users will help reduce the number of fatalities and injuries on our nation's highways. But it's especially important for drivers to understand the safety challenges faced by motorcyclists such as size and visibility, and motorcycle riding practices like downshifting and weaving to know how to anticipate and respond to them. By raising motorists' awareness, both drivers and riders will be safer sharing the road.

**Motorcyclist Safety**

If you ride a motorcycle, you already know how much fun riding can be. You understand the exhilaration of cruising the open road and the challenge of controlling a motorcycle. But motorcycling also can be dangerous. The latest data on vehicle miles traveled shows that motorcyclists are about 28 times as likely as passenger car occupants to die in a motor vehicle traffic crash. Safe motorcycling takes balance, coordination, and good judgment.

**Road Ready**

**MAKE SURE YOU ARE PROPERLY LICENSED**

Driving a car and riding a motorcycle require different skills and knowledge. Although motorcycle-licensing regulations vary, all



States require a motorcycle license endorsement to supplement your automobile driver's license. To receive the proper endorsement in most States, you'll need to pass written and on-cycle skills tests administered by your State's licensing agency. Some States require you to take a State-sponsored rider education course. Others waive the on-cycle skills test if you've already taken and passed a State-approved course. Either way, completing a motorcycle rider education course is a good way to ensure you have the correct instruction and experience it takes to ride a motorcycle. Contact your state motor vehicle administration to find a motorcycle rider-training course near you.

**Of the motorcycle riders involved in fatal crashes in 2017, 29% were riding without valid motorcycle licenses**

### **PRACTICE OPERATING YOUR MOTORCYCLE**

Given the fact that motorcycles vary in handling and responsiveness, be sure to take the time to get accustomed to the feel of a new or unfamiliar motorcycle by riding it in a controlled area. Once you feel comfortable with your bike, you can take it into traffic. Make sure you know how to handle your motorcycle in a variety of conditions (e.g., inclement weather or encountering hazards such as slick roads, potholes, and road debris).

#### **BEFORE EVERY RIDE**

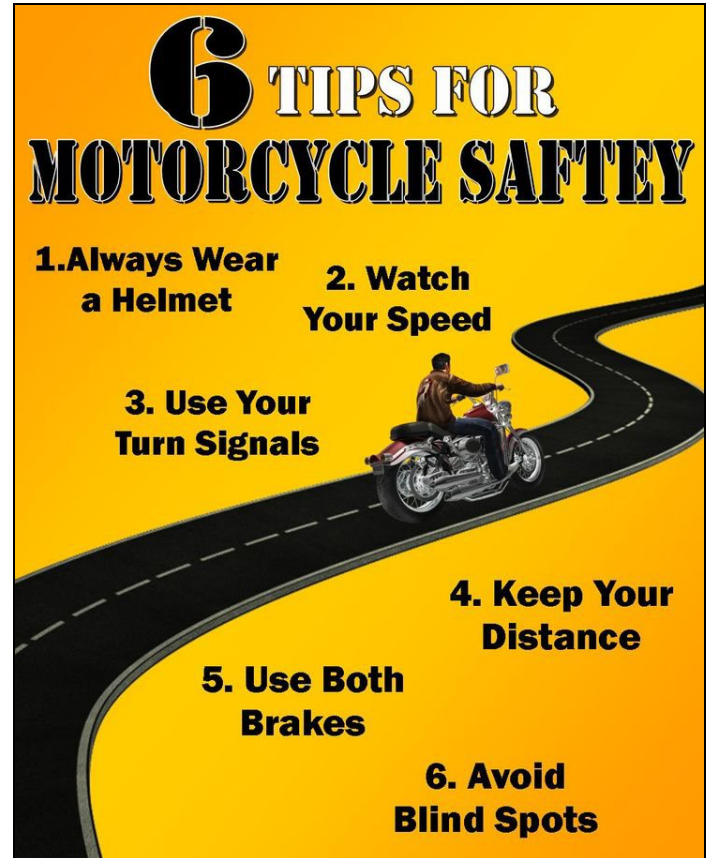
Check your motorcycle's tire pressure and tread depth, hand and foot brakes, headlights and signal indicators, and fluid levels before you ride. You should also check under the motorcycle for signs of oil or gas leaks. If you're carrying cargo, you should secure and balance the load on the cycle; and adjust the suspension and tire pressure to accommodate the extra weight. If you're carrying a passenger, he or she should mount the motorcycle only after the engine has started; should sit as far forward as possible, directly behind you; and should keep both feet on the foot rests at all times, even when the motorcycle is stopped. Remind your passenger to keep his or her legs and feet away from the muffler. Tell your passenger to hold on firmly to your waist, hips, or belt; keep movement to a minimum; and lean at the same time and in the same direction as you do. Do not let your passenger dismount the motorcycle until you say it is safe.

#### **On the Road**

### **WEAR THE PROPER PROTECTION**

If you're ever in a serious motorcycle crash, the best hope you have for protecting your brain is a motorcycle helmet. Always wear a helmet meeting the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 218. Look for the DOT symbol on the outside back of the helmet. Snell and ANSI labels located inside the helmet also show that the helmet meets the standards of those private, non-profit organizations. Learn more about choosing the right helmet. Arms and legs should be completely covered when riding a motorcycle, ideally by wearing leather or heavy denim. In addition to providing protection in a crash, protective gear also helps prevent dehydration. Boots or shoes should be high

enough to cover your ankles, while gloves allow for a better grip and help protect your hands in the event of a crash. Wearing brightly colored clothing with reflective material will make you more visible to other vehicle drivers.



#### **RIDE RESPONSIBLY**

Experienced riders know local traffic laws - and they don't take risks. Obey traffic lights, signs, speed limits, and lane markings; ride with the flow of traffic and leave plenty of room between your bike and other vehicles; and always check behind you and signal before you change lanes. Remember to ride defensively. The majority of multi-vehicle motorcycle crashes generally are caused when other drivers simply didn't see the motorcyclist. Proceed cautiously at intersections and yield to pedestrians and other vehicles as appropriate. You can increase your visibility by applying reflective materials to your motorcycle and by keeping your motorcycle's headlights on at all times, even using high beams during the day.

#### **BE ALCOHOL AND DRUG FREE**

Alcohol and drugs, including some prescribed medications, negatively affect your judgment, coordination, balance, throttle control, and ability to shift gears. These substances also impair your alertness and reduce your reaction time. Even when you're fully alert, it's impossible to predict what other vehicles or pedestrians are going to do. Therefore, make sure you are alcohol and drug free when you get on your motorcycle. Otherwise, you'll be heading for trouble.

For more information: [www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/motorcycles#topic-motorist-awareness](http://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/motorcycles#topic-motorist-awareness)

## 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:** Matt Schweers, Ann Jones, Grace Schweers, Becky Waters, Brad Waters, John Guill, and Bob Gregory.
- **Budget Committee:** José Vazquez, Mark Rios, Mike Kust, and Carl Dozier.
- **Awards Committee:** Brad Waters, Mark Rios, Tony Gravina, and Joe Hammers.
- **Membership Committee:** José Vazquez, John Guill, Mark Rios, and Gary Dunbar
- **Building Committee:** Carl Dozier, José Vazquez, Becky Waters and Chris Cameron.
- **Visiting Committee:** Chaplain Kimball Thompson
- **Health Committee:** Surgeon David Weber
- **Scholarship Committee:** Carl Dozier, Joe Hammers, Elizabeth Van Velzen, and Kimball Thompson.

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP – AND CONSIDER A LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Every year, we have members who forget to renew their annual memberships. They then become ineligible to hold office in the Post and have to scramble to renew their status.

If you are approaching the end of your annual membership, please renew ASAP! And consider upgrading to a Life Membership. As a Life Member you will:

- Avoid annual dues and renewals.
- Maintain your membership in any Post you choose, worldwide!
- Never pay an increase in dues — Guaranteed!
- Receive a 10% discount on exclusive VFW Store merchandise for the first year.

You can become a VFW Life Member by making a one-time payment as describe in the Quartermaster's Desk below. You can also pay for your Life Membership through an installment plan, with an initial \$45 payment, with the Life Membership amount billed over an 11-month period as shown in the table below.

## QUARTERMASTER DESK

### Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$30

Annual dues can be paid via mail 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.

Age	One-Time Payment	Installment Payment
18-30	\$ 425	\$ 38.64
31-40	\$ 410	\$ 37.27
41-50	\$ 375	\$ 34.09
51-60	\$ 335	\$ 30.45
61-70	\$ 290	\$ 26.36
71-80	\$ 225	\$ 20.45
81 & over	\$ 170	\$ 15.45

<http://www.vfw.org/Join/Dues-Structure>

If you desire to change your Annual Membership to a Life Membership you can pay online at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), via mail, or in-person at a meeting.

## FOR MILITARY AND VETERAN FAMILIES IN NEED, THE NATIONAL HOME HELPLINE IS JUST A TOLL-FREE CALL AWAY

The National Home Helpline is the gateway to help for military and veterans' families, providing connections with supportive services and resources in communities all across the nation as well as referrals to our on-campus programs.

And our war heroes can take comfort in knowing that their call will be answered by a caring professional who understands the unique challenges faced by today's military and veterans' families.

The toll-free Helpline is answered Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

1-800-313-4200, [help@vfnationalhome.org](mailto:help@vfnationalhome.org)

## APRIL MILITARY HISTORY

- 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
- 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
- 1865 Union forces occupy Richmond & Petersburg, to tune of "Dixie"
- 1948 Harry Truman signs Marshall Plan
- 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
- 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 6 ships
- 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
- 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 regt 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 McArthur
- 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 1 month earlier
- 1942 Bataan: Japanese massacre 400 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 fire bomb raids: B-29s damage Imperial Palace
- 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 6 kamikaze hits, off Okinawa
- 1946 US launches captured V-2 rocket, White Sands, NM
- 1947 Congress grants Navy Nurses full commissioned status
- 17** 1846 Battle of Cerro Gordo: Winfield Scott defeats Mexican Army
- 1861 Virginia is 8th 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 1st 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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
- 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, 8 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 5<sup>th</sup> Army liberates Genoa
- 28** 1945 US 5<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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
- 1980 Terrorists seize Iranian Embassy in London
- submerged sub
- 7** 1942 Battle of Coral Sea begins
- 1954 Dien Bien Phu: Vietminh 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 10 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
- 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
- 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 forces
- 13** 1908 Navy Nurse Corps is established
- 1943 USN Bureau of Navigation becomes Bureau of Naval Personnel
- 14** 1653 Massachusetts Council declares that 1/8<sup>th</sup> 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-300
- 17** 1987 USS 'Stark' (FFG-31) hit by Iraqi missiles, 37 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
- 19** 1951 UN begins counter offensive in Korea
- 1958 NORAD formed
- 1967 US bombs Hanoi
- 20** 1912 Battlecruiser SMS 'Moltke' reaches Hampton Roads, on only visit to US by German capital ship
- 1930 Pres. Hoover reviews US Fleet off Virginia Capes
- 21** 1861 Richmond, Va, designated Capital of Confederacy
- 1881 Clara Barton founds American Red Cross

## 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
- 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
- 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
- 1970 Ohio National Guard kills 4 students at Kent State
- 1942 Battle of Coral Sea begins
- 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 5 children
- 1965 First large US ground units arrive in South Vietnam
- 6** 1937 Hindenburg disaster, Lakehurst, NJ, 36 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

- 1917 Leo Pinckney first American drafted during WW I  
1944 West Loch, Pearl Harbor: ammo-laden LST blows up, 6 LSTs lost, 200 killed, "2<sup>nd</sup> Pearl Harbor"  
1968 USS 'Scorpion' (SSN-589) sinks off Azores, 99 die  
**22** National Maritime Day  
1959 Benjamin O Davis Jr. (USMA '36) becomes first black Army general  
1985 US sailor Michael L Walker arrested for spying for USSR  
**23** 1775 Virginian Patrick Henry says "Give me Liberty or give me death!"  
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  
**26** 1945 US fire bomb raid on Tokyo  
**27** 1607 Battle of Jamestown: English settlers repulse attack by 200 Indians  
**28** 1830 Congress authorizes Indian removal from Eastern states  
1980 First 55 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  
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

## **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: 505 Piping Rock Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23322, 757-482-4981 or [cdrpost2894@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost2894@vfwva.org)

**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 primary means for disseminating the newsletter is via e-mail. If you prefer a 'hard-copy' via 'snail-mail' (a 'paper copy' via 'US Postal Service' for you old(er) farts!) please let know.

*Semper fidelis, Chris Mulholland*

**YOUR AD COULD  
BE HERE!!!**

**OR  
YOUR AD COULD  
BE HERE!!!**



Chesapeake VIRGINIA

10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

BATAAN DEATH MARCH

(Virtual) MEMORIAL WALK

Walk/run/bike/swim/roll – ANY WAY YOU WANT, ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!  
While helping raise funds to support local veterans.

Three distances:  
1-mile  
5-mile  
16-mile

- Run as individuals, families, or groups
- T-shirt with registration
- Medal for 16-milers
- Get sponsors



13 FEB - 17 APRIL 2021

- ❖ Closing ceremony live stream on 17 Apr
- ❖ Can run over several days
- ❖ Share photos/videos

Sponsored by  
VFW Post 2894  
SSG Jon K. Dozier Memorial



For more information and to register visit:

<https://walkchesapeake.wixsite.com/chesapeakebataan/register>

# VFW Riders VA 7th Annual 4 Season's Poker Run

First 50 riders who register will  
get a FREE VFW buff!



## \$15 per Rider/\$5 per passenger

Come help support the VFW Riders Virginia. Cost includes lunch provided by Mission BBQ at the end of the run. Musical Guest Sons of the Beach! Cash prizes for best hand and as always there will be items for raffle/auction. All proceeds support the VFW Vander Clute fund, which supports Veterans and their Families.

**May 1st Registration 930 – 1030 First bike out at 10AM**

Poker run starts at VFW Post 3160, 111 A View Ave, Norfolk, VA & ends at VFW Post 3219, 122 E. Mellen St, Phoebus, VA. Route to be determined.

Poker Run is sponsored in part  
by Powerhouse Gaming



Powerhouse Gaming

## 2021 4-SEASON'S POKER RUN

- You can buy breakfast at VFW Post 3160 for \$5.
- Bar at Post 3160 will be open during registration.
- Raffle & Auction prizes at end at VFW Post 3219.
- First 50 riders registered will get a FREE VFW BUFF.
- VFW Guardian Bells will be available for only \$5.



- Lunch proudly donated by



- Live music from Sons of the Beach!



# POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u>APRIL</u>	
1	Holy Thursday
2	Good Friday
4	Easter
6	Army Day / US enters WWI
8	Anniversary of Post 2894 Auxiliary founding (2015)
14	Post Meeting / Election / Quarterly Audit, 1900
15	Income Tax Day
17	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk</b>
29	Run for Fallen (to 2 May)

<u>MAY</u>	
1	National Loyalty Day/ VFW Rider's Poker Run
5	Cinco de Mayo
7	Military Spouses Day
8	VE Day (1945)
8	Dist 2 Convention, Post 292 Va Bch, 1200
9	Mother's Day
12	Post Annual Awards Ceremony, 1900
TBD	JROTC Awards Ceremony, __HS, 1800
15	Peace Officers' Memorial Day / Armed Forces Day
22-23	Buddy Poppy Drive (tentative)
31	Memorial Day Ceremony, City Hall, 1100

## 17 APRIL – BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK!!!



VFW SSG Dozier Post 2894  
PO Box 15842  
Chesapeake, VA 23328

Place  
Stamp  
Here



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED