

## VFW OBJECTIVES:

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



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 2894

### Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month – 7:00 pm  
VFW Post 2894 Headquarters  
3329 Battlefield Boulevard South  
Chesapeake, Virginia 23322

Email: [cdpost2894@vfwva.org](mailto:cdpost2894@vfwva.org)

Web Site: <https://www.vfw2894.org>

Webpage: <https://vfw2894.org>

Visit us on Facebook



## POST OFFICERS

Commander.....	Bob Gregory
Sr. Vice Commander.....	Susan Vitale
Jr. Vice Commander.....	Mike Kust
Adjutant.....	Dan Eaker
Quartermaster.....	John Peterson
Chaplain.....	Joseph McGourn
Surgeon.....	David Weber
Staff Judge Advocate.....	Matt Hamel
Service Officer.....	Jim Ireland

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President.....	Sharon Peterson
Sr. Vice President.....	Rosie Gregory
Jr. Vice President.....	Grace Schweers
Secretary.....	Sandy Dunbar
Treasurer.....	Donna Kust
Chaplain.....	Diane Hostetler
Conductress.....	Laura Etheridge
Guard.....	Theresa Lynn Sein
Patriotic Instructor.....	Jean Dozier

### NATIONAL

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

### STATE

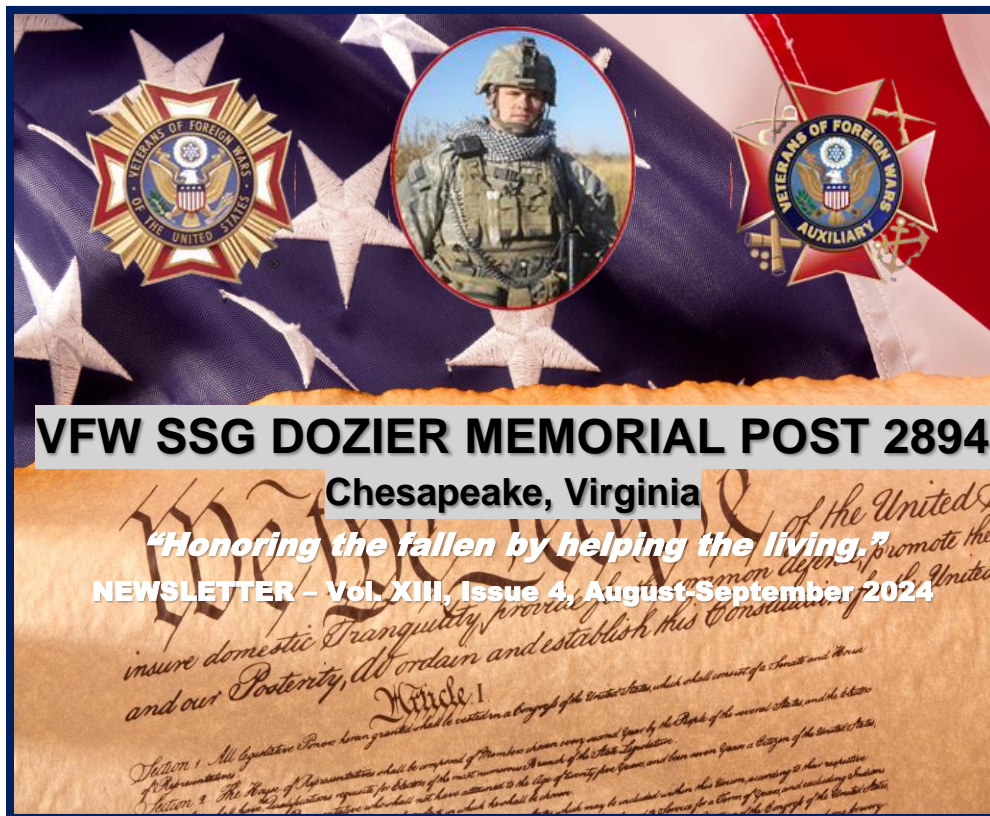
[www.vfwva.org](http://www.vfwva.org)

### VFW VA DISTRICT 2

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

VFW Post 2894 GoFundMe

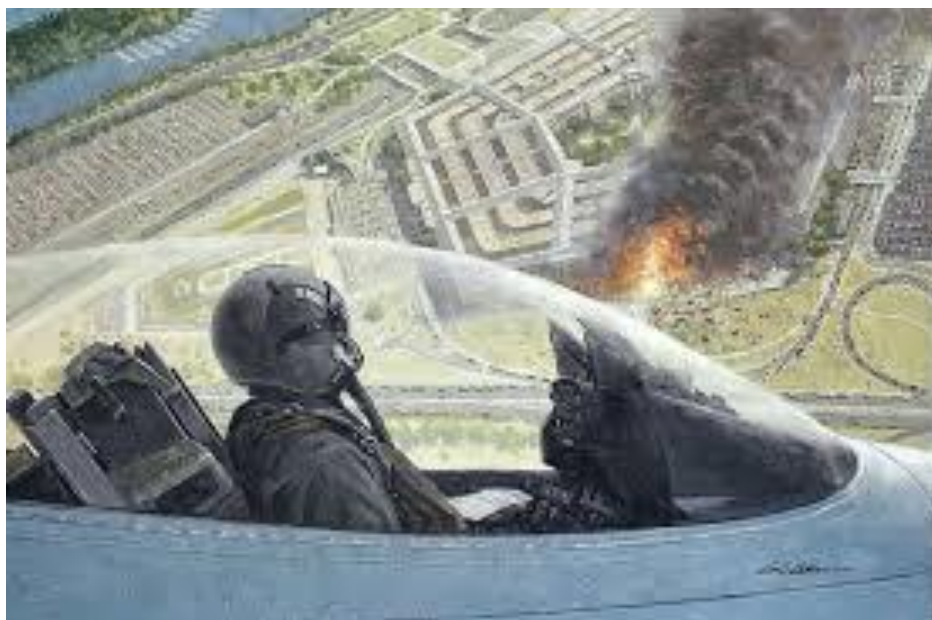
<https://gofund.me/483584b0>



## SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2001: UNARMED FIGHTER JETS SCRAMBLED TO TAKE OUT UNITED FLIGHT 93

It was a bright Tuesday morning, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, shortly before 9 a.m. The first of two commercial airliners had flown into the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City, with the South Tower soon to follow. Then another plane struck the west wing of the Pentagon. And now a fourth was flying east towards Washington, D.C., currently over the Pennsylvania landscape, target unknown. Flight 93 would eventually crash into a Pennsylvania field, killing all on board.

Shortly before Flight 93 crashed, two fighter pilots scrambled to stop it before it could crash in Washington DC., willing to sacrifice their own lives to (continued on page 3)



An artist rendering of an F-16 fighter pilot observing the attack on the Pentagon on September 11, 2001.

## COMMANDER'S CORNER



Comrades, thanks to all of you we had another great year. The Post was recognized for the ninth year in a row as an All-American Post. We ended the year number 1 in the state in our division (5) and 46<sup>th</sup> overall in the VFW. Also, this year our Post newsletter won the 2024 National Publication Contest Grand Award for Small Frequency (printed 1-4 times per year)

We had our most successful Bataan Death March Memorial Walk in the history of the Post!

At the Department Convention in June, the Post was recognized as an All-State Post and Honor Post for 102% membership, we finished the year at 106.35%. And we continue to grow. It was every one of you – doing as much as you can whether it was 5 minutes, 5 hours, or 5 days – to help the Post with what we do best: taking care of veterans, their widows/widowers, and their families. Great job, everyone! You all Rock!

As I've said in the past, I think our success derives from our priority of being about 'Service to Others' and living up to our moto of "Honoring the Fallen by Helping the Living".

In June we installed our new officers and I am looking forward to ANOTHER tremendously successful year!

I want to thank the few who were able to attend the South Norfolk 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.

We started the new fraternal year on 1 July and have already started planning fund raising activities and different recruiting events - stay tuned for further details. As we stated at the last monthly meeting, we need more comrades to volunteer for the different upcoming events we're planning.

Remember to look at both our website and Facebook pages for more information on upcoming events.

Semper Fidelis!

Bob Gregory

## 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: 3329 Battlefield Blvd S., Chesapeake, VA 23322, 757-572-3946 or [adjpost2894@vfwva.org](mailto:adjpost2894@vfwva.org). Comments are always welcome.

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 newsletter is disseminated to the membership and friends of the Post via e-mail as well as being available on the Post website: Newsletters ([vfw2894.org](http://vfw2894.org))

Semper fidelis - Dan Eaker

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Greetings from the Auxiliary. As summer starts to wind down, we're taking those last family trips, preparing for school to start soon, and realizing the days are getting shorter and hopefully a little cooler. We've attended sports games for kids and grandkids, award ceremonies, The VFW Department Conference and the National Convention. It's time to take a deep breath and look forward to a new year of Auxiliary activities and events to help our Vets and their families.

We have numerous opportunities to help our Vets. Maybe buy one extra can of food the next time you go to the grocery store, some paper products, personnel care products, or socks for a food pantry. A short note to a Vet in a nursing home will bring a smile to brighten their day. Even simply opening a door for someone can make a difference. But donating your time is something no one can put a price tag on—it's priceless to those in need.

Days to remember:

August 7 <sup>th</sup>	Purple Heart Day
	Vietnam War began
Sept 11 <sup>th</sup>	Patriot Day
Sept 14 <sup>th</sup>	VFW Auxiliary Anniversary
Sept 17 <sup>th</sup>	Constitution Day
Sept 20 <sup>th</sup>	POW/MIA Recognition Day
Sept 29 <sup>th</sup>	Gold Star Mother/Father's Day
	VFW Anniversary

If you aren't registered to vote, now is the time to do so. It's important to cast your vote for the candidates of your choice at all levels of government. National elections get the media attention, but it's your local government that has the most influence over your daily lives. Let them know how you feel every time there's an election, not just every four years!

Enjoy the last dog days of summer. Christmas is a short 21 weeks away!

Sincerely,

Sharon Peterson  
President, 2024-25

**(September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001 - continued from page 1)**

...save countless others.

Lieutenant Heather Penney was one of those tasked with stopping the hijacked plane "by any means possible" following the earlier attacks on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon. However, as Lt. Penney and LtCol. Marc Sasseville (Sas) had no missiles on board their F-16s, they knew the only way to stop the United Airlines jet would be to "weaponize" their own planes.

"We would be ramming the aircraft. We didn't have (missiles) on board to shoot the airplane down," Lt. Penney said.

"As we were putting on our flight gear in the life support shop, Sass looked at me and said, 'I'll ram the cockpit.' I made the decision I would take the tail off the aircraft."

It had already been agreed by their bosses that this kind of attack would be a last resort if they could not otherwise divert the aircraft.

At the time, Sasseville said, he "was going into this moral or ethical justification of the needs of the many versus the needs of the few."

It was a clearly a Kamikaze mission, but both pilots were ready to die if that's what it took.

"I am just your average ordinary American, I'm a Mom, I was a military service member. I'm a member of my community. I'm just an American," Penney said. At least that's how Heather "Lucky" Penney sees herself.

When Lucky, a nickname Penney goes by, started her day on that crisp and cool Tuesday morning, she could never have imagined that she would be asked to willingly take down a passenger plane, in the process, possibly taking her own life.

"That Tuesday morning was an absolutely ordinary morning, just like every other day," Penney said. "I mean I got up I put on my Flight suit I ate my cheerios and I drove into work."

Penney, along with LtCol Sasseville, was one of the two F-16 fighter pilots with the Air Force that scrambled to find and take down Flight 93 before it hit its likely destination, the United States Capitol in Washington DC. They were in a meeting when they heard of the second tower being hit.



*LtCol Marc Sasseville and 1st Lt Heather Penney, U.S. Air Force, participate in a discussion about their mission on September 11, 2001.*

"So immediately we just all got up from our meeting and went into our squadron bar where our television was and that's where we saw the same images that everyone else saw that morning," Penney said. "That's when we realized our nation was under

attack. We knew immediately that we needed to get airborne to protect and defend our nation's capital. We are a fighter unit based out of Andrews Air Force Base where Air Force One flies out of and we are here in the District of Columbia. So we've got Congress we've got the White House we know that we need to protect not just our civilians our citizens but our nation's leadership." Penney said.



*1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Heather "Lucky" Penney describes the mission to intercept Flight 93 and take down "by any means possible."*

The two towers in New York City and the Pentagon had already been hit by the time Flight 93 was already in the air. And through radar, the Air Force identified United 93 to likely be hijacked.

"Anyone who saw those images knew what needed to be done. Anyone who had been in my position would've been willing to do the exact same thing and would not have thought twice," Penney said.

Flight 93 took off from Newark International enroute to San Francisco. At 9:28 a.m. it's likely the hijackers took control and turned the plane near Cleveland, heading in a flight pattern to DC. Penney and Sasseville, the flight commander, suited up upon his command. There was just one problem aside from the obvious.

"We were sent on a suicide mission," Penney said. In 2001 there were few F-16's that sat fully armed with missiles. So Penney's jet was completely unarmed. Once they found Flight 93, Sas would ram the front of the plane and Penney would take out the tail.

"Because aerodynamically without the tail, airplanes cannot stay airborne. They actually tip over and dive straight into the ground," Penney said. After scouring the air above Pennsylvania, the two fighter pilots charged with taking down Flight 93 before hitting Washington D.C. were unsuccessful. They heard about its crash near Shanksville hours later.

"I was looking out visually to see if I could pick up a low flying airliner using my radar, scrolling down low seeing if I could find a radar contact down low but Sas and I never found anything. We

were too late, the passengers had already taken down Flight 93," Penney said.

In the end, this American hero by all definitions Heather "Lucky" Penney doesn't consider herself a hero. She said she was just a normal person on a far from normal day. "I simply observed what was going on. Passengers on Flight 93 changed the course of history because if they had not chosen to fight back, chosen to crash that airliner, they would have made it to DC."

References: <https://heatherpenney.com>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heather\\_Penney](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heather_Penney)

## **VFW POST 2894 PARTICIPATES IN SOUTH NORFOLK 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE**

On Thursday, 4 July, a half dozen Post and Auxiliary members gathered to put together a "float" and head over to South Norfolk to participate in their annual Independence Day Parade. With the weather's cooperation, the group and two vehicles made it over to the assembly point and took their position in the lineup. Promptly at 1000, the parade kicked off and proceeded on the one-mile route where it was received by many jubilant citizens eager to celebrate the occasion.

Thanks to those hearty few who ensured the Post carries on this tradition – we will look forward to getting a group together for next year's event!



*Comrade Brad Waters makes final adjustments to the VFW Post 2894 float prior to the start of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade event.*

## **VFW POST 2894 DEDICATES ROOM TO PAST POST COMMANDER**

On Tuesday, 18 June, VFW Post 2894 comrades and Auxiliary members gathered to dedicate the Post Headquarters Conference

Room to past Post Commander Chris Mulholland. Chris has been a long-standing life member of the VFW for over four decades, joining Post 1399 in South Weymouth, Massachusetts after his return from a deployment to Beirut in 1983. He joined Post 2894 in 2012 and served as the Post Commander for eight years - from 2013 until June 2021.



In late 2020 Chris was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), better known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. Chris has approached this challenge as he had many others, determining through personal research that ALS affects military members twice as often as the general public. Through his determination, Chris was able to get the U.S. Congress to

recognize this issue and its impacts on our military veterans, with the passage of several bills focused on this medical issue and its impact on veterans.



*Entrance to the newly dedicated Mulholland Room at the VFW Post 2894 Headquarters.*

The evening event was also an opportunity to honor Chris with an award from the Military Order of the Cootie (MOC) Pup Tent 11 – Boondockers. Seam Squirrel Mike Chism presented him with his Honor Degree M.O.C., along with a picture of his name on a brick at the National Home near the monument.



*Chris Mulholland smiles as he is presented with the MOC Honor Degree. Seam Squirrel Mike Chism (right) and District 2 Adjutant Ron Steele look on.*

## VFW POST 2894 AWARDED ALL-STATE AND ALL-AMERICAN HONORS

It's official! VFW Post 2894 has been awarded both All-State and All-American honors for the ninth year in a row! These recognitions reflect the dedication of our members and regular contributions to the local communities through our veterans assistance programs as well as involvement in other civic activities. Our Post is becoming an active voice in the community and receives regular recognition from numerous organizations as we continue supporting veterans in need throughout the area.



*Carl Dozier speaks at the Day of Remembrance Ceremony hosted by Indian River High School, as coordinator Craig Blackman observes.*

## OTHER POST NEWS

- **VFW Post 2894 Members Participate in Flag Retirement Ceremony.** On Saturday, 8 June, several members of VFW Post 2894 attended American Legion Post 280's annual flag retirement ceremony and cookout. The Post took this opportunity not only to participate in the ceremony but use it to retire several flags that had been dropped off at the Post for disposal. Thanks to those who participated and assisted with the retirement of all the flags the American Legion had accumulated.



*Post 2894 Commander Bob Gregory (left) and Tim Brackens participate in the American Legion Post 280 flag retirement ceremony.*

- **VFW Post 2894 Gold Star Father Honored at Day of Remembrance Ceremony.** On Thursday, 6 June, Indian River High School hosted a Day of Remembrance for area Gold Star Families. Several service members were represented, with each providing a short commentary on their loved one's back story. VFW Post 2894 Comrade Carl Dozier, father of the Post's namesake Jonathan K. Dozier, provided comments and was presented with a woven Patriot blanket in honor of his son's sacrifice.

- **VFW Post 2894 Flag Streamers Located.** The search for the Post's honors and battle streamers has come to its conclusion, with the streamers being positioned and updated with recent honors at the May membership meeting. We are looking forward to adding more honors as the Post continues to meet the VFW All-State and All-American requirements.



*VFW Post 2894 Comrades John Peterson and Carl Dozier attach streamers to the Post guide on as Commander Jose Vazquez steadies the standard.*

- **VFW Post 2894 Provides Food Supplement to Local Homeless Veteran.** Although they may be out of sight to many of us, the homeless veterans in our community often need assistance from the numerous charity organizations in Hampton Roads. Recently Tom Schaad, WAVY News 10 anchor, ran into a homeless veteran in Norfolk and offered to take him to lunch. During the encounter Tom learned that "Mike" was living with

other homeless veterans behind Zero's Subs and Pizza and after seeing the encampment, asked Chris Horne, a colleague at the news station, what assistance could be provided to these people in need. Fortunately, Chris Horne had worked with Jim Ireland, VFW Post 2894 Service Officer, on other community service projects and immediately got in touch with him, providing the details of the plight of Mike and the other veterans in the woods.

Aware that the Post maintained a food pantry, Jim called in Joe McGourn, the Post Chaplain, and requested what options



were available to help these veterans in need. Both headed to the Post HQs and assembled numerous food bags that were then taken to Zero's Subs and Pizza, where they were welcomed by Mr. Kevin

Sighn, the establishment owner, who allowed them to use the dining room as a final assembly area for the food distribution. The veterans who received the food parcels were extremely grateful for the items provided.



*Jim Ireland (left) and Joe McGourn (right), VFW Post 2894 Service Officer and Chaplain, thank Mr. Kevin Sighn for his assistance in the food distribution for local area homeless veterans.*



*VFW Post 2894 Chaplain Joe McGourn prepares food parcels for distribution to area homeless veterans as Mr. Kevin Sighn, owner of Zero's Subs, and "Mike" look on.*

It is unfortunate that we have this growing dilemma in Hampton Roads, but if you see someone in need, please reach out to them and then let the Post know so we can continue this community service throughout the region.

- **Local Civil Air Patrol Cadets Honored by Post at Chesapeake Regional Airport Headquarters.** On Thursday, 27 June, VFW Post 2894 was able to honor two Civil Air Patrol cadets with the annual VFW Civil Air Patrol Officer and Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year Awards. The VFW awards recognize cadets for their outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership ability. Comrade Dave Pereira traveled to the Civil Air Patrol Headquarters at Chesapeake Regional Airport to present the Cadet Officer of



*Post VFW 2894 Comrade Dave Pereira presents VFW Civil Air Patrol awards to Cadet Major Ryan Carbonel (left) and Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Alana Adams (right).*

the Year Award to Cadet Major Ryan M. Carbonel and the Cadet Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year Award to Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Alana Adams.

Cadet Major Carbonel is currently serving as the Commander of the Cadet Squadron and personifies all the qualities that the Civil Air Patrol cadet program seeks to inspire in its members. Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Adams has served as the squadron First Sergeant and is currently serving as the Bravo Flight Commander. Our hearty congratulations to both cadets!



*Civil Air Patrol Cadets Ryan Carbonel and Alana Adams stand with their VFW awards, flanked by Captain Matt McCracken, Squadron Commander (left), Comrade Dave Pereira and Colonel Pat Fulgham, Wing Commander (far right).*

• **VFW Post 2894 Comrades Take Time for Some International Travel.**



*Jim Ireland, VFW Post 2894 Service Officer, shows off his catch during his Canadian fishing expedition.*

percent were between nineteen - twenty inches and 2.5-4 pounds.

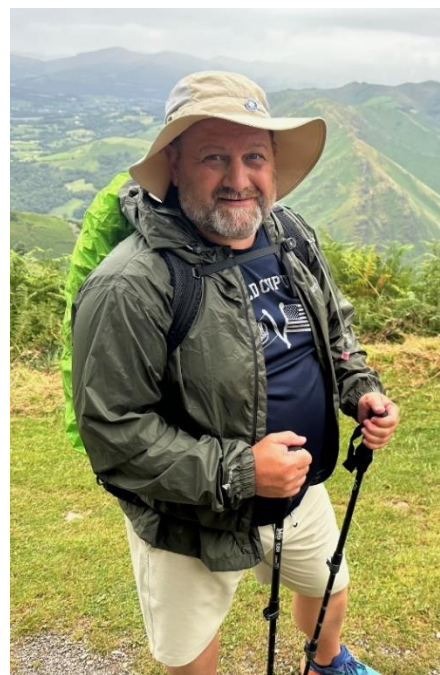
It seems they were eating a lot of their catch as they were not able to bring them all back.

Another Post comrade found his way to Europe. Dave Pereira



*VFW Post 2894 Comrade Dave Pereira and his brother Frank enjoy some Parisian sites.*

Once Dave finishes the Pilgrimage Trail, he will head back north, catching some of the Olympic marksmanship competition in Chateauroux, France, before completing his adventure with a visit



*VFW Post 2894 Comrade Dave Pereira on the Camino del Santiago Pilgrimage trek.*

with family in Amsterdam in early August. Good luck to you, Dave, and be safe during all these exciting adventures!



*Figure IVFW Post 2894 Comrade Dave Pereira (right) and his brother Frank on the Camino del Santiago Pilgrimage.*

Carl and Jeanie Dozier just returned from a South American cruise aboard the Viking cruise ship Jupiter, visiting the southern countries of Chili, Uruguay and Argentina. The schedule took them to several unique locations, sailing around the southern tip of the continent around Cape Horn while observing the various sites along the way.



*VFW Post 2894 members Jeanie and Carl Dozier visit the Amelia Glacier off the coast of Chili.*



*VFW Post 2894 members Jeanie and Carl Dozier visit Punta Arenas, a city in the Patagonia Region of Chili in the Straits of Magellan.*

But the Doziers are not stopping there. August will find them on a 28-day cruise up near the Arctic Circle, starting in Amsterdam, followed by Iceland, Greenland, and Nova Scotia before returning to the East Coast in September. Keep on checking off those bucket list adventures!

- **VFW Post 2894 Comrade Wins \$1000 VFW Calendar Raffle.** On Thursday, 4 July, Post Commander Bob Gregory won the monthly Department of Virginia VFW Calendar Raffle (the fix is in, right?)! Congratulations, Bob – proof that investing in the annual calendar event can pay dividends!

If you want to check to see if your calendar investment paid off, here is the link: Raffle Winners - VFW Department of Virginia ([vfwva.org](http://vfwva.org)). Be sure to thoroughly check your mail, as the checks come in non-descript envelopes and can be easily missed if you are not looking for them.

- **VFW Post 2894 Recognized by Chesapeake Mayor and City Council as Honored Veterans Organization.** On 16 July, the Chesapeake City Council presented VFW Post 2894 and its



Auxiliary with a Certificate of Recognition for the Post's contributions to area veterans and ongoing community service activities. Past Commander Carl Dozier, father of the Post's namesake, accepted the award for the Post and then passed it over to Bob Gregory, current Post Commander, for display at the Post headquarters.



*VFW Post 2894 Post and Auxiliary members accept the Certificate of Recognition from the Chesapeake City Council.*

- **VFW Post 2894 Auxiliary Member Honored by Virginia Society of Sons of the American Revolution.** On Wednesday, 10 July, the Virginia Society of Sons of the American Revolution (VSSAR), Great Bridge Chapter, honored VFW Post 2894 Auxiliary member Sandy Dunbar with the Sons of the American Revolution Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. Comrade Stuart



*Virginia Society of Sons of the American Revolution Stuart Whitehead (right) presents VFW Post 2894 Auxiliary member Sandy Dunbar with the Sons of the American Revolution Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.*

Whitehead, Vice President of the Great Bridge Chapter of the VSSAR, presented the award. Sandy has been an active member of the Post Auxiliary for many years, recently serving as the Auxiliary President from 2021-2022. Congratulations Sandy on well-deserved recognition!

- **VFW Post 2894 Working Party Cleans Out Headquarters Bay 2 and Storage Shed.** On Saturday, 27 July, a couple dozen members of VFW Post 2894 and its Auxiliary gathered at the Post Headquarters to reorganize the various items that have accumulated over the years and were currently being stored in Bay 2. After several hours of moving stuff out and sorting out what to keep and toss, the group was able to open up much needed space that allows for better organization and access to all the items that support various Post/Auxiliary activities throughout the year. A total of over 1300 pounds of material was disposed of at the local dump as well as other items that were left on the roadside in front of the post (and they quickly disappeared)! Thanks to everyone who contributed their time and labor to help complete this monumental goal!



*VFW Post 2894 Headquarters Bay 2 after the cleanup.*

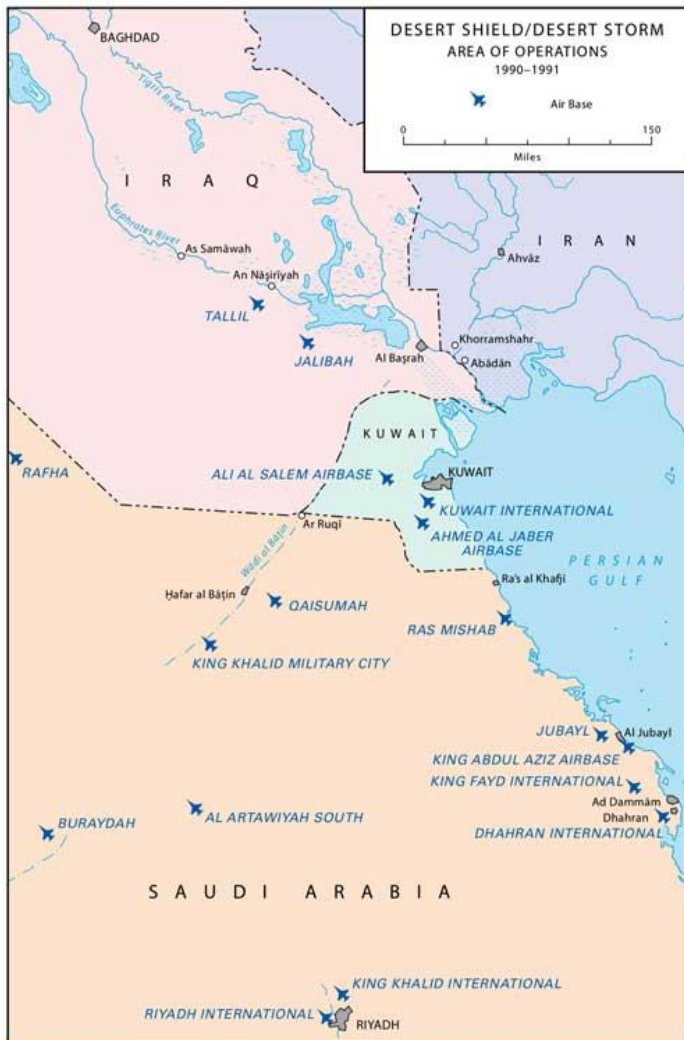


*VFW Post 2894 comrades and Auxiliary members pause for a picture during the Saturday morning cleanup of Bay 2.*

- **VFW Post 2894 Receives Monetary Grant from Home Depot.** On Wednesday, 31 July, Jim Ireland, Post Service Officer, was notified that VFW Post 2894 was awarded a Home Depot Grant of \$3,150.00. This will be used for the carpeting and painting of various areas throughout the Post Headquarters.

## **AUGUST 2, 1990 IRAQ INVADES KUWAIT – OPERATION DESERT SHIELD**

On 2 August 1990, Iraq, governed by President Saddam Hussein, invaded its neighbor Kuwait with four elite Republican Guard heavy divisions and the equivalent of a fifth composed of special operations commandos, fully occupying the country in



two days. The invasion was primarily over disputes regarding Kuwait's alleged slant drilling in Iraq's Rumaila oil field, as well as to cancel Iraq's large debt to Kuwait from the recently ended Iran-Iraq War. The invasion of Kuwait was immediately met with international condemnation, including UN Security Council Resolution 660, which demanded Iraq's immediate withdrawal from Kuwait, and the imposition of comprehensive international sanctions against Iraq with the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 661.

President George H. W. Bush quickly announced that the United States considered Iraq's aggression unacceptable. On 7 August, the president backed up his words with a military response named Operation Desert Shield, and organized a coalition of 35

nations to defend Saudi Arabia and ultimately liberate Kuwait. Elements of the U.S. Army's XVIII Airborne Corps and Marine Corps 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division were immediately deployed to Saudi Arabia to provide security against a potential Iraqi invasion, beginning a buildup of combat power in the region reaching at its peak about 600,000 U.S. personnel. An array of countries joined the American-led coalition, forming the largest military alliance since World War II. The bulk of the coalition's military power was from the United States, with Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, and Egypt as the largest lead-up contributors, in that order. Additionally, Saudi Arabia and the Kuwaiti government-in-exile paid out around US\$32 billion of the US\$60 billion cost to mobilize the coalition against Iraq.



*U.S. Air Force F-15 and F-16 strike fighter jets fly over Kuwait during Operation Desert Shield/Storm.*

UN Security Council Resolution 678, adopted on 29 November 1990, offered Iraq one final chance until 15 January 1991 to implement Resolution 660 and withdraw from Kuwait; it further empowered states after the deadline to use "all necessary means" to force Iraq out of Kuwait. Initial efforts to dislodge the Iraqis from Kuwait began with aerial and naval bombardment of Iraq on 17 January, 1991, with Operation Desert Shield officially transitioning to Operation Desert Storm with the start of the air war.

- Ref: 1. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf\\_War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_War)  
2. [https://history.army.mil/html/bookshelves/resmat/dshield\\_dstorm/desert-shield.html](https://history.army.mil/html/bookshelves/resmat/dshield_dstorm/desert-shield.html)



*U.S. forces arrive in Saudi Arabia at the beginning of Operation Desert Shield in August/September 1990.*

## IN MEMORIAM

### Comrade Gary E. Dunbar

1948 – 2024



Gary Dunbar, a proud veteran of the United States Navy, passed away Sunday evening (June 2, 2024) of natural causes. The son of Paul Dunbar, and Leo and Marcella Zacanti, he grew up in Chariton, Iowa and Palo Alto, California, attending Gunn High School. Graduating a semester early with his

mother's permission, Gary enlisted in the United States Navy at the age of seventeen.

While attending "A" School in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Gary collided into Sandy on a snow tube on Sandia Mountain, with her landing in his lap. Four months later, they were married and have been so for 54 years.

He deployed to Vietnam in 1970 as a Gunners Mate Technician on the USS Piedmont. Gary was a machine gunner on the SWIFT boats for two deployments, completing missions in Vietnam and Laos. His shore duty included Naval Station Adak, Alaska and Oakland Naval Supply Center, California. He served on the USS Midway and USS Eisenhower, and as a nuclear weapons inspector/trainer with Naval Weapons Training Group, Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia. From 1974-1978 he was part of the Navy's competitive Rifle/Shotgun/Pistol team, and at the time was the only sailor to beat the USMC rifle champion.

Retiring as a Chief Petty Officer from the US Navy in 1989, he took pride in leading, training, and teaching his troops. Upon retirement, Gary and his best friend Rick started PDQ Tool Services, a small business serving military and commercial clients.

Gary has always had a big heart, especially when it came to kids. While on the USS Midway, his division adopted a Korean Orphanage. His troops completed service projects in Kenya and other ports of call. When it was time for the annual Navy Relief drive, he was first to take on fundraising. He was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) SSG Jonathan Kilian Dozier Memorial Post 2894 in Chesapeake, Virginia. He served as the Service Officer for both the Post and District 2. He loved helping veterans and their families cope and overcome challenges around disabilities which often included home modifications, acquiring proper medical equipment and maximizing the benefits that were earned. You would often see him approach any vet to strike up a conversation about the VFW. He enjoyed working on his hotrod and attending car shows. Gary is survived by his wife, Sandy; son Greg and grandchildren Bella and Caterina; daughter Amanda and her husband Todd; his siblings Wes, Paul, Annie, and Jimmy; and Sandy's siblings Pat, Bob and his wife Linda, and Cheryl. Gary spent the twenty years of his career serving his country and the last twenty-five years doing everything he could to assist others who served and needed help. He is remembered as a leader, teacher, storyteller, comedian, and prankster. He was interred at Albert G.

Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery with full U.S. Navy Funeral Honors on June 14, 2024.

## + SAFETY CORNER +

### AUGUST IS IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH



This month is Immunization Awareness Month. I will bet that if you remember your childhood, or remember getting your children vaccinated, you learned about immunizations. When you began your military service, you REALLY learned about immunizations. Of the gazillion shots you received throughout your military career, you were probably protected against diseases and illnesses most people never thought about!



Vaccines are important for people of all ages. They help protect against serious diseases, deadly diseases, and critical illnesses. As we left the military behind, many of us moved immunization awareness to the backs of our minds. Well, COVID quickly changed that. There was a strong national push to get the masses vaccinated against COVID. And thousands of lives were saved. But, as we go about our post-career lives, we must not lose sight of the need for vaccinations. Although there are some post-career jobs that require even more vaccinations, just going on with our lives requires us to keep up our immunities.

Recommended for all adults, and especially those of us older (or more experienced) age, are a few important vaccines. This list is not totally inclusive but hits important areas.

Tetanus	Booster shot every 10 years
MMR	Measles, mumps, and rubella; needed for all those born 1980 or later.
COVID	Updated booster yearly
Influenza	"Flu shot"; updated booster yearly
RSV	Respiratory Syncytial Virus; everyone over 65
Varicella	"Chicken Pox"; needed for all those born 1980 or later
Pneumococcal	"Pneumonia shot"; everyone over 65

Make sure you check with your personal physician and get your immunizations up to date. Some of those recommended for older adults are also recommended for anyone immunosuppressed. Do not let fear of needles or you "being too busy" keep you from getting your shots. Do it now.

**✚ SAFETY CORNER ✚**  
**SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH**



This month is Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month. Every day, 40-44 veterans die from suicide or overdoses. Many people talk about the high risk of Post Traumatic Symptoms for the veterans of the War on Terrorism from Iraq and Afghanistan. Over the last 20 years, over 30,000 vets have died from suicides and overdoses. Yet currently the majority of suicides are among the Viet Nam era vets.

We must change the thoughts that those who need help are somehow "broken". We must "break" the stigma around mental health treatment and remind everyone that "it is OK" to seek help. Although post-traumatic stress can bear heavily on veterans, so can traumatic brain injury, everyday stresses on paying bills, getting needed medical care, and substance abuse. We must help our comrades. Learn the signs and symptoms of someone suffering from stress. Examples might be changes in behavior, such as withdrawing from friends and family, giving away personal possessions, or suddenly making a will. Other indicators might include complaining of being a burden to others, or expressing feelings of being empty or hopeless ("Why should I go on?"). Monitor people that you are worried about. Maintain your social contacts and support others. Visit your buddies or just meet for coffee. Send postcards and letters to old friends. Reach out over the telephone or internet. Be involved socially.



We are only a few of many military veterans. But in the VFW, we maintain a special bond, that only those who have experienced what we have can understand. If you are having thoughts of suicide or are in crisis and wondering "will it ever end", reach out for help. Dial 988 to contact the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. Or text *talk* to 741741. Or just talk to a trusted family member or close friend. You can get better.

**POST COMMITTEES - YOU CAN HELP!**

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

- **Bataan Death March Committee:** Ted Roberts, John Peterson, Matt Schweers, Grace Schweers, Ann Jones, Becky Waters, Brad Waters, Matt Hostetlar, Diane Hostetlar, Jose Vazquez, and Bob Gregory
- **Budget Committee:** John Peterson, Bob Gregory, Susan Vitale, Mark Rios, Brad Waters, Mike Kust, Dan Eaker and Carl Dozier
- **By-Laws Committee:** Bob Gregory, Matt Hostetlar, Frank Sgromolo and Jose Vazquez
- **Community Service Committee:** Jim Ireland, Susan Vitale, John Guill, David Weber, Frank Sgromolo, Kimball Thompson, Ron Mayfield, and John Peterson
- **Awards/Scholarship Committee:** Mark Rios, Mike Kust, Dan Eaker, Joe Hammers, Carl Dozier, Otmar Guzman, Ron Liston, Kimball Thompson, and Chuck Wolff
- **Membership/Recruiting Committee:** Bob Gregory, Susan Vitale, José Vazquez, and Dan Eaker
- **Building Renovation Committee:** Kimball Thompson, Jim Ireland, Susan Vitale, Anne Thompson, Ken Belkofer, Matt Overbeck and Jim Keiper
- **Visiting Committee:** Chaplain Joe McGourn and Dan Eaker
- **Health/Safety Committee:** Surgeon David Weber, Frank Sgromolo
- **Activities Committee:** Carl Dozier, Dan Eaker, Susan Vitale, Joe McGourn

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

BUSINESS CARD - \$25/ISSUE; \$100/YEAR  
QUARTER PAGE - \$35/ISSUE; \$150/YEAR  
HALF PAGE - \$45/ISSUE; \$200/YEAR

VFW MEMBERS/VETERAN-OWNED  
BUSINESSES RECEIVE A 20% DISCOUNT

## QUARTERMASTER DESK



**Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$35 IF you go through our Post** – if you go through National make sure you indicate Post 2894!

Annual dues can be paid via mail (see our new address on the front of the 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 \$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.

### Annual Members!

**Renewals are due now and must be paid by 31 June.**

VFW Post 2894 will purchase your LIFE member hat when you convert to Life. \$50 value!

**Join the 150 Life Members in the Post.**

**See Senior Vice Cmdr Susan Vitale or the Quartermaster, John Peterson**

### Life Member Options

AGE as of DECEMBER 31 <sup>st</sup>	One-Time Payment	\$45 + 11 Payments of
18-30 Years Old	\$425.00	\$38.64
31-40 Years Old	\$410.00	\$37.27
41-50 Years Old	\$375.00	\$34.09
51-60 Years Old	\$335.00	\$30.45
61-70 Years Old	\$290.00	\$26.36
71-80 Years Old	\$225.00	\$20.45
81 Years & Over	\$170.00	\$15.45

Installment plan requires member approval from National and must be validated before purchase of hat.

Life and Annual Dues can be paid on line at our web page  
<https://vfw2894.org/join-the-vfw>

Points of contact for Annual dues and Life Conversion: [susan.vitale@verizon.com](mailto:susan.vitale@verizon.com) and [jpeter310@gmail.com](mailto:jpeter310@gmail.com).

## AUGUST MILITARY HISTORY

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| <p><b>1</b>    Air Force Day</p> <p>1944    George S. Patton's Third Army begins 281 days of operations</p> <p>1944    Marines crush Japanese resistance on Tinian</p> <p>1946    Office of Naval Research is established</p> <p>1946    Battle of Athens, GA: WW II vets take up arms to prevent corrupt politicians rig local election</p> <p><b>2</b>    1819    First parachute jump in US, from a balloon</p> <p>1887    Rowell Hodge receives a patent for barbed wire</p> <p>1950    1st Marine Provisional Bde lands at Pusan, Korea</p> <p>1964    Gulf of Tonkin: North Vietnamese patrol boats attack USS Maddox</p> <p>1990    Iraq invades &amp; occupies Kuwait - onset of Desert Shield/Desert Storm</p> <p><b>3</b>    1804    USN squadron bombards Tripoli</p> | <p>1861    First manned balloon ascent from a ship, USS 'Fanny', Hampton Roads</p> <p>1861    US Navy authorizes three ironclads: 'Monitor', 'Galena', &amp; 'New Ironsides'</p> <p>1958    US sub 'Nautilus' (SS 571) passes under ice at North Pole</p> <p><b>4</b>    1790    Revenue Cutter Service formed, origins of USCG</p> <p>1914    German forces march into Belgium starting WWI</p> <p>2005    USS 'New York' (LPD-21) receives bow of 24 tons of steel from World Trade Center</p> <p><b>5</b>    1864    Battle of Mobile Bay: Farragut "damns" torpedoes</p> <p>1898    US and Spanish troops skirmish outside Manila</p> <p>1898    US landing party goes ashore at Cape San Juan, Puerto Rico</p> <p>1921    Yangtze River Patrol Force established within US Asiatic Fleet.</p> <p>1964    US begins bombing North Vietnam</p> |
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| <p><b>6</b> 1780 Battle of Hanging Rock: Tarleton's dragoons annihilate American column - Andrew Jackson (13) becomes a POW<br/>1945 A-Bomb destroys Hiroshima, over 75,000 die</p> <p><b>7</b> 1782 George Washington creates Badge of Military Merit - Purple Heart<br/>1789 US War Department established<br/>1942 Guadalcanal: 1st Marine Div lands against light resistance<br/>1990 Operation Desert Shield: First American troops reach Saudi Arabia</p> <p><b>8</b> 1942 Guadalcanal: Marines capture unfinished airstrip.<br/>1988 Russian troops begin pulling out of Afghanistan after 9 year war</p> <p><b>9</b> 1945 Second Atomic Bomb dropped on Nagasaki, c. 30,000 die</p> <p><b>10</b> 1918 Alvin York captures "whole damned German Army"<br/>1921 Congress forms US Navy's Bureau of Aeronautics<br/>1949 Congress creates Department of Defense</p> <p><b>11</b> 1909 First use of "SOS"; SS 'Arapahoe', off Cape Hatteras</p> <p><b>12</b> 1645 Massachusetts Council orders third of men in each militia company "be ready on half an hour's warning for any service" - first "Minute Men"<br/>1942 Guadalcanal: First US airplane reaches Henderson Field<br/>1959 First firing of Polaris missile from ship<br/>1972 Last American ground troops leave Vietnam</p> <p><b>13</b> 1846 CDR Robert Stockton leads an Army-Navy-Marine party to seize Los Angeles<br/>1898 Spanish-American War: Armistice declared<br/>1945 Okinawa: USS 'LaGrange' (APA-124) last US ship hit by kamikaze in WW II<br/>1953 Gen Omar Bradley becomes Chairman of JCS<br/>1961 Communists begin construction of Berlin Wall</p> <p><b>14</b> National Navajo Code Talkers Day<br/>1912 US Marines occupy Nicaragua<br/>1942 First American air victory in Atlantic: Lt Ezra Shahan in P-38 shoots down Luftwaffe Condor patrol bomber off Iceland<br/>1945 V-J Day; Japan surrenders</p> <p><b>15</b> 1845 US Naval Academy is established at Ft Severn, Annapolis<br/>1943 Kiska: US and Canadian troops land with heavy naval and air support<br/>1944 Operation Anvil-Dragon: Allied troops land in Provence<br/>1945 Hirohito's surrender message broadcast to Japanese people. National Airborne Day, US</p> <p><b>16</b> 480 BC Leonidas reaches Thermopylae with 300 Spartans and 700 Allies<br/>1777 Battle of Bennington, VT: Americans defeat British<br/>1780 Battle of Camden: British decisively defeat Americans<br/>1918 US troops capture Archangelsk<br/>1934 US ends occupation of Haiti, begun in 1915<br/>1943 4th Marine Div activated at Camp Pendleton</p> <p><b>17</b> 1943 US troops under Gen Patton capture Messina</p> | <p><b>18</b> 1911 Esther Voorhees Hasson appointed first Sup't of Navy Nurse Corps<br/>1961 Construction on Berlin Wall completed<br/>2011 Last American combat units redeploy from Iraq; 50,000 soldiers remain as a transitional force</p> <p><b>19</b> National Aviation Day<br/>1981 USS 'Nimitz' (CVN-68) A/C down Libyan A/C – "Line of Death"</p> <p><b>20</b> 1781 Washington marches from NY to fight Cornwallis at Yorktown<br/>1982 US Marines land in Beirut</p> <p><b>21</b> 1800 First public concert by USMC Band, Wash. DC</p> <p><b>22</b> 1864 Geneva Convention: 12 nations establish International Red Cross</p> <p><b>23</b> National Airborne Day<br/>1944 6th Marine Div begins forming on Guadalcanal.<br/>1944 Franco-American troops liberate Marseilles</p> <p><b>24</b> 1814 British burn Washington, after Sir George Cockburn eats Pres. Madison's dinner in White House<br/>1949 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) established</p> <p><b>25</b> 1921 US signs peace treaty with Germany<br/>1943 US forces land on New Georgia, Solomon Islands<br/>1944 Paris liberated from Nazi occupation</p> <p><b>26</b> 1775 First Congressional action on veterans' benefits<br/>1839 US Revenue Cutter 'Washington' seizes Spanish ship 'Amistad', manned by self-liberated slaves, off Montauk Point<br/>2021 Thirteen US service members killed in suicide bomb attack outside Kabul Airport, Afghanistan, during evacuation operations<br/>1943 US bombers in China attack Japanese installations in Hong Kong.</p> <p><b>27</b> 1945 Third Fleet enters Sagami Bay, south of Tokyo Bay, as US troops begin occupation of Japan</p> <p><b>29</b> 1944 15,000 American troops march down Champs Elysee<br/>1958 Air Force Academy moves to new facilities at Colorado Springs</p> <p><b>30</b> 1781 Battle of Chesapeake: French fleet defeats Royal Navy, sealing fate of Yorktown<br/>1945 Gen MacArthur arrives in Japan<br/>2021 Twenty years of occupation ends as all US troops are redeployed from Afghanistan.</p> <p><b>31</b> 1944 Allied offensive against Gothic Line in Italy<br/>1949 83rd - and last - GAR encampment, attended by 6 of 14 remaining members<br/>1994 Last Russian troops in Germany are withdrawn</p> |
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## SEPTEMBER MILITARY HISTORY

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| <p><b>1</b> Feast of St. Therese of Lisieux, Patron Saint of Aviators<br/>1861 Grant assumes command of Federal forces at Cape Girardeau, MO<br/>1862 Congress abolishes daily issue of grog in US Navy<br/>1863 Sherman wins Battle of Jonesborough, Confederates evacuate, Atlanta burns<br/>1863 Union fleet bombards Fort Sumter<br/>1918 US troops land in Vladivostok, Siberia, stay until 1920<br/>1939 George C. Marshall becomes Chief-of-Staff of Army, serves until Nov 18, 1945<br/>1950 Thirteen North Korean divisions assault UN lines</p> <p><b>2</b> 1777 Battle of Cooch's Bridge, NJ: First use of "Stars and Stripes in combat<br/>1944 Lt Jg George H.W. Bush bails out near Chichi Jima, rescued by</p> | <p>'Finback' (SS-230)<br/>1945 Ho Chi Minh declares Vietnam independent of France</p> <p><b>3</b> 1782 US gives its only ship-of-the-line, 'America', to France.<br/>1885 First Naval War College class convenes.<br/>1944 US Navy shells Japanese on Wake Island.<br/>1945 Japanese forces in Philippines surrender to US.</p> <p><b>4</b> 1945 US reoccupies Wake Island.<br/>1950 First appearance of comic strip "Beetle Bailey".</p> |
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- 5 1774 First Continental Congress assembles in Philadelphia.  
1775 Continental Navy issues uniform regs for officers.  
1943 US airborne troops land at Nadzab, New Guinea.
- 6 1918 US Navy 14-inch railroad guns open fire on Western Front.
- 7 1776 David Bushnell's sub 'American Turtle' tries to sink HMS 'Eagle' in New York harbor.
- 8 1919 Ticker tape parade on Broadway for Gen. Pershing & 25,000 Doughboys.  
1945 US troops land in Korea to assume occupation duties.
- 9 1776 "United Colonies" adopt name "United States of America".  
1943 Operation Avalanche: Anglo-American forces land at Salerno, Italy.  
1944 Allied troops liberate Luxembourg from Germans.
- 10 1813 Battle of Lake Erie: Commo Oliver Hazard Perry meets enemy and they are his.  
1944 Sir Frederick Browning says "I think we might be going a bridge too far".
- 11 Patriot Day  
1773 Benjamin Franklin writes "There never was a good war or a bad peace".  
1812 USS 'Constitution' captures and destroys brig 'Lady Warren'.  
1814 Battle of Plattsburgh/Lake Champlain: Americans defeat British by land & lake -- decisive battle of War of 1812.  
1918 Col. George S. Patton leads first US tank attack, St. Mihiel, France.  
1943 Allied forces secure Salerno  
1944 US 5th Armored Division enters Nazi Germany.  
2001 Terrorists attack World Trade Center Twin Towers in New York City and Pentagon, killing over 3000 Americans.
- 12 1814 Battle of North Point: Regulars & Militiamen prevent British from capturing Baltimore.  
1862 Battle of Harpers Ferry VA.  
British commence overnight bombardment of Fort McHenry, inspiring  
13 1814 "Star Spangled Banner".  
US soldiers & Marines storm Chapultepec Castle, Mexico City.  
1847
- 14 1847 American troops under Winfield Scott capture Mexico City.  
1914 VFW Ladies Auxiliary organized (changed to "VFW Auxiliary" in 2015).  
1942 Guadalcanal, Bloody Ridge: Japanese retire.  
1966 Vietnam: Operation Attleboro begins against VC sanctuaries on Cambodian Border.
- 15 1862 Antietam Campaign: Stonewall Jackson captures Harpers Ferry.  
1862 Antietam Campaign: US troops find Lee's GO No. 191, wrapping some cigars.  
1918 Cpl Lee Duncan, US 135th Aero Sqn, finds German shepherd pups in bombed out German military kennel near Toul, France; one becomes Rin Tin Tin.  
1942 US carrier 'Wasp' (CV-7) torpedoed and sunk off Guadalcanal.  
1944 Marines land on Peleliu, 450 miles east of Mindanao in Philippines.  
1950 Inchon Landing: Marines attack behind North Korean lines.
- 16 1919 American Legion incorporated by act of Congress.  
1942 3rd Marine Div activated at San Diego.  
1943 US Fifth and British Eighth Armies unite in Italy.  
1950 Eighth Army breaks out of Pusan Perimeter, in support of Inchon Landing.
- 17 1776 Spanish begin building Presidio of San Francisco.  
1862 Battle of Antietam: Bloodiest day of Civil War, over 3,000 die.
- 1943 Ammunition explosion at Norfolk Naval Air Station.  
1944 Operation Market Garden begins: Allied Airborne invasion of Netherlands.
- 18 Feast of St Joseph of Cupertino, Patron of Aviators and Astronauts  
1775 French complete Ft Carillon (Ticonderoga), NY.  
1947 US Air Force established.
- 19 1777 Battle of Freeman's Farm (1st Battle of Saratoga).  
1943 U.S carrier aircraft and B-24s raid Tarawa.  
1957 First underground nuclear explosion, Nevada.
- 20 1797 US frigate 'Constitution' - "Old Ironsides" - launched in Boston.  
1950 Omar Bradley promoted to 5-star General of Army.  
1984 Hezbollah bombing of American Embassy in Beirut, 25 die.
- 21 1872 James H. Conyers becomes first black USNA cadet.  
1941 Launch of first Liberty Ship, SS 'Patrick Henry'.  
1942 Maiden flight of B-29.
- 22 1862 President Lincoln issues preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.  
1944 Boulogne liberated by Allies.  
1958 Elvis arrives at Brooklyn Army Terminal, to board transport for Germany.
- 23 1779 Celebrated frigate duel between John Paul Jones' 'Bonhomme Richard' & HMS 'Serapis'.  
1780 Maj. John Andre is captured, revealing Benedict Arnold's treason.  
1806 Lewis & Clark Expedition ends at St Louis.
- 24 1918 Ens David S. Ingalls becomes first USN ace, in Sopwith Camel, while seconded to Royal Air Force.  
1929 Lt James H Doolittle makes first all-instrument flight, over Brooklyn.  
USS 'Enterprise' (CVN-65) launched, first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.  
1960
- 25 1861 SecNav Welles authorizes enlistment of former slaves/
- 26 1918 US begins Meuse-Argonne offensive against Germans.  
1950 UN troops liberate Seoul, Korea.
- 27 1996 Taliban capture Kabul, installing Islamist theocracy in Afghanistan.
- 28 Feast of St Michael Archangel, Patron of Soldiers & of St Gabriel Archangel, Patron of Diplomats and Signalmen  
1781 Siege of Yorktown begins: last major battle of Revolutionary War.  
1850 Congress outlaws flogging in Navy and Merchant Marine.  
1918 Led by 107th Infantry, NY's 27th Div breaks through of Hindenburg Line at San Quintin Tunnel.  
1924 Two US Army planes end around-world flight, Seattle to Seattle, 57 stops.
- 29 1899 VFW Established.
- 30 1914 Army disbands Seminole Negro Indian Scouts, after 44 years of service.  
1946 Judgement at Nuremberg: 22 Nazi leaders found guilty.  
1949 Berlin Airlift ends after 277,000 flights.  
1949 US officially disbands Philippine Scouts.  
1977 Jonathan Kilian Dozier is born in Chesapeake, VA.

## POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u><b>AUGUST</b></u>	
1	US Air Force Day
4	US Coast Guard Birthday (1790)
7	Purple Heart Day/Start of Vietnam War (1964)
10	VFW District 2 Meeting, Post 392
12	Post Staff Meeting, Post HQ
14	Post Meeting, Post HQ
14	Japan surrenders, ending WWII 1945
16	National Airborne Day
19	National Aviation Day

<u><b>SEPTEMBER</b></u>	
2	VJ Day – Japan Signs Formal Surrender, 1945
2	Labor Day
8	POW/MIA Display, Central Library
9	Post Staff Meeting, Post HQ
10	Grandparents Day
11	Patriot Day National Day of Service & Remembrance
11	Post Meeting, Post HQ
14	National VFW Auxiliary Birthday (1914)
15-21	Gold Star Families Remembrance Week
17	Constitution and Citizenship Day
18	US Air Force Birthday (1947)
20	POW/MIA Recognition Day
21	First Day of Oktoberfest
21	MCVA Veterans Breakfast
23	First day of fall
29	Gold Star Mother's Day
29	VFW Birthday (1899)
30	SSG Jon Dozier's Birthday (1977)



**A big shout out to our friends at Home Depot for their assistance with all the VFW service projects - past, present and future! Thanks for your generous donations.**