

VFW OBJECTIVES:

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



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 2894

Meetings

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



Post Address:

VFW Post 2894
PO Box 15842
Chesapeake, VA 23328

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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 Hostettler
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



“ALS is Killing Veterans”

PLEASE call Senator Tim Kaine [(202) 224-4024] and urge him to help veterans by cosponsoring S.1813, the “Accelerating Access to Critical Therapies for ALS Act” [ACT for ALS]!

Past Post Commander Chris Mulholland wrote an Oped that was published in the Military Times, Virginia Pilot, DOD Early Bird, Defense News, DOD Times, Marine Corps Times, Air Force Times, Navy Times, Army Times and Minuteman Militia! Ever since, he has been receiving letters of thanks from all over the country from other vets stricken with ALS and the family members of those who died from it. Here it is in full:

Do you know that ALS is a significant threat to the veterans’ community?

Since 1910, multiple studies have shown that the rate at which U.S. veterans develop amyotrophic lateral sclerosis — also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease — is twice as high as the American general population. Despite this, there’s a shockingly low amount of awareness of the disease among the veteran community.



Chris Mulholland led "The Mule Team" for the Walk to Defeat ALS in Virginia Beach on Oct. 3, 2021. The team raised \$11,000 for the ALS Association.

MilitaryTimes

ALS is killing veterans

www.militarytimes.com/opinion/commentary/2021/10/28/als-is-killing-veterans/

“Veterans are developing ALS in rates higher than the general population.

— VA Secretary Dr. James Peake, 2008

I should know. I was diagnosed with ALS in November 2020. Before then, my only acquaintance with ALS was the “ice bucket challenge”. After my diagnosis, I have made a point to ask every veteran I meet if they’re aware of the link between military service and the likelihood of being stricken with ALS. I have yet to meet someone who says they do. That needs to change.

(continued on page 7)

COMMANDER'S CORNER

On behalf of VFW Post 2894 I would like to wish everyone a "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year"! God bless us all!

It's hard to believe that in a few days it will be 80 years since what President Roosevelt called "a date that will live in infamy" occurred, December 7th, 1941! What followed was a declaration of war by the United States of America against Japan. Within days, Japan's allies, Germany, and Italy, declared war on the United States, and the country began a rapid transition to a wartime economy by building up armaments in support of military campaigns in the Pacific, North Africa, and Europe.

Immediately Americans from all walks of life rushed to join the military in defend our freedoms, liberties, and the American way of life. This generation of Americans had lived through the "Great Depression" and now were called on to give their lives to keep our country free! This generation became known as the "Greatest Generation"!

One of our Post Comrades is a living member of that generation. His name is Edward L. Vincek Cpl United States Marines Corps. Cpl Vincek survived the invasion of Iwo Jima. Cpl Vincek is 97 years young. Here is part of his story.

"EDDIE VINCEK was born in 1925 and grew up on a dairy farm in upstate New York. In May of 1943 he joined the US Marine Corps; "I was going to be drafted into the war. I didn't want to join the Navy, so, I joined the Marine Corps."

He first was stationed at Norfolk Naval Air Station where he met his future wife, Mary. He was then transferred to the Pacific after infantry training at Camp Lejeune and boarded LST 634 (Landing Ship Tank) bound for Japan. For 42 days he and his brother Marines voyaged across the ocean unsure of whether they would survive. Every day Japanese submarines circled the convoy harassing and threatening them. While the Japanese never fired on the ships, the constant threat of attack kept them on edge.

On February 19, 1945, Eddie landed on the island of Iwo Jima - one hour after the initial landing. "Working on a dairy farm," he explained, "I was used to seeing animal blood, but not human blood spilt over the ground." More than 6,000 Marines died during that invasion.

"I was one of the few that walked off carrying my own gear. So many others had been killed or wounded and weren't able to carry their own gear off the island."

After his honorable discharge as a Corporal in 1946, he returned to Virginia and wed Mary.

You can read more about Cpl Vincek's life here: www.pilotonline.com/life/vp-cp-anniversary-75-1024-20211019-5ffvccmv2nau5hfgotgrau7ts4-story.html

**Another member of the Greatest Generations is Crowley
Daniel W Sgt United States Army
(May 22, 1922-September 16, 2021)**

Dan and his wife, Kelley, drove in their Mustang, from Connecticut to Chesapeake, to be our guest of honor for the last three Bataan Death March Memorial Walk events. One thing

Dan told us was that they were "Surrendered". They never would have surrendered on their own accord.

"After 76 years, on January 4, 2021, Pvt. Daniel Crowley, a son of Connecticut and a WWII veteran, received his promotion to Sergeant, his Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB), and POW Medal. Dan served in the Philippines with several units: the U.S. Army Air Corps at Nichols Field near Manila, the U.S. Army Air Corps Provisional Infantry Regiment (PARC) that fought the invading Japanese forces on the Bataan Peninsula, and the 4th Marines on Corregidor. He became a prisoner of the Japanese in May 1942. He was liberated from a POW slave labor copper mining camp in Japan in September 1945." Read more about Sgt Crowley's further on in this newsletter.

Lastly, we would like to bid farewell to Bea Oakley. Bea was a charter member Post 2894 Auxiliary. Bea passed away on October 16, 2021. We have now named our Buddy Poppy drives the "Bea Oakley Memorial Buddy Poppy Drive." God bless you, Bea.

José Vazquez, Commander



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from VFW Auxiliary 2894!



We wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Enjoy the Holidays with your family and friends.

Remember our Military Serving all over the world, and Remember our Veterans. Be Safe and Stay Healthy.

Sandy Dunbar, President



www.thelightinginfo

**DANIEL W. CROWLEY
(1922-2021)
"Honorary Member" of VFW
Post 2894**

Daniel W. Crowley, SGT, US Army Air Corps (USAAC) was a bona fide hero and an American icon. He participated in each of our annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walks since 2016. We considered him an honorary member of our Post. He recently passed away at the age of 99. We will miss him terribly. Here is his obituary:

Daniel W. Crowley, former prominent salesman for Northwestern Mutual Insurance, survivor of the Battles of Bataan and Corregidor and POW of Imperial Japan, passed away peacefully from natural causes on Thursday, September 16, 2021, at his home in Simsbury, Connecticut. He was 99 years old.

He was born May 29, 1922 and raised in Greenwich, Connecticut. Son of famous women's fashion icon, textile designer Timothy F. Crowley and Janet (Cook) Crowley, Dan experienced the depths of the Depression when his father's business went bankrupt.

He enlisted in the US Army Air Corps in October 1940 and was sent to the Philippines in March 1941. Mr. Crowley was posted to Nichols Field, which was destroyed when the Japanese attacked on December 8, 1941 and that the United States entered World War II. He fought in the Bataan Peninsula with the US Army's Provisional Infantry Regiment, repelling three Japanese amphibious landings.

After the surrender of the Bataan Peninsula on April 9, 1942 – the largest military surrender in American history – he swam the three miles of shark infested mine water to Corregidor Island in Manila Bay. On Corregidor, Mr. Crowley became a member of the 4th Marines fighting a dangerous and desperate coastal defense until the fall of the island fortress on May 6, 1942.

After surviving a series of brutal working details over the Philippines, in 1944 he was sent aboard a hell ship to Japan. There he was a slave in copper mining, first for the



Hitachi company, then for the Furukawa company in their Ashio mine.

Mr. Crowley was released on September 4, 1945 and was at home in Connecticut for Christmas. He first became a traveling salesman dependent on commissions and his intelligence. In 1958 he started working for Northwestern Mutual Insurance, where he quickly became one of their top producers and a member of their Million Dollar club.

Crowley believed he had a good life in Simsbury, but he never forgot the years that were stolen from him by the Japanese. In 2013, he helped have the Route 185 bridge in Simsbury named the "Bataan Corregidor Memorial Bridge" in memory of the soldiers who fought alongside him and lost their lives fighting the Japanese on Bataan and Corregidor.

In October 2014, Mr. Crowley returned to Japan as part of the 5th US-Japanese POW Friendship Program. Unfortunately, the leaders of Furukawa refused to meet with him. However, he revisited one of the mines where he worked.



In 2016, he attended President Barack Obama's Veterans Day breakfast at the White House. And on January 4, 2021, at a ceremony at Bradley Air National Guard Base in Connecticut, U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal presented Mr. Crowley with his long-delayed promotion to Sergeant, an honorary badge of infantryman. de combat (CIB) and a prisoner of war medal.

He was married for 65 years to Marie Boles who predeceased him in 2012. They had two children, son Daniel W. Crowley, Jr. (deceased) and daughter Janet Sackbauer of Vail, Colorado.

On April 24, 2014, he married Kelley Thomen who accompanied him in 2016 to Washington for the White

House breakfast on President Obama's Veterans Day. Kelley and Janet were by his side when he died.

Besides his wife and daughter, he is survived by his son-in-law Frederick Sackbauer and his grandchildren Lucy, Mary and Timothy Sackbauer, Daniel William Crowley III and his great-grandson Peyton Crowley.



A public celebration of life will take place at a later date.

Mr. Crowley was a life member of VFW, American Legion, and DAV, as well as the American Defenders of Bataan and the Corregidor Memorial Society.

Donations must be made on behalf of Sgt Crowley to the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society; checks made payable to "ADBCMS" may be sent to the Company Treasurer, Ms. Judy Pruitt, 23 Elwell Road, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130, or to <https://www.adbmemorialsociety.org/Memorial-Donations>.

The Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center of Avon is responsible for family arrangements. To share a memento or condolence message with Mr. Crowley's family, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

Posted by Hartford Courant on September 23, 2021

FROM THE CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE

"Christmas Prayer for Our Troops"

Almighty and Everlasting God, as we celebrate the birth of Your Son in this world and experience the peace He has to offer us today, we remember our troops at home and abroad who dedicate their lives to protecting our people on this planet.



We are sorry that war is still a part of our lives and that we call upon our young people to risk their lives for us, putting themselves in harm's way for our freedom. We pray that You will enable us one day to put an end to war and truly experience peace on Earth, so that our Christmas celebrations will be full of joy.

We pray for our troops stationed both here and abroad. We ask that You bless, protect and preserve them wherever they are located. Help us to let them know how much we truly appreciate their service and give us opportunities to care for, encourage, and embrace them.

We pray for their families this Christmas who suffer from separation and distance at this time of year. Surround them

with good friends and strong families. Be near to the wives, daughters and mothers, husbands, sons, and fathers who miss their loved ones.

We also remember those who have been wounded in action, who are recovering at home or in Veterans' hospitals. We pray for their healing, recovery, and tender care. We especially remember those who are permanently injured whether emotionally, mentally, physically, or neurologically. May they be deeply cared for and honorably respected.

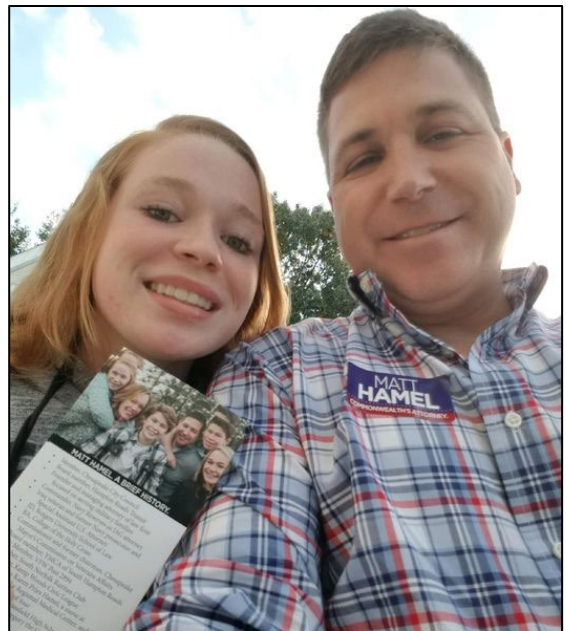
We pray for our military leaders and Commander in Chief who need to make tough and unenviable decisions. We pray that You will grant them guidance and discernment to act upon the fresh challenges to peace that occur around the world.

Finally, we pray for those service families who have an empty chair at their Christmas tables that will never be filled. In the midst of their loss, surround them with caring friends and loving people. Let the real sacrifices that they have made, and still sadly experience, be humbly honored and deeply respected by all of us. May we cherish the freedom that our troops have accomplished through the giving of their lives. Amen

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."
(Psalm 147:3, NASB)

OTHER POST NEWS

POST JUDGE ADVOCATE WINS ELECTED OFFICE! Post Judge Advocate Matt Hamel ran for Commonwealth's Attorney of Chesapeake City County and won overwhelmingly



with 56% of the vote! This was not his first election since he's a sitting City Councilman but it was his most important. He had numerous endorsements including former Governor Bob McDonnell, current Mayor Rick West, former Mayor Alan Krasnoff, Sheriff Jim O'Sullivan, the FOP, and numerous

others. By the end of the campaign season Matt and his 'campaign team' (i.e., his family!) had:

- Distributed over 20,000 palm cards by hand
- Walked over 225 miles in all areas of the city
- Given out over 1500 yard signs
- Connected to voters with 90,000 pieces of literature
- Placed lapel stickers on over 2000 friends and supporters
- Given out 7 of 500 bumper stickers (ok not everything is a big hit)
- Had over 20,000 Facebook interactions

We wish Matt fair winds and following seas in his new position!

• POST COMRADE CELEBRATES 75TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!

The Virginian-Pilot

Chesapeake residents celebrate 75 years of marriage: 'We just hit it off'

CINDY BUTLER FÖCKE, VIRGINIAN-PILOT

CORRESPONDENT | OCT 19, 2021 AT 12:10 PM

Eddie Vincek and Mary Roth met during World War II in the summer of 1943. The 19-year-old Marine was in boot camp at Naval Station Norfolk. He and his comrades heard about a dance in Bowers Hill. "My buddies said, let's go," Eddie recalled. "And that's where I met my wife, on the dance floor."

The couple recently celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary Oct. 6.

Eddie Vincek, 97, said they were meant to be together. "She was a country girl and I was a country boy," he said. "We just hit it off."

The pair have a lot in common. Mary was born on a Chesapeake farm and was valedictorian of the Deep Creek High School class of 1942. Eddie grew up on a family dairy farm established in 1920 in upstate New York.

Both of their grandparents came to the U.S. from Czechoslovakia, which meant they were very familiar with the polka the night they met in the social hall of St. Mary's Catholic Church — the same place they were married three years later.

Soon after that dance, Eddie was transferred to Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, then California and Hawaii. In early 1945, Eddie was part of the 5th Marine Division, which fought in the weekslong Battle of Iwo Jima.

American forces overtook the Japanese Island, and the war ended later that year. Eddie was in Japan for another six months.

He came back to the states in April 1946, and was engaged to Mary the following month. The wedding was small, and followed by a trip to New York to visit Eddie's side of the family, members of which couldn't leave their farming livelihood to attend the ceremony.

"That was more or less a honeymoon," he said.

Eddie didn't re-enlist, but went to work for Globe Iron Construction Company in Norfolk. "I got paid 50 cents an hour and had a paycheck of \$21 for five and a half days," he said.

The couple lived with Mary's family in Chesapeake after they were married. "No mail, no lights, no phone," Eddie Vincek said. They still live in the house they built on Shillelagh Road in Grassfield in 1953.

The Vinceks raised three children, and have four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Their daughter Anne Gwynn lives in Great Bridge.

"We had a great childhood," she said.

Mary Vincek was an avid gardener and spent many years in the "Home Demonstration Club," later named the "Homemaker's Club," a Norfolk County Extension Service organization. She enjoyed canning vegetables, quilting, making ceramics and other crafts. She assisted their church with bazaars, and volunteered at the voting polls.

Eddie's hobbies were woodworking, gardening and fixing lawnmowers and bicycles. Both delivered Meals on Wheels, and for years cooked meals monthly for a Portsmouth soup kitchen.

Vincek said he and his wife are in good health, and don't have a secret to a long, happy marriage.

"We get along and love each other," he said.

They enjoy sitting on their front porch, within view of the flagpole that displays an American flag. Just down the road is Vincek Way, named in Eddie's honor for service to the community.

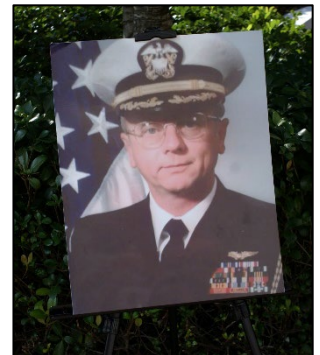
"We just enjoy life," he said.



Post members (and City Councilmembers) Susan Vitale and Matt Hamel attended the 75th anniversary of fellow Post comrade Eddie Vincek and his wife, Mary.

• POST HONORS VIETNAM AND TEHRAN HERO.

Captain Don Sharer, USN (Ret.) was a Chesapeake native who died in Mansfield, TX on September 13th. He was buried in Texas but his daughter, Jennifer Sharer Knight, the Chair of Chesapeake's Historic Preservation Commission, desired to honor his life in his hometown of Chesapeake. She reached out to Past Post Commander Carl Dozier for assistance and he gladly took on the task of organizing and conducting a memorial service for Capt. Sharer. So on the morning of October 16th a large group of family, friends, dignitaries and admirers gathered at the Veterans Memorial in front of City Hall. A Navy flier with 238 missions over Vietnam, Donald was living in Chesapeake in the late 70's 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." When he returned to Chesapeake he was given a hero's welcome. Don was a Life Member of VFW Post 1686 in Bedford, Indiana and VFW Post 2894 was humbled to be asked to honor his service to country.



Left to right, Former Mayor Alan Krasnoff, Former Congressman J. Randy Forbes, Carl Dozier, Mayor Richard West, VFW Post Commander Jose Vazquez.

• **POST TEAMS WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY ON HOUSE BUILD.** On 11 October, VFW Post 2894 sent our "Army team" to help build a house in Suffolk VA as part of Habitat for Humanity's "Heroes Build Week. Teams from the Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard were there also. The Post also donated \$500 and had the VFW logo included as a sponsor on the t-shirts. Our Army team consisted of Jim Ireland, Nathan Barnette Jr and Jose Vazquez. We worked hard but it was well worth the effort. We would like to thank Rainham Rowe and the entire Habitat for Humanity organization for continuing their support of qualified low-income families by building safe, affordable homes in South Hampton Roads using the Habitat Model of "A Hand Up: not a Hand Out." We would also like to thank Paul Smith, and his entire BAE Systems team, for sponsoring this event!



Lt to rt: Nathan Barnette Jr, Jim Ireland, and Jose Vazquez

• **POST MEMBERS TAKE MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE.** Grace and Matt Schweers joined Jean and Carl

Dozier on a cruise ship tour of the central Mediterranean called "Antiquities of the Mediterranean". Boarding the ship in Venice, they sailed down the Adriatic Sea, then through the Greek islands before heading westward around the "heel" of the Italian boot and then northwards along Italy's west coast. Besides Venice, they toured Croatia, Montenegro, Athens, Corfu, Crete, Sicily, Naples (fond memories for all us 6th Fleet alumni), Rome, Pisa, Florence, Monaco, Nice, and Barcelona – needless to say they had an amazing time! They even brought buddy poppies and handed them out to crew members and ship's crew on "Armistice Day", November 11th. We're all jealous!



Matt, Grace, Jean & Carl

• **AUXILIARY CHARTER MEMBER IS TOP GRAD AT ARMY INTEL SCHOOL!** **Congratulations** to 2LT Christopher Mulholland, USAR, for being the Distinguished Honor Graduate of the Military Intelligence Basic Officers Leadership Course (MIBOLC) Class 21-011 at Fort Huachuca AZ! He was assigned to Charlie Company, 304th MI BN. The course is 4-½ months long, with 30 days of field training. For finishing at the top of his class Chris was awarded an Army Achievement Medal. He also received an award from the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) presented by Colonel (Retired) Bob Covalucci. MIBOLC teaches officers how to think critically and make assessments based on enemy reporting, doctrine, and tactics. To sum up the purpose of an MI officer, the job is to provide the commander with an insight into what the enemy is doing and what they are capable of doing. We're all very proud of Chris!



COL Covalucci and 2LT Mulholland

• **POST MARINES HOST CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY.** Our November Post meeting, on the 10th, happened to coincide with the 246th birthday of the Marine Corps.



So after the meeting the Post's Marines conducted a traditional cake cutting ceremony. The star of the show for the second year in a row was the amazing birthday cake made by our resident "master chef", Becky Waters! The master-of-ceremony was our newest Life Member Joe Branco who was literally thrown into the pool as this was his first Post meeting ever! The oldest Marine

present was Vietnam veteran, retired Lt Col Dave Weber, while the youngest was Desert Storm veteran Rich Johnson. The ceremony was followed by a social get-together which included the traditional grog. A good time was had by all!

*If the Army and the Navy
Ever look on Heaven's scenes;
They will find the streets are guarded
By United States Marines!*

• **POST PARTICIPATES IN CITY'S VETERANS DAY CEREMONY.** The City of Chesapeake held its annual Veterans Day ceremony in front of City Hall at its Veterans Memorial. The ceremony is organized and led by the Mayor's Commission on Veterans Affairs which includes five members of the Post and one emeritus member, Carl Dozier. The Post distributed Buddy Poppies and by the end of the ceremony everyone was wearing one.



The Mayor's Commission on Veterans Affairs

• **POST COMRADE HELPS OUT AT YELLOW RIBBON EVENT.** Carl Dozier helped the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP) with an event at the Virginia Beach Convention Center on November 21st. YRRP is a DoD-wide effort to promote the well-being of National Guard and Reserve members, their families and communities, by connecting them with resources throughout the deployment cycle. This Yellow Ribbon Event provided National Guard and Reserve Service members and their families a venue where they had access to information on healthcare, education,



employment, and financial and legal benefits, including the VFW's.

• **POST RIFLE RAFFLE WINNER!** The winning rifle raffle ticket was drawn by Colonel Hermès, USMC, the guest speaker at the Veterans Day ceremony. And the winner was ... Walter White, the winner of our raffle two years ago! The secret to his success? Buying \$100 worth of tickets! Congratulations and enjoy your custom built AR-15!

"ALS is Killing Veterans"
(Continued from page 1)

Every day in America, three veterans are diagnosed with ALS while another three die from it.

The prognosis for a person diagnosed with ALS today is largely the same as it was 150 years ago — death in two to five years.

Towards the end, you are left almost incapable of communicating with the outside world except through your eyes.

I am a retired Marine and have been athletic all my life. I played soccer, rugby, and ice hockey. I refereed professional soccer and officiated all over the globe. I ran marathons and at the age of 60 was still bench pressing 300 pounds. Now I live in a wheelchair, barely able to lift a spoon to my mouth.

In 2007, Brig. Gen. Thomas "Mik" Mikolajcik, USAF (Ret.), testified before Congress about ALS: "If these soldiers were dying in the field — rather than quietly at home — we would leave no stone unturned. We would use the best existing resources to make sure they had whatever they needed to survive." General "Mik" died from ALS on April 17, 2010.

In 2008, the Veterans Administration determined that military service is a presumptive causation of ALS for veterans. As veterans continue to reach the ages commonly associated with ALS, the rate of the disease will continue to increase in this population. I am evidence of that.

According to a VA report, 1,055 veterans die from ALS each year. That means that since 9/11, three times more veterans have been lost to ALS than troops killed in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan combined (20,895 vs 6,896). Interestingly, the Hampton Roads area of southeastern Virginia — where I and 234,476 of my fellow veterans live — is a "hotspot" for ALS cases.

More ominously, a recent 2019 study revealed that the prevalence of ALS among the Post-9/11 deployed veterans is 19.7 per 100,000 over 14 years compared to the US national average of 5.2 per 100,000. Even worse, for some Air Force personnel (pilots, aircraft crew, missile, and combat operation staff) the prevalence is substantially higher — 35.1 per 100,000!

And we still don't know why those in uniform bear an outsized burden from this disease.

The good news is that ALS gives veterans an automatic 100 percent disability rating from the VA. I have nothing but the highest of praise for the support I have received from the VA. From home modifications, to an accessible van, powered wheelchair, medical equipment and more,

they have taken care of my every need. If you are diagnosed with ALS, do what I did and immediately contact your nearest VFW Service Officer. You — and your family — don't have any time to waste.

The bad news is that our regulatory process does not keep pace with the urgency of ALS. Drug trials drag on a decade or more when most ALS sufferers do not live nearly that long. A diagnosis of ALS is a virtual death sentence and comes with advice to patients to get their affairs in order and to tick off their bucket list while they still can.

ALS is designated as a rare disease not because so few people get it, but because ALS kills so quickly. As many as 30,000 Americans — approximately 5,000 of them veterans — have ALS, with 5,000 new cases diagnosed each year. However, if ALS patients lived for 10 years after diagnosis there would be 275,000 nationwide, a much more noticeable population.

60 percent of Americans don't know that ALS is always fatal. If you know of a veteran who has or had ALS, we need you in this fight. Too often ALS exists in the shadows, and those afflicted pass so quickly they can't speak for themselves. Be their voice.

The veterans' community urgently needs answers and solutions for people with ALS.

I ask the VFW to use their influence and call upon Congress to fund early access to ALS investigational therapies, accelerate therapy development, and increase research on and development of interventions.

We can solve urgent health needs when we put our minds to it. The quick vaccine development during the pandemic proves that. I have already called both Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner. Please do the same.

Our nation must take all measures to ensure that our military men and women are at no greater risk of ALS than any other Americans.

Before I was diagnosed, I had no idea that ALS so disproportionately affects veterans. I have made it my personal mission to raise the awareness in the veteran community of the severity of ALS amongst us. Please help by telling other vets, friends, family — everyone — about the outsized threat of ALS to those who are or have served in uniform.

I will fight this battle to my dying breath.



Chris Mulholland is a VFW National Deputy Chief of Staff, and Gold Legacy Life member of VFW Post 2894 in Chesapeake, VA

Editor's note: This is an Op-Ed and as such, the opinions expressed are those of the author. If you would like to respond, or have an editorial of your own you

would like to submit, please contact Military Times managing editor Howard Altman, haltman@militarytimes.com

POST RESOLUTION FOR 2022 NATIONAL CONVENTION

At the 10 November Post meeting, the members unanimously approved the following resolution for the next National Convention. The resolution must first be approved at the Department Convention in June:

COMBATING ALS IN THE VETERAN COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, is a fatal neurodegenerative disease that destroys the nerve cells that control voluntary muscle function, eventually impacting the ability to move, speak and breathe; and

WHEREAS, from World War II through Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, and even in peacetime, multiple studies have consistently shown that the rate at which veterans develop ALS is twice that of non-veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Administration has determined that 90 days or more of military service is a presumptive causation of ALS for veterans; and

WHEREAS, the prognosis for a veteran diagnosed with ALS today has largely remained the same as 150 years ago — death in an average of two to five years with no known cause or cure; every day three more veterans are diagnosed with ALS while another three die from it; and

WHEREAS, those who wore a uniform bear an outsized burden from this disease with three times as many veterans lost to ALS since 9-11 than troops killed in Iraq and Afghanistan combined (20,895 vs 6,896); and

WHEREAS, our Nation must take all measures to ensure that our military men and women are at no greater risk for ALS than other Americans and that their medical and caregiving needs are met; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we call upon Congress to dedicate more resources towards research on causes, development of therapies, and access to treatments for veterans stricken with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Resolution was approved by VFW Post 2894 membership at their meeting of 10 November 2021.

SCOUT OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS DUE 1 MARCH

Now's the time to start thinking about Scout of the Year! Any high schooler who has earned the Boy Scout Eagle Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Crew Silver Award, or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award is eligible for the Scout of the Year Award.

Nominations packages are due to the Post by



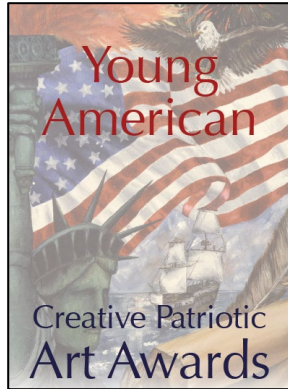
1 March 2020. To be eligible, nominees must:

- Be a registered Scout;
- Have demonstrated exemplary citizenship in school, Scouting, and community; and
- Be at least 15 and enrolled in high school.
- **Entry forms can be downloaded from the VFW website at:**

www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/scout-of-the-year

**PATRIOTIC ARTIST NOMINATIONS
DUE 31 MARCH**

The VFW Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art Awards are presented by the VFW Auxiliary and judged on their originality of concept, presentation, and patriotism expressed; the content of how it relates to patriotism and clarity of ideas; the design technique; total impact of work; and uniqueness. Students must in high school, no older than 18, and a US citizen or national.



Entry forms can be downloaded at:

<https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/young-american-creative-patriotic-art-contest/>

**ILLUSTRATING AMERICA NOMINATIONS
DUE 31 MARCH**

Illustrating America is another VFW Auxiliary art contest but for students in grades 1-8 who are enrolled in public, private, parochial or home study programs. The contest consists of three grade divisions: 1-2, 3-5 and 6-8, with national awards for first, second and third place in each grade division. They must be US citizens or Nationals but don't have to be related to anyone in the VFW or Auxiliary. Art must be two-dimensional, on canvas or paper, sized between 8"x10" and 18"x24". Coloring sheets, digital art and photography are not accepted. Entries will be judged on patriotic theme and technique. If the American flag is used, it does not need to conform to Federal code regarding colors or number of stars and stripes.

Entry forms can be downloaded at:

<https://vfwauxiliary.org/illustrating-america/>

**+ DECEMBER SAFETY CORNER +
*Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving***

This holiday season, be safe on the roads, traveling to and from get-togethers and vacation destinations. If you plan to go out and include alcohol in your celebration,

make sure you refrain from driving. Review these facts and spread the word about the dangers of drunk driving.

Buzzed Driving: The Sobering Statistics

- 837 people lost their lives in traffic crashes involving a drunk driver in December 2019.
- During the Christmas and New Year's Day holiday periods in 2019 alone, there were more drunk-driving-related fatalities (210) than during any other holiday period that year.
- In 2019, there were 10,142 people killed in drunk-driving crashes; one person every 52 minutes.
- Nighttime is a particularly dangerous time to be on the roads: The rate of alcohol impairment among drivers involved in fatal crashes in 2019 was 3.3 times higher at night than during the day.



The Cost of Drunk Driving

- On average, a DUI can set you back \$10,000 in attorney's fees, fines, court costs, lost time at work, higher insurance rates, and more.
- Impaired-driving crashes cost the United States \$44 billion annually.
- If you're caught drinking and driving, you can face jail time. Imagine trying to explain that to your friends and family or your place of employment.
- Drinking and driving can cause you to lose your driver's license and your vehicle. This could inhibit you from getting to work, resulting in lost wages and, potentially, job loss.

Celebrate with a Plan

Always remember to plan ahead if you will be celebrating. If you plan to drink, plan ahead for a sober driver to take you home. Is it your turn to be the designated driver? Take that role seriously and do not consume alcohol, not even one drink.

- Remember that it is never okay to drink and drive. Even if you've had only one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride service to get home safely.



- If you see a drunk driver on the road, contact Local Law Enforcement.
- Do you have a friend who is about to drink and drive? Take the keys away and make arrangements to get your friend home safely.

For more information about the *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving* campaign, visit www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drunk-driving/buzzed-driving-drunk-driving/holiday-season

+ JANUARY SAFETY CORNER +
National Blood Donor Month

National Blood Donor Month has been observed since January 1970. Because winter is one of the most difficult times of year for blood donation – holiday travel, flu, inclement weather – this is the perfect time to celebrate those who give, as well as encourage those who haven't yet.



How you can observe National Blood Donor Month

You can observe National Blood Donor Month in one (or more) of these quick, easy ways. They won't cost you anything but a little of your time:

1. Donate Blood- Whether you're giving blood for the first time or the 50th, you can make a difference in the lives of others. **Donating blood** only takes about an hour, but it can mean a lifetime for those in need. You can make your donation experience even more enjoyable by bringing a friend or family member to give too! Or, if a little more "Me Time" is on your list for 2020, come alone and bring a book!
2. Host a Blood Drive- **By hosting a blood drive**, you can exponentially increase your impact. Encourage just 10 people to give, and you can help save up to 30 lives. Get your neighborhood, office, or club involved and you can celebrate National Blood Donor Month together! It's a great way to spend more time with people you care about while also giving back to your community.
3. Spread the Word- If you're not eligible to donate this month, you can still help get the word out to those who are. Share OneBlood's **social media posts** with your friends and family, and when you do come out to donate, share your own experience online.

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 our committees. Contact one of the members of the committee you're interested in and let them know you'd like to help:

- **Bataan Death March (2 Apr 2022) Committee:** Ted Roberts, John Peterson, Ann Jones, Becky & Brad Waters, Anne Thompson, Matt & Diane Hostetlar, and Bob Gregory

- **Budget Committee:** Chuck Wolff, José Vazquez, Mark Rios, and Carl Dozier
- **Awards Committee:** Brad & Becky Waters, Mark Rios, Joe Hammers, and John Guill
- **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 Ron Liston
- **Scholarship Committee:** Carl Dozier, Chris Mulholland, and Kimball Thompson

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@vfwnationalhome.org

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 IF you go through our Post – if you go through National make sure you indicate Post 2894!

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

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

You can become a VFW Life Member by paying a one-time fee as listed in the table below, or making an initial \$45 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.

<u>Age</u>	<u>One-Time Payment</u>	<u>Installment Payment</u>
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.

DECEMBER MILITARY HISTORY

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 1909 President Taft severs official relations with Nicaragua's government and declares support for revolutionaries.</p> <p>1918 American army of occupation enters Germany.</p> <p>1955 Rosa Parks refuses to sit in back of Montgomery, AL, bus, defying South's segregationist laws.</p> <p>1969 America's first draft lottery since 1942.</p> <p>2 1823 President Monroe proclaims Monroe Doctrine, "American continents, by free and independent condition... are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by European powers."</p> <p>1921 First successful helium dirigible, C-7, makes test flight in Portsmouth, Va.</p> <p>1927 New Ford Model A introduced to American public.</p> <p>1942 Allies repel strong Axis attack in Tunisia, North Africa.</p> <p>1944 General Patton's troops enter Saar Valley and break through Siegfried line.</p> <p>3 1918 Allied Conference ends in London deciding that Germany must pay for war.</p> <p>1989 Presidents Bush and Gorbachev announce official end to Cold War at meeting in Malta.</p> <p>4 1862 Winchester, VA, falls into Union hands, resulting in capture of 145 Southern soldiers.</p> <p>1942 US planes make first raids on Naples, Italy.</p> <p>1991 Last American hostages held in Lebanon released.</p> <p>5 1933 21st Amendment ends Prohibition in US, begun 13 years earlier.</p> <p>1955 Bus boycott begins under Rev. ML King, Jr., in Montgomery.</p> <p>1978 Soviet Union signs 20-year friendship pact with Afghanistan.</p> <p>6 1492 Columbus lands on Santo Domingo in search of gold.</p> <p>1934 American Ambassador Davis says Japan is grave security threat in Pacific.</p> <p>1941 President FDR issues personal appeal to Emperor Hirohito to use influence to avoid war.</p> <p>7 1917 US declares war on Austria-Hungary.</p> <p>1941 Japanese planes raid Pearl Harbor in surprise attack.</p> <p>1942 USN launches USS <i>New Jersey</i>, largest battleship ever built.</p> <p>8 1943 US carrier-based planes sink 2 cruisers and down 72 planes in Marshall Islands.</p> | <p>1944 US conducts longest, most effective air raid on Iwo Jima.</p> <p>9 1941 FDR tells Americans to plan for a long war.</p> <p>1992 US Marines land in Somalia to ensure food and medicine reach deprived areas.</p> <p>10 1898 US and Spain sign Treaty of Paris, ceding Spanish possessions, including Philippines, to US.</p> <p>1918 US troops called to guard Berlin as coup is feared.</p> <p>1941 Japanese troops invade Philippine island of Luzon.</p> <p>1949 150,000 French troops mass at border in Vietnam to prevent Chinese invasion.</p> <p>11 1941 US declares war on Italy and Germany.</p> <p>1945 Boeing B-29 Superfortress shatters records by crossing US in 5 hours and 27 min.</p> <p>12 1753 George Washington, adjutant of Virginia, delivers ultimatum to French forces at Fort Le Boeuf, reiterating Britain's claim to Ohio River valley.</p> <p>1863 Orders given in Richmond, Virginia, that no more supplies from Union be received by Federal prisoners.</p> <p>1967 US ends airlift of 6,500 men to Vietnam.</p> <p>13 1862 Battle of Fredericksburg ends with bloody slaughter of Union troops at Marye's Heights.</p> <p>14 1799 George Washington dies on Mount Vernon estate.</p> <p>1960 US Boeing B-52 bomber sets 10,000-mile non-stop record without refueling.</p> <p>15 1890 US soldiers attempt to arrest Sitting Bull in Standing Rock, SD; shooting breaks out and Lt. Bullhead shoots great Sioux leader.</p> <p>1924 Soviet Union warns US against repeated entry of ships into Soviet territorial waters.</p> <p>1938 Washington sends fourth note to Berlin demanding amnesty for Jews.</p> <p>1965 US drops 12 tons of bombs on industrial center near Haiphong Harbor, North Vietnam.</p> <p>16 1773 Young Americans, disguised as Indians, throw chests of tea in Boston Harbor.</p> <p>1944 Germany opens Battle of Bulge in Ardennes Forest in Belgium.</p> <p>1950 President Truman declares National Emergency as Chinese communists invade deeper into S.Korea.</p> <p>1998 US launches missile attack on Iraq for failing to comply with UN weapons inspectors.</p> <p>17 1903 Wright brothers' 1st successful flight near Kitty Hawk, NC.</p> <p>1943 US forces invade Japanese-held New Britain Island in New Guinea.</p> <p>1944 US approves end to internment of Japanese Americans.</p> <p>18 1865 Slavery abolished in US. 13th Amendment formally adopted into Constitution.</p> <p>1941 Defended by 610, American-held island of Guam falls to more than 5,000 Japanese invaders in 3-hour battle.</p> <p>1972 President Nixon declares bombing of North Vietnam will continue until accord reached.</p> <p>19 1959 Last civil war veteran, Walter Williams, dies at 117 in Houston.</p> <p>20 1941 Flying Tigers, American pilots in China, enter combat against Japanese over Kunming.</p> <p>1989 US troops invade Panama to oust General Noriega.</p> <p>21 1620 Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock.</p> <p>1862 Congress authorizes Medal of Honor for Navy personnel.</p> <p>1944 German troops surround 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne in Belgium.</p> <p>1945 General Patton dies at age 60 after injured in car accident.</p> <p>22 1775 Esek Hopkins takes command of Continental Navy — total of 7 ships.</p> <p>1944 During Battle of Bulge, General McAuliffe responds to German surrender request with: "Nuts!"</p> |
|--|---|

- 23 1941** US defenders on Wake Island capitulate to 2nd Japanese assault.
- 1944** Gen. Eisenhower confirms death sentence of PVT Slovik, only American shot for desertion since Civil War.
- 1948** Japan's Prime Minister Tojo and 6 others hanged for war crimes.
- 1974** B-1 bomber makes first successful test flight.
- 24 1814** Treaty between US and Britain, ending War of 1812, signed. News does not reach US until 2 weeks later (after Battle of New Orleans).
- 1943** General Eisenhower appointed Allied Supreme Commander.
- 26 1776** After crossing Delaware River night before, Washington leads attack on Hessian mercenaries at Trenton, takes 900 men prisoner.
- 27 1941** Japanese bombers attack Manila, despite claim as open city.
- 1944** General Patton's Third Army relieves Bastogne in Belgium.
- 1979** President Amin of Afghanistan murdered in coup backed by Soviet Union, beginning 10 year war.
- 28 1946** French declare martial law in Vietnam as war appears inevitable.
- 29 1778** British, attempting new strategy to defeat colonials, capture Savannah.
- 1890** Last major conflict of Indian wars as 7th Cavalry tries to disarm Chief Big Foot and followers at Wounded Knee SD.
- 1965** Christmas truce observed in Vietnam, while President Johnson tries to get North Vietnamese to bargaining table.
- 30 1803** US takes possession of Louisiana area from France.
- 1972** President Nixon halts air offensive and agrees to resume peace negotiations with Hanoi representative.
- 2006** Saddam Hussein hanged for crimes committed against own people during rule.
- 31 1775** George Washington orders recruiting officers to accept free blacks into army.
- 1942** After 5 months of battle, Emperor Hirohito allows Japanese commanders at Guadalcanal to retreat.
- 1953** Pres Truman announces development of hydrogen bomb
- 8 1815** Battle of New Orleans, 15 days after Treaty of Ghent
- 1877** Battle of Wolf Mountain, Montana: Crazy Horse defeated by US Army - last battle of Great Sioux War
- 1973** Secret peace talks between US & North Vietnam resume near Paris
- 9 1861** First Shot of Civil War: US steamer 'Star of the West' is fired on by Confederate batteries off Charleston
- 1936** Garand M-1 semi-automatic rifle adopted by US Army
- 1942** FDR establishes Joint Chiefs of Staff
- 1945** Luzon: 6th Army lands in Lingayen Gulf.
- 1952** USMC recalls Ted Williams to active duty for Korean War
- 10 1847** US Navy-Marine Corps landing party occupies Los Angeles
- 1943** Guadalcanal: US forces begin general offensive to eliminate Japanese.
- 1946** Army Signal Corps bounces radar beam off moon.
- 11 1785** Continental Congress convenes in New York
- 1945** Japanese decide to put remaining resources into suicide weapons.
- 1991** Congress authorizes Pres G.H.W. Bush to undertake offensive operations against Iraq
- 12 1946** 82nd Airborne Division marches up Fifth Avenue to tumultuous greeting
- 13 1968** Beginning of Tet Offensive in Vietnam
- 14 1784** Congress ratifies Treaty of Paris, ending Revolutionary War
- 1867** Alfred Nobel makes first public demonstration of dynamite
- 1943** Casablanca Conference: FDR, Churchill, & Stalin
- 1969** Fire aboard USS 'Enterprise' (CVN-65), off Vietnam, 28 die, 344 injured
- 15 1865** Union soldiers, sailors, & Marines take Ft Fisher, NC
- 1973** Pres Nixon suspends all US offensive action over North Vietnam
- 16 1776** Continental Congress approves enlistment of free blacks
- 1944** Gen Eisenhower takes command of Operation Overlord
- 1957** Three B-52s leave California on first non-stop world flight
- 1970** Col Kadhafi becomes premier of Libya
- 17 1781** Battle of Cowpens: Dan Morgan annihilates Tarleton's Anglo-Tory force
- 1955** USS 'Nautilus' (SSN-571) gets underway on nuclear power
- 1966** B-52 carrying four hydrogen bombs crashes off Spanish coast
- 1991** Operation Desert Storm: Coalition airstrikes against Iraq
- 18 1911** First airplane lands on ship: Eugene Ely in Curtiss Flyer on USS 'Pennsylvania' (ACR-4)
- 19 1920** Senate rejects American membership in League of Nations
- 20 1778** 1st American court martial opens, Cambridge, MA
- 1783** Hostilities cease in Revolutionary War
- 1887** Senate approves lease of Pearl Harbor for a base
- 1914** USN opens school for aviators at Pensacola, Fla.
- 1944** Rapido River: US 36th Div begins two-day attempt to force German defenses
- 1981** Illegally held by Iranian government for 444 days, 52 Americans are finally released
- 21 1903** "Dick Act" creates modern National Guard
- 1968** Battle of Khe Sanh begins -- ends Apr 8
- 22 1944** Operation Shingle: Allies land at Anzio
- 23 1968** North Koreans capture USS 'Pueblo' & 83 crew in East Sea/Sea of Japan
- 24 1847** Col. Price defeats 1,500 Indians & Mexicans to secure New Mexico for US
- 25 1945** Audie Murphy earns Medal of Honor
- 1969** US-North Vietnamese peace talks begin in Paris

JANUARY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1 1776** British torch Norfolk, Virginia
- 1863** Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect
- 1950** First woman doctor commissioned in USN, Mary T. Sproul
- 1950** Indo-China: Viet Minh open a major offensive against the French
- 1951** Massive Chinese/North Korean assault on UN-lines
- 1962** US Navy SEAL teams established.
- 2 1776** First American flag displayed
- 1945** USN convoys depart Leyte to invade Luzon, while beating off Kamikaze.
- 3 1777** Battle of Princeton: Washington defeats British
- 1944** Marine ace "Pappy" Boyington (28 kills) captured by Japanese
- 1990** Panama's Gen Manuel Noriega surrenders to US authorities
- 4 1989** Second Gulf of Sidra Incident: two USN F-14s down two Libyan MiG-23s
- 5 1608** Capt. John Smith is captured by Indians
- 1781** Richmond burned by British forces under Benedict Arnold
- 6 1776** "NY Provincial Company of Artillery" organized; now 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, senior unit of Regular Army
- 1927** US Marines sent to Nicaragua
- 1941** FDR's "Four Freedoms" address; of speech & worship, from want & fear.
- 7 1942** Bataan: 15,000 US & 65,000 Philippine troops go on half-rations, as Japanese close in

- 26 1862 Lincoln issues General War Order #1, calling for Union offensive
- 1911 Glenn Curtiss tests first successful sea plane, San Diego
- 1913 John Paul Jones laid to rest in Chapel of US Naval Academy
- 1942 Marines land in Northern Ireland - 1st US troops to reach Europe
- 1948 Executive Order 9981: Truman orders Segregation in Armed Forces ended
- 27 1915 US Marines begin occupation of Haiti
- 1943 First USAAF raid on Germany, at Wilhelmshafen
- 1973 US and North Vietnam sign cease-fire
- 1977 Pres Carter pardons most Vietnam War draft evaders
- 28 1915 US Coast Guard created from Life Saving and Revenue Cutter Services
- 1942 Ens. Donald Mason radios, "Sighted sub, sank same."
- 29 1944 USS 'Missouri' (BB-63) launched in Brooklyn
- 30 1781 Articles of Confederation, establishing perpetual union of "United States of America"
- 1945 Philippines - Cabanatuan: 126 US & Filipino raiders liberate 500 prisoners from a Japanese P/W camp
- 31 1944 U.S. troops land on Kwajelein and nearby islands in the Marshalls
- 1945 11th Airborne Div lands - by sea - at south entrance to Manila Bay.
- 1961 Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr., becomes first black American to command warship, 'Falgout' (DE-324)
- 1981 Last enlisted USN aviator retires

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

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
or majmule@verizon.net

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 will be via e-mail.

Semper fidelis, - Chris Mulholland

CHRISTMAS PARADE,

1700,

Dec 4th

**March with us and
our Post Float!!!**





'Tis The Season
Join Us!

VFW Post 2894 Christmas Party

**Wednesday, 8 December, at 1900 (7 pm)
Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 9
110 Kempsville Road, Chesapeake**

Bring dish to share – Families invited!

RSVP by 5 Dec: cdrpost2894@vfwva.org

McHarvie
DESIGN AND ARTISTRY



Scout of the Year Program



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

girl scouts



WHAT IS THE SCOUT OF THE YEAR PROGRAM?

Annually, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States awards three individuals who are: Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients, Venture Summit Award recipients and/or Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the qualities of that rank. Awards are as follows:

- \$5,000 1st place National scholarship
- \$3,000 2nd place National scholarship
- \$1,000 3rd place National scholarship

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for the award, the candidate must:

- Be the recipient of the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award.
- Be a registered, active member of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship at the time the above reward was received.
- Have demonstrated exemplary citizenship in school, Scouting and community.

Prior National Scout of the Year winners are ineligible. Applicants still in high school who reach their 18th birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified. A Scout may enter through only one VFW Post. A local Post can be identified by zip code at www.vfw.org/find-a-post.

WHAT ARE THE DEADLINES?

- Deadline for entry to VFW Post is March 1.
- One candidate with full entry criteria must be submitted by a VFW Post to the next level of judging by April 1. The VFW Department (state) Scouting chairman can provide this information.
- The Department winner must be selected and submitted by their Department (state) Scouting chairman to the VFW National Headquarters by May 1.

Questions should be directed to 816-756-3390 ext 6155 during normal business hours Monday through Friday or emailed to scouting@vfw.org.

WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED?

The following documentation should be submitted:

- **Photograph of the Scout** — must be attached to this form. The Scout must appear in correct, complete uniform for their current rank. Recommended size 3" x 5".
- **School Participation Record** — a single page, one sided resume of the candidate's school activities indicating academic achievements, offices held, honors received and significant participation in other activities.

- **Scouting Record** — maximum of three pages, one side only, listing of all Scouting participation beginning with Cub Scouts or Brownies - years of participation, unit numbers and sponsors. Also include when Eagle, Gold, Summit or Quartermaster Award was received and Palms. Identify leadership positions held at all levels, participation in Scouting activities (jamborees, Order of the Arrow conferences, etc.) and the candidate's Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster Project.
- **Community Service Record** — a single page, one sided resume listing participation in community and religious service organizations (excluding Scouting and school), noting leadership positions held and any recognition received.

Official Entry Form

VFW Scout of the Year Program

MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH CONTESTANT
and submitted DIRECTLY TO A VFW POST IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

()
Home Phone

Email

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

Scout Troop Number

SCOUT/VENTURE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing information is accurate and if I am the winner, I will make myself available to receive the award at a presentation ceremony as designated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Scout/Venture Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

UNIT LEADER'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above-named Scout/Venture is an active member of our unit or was when the award was received and the information supplied by the candidate is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Unit Leader's Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

PARENT'S CONSENT

I hereby certify that all information on this application is correct. I willingly submit this name for consideration as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States' Scout of the Year. If this individual is selected as the winner, I will ensure that he/she is allowed to attend a presentation ceremony as designed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Father, Mother or Guardian Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

- **Letters of Recommendation** — Submit three letters, no more than two pages in length from:
 - A scout leader.
 - A community member.
 - A teacher/faculty member (if homeschooled, a parent letter is allowed).
 - In addition, you may include one or two additional letters, no more than two pages in length from local community members who have special knowledge of the candidate's abilities/accomplishments.
- **Completed Entry Form** — submitted to a local VFW Post. Local Posts can be identified by zip code at www.vfw.org/find-a-post.



YOUNG
AMERICAN
creative
PATRIOTIC ART
CONTEST



*A scholarship contest that recognizes
up-and-coming artists and encourages
patriotism in youth.*
www.vfwauxiliary.org

TWO-DIMENSIONAL SUBMISSIONS

- Art must be on canvas or paper.
 - Watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, marker or other media may be used.
 - Do not frame two-dimensional pieces.
 - Submit canvas entries on a stretcher frame or canvas board. Other entries must be matted in white. Do not use color mats. Reinforce the back with heavy paper. Mounted and floating mats may also be used.
 - Art should be no smaller than 8" x 10" but no larger than 18" x 24", not including mat.
- THREE-DIMENSIONAL SUBMISSIONS**
- Art can be paper, papier-mâché, pottery, metal work, fabric, wood, etc.
 - Art should be no larger than 18" in any direction.
 - Art cannot be more than 5 lbs. in weight.

STUDENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Student entries must be submitted to a sponsoring local VFW Auxiliary by March 31. Entries submitted to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will be returned.

JUDGING AND AUXILIARY DEADLINES

Entry will be judged on the originality of concept, presentation and patriotism expressed; content of how it relates to patriotism and clarity of ideas; design techniques; total impact of work.

Those selected to judge the contest on all levels will be teachers, professionals and persons knowledgeable about art. Comments of local and state judges will be attached to and forwarded with the art.

One winner from each VFW Auxiliary advances to District Judging (if applicable).

APRIL 10: Local VFW Auxiliary and District judging complete.

One winner from each District (if applicable) advances to Department (state) Judging.

APRIL 15: Local VFW Auxiliary and District (if applicable) winners due to Department (state) Scholarships Chairman for judging.

One winner from each Department (state) advances to National Judging.

MAY 5: VFW Auxiliary Department (state) winners due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.

JULY: VFW Auxiliary Department (state) winners judged at National Convention.



ELIGIBILITY

- Students in grades 9-12 by the March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools
- Student must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. national.
- Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate, but the student must attend school in the same state as the sponsoring VFW Auxiliary.
- Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or over, GED and adult education students, or national winners of previous Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contests are ineligible.

ART
contest
RULES

- Entry must be completed during the current school year.
- Complete contest application and attach to back of entry.
- Also attach a typed explanation of the entry (250 words or less).
- Teacher or supervisory adult signature required on contest application.
- If the American Flag is used, it must conform to the Federal Flag Code in relation to colors, number of stars and stripes and other pertinent rules of the code.
- Digital art, photography and jewelry are NOT ACCEPTED.

scholarship

AMOUNTS

The first-place winner from each state competes for national awards totaling \$31,500.

- FIRST PLACE \$15,000
- SECOND PLACE \$7,500
- THIRD PLACE \$3,500
- FOURTH-FIFTH PLACE \$1,500
- SIXTH-TENTH PLACE \$500

YOUNG
AMERICAN

creative

PATRIOTIC ART
CONTEST

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please print or complete fillable form at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships.

NAME AGE GRADE
ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP
EMAIL PHONE
SCHOOL DATE ART COMPLETED

Teacher's or supervisory adult's signature verifying that the entry was done by you:

TEACHER OR PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME SIGNATURE

I hereby grant permission for my artwork to be published in the *VFW Auxiliary Magazine* and on the VFW Auxiliary website and to be used for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary and the VFW Store if I win one of the top national awards.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

State the source of your idea for entry: person, website, magazine, TV, newspaper, etc. To comply with copyright laws, all artwork must be original to the entrant. Artwork may be inspired by other artist's/photographer's work, but not to the degree that the new piece of artwork is easily recognized as being derivative of other artist's work. If another artist's/photographer's work is used as a source of inspiration or reference, a copy of the work must be provided along with the name and date of publication in which it was found. Any artwork that is recognized as being in violation of these rules will be disqualified.

SOURCE MEDIA USED IN ENTRY
(e.g., colored pencil, oil paint, pottery)

PLEASE ATTACH A TYPED EXPLANATION OF THE ENTRY (250 Words or Fewer)

ARTWORK NOT SPONSORED BY A LOCAL VFW AUXILIARY WILL BE RETURNED WITHOUT BEING JUDGED.

SPONSORED BY VFW AUXILIARY # CITY STATE

DATE JUDGED VFW AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIPS CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN OF JUDGES' SIGNATURE (Required)

DISTRICT JUDGING (Optional)

DATE JUDGED DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN OF JUDGES' SIGNATURE (Required)

DEPARTMENT JUDGING

DATE JUDGED DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN OF JUDGES' SIGNATURE (Required)

Department first-place art entry must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by May 5 or it will be disqualified.
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111

Illustrating America

An art contest for students in grades 1-8.

CONTEST ELIGIBILITY

- Open to all students in grades 1-8 who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial or home study program in the United States.
- Student must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. national.
- Does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate, but the student must attend school in the same state as the sponsoring VFW Auxiliary.

CONTEST RULES

- Art must be two-dimensional.
- Art must be on canvas or paper.
- Watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, marker, glitter or other media may be used.
- Submit canvas entries on stretcher frames or canvas board; other entries must be matted on white or reinforced with heavy paper.
- The art should be no smaller than 8" x 10" but no larger than 18" x 24", not including mat.
- **Coloring sheets, digital art and photography are not accepted.**

NATIONAL AWARDS

Grades 1-2

First place: \$100 gift card
Second place: \$50 gift card
Third place: \$25 gift card

Grades 3-5

First place: \$100 gift card
Second place: \$50 gift card
Third place: \$25 gift card

Grades 6-8

First place: \$100 gift card
Second place: \$50 gift card
Third place: \$25 gift card

STUDENT DEADLINES

March 31: Student entry deadline to VFW Auxiliary.*

JUDGING AND AUXILIARY DEADLINES

Entry will be judged on patriotic theme and technique. If the American Flag is used, it **DOES NOT** need to conform to the Federal Flag Code in relation to colors or number of stars and stripes.

One winner from each VFW Auxiliary advances to District judging (if applicable).

April 10: Local VFW Auxiliary and District judging complete.

One winner from each District (if applicable) advances to Department judging.

April 15: Local VFW Auxiliary and District (if applicable) winners to Department (state) Youth Activities Chairman for judging.*

One winner from each Department advances to National judging.

May 5: VFW Auxiliary Department (state) winners due to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.*

July: First through third place winners named in each of the three grade categories and displayed at National Convention.

*required deadlines



www.vfwauxiliary.org

Illustrating America

An art contest for students in grades 1-8.

CONTEST ENTRY FORM Please print or complete fillable form at www.vfwauxiliary.org/what-we-do/youth-activities.

STUDENT NAME _____ AGE _____

SCHOOL _____ GRADE _____

MEDIA USED IN ENTRY (e.g. colored pencil, crayon, watercolor, etc.) _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

Teacher or supervisory adult's signature verifying that the entry was done by the student listed above.

TEACHER OR PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

I hereby grant permission of the artwork by the student listed above to be published in VFW Auxiliary Magazine, on the VFW Auxiliary website and to be used for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary and the VFW Store if named a winner one of the top national awards.

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

ARTWORK NOT SPONSORED BY A LOCAL VFW AUXILIARY WILL BE RETURNED WITHOUT BEING JUDGED.

SPONSORED BY VFW AUXILIARY # 2894 CITY Chesapeake STATE VA

DATE JUDGED _____ VFW AUXILIARY YOUTH ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN _____

CHAIRMAN OF JUDGES' SIGNATURE (REQUIRED) _____

DISTRICT JUDGING (Optional)

DATE JUDGED _____ DEPARTMENT YOUTH ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN _____

CHAIRMAN OF JUDGES' SIGNATURE (REQUIRED) _____

DEPARTMENT JUDGING

DATE JUDGED _____ DEPARTMENT YOUTH ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN _____

CHAIRMAN OF JUDGES' SIGNATURE (REQUIRED) _____

Department first-place entry must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters by May 5 or it will be disqualified.
Mail to: 406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111.



www.vfwauxiliary.org

POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u>DECEMBER '21</u>	
3-5	Battle of Great Bridge Reenactment
4	Chesapeake Christmas Parade
6	End of Hanukkah
7	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
8	Post Meeting/ Christmas Party, 1900
	Wreaths Across America, Suffolk, 0900
21	Winter Begins
24/25	Christmas Eve/Christmas
31	New Year's Eve

<u>JANUARY '22</u>	
1	New Year's Day
7-9	Department Winter Council, Portsmouth
9	Sinsil 8 Anniversary (2008)
12	Post Meeting, 1900 (Quarterly Audit)
17	Martin Luther King Day

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

Fold here



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



Place
Stamp
Here

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED