

**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.



**Meetings**

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

**Post Address:**

VFW Post 2894  
PO Box 15842  
Chesapeake, VA 23328

**NEW** [Webpage: vfw2894.org](http://www.vfw2894.org)  
[Email: cdrpost2894@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost2894@vfwva.org)

**Visit us on FaceBook**

**2021–22 POST OFFICERS**

Commander.....	José Vazquez
Sr. Vice Commander.....	Bob Gregory
Jr. Vice Commander.....	Mark Rios
Adjutant.....	Chris Mulholland
Quartermaster.....	Craig Devonshire
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](http://www.vfw.org)

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

**VFW VA DISTRICT 2**  
[www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2](http://www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2)



**POST NAMED ALL-STATE POST... AGAIN!!!  
SEVENTH YEAR IN A ROW!!!**

Through everyone’s efforts the Post has once again been named an All-State Post – our seventh in a row! Thanks to all of you who do the little things every day in our community! Thank you, Thank You, THANK YOU!!!! And congratulations to everyone!



**11<sup>th</sup> Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk Was a Tremendous Success!**

Led by our new event chairman, Ted Roberts, Post 2894 held our biggest event of the year, the 80th Anniversary of the Bataan Death March, on 2 April 2022. This annual event honors and remembers the thousands of American and Filipino service members who died and suffered during the atrocity known as the Bataan Death March.

We had a number of organizations from the Marine Corps’ Security Force Regiment,



This was our 11th annual BDM Memorial Walk and the first “live” version after two years of “virtual” participation due to COVID-19.

Training Company, US Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE) NCO Academy, Virginia National Guard,

*(continued on page 7)*

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health and cheer!

During our May meeting both the Post and Auxiliary held our installation of Officers and staff. I will continue as your Post Commander as will Bob Gregory as your Sr. Vice Commander, Chuck Wolff as your Quarter Master, Kimball Thompson as your Chaplain, John Guill as your 1 Year Trustee, Carl Dozier as your 2 Year Trustee, Jim Ireland as your Service Officer, Matt Hamel as your Judge Advocate and Butch Nunley as your Sargent at Arms. I would like to thank outgoing Jr. Vice Commander Mark Rios, outgoing Trustee Brad Waters, outgoing Surgeon Ron Liston for all their great work for the past year and welcome Mike Kust as your new Jr. Vice Commander, John Paterson as your new 3 Year Trustee and Dave Weber as your new Surgeon.

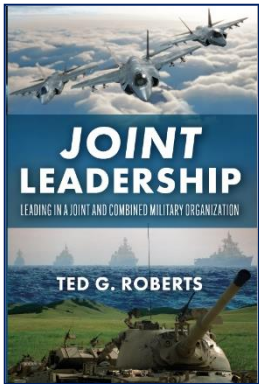
Unfortunately, our past Post Commander and present Adjutant, Chris Mulholland, has decided to step down as Post Adjutant. Chris, thank you for helping me keep our ship on course for the past year and as it seems heading towards our 7<sup>th</sup> All State and All-American honors! We have officially made All State for the 7<sup>th</sup> year in a row! All-American is still undecided but we are in the running!



My thanks go out to outgoing Post Auxiliary President Sandy Dunbar for all her hard work the past year and my congratulation to the new Post Auxiliary President Anne Thompson! Looking forward to working together with you Anne to keep our ship on course!

My Salute in this edition goes out to Comrade Ted Roberts! Ted headed our annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk Fund Raiser. Under Ted's leadership this year's event was our biggest fund raiser ever! Thank you, Ted!

Ted also received this Doctorate from Regent University! So, he is now Dr. Theodore Roberts! Dr. Roberts has also published a book entitled "Joint Leadership"! Here is a description of this book and a little about the author:



*"Joint Leadership" is an impactful guide that shares game-changing information for any mid-level to senior-level military officer who finds themselves assigned to a Joint (multi-service) or Combined (multi-national) military organization. These officers have a good grasp of*

*operating and leading personnel in their respective services at the tactical level, but leading at an operational-level headquarters, which includes leading personnel from other services, requires different methods. This book seeks to define those environments and offers insights into how they are different and what those officers need to know to navigate the Joint and Combined environments.*

### About the Author

*Ted Roberts is a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel with more than 30 years of service. He began his Air Force career as an enlisted Airman. After three years of enlisted service, he entered the United States Air Force Academy. He graduated, earned his commission, and served as a career Space Operations officer. During his officer career, he graduated from the Space Weapons Instructor Course at the US Air Force Weapons School. He also has extensive Joint planning and operations experience, working as a Joint Planner supporting US Indo-Pacific Command, US Central Command, and US Transportation Command. He concluded his career as an Assistant Professor teaching Joint Planning and Joint Professional Military Education Level II (JPME II) at the Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia. He is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, and most recently graduated from Regent University with his Doctorate in Strategic Leadership in May 2020. He is married and has three children, and currently resides in Chesapeake, Virginia.*

Please consider purchasing Dr. Ted Roberts book! You can find it on Amazon.

**Also please don't forget to visit our own Post Website operated by Comrade John Peterson at [vfw2894.org](http://vfw2894.org).**

Our next Post event after the 4th of July Parade is six weeks later

*José Vazquez, Post Commander*

## OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Greetings from the Auxiliary. We had two new

Members join the Auxiliary, Ginny Culpepper and Liz Lewis. We are excited

To Welcome them and hope they enjoy our VFW family.

The Auxiliary held our election and the following were elected and

installed.

President – Anne Thompson, Senior Vice President – Rosie Gregory, Junior Vice President – Sharon Peterson, Secretary – Jean Dozier, Treasurer – Donna Kust, Chaplain – Dianne Hostetlar, Conductress – Ginny Culpepper, Guard – Sandy Dunbar, Patriotic Instructor – Jackie Conway, Trustee 3 Year –

**CORRECTION:** A story in the last newsletter incorrectly described a Yellow Ribbon event as one for "returning" ARNG personnel when they were actually "deploying".

Liz Lewis, Trustee 2 Year – Sharon Peterson, Trustee 1 Year – Barbara Mulholland. Congratulations to all the members. I wish you the best for the coming year.



The Auxiliary has done very well reporting in the various programs. We have submitted over 125 reports. We reached our Membership requirements of 103.23%.

The Auxiliary is getting ready for the Department Convention June 8 – June 12 at the Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel. The Buddy Poppy Display is finished and we are

very pleased with how it turned out.

I want to thank everyone for all your support over these past seven years. From a group of rookies we have now become one of the top Auxiliaries in the state. I ask that you give our new President your continued support as she leads us to even greater heights!



We hope everyone has a great summer. Be Safe, Stay Healthy and Have Fun!

Remember our Veterans and their Families. Thank You for ALL you do for Veterans.

*Sandy Dunbar, President District 2*

## **INCOMING PRESIDENT'S CORNER**



Auxiliary Members and Comrades of Post 2894,

I am humbled to be taking over as President of VFW Auxiliary Post 2894. I want to thank Sandy Dunbar for leading the way for our Auxiliary for 5 years. Sandy stood up the post Auxiliary with 4 other dedicated members and created an exceptional reputation in District 2. I am filling big shoes. As we move forward post-covid,

we will be looking forward to helping with the acquisition of a permanent home for the Post while doing great things for the Veterans in our Chesapeake community. My congratulations go out to Jose Vasquez who will be our Post Commander again this year. Thank you to the Auxiliary members for your confidence in me. I will do my very best to meet our goals in the coming year.

Sincerely,

*Anne Thompson, VFW Auxiliary President, [act113@icloud.com](mailto:act113@icloud.com)*

## **4h OF JULY PARADE, SOUTH NORFOLK**

We will be marching in this year's Independence Day Parade in South Norfolk again. This will be the first "live" parade in three years and will take place on 4 July with lineup at 0800 at the South Norfolk Baptist Church at 101 Chesapeake Avenue. The parade actually starts at 1000 and it is only one mile. The parade finishes at Lakeside Park which, if you've never been there, includes a war memorial to all of the Gold Star Heroes of South Norfolk, Norfolk County and Chesapeake since WWI.

The parade will be followed with entertainment, food, games, paddleboat rides, children's crafts and family fun! The event is presented by the South Norfolk Civic League and Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

Anyhow, come on out. It's a relaxing event. And let's have some fun!!!

## **2022 POST AWARDS!**

We held our annual awards ceremony on the evening of May 12<sup>th</sup>. A special thanks goes out to the City Council who graciously allowed us to host the ceremony in their chambers at City Hall.

Each year more than 130,000 students in grades 6 through 8 enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen youth essay contest. The contest encourages young people to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern society, by drafting a 300 to 400-word essay, expressing their views on different themes, this year's being, "How Can I Be A Good American?" The winner of Post 2894's Patriots' Pen for 2021-22 is Mackenzie Radford, a 6th grader at Oaktree Academy in Virginia Beach.

In her essay, Mackenzie wrote, "How Can I Be A Good American? As I stare at our flag ...I am proud of our country. Be happy and grateful you live here, not



many countries get the privileges we have. We have so many freedoms and sometimes we forget to be grateful for that. Respect others. Respect your Country. Love your neighbor. Don't kneel for the [Anthem], don't sit. Stand up high and be proud of who you are and where you come from...There are a lot of people who don't know how lucky we are to live here...God protects us all as a nation...I am a 6<sup>th</sup> grader and a proud American." Congratulations, Mackenzie.

The Voice of Democracy Award is VFW's premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 40,000 high school students compete for more than 2.2 million dollars in scholarships and incentives. These scholarships range up to a national first place prize of \$30,000. The VFW established the program in 1947 to provide high school students the opportunity to express themselves in regards to democratic ideas and principles. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme was: "America: Where Do We Go From Here?" The winner of this year's Voice of Democracy contest for Post 2894 was Lucas Evans, a senior at Grassfield High School. His parents are Louisa and David. Here's what he expressed in his essay, "Right now our country is more divided than ever. Divided over political parties and ideologies, divided on what is right and what is wrong, and divided by race...how can it be possible that the United States of America, one of the most respected countries in the world, is more divided today than we were 150 years ago [during the Civil War?]....See, the answer to 'Where do we go from here?' is simple. We go forward because going backwards isn't an option and doing nothing is no better...The question should not be 'Where do we go from here?' but when...'When do we start to move forward?' ...when do we start taking accountability for our actions[?]....When do we stop seeing people in black or white and just start seeing them as Americans, or better yet humans? When do we realize that the only privilege we have is that we are Americans? When do realize that that privilege is a privilege men and women died for?...[Our generation is] the only hope...and if we don't act now the privileges we take for granted today will be what we are begging for tomorrow...We are Americans, we are better than what we been portrayed as. This is the land of the free and home of the brave. A gift given to us by all those who have served. We must not forget that. God bless America!" With patriotism and dedication like this, Lucas was enthusiastically awarded our Post's Voice of Democracy award.



Our Post Teacher of the Year was Jennifer Siler, a 7th Grade teacher at Hugo Owens Middle School. The Teacher of the Year program recognizes teachers who promote a sense of national pride in their students. Every year, 7500 VFW posts around the country nominate teachers for awards at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Previous Post 2894 winners have finished first in the nation and third runner-up – truly incredible achievements! There is no more important task than the development of an informed, effective, and responsible citizenry; and that's what our Post



nominee for Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Jennifer Siler has been doing with her students for 18 years – teaching them what it means to be a free American citizen, in the greatest country on Earth, with all the rights and responsibilities that that entails. As Alexis de Toqueville pointed out, each new generation is a new people that must acquire the knowledge, learn the skills, and develop the dispositions or traits of private and public character that undergird a constitutional democracy. During the segments on Colonial and Civil War eras: she leads trips to Williamsburg and the Hampton Roads Naval Museum; arranges for in-school visits from Civil War reenactment camps; and brings the colonial era to life for her students by having them dress in period attire, listen to a reenactor read writings from George Washington, and use a quill, ink, and wax seal to sign their own copies of the Declaration of Independence. Jennifer writes that she tries to teach "Not only the history lessons, but more importantly the lessons of honesty, integrity, hard work, structure, compassion, and empathy that I truly try to instill in my students through, not only instruction, but example as well. I truly love what I do. It is a part of who I am and always will be." Jennifer was also selected as District 2's Teacher of the Year – essentially, all of South Hampton Roads. For her passion in teaching and her interest in our future generations, Jennifer Siler is awarded the Post 2894 Teacher of the Year award.

We then moved on to our Public Servant Awards. We recognized that National Police Week was the following week and remembered that when we servicemen and women were overseas protecting our country, all the first responders were here at home protecting our families and communities. We veterans of foreign wars owe you, the firefighters, EMTs, police officers, deputy sheriffs, and state troopers, our utmost gratitude.

Our first Public Servant award went to our Firefighter of the Year, Master Firefighter/EMT Bradford Turner. He began his career with the Chesapeake Fire Department just over 21 years ago and has won numerous awards from the department including three "Life Saved" awards. Three years ago he was a member of a FEMA Task Force that deployed to Hawaii. Brad served twenty years as a Firefighter and Hazmat specialist. On the Hazmat team, Brad was the radiological officer and



program manager for the monitoring and detection program. The program consists of calibration, maintenance, and repair of approximately 100 meters. Brad has volunteered as a Board member of the Franklin/Southampton Area Chamber of Commerce. In addition, a group of friends, including Brad and his wife, Mary Ann, started Playful Minds Fun Center, which provides DVDs, iPads, coloring books, stuffed animals,

etc., to entertain kids during their stay in the local hospital. On Saint Patrick's Day two months ago, Brad officially retired from the Chesapeake Fire Department. Brad's second job, which is now his full-time job, is vice president and co-owner of Southern Charm Garden Center which he and his wife

started in 2008 – and we all know who the president is, don't we... Brad and Mary Ann have two daughters and live in Franklin. For his outstanding performance and commitment to the city of Chesapeake for the past 21 years, Master Firefighter/EMT Bradford Turner is our Post Firefighter of the Year!

Our next award winner for Emergency Medical Technician of the Year wasn't a stranger to in our midst since we gave her the same honor three years ago! Field Medical Officer/Firefighter Cheryl King started her career in emergency medical services in 1996 as an EMT with the East Fishkill Fire Department in New York.



When she first moved to Chesapeake in 1998, she worked as a dispatcher, winning Dispatcher of the Year in her second year. She was certified as a paramedic in 2002 and worked for the Currituck Fire Department for 12 years before joining the Chesapeake Department in 2014. She has

received numerous individual and unit awards and commendations both from within the department as well as from outside agencies including the Governor's office. One citation stated that she is, "a valuable resource at Recruit Academies, helping train the next generation of our EMS providers... Whether it be her skill or professional and courteous demeanor, Cheryl makes not only her patients, but the other providers she works with feel secure. She is someone you can trust to make the right decision in any situation." For the past two years Cheryl has been teaching EMTs in the medic program of the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Never one to stand still, she is currently working on a Bachelor's degree from Columbia Southern University. In her rare off times, Cheryl enjoys spending time with her children and – this must be a typo – grandchildren. One of her commanders said, "She gets it. She understands our mission statement is to help citizens and make our community a better and safer place. She doesn't do any of this for recognition, but because it's the right thing to do and she cares." For her passionate concern for the safety and well-being of the citizens of Chesapeake, Field Medical Officer/Firefighter King is our Post EMT of the Year!

Deputy Robert Perdue began his career at the Chesapeake Sheriff's Office in 2013 and received two



prestigious awards last year. One year ago he responded to a call regarding a fight in a housing complex. Upon arriving at the scene he noticed a blood trail leading to a nearby residence. Inside he found two badly injured people, one of whom had been shot. With the assistance of another deputy, Deputy Perdue administered first aid until the arrival of EMS. Thanks in part to his actions, both victims survived. For this he was awarded the Award of Excellence on October 14, 2021. The previous summer, Deputy Perdue was driving home after work when he heard over his radio about an overturned vehicle. Upon arriving on the scene, he found a car on its roof with flames coming from the engine. The driver was partially ejected but trapped under the vehicle. Deputy Perdue and a CPD sergeant put out the flames with fire extinguishers. Then they and several onlookers worked together to lift the vehicle and pull the driver to safety. For his heroic actions he received the Chesapeake Sheriff's Office Life-Saving Award. Deputy Perdue is a credit to law enforcement through his hard work and dedication, and reflects great pride on the Chesapeake Sheriff's Office. Congratulations for being our Post Deputy of the Year!



Officer Marc Lawrence is our Police Officer of the Year. Officer Lawrence is a Jack of all trades within the Chesapeake Police Department. His official primary assignment is with the Traffic Enforcement Unit or TEU but he also serves as: the Program Coordinator for Automated Enforcement; as the lead instructor for Accident Investigations; and he continues to offer support to the Field Training Officer Program by training recruit officers. In addition to all that, he serves on the Crash Reconstruction Team and the Department's Underwater Search and Recovery Team. With the TEU he continually pursues ways to increase highway safety, decrease crashes, and overall promote safer streets. As a member of the Crash Reconstruction Team, Officer Lawrence responded to nearly 75% of the activations of the team. In these responses, he took a leadership role either as the Primary Investigator or was responsible for mapping the accident scene. Officer Lawrence has written, executed, and compiled the evidence from numerous search warrants which has led to charges and pending prosecution where applicable. The complexity of these case requires attention to detail and patience. Beyond the cases Officer Lawrence has been involved in, he assisted other officers with their search warrants for vehicle inspections, cell phones, and medical records and blood from hospitals. Officer Lawrence's dedication to the Citizens of Chesapeake, the Department, his co-workers and teammates, and overall work ethic is exemplary which is why he was selected as our Police Officer of the Year. Congratulations and thank you!

We then moved on to our Special Awards.

Access Partnership is a small organization with a big impact in Hampton Roads because they provide a valuable service to the community. They collect donated medical equipment and supplies and over the years they have helped hundreds – maybe thousands – of people looking for used or slightly used medical equipment at no cost. Access Partnership operates primarily on donations and fund raisers. A few months ago the widow of the oldest veteran in Chesapeake was having problems getting in and out of bed. A couple of elderly women were taking care of her but were having problems operating the manual lift. This is where our extraordinary service officers, Jim Ireland and Gary Dunbar, flew in for the rescue. Jim contacted Access Partnership to see if they had any electric lifts. They didn't but put out a message on their website asking if anyone had one to donate. Within a week another veteran's widow called. Her husband had received one from the VA but passed away before he could use it. She said she wanted to give it to another veteran family who could use it. On January 28<sup>th</sup>, Gary and Sandy Dunbar and Jim Ireland picked up the electric lift with batteries and a charger from the donor and delivered it to the widow here in Chesapeake who was absolutely thrilled to receive it. We would like present this plaque which is inscribed "Presented to Access Partnership in Gratitude for Your Outstanding Support to Veterans and Their Families from VFW Post 2894 Chesapeake." Additionally, Commander Vazquez presented a onation from the Post to help with Access Partnership's mission.

Every year, we look for fine young Americans who exhibit patriotism, service, and civic duty. We are fortunate that the young citizens of Chesapeake never fail to come through. Tonight, we recognize and honor 15-year old Jacob Zinn, Last

summer, Jacob tackled a challenge by a national organization called Raising Men Lawn Care Service. They have a program called [the "50 Yard Challenge"](#) that challenges young people to cut the lawns of 50 people who are veterans, single parents, elderly or have disabilities. When someone completes it, they get a new lawnmower. Once Jacob agreed to the challenge, he was sent a T-shirt, earplugs and protective eyewear. He



mowed lawns throughout Chesapeake and was done with the challenge in 2021. For completing the challenge, Jacob was presented with a brand new lawnmower, weed eater and leaf blower. On behalf of the veterans you served, please accept this

plaque of appreciation as well as a donation to your scholarship fund.

Our last award is to someone very special to the Post. We wanted to publicly honor Chief Wright's dedication to the city and our veterans during his 40 years of service with the Chesapeake Police Department. We presented him with a plaque that reads: 'Presented to Chief Kelvin Wright In Many Thanks for All Your Support Over the Years, "Fair Winds and Following Seas" from VFW Post 2894'. Everyone then gave a big hand to the Chief's remarkable career and best wishes in his retirement.



The Post also awarded VFW medals to **AFJROTC** members in Chesapeake's high schools. We award two outstanding cadets, one male and one female, at each of the six high schools. The award recognizes the achievements *t de corps*. Here were the awardees:

- Deep Creek; Bella Dome & Jeremiah Channell
- Grassfield; Esperanza Porras & Yoel Mejia
- Great Bridge; Amber Bowers & Joseph Garcia
- Indian River; Madison Sheffield & Connor Futch
- Oscar Smith; Tori Paige & Vincent Lee
- Western Branch Shaniya Brown & Antonio Harris



Additionally, we honored the top cadet officer and NCO of Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Hampton Roads Composite Squadron at Chesapeake Airport. This year's Cadet NCO of the Year was Cadet CMSgt Delanie Ann Cleary, while the Cadet Officer of the Year was Cadet 2dLt Ethan H Burks.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR HONOREES!**

## OTHER POST NEWS

**Post Community Service for 2021-22.** Thanks to everyone's efforts, we had another banner year of community service:

<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>23,384</b>
<b>Total Miles</b>	<b>91,704</b>
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$338,447</b>
<b>Hourly Cost</b>	<b>\$467,680</b>
<b>Mileage Cost</b>	<b>\$12,839</b>
<b>Grand Cost</b>	<b>\$818,966</b>

• **Post Elections:** The newly elected Post officers for the fraternal year 2022-23 are:

Commander	José Vazquez
Senior Vice Cdr	Bob Gregory
Junior Vice Cdr	Mike Kust
Quartermaster	Chuck Wolff
Chaplain	Kimball Thompson
1 Year Trustee	John Guill
2 Year Trustee	Carl Dozier
3 Year Trustee	John Peterson

• **Auxiliary Elections:** The newly elected Auxiliary officers for the coming year are:

President	Anne Thompson
Sr Vice	Rosie Gregory
Jr Vice	Sharon Peterson
Secretary	Jean Dozier
Treasurer	Donna Kust
Chaplain	Dianne Hostetlar
Conductress	Ginny Culpepper
Guard	Sandy Dunbar
3 <sup>rd</sup> yr Trustee	Liz Lewis
2 <sup>nd</sup> yr Trustee	Sharon Peterson
1 <sup>st</sup> yr Trustee	Barbara Mulholland
Patriotic Instructor	Jacki Conway

• **Off to National Championships!** Auxiliary member Kevin Mulholland, and his dad, Post member Chris Mulholland, and their power soccer team, the Tidewater Piranhas, finished their regular season with a regional tournament in New Hampshire on May 21<sup>st</sup>. This is truly a family affair since their driver is wife/mom and Auxiliary member, Barbara Mulholland. Upon arriving, they played teams from New Hampshire, Vermont, Boston, and even Montréal – the first international play for most of the Piranhas. The Virginians won one, lost two and tied one making their season record 8-3-2, with all their losses coming against teams from higher divisions. Chris scored his 5<sup>th</sup> goal in 9 games while Kevin was the starting goal keeper in the majority of the all the matches. Besides Chris, the team includes several

other notable veterans. Teammate Amy McKee is a 100% disabled Marine Corps veteran of Iraq. The team's equipment manager and "mechanic" isn't an ordinary Mr. Fix-It – he's retired Navy nuclear engineer Mike Sawyer. The team is coached by a Marine Corps veteran of Beirut, Steve Belechak, who readily tells everyone about how



Chris Mulholland (left), Kevin Mulholland & Amy McKee (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> from left), and (standing) Mike Sawyer (black shirt) & Steve Belechak

this team has had a tremendously positive impact on his struggle with PTSD. In late June the Piranhas will travel to Fort Wayne, Indiana to compete in the US Power Soccer Association (USPSA) National Championships. GOOD LUCK, PIRANHAS!

### 11<sup>TH</sup> BDM *(contd from page 1)*

five high school AFJROTC units (Indian River, Oscar Smith, Grassfield, Western Branch, and Nansemond High Schools), and more participating in the walk. We lined up a whole host of donors and sponsors. And as every year, the Post owes a huge debt of gratitude to the Chesapeake Sheriff's Department, Police Department, Fire Department, and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) who provided us with great support.

Over 300 walkers came out to participate in one of the three events (1, 5 or 16.6 miles). The JROTC units participated in the walk and their enthusiasm was infectious with everyone. The Dismal Swamp Park was, well, 'swamped'! And everyone had a great time.

Many of the participants had family ties to the event of 80 years ago in the Philippines. Mr. Jim Zobel had a display from the MacArthur Memorial, and the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society also brought a display commemorating the Bataan Death March.

We were honored by the participation of National VFW Auxiliary President Jean Hamil, a Life Member of East Seminole County Auxiliary 10139 in Orlando, Florida. Department Commander Butch Schupska, Ocean View Post 3160, and Department Auxiliary Carol Vangi were also on hand.

We also had 18 volunteers on hand including LtCol Paul Pratt and his Marine Corps JROTC unit from Churchland High School who helped with set up the afternoon before the event and returned to help out tremendously on Event Day. A group of young Marines from Northwest Security Group also helped with set up and tear down on Event Day. The Marines also

exhibited a static display of weapons they use to train Marine Security Forces personnel. GSM1 Katherine Bland offered her services as the Event Photographer.

The city was represented by City Council Member – and Post 2894 comrade – Susan Vitale.

A number of significant donors made this event a huge success. ITC Defense, Tachyon Dynamics, Spectrum Communications, Inc., The American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society each donated \$1,000. Transtecs Corporation, Andy Saunders and State Farm Insurance, Jo-Kell, Inc. and Council Member Susan Vitale donated \$500 each. Matt Hamel, Esq., Ron and Debbie Ritter, John and Ruth Waters and Family, and Mr. R. Stephen Best, Sr. each donated \$250. Finally, Freedom Shooting Center made an in-kind donation of a pistol that the Post can raffle later this year.

We also had a number of donations to our raffle including gift certificates from a number of local businesses.



VFW Auxiliary President Jean Hamil (behind podium in lt blue) with members of Post 2894 Auxiliary.

This year's keynote guest speaker was Jerry Lee Cobleigh, a member of VFW Post 2894 and a participant in previous Bataan Memorial Death March events in the Philippines. We also had two surviving children of Bataan Death March survivors, Debbie Ernst and Bonnie Keys shared their fathers' experiences. Mark Rios served as the event Emcee.

One of the participants, Richard Belflower, remarked: "Thank you all for honoring all our family's heritage with this March! It was great to see the ROTC cadets out in full force to support this event. Shout out to a great group of fellow veterans that let me join them. Had some fantastic conversation and discoveries only God could orchestrate!"

A large measure of thanks goes to the BDM Committee who have been planning this event for the past 4 months: Becky and Brad Waters, Grace Schweers, Ann Jones, John Peterson, Bob Gregory, Carl Dozier, and José Vazquez. Also Jim Keiper was our "hot dog man" and led the hot dog cart team through the event, and cadets from the Churchland HS Marine Corps JROTC unit helped with the cooking! And a very large thanks goes to Ted Roberts who stepped forward as the chair of the BDM committee this year.

And finally, thanks to all who helped out in whatever way they could to make this such a successful event!

## 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're interested in and let them know you'd like to help:

- **Bataan Death March Committee:** Ted Roberts, John Peterson, Ann Jones, Becky & Brad Waters, Anne Thompson, Matt & Diane Hostettlar, 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
- **Scholarship Committee:** Carl Dozier, Joe Hammers, and Kimball Thompson.
- **Health Committee:** Surgeon Dave Weber

## COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTS

All of us are contributing to our community in many different ways. Some are Scout leaders, others active participants in church activities; some are coaches, others board members. You've attended funerals for veterans; visited them in hospitals, brought them meals, etc. etc. All of these activities are reportable as community activities by Post members. The VFW Department of Virginia has an on-line reporting system (<http://va.vfwportal.net/public/index.php>, password is "post2894") where you can add the entries yourself. If you're uncomfortable doing that, drop me an email telling me what you've done and I'll make the entries myself. Chris Mulholland

## CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE Prayer for Independence Day

*"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."  
(Psalms 33:12, ESV)*

Eternal God, stir Thou our minds and stimulate our hearts with a high sense of patriotism as we approach the Fourth of July. May all that this day symbolizes renew our faith in freedom, our devotion to democracy, and redouble our efforts to keep a government of the people, by the people, and for the people truly alive in our world.

Grant that we may highly resolve on this great day to dedicate ourselves anew to the task of ushering in an era when good will shall live in the hearts of a free people, justice shall be the light to guide their feet, and peace shall be the goal of humankind: to the glory of Thy holy name and the good of our Nation and of all mankind.

Amen.



(Congressional Prayer offered by Chaplain, Reverend Edward G. Latch on Wednesday, July 3, 1974.)

**+ SURGEON'S OFFICE +**  
**JUNE IS POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) AWARENESS MONTH**

The National Center for PTSD promotes awareness and effective treatments throughout the year. In 2014, the Senate designated the full month of June for National PTSD Awareness.

After a traumatic event, most people have painful memories. For many people, the effects of the event fade over time. But for others, the memories, thoughts and feelings don't go away – even months or years after the event is over. Mental health experts are not sure why some people develop PTSD and others do not. If stress reactions do not improve over time and they disrupt everyday life, it is important to seek help to determine if PTSD is present



The purpose of PTSD Awareness Month is to encourage everyone to raise public awareness of PTSD and effective treatments. We can all help those affected by PTSD.

**What can cause PTSD?**

Any experience that threatens your life or someone else's can cause PTSD. These types of events are sometimes called **trauma**. Types of traumatic events that can cause PTSD include:

- Combat and other military experiences
- Sexual or physical assault
- Learning about the violent or accidental death or injury of a loved one
- Child sexual or physical abuse



- Serious accidents, like a car wreck
- Natural disasters, like a fire, tornado, hurricane, flood, or earthquake
- Terrorist attacks

During this kind of event, you may not have any control over what's happening, and you may feel very afraid. Anyone who has gone through something like this can develop PTSD.

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE!**

Going through a traumatic event is not rare. At least half of Americans have had a traumatic event in their lives. Of people who have had trauma, about 1 in 10 men and 2 in 10 women will develop PTSD.

There are some things that make it more likely you'll develop PTSD — for example, having very intense or long-lasting trauma, getting hurt, or having a strong reaction to the event (like shaking, throwing up, or feeling distant from your surroundings).

It's also more common to develop PTSD after certain types of trauma, like combat and sexual assault. But there's no way to know for sure who will develop PTSD.

*"I was awarded a Silver Star for bravery. You're not going to tell me I'm a coward. If somebody like me has PTSD, then anybody can have it."*

— MAJ Joshua Brandon, US Army (2002–present)

**How do I know if I have PTSD?**

The only way to know for sure is to talk to a mental health care provider. He will ask you about your trauma, your symptoms, and any other problems you have.

**PTSD Screen**

Sometimes things happen to people that are unusually or especially frightening, horrible, or traumatic. For example, a serious accident or

fire, a physical or sexual assault or abuse, an earthquake or flood, a war, seeing someone be killed or seriously injured, or having a loved one die through homicide or suicide.

Have you ever experienced this kind of event?

If yes, please answer the questions below. **In the past month, have you:**

- Had nightmares about the event(s) or thought about the event(s) when you didn't want to?
- Tried hard not to think about the event(s) or went out of your way to avoid situations that reminded you of the event(s)?
- Been constantly on guard, watchful, or easily startled?
- Felt numb or detached from people, activities, or your surroundings?
- Felt guilty or unable to stop blaming yourself or others for the event(s) or any problems the event(s) may have caused?

**If you answered "yes" to 3 or more of these questions, talk to a mental health care provider** to learn more about PTSD and PTSD treatment. Answering "yes" to 3 or more questions does not mean you have PTSD. Only a mental health care provider can tell you for sure.

**What if the screening tool says I don't have PTSD?**

You may still want to talk to a mental health care provider. If thoughts and feelings from the trauma are bothering you, treatment can help — whether or not you have PTSD.

**Is it ever too late to get treatment for PTSD?**

It's never too late. Treatment can help even if your trauma happened years ago. And treatment for PTSD has gotten much better over the years. If you tried treatment before and you're still having symptoms, it's a good idea to try again.

**What if I don't feel ready for treatment?**

It's normal to feel like you're not ready for treatment, or to come up with reasons why now isn't the right time — like you can't afford it or you're too busy. But not wanting to talk or think about the trauma can actually be a symptom of PTSD.

You may never feel truly ready to get help for PTSD — but if you're having symptoms, it's better to get treatment now than to wait. The sooner you get treatment, the sooner you can start to feel better.

**Where can I go to get help?**

If you're a Veteran, check with the VA about whether you can get treatment there. Visit

[www.va.gov/directory/guide/PTSD.asp](http://www.va.gov/directory/guide/PTSD.asp) to find a VA PTSD program near you. If you're looking for care outside the VA, ask your doctor for a referral to a mental health care provider who specializes in PTSD treatment, or visit <https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov> to search for providers in your area. When choosing a mental health care provider, here are some important things to consider:

- **Find a provider who uses PTSD treatments proven to work**
- **Find out what your insurance will cover**
- **Find someone who is a good fit for you**

*"My treatment has been a blessing to me and my family. It's hard to put into words just how you feel after you know that you can control your anger, and you can control your emotions."*

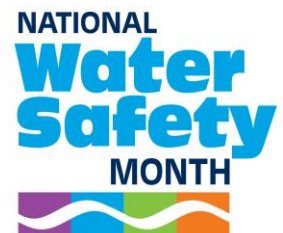
— Bradley Seitz, US Marine Corps (2002–2005)

**+ SAFETY CORNER +**  
**JULY IS NATIONAL WATER SAFETY MONTH**

As the weather warms up, pools are preparing to open and crowds are gearing up to head to the beach. National Water Safety Month is the perfect time to ensure you and your family are prepared to spend a fun, safe day by the water. And the American Red Cross can help!

Swimming is the most popular summer activity. While the best thing you can do to help your family stay safe is to enroll in age-appropriate swim lessons, it is also important to

**Make Water Safety Your Priority**



- Swim in designated areas supervised by lifeguards.
- Always swim with a buddy; do not allow anyone to swim alone. Even at a public pool or a lifeguarded beach, use the buddy system!
- Ensure that everyone in the family learns to swim well. Enroll in age-appropriate Red Cross water orientation and Learn-to-Swim courses.
- **Never leave a young child unattended near water** and do not trust a child's life to another child; teach children to always ask permission to go near water.
- Have young children or inexperienced swimmers wear U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets around water, but do not rely on life jackets alone.
- Establish rules for your family and enforce them without fail. For example, set limits based on each person's ability, do not let anyone play around drains and suction fittings, and do not allow swimmers to hyperventilate before swimming under water or have breath-holding contests.
- Even if you do not plan on swimming, be cautious around natural bodies of water including ocean shoreline, rivers and lakes. Cold temperatures, currents and underwater hazards can make a fall into these bodies of water dangerous.
- If you go boating, wear a life jacket! Most boating fatalities occur from drowning.
- Avoid alcohol use. Alcohol impairs judgment, balance and coordination; affects swimming and diving skills; and reduces the body's ability to stay warm.

**Prevent Unsupervised Access to the Water**

- Install and use barriers around your home pool or hot tub. Safety covers and pool alarms should be added as additional layers of protection.
- Ensure that pool barriers enclose the entire pool area, are at least 4-feet high with gates that are self-closing, self-latching and open outward, and away from the pool. The latch should be high enough to be out of a small child's reach.
- If you have an above-ground or inflatable pool, remove access ladders and secure the safety cover whenever the pool is not in use.
- Remove any structures that provide access to the pool, such as outdoor furniture, climbable trees, decorative walls and playground equipment.
- Keep toys that are not in use away from the pool and out of sight. Toys can attract young children to the pool.

**Maintain Constant Supervision**

- Actively supervise kids whenever around the water—even if lifeguards are present. Do not just drop your kids off at the public pool or leave them at the beach—designate a responsible adult to supervise.
- Always stay within arm's reach of young children and avoid distractions when supervising children around water.

**Know What to Do in an Emergency. If a child is missing, check the water first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability.**

- Know how and when to call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.
- If you own a home pool or hot tub, have appropriate equipment, such as reaching or throwing equipment, a cell phone, life jackets and a first aid kit.
- Enroll in Red Cross home pool safety, water safety, first aid and CPR/AED courses to learn how to prevent and respond to emergencies.

**FOR FAMILIES IN NEED, NATIONAL HOME HELPLINE IS JUST A TOLL-FREE CALL AWAY**

The National Home Helpline is the gateway to help for military and veterans' families, providing connections with supportive services and resources in communities all across the

nation as well as referrals to our on-campus programs. And our war heroes can take comfort in knowing that their call will be answered by a caring professional who understands the unique challenges faced by today's military and veterans' families.

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

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

**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 (see our 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.

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

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

Life Memberships can be paid online at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), via mail, or in-person at the meetings.

## JUNE MILITARY HISTORY

- 1 1774 British close Port of Boston in punishment for "Tea Party"
- 1862 Battle of Seven Pines: Confederate Gen. Joe Johnston wounded, relinquishes command to Robert E. Lee
- 1864 Battle of Cold Harbor, Day 1
- 1866 Fenians attack Fort Erie, Ontario, from US soil
- 1871 US Sailors & Marines land in Korea, to protect U.S. citizens
- 1877 US troops authorized to pursue bandits & Indians into Mexico
- 1914 SecNav Josephus Daniels' G.O. 99 bars alcohol in fleet
- 1939 Director of Naval Research Laboratory, proposes research in atomic energy for use in subs
- 1944 Allied forces begin covering much of Britain with smoke screens, as troops crowd assembly areas for D-Day
- 2 Feast of St. Elmo, Patron of Sailors
- 1774 Parliament passes Quartering Act, billeting troops in private homes
- 1784 Congress disbands last elements of Continental Army, save for 100 troops guarding supplies at West Point and Ft. Pitt
- 1865 Confederate Trans-Mississippi Department surrenders to Union forces
- 1914 Glenn Curtiss flies his 'Langley Aerodrome'
- 3 1784 Congress creates US Army, forming 1st American Regt (now 3rd Infantry) on a cadre of 100 troops left over from Continental Army
- 1916 Congress establishes ROTC (based on Norwich Univ. program)
- 1959 First US Air Force Academy graduation
- 1965 First American "spacewalk", Maj. Edward White, Gemini 4
- 4 1789 Constitution of United States goes into effect
- 1918 US & French halt Germans at Chateau-Thierry
- 1942 Battle of Midway: Japanese lose four CVs, USS Yorktown badly damaged
- 1944 Allied forces liberate Rome
- 5 1917 US begins draft registration: 10 million eventually sign up
- 1944 First B-29 raid over Tokyo; one lost to engine failure
- 1947 SecState George C Marshall outlines "Marshall Plan"
- 1967 Six Day War begins between Israel & Arab neighbors
- 6 1898 Marines land at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
- 1898 Action at Santiago, Cuba: US ships exchange fire with Spanish batteries
- 1918 US Marines secure Belleau Wood
- 1944 D-Day - [www.strategypage.com/cic/docs/cic174b.asp#three](http://www.strategypage.com/cic/docs/cic174b.asp#three)
- 1944 Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., earns Medal of Honor on Utah Beach
- 1945 Okinawa: Marines capture Naha airfield
- 7 1775 "United Colonies" change name to "United States"
- 1912 US Army Air Service tests an airplane-mounted machine gun
- 1917 Liverpool: first American troops reach Europe
- 1942 Aleutians Campaign: Japanese troops land on Attu.
- 1942 Midway Campaign: 'Yorktown' (CV-5) sunk
- 8 1965 US troops ordered to fight offensively in Vietnam
- 1967 Israeli air and naval forces attack USS 'Liberty' (AGTR-5), 34 Americans die
- 9 1863 Battle of Brandy Station; largest cavalry fight of Civil War
- 1944 Normandy: U.S. VII & V Corps link up to form continuous beachhead
- 1945 Luzon: Sixth Army manages to isolate Japanese forces.
- 1945 Premier Kantaro Suzuki declares Japan will never surrender
- 1959 First ballistic missile sub launched, USS 'George Washington' (SSBN-598)
- 10 1776 Congress appoints committee to write a Declaration of Independence
- 1801 Tripoli declares war on US, for refusing to pay protection, initiating First Barbary War (1801-1805)
- 12 1987 Ronald Reagan says, "Mr. Gorbachov, tear down this wall."
- 1999 NATO peacekeeping forces begin operating in Kosovo, Yugoslavia
- 13 1900 Boxer Rebellion begins in China
- 1912 First successful parachute jump from airplane, Capt Albert Berry, Jefferson, MS
- 14 1775 US Army formed from New England forces before Boston
- 1777 Congress replaces "Grand Union Flag" with "Stars & Stripes"
- 1777 John Paul Jones takes command of USS 'Ranger'
- 1942 Bazooka goes into production at Bridgeport, Ct
- 1949 State of Vietnam formed within 'French Union' under Emperor Bao Dai
- 1982 Falklands: Argentines surrender to Britain; 74-day war ends
- 1985 Lebanese Shiite gunmen hijack TWA 847 after takeoff from Athens
- 15 1776 Americans burn and abandon Montreal
- 1864 Battle of Petersburg: Grant's first assault
- 1864 Robert E Lee's home, Arlington, becomes military cemetery
- 1877 Henry O Flipper becomes first black cadet to graduate from West Point
- 1944 US Marines land on Saipan
- 1955 First nationwide civil defense drill - "Duck and Cover!"
- 1978 Soyuz 29 carries two cosmonauts to Salyut 6, to stay 139 days
- 1991 Mt Pinatubo, Philippines erupts, closes Clark Air Force Base
- 16 1858 Lincoln says "A house divided against itself cannot stand"
- 1864 Siege of Petersburg & Richmond begins
- 17 1745 American colonials capture Louisburg, Cape Breton I., from French
- 1775 Battle of Bunker Hill (Breeds' Hill)
- 1777 19 year old Marquis de La Fayette (Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier) & several other French volunteers for American Revolution land at Charleston
- 1898 Navy Hospital Corps ("Corpsmen") established
- 1916 Pershing leads Punitive Expedition into Mexico in unsuccessful attempt to kill Pancho Villa
- 1945 Final Japanese defensive line on Okinawa breached
- 1965 Vietnam: First B-52 raid, 50 km north of Saigon
- 1972 Watergate: Republican operatives break into Democratic Party offices at Watergate Hotel in Washington
- 18 1778 British evacuate Philadelphia
- 1812 US declares war against Britain
- 1878 Congress creates US Life Saving Service ("Coast Guard")
- 19 1778 Washington's troops leave Valley Forge
- 1878 Congress passes Posse Comitatus Act, to prevent military from enforcing civil rights laws
- 1944 "Marianas Turkey Shoot" - Battle of Philippine Sea: in 2 days Japanese lose 3 CVs, 426 a/c, US 70 a/c.
- 1967 Muhammad Ali convicted of refusing induction into Army
- 20 1675 Wampanoag Indians raid Swansea, Mass., initiating "King Philip's War" (1675-1676)
- 1782 Congress adopts Great Seal of United States
- 1813 War of 1812: US gunboats engage three British ships at Hampton Roads, VA

- 1867 US buys Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million  
1941 US Army Air Corps is reorganized as Army Air Forces  
1947 Cold War: Congress charters CIA  
1963 Cold War: Washington-Moscow "hot line" established
- 21** 1876 Gen Terry sends Custer's 7th Cav to scout Little Bighorn River  
1948 Berlin Airlift begins
- 22** 1938 Joe "Brown Bomber" Louis KO's Max "Hitler's Heavyweight" Schmeling at 2:04 into their rematch, in Yankee Stadium  
1942 US introduces "V-Mail" for military personnel  
1944 FDR signs "Servicemen's Readjustment Act", better known as "GI Bill of Rights"  
1945 Okinawa secured: 110,000 Japanese troops, 100,000 civilians, 17,520 US troops died
- 23** 1938 Congress establishes US Maritime Service
- 25** 1864 Petersburg: Union troops begin a tunnel under Confederate lines  
1876 Battle of Little Big Horn: Crazy Horse does in Custer  
1942 Eisenhower takes command of US forces in Europe  
1950 North Korea invades South Korea, claiming "self-defense"  
1996 Dhahran, Saudi Arabia: Islamists bomb Khobar Towers, 19 Americans die, 500 Saudis & Americans injured
- 26** 1917 First American combat troops arrive in France  
1924 US Marines leave Dominican Republic, after 8 years of occupation  
1963 Berlin: Kennedy's "Ich bin ein Berliner" is wildly applauded
- 27** 1927 USMC adopts "Sgt Jiggs," an English bulldog, as its mascot  
1950 US sends 35 military advisers to South Vietnam
- 28** 1948 Berlin Airlift begins  
1965 President Johnson orders US ground forces to Vietnam
- 29** 1863 Lee orders his forces to concentrate near Gettysburg  
1945 Operation Olympic: Truman sets invasion of Japan for Nov 1st
- 1777 John Paul Jones hoists Stars and Stripes on USS Ranger, Portsmouth, NH  
1801 1st Presidential Review of Marine Band and Marines, at White House.  
1802 US Military Academy opens at West Point  
1818 Congress rules flag shall have 13 stripes and one star for each state  
1832 Samuel Francis Smith's "America" sung in public for first time  
1863 Vicksburg surrenders to US Grant  
1942 First American bombing mission over Nazi-occupied Europe  
1942 American Volunteer Group ("Flying Tigers") becomes 14th AF  
1950 Carriers USS 'Valley Forge' (CV-45) & HMS 'Triumph' make first UN air strikes of Korean War
- 5** 1814 Battle of Chippewa: "Those are regulars, by God!"  
1814 US Sloop-of-War 'Peacock' captures four British ships  
1861 Skirmish at Newport News: US retakes Gosport Naval Base  
1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 5: Lee retreats
- 6** 1777 Burgoyne's British & Hessians capture Fort Ticonderoga  
1785 Congress introduces dollar  
1911 First naval air station established, Annapolis, MD  
1976 Women admitted to US Naval Academy for first time
- 7** 1846 Commodore John D. Sloat takes Monterey, claims California for US  
1920 USN aircraft tests "radio compass", Norfolk, VA  
1941 Iceland: US Marines relieve British forces so they can fight elsewhere  
1944 Saipan: Japanese troops make final "banzai" charge  
1944 US B-29s from China attack Japan.  
1966 Marines initiate "Operation Hasting" - to clear NVA from DMZ
- 8** 1853 Commodore Perry sails frigate Susquehanna into Tokyo Bay  
1865 C.E. Barnes receives US patent for machine gun  
1945 TF38 arrives off Japan with 20 carriers; to stay until war is over  
1950 Douglas MacArthur named CinC UN forces in Korea
- 9** 1755 Braddock's Defeat: Battle of Monongahela - Daniel Boone is wagon driver  
1776 Declaration of Independence read to Washington's troops in NY, whereupon citizens pull down George III's statue to make musket balls  
1918 Congress establishes Distinguished Service Cross  
1944 US secures Saipan: 3,200 US, 27,000 Japanese KIA, & many civilian suicides
- 10** 1821 US takes possession of Florida from Spain  
1943 Operation Husky: US & Commonwealth forces invade Sicily  
1953 American troops abandon Pork Chop Hill, Korea
- 11** 1786 US pays Morocco \$10,000 to "protect" merchant ships from piracy  
1798 Congress reactivates USMC, disbanded in 1784  
1812 US invades Canada near Detroit  
1919 US Navy Pay Corps becomes Supply Corps  
1943 USN surface ships break German-Italian tank attack at Gela, Sicily  
1955 USAF Academy opens with 300 cadets at Lowry AFB, CO
- 12** 1942 U-Boat lands four German saboteurs on Long Island, soon captured
- 14** 1813 Lt John M. Gamble, becomes only US Marine to command a ship, prize 'Greenwich'  
1825 Lafayette reviews 2nd Bn, 11th NY Arty (7th NY), which adopts name "National Guard"  
1900 "China Relief Expedition" captures Tientsin from Boxers  
1959 First nuclear powered cruiser commissioned, USS 'Long Beach' (CGN 9)  
1972 Vietnam: Jane Fonda makes first of 10 broadcasts on Radio Hanoi.
- 15** 1958 Marines land in Lebanon, to support government

## **JULY MILITARY HISTORY**

- 1** 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 1: Lee wins, but Union troops fall back on very strong position  
1864 Battle of Petersburg (to July 31)  
1867 Dominion of Canada formed  
1870 James W Smith becomes first black man to enter West Point  
1918 Marines secure Belleau Wood  
1950 First US ground troops arrive in Korea
- 2** 1776 Continental Congress declares Thirteen Colonies independent  
1777 Vermont abolishes slavery, first "state" to do so  
1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 2: A draw  
1903 US leases Guantanamo Bay from Cuba for \$2,000 a year  
1926 US Army Air Corps established and Congress authorizes Distinguished Flying Cross  
1942 JCS authorize "Operation Watchtower," seizure of Guadalcanal  
1957 'Seawolf' (SSN 575) completed, first sub with liquid metal cooled reactor
- 3** 1754 Col. George Washington (22) surrenders Ft. Mifflin to French  
1775 George Washington assumes command of Patriot forces investing Boston  
1863 Battle Gettysburg, Day 3: "Pickett's Charge" is shattered  
1950 First US-North Korean clash: TF Smith overrun  
1988 USS 'Vincennes' (CG-49) accidentally shoots down Iranian airliner, 290 die
- 4** 1776 Independence Day: Two days after voting for independence, Continental Congress adopts formal "Declaration of Independence"

- 16 1861 Bull Run Campaign: Gen McDowell advances from Washington toward Fairfax Courthouse
- 17 1927 USMC pilots conduct first combat dive bombing, Ocotol, Nicaragua.
- 18 1863 54th Mass. leads gallant attempt to storm Fort Wagner, near Charleston
  - 1914 US Army Air Service formed within Signal Corps
  - 1944 US troops capture St. Lo, Normandy
- 19 1812 1st Battle of Sackett's Harbor: Americans beat off British attack across Lake Erie
  - 1886 'Atlanta' commissioned, first USN steel cruiser
  - 1897 Lt Robert E. Peary departs on year-long Arctic Expedition
- 20 1881 Sioux leader Sitting Bull surrenders to federal troops
  - 1942 Congress creates Legion of Merit
  - 1942 First WAACs begin basic training
  - 1944 Marines land on Guam.
  - 1948 US reinstates draft, for Cold War
- 21 1823 Lt David G. Farragut leads raid to destroy pirate base in Cuba
  - 1861 First Battle of Bull Run/Manassas: Confederate Victory
  - 1930 Veterans' Administration established
  - 1969 Neil Armstrong's "small step" on moon - 2:56:15 AM GMT
- 22 1802 US Frigate 'Constellation' defeats 9 corsair gunboats off Tripoli
  - 1905 Remains of John Paul Jones removed from Paris for transportation to Annapolis
  - 1943 Patton captures Palermo
  - 1987 USN begins escorting re-flagged Kuwaiti tankers in Persian Gulf
- 23 1944 US forces land on Japanese-held Tinian from nearby Saipan
- 24 1948 Soviets initiate blockade of Berlin
  - 1969 Muhammad Ali convicted of refusing induction in US Army
- 25 1866 David G. Farragut appointed first Admiral in US Navy
  - 1866 US Grant is named first full general in US Army
  - 1947 US Army, Navy, & Air Force subordinated to new DoD
- 26 1948 Truman initiates integration of Armed Forces
- 27 1909 Orville Wright demonstrates plane for Army, flying 72 minutes
  - 1953 North Korea & UN sign armistice
  - 1954 Armistice divides Vietnam in two
  - 1995 Korean War Veterans Memorial dedicated in Washington
- 28 1898 Skirmish at Ponce, Puerto Rico, which shortly surrenders to US
- 28 1914 Austria-Hungary attacks Serbia, igniting WW I
  - 1931 Congress makes "Star-Spangled Banner" national anthem
  - 1932 Douglas MacArthur routs Bonus Army against orders
  - 1945 Kamikaze sink their last ship, USS 'Callaghan' (DD-792), off Okinawa.
  - 1945 US Army B-25 crashes into 79th floor of Empire State Bldg, 14 die
- 29 1949 Berlin Airlift ends, as Soviets end blockade
  - 1967 Fire aboard USS 'Forrestal' (CV-59), Gulf of Tonkin, 134 killed
- 30 1864 Petersburg Campaign: Battle of Crater
  - 1909 US Army accepts delivery of first military airplane
  - 1942 WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) created
  - 1945 USS 'Indianapolis' (CA-35) torpedoed & sunk; nearly 900 die over next 4 days
  - 1966 US airplanes bomb demilitarized zone in Vietnam
- 31 1777 Marquis de Lafayette becomes major-general in Continental Army
  - 1813 British attack Plattsburgh, NY
  - 1925 Last Allied occupation forces leave Rhineland



## FROM THE EDITOR, FAREWELL

After 10 years, 58 issues, 1,158 pages, national gold and bronze awards, and five first place state awards, it has become too difficult for me to continue. My successor has

not been identified yet but I wish him/her with the same interest, joy and success that I was blessed to receive. I want to thank Carl Dozier who got me into "this mess", Ron Liston who was our unofficial "staff photographer" and provided many great pictures, all the Post and Auxiliary members whose dedication to veterans I was privileged to document, and most of all to my wife who suffered many hours of me at the computer and was my erstwhile proof reader, finding errors even when I thought I was perfect. Any subsequent errors are wholly and solely mine. I love you!



If you are interested in submitting articles, photos, updates on events, for inclusion in the newsletter, please send them to [cdpost2894@vfwva.org](mailto:cdpost2894@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.

If you're ever nearby, please don't hesitate to stop by and say hello.

Semper fidelis and farewell,

*Chris Mulholland*

505 Piping Rock Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23322, 757-482-4981,

[majmule@verizon.net](mailto:majmule@verizon.net)





**Celebrate Freedom!**

Sunday, July 3, 2022 at Chesapeake City Park

Event is **FREE** to the public. \$5 on-site Parking Fee.

Celebrate America's Birthday with the **U.S. Fleet Forces Band**, providing stirring patriotic sounds. Following the concert, fireworks by Pyrotechnico will illuminate the dark sky after sunset.

Bring your own chairs or blanket. (Tents, feather flags and oversized umbrellas are **not** permitted!)

**SCHEDULE** (Times are approximate.)

**7:00 p.m.** Gates Open | Roaming Entertainment | Food Vendors

**7:00 p.m.** U.S. Fleet Forces Band Concert

**8:30 p.m.** Tidewater Winds Concert Band

**9:30 p.m.** Fireworks (approximate time)



**Annual South Norfolk July 4th Parade and Picnic in the Park Celebration**

Monday, July 4, 2022 / Parade: 10:00 a.m. / Picnic in the Park: After the Parade until 3:00 p.m.

The South Norfolk Civic League and the Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department will present this annual patriotic event in South Norfolk at Lakeside Park, 1441 Bainbridge Boulevard in Chesapeake.

Event is **FREE** to the public although some activities may require a small fee.

100<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES  
RENAISSANCE PORTSMOUTH-NORFOLK WATERFRONT HOTEL  
PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA  
JUNE 9 – 12, 2022

Eugene Chavis  
Convention Chairman

Kathy Goodall  
Convention Vice Chairman

**Tentative Subject to Change**

All State Post Commanders and All State Post Quartermasters **Must attend AND sign in** to all highlighted Meetings on the Convention Agenda to receive the \$300.00 stipend.

Thursday,  
June 9, 2022

11:00 AM	NOON	COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING	PORTSMOUTH IV
10:00 AM	4:00 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	PORTSMOUTH FOYER
12:30 PM	1:30 PM	VIRGINIA VETERANS FOUNDATION MEETING	PORTSMOUTH IV
2:30 PM	4:00 PM	JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICES	PORTSMOUTH V-VIII
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>9:00 PM</b>	<b>JOINT PRESENTATION OF AWARDS</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH V-VIII</b>

Friday,  
June 10, 2022

8:00 AM	5:00 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	PORTSMOUTH FOYER
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>JOINT OPENING SESSION</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH V-VIII</b>
11:30 AM	2:00 PM	COMMANDERS CLUB LUNCHEON	PORTSMOUTH I-III
<b>2:30 PM</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>BUSINESS SESSION (NOMINATION OF STATE OFFICERS)</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH IV</b>
6:30 PM	8:00 PM	MARKETING WITH MAILCHIMP WORKSHOP	TBD

Saturday,  
June 11, 2022

7:30 AM	9:00 AM	PAST STATE COMMANDERS/PRESIDENTS BREAKFAST	HOLLEY BALLROOM I-III
8:30 AM	10:30 AM	REGISTRATION, VFW	PORTSMOUTH FOYER
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>BUSINESS SESSION</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH IV</b>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>ELECTIONS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH IV</b>
NOON		VFW RIDERS BIKE SHOW	GARAGE TOP FLOOR
1:00 PM	3:00 PM	MOC SCRATCH	PORTSMOUTH I-II
1:00 PM	2:00 PM	Charitable Gaming Rules and Regs. Update.	PORTSMOUTH III
2:00 PM	3:00 PM	HUMANA	PORTSMOUTH III
3:00 PM	4:00 PM	VFW RIDERS MEETING	AMPHITHEATER
5:30 PM	10:00 PM	RECEPTION/ DANCE – DJ	HOLLEY BALLROOM

Sunday,  
June 12, 2022

9:00 AM	9:30 AM	JOINT DEVOTIONAL SERVICE	PORTSMOUTH I-II
9:30 AM	12:00 PM	NEW DISTRICT COMMANDERS SCHOOL	AMPHITHEATER
12:00 PM	1:00 PM	COUNCIL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DISTRICT COMMANDER'S SCHOOL	AMPHITHEATER

Registration \$3.00 (All VFW members are required to register in advance as delegates from their Post)  
FRIDAY VFW RIDERS DANCE: (Open to all members) \$10.00 per person

SATURDAY RECEPTION/DANCE WILL BE FREE TO ALL ATTENDING THE STATE CONVENTION

HOSPITALITY ROOMS  
State – Commodore Room \*\* Tenth District - 715



**SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!!**



**VFW Post 2894  
GAME WITH THE  
NORFOLK TIDES**



**Sun, 7 August, 1600  
vs Nashville Sounders  
Tickets \$TBA**

# POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u>JUNE</u>	
6	D-Day Anniversary (1944)
8	Post Meeting, 1900
9-12	Department Convention – Portsmouth
14	Army “Birthday” (1775) – Flag Day
19	Father’s Day
21	Primary Election Day / First Day of Summer
25	Start of Korean War (1950) / Khobar Towers bombing (1996)
27	Korean War Armistice (1953)
30	End of VFW Fraternal Year

<u>JULY</u>	
1	Start of VFW Fraternal Year
3	Celebrate Freedom Concert & Fireworks show, City Park
4	Independence Day 4 <sup>TH</sup> of July Parade, S. Norfolk, 0900
13	Post Meeting/Quarterly Audit, 1900
16-21	VFW National Convention, Kansas City, MO
28	Anniversary of start of WWI (1914)



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



Place  
Stamp  
Here

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED