

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

2nd 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

Visit us on FaceBook

POST OFFICERS

Commander..... José Vazquez
Sr. Vice Commander..... Bob Gregory
Jr. Vice Commander..... Mark Rios
Adjutant..... Chris Mulholland
Quartermaster..... Chuck Wolff
Chaplain..... Kimball Thompson
Surgeon..... Ron Liston
Staff Judge Advocate..... Matt Hamel
Service Officer..... Jim Ireland

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President..... Sandy Dunbar
Sr. Vice President..... Anne Thompson
Jr. Vice President..... Grace Schweers
Secretary..... Jean Dozier
Treasurer..... Donna Kust
Chaplain..... Diane Hostettlar
Conductress..... Christina Zinn
Guard..... Rosie Gregory
Patriotic Instructor..... Sharon Peterson

NATIONAL

www.vfw.org

STATE

www.vfwva.org

VFW VA DISTRICT 2

www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2



POST COMRADE CONDUCTS KABUL RESCUE OPERATION

American hero and VFW Life Member Jay Redman of Post 2894 doesn't just talk the talk, he walks the walk. He is a true leader who leads from the front.



US Veteran Volunteers Lead Covert Afghan Rescue Missions

By Eric Mack | 28 August 2021



Jason Redman, a wounded former Navy SEAL, has been involved in the private Pineapple Express rescue operations. (Mark Sagliocco/Getty Images)

A volunteer group of American military veterans have been helping hundreds of at-risk Afghan elite forces and their families to safety in a night-time operation called "Pineapple Express," a daring and heroic private mission detailed by embedded ABC News reporters witnessing the heart-pounding operations.

"Dozens of high-risk individuals, families with small children, orphans, and pregnant women, were secretly moved through the streets of Kabul throughout the night and up to just seconds before ISIS detonated a bomb into the huddled mass of Afghans seeking safety and freedom," a leader of the private rescue effort, Army Lt. Col. Scott Mann, a retired Green Beret commander, told ABC News, which had journalists embedded with the groups.

The group is working with the U.S. military and U.S. embassy to move people in small groups, if not one at a time, into the secured areas of the U.S.-controlled Hamid Karzai International Airport, according to the report.

The dangers of the operation were increased by the pair of suicide bombings that killed at least 13 U.S. service members and wounded 15 more.

Pineapple Express, an offshoot of "Task Force Pineapple," has rescued (Continued on page 10)



COMMANDER'S CORNER

How do we explain the debacle of 26 Aug 2021 outside of Hamid Karzai International Airport Afghanistan that left 13 U.S. Servicemen and Servicewomen dead? I join our VFW National Commander-in-Chief, "Fritz" Mihelcic, in demanding that Congress follow through with investigating what led us to this point and bring forth swift answers to the public. It has been almost 2 months and I am waiting to hear about a FULL investigation into this event! The Families deserve answers! The Nation deserves answers!!



On behalf of SSG Jonathan K, Dozier Memorial VFW Post 2894 I want to send our condolences to the Family of the 11 Marines, 1 Sailor and 1 Soldier killed on 26 August 2021! Thank you for your Service and God bless!

- USMC LCpl David Espinoza, 20, Rio Bravo, TX
- USMC Sgt Nicole Gee, 23, Roseville, CA
- USMC Staff Sgt Darin Taylor Hoover, 31, UT
- Army Staff Sgt Ryan Knauss, 23, Corryton, TN
- USMC Cpl Hunter Lopez, 22, Indio, CA
- USMC LCpl Rylee McCollum, 20, Jackson, WY
- USMC LCpl Dylan R Merola, 20, Rancho Cucamonga, CA
- USMC LCpl Kareem Nikoui, 20, Norco, CA
- USMC Cpl Daegan William-Tyler Page, 23, Omaha, NE
- USMC Sgt Johanny Rosario, 25, Lawrence, MA
- USMC Cpl Humberto Sanchez, 22, Logansport, IN
- USMC LCpl Jared Schmitz, 20, Wentzville, MO
- Navy Hospital Corpsman Max Soviak, 22, Berlin Heights, OH

Now we turn our attention to another very sad day. On 31 August 2021a MH-60S helicopter crashed about 70 miles (112 kilometers) off San Diego during what the Navy described as routine flight operations. It was operating from the deck of the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln. An investigation is ongoing. Our condolences to the Family and Friends of the deceased. Thank you for your Service and God bless!

- Lieutenant Bradley Foster, 29, Oakhurst, CA
- Lieutenant Paul Fridley, 28, Annandale, Virginia
- Naval Air Crewman (Helicopter) 2/C James Buriak, 31, Salem, VA
- Hospital Corpsman 2/C Sarah Burns, 31, Severna Park, MD
- Hospital Corpsman 3/C Bailey J. Tucker, 21, St. Louis, MO

On the Home Front.

Well, what started out as just having Chesapeake City Council granting us a lease for former Fire Station #7 has turned into a race. Yes, at the last minute a dark horse has entered the race! We have no idea who or what the entity is. It is now solely up to the City Council to determine which of the two will have a home. The City Council was on leave/recess the last two weeks of August but are in session now. We hope

to hear their decision by the end of this month. Prayers are needed and appreciated!

On Friday, 17 Sep, VFW Post 2894 in cooperation with the City of Chesapeake, for the first time in about 10 years, raised the flag (in front of Chesapeake City Hall) of a Military Branch in honor of their Birthday. The first flag raised was that of the USAF. The USAF flag had to be raised on the 17th, a day before it's actual birthday because the city attendant does not work on weekends and the Post is not allowed to do it. So, from now on this will be a ritual for each branch's birthday. Happy Birthday USAF!

We also say Happy 107th Birthday to the VFW Auxiliary!

One correction from the last Newsletter. It listed Comrade Davin Perry as our Adjutant. Comrade Perry informed me that he could not fulfill his duties. Taking over as Post Adjutant is our past Post Commander Comrade Chris Mulholland. Thank you, Chris!

José Vazquez, Commander

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Happy Fall Everyone! This has been a busy time of the year. The Auxiliary went to a Car Show at the Khedive Shriners and sold some more of the die cast cars and trucks.

We helped the Post at the CrossFit Challenge serving hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks.

The 9/11 Ceremony at Chesapeake City Park was very special with a fly over and the guest speaker "the



singing policeman" from New York. At noon there was a concert with patriotic music.

In the month of September there was a Vietnam Pinning Ceremony in Norfolk and the POW/MIA Remembrance

Ceremony at Chesapeake City Hall.

Thanks to Everyone for doing whatever you can for the Veterans and attending any of the ceremonies that are held for our Veterans. We will not forget!

Sandy Dunbar, President



**POST BUDDY POPPY DRIVE,
6-7 NOVEMBER**

We will be conducting the Veterans' Day Buddy Poppy Drive over the weekend of 6-7 November at a location yet to be finalized. Last year, we collected \$2.637 in donations! We can do more this year! But we'll need everyone's help. Additional information will be sent as we get closer to the dates. **Thank you in advance!**

"IN FLANDERS FIELD"

by John McCrae, May 1915

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.



We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

DAYS FOR VETERANS

Just a reminder, there are four National Days set aside for Servicemen and Women:

Armed Forces Day – to honor those currently serving

Veterans Day – to honor those who served

Memorial Day – to honor those who fell while serving

POW/MIA Day – to honor those who went missing or were captured while serving

**November 11th Is Centennial of
the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**

On March 4, 1921, the United States Congress approved the burial of an unidentified American serviceman from World War I in the plaza of the new Memorial Amphitheater. On November 11, 1921, the unknown soldier brought back from France was interred below a three-level marble tomb. The bottom

two levels are six granite sections each and the top at least nine blocks with a rectangular opening in the center of each level through which the unknown remains were placed through the tomb and into the ground below. A stone slab, rather than marble, covers the rectangular opening.

The neoclassical, white marble sarcophagus stands atop a hill overlooking Washington, D.C. It provides a final resting place for four of America's unidentified service members, from World Wars I and II, and the wars in Korea and Vietnam. The Tomb has also served as a place of mourning and a site for reflection on military service.

World War I and the Creation of the Tomb

During World War I, U.S. service members received aluminum identification discs, the precursors to "dog tags," to aid the process of identifying remains. The War Department created a new unit in the Quartermaster Corps, the Graves Registration Service, to oversee burials. During and after World War I, however, Americans debated whether bodies should be repatriated. With more than 100,000 U.S. casualties (compared to fewer than 3,000 in the Spanish-American War), repatriation was more challenging.

France and Great Britain, which suffered significantly higher casualties and more unknown dead than did the United States, barred repatriation of their citizens' remains. To ease the grief of their citizens, France and Great Britain each repatriated and buried one



Part of the delegation at the Tomb in 1921, alongside Crow Nation chief Alaxchíia Ahú ("Plenty Coups")

unknown soldier on Armistice Day, November 11, 1920. Great Britain buried its Unknown Warrior inside Westminster Abbey in London, and France buried its Unknown Soldier at the base of the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. These unknowns would stand in for other British and French service members whose remains could not be identified.

The American policy, by contrast, gave options to families of the war dead. If requested by the next of kin, the remains of service members who died in Europe would be transported to anywhere in the United States at no cost to the family. Or, families could choose to bury their dead at permanent U.S. military cemeteries to be established in Europe.

In December 1920, New York Congressman and World War I veteran Hamilton Fish Jr. proposed legislation that provided for the interment of one unknown American soldier at a special tomb to be built in Arlington National Cemetery. The purpose of the legislation was “to bring home the body of an unknown American warrior who in himself represents no section, creed, or race in the late war and who typifies, moreover, the soul of America and the supreme sacrifice of her heroic dead.”

In October 1921, four bodies of unidentified U.S. military personnel were exhumed from different American military cemeteries in France. On October 23, 1921, the four caskets arrived at the city hall of Châlons-sur-Marne (now called Châlons-en-Champagne), France.

Town officials and members of the U.S. Army’s Quartermaster Corps had prepared the city hall for the selection ceremony. Early on the morning of October 24, 1921, Maj. Robert P. Harbold of the Quartermaster Corps, aided by French and American soldiers, rearranged the caskets so that each rested on a shipping case other than the one in which it had arrived. Major Harbold then chose Sgt. Edward F. Younger of Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 50th Infantry, American Forces in Germany, to select the Unknown Soldier. Sgt. Younger selected the Unknown by placing a spray of white roses on one of the caskets.

From Châlons-sur-Marne, the Unknown journeyed by caisson and rail to the port town of Le Havre, France. From Le Havre, the USS Olympia transported the Unknown Soldier’s casket to Washington, D.C. The Unknown arrived at the Washington Navy Yard on November 9, 1921. After arriving in Washington, D.C. on November 9, 1921, the Unknown lay in state in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. About 90,000 visitors paid their respects during the public visiting period on November 10, 1921.

On November 11, 1921, the Unknown was placed on a horse-drawn caisson and carried in a procession through Washington, D.C. and across the Potomac River. A state funeral ceremony was held at Arlington National Cemetery’s new Memorial Amphitheater, and the Unknown was interred in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Nationwide, Americans observed two minutes of silence at the beginning of the ceremony. President Warren G. Harding officiated at the ceremony and placed the Medal of Honor, the nation’s highest military decoration, on the casket. Numerous foreign dignitaries presented their nations’ highest awards, as well.

Originally, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier consisted of a simple marble slab. During its early years, thousands of visitors came to Arlington National Cemetery to mourn at the Tomb and to pay their respects to the Unknown Soldier and the military personnel he represented.

The Tomb sarcophagus is decorated with three wreaths on each side panel (north and south). On the front (east), three figures represent Peace, Victory and Valor. The back (west) features the inscription: “Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God.”

From: www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Explore/Tomb-of-the-Unknown-Soldier

ANTHONY J. GRAVINA **1926-2021** **SN1/c, USN, WWII**

On Tuesday, August 24, 2021, Anthony Joseph Gravina, the son of Joseph Gravina and Antoinette Trifero Gravina, passed away peacefully at the age of 95.



Anthony was born in Boston, MA, on March 23, 1926. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, having served in the South Pacific during WWII. From there, he graduated from Bentley University with a degree in accounting in 1952. From there, he went on to a career in US Customs, from which

he retired in 1985 after 30 years.

He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2894 and the Chesapeake Chapter of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV).

A 50-year member of the Knights of Columbus, Anthony was a former Grand Knight of Council 9444 in Sandwich, MA, an active member of Council 8240 in Chesapeake, VA and a longtime member of Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Chesapeake.

Left to cherish his memory are his loving wife of 73 years, Lee Allen Gravina, daughter Diane T. and David Newcomb of Natick, MA, daughter



Elaine M. and Timothy Flanigan of Avon, MA, son Paul A. and Donna Gravina of Sandwich, MA, and son Robert J. and Kathleen Gravina of Chesapeake, VA, 7 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren (with two more expected during the upcoming holiday season).

A funeral mass was held on Tuesday, August 31, 2021 at the Prince of Peace Catholic Church with a KofC Chalice Ceremony. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Anthony's name to the American Cancer Society. Online condolences may be offered to the family at hdoliver.com.

Published by The Virginian-Pilot on Aug. 29, 2021

Post Remembers National POW-MIA Day

In honor of POW/MIA day on 17 September, the Post set up a POW/MIA display at the Central Library which ran from 10-17 September. On display was a "missing man" table with all the symbols and a list of all 72 POWs

and MIAs from Chesapeake, South Norfolk and Norfolk County who are still unaccounted for, starting from the Revolutionary War and going all the way through to the War in Vietnam. Then, on POW/MIA day itself, the Post conducted a Remembrance



Ceremony inside City Hall. Mayor Rick West read out a proclamation, the meaning of the items on the missing man table were explained, and the names of each of the 72 missing or POWs were read out with a bell toll. On this, the 25th anniversary of the founding of our Post, we also

especially remembered one of our founding members, long-time Chesapeake resident LTC John Alfred Hamer (1917-1998), US Army (retired). He was one of those "surrendered" at Bataan and suffered 3-1/2 years of horror before being

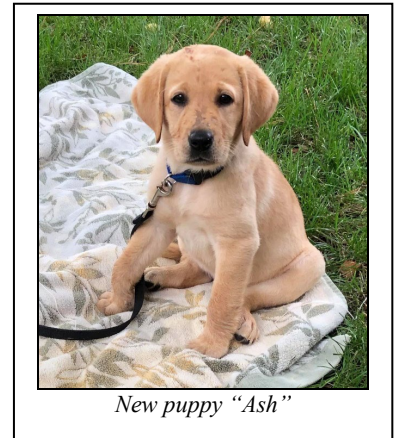


rescued in Japan. Retiring from the Army after 30 years of honorable service, he went on to design numerous bridges and air bases, and the subway system of Washington, DC. Thanks to all who came out in the middle of a work day to remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great country.

Other Post News

• **The Kusts have a new puppy – but just any puppy!** Donna (Auxiliary Treasurer) and Mike Kust are known as "puppy raisers" – raising puppies from the age of 8 weeks to 16 months before turning them for training as service dogs. Since 2002 they have raised 14 puppies: Quebec, Alan, Cory, Hayley, Willa, Addison, Primrose, Marli, Marissa, Sprite, Yukon, Ryker, Rex, and Otto.

This past year, covid restrictions prevented them from acquiring another puppy. But on July 9th, sunshine reentered the



New puppy "Ash"



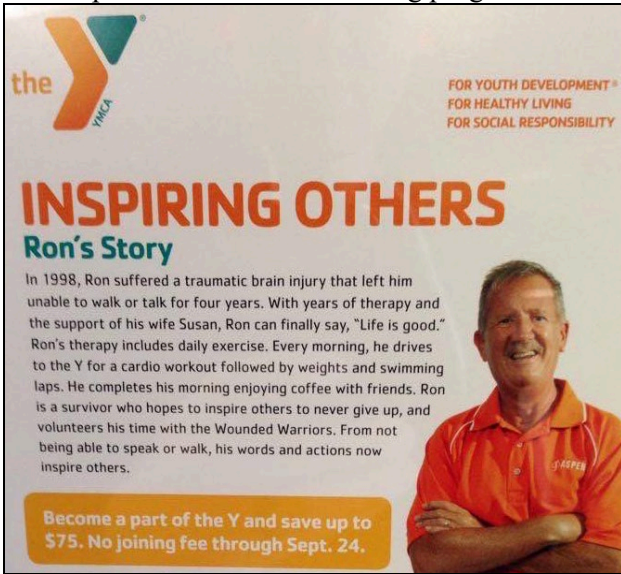
Kust home with the arrival of "Ash", a 9-week old Golden Lab. She came from Guide Dogs of America and is now with an organization in Virginia Beach. Donna said, "Mutts With A Mission was in need of puppy raisers so I decided to help out. Spreading the love."

Mutts With A Mission trains and provides assistance/service dogs to Wounded Warriors, Veterans, Law Enforcement Officers, Federal Agents, and First Responders.

Donna and Mike provide a safe, healthy and loving home for Ash while teaching her basic obedience, house manners, and a lot of socialization. It's not easy accepting a puppy into your home knowing that they'll eventually leave. It's bittersweet but rewarding – Donna says its "awesome" – to see a puppy go full circle from not long after birth to graduation from "puppy college". The Kusts look at each puppy as a way to "pay it forward" – to make a difference in someone else's life; to fill someone else's empty place, touching the heart of a complete stranger and giving them more confidence and a great deal of independence.

You can read more about Mutts With A Mission on their website, www.muttswithamission.org.

• **Post Comrade is the Face” for Local YMCAs.** Ron Mayfield’s life is an inspirational story about overcoming a traumatic brain injury (TBI) and the local YMCA asked him to help with their latest marketing program.



• **Post Comrade receives a Promotion.** Atiim Senthill was promoted to Captain in the US Navy on September 1st. Atiim was born in the Virgin Islands and is a SEABEE. CONGRATULATIONS!!



• **Grandson Is A Secret Service Officer.** Carl and Jean Dozier proudly watched their grandson, Jacob Rollins, graduate from Secret Service Uniformed Police Division Training on 5 August via Zoom. “Jake” graduated from VMI last year before entering the prestigious – but grueling – training program for the US Secret Service. Jake is also a reservist with the US Coast Guard. Congratulations, Jake, and good luck in your chosen career!



Jake with his proud parents, Jennifer (Dozier) and Jamey Rider

• **Auxiliary Son Takes On Challenge.** This summer, Jacob Zinn, son of Auxiliary Sr. VP Christina and CPO Jimmy Zinn USN (ret), signed up for Raising Men Lawn Care Services’ the “50 Yard Challenge”. Raising Men is a national organization that challenges young people to cut the lawns of 50 people who are veterans, single parents, elderly or have disabilities. When a youth successfully completes the challenge, they are presented with a new lawnmower, weed eater, and leaf blower. In late July, Christina wrote, “He has helped residents of Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, & Chesapeake. He’s doing great & we’re so proud!” If you’re eligible and need your lawn mowed, give him a call! Good luck, Jacob!



Jacob mowing a lawn

• **Post Members Have “Catch” of a Lifetime.** Post members Wendy and Rich Johnson recently had an incident to remember. Wendy recounted: “Richard was out back weeding our ‘jungle’ that we call a back yard. He kept hearing a baaa sound over the weed-eater. We both went out to find this sound and what was moving the weeds around and found a baby deer stuck in the goat fence. He wasn't quite tall enough to jump it. So we picked him up, freed his legs, loved on him a few minutes and made sure he was ok, then turned him loose. Boy, he took off in the field. Hope he finds his mama or his mama finds him but he was fine. I sooo wanted to keep him!”



• **Post raises \$335 in hot dog sales!** The Post was proud to participate in the CrossFit games hosted by CrossFit Unrivaled in Greenbrier. It was a large crowd of crossfire enthusiasts with many activities. This was the first time in over a year we were able to roll out our Hot Dog/Hamburger Cart for such an event. We also solicited donations for Operation Recovery, the rescue of Afghan SIVs. We met some really nice people and had a great time!



Jim Keiper and Sandy Dunbar busily cooking and selling hot dogs

• **Post Comrade welcome home a local Olympian.** Post Judge Advocate Matt Hamel and his two sons were on-hand at Grassfield High School as alumnus Grant Holloway was welcomed home from the Tokyo Olympics. Grant won an Olympic silver medal in the 110 meters hurdles and is the reigning world champion in the 110 meters hurdles and the current world record holder in the indoor 60 m hurdles.



• **Post Comrade participates in 20th anniversary of 9-11.** As part of the Patriots Day concert at City Park, Past Post Commander Carl Dozier read the names of some of the American Servicemen and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice since 9-11.



• **Past Post Commander Receives Honors.** Since his announcement to step down from his position as post commander, Chris Mulholland has received a number of honors. In May he received a Certificate of Recognition from Hal Roach, then VFW's National Commander-in-Chief. In June, Mayor Rick West presented him with a Proclamation of Recognition. In August he was presented with a VFW Meritorious Gold Legacy Life Membership; and named "National Cootie of the Year" by the Military Order of the Cooties, and as the inaugural "Comrade of the Year" for District 2, VFW Department of Virginia. Lastly, in September, he was appointed as a National

Deputy Chief of Staff by "Fritz" Mihelcic, VFW's current C-in-C. Congratulations for a job well done!



• **Post Comrade serves the "best eggs in Virginia"!** In 1997, Post founding member Joe McGourn and his wife, Vergi, created the most popular eatery in Great Bridge, the Sunrise Breakfast Shoppe on Battlefield Boulevard. They were recently recognized by the Virginia Egg Council for "best eggs in Virginia" and received a \$1,000 prize! Congratulations!



ELECTION DAY - 2 NOVEMBER

GET OUT AND VOTE ON NOV 2nd!

The following offices will be determined by YOUR vote: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Member House of Delegates, Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Commissioner of Revenue, and Treasurer



TO SEE THE SAMPLE BALLOT FOR YOUR AREA GO TO:

www.cityofchesapeake.net/government/city-departments/departments/Voter-Registrar/election-info/sample-ballot.htm

CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE

Prayer for Korean War Veterans



Our prayer is focused on the 5.8 million Americans who served in the U.S. armed services during the three-year period of the Korean War.

We give the Almighty thanks for the men and women who served in the Korean War. Our hearts and prayers are with the families of these brave military personnel.

We give thanks for the families who have endured the loss of loved ones and we give thanks for the FREEDOMS we hold so dear.

Wars fought abroad by the US Military are the sacrifice we make for freedom, O Lord, as we endeavor to keep in remembrance all those who served and give undying gratitude for them.

Our prayer is to keep our shores safe and our nation at peace.

Bless you, O Lord, for the Dedication of our Military in your Sovereign name Amen

Chaplains Robert and Theresa Phillips,
St Charles Veterans Center, Illinois

70 YEARS AGO: POST COMRADE PARTICIPATED IN AN HISTORIC EVENT

BY CHRIS MULHOLLAND

Post comrade Alan Crouch had turned 18 years old just two months before his arrival at Parris Island, SC in April 1951 for basic training as a US Marine. After completing 12 weeks of boot camp he was assigned the MOS of 1800 (basic tanker) and was scheduled to travel to Fort Knox, KY for follow-on training. But this was the summer of 1951, the Korean War was still in full swing, and the 1st Marine Division (MARDIV) was about to begin a major offensive that eventually became known as the Battle of the Punchbowl.

So, like many other Marines throughout the war, Al's orders were changed and he was sent to Camp Pendleton, CA in July as a quick-fill for the 1st MARDIV, since "every Marine is a rifleman". Now a Private First Class, he was subsequently assigned to "I" (India) Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment. The Marines of 3/7 had been part of "The Frozen Chosin" just six months before and needed replacement troops. Al arrived Korea in early October just in time to join his unit for Operation BUMBLEBEE, the first-ever heliborne assault of an entire rifle battalion. [See footnote at end of article *]

During the summer of 1951, as the first year of Korean operations drew to a close, Marine helicopters had flown every mission except the one that had been envisioned for them – vertical envelopment. The remedy for this lack was filled by Marine Transport Helicopter Squadron (HMR) 161HMR-161 consisted of 43 officers, 244 men and 15 Sikorsky HRS-1 helicopters who had arrived in Korea on 15 August, 1951. The HRS-1 was a transport helicopter capable of carrying five or six combat Marines.

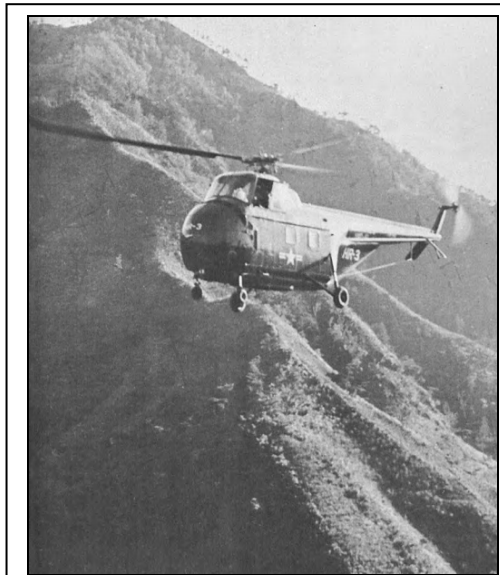
On 20 September, 1951 the first helicopter-borne landing of combat Marines took place in Operation SUMMIT. Despite dense fog, HMR-161 lifted 224 fully equipped Marines to the objective – Hill 884 – and 17,772 pounds of cargo. The entire operation consisted of 65 flights, 31.2 flight hours, and took a total of four hours overall.

On 27 September HMR-161 conducted the first night troop lift of combat Marines in Operation BLACKBIRD. The HRS-1's lifted 200 Marines of "E" Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines to the Punchbowl, on a night with no moonlight, in two hours and ten minutes.

On 11 October, 1951 HMR-161 made history and headlines again. Operation BUMBLEBEE – the lift of an entire rifle battalion – began that morning at 1000 with the lift of 3/7 and its equipment. One of the Marines was our own (then-PFC) Alan Crouch.

Well aware that such a major helicopter event would become headline news, the division public relations officer had asked what the operation was to be called. Sergeant Roger Hanks, a former University of Texas football player, mindful of the many vociferous skeptics who questioned the viability of helicopters for combat duty, quickly piped up: "Bumblebee, because supposedly they can't fly either."

Despite being 17 miles behind the front lines in reserve, life for the 7th Marines was anything but calm. On some days they saw as much action as any of the three regiments



A Sikorsky HRS-1 hovers over the mountainous terrain of Korea

forward of the MLR (main line of resistance).

The explanation was that the rear area was infested with elusive North Korean guerrillas who kept the 7th Marines' patrols busy.

Early in October the question arose as to how quickly a reserve battalion could be shifted from

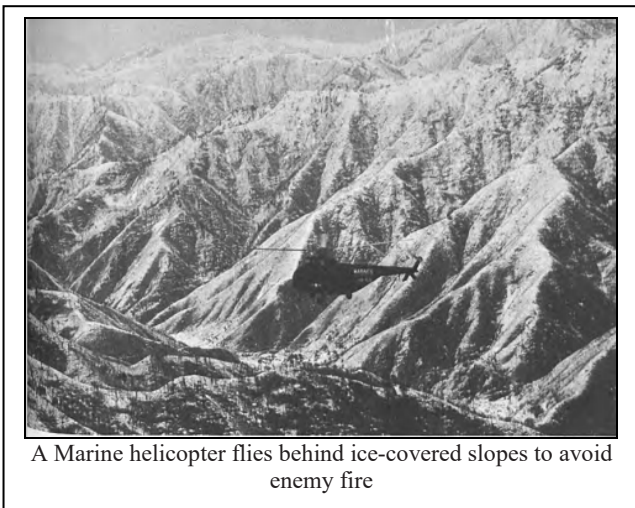
one point to another. By this time a company-size helicopter lift had become commonplace, having been successfully completed twice by HMR-161 since Operation SUMMIT. It remained to be seen whether a battalion could be transported with comparable celerity, and, on 9 October, 1st MARDIV issued an order warning to 3/7.

The 7th Marines was due to exchange places with the 5th Marines on the 11th after relieving that regiment in the center of the Division front. While 1/7 and 2/7 completed a conventional relief of their opposite numbers, 3/7 was selected for a helicopter lift. Lieutenant Colonel Edwards, the new commanding officer, had recently commanded the Shore Party Battalion and helped to train its landing site and loading point teams. He took part in the planning along with the division staff, and the new commanding officer of the Shore Party Battalion.

Planning went on as if for an amphibious operation. Assignment and loading tables were worked out, and each Marine of the embarkation teams had his designated place in the helicopter. Lieutenant Brokaw recalled that this time eight troops, carrying only small arms and limited ammunition loads, were squeezed in and only one pilot flew each helicopter to test if such "surge loading" was practical in an emergency.

On 10 October all officers and men of 3/7 attended a familiarization class at which trial teams were loaded. Operation BUMBLEBEE began at 1000 on the 11th. The landing site was just behind the 5th Marines MLR, northeast of Hill 702. The flight path took advantage of the concealment afforded by valleys and defiladed areas.

The two dispatchers in the loading zone were provided with a checkoff flight list containing the names of every team of 3/7.



A Marine helicopter flies behind ice-covered slopes to avoid enemy fire

In order to avoid delays, replacements could be summoned from a casual pool to fill understrength teams to plane capacity. Average time for loading was 20 seconds.

Ten to 12 minutes were required for the flight. As the helicopters landed at intervals of a minute, a team would exit and allow the craft to be airborne in an average time of 17 seconds. "Time was saved," according to one Marine report, "when the Shore Party personnel, after opening the door, vigorously assisted the passengers by grasping their arms and

starting them away from the craft. The last man out checked to see if any gear had been forgotten. Guides furnished by the battalion directed the passengers toward their respective company assembly areas, thus keeping the landing areas clear at all times."

Twelve helicopters were employed in 156 flights. The flight time was 65.9 hours and over-all time five hours and 50 minutes. A total weight of 229,920 pounds included 958 combat-equipped troops averaging 240 pounds.

These statistics of Operation BUMBLEBEE made it certain that stateside headlines would proclaim another Marine "first." And it did, but more importantly for the Marine Corps it was a giant step toward turning vertical envelopment theory into reality.

Al Crouch remained with I/3/7 for a year, making Lance Corporal (E3) but still carrying his 1800 MOS while assigned to an 0311 (infantry) billet.



Troops load on board an HRS-1 during Op Bumblebee in Oct 1951. Bumblebee was to test contingency plans in case Chinese Communist forces cracked the MLR

By October 1952 Al had returned to the US and was where he belonged with an 1811 (tanker) MOS – as a Corporal with 2nd Tank Battalion at Camp Lejeune, NC. He successfully completed his enlistment in 1954 and returned home as a tanker with a flying story to tell! Al got married, raised a wonderful family, and has a "passel" of great-grandkids.

* The remainder of this article consists of direct quotes and photographs from the following sources:

1. LtCol Ronald J. Brown, USMCR (ret), "*Whirlybirds: U.S. Marine Helicopters in Korea*" (Marines in the Korean War Commemorative Series)
2. Lynn Montross and Maj Hubard D. Kuokka, USMC, "*U. S. Marine Operations in Korea, 1950-1953; Volume IV, The East-Central Front*" (Historical Branch, G-3, HQMC, Washington, D. C., 1962)
3. "*Marine Helicopters in the Korean War*" (www.koreanwar-educator.org/topics/branch_accounts/marine/p_marine_helicopters.htm)
4. Major Rodney R. Propst, USMC, "*The Marine Helicopter And The Korean War*" (Marine Corps Command and staff college, 1989)

Comrade Rescues Afghans

(continued from page 1)

500 Afghan special operators, assets and enablers, and their families overnight to date, ABC News reported.

The operation was named after refugees who would hold up their smartphones showing a graphic of yellow pineapples on a pink field to identify themselves, according to the report. The password has since changed.

"This Herculean effort couldn't have been done without the unofficial heroes inside the airfield who defied their orders to not help beyond the airport perimeter, by wading into sewage canals and pulling in these targeted people who were flashing pineapples on their phones," Mann told ABC News.

The operation began Aug. 15 when the group helped rescue an Afghan commando who was being hunted by the Taliban and had received death threats by text because they knew he was a high-value target having worked with Navy SEAL Team Six for a dozen years.

The operation was made more difficult by the ISIS-K threat warning that came before the suicide bombings.

"We have lost comms with several of our teams," Jason Redman, a wounded former Navy SEAL, texted in an encrypted chat viewed by ABC News.

It was initially believed the blackout might have been because of the Taliban taking down cell towers, but another Task Force Pineapple member, a Green Beret, learned the U.S. military was jamming cell phones to counter terror threats outside the Kabul airport gates.

"The whole night was a roller-coaster ride," Redman told ABC News. "People were so terrified in that chaotic environment. These people were so exhausted, I kept trying to put myself in their shoes."

There have been 630 Afghan lives rescued, Redman told ABC News, lamenting "that our own government didn't do this. We did what we should do, as Americans."

"I have been involved in some of the most incredible missions and operations that a special forces guy could be a part of, and I have never been a part of anything more incredible than this," Army Maj. Jim Gant, a retired Green Beret, told ABC News. "The bravery and courage and commitment of my brothers and sisters in the Pineapple community was greater than the U.S. commitment on the battlefield."

"I just want to get my people out."

Former Green Beret Capt. Zac Lois, the underground railroad's "engineer," hailed the coming together of patriotic veterans.

"That is an astounding number for an organization that was only assembled days before the start of operations

and most of its members had never met each other in person," Lois told ABC News.

Dan O'Shea, a retired SEAL commander, told ABC News of the rescue of a U.S. citizen and his Afghan father and brother, having dodged Taliban checkpoints in finally getting on a plane out of Kabul.

"He was not willing to let his father and his brother behind; even it meant he would die," the former counterinsurgency adviser in Afghanistan, O'Shea, told ABC News.

MEMORIAL SERVICE - 16 OCTOBER

A Memorial service will be held for Navy CAPT Donald A. Sharer (1940-2010) at the Chesapeake Veterans Memorial in front of City Hall on 16 October at 1100, with Military Honors. Donald followed his father's footsteps and received a commission in the US Navy. Don's father was a submariner who gave the ultimate sacrifice in WWII. But instead of going underwater, Don took to the skies as a radar intercept officer flying in Phantom F4 fighter planes. Between 1965 and '67 he flew 238 missions over Vietnam. In the late 70's he was a resident of Chesapeake but working in Iran where he was teaching their naval pilots to fly F-14 Tomcats. On November 4th of 1979 he had the misfortune to be visiting the US Embassy when it was attacked by militarized Iranian college students. For the next 444 days he was a prisoner of the Iranian Revolution. But he was made

famous when in February 1980 a group of masked Iranians armed with automatic rifles shoved some Americans into a basement room and ordered them to lie down. Donald refused, telling them, "You're going to have to shoot me



standing up -- not lying down." Donald retired as a Navy Captain after a distinguished naval career. He passed away on September 13 in Texas. He was a true American hero. Condolences to his daughter, Jennifer Sharer Knight, a resident of Chesapeake.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY NOMINATIONS DUE 31 OCTOBER

If you know of an eligible high schooler, please share this scholarship opportunity with him/her!

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, more than 50,000 high school students compete for more than \$2.3 million in scholarships and incentives. Students compete by writing and recording a broadcast script on an annual patriotic theme.

Prizes and scholarships are awarded at the local, district, state and national level. Department (State) winners receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to tour the city, meet our nation's leaders, be honored by the VFW and its Auxiliary and receive their portion of \$151,000 in national awards, the top scholarship being \$30,000.

The Voice of Democracy Program is open to students in grades 9-12, who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the US and its territories.

Students should record their reading of the draft to a CD. The recording can be no shorter than 3 and no longer than 5 minutes (plus or minus 5 seconds). The **deadline is October 31st, 2020** and the theme is: **"Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?"**

Once the student creates their essay and completes burning the audio version to a CD, he/she can submit the typed version, CD and Voice of Democracy entry form to VFW Post 2894.

Entry forms can be downloaded at:

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>



PATRIOTS PEN SCHOLARSHIP NOMINATIONS DUE 31 OCTOBER

If you know of an eligible middle schooler, please share this scholarship opportunity with him/her!

The Patriot's Pen program is open to students in grades 6-8, who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States and its territories.

The **deadline is October 31st, 2020** and the theme is: **"What Is Patriotism to Me?"** Essays must be between 300-400 words long and should be submitted to a Post 2894 officer, along with the completed entry form.

Entry forms can be downloaded at:

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>



TEACHERS OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS DUE 31 OCTOBER

Post 2894 has been fortunate enough to have a National Teacher of the Year (Craig Blackman, Indian River HS, 2015), a National 3rd Runner-Up (Kimberly Hammers, Grassfield HS, 2016), a Department Winner (Kathy Doren, Greenbrier MS,

2017), and a District Winner (Kris Iaquinto, Great Bridge MS, 2019).

For the Post to qualify as an All-State Post this year, **we need to submit a nominee for one nomination** for a teacher, K-12. If you know of someone who promotes a sense of pride in students through the teaching of civic responsibilities, flag etiquette, and patriotism, please nominate them for this prestigious National VFW Award! The **deadline is October 31st, 2020!**

Nominations must include the nomination form, a 350 word justification, a one page resume', up to five pages of supporting documentation (CV, references, news articles, etc.), and a head-and-shoulder photo.

The top prize winner receives \$1,000 plus another \$1,000 to the school, plaques for both teacher and school, and an all-paid expense trip to the 2021 VFW National Convention which will be in Baltimore, MD.



Entry forms can be downloaded at:

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/teacher-of-the-year>

+ SAFETY CORNER +
OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION MONTH



PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY: GET REAL AND AVOID COUNTERFEIT ELECTRONICS

Counterfeit products are fake replicas produced in a manner that is increasingly difficult for consumers to identify, which is why we recommend always purchasing from a reputable source or directly from the manufacturer. This is the best way to ensure avoiding counterfeits.

So how else can you avoid purchasing counterfeit products and contributing to organized crime, gang activity, and other criminal activities? Follow these shopping tips to help make sure counterfeiters don't steal your hard-earned money.

Protecting Yourself Against Counterfeits

It's not always easy to spot a fake, even when it's side by side with the genuine product. However, it's

to know that can spot a
• Labels missing or



important the clues help you fake. with punctuation

- misspellings
- Different fonts or icons
- Blurred logos
- Poor grammar or typos on packaging and/or products

COUNTERFEITS CAN BE DANGEROUS. GET INFORMED



Safety Tips - Counterfeit power accessories including batteries, chargers, battery grips, and even external flashes can be dangerous. They may overheat, smoke, melt, or ignite and could cause bodily injury or property damage. These tips will help keep you—and your camera—safe.

Top tips to help avoid counterfeits:

- Beware of “too good to be true” prices
- Be careful when buying through foreign websites
- Purchase from authorized dealers or directly from the manufacturer

Red flags to look for:

- Check to make sure your battery fits easily in your device
- Check for overheating
- Make sure your battery holds a charge
- Compare logos for consistency
- Look for a security label such as a genuine hologram which changes when tilted back and forth, as can be found on Canon replacement batteries, toner, single ink tanks, and on the base of select batteries

Sure-fire Way to Protect Yourself

When in doubt, let the manufacturer check it out! Don't hesitate to contact the manufacturer with questions or inquiries. Many resources are available to help you combat this insidious crime. For more information, go to ncpc.org/stopfakes.

+ SAFETY CORNER **+**
**NOVEMBER IS DROWSY DRIVING
 PREVENTION MONTH**

Driving while Drowsy – What's the Harm?

Most people are aware of the dangers of driving while intoxicated, but many do not know that drowsiness also impairs judgment, performance and reaction times just

like alcohol and drugs. Studies show that being awake for more than 20 hours results in an impairment equal to a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08, the legal limit in all states.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration conservatively estimates that 100,000 police reported crashes each year are caused primarily by drowsy driving and that such crashes result in more than 1,550 deaths, 71,000 injuries and \$12.5 billion in monetary losses. According to National Sleep Foundation surveys, half of American adults consistently report that they have driven drowsy and approximately 20% admit that they have actually fallen asleep at the wheel in the previous year. This brochure outlines the important facts about sleepiness behind the wheel and offers tips to help you drive alert and arrive alive.



Signs of Sleepiness

Most people are not very good at predicting when they are about to fall asleep. But there are key warning signs to tell you when you are too tired to drive, including:

- Trouble focusing, keeping your eyes open or your head up
- Yawning or rubbing your eyes repeatedly
- Daydreaming and wandering thoughts
- Drifting from your lane, tailgating and missing signs or exits
- Feeling restless, irritable or aggressive
- Turning up the radio or rolling down the window
- Slower reaction time, poor judgment

Preventing a Fall-Asleep Crash

The best way to avoid a drowsy driving crash is to get adequate sleep on a regular basis, practice good sleep habits, and seek treatment for sleep problems, should they arise. In addition, here are some important driving dos and don'ts:

DON'T

- Drive if you are tired or on medication that may cause drowsiness. (Check medication labels and speak to your doctor)
- Rely on the radio, an open window or other tricks to keep you awake.
- Drive at times when you would normally be sleeping.
- Drink even a small amount of alcohol, especially if you are sleepy.

DO

- Get a good night's sleep before a long drive.
- Get off the road if you notice any of the warning signs of fatigue.

- Take a nap – find a safe place to take a 15 to 20-minute nap.
- Consume caffeine – the equivalent of 2 cups of coffee can increase alertness for several hours, but DO NOT rely on it for long periods.
- Try consuming caffeine before taking a short nap to get the benefits of both.
- Drive with a friend. A passenger who remains awake can help watch for signs of fatigue in the driver and can take a turn driving, if necessary.
- Always wear your seatbelt.

QUARTERMASTER DESK



Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$30

Annual dues can be paid via mail (see our new address on front of newsletter) or to the Quartermaster at one of our meetings. If you pay on-line to National, the cost is \$40.50.

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 \$45 payment and then paying the remaining installments over the next 11 months. 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 by 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 is issued upon completion of payments.

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>

Life Memberships can be paid online at www.vfw.org, via mail, or in-person at the meetings.

OCTOBER MILITARY HISTORY

- 1880 John Philip Sousa becomes director of Marine Corps Band
- 1942 Maiden flight of Bell P-59 Airacomet, first US jet fighter
- 1943 Allied forces liberate Naples
- 1945 US Army discharges MSGT Joe Louis
- 1955 Commissioning of USS 'Forrestal' (CVA-59) 1st supercarrier
- 1957 B-52 bombers begin full-time flying alert in case of USSR attack, which continues until early 1990s
- 1799 Washington Navy Yard established
- 1835 Battle of Gonzales: Texans rout Mexicans, touching off Texas Revolution
- 1895 Publication of Stephen Crane's "Red Badge of Courage"

- 1921 Unknown Soldier sails from France aboard USS 'Olympia'
- 1821 First USN squadron sails for anti-slavery patrol off Africa
- 1943 US aircraft & ships raid Japanese positions on Wake Is, leading to execution of American civilians held prisoner
- 1781 Americans & French begin siege of Cornwallis at Yorktown
- 1777 Second Battle of Saratoga (Bemis Heights): Americans win
- 2001 US & Allies initiate war in Afghanistan after Taliban refuses to surrender Osama bin Laden
- 1918 Sgt Alvin York captures "whole damned German Army"
- 1942 Guadalcanal: Marines encircle Japanese 4th Inf Regt
- 1945 Broadway ticker tape parade for Admiral Chester W. Nimitz
- 1944 17 US carriers raid Ryukyus
- 1861 Battle of Dumfries/Quantico Creek, VA
- 1944 Japan announces it will "fight to last man, woman, child, weapon, and piece of equipment."
- 2000 Islamist suicide boat attack on USS 'Cole' (DDG-67) at Aden, 17 die, abt 40 wounded
- 1775 Congress establishes Continental Navy
- 1864 John Mosby raids Harpers Ferry
- 1942 Guadalcanal: Japanese ships land reinforcements, shell Marines
- 1942 New Guinea: Heavy fighting, Templeton's Crossing, Kokod Trail.
- 1944 Peleliu secured: Japanese KI abt 12,000, US over 1,200.
- 1859 John Brown's "Raid" on Harper's Ferry
- 1863 U.S. Grant named commander of Union forces in West
- 1940 WW II draft begins; #158 drawn first
- 1962 Missile Crisis: JFK learns of Soviet missiles in Cuba
- 1777 British General John Burgoyne surrenders at Saratoga
- 1781 British General Lord Cornwallis surrenders at Yorktown
- 1916 Battleship 'Arizona' (BB-39) commissioned at Brooklyn Navy Yard
- 1922 1st US carrier take-off: Virgil C. Griffin in VE-7SF off 'Langley' (CV 1)
- 1767 Completion of survey of Mason-Dixon Line, defining mutual borders of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Delaware
- 1859 US Marines under Robert E. Lee capture John Brown & his party at Harper's ferry
- 1879 William Tecumseh Sherman says "War is hell"
- 1915 USN establishes submarine base at New London, Ct.
- 1950 UN forces enter Pyongyang, capital of North Korea
- 1987 US warships destroy Iranian oil platforms in Persian Gulf
- 1944 MacArthur returns to Philippines at Leyte, w/200,000 troops
- 1944 US First Army secures Aachen
- 1797 USS 'Constitution' - 'Old Ironsides' - launched at Boston
- 1836 Sam Houston inaugurated as 1st elected President of Republic of Texas (1836-1838)
- 1954 West Germany joins NATO
- 1962 Missile Crisis: JFK imposes naval blockade on Cuba
- 1775 Congress bars blacks from army, but is generally ignored
- 1942 Guadalcanal: Battle of Edson's Ridge - Japanese assault broken
- 1983 Beirut: Suicide truck bomb kills 243 US personnel
- 1942 FDR directs all available ammo, aircraft, & equipment be provided to forces engaged on Guadalcanal or bound for North Africa, even if it means stripping units elsewhere
- 1943 Battle of Cape St. George: five US destroyers sink 3 of 6 Japanese destroyers
- 1958 US Marines leave Lebanon (there since July)

- 1983 US and West Indian forces occupy Grenada
- 26** 1861 Last ride of Pony Express
- 1944 Leyte Gulf ends: losses, Japan 34 major warships, US 6
- 27** 1775 Congress formally establishes US Navy
- 1810 U.S. annexes West Florida from Spain
- 1942 Battle of Santa Cruz Isl: USS 'Hornet' (CV-8) sunk
- 1954 Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. becomes first black general in USAF
- 28** 1942 "Tokyo Express" lands troops on Guadalcanal.
- 1962 Khrushchev orders missiles out of Cuba, ending Missile Crisis
- 29** 1929 "Black Friday": Crash of '29
- 1944 Near Aachen, 1st Inf Div Rabbi Sidney Lefkowitz & cantor PFC Max Fuchs conduct first Jewish service for American troops on German soil, broadcast worldwide, with accompanying artillery fire
- 30** 1954 Defense Department announces elimination of all segregated units
- 31** 1803 US Frigate 'Philadelphia' grounds off Tripoli & taken by Barbary pirates
- 1941 'U-552' sinks USS 'Reuben James' (DD-245), 115 die; first US ship lost in WW II
- 1952 First thermonuclear bomb detonated, Marshall Islands
- 1968 President Johnson halts all bombing of North Vietnam
- 1945 US liberates Nazi concentration camp at Buchenwald
- 1954 USMC ["Iwo Jima"] Memorial dedicated in Arlington
- 11** 1839 Virginia Military Institute opens
- 1864 Sherman's March: Burning of Rome, Georgia
- 1909 USN begins construction of base at Pearl Harbor
- 1921 Escorted by 30 holders of Medal of Honor, "Unknown Soldier" laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery
- 12** 1942 Naval Battle of Guadalcanal, Day 1: Japanese aircraft raid Henderson field, both fleets converge on Iron Bottom Sound
- 13** 1775 Americans under Maj Gen Richard Montgomery capture Montreal
- 1776 John Paul Jones captures British transport 'Mellish'
- 1982 Vietnam War Memorial dedicated
- 14** 1910 First airplane takeoff from ship: Eugene Ely in Curtiss Flyer, off USS 'Birmingham' (CL-2)
- 15** 1864 Sherman burns what Confederates haven't of Atlanta
- 16** 1982 Maiden voyage of Space Shuttle 'Columbia'
- 17** 1869 Suez Canal opens
- 1913 Panama Canal opens
- 1917 First US ASW Victory: Destroyers 'Fanning' (DD-37) & 'Nicholson' (DD-52) sink 'U-58', in Irish Sea
- 18** 1961 JFK sends 18,000 military advisors to South Vietnam
- 19** 1492 Columbus lands in Puerto Rico
- 1863 Abraham Lincoln gives Gettysburg speech
- 1944 New Guinea: U.S. troops land
- 1950 Eisenhower becomes supreme commander of NATO
- 1999 USCG Capt Earl R. Fox, Public Health Service, retires; last WW II veteran on active service

NOVEMBER MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1765 Stamp Act goes into effect in British colonies
- 1835 Texans begin siege of San Antonio (it falls Dec 4)
- 1943 Bougainville: 3rd Marine Div lands at Cape Torokina, Empress Augusta Bay
- 1951 First atomic explosion with troops present, NM
- 1952 First hydrogen device exploded, Eniwetok Atoll
- 2** 1783 Washington's "Farewell Address to Army," at Rocky Hill, near Princeton
- 1917 First US troops KIA in France
- 1944 US & Filipino troops clear Japanese from central valley on Leyte.
- 3** 1783 Continental Army mustered out of service, Rocky Hill, NJ
- 1979 Teheran: Iranians storm US embassy to take 63 hostages
- 4** 1862 Richard J. Gatling receives patent for clever device
- 1950 US troops retreat from Pyongyang, North Korea
- 5** 1917 Maj. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr, leads first American patrol into "No Man's Land"
- 6** 1945 First jet carrier landing: Ryan FR "Fireball" on USS 'Wake Island' (CVE-65)
- 7** 1865 CSS 'Shenandoah' surrenders to British authorities at Liverpool, seven months after Appomattox
- 1973 The War Powers Act becomes law
- 8** 1942 Operation Torch: US/British forces land northwestern Africa
- 1950 Lt. Russell J. Brown's F-86 scores North Korean MiG-15 in history's first jet-on-jet combat
- 9** 1921 The Unknown Soldier arrives at Washington aboard USS 'Olympia'
- 1984 "Three Servicemen" Statue added to Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- 1989 The Berlin Wall comes down
- 10** 1775 Congress establishes Marine Corps
- 1782 Chillicothe, Ohio, George Rodgers Clark defeats Indians and Tories; final battle of Revolutionary War.
- 20** 1866 First national convention of Grand Army of Republic [GAR]
- 1945 General of Army George C. Marshall steps down, after 2272 days as Chief-of-Staff
- 21** 1943 Operation Galvanic: Marines in heavy fighting on Tarawa, National Guardsmen advance on Makin, while Marines land on Abemama, 75 mi SE of Tarawa.
- 22** 1943 FDR, Churchill, & Chiang meet to discuss defeat of Japan
- 23** 1943 Operation Galvanic: US forces secure Tarawa & Makin
- 1944 Gen Patch's Seventh Army captures Strasbourg
- 24** 1941 CNO warns fleet "surprise aggressive movement" by Japan imminent
- 1944 First B-29 raid from Saipan; 111 bombers hit Tokyo.
- 25** 1783 Evacuation Day: British leave New York City, their last base in US, and that evening Governor George Clinton of New York honors George Washington with banquet at Frances' Tavern, where thirteen toasts were offered, beginning with "The United States of America"
- 1961 USS 'Enterprise' (CVN-65), first nuclear-powered carrier, is commissioned
- 26** 1862 Lincoln meets ". . . little lady who started this big war," Harriet Beecher Stowe
- 27** 1789 President George Washington proclaims last Thursday in November a day of prayer and thanksgiving
- 1943 Teheran Conference: Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin talk strategy
- 28** 1795 US pays \$800,000 & frigate for "protection" from Algerian & Tunisian pirates
- 29** 1760 Rogers' Rangers capture Detroit from French
- 1951 1st underground atomic explosion, Frenchman's Flat, NV
- 30** 1782 Preliminary Treaty of Paris: American and British sign preliminary articles to end Revolutionary War
- 1943 Teheran Conference: FDR, Churchill, & Stalin agree to launch Operation Overlord in May of 1944

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 vfwpost2894@aol.com.

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!!!**

VFW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE

NATIONAL COPY
Ver 3/18

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
EMAIL _____
DATE OF BIRTH _____ GENDER (M) (F) _____
PHONE _____ SSN (optional) _____
BRANCH OF SERVICE ARMY NAVY AIR FORCE MARINE COAST GUARD
QUALIFYING CAMPAIGN MEDAL(S) AND/OR SERVICE _____
DATES OF SERVICE: _____
LOCATION OF QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE: _____
Please see reverse for terms and conditions of Automatic Payment and Installment Life Plans.

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (choose one)

ANNUAL MEMBER
Payment Authorization
You may pay by check or credit. For payments by check, you will receive a yearly Statement by mail. For credit card payments, please complete the following:
 I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ _____ on a yearly Basis to pay my Annual membership dues.
 I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of \$ _____

LIFE MEMBER
 I authorize the VFW to charge my account for a one-time payment of \$ _____

LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLAN
 I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ _____ to be paid in 11 monthly installment payments after my initial payment of \$45.00.
 I authorize the VFW to charge the \$45.00 initial payment and I understand that I will be billed for the remaining 11 monthly installment payments.

QUARTERMASTER - PLEASE FILL OUT

NEW Post No. _____
 FORMER MEMBER ID No. _____
 TRANSFER From Post No. _____ to Post No. _____
RECRUITER (please print) _____
QUARTERMASTER _____
SIGNATURE _____
DATE _____
AMOUNT \$ _____
Exp Date _____
CARD NO. _____
 MASTERCARD VISA DISCOVER AMEX

The Review Committee has performed its duties and recommends _____ approval _____ rejection. (signatures of Committee members below)

Committee member _____ Committee Member _____ Date _____
Committee member _____ Committee Member _____

PLEASE SEPARATE FORMS BEFORE SIGNING

DUES PAID: _____ ADMISSION FEE PAID: _____ DATE: _____ RECEIVED BY: _____

VFW Post Member Transfer Declaration
(used for Transfers in accordance with Sec. 107 of the Manual of Procedure)
"I hereby certify that it is my desire to transfer my VFW membership from VFW Post _____ located in _____ to VFW Post _____ located in _____.
I further certify that I am not indebted to my former Post, be it through oral or written commitment or otherwise, and that to the best of my knowledge no written charges have been preferred against me by my former Post, and I understand that any such indebtedness or charge which may be disclosed at any time hereafter will render this transfer null and void."
Please have the applicant sign to the right

TEMPORARY RECEIPT
Membership Application - Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Date: _____
Received from _____ \$ _____
Post No: _____ City and State _____
Received By: _____
(circle one) CASH CHECK VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMEX

CERTIFICATION (See Sec. 104 By-Laws)
I testify that I am a citizen or national of the United States, that my Campaign Service was honorable, that I have never subsequently been discharged from military service under dishonorable conditions. I also certify that (1) I am entitled to a campaign ribbon or medal authorized by the U.S. Government based on my overseas service or (2) I have served overseas in Korea or; I have received Imminent Danger or Hostile Fire Pay. I further give authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to verify honorable overseas service entitling me to membership.
DATE: _____
SIGNATURE: _____
\$1.98 of your membership goes towards your VFW magazine subscription.

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

MEMBERSHIP/MEMBER TRANSFER APPLICATION PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Recruited/Recommended by: _____ Recruiter Member ID: _____

Auxiliary No. _____ City _____ State _____ Member ID (If already a member) _____

Annual Membership Life Rejoined Previous Member No. _____ Previous Auxiliary _____

Member-at-Large Life Member-at-Large in Department of _____ or in National

These fields required. Name _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____
 Address _____ Male or Female
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone (____) _____ Email _____

POST AFFILIATED: (*Must be a member to the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)
 Relationship _____ to Eligible Veteran* _____ VFW Membership ID _____

LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER, Previous Auxiliary _____ Accepting Treasurer's Signature _____
 Date _____

ANNUAL TRANSFER, Previous Auxiliary _____ Paying or Nonpaying ? (check one)

ANNUAL TRANSFER CONVERTING TO LIFE, Previous Auxiliary _____ (Fill out Life Membership information below.)

NON AFFILIATED: (*Veteran is not a member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)
 Relationship _____ to Eligible Veteran* _____ VFW Post _____ (If applicable)

Name of campaign ribbons or medals: _____
 Dates of Service: ____/____/____ to ____/____/____ Location: _____

I attest that I am a citizen of the United States or a U.S. National, and am at least 16 years of age. I further state that I believe in God. I pledge to comply with the National Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary. I attest I am not eligible for membership in the VFW. I further attest that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, including my stated relationship to the Veteran.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Investigating Committee: 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws. Rejected Election Date ____/____/____ Obligated Date ____/____/____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP Check here if this is a gift.

Card will be mailed to the Auxiliary Treasurer.

Payment: Cash Check Visa

MasterCard Discover AMEX

Life Membership Fee \$ _____

Name on credit card _____

Billing address for card _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Credit Card No. _____

CVV Code _____ Exp. ____/____

Signature _____ Date _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ACH (Bank withdrawal)

Name of Bank _____

Bank Routing No. _____

Account No. _____

Attach voided check HERE. (Required)



LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES
 Effective 1/1/2017

Attained age at 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.

Through 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

OBLIGATION

In the presence of Almighty God and the members of this organization here assembled, I do of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise that I will never wrong or defraud this organization nor a member thereof nor permit either to be wronged if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership any person not eligible, according to our Bylaws. I further state that I believe in God. I will be faithful to the United States of America, obedient to the laws and loyal to the Flag. Should my membership with this organization cease in any way, I will consider this obligation as binding outside of the organization as though I had remained a member. I do so promise. Signature _____ (Must be signed by all members.)

VFW Auxiliary HQ Revised 01/2019



Rifle Raffle



CUSTOM-BUILT AR-15



Drawing on 11 November 2021

Need not be present to win

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

This 5.56 mm AR-15 was custom built by BARE KNUCKLE DEFENSE. It includes an adjustable stock, Picatinny rail along the top of the barrel and upper receiver (as well as the sides and bottom near the front sight), and two 30-round magazines.

The AR-15 has proven itself as an all-around and versatile firearm. The modular platform makes it easy to configure your gun your way. It has proven itself reliable, rugged, and accurate, making it a go-to choice. From target-shooting, to varmint extermination, and home defense, this is the most popular firearm in America today!

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



Join me for a "Walk To Defeat ALS" on October 3rd (check-in at 0930, walk starts at 1030) at Neptune Park, 31st and Atlantic Avenue, along the Boardwalk in Virginia Beach.

Register with my team, "TheMuleTeam", at www.als.org/dc-md-va/events/walk-defeat-als-tidewater or donate on our Facebook page

(www.facebook.com/donate/332622131788762/333308005053508). If you want a "Mule Team" t-shirt for \$20, send your size to majmule@verizon.net.

Thanks to all of you who have donated to my cause. I am truly blessed and humbled. *Chris "Mule" Mulholland*



Walk to Defeat ALS Tidewater

POST 2894 CALENDAR

OCTOBER	
3	National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Day/ Walk Against ALS
6	Sheriff's Great American Food Fest
7	Start of OEF (2001)
9	State Recruiting School, Post 4809 Norfolk (09-1200)
11	Columbus Day / Build for Heroes, Suffolk
12	USS Cole Bombing (2000)
13	US Navy Birthday (1775) Post Meeting, 1900 / Quarterly Audit
16	Memorial Service (1130), CAPT Sharer
23	Bombing of Marine Barracks Beirut (1983)
27	Navy Day
31	Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, Teachers of the Year due to Post

NOVEMBER	
2	ELECTION DAY
6-7	Buddy Poppy Drive, TBD
7	Daylight savings - "fall back" 1 hr
10	US Marine Corps Birthday (1775) Post Meeting/Cake Cutting, 1900
11	Veterans Day Ceremony, 1100, City Hall
13	District 2 meeting, Post 8545 Smithfield, 1200 (SvcO SOI 0900)
25	Thanksgiving

Place
Stamp
Here



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



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED