

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

NEW Webpage: <https://vfw2894.org>

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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



APRIL 9TH MARKS 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF FALL OF BATAAN

The Battle of Bataan ended on April 9, 1942, when Army Major General Edward P. King surrendered to Japanese General Masaharu Homma. About 12,000 Americans and 63,000 Filipinos became prisoners of war.

What followed became known as the Bataan Death March — one of the worst atrocities in modern history. Join us on April 2nd at the Dismal Swamp Park in Chesapeake as we remember the harrowing story of the “*Battling Bastards of Bataan*” and their

courage and tenacity to survive under horrendous conditions. Registration is open for our **11th Annual Bataan Death March (BDM) Memorial Walk/Run**. You can also participate virtually by walking, running, biking, even swimming, on your own. This opens up the opportunity to participate wherever you are and with all of your family and friends. Just go to our registration page and sign up for the virtual 1, 5 or 16 mile walk or run.

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

Starvation and Surrender at Bataan

During the battle, American and Filipino soldiers of General Douglas MacArthur’s United States Army Forces in the Far East (USAFEF) held out for four months against the Imperial Japanese Army, while every other island and nation in the Pacific and Southeast Asia fell. By March 1942, Japan controlled everything within the Western Pacific besides the Philippines.

(continued on page 8)



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health and cheer!

The **Bataan Death March**, our biggest fund raiser of the year is in full swing and doing well. Thanks to all the hard work by the BDM Committee, headed by Ted Roberts, we are on pace to set an all time high for the total amount of sponsorship donations in a year!



This year you can participate virtually or onsite, all you have to do is register for either event by registering on our BDM website via the link below! You can also donate what you can or volunteer to help! Thanks

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

Happy Birthday to US! 26 Mar 2022 marks our 26th Birthday/Anniversary! Yes, we are still homeless but that does not deter us from carrying out our mission "To Honor the Fallen by Helping the Living". This past Friday I was made aware of a news story on Wavy 10 about two Navy Vets, who purchased a home prior to their deployment, and their shock when the wife returned home to find that the repairs that were supposed to have been done were not! The entire kitchen floor was supposed to have been replaced due to them being rotted. Not only that but a large portion of the floor was covered in mold. I contacted Wavy News and asked to speak to the reporter who covered the story. He called me two days later. I explained how the Post may be able to help. He forwarded my contact info to her, and she called me a while later. We decided to meet on Monday. I arrived at the home and looked around. I had to watch my step as the floor would not hold my weight. I found that there were many more issues that needed to be addressed before she can move in. To top things off her husband's tour was almost over but now it may be extended due to the events in Ukraine. I have advised out Post Service Officer, Jim Ireland and District Service Officer, Gary Dunbar to be ready to add this case to their agenda. Again VFW Post 2894 will do everything in our power to help these two Vets in need!

Membership! In order to achieve our 7th consecutive All-State and All-American awards, we need at least 12 new members by mid-May! So, needless to say we need your help. A one-year membership is only \$30. Life membership is also available and highly recommended! Please email me for the membership form. We are working to have this done via our new Post website/Virtual home.

<https://vfw2894.org/vfw-post-2894>

Volunteer Rewards! I have several ideas in mind to reward those that step up to do all the work needed to continue our service to Veterans and the Community in general. This, I hope will help expand our worker base. Let me know if you have any ideas.

Cdrpost2894@gmail.com

29 March marked the 5th anniversary of **National Vietnam War Veterans Day!** So, to all Vietnam WAR Veterans I want to say Thank You for Your Service and "WELCOME HOME"!

During the Vietnam War **248 Medals of Honor** were received of which 156 of them were presented posthumously. Soldiers of the Army received the most with 161. Fifty-seven went to the Marines and 16 to the Navy. The remaining 14 went to the Air Force. I decided to showcase a story about one of them, I choose Spec 4 Peter C. Lemon from East Tawas, Michigan. His story is on page 4 of this newsletter.

José Vazquez, Commander

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from the Auxiliary. Spring is here and I hope everyone is enjoying the nice weather when you can. This is a busy time for the Auxiliary. Of course, we



have the Bataan Death March on April 2nd. Some of the Auxiliary members have pre-registered and started walking. We are putting together a basket to be auctioned off. We hope the weather cooperates so the day will be enjoyable for all. The National

Auxiliary President, Jean Hamil will be attending the BDM. Jean arrives on Friday afternoon and leaves Sunday morning. Jean is from Orlando, Florida.

Elections are in April. This is always a challenge but the members of the Auxiliary step up to to fill the positions. It my pleasure to serve Auxiliary President Auxiliary was Instituted 8 April Thanks to all the members old and new have worked in the Auxiliary doing whatever we can for the Veterans. We have learned a lot together as an Auxiliary and will continue to learn with a new President and the officers who accept their positions.



the plate has been as since the 2015. who

The Auxiliary is busy finishing up the requirements for this year. We are also getting ready for the Department

Convention that will be June 9-11. We have started designing the Buddy Poppy Display and are excited with what we have come up with so far. We have placed first the two years that we entered this contest. Each year it is a challenge to come up with what we want to show and say in our display.

All reports and Petitions for Membership must be turned in before April 30, 2022. We are still looking for 2 more members to meet the requirements for the Outstanding Auxiliary Award. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining, please have them contact any member of the Auxiliary. It is so nice to get new blood in the Auxiliary, that is how we can grow both in membership and new ideas.

Thank You All for Everything you do for our Veterans.

Sandy Dunbar

President Auxiliary 2894

President District 2



Thanks to “Webmaster” John Peterson we now have a beautiful new Post website!



The site is chock full of interesting and vital information about the Post and is now our “virtual” home. Share our site with anyone and everyone who might be interested in joining the VFW or VFW Auxiliary.

If you have suggestions or ideas, or are interested in helping John keep our page up to date, please don't hesitate to contact him via the website.

Thank you, John!



Many celebrate the long Memorial Day weekend with barbecues and family get-togethers, but Memorial Day is so much more than a chance to kick off the summer months. At its heart, Memorial Day is

a day to solemnly honor all men and women who have died in U.S. military service.

Memorial Day Meaning and Memorial Day History

Memorial Day commemorates all men and women who have died in U.S. military service. It's not to be confused with Veterans Day, which celebrates the service of U.S. military veterans, or with Armed Forces Day, which honors men and women currently in service.

Memorial Day began a few years after the Civil War, in 1868. An organization of Union veterans established the holiday, then known as Decoration Day, as a time to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers. From then until the present day, the solemn holiday has been formally observed at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

In 2000, Congress passed the National Moment of Remembrance Act, which encourages Americans to observe a moment of silence at 3 p.m. local time to remember those who have died in service.

“I am oppressed with a sense of the impropriety of uttering words on this occasion,” then-Congressman James Garfield said in an 1868 Decoration Day address at Arlington, which still captures the true meaning of Memorial Day today. “If silence is ever golden, it must be here beside the graves of fifteen thousand men, whose lives were more significant than speech, and whose death was a poem, the music of which can never be sung.”

Memorial Day Facts

- Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day.



- The holiday began as a way to honor soldiers who died in the Civil War, but the day now honors all U.S. veterans who have sacrificed their lives.
- There's a specific way to display the American flag on Memorial Day, according to the U.S. Flag Code: hoist the flag quickly up to full staff at sunrise, then

lower to half-staff until noon, and then return to the top of the staff.

- Many veterans, as well as friends and family of veterans, make a pilgrimage to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., over Memorial Day weekend.
- In 1971, Memorial Day was established as a federal holiday taking place on the last Monday in May.
- Poppies have become a symbol of Memorial Day because they are mentioned in a 1915 poem by Canadian soldier John McCrae, "In Flanders Fields."
- Many Americans mark Memorial Day with an official moment of remembrance at 3 p.m. local time.
- During the 3 p.m. moment of remembrance on Memorial Day, Amtrak conductors sound one long whistle in honor of those who have died in service.
- Traditionally, American presidents give a Memorial Day speech at Arlington National Cemetery at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
- New York was the first state to recognize Memorial Day as an official holiday.
- Some Southern states celebrate a Confederate Memorial Day, or Confederate Heroes Day, in late April, remembering the Confederate soldiers who died during the Civil War.
- The first Indianapolis 500 race took place on Memorial Day in 1911.
- The Lincoln Memorial was dedicated by then-Chief Justice William Taft on Memorial Day in 1922.

Peter C. Lemon
"The Medal in a Shoebox"

[from *Home of Heroes* website;

homeofheroes.com/heroes-stories/vietnam-war/peter-c-lemon/]

The tall man in an immaculate business suit looked across the crowded classroom at more than a hundred young faces. He was an imposing figure, over six feet tall and broad of shoulder. Yet he spoke with a quiet gentleness that captivated the children. At the back of the room stood an impatient cameraman from the local TV station. He had come to interview a rare hero, a living Medal of Honor recipient. It seemed, however, that Peter Lemon was more interested in talking to the children than in talking to the camera. And he wasn't even talking about himself or his own heroic actions more than twenty years earlier. Instead, the hero, pausing from time to time to compose himself, talked of three friends who had died the night of his action.

Prized Possession

On that spring day in 1993, there were only 204 living Americans authorized to wear the Medal of Honor. Mr.

Lemon was one of them, yet he had shown up in business attire, no Medal draped around his neck. The cameraman tried not to show either his impatience or his disappointment for it would not have mattered. Pete Lemon wasn't seeking publicity; he was finding a "mission". When the presentation came to a close Mr. Lemon invited the children to ask questions. "What does the Medal of Honor look like?" asked one student.

"Here, I'll show you," Mr. Lemon replied as he withdrew a blue award case from his pocket. Mr. Lemon took the Medal from the case and passed it out to the children to touch and hold. Everyone else in the room seemed equally surprised at the ease with which Mr. Lemon allowed one of our Nation's rarest



treasures to pass from hand to hand. Mr. Lemon must have read our thoughts for he quickly stated, "What good is it to have this Medal if you can't share it." Few of us in the audience that day realized what a major step that event was for Pete Lemon. For him becoming a Medal of Honor recipient began after receiving his award, not in the moments of terror and valor that precipitated it.

Fire Support Base Illingworth
Republic of Vietnam

April 1, 1970

Peter Lemon was 19 years old, exhausted, scared, and fighting for his life. His body was bleeding from numerous shrapnel wounds in his head, back, and neck. These had been inflicted by an enemy mortar that had exploded near him earlier. Specialist Four Lemon was fortunate. That same mortar round had literally vaporized one of his close friends and fellow soldiers.

For more than three hours the battle had raged at Fire Support Base Illingworth, one of two small American outposts in Tay Ninh Province. Pete and his 18-man platoon had just returned from another recon patrol hoping to get a good night's rest. But on this night, there was no sleep to be found. Close to 400 enemy soldiers swarmed the small American outpost, and they had chosen the area of the perimeter defended by Peter Lemon's Platoon as their point of attack.

Already, the young soldier had successfully fought back two waves of enemy soldiers, survived the mortar attack, watched three friends die, and carried another wounded comrade to safety. Each time the enemy had come Pete Lemon had fought with fury, determined that if he could

survive this assault, the worst would be over. Wounded a second time, when a third wave appeared poised to overrun the perimeter it seemed that all hope for survival was lost. "I said to myself, 'You're not going to make it through this one,'" Pete later recalled. Determined to go down fighting the intrepid soldier found a working machine gun and jumped to the top of the berm (dirt pile surrounding the base camp) and, in a fully exposed position, continued to fire at the enemy.

Wounded yet a third time in that final assault and reduced to having to fend off the enemy in hand-to-hand combat, somehow the fearless Army Ranger survived the night. In the days that followed he surveyed the impact of that night from his hospital bed. Every man in the platoon had been wounded. Dead were three of his closest friends, Casey Waller, Nathan Mann, and Brent Street. His own wounds would require more than a month of hospitalization, yet he had refused to be evacuated until the other wounded had been flown to a field hospital. Peter Lemon's war was over and within six months he had returned to his hometown in the state of Michigan as a civilian to try and forget an event that would forever haunt his dreams. When word arrived the following spring that President Nixon would present the Medal of Honor to him at the White House, Pete Lemon seriously considered turning down the award. There had been eighteen heroes on his section of the perimeter that night, three of whom had died. The Medal, if there was to be one, belonged to them...not to Pete Lemon.



Eventually, the Army prevailed upon the young man from Michigan to accept his Country's highest award. Ten days after his 21st birthday President Nixon greeted him at the White House and proclaimed him a "hero". Pete Lemon, who had become a naturalized U.S. citizen at the age of twelve, was the only Canadian-born Medal of Honor recipient of the Vietnam War and the first since World War II. It was not a role he had either sought or desired. Shortly after receiving the award, he moved to the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. There he returned to college where he received bachelor's and master's Degrees, and quietly built several successful businesses. Few people, including his closest friends from his college days or even his next-door neighbors, knew that Peter Lemon was a recipient of the Medal of Honor.

One of Pete's fellow Medal of Honor recipients had once said, "It's easier to earn the Medal than to wear it." Pete didn't even try. But while he shunned public recognition of his military heroism, he never forgot the men who had been with him on that night. The survivors of the April Fool's Day assault on FSB Illingworth had tried to stay in touch through the years, attempted to support each other through the tough times of "survivor's guilt" and "what if?" questions. While visiting by phone with one of those comrades one night almost thirteen years after his moment of valor, Pete was asked about his Medal of Honor.

"Oh, I have it," Pete Replied.

"Where is it? Asked his friend.

"In a shoebox in my closet."

"You don't wear it?"

"No!"

"Why not?"

"It isn't mine," Pete quickly answered.

"It belongs to Casey Waller, Nathan Mann, Brent Street, and the guys in the unit."

In the weeks that followed Pete thought often of that conversation. From time to time, he would look at the Medal and his name engraved on its backside, then put it away in the realization that it belonged to other men. More years passed. Then one night while visiting with yet another of the men from his unit, his former comrade in arms put it into perspective. "Look Pete," he told the reluctant hero, "Casey, Nathan, and Brent are gone! If you really feel like that Medal belongs to them, you need to wear it. Every time you wear that Medal you are reminding people about guys like them who fought...and died."

The transition from "reluctant hero" to "Medal of Honor Recipient" would take time, and simple steps like the one Pete had taken that day in 1993 at my son's middle school. Pete did attend the Medal of Honor functions, he had a responsibility to his fellow Medal Recipients to do so, and he had never been a man to shy away from responsibility. Returning from one such reunion in 1996 Pete was confronted by a question that would give him a new perspective on the award. After several days of mingling with heroes of the last three wars Pete's children asked,

"Dad, who are these guys?"

The answer was not so simple, for Pete understood it from his children's perspective. Everyone knew these men were heroes, Medal of Honor recipients. But his own children had looked past the Medals around their necks, read the lines in their faces and the scars they wore, and wondered about the men themselves. Pete himself had to admit that, beyond the Medal he shared in common with them, there were many he knew very little about personally. And so, for perhaps the first time in the history of the award, someone began asking the question "Beyond the Medal you wear, just who are you and what do you want to tell America?"

In 1997 Pete tried to answer that question, not only for his own children but for children across our Nation. More than half of the living Medal of Honor recipients responded to the question with sometimes humorous, other times somber...but always moving thoughts from their heart. Those answers were published in Pete's first book, Beyond the Medal, A Journey from Their Hearts to Yours.

"Every good soldier has to have a mission!"

Peter C. Lemon

"This book ought to be in every school," said a young student shortly after the release of Beyond the Medal. That student had used the book for a report in his own school. Other students wrote to Pete after reading his book, many of them echoing the same thought. That same year the Rotary Club in Pueblo, Colorado had a similar idea and purchased autographed copies for every school in the city and county's two districts. As Pete Lemon pondered these things and remembered his own definition of a "good soldier" and his present role as a "citizen soldier", a new mission developed. For more than a year he began to lay the groundwork for that mission, the dream of putting the words of yesterday's greatest heroes in hands of tomorrow's heroes.



True to his mission, his hard work and sacrifice are now paying off. Early in October 1999, a special new printing of Beyond the Medal is being mailed to every middle school and high school in our Nation...more than 32,000 of them.

With the humility that characterizes our greatest heroes, Pete would be quick to

give the credit for the success of this new mission to the sponsors of the program which includes the Castle Rock Foundation, Fulcrum Publishing, The Military Order of the Purple Heart (Fountain, CO), the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, and other anonymous supporters. As one of Pete's closest friends, I know all too well how many hours he has sacrificed and the money he has invested personally, to accomplish the mission for which he so quickly gives others credit. Some things just never change!

It took 25 years from the date of his award for him to learn to become a Medal of Honor Recipient. Is he finally comfortable with it? Not really. The Medal he wears still belongs to other men in his own heart and mind. It is for them that he accepts his role and accomplishes his newest mission...hoping that when others see the five-pointed star

hanging from its ribbon of blue around his neck that they will look beyond the Medal and see:

Casey Waller - Nathan Mann - Brent Street & E Co (Recon), 2/8th Cav, 1st

"Every good soldier has to have a mission!"

Peter C. Lemon

OTHER POST NEWS

• Post Members Welcome Home National

Guard Soldiers: VFW comrades helped the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP) with an event at the Virginia Beach Convention Center on March 13th to welcome home from Kuwait ARNG personnel from 576th ENG, and Companies D and E of 1-169th MED. 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 Commander José Vazquez



Left to right: Carl Dozier, Ken Wiseman, Kathy Goodall, and José Vazquez

and Past Post Commander Carl Dozier were joined by District 2 Recruiting Officer Kathy Goodall and Past Department Commander Ken Wiseman. The YRRP arranged this event to help soldiers and their families with pre and post deployment stresses by means of a question and answer seminar. They also arranged for a myriad VSO's and other vendors (at least 20) to be available for further assistance during their breaks. They recruited two active duty soldiers to the VFW and one transfer to our pose.

• **Post Comrade Chairs Foundation for**

Deaf Children: 18 years ago Post Charter Member “Pastor Joe” McGourn and his wife, Veronica, created a foundation called Talking Hands [<https://talkinghands.ph>] that helps deaf schoolchildren in the Philippines. The mission is: “To fulfill our commitment on improving Filipino Deaf children’s lives by making sure they are equipped with quality education, training and other necessary tools until they are prepared to adapt to ever-shifting environments. By doing such, we empower them to become confident, productive, innovative, and ultimately the best versions of themselves.”



On the anniversary of the founding Joe wrote:

Happy 18th anniversary Talking Hands. From the bottom of our heart Veronica and I would like to say thank you to our Board of Directors, wonderful staff, and fantastic volunteers. MVP. PNCCP. All our Public school partners and the most awesome generous partners. We couldn't have done it without you. Together over the past 18 years we have touched tens of thousands of children/youth. Yes we have made a difference in their lives. Looking forward to reaching more children on child sexual abuse prevention around the country.

#Ending Silence Through Education.

#SilentNoMore

Pastor Joe.

(Joe and Veronica are also the owners of the crowd favorite Sunrise Breakfast Shoppe in Great Bridge.)

• **Post Members Play in Power Soccer**

Tournament: Post comrade Chris Mulholland and his son and Auxiliary member, Kevin Mulholland, traveled to Jacksonville FL over the weekend of 26-27 February to compete against four teams from Florida and Georgia. Power soccer is the first competitive team sport specifically designed for severely disabled athletes who use powered wheelchairs. The chairs are regulated to the same top speed and outfitted with footguards which the players use to kick the ball. The game is played on a basketball court by two four-member teams who attempt to

score on a goal about 20 feet wide. Participants include individuals with muscular dystrophy, quadriplegia, multiple sclerosis, head trauma, cerebral palsy, and other disabilities. Some players maneuver their chairs with a joystick, others with a puff of air or their chins. Like regular soccer, the game rewards agility, imagination and proper spacing. It was Chris’ first tournament as a player and this is what he wrote afterwards: “What a GREAT weekend! We traveled to Jacksonville, Florida to play in our first power soccer games in over 2 years! And this time I wasn’t participating as a “wanker-referee” but as a PLAYAH! It was my first time ever to play – even during our practices all my time was spent tinkering with my chair to make it comfortable and workable. I am proud to say that the Tidewater Piranhas finished 3-1-1, scoring 12 goals with 9 against. As the team’s novice I scored 4 goals (I should have easily had 8 more but I kept misplaying the beautiful passes Nicki and Sammie kept giving me) and I proudly earned the only yellow card of the tournament!



And I got to play alongside my oldest son, Kevin! Awesome! I giggled like a schoolgirl the whole time! Coach Steve even nicknamed me ‘Smiley!’”

They also made some history:

- 1st father-son (parent-child) duo to play in a sanctioned power soccer match
- 1st player with ALS to play in a sanctioned power soccer match
- 1st former FIPFA referee to play in a sanctioned power soccer match
- 1st former USSF National Referee to play in a sanctioned power soccer match

- 1st former All Marine Corps Soccer Team player to play in a sanctioned power soccer match

IRIS MULHOLLAND
1928-2022

Auxiliary Charter Member
Former wife of vet; mother of two vets

PIONEER OF MODERN MIDWIFERY

Iris Margarete (Frese) Mulholland, R.N. and Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM), was instrumental in bringing life to thousands of babies in three different countries over six decades. She passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday, February 12, 2022 in Chesapeake, VA. Born 13 March 1928 in Dresden, Germany she was the sixth of seven children to Reverend Wilhelm Friederich and Louise Marie Julie (Ilse) Frese.



Living in Berlin during WWII, she barely missed being drafted into combat service in the last few weeks of the war and carried vivid memories for the rest of her life. In 1947 Iris completed her Abitur in nursing in Tübingen, Germany and worked as a midwife and OR/pediatrics nurse. In search of adventure, she then moved to Oxford, England where she earned a second degree in midwifery in 1954.

After arriving in the US in 1959, she went to work at the Lying-In Hospital of Boston where she stayed for the next 35 years as it transitioned to the Boston Hospital for Women and then the Brigham & Women's Hospital (BWH). During this time, she also worked with several private obstetricians and at the Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge.

As a divorced mother of two boys and an active proponent of midwifery in the United States, Iris was a pioneer in the 60's. In 1968 she proudly took the oath to become a naturalized US citizen.

During the 1970's, Iris played a key role in the return of natural childbirth to Massachusetts and was a founding member of the Commonwealth's Midwifery Oversight Committee. She was instrumental in the development of birthing rooms in Boston area hospitals and the establishment of the first birthing center at BWH. Working full time, she took night courses at Harvard and was certified by the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) after completing additional professional education courses at Ohio State University. Before her

retirement in 1994, she was the Director of the BWH Midwifery Group, the oldest continuous midwifery practice in Massachusetts.

During her many years in midwifery, she helped deliver babies for numerous luminaries such as Oscar-winning actress Patricia Neal, Red Sox All-Star Jim Rice, Stanley Cup Champion Boston Bruin Eddie Johnston, and Eleonore Campbell, youngest daughter of the von Trapp ("The Sound of Music") family, amongst others.

Iris was an active, energetic, and vivacious lady who lived life to the fullest. A longtime member of the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), she was a true outdoorswoman and enjoyed hiking, cross-country skiing, and exploring far off, exotic places around the world. Iris was an insatiable reader with an extensive personal library. During most of her 50 plus years in the Boston area, she lived in Cambridge and Belmont. Upon retirement, she relocated to Salem where she became involved in the North Shore community as a docent at the Peabody Essex Museum and the Gedney House. In 2012, she moved to Chesapeake, Virginia to be near her oldest son and his family.

Iris is survived by her two sons; Chris and wife, Barbara, of Chesapeake, VA; and Maxwell and wife, Lynn, of Winthrop, MA; and 5 grandchildren, Kevin, Kathryn DeLacy & husband Rich, Christopher & wife Emilia, Ian, & Ross; and one greatgrandchild, Adelyn Iris DeLacy. Iris was the last of seven siblings: sisters Hedda Frese, Irmhild Geldard, & Gudrun Erickson; and brothers Gerd, Waldemar, & Helmut.

A memorial service is scheduled for two o'clock on March 30th, 2022 at Oman Funeral Home in Chesapeake. In accordance with Iris' wishes, she will be cremated and her ashes scattered at several of her favorite places around the world.

The family is extremely grateful for all the care she received over the last several years from the staff at Cedar Manor Assistive Living Center. They also give their thanks to Heartland Hospice and Pastor Jonathan Fischer for providing comfort to Iris these last few weeks.

Iris was a cherished member of Boston's midwife community; full of life, energy, and vivaciousness; a mentor; and a friend to all. "Oma" will be missed.

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF FALL
OF BATAAN

(continued from page 1)

MacArthur planned to hold his ground on the Bataan Peninsula and Corregidor Island in the Philippines until the Navy could bring reinforcements and supplies from the United States. Once the reinforcements arrived, he would attack north from Bataan, defeat the Japanese Army, and push onward to the Japanese islands and victory. But with the Navy decimated by attacks on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, there were no ships capable of delivering reinforcements to Bataan.

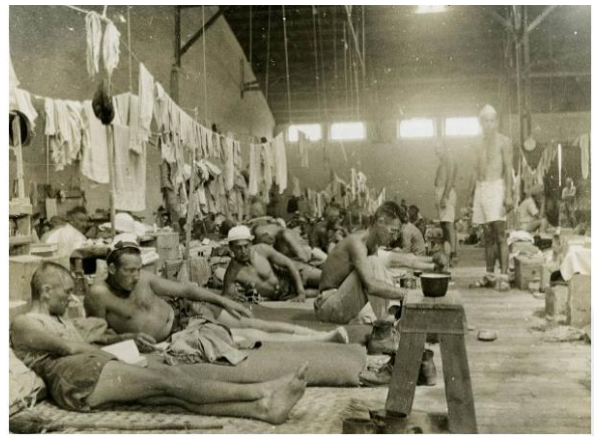
The Japanese navy blockaded Bataan and nearby Corregidor, preventing any food, ammunition, or medicine from reaching U.S. troops. For months, the troops on Bataan lived on half-rations in the tropical jungle. Nevertheless, they fought back Japanese attacks and defeated the Japanese army at battles along the Bataan defense line and the rugged coastline of the peninsula. But without supplies, they couldn't hold out for long.

By April 1942, many troops had lost as much as 30 percent of their body weight. As medical supplies ran out, malaria, dysentery and other tropical diseases ravaged Allied ranks, confining 10,000 men to the two open-air jungle hospitals for wounds and illnesses. Less than half of the remaining forces could be considered "combat effective" — defined as a man who could walk 100 yards without staggering and still have enough strength left to fire his weapon.

The Bataan Death March

On April 3, the Japanese army launched its final assault on Bataan. Although the starving Allied soldiers fought as best they could, they were no match for the fresh Japanese troops brought in for the attack. As Homma's army rolled back the front line on Bataan, King, the American field commander of more than 70,000 U.S. and Philippine troops made a fateful decision. King surrendered on April 9, rather than see any more of his starving, diseased men slaughtered by Japanese forces. Some refused to become prisoners, fleeing into the jungle. Of the ones who got away, many would join the guerrilla movement.

Once the surrender went into effect, the Japanese rounded up the Allied troops, gathering them into groups of 100 on the only paved road. The Japanese assigned four guards to each group and began marching the prisoners — lined up four abreast — north toward Camp O'Donnell in Tarlac province, 65 miles away.



Prisoners slept inside the large barracks on a brick deck covered with a straw mat and a thin pad. | Photo credit U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center

As the emaciated men proceeded up the highway in the blistering heat, the Japanese guards summarily shot or bayoneted anyone who fell, attempted to escape, or stopped to quench his thirst at a roadside spigot or puddle. The men were given little water or food during the march, which took about five days for each group to complete.

The guards also chased off or killed any Filipino civilian who tried to give water or bits of food to the passing lines of prisoners. At various points along the route of the march, they singled out individuals or groups of prisoners, tied them to trees or fences, and shot them as examples to the others. The Japanese killed between 7,000 and 10,000 men during the Death March — they kept no records, so the exact numbers remain unknown.

Life at Camp O'Donnell

When the prisoners got to Camp O'Donnell, the conditions were even worse. The facility was a former Philippine army camp - it was designed to accommodate about 10,000 men, but the Japanese crammed 60,000 Bataan Death March survivors into the camp.

There was little running water, sparse food, no medical care, and nothing but narrow trenches along the sides of the camp for sanitation. The heat was intolerable. Flies rose out of the latrines and covered the prisoner's food. Malaria, dysentery, beriberi, and a host of other diseases swept through the crowds of prisoners who died at a rate of 400 men per day. Conditions were so dire that by July 1942, the Japanese replaced the camp's commander, moved the American prisoners to a camp in Cabanatuan, and paroled the Filipino prisoners.

From September through December 1942, the Japanese gradually paroled the Filipino soldiers to their families and the mayors of their hometowns, who were held personally responsible for each man's conduct. To be paroled, a soldier had to be well enough to walk and had to sign an oath he would not participate in guerrilla activity. Anyone who was too sick to walk was held in camp until he either recovered or died. By the time Camp O'Donnell closed in



American prisoners of war were liberated from a Japanese camp near Cabanatuan City, Philippines, by the 6th Ranger Infantry Battalion on January 30, 1945. | Photo credit U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center

January 1943, 26,000 of the 50,000 Filipino POWs had died.

The Americans fared no better. Conditions in Cabanatuan were marginally better than those in Camp O'Donnell, and doctors were able to somewhat stem the disease and death rate. However, as U.S. forces pulled closer to the Philippines in 1944, the Japanese decided to evacuate the American prisoners to Japan and Manchuria to work as slave laborers in Japanese factories and coal mines.

Thousands of men were crammed into the dark holds of cargo ships, so tightly that they couldn't sit or lay down. Food and water were scarce and the heat in the closed holds of the ships was unbearable, suffocating many. In some cases, the guards wouldn't even let the dead bodies be removed from the holds. The Japanese ships were unmarked, and a few of them were attacked by American planes and submarines.

Surviving the trip to Japan was no guarantee of an easier existence, though. More prisoners died of malnutrition and exposure after the journey. And by the time the Army liberated the Bataan prisoners of war, two-thirds of the American prisoners had died in Japanese custody.

—Ashley N. McCall-Washington is a former public affairs specialist for the Army. This story originally appeared in the Fall 2015 issue of *On Patrol*, the magazine of the USO.

CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE

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

by Debbie McDaniel

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

Our Savior was willing to pay the ultimate price, so that we can live free. Forever.

May God bless America, and all of those who have sacrificed so greatly for our freedom, and faithfully served our nation!

Join the Inaugural VFW Day of Service

All members are encouraged to participate



KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Feb. 9, 2022) — The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is proud to announce the inaugural VFW Day of Service — a dedicated day of service led by VFW members throughout the country and the world.

The VFW Day of Service is an outgrowth of the organization's [#StillServing](#) campaign launched in 2020 to recognize the ongoing dedication of veterans and service



members who continue to serve their communities. VFW Day of Service, led by veterans and in concert with other organizations and civic groups, is open for anyone to participate. The inaugural VFW Day of Service kicks off

the first Saturday in May (May 7), marking the start of veteran-led community service projects to take place throughout the month.

“The positive feedback from VFW members and the communities we serve tells us the stage is set to expand our #StillServing initiative,” said Fritz Mihelcic, VFW national commander. “We have already seen how the campaign amplifies the volunteer efforts and camaraderie of America’s veterans. The time is now to take its visibility to the next level.”

Veterans are more likely than civilians to volunteer in their communities, according to a recent civic health survey¹ of veterans. The same study showed veterans donate to charities, register to vote, and are involved in their communities and local government at a greater rate than their civilian counterparts.

“We are calling on all VFW Posts and members across America and around the world to join in the VFW Day of Service by planning an activity for May 7, or at another point during the month, to show that we never stop serving” said Mihelcic.

The VFW urges its members and all veterans to visit VFWDayofService.org to register their event on the interactive Day of Service map and receive a special participation decal, or find a local event to join and see what other veterans around the country are doing to make a difference.

+ SAFETY CORNER +

APRIL IS NATIONAL *STRESS* AWARENESS MONTH

Stress Awareness Month has been recognized every April since 1992, but this year it seems particularly important.

Learning to cope with our stress and finding healthy ways to deal with these situations can go a long way in living a healthy and positive life.

What does stress mean to you?

We all experience stress – yet we may experience it in very different ways. Because of this, there is no single definition for stress, but the most common explanation is a physical, mental, or emotional strain or



tension.

Stress is a reaction to a situation where a person feels anxious or threatened. Learning healthy ways to cope and getting the proper care and support can help reduce stressful feelings and symptoms.

Common reactions to a stressful event can include:

- Disbelief, shock and numbness
- Feeling sad, frustrated and helpless
- Difficulty concentrating and making decisions
- Headaches, back pains and stomach problems
- Smoking or the use of alcohol or drugs

Affecting more than just your mind

Long-term stress can prove to be more than just a mental issue. From headaches to stomach disorders to depression – even very serious issues like stroke and heart disease can come as a result of stress.

When you are placed in a stressful situation, specific stress hormones rush into your bloodstream leading to an increase in heart rate, blood pressure and glucose levels. This is helpful in emergency situations, but having this “rush” for extended periods of time can be dangerous and make you susceptible to the issues mentioned previously.

Learn to overcome issues you cannot change

Sometimes the stress in our lives is not something we have the power to change. Try to:

- Recognize when you don’t have control, and let it go.
- Avoid getting anxious about situations that you cannot change.
- Take control of your reactions and focus your mind on something that makes you feel calm and in control.
- Develop a vision for healthy living, wellness, and personal growth, and set realistic goals to help you realize your vision.

Healthy ways for coping with your stress

Here are some basic ideas to help you cope with stress:

- Take care of yourself – eat healthy, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep, give yourself a break if you feel stressed.
- Share your problems and how you are feeling and coping with a family member, friend, doctor, pastor or counselor.
- Avoid drugs and alcohol. These can create additional problems and increase the stress you are already feeling.
- Recognize when you need more help – know when to talk to a psychologist, social worker or counselor if things continue.

Potentially the most valuable takeaway here is knowing how to talk to others about your stress. This goes both ways, as you need to know how to discuss your problems with others as well as talk to anyone that comes to you with their issues.

+ SAFETY CORNER +

MAY IS NATIONAL ALS AWARENESS MONTH

HISTORY

The United States Senate passed Joint Resolution 174 designating May 1992 as National Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month. President George H. W. Bush signed proclamation 6426.

Every May since, ALS Awareness Month has been observed across the nation with events designed to promote research and provide improved support for those coping with the disease and the families who care for them.

ALS AWARENESS MONTH

May is ALS Awareness Month and with it comes a round of support and advocacy for everyone who has received the diagnosis that is also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease.

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a devastating disease that is progressively neurodegenerative, affecting nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. The disorder affects nerves and muscles, gradually impacting a person’s ability to speak, swallow, breathe, walk – every aspect of their life. In effect, their body

becomes their coffin. People who receive a diagnosis of ALS typically live only 2-5 years.

More research is needed as there is no cure and few effective treatments. In the United States, more than 6,000 people are diagnosed each year – one out of six being a veteran.

ALS AND VETERANS

ALS affects veterans much greater than the general population but the vast majority of vets have no idea that:

- Veterans are twice more likely to get ALS than non-vets.
- 1 out of 6 ALS patients is a veteran.
- Three times more veterans have been lost to ALS since 9-11 than troops killed in Iraq and Afghanistan combined (21,100 vs 6,896).
- The prevalence of ALS in Post-9/11 veterans is up to ten times higher than the US population.
- Vets are getting ALS at progressively younger ages, with some

- **Scholarship Committee:** Carl Dozier, Chris Mulholland, and Kimball Thompson

POST DUES FOR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP INCREASE ON JULY 1ST

For as long as anyone can remember our annual dues for one year memberships has been the lowest in the country at \$30. At the February meeting the Post comrades unanimously voted to increase the dues to \$35 for beginning with the new fraternal year which starts on 1 July.

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

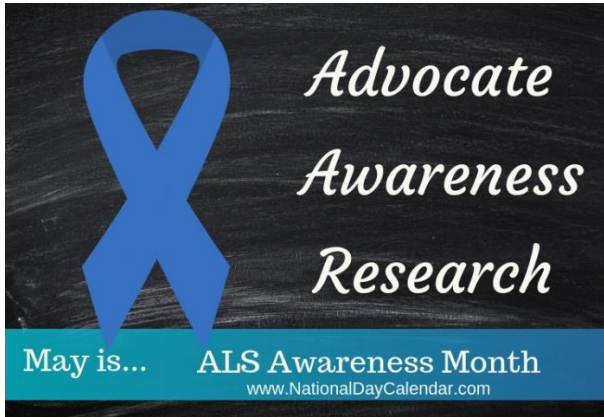
Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$30 (increase to \$35 on 1 July)

Annual dues can be paid via mail or to the Quartermaster at one of our meetings.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

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

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



as young as their 20’s and 30’s.

- Veteran suicide is a significant problem in our nation but the suicide rate for veterans with ALS is FOUR TIMES higher than that!

HOW TO OBSERVE

Spread the danger of ALS with every veteran you know. Learn more about ALS or donate to show your support by visiting the [ALS Association](#) or [Muscular Dystrophy Association](#) websites.

Join a local event such as an ALS walk or run. Use #ALSawarenessmonth to share on social media.

POST COMMITTEES – YOU CAN HELP!

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

- **Bataan Death March (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

81 & over	\$ 170	\$ 15.45
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<http://www.vfw.org/Join/Dues-Structure>

If you desire to change your Annual Membership to a Life Membership you can pay online at www.vfw.org, via mail, or in-person at a meeting.

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

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

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

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

1-800-313-4200, help@vfwnationalhome.org

APRIL MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1863 US adopts conscription for Civil War
- 1893 USN establishes rate of Chief Petty Officer
- 1945 Okinawa: 60K U.S. soldiers & Marines land on Easter Sunday
- 1945 US First & Ninth Armies meet to form Ruhr pocket
- 1954 US Air Force Academy established
- 1954 US Army forms first helicopter battalion, Fort Bragg, NC
- 1991 Warsaw Pact officially dissolves
- 2** 1827 Construction of 1st U.S. Naval Hospital begins, Portsmouth, Va
- 1865 Battles of Petersburg/Ft Gregg/Sutherland's Station, Va: Robert E. Lee forced to evacuate Richmond
- 1917 Wilson asks Congress to declare war against Germany
- 1982 Argentina invades Falkland Is, initiating 72-day losing war with Britain
- 3** 1865 Union forces occupy Richmond & Petersburg, to tune of "Dixie"
- 1948 Harry Truman signs Marshall Plan
- 4** 1776 First USN victory at sea: USS 'Columbus' captures HM Tender 'Hawke'
- 1862 Yorktown: First serious fighting of Peninsular Campaign
- 1865 Lincoln sits in Jeff Davis' chair, in Confederate White House
- 1942 Bataan: Fil-American forces fall back after Japanese break through
- 1943 4th Marine Div activated at San Diego
- 1949 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) formed
- 5** 1951 Julius & Ethel Rosenberg, atomic spies, sentenced to death
- 1986 Berlin: 2 US servicemen & Turkish woman die in terrorist bombing
- 1991 Iraq: US begins relief air drops to Kurds in north
- 6** Army Day and National Tartan Day
- 1862 Battle of Shiloh, Day 1: Confederate success
- 1866 Union vets form Grand Army of Republic
- 1917 US declares war on Germany, entering WWI
- 1945 Okinawa: Massive kamikaze attack on US fleet sinks 6 ships
- 7** 1862 Battle of Shiloh, Day 2: Grant defeats Confederates
- 1942 USN agrees to accept black Americans for general service
- 1943 Japanese inflict heavy losses on Allied shipping around Guadalcanal

- 1945 First Navy Nurses land on Iwo Jima: Lt, jg, Ann Purvis & Ens Jane Kendeigh
- 1980 President Jimmy Carter breaks relations with Iran over hostage crisis
- 8** Feast of St Walther Gautier of Pontoise, Patron Saint of POWs
- 1865 Lee's retreat cut off near Appomattox Court House
- 1956 Parris Is, SC: 6 Marine recruits drown during unauthorized night exercise
- 2015 VFW Post 2894 Auxiliary founded
- 9** 1865 Appomattox: Robert E Lee & Army of Northern Virginia surrender
- 1898 Lt Andrew Rowan leaves for Cuba with "a message for Garcia"
- 1942 Bataan: 75,000 U.S. & Filipino troops surrender to Japanese
- 10** 1918 Near Toul, in eastern France, 104th Infantry begins 4 day determined defense against German assault, to become 1st American regt awarded Croix de Guerre
- 1945 Allies liberate Buchenwald concentration camp
- 1963 USS 'Thresher' (SSN-593) sinks east of Cape Cod, 124 die
- 11** 1863 Battle of Suffolk, VA
- 1898 Pres McKinley asks for Declaration of War against Spain
- 1899 Treaty of Paris: Spain cedes Puerto Rico, Philippines, Guam to US
- 1900 USN accepts first submarine, USS 'Holland', originally designed for Fenians
- 1942 American merchant mariners are authorized to receive DSM
- 1951 Harry Truman fires Gen Douglas McArthur
- 12** 1861 Confederates shell Fort Sumter, initiating Civil War
- 1911 First US naval aviator: Lt Theodore Ellyson
- 1916 Battle of Hacienda Santa Cruz de la Villegas: Maj. Charles Young, senior black officer in US Army, leads squadron of 10th Cav ("Buffalo Soldiers") to rescue white 13th Cav, besieged by Mexicans
- 1924 Off Balboa, Panama, 19-year old hooker Madeline Blair found aboard USS 'Arizona' (BB-39), plying her trade since ship left New York 1 month earlier
- 1942 Bataan: Japanese massacre 400 Filipino officers
- 1966 First B-52 raids on North Vietnam
- 1981 First US space shuttle launch (Columbia)
- 1993 Bosnia: USS 'Theodore Roosevelt' (CVN-71) & NATO initiate no-fly zone
- 14** 1818 US Army Medical Corps formed
- 1865 Abraham Lincoln mortally wounded by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theatre, on Good Friday
- 1898 USS 'Solace' commissioned, first hospital ship in USN since 1865, and only purpose-built hospital ship in history of fleet
- 1912 RMS 'Titanic' strikes iceberg, 11:40 pm
- 1945 Tokyo fire bomb raids: B-29s damage Imperial Palace
- 15** 1861 Ft Sumter surrenders
- 1861 Lincoln calls for 75,000 volunteers
- 1865 Stars and Stripes are again hoisted over Ft Sumter
- 1947 Former Army 2nd Lt Jackie Robinson begins playing for Brooklyn Dodgers, integrating modern Major League baseball
- 1952 First test flight of prototype B-52
- 1986 US bombs terrorist bases in Libya, following Berlin disco bombing
- 16** 1916 French Army forms Escadrille Americaine
- 1945 US troops enter Nuremberg
- 1945 USS 'Laffey' (DD-724) survives 6 kamikaze hits, off Okinawa
- 1946 US launches captured V-2 rocket, White Sands, NM
- 1947 Congress grants Navy Nurses full commissioned status
- 17** 1846 Battle of Cerro Gordo: Winfield Scott defeats Mexican Army
- 1861 Virginia is 8th state to secede from Union

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

MAY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1862 David Farragut captures New Orleans
- 1898 Battle of Manila Bay: Adm Dewey orders, "You may fire when ready."
- 1931 Empire State Building opens
- 1960 Francis Gary Powers' U-2 spy plane shot down over Sverdlovsk
- 2** 1863 Stonewall Jackson wounded by own men at Chancellorsville, dies May 10th
- 1945 Berlin formally surrenders to Red Army
- 1945 German forces in Italy surrender
- 3** 1846 Mexican army invades Texas
- 1861 Lincoln orders expansion of Army by 23K & Navy by 18K
- 1943 US 1st Armored Div captures Mateur, Tunisia
- 1946 Military Tribunal in Tokyo begins war crimes trials
- 4** 1946 US Marines recapture Alcatraz from rioting prisoners
- 1970 Ohio National Guard kills 4 students at Kent State
- 1942 Battle of Coral Sea begins
- 5** 1814 British attack Ft Ontario, Oswego, NY
- 1862 Cinco de Mayo: Mexican forces defeat French at Puebla
- 1862 Peninsular Campaign: Battle of Williamsburg, VA
- 1864 Battle of Wilderness: Germanna Ford/Wilderness Tavern
- 1908 Great White Fleet reaches San Francisco
- 1942 Philippines: Japanese troops land on Corregidor
- 1945 Oregon: Japanese balloon bomb kills pregnant woman and 5 children
- 1965 First large US ground units arrive in South Vietnam
- 6** 1937 Hindenburg disaster, Lakehurst, NJ, 36 die
- 1941 Bob Hope stages his first USO show, March Field, California
- 1945 Axis Sally makes her last broadcast
- 1962 USS 'Ethan Allen' (SSBN-608) fires first nuclear warhead from submerged sub
- 7** 1942 Battle of Coral Sea begins
- 1954 Dien Bien Phu: Vietnam overrun French after 55-day siege
- 1989 Panama: Manuel Noriega seizes power after losing election
- 8** 1886 Confederate veteran John S. Pemberton invents Coca Cola
- 1911 Birth of Naval Aviation: USN orders first airplane, Curtiss A-1
- 1942 Battle of Coral Sea, Day 2: USS 'Lexington' (CV-2) sunk
- 1945 V-E Day; Germany signs unconditional surrender
- 1952 US conducts first H-Bomb test, Eniwetok Atoll
- 9** 1831 Alexis de Tocqueville arrives at Newport, RI, for 10 month tour
- 1926 Lt Cdr Richard Byrd & CMM Floyd Bennett fly over North Pole

- 10** 1676 Bacon's Rebellion begins in Virginia
1775 Benedict Arnold, Ethan Allan, & Green Mountain Boys capture Ticonderoga
1862 Confederates torch & evacuate Norfolk/Pensacola Navy Yards
1960 USS 'Triton' (SSN-586) completes first submerged circumnavigation
1968 Vietnam War: Paris peace talks begin; Battle of Hamburger Hill
- 11** 1862 CSS 'Virginia/Merrimac' scuttled in James River
1938 First USCG award of DFC, LT C. B. Olsen, for rescue at sea
- 12** 1607 Foundation of Jamestown, Virginia
1789 NYC Revolutionary War veterans form Society of St Tammany
1943 Trident Conference: Roosevelt and Churchill plan strategy
1975 US merchant ship 'Mayaguez' seized by Cambodian forces
- 13** 1908 Navy Nurse Corps is established
1943 USN Bureau of Navigation becomes Bureau of Naval Personnel
- 14** 1653 Massachusetts Council declares that 1/8th of each militia company be available to march on 1 day's warning.
1801 Tripoli declares war on US, initiating First Tripoli War
1804 Lewis & Clark Expedition sets out from St Louis
1836 Mexican President Santa Anna, prisoner of Texans, signs Treaty of Velasco, conceding Texan independence.
1845 USS 'Constitution' lands Marines at Danang, Indochina
1856 USS 'Supply' delivers 50 Turkish camels to US Army at Indianola, Texas
1942 US Army forms Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC)
1945 US offensive on Okinawa, Sugar Loaf Hill captured
1975 US raids free Cambodian-held ship 'Mayaguez' with heavy losses
- 15** 1862 Ben Butler issues famous "Woman Order," and proves every woman in New Orleans is a lady
1939 Dupont introduces nylon; within year Japanese sales of silk to US fall 30 percent
1940 First successful test flight of American helicopter, Vought-Sikorsky US-300
- 17** 1987 USS 'Stark' (FFG-31) hit by Iraqi missiles, 37 sailors die
- 18** 1775 1st USS 'Enterprise' enters service, prize taken by Benedict Arnold on Lake Champlain
1861 Battle of Sewall's Point, VA
1917 Congress passes Selective Service Act
- 19** 1951 UN begins counter offensive in Korea
1958 NORAD formed
1967 US bombs Hanoi
- 20** 1912 Battlecruiser SMS 'Moltke' reaches Hampton Roads, on only visit to US by German capital ship
1930 Pres. Hoover reviews US Fleet off Virginia Capes
- 21** 1861 Richmond, Va, designated Capital of Confederacy
1881 Clara Barton founds American Red Cross
1917 Leo Pinckney first American drafted during WW I
1944 West Loch, Pearl Harbor: ammo-laden LST blows up, 6 LSTs lost, 200 killed, "2nd Pearl Harbor"
1968 USS 'Scorpion' (SSN-589) sinks off Azores, 99 die
- 22** National Maritime Day
1959 Benjamin O Davis Jr. (USMA '36) becomes first black Army general
1985 US sailor Michael L Walker arrested for spying for USSR
- 23** 1775 Virginian Patrick Henry says "Give me Liberty or give me death!"
1862 Valley Campaign: Stonewall Jackson takes Front Royal, Virginia
- 24** 1764 James Otis coins phrase "No taxation without representation!"
1861 Benjamin Butler declares fugitive slaves Frank Baker, Shepard Mallory, & James Townsend "contraband of war"
- 25** 1787 Constitutional Convention opens in Philadelphia
1961 JFK pledges US will put man on moon by 1970
- 26** 1945 US fire bomb raid on Tokyo
- 27** 1607 Battle of Jamestown: English settlers repulse attack by 200 Indians
- 28** 1830 Congress authorizes Indian removal from Eastern states
1980 First 55 women graduate from U.S. Naval Academy
- 29** 1945 Okinawa: 1st Marine Division Captures Shuri Castle
- 30** 1868 First "Decoration Day" [now "Memorial Day"], designated by GAR CINC Maj Gen John Logan
1958 Unknown soldiers of WWII & Korean War entombed in Arlington National Cemetery
1962 USS 'Arizona' Memorial dedicated in Pearl Harbor
- 31** 1900 Boxer Rebellion: Multi-national relief forces reach Peking

FROM THE EDITOR

If you are interested in submitting articles, photos, updates on events, for inclusion in the newsletter, please send them to me at: 505 Piping Rock Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23322, 757-482-4981 or adjpost2894@vfwva.org

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

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

Semper fidelis, *Chris Mulholland*

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



11th ANNUAL



BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK



APRIL 2nd, 2022 | DISMAL SWAMP TRAIL, CHESAPEAKE

Take part in a walking event commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Bataan Death March of World War II. Honor the 90,000 US and Filipino Servicemen who suffered and endured one of the most harrowing events in history.

Onsite Events:

16.6 mile walk | 7:00AM start
5 mile walk | 10:00 AM
1 mile family walk | 11:00 AM
Closing Ceremony | 12:00PM
Registration starts @ 6:00AM



*Sponsored by
VFW Post 2894
SSG Jon K. Dozier Memorial*

Virtual Event:

16.6mile/5mile/1mile
Walk/run/bike/swim/roll - ANY
WAY YOU WANT, ANYTIME,
ANYWHERE!
15 JAN - APR 2, 2022

Military Displays and Lots of family friendly activities!



For more information, visit <https://walkchesapeake.wixsite.com/chesapeakebataan>
Register by April 2nd at <https://walkchesapeake.wixsite.com/chesapeakebataan/register>
Walk-on registrations welcome



POST 2894 CALENDAR

APRIL	
2	11th Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk
6	Army Day / US enters WWI
8	Anniversary of Post 2894 Auxiliary founding (2015)
10	Palm Sunday
13	Post Meeting / Election / Quarterly Audit, 1900
14	Holy Thursday
15	Good Friday
16	District 2 Mini Golf Tournament, Lynnhaven Golf Park
17	Easter
18	Income Tax Day
28	Run for Fallen (to 2 May)
30	End of Vietnam War (1975)

MAY	
1	National Loyalty Day
5	Cinco de Mayo
6	Military Spouses Day
8	VE Day (1945) / Mother's Day
11	Post Annual Awards Ceremony, 1900
14	Dist 2 Convention, Post 3160 Ocean View, 1200 lunch/ 1300 meeting
TBD	JROTC Awards Ceremony, IRHS, 1800
15	Peace Officers' Memorial Day / Armed Forces Day
19-22	Chesapeake Jubilee
21	Armed Forces Day
21-22	Buddy Poppy Drive (tentative)
26	Indian River HS Honors local 911 survivors
30	Memorial Day Ceremony, City Hall, 1100

2 APRIL – BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK!!!



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

Place
Stamp
Here



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED