

VFW OBJECTIVES:

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



POST 2894

Meetings

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

Post Address:

VFW Post 2894
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Chesapeake, VA 23328

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<http://myvfw.org/va/post2894>

Visit us on Facebook

OFFICERS

Commander.....	Chris Mulholland
Sr. Vice Commander.....	John Guill
Jr. Vice Commander.....	Gary Shaffer
Adjutant.....	Tom Benson
Quartermaster.....	Craig Devonshire
Chaplain.....	Mike Morris
Surgeon.....	Ray Brogan
Staff Judge Advocate.....	Matt Hamel
Service Officer.....	Gary Dunbar

NATIONAL

www.vfw.org

STATE

www.vfwva.org

VFW VA DISTRICT 2

www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2

SSG JONATHAN KILIAN DOZIER POST 2894



Chesapeake, Virginia 23322

NEWSLETTER – Vol. IV, Issue 1, February-March 2015

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings Comrades! Let me start by welcoming a new member to the post, Tom Black, a former SEAL. Tom has been heavily involved with supporting LZ Grace, a retreat for Special Ops veterans. You can read more about LZ Grace on-line at www.lz-grace.com. Our Service Officer, Gary Dunbar, has gotten involved in helping LZ Grace as well and his son, Gary, who works for Panasonic, enabled the donation of a 60 inch TV to the retreat.

The big news for this edition, is that our Teacher of the Year nominee, Craig Blackman, was selected as the Department (State) TOTY! You can read more in the newsletter.

Just a reminder to all members that we keep a lot of updates and current events on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/VFW-SSG-Jonathan-Kilian-Dozier-Memorial-Post-2894/257157270284>. Please add it to your "Likes".

Saint Patrick's Day is coming up and so is the annual parade in Norfolk sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 3548 with assistance from VFW Post 3160. Come on out and have a great time on 14 February! Erin go Bragh!

Another new member to Post 2894 is Mark Junghans, a former Installation Emergency Manager at Fort Eustis. Mark is heavily involved in several activities but none so much as emergency readiness. He has set up a Facebook page called "VFW Ready" which provides lots of tips and advice on dealing with emergencies – whether it's weather (bad pun!), health, environmental safety, terrorism, hurricanes, etc., he'll provide you with great advice on how to deal with the situation.

The 4th Bataan Death March Memorial Walk is coming up on 18 April. If you know of anyone who might be interested in sponsoring this event, please share with them the sponsorship form at the back of this newsletter. This is the biggest fund-raising

event of the year for our post – please set aside the date and come out to help us! Better yet, contact Comrade Matt Schweers and ask him how you can contribute to the event at matthewschweers@hotmail.com.

The new Dominion Bridge was dedicated as the "Veterans Bridge" in December, due in great part to the efforts of Comrades Matt Hamel, Carl Dozier, John Guill, and Angela Taylor. After the ceremony I contacted the Garden Clubs of America, their Tidewater District, and the Green Meadow Pt Garden Club in Chesapeake, who have all endorsed the idea of designating the new section of Route 17 from 64 south to the Carolina border as a "Blue Star Highway". We, Post 2894, will spearhead the effort and organize other organizations like the American Legion, Fleet Reserve Association, Disabled American Veterans, Marine Corps League, etc. for donations.

Just a reminder...Valentine's Day is coming up! Better be nice to your significant other or be prepared to pay the price!!! ;-)

Scout of the Year applications are due by 1 March. Please share the information with all Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Venture Crews!

Comrade Dunbar has been doing an incredible job with helping Mrs. Carl Brashear fix up her home. This unbelievable story

has been included in this newsletter.

It's that time of year where we need to determine who would like to be an officer of Post 2894 in the next year. Please contact Comrade Carl Dozier, bulldoziero5@gmail.com, if you are interested in serving.

Lastly, I want to let you know how much I appreciated the great camaraderie at the Christmas get-together after our last meeting!

Thanks again to all of you for your service to our country! Semper Fidelis,
Chris Mulholland, Commander
majmule@verizon.net

“VETERANS BRIDGE” DEDICATION

Several comrades of Post 2894 represented the VFW at the dedication ceremony of the new Dominion Boulevard bridge over the Elizabeth River as “Veterans Bridge” on 12 December 2014.

With support from VFW Post 2894, as well as other local veterans’ associations, and endorsement from the Mayor’s Commission on Veterans’ Affairs, the new bridge was named “Veterans Bridge” in memory of the sons and daughters of Chesapeake who have served their country in the Armed Forces.



As Mayor Alan Krasnoff said in his remarks at the ceremony, “Whether for the living or those who have gone before, the honors we render today will never come close to repaying our debt to America’s veterans. But if we cannot repay that debt, we can certainly meet our responsibility to remember. In Chesapeake we do that today, and I am grateful for the opportunity. Thank you, and God Bless.”



Signs with the new name have been erected at each end of the bridge. The bridge is part of a \$345 million project that will connect Chesapeake to

northeastern North Carolina. According to Virginia officials, it will not only relieve traffic backups but also open business opportunities from Hampton Roads to Raleigh. Several representatives from the Craven County, NC, attended the dedication ceremony.

This publicly funded project is the largest locally



administered road construction in the Commonwealth and will ease congestion.

The 95 foot tall bridge (30’ taller than the “High Rise” bridge on Rte 64) will allow 33,000 daily commuters to avoid the multiple openings of the old Steel Bridge (built in 1962), which stopped traffic for about 10 minutes during each lift. These 6,000 lifts a year translated to about 42 days a year of waiting for local drivers.

Once the highway is completed in 2017, an adjoining span to the current Veterans Bridge will create four lanes of traffic from Route 64 all the way south to the Carolina border for a \$1 toll.

Post 2894 Comrades Carl Dozier, Matt Hamel, John Guill, Angela Taylor, and Chris Mulholland serve as commissioners on the MCVA.

See also:

www.13newsnow.com/story/traffic/2014/12/10/dominion-boulevard-closure/20190173/

4th ANNUAL BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK – April 18, 2015



Keep your calendar clear for the fourth annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk on Saturday,

April 18th at the Dismal Swamp Canal Trail in Deep Creek just off Route 17. Since Post 2894 is hosting this event, we would like to see all the members come out and help in any way you can. We will also be receiving assistance from crew members of the USS Bataan (LHD-5) as we host this commemorative event. The flyer for this event can be found at the end of this newsletter along with a sponsorship form. PLEASE SHARE WITH FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, FAMILY – EVERYONE!

You can find additional information on their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Chesapeake-Bataan-Death-March/464188050284397>.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER

Our nominee for the National Teacher of the Year award, Craig Blackman of Indian River High School, was honored as the State TOTY at the Winter



Craig Blackman (center), with his wife Joette and daughters, Brooke and Sydney, along with VFW National Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief John Biedrzvcki

Banquet in Williamsburg on 10 January! His package now is at National level where we have high hopes!

The last newsletter had a full write up of Craig's accomplishments. The best complement comes from one of his student's parents: *"As a parent, he has taught me to have faith and confidence in those we entrust with raising our children."*

We will be recognizing Craig, as well as all of our other award winners, at our April Post Meeting – come and congratulation all the winners!

Mrs. CARL BRASHEAR

Post 2894's Service Officer, Comrade Gary Dunbar has been relentless in ferreting out veterans and families of veterans in need. One of these cases is Junetta Brashear, the widow of

BMCM (MDV) Carl Brashear, the Navy's first African American deep-sea diver. I'll let him explain the rest:

"The widow of Navy Master Chief Carl Brashear reached out to some Navy divers for help building a wheelchair ramp. They were overwhelmed by how much help she needs and contacted my VFW Post. She has been trapped in her 20' x 30' house for years. Cuba Gooding Jr. starred in the movie "Men of Honor" about Carl Brashear's service to our country. What he did walking on the ocean floor could not be fully disclosed for the movie. His actions were as heroic as anyone who earned the Medal of Honor. His actions were not in a war zone and did not qualify, the Navy finally properly honored him in 2009 by naming a ship after him. Mrs. Brashear cannot get her wheelchair in to her rotting moldy bathroom or her bedroom. She uses a "chamber pot" in her dining room where she sleeps. Rotorooter donated their services to unclog her sewer pipes and said the pipes need replacing and her toilet sits on a dangerously rotted floor. Her wall heater is 62 years old and does not work. She heats her house using a gas oven. The foundation has cracked and she has cracked windows and doors that do not function properly. She needs a new roof, siding, all new doors and A/C. Every part of this house needs major repairs. I have a contractor in Virginia Beach (Allen Loree of Allen Loree Homes) who has volunteered to talk with builders and coordinate efforts to redesign her house. Mr. David Jusino manages Home Depot's Veteran Grant Program for Tidewater Virginia. Home Depot is willing to provide the materials and some labor to repair her home. I asked my contractor to help because this job may exceed the scope of what Home Depot is allowed to do. The Navy Seabee Battalion at the Little Creek Naval Base will also provide volunteers to augment the contractors.

"We finally found an apartment for Mrs. Brashear...We were lucky the manager's father was a Navy "hard hat" diver like Carl Brashear. The movie "Men of Honor" was mandatory viewing at least once per year. When she was told how difficult it is for Mrs. Brashear to move her manual 39" wide wheelchair on carpeting, she agreed to replace the wall-to-wall carpeting with wood floors. They will need to paint the apartment too."

As well as arranging for the apartment, Comrade Dunbar has lined up help for Mrs. Brashear from all over the area. A local church and the Naval Chaplain will provide



funds for the apartment. The Seabee Association and sailors from the USS Eisenhower have volunteered to do all the 'demolishing' prior to 'rebuilding'. Home Depot will supply

all the construction materials. A local HVAC company will donate a heating and cooling unit. Other local businesses are providing electrical, plumbing, and tile expertise and material. Gary has contacted the City of Portsmouth and the local NAACP to provide additional assistance.

This is an incredible story and one that we wanted to share with all the members of Post 2894.

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH – The BUFFALO SOLDIERS of the 92nd DIVISION

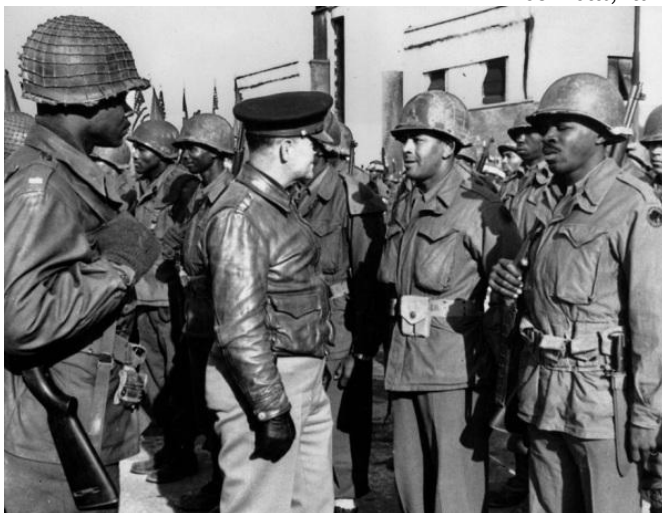
The 92nd Infantry Division was a unit of the US Army in WWI and WWII. Organized in 1917 at Camp Funston, Kansas, the unit was formed with African American soldiers from all states. Before leaving for France in 1918, the buffalo was selected as the divisional insignia due to the "Buffalo Soldiers" nickname, given to African American cavalrymen by Native Americans in the 19th century. The "Buffalo Soldiers Division" divisional nickname was inherited from the 367th Infantry, one of the first units of the division organized. This segregated unit was the only African American infantry division to see combat in Europe during WWII, as part of the 5th Army. It served in the Italian Campaign from 1944 to the war's end.

The 92nd Division was first constituted on paper 24 October 1917 in the National Army. The division comprised the 183rd Infantry Brigade with the 365th and 366th Infantry Regiments, and the 184th Infantry Brigade with the 367th and 368th Infantry Regiments. The division was actually organized on 27 October 1917 at Camp Funston, Kansas.

As would be the case with the 93rd Infantry Division, parts of the 92nd would serve under and alongside the French Army after both the main American Expeditionary Force (AEF) and the British Army refused to have African-American soldiers serve in combat under them.

The 92nd was a National Army unit formed from black draftees, with a cadre of 154 NCOs transferred from the four Regular Army regiments, mostly led by inexperienced black junior officers fresh out of training and commanded by indifferent white officers. They were a green and untried unit that was not allowed to maneuver as a

division before they were committed to the line. After arrival in France, the 92nd like all AEF units, trained for deployment in the trenches. They began to be fed into the French sector front lines by company in mid-August 1918. The 92nd Artillery Brigade



only came online in October 1918.

Unlike the 93rd, the 92nd would ultimately fight as a whole under American command. The division saw combat in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive during Nov 1918. Their indifferent showing was more due to brittle morale and poor handling by their white superiors than any real failings. As a result, the division received a bad reputation that further damaged morale.

The division was reactivated as an infantry division on 15 October 1942 at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. After two years of training, the 370th Infantry Regiment would be sent overseas in August 1944 and temporarily attached to the 1st Armored Division. The rest of the division would be sent overseas in September of that year, and the division as a whole would see heavy combat during the remainder of the Italian Campaign. Between August 1944 and May 1945 the 92nd Division suffered 3,200 casualties, and the factoring in of losses from the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (442nd RCT) and other units attached to the division brings the total up to 5,000 casualties.

During the division's participation in the Italian Front, the Buffalo Soldiers made contact with units of many nationalities: beyond the attached 442nd RCT, they also had contact with the segregated troops of the British and French colonial empires (Black Africans, Moroccans, Algerians, Indians, Gurkhas, Arab and Jewish Palestinians) as well as with exiled Poles, Greeks and Czechs, anti-fascist Italians and the non-segregated troops of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force.

The division's commander, Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, was for a time highly regarded by George Marshall, who was a fellow Virginia Military Institute (VMI) graduate, and was Army Chief of Staff during World War II. This was a major factor in Almond's promotion to major general and subsequent command of the division, a position he held from its formation in October 1942 until August 1945. He led the division in combat throughout the Italian Campaign of 1944-1945. Almond was chosen by Marshall to command the division because Marshall believed Almond would excel at what was seen as a difficult assignment. However, Almond performed poorly and went on to blame his poor performance on the fact that the division was made up of largely African American troops. He saw his troops as the source of his failure in combat, and went on to advise the Army against ever again using African Americans as combat troops.

Gothic Line - The 70th Regimental Combat Team, attached to the 1st Armored Division, arrived in Naples, Italy, 1 August 1944 and entered combat on 24th. It participated in the crossing of the Arno River, the occupation of Lucca and the penetration of the Gothic Line. Enemy resistance was negligible in its area. As Task Force 92, elements of the 92nd attacked on the Ligurian coastal flank toward Massa, 5 October. By the 12th, the slight gains achieved were lost to counterattacks. On 13 October, the remainder of the Division concentrated for patrol activities. Elements of the 92nd moved to the Serchio sector, 3 November

1944, and advanced in the Serchio River Valley against light resistance, but the attempt to capture Castelnuovo di Garfagnana did not succeed. Patrol activities continued until 26 December when the enemy attacked, forcing units of the 92nd to withdraw. The attack ended on 28 December. The attacking forces were mainly from the Italian 4th "Monte Rosa" Alpine Division (four battalions), with the support of three German battalions. Aside from patrols and reconnaissance, units of the 92nd attacked enemy forces in the Serchio sector from 5-8 February 1945, advancing against the Italian 1st "Italia" Bersaglieri Division, but enemy counterattacks nullified all Division advances.

On 1 April, the 370th RCT and the attached 442nd RCT (Nisei) attacked the Ligurian coastal sector and drove rapidly north against light opposition from the German 148th Infantry Division, which was supported only by Italian coastal units. The 370th took over the Serchio sector and pursued the retreating enemy from 18 April until the collapse of all enemy forces on 29 April 1945. Elements of the 92nd Division entered La Spezia and Genoa on 27th and took over selected towns along the Ligurian coast until the enemy surrendered on 2 May 1945.

In 2008, Spike Lee produced a movie called "*Miracle at St. Anna*" which tells the fictional story of four soldiers from the 92nd Infantry who hide out in a small Tuscan village and bond with its residents amid the oppression and danger of German occupiers. The movie met with mixed reviews, poor box office results and a fair amount of criticism over the lack of historical accuracy but the Italian locations and strong individual performances make the movie worth a view for a rare glimpse of African-American soldiers in WWII.

Medal of Honor recipients:

* John R. Fox, 1st Lt, Cannon Company, 366th Infantry Regiment, 92nd Infantry Division, near Sommocolonia, Serchio Valley, Italy, 26 December 1944.

* Vernon J. Baker, 1st Lt, 92nd Infantry Division, near Viareggio, Italy, 5-6 April 1945.

Note: The MOH was not awarded to them until 1997.

WWI History, 100 Years Ago Today...

February 1915 - The Turks begin forced deportations of Armenians. Over the next two years, an estimated 1.5 million Armenians will either starve to death, die of thirst in the Syrian Desert, or be murdered by Turkish troops and bandits, during the **Armenian Genocide**.

February 3, 1915 - Turkish troops launch an unsuccessful attack against the British-controlled **Suez Canal**, which is regularly used by the British to ferry Dominion troops from Australia, New Zealand and India to European battle grounds.

February 4, 1915 - Germany declares the waters surrounding British Isles to be a war zone in which ships can be sunk without warning.

February 7-22, 1915 - On the Eastern Front in Europe, the German 8th and 10th Armies wage a successful offensive against the Russian 10th Army in the Masurian Lakes region of East Prussia, pushing the Russians eastward into the Augustow Forest where they are decimated.

February 16, 1915 - On the Western Front, the French launch their second offensive against German defense lines in Champagne. Once again they are hampered by the muddy winter weather and a lack of heavy artillery. After a month of fighting, suffering 240,000 casualties, the exhausted French break off the offensive.

February 18, 1915 - The first **German U-Boat campaign** of the war **begins** with unrestricted attacks against merchant and passenger ships in the waters around the British Isles. Within six months, Allied shipping losses at sea surpass the number of new ships being built. However, the unrestricted attacks also arouse the anger of the neutral United States as Americans are killed.

March 1915 - The British Navy imposes a total sea blockade on Germany, prohibiting all shipping imports including food.

March 10, 1915 - British and Indian troops in the Artois region of northern France attack the Germans around the village of **Neuve Chapelle**. The attack takes the outnumbered Germans by surprise. The British achieve their initial objective but fail to capitalize on the narrow breach they create in the German lines. After three days of fighting, with over 11,000 casualties, the British offensive is suspended. The Germans suffer over 10,000 casualties.

March 22, 1915 - The Russians capture 120,000 Austrians at Przemyśl in Galicia. This marks the culmination of a series of winter battles between the Austrians and Russians to secure the strategic **Carpathian Mountain** passes and opens the way for a Russian invasion of Hungary. Realizing this, the Germans and Austrians make plans to combine their troops and launch a major spring offensive.

[www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/firstworldwar/index-1915.html]

IN HONOR OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY, 17 MARCH

Of the 3,464 Congressional Medals of Honor awarded as of September 17, 2009, an estimated 2,018 have been awarded to Irish-Americans, more than twice the number awarded to any other ethnic group. One of those Irish-Americans was Audie Murphy, a famous movie actor who had been the most decorated .S. combat soldier of World War II.

Audie Leon Murphy was born on June 20, 1925, son of poor Texas sharecroppers. Among his 33 awards and decorations was the Medal of Honor, the highest military award for bravery that can be given to any individual in the United States of America, for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty." He also received every decoration for valor that his country had to offer, some of them more than once, including 5 decorations by France and Belgium. Credited with killing over 240 of the enemy while wounding and capturing many others, he became a legend within the 3rd Infantry Division.

Turned down for enlistment by both the Marines and the Navy as he was only 5'5 and 112 pounds, the Army accepted him in June 1942. Beginning as a Private, Audie quickly rose to the enlisted rank of Staff Sergeant, was given a "battle field" commission as 2nd Lieutenant, was wounded three times, fought in 9 major campaigns across the European Theater, and survived the war.

During Murphy's 3 years active service as a combat soldier in World War II, Audie became one of the best fighting combat soldiers of this or any other century. What Audie accomplished during this period is most significant and probably will never be repeated by another soldier, given today's high-tech type of warfare. The U.S. Army has always declared that there will never be another Audie Murphy.

On 21 September, 1945, Audie was released from the Army as an active member and reassigned to inactive status. During this same time, actor James Cagney invited Murphy to Hollywood in September 1945, when he saw Murphy's photo on the cover of Life Magazine. The next couple of years in California were hard times for Audie Murphy. Struggling and becoming disillusioned from lack of work while sleeping in a local gymnasium, he finally received token acting parts in his first two films.

His first starring role came in a 1949 released film by Allied Artists called, "Bad Boy". In 1950 Murphy got a contract with Universal-International (later called Universal) where he starred in 26 films, 23 of them westerns over the next 15 years. His 1949 autobiography "To Hell And Back" was a best seller. Murphy starred as himself in a film biography released by Universal-International in 1955 with the same title. The movie held the record as Universal's highest grossing picture until 1975 when it was finally surpassed by the movie "Jaws". In the mid-60s the studios switched from contract players to hiring actors on a picture-by-picture basis. Consequently, when his contract expired in 1965 Universal did not renew. This gave him the opportunity to work with other studios and independent film producers. In the 25 years that Audie spent in Hollywood, he made a total of 44 feature films.

Audie also filmed a 26-episode western television series, known as "Whispering Smith" which aired on NBC in 1961. Although the series earned good reviews, it was also characterized as unusually violent. Only 20 episodes were aired before the series was cancelled.

Despite his success in Hollywood, Audie never forgot his rural Texas roots. He returned frequently to the Dallas area where he owned a small ranch for a while. He also had ranches in Perris, California and near Tucson, Arizona. He was a successful Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racehorse owner and breeder, having interests in such great horses as "Depth Charge." His films earned him close to 3 million dollars in 23 years as an actor. Audie loved to gamble, and he bet on horses and different sporting events. He was also a great poker player. In his role as a prodigious gambler, he won and lost fortunes.

Audie Murphy wrote some poetry and was quite successful as a songwriter. He usually teamed up with talented artists and composers such as Guy Mitchell, Jimmy Bryant, Scott Turner, Coy Ziegler, or Terri Eddleman. Dozens of Audie Murphy's songs were recorded and released by such great performers as Dean Martin, Eddy Arnold, Charley Pride, Jimmy Bryant, Porter Wagoner, Jerry Wallace, Roy Clark, Harry Nilsson and

many, many others. His two biggest hits were "Shutters and Boards" and "When the Wind Blows in Chicago". Eddy Arnold recorded "When the Wind Blows in Chicago" for his 1993 album "Last of the Love Song Singers" which is currently in release by RCA.

Audie suffered from what is now known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and was plagued by insomnia and depression. During the mid-60's he became dependent for a time on doctor prescribed sleeping pills called Placidyl. When he recognized that he had become addicted to this prescription drug, he locked himself in a motel room, stopped taking the sleeping pills and went through withdrawal symptoms for a week.

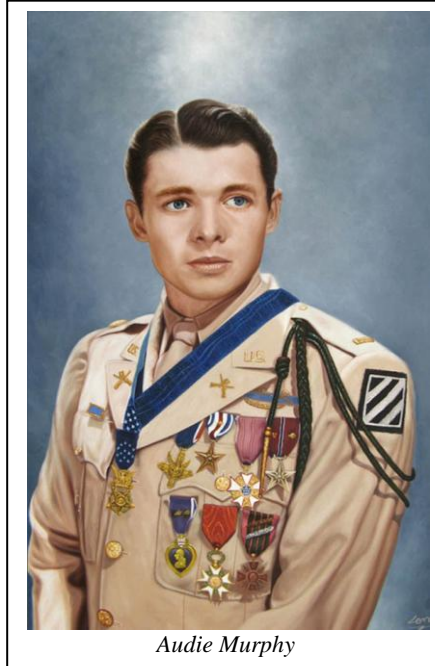
Always an advocate for the needs of veterans, he broke the taboo about discussing war related mental problems after this experience. In an effort to draw attention to the problems of returning Korean and Vietnam War veterans, Audie spoke-out candidly about his personal problems with PTSD, then known as "Battle Fatigue". He publicly called for the government to give more consideration and study to the emotional impact war has on veterans and to extend health care benefits to address PTSD and other mental health problems of returning war vets.

While on a business trip on May 28, 1971, (Memorial Day Weekend) he was killed at the age of 45. A private plane flying in fog and rain crashed into the side of a mountain near Roanoke, Virginia. Five others including the pilot were also killed. Although Audie owned and flew his own plane earlier in his career at Hollywood, he was among the passengers that tragic day.

At the time of his death, Audie Murphy was only given a combined total of 1 minute and 30 seconds of news time by the major television news networks ABC, CBS, and NBC. On October 29, 2013 news affiliates of the same major networks would devote nearly 2 minutes each to Audie Murphy when Governor Rick Perry posthumously presented the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor to Audie Murphy.

On June 7th, Audie Murphy was buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery. His gravesite, near the Amphitheater, is second most visited gravesite year round. President Kennedy's grave is the most visited.

In 1996 the Texas Legislature officially designated his birthday, June 20th, as 'Audie Murphy Day'. On June 9, 1999 Governor George W. Bush, Texas made a similar proclamation declaring June 20th to be Audie Murphy Day in the state of Texas. On October 29, 2013, Governor Rick Perry posthumously awarded the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor to Audie Murphy by presenting it



to his only surviving sibling, Nadine, in a ceremony held in Farmersville, Texas.

***Note on birth year:** Audie Murphy was born June 20, 1925 and was seventeen when he enlisted. Many sources incorrectly state he was born June 20, 1924. The error is based on confusion created by a falsified birth certificate Audie Murphy filed at the Hunt County, Texas Courthouse, with the help of his older sister, Corrine, so he could join the military before he was legally of age. Audie later admitted, on more than one occasion, that he lied about his age. References corroborating this fact include documents and interviews where Audie admits falsifying his birthday.

[Information from the Audie Murphy website, www.audiemurphy.com/biography.htm]

SCOUT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Annually, the Veterans of Foreign Wars recognizes four individuals: Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients, Venture Silver Award recipients and Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the exceptional qualities of that rank. Prizes range up to \$5,000 scholarship for first place.



To be eligible for the award, the candidate must:

- Be registered, active member of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship.
- Be recipient of Eagle Scout Award, Gold Award, Venture Silver Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award.
- Have demonstrated exemplary citizenship in school, Scouting and community.
- Have reached 15th birthday and be enrolled in high school at the time of selection.

Applicants still in high school who reach their 18th birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified. A Scout may enter through only one VFW Post.

The deadline for this coming year is March 1, 2015.

Entry forms can be downloaded from the VFW website at:

www.vfw.org/uploadedFiles/VFW.org/Community/Scout%20of%20the%20Year%20Brochure%20and%20Entry%20Form%20Rev%209.30.13%20Editable.pdf

+ SAFETY CORNER + FEBRUARY IS HEART DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

During February, Americans see the human heart as the symbol of love. February is American Heart Month, a time to show yourself the love. Learn about your risks for heart disease and stroke and stay "heart healthy" for yourself and your loved ones.

Cardiovascular disease (CVD)—including heart disease, stroke, and high blood pressure—is the number 1 killer of women and



men in the United States. It is a leading cause of disability, preventing Americans from working and enjoying family activities.¹ CVD costs the United States over \$300 billion each year, including the cost of health care services, medications, and lost productivity.¹

Understanding the Burden of CVD

CVD does not affect all groups of people in the same way. Although the number of preventable deaths has declined in people aged 65 to 74 years, it has remained unchanged in people under age 65. Men are more than twice as likely as women to die from preventable CVD.²

Having a close relative who has heart disease puts you at higher risk for CVD. Health disparities based on geography also exist. During 2007–2009, death rates due to heart disease were the highest in the South and lowest in the West.

Race and ethnicity also affect your risk. Nearly 44% of African American men and 48% of African American women have some form of CVD. And African Americans are more likely than any other racial or ethnic group to have high blood pressure and to develop the condition earlier in life. About 2 in 5 African American adults have high blood pressure, yet fewer than half of them have the condition under control.

Many CVD deaths could have been prevented through healthier habits, healthier living spaces, and better management of conditions like high blood pressure and diabetes.²

Take It One Step at a Time

You can control a number of risk factors for CVD, including:

- Diet
- Physical activity
- Tobacco use
- Obesity
- High blood pressure
- High blood cholesterol
- Diabetes

As you begin your journey to better heart health that can last a lifetime, keep these things in mind:

- Try not to become overwhelmed. Every step brings you closer to a healthier heart, and every healthy choice makes a difference!
- Partner up. The journey is more fun—and often more successful—when you have company. Ask friends and family to join you.
- Don't get discouraged. You may not be able to take all of the steps at one time. Get a good night's sleep—also important for a healthy heart—and do what you can tomorrow.
- Reward yourself. Find fun things to do to decrease your stress. Round up some colleagues for a lunchtime walk, join a singing group, or have a healthy dinner with your family or friends.

Plan for Prevention. Try out these strategies for better heart health. You'll be surprised how many of them can become lifelong habits!

Work with your health care team. Get a checkup at least once each year, even if you feel healthy. A doctor, nurse, or other health care professional can check for conditions that put you at risk for CVD, such as high blood pressure and diabetes—conditions that can go unnoticed for too long.

Monitor your blood pressure. High blood pressure often has no symptoms, so be sure to have it checked on a regular basis. You can check your blood pressure at home, at a pharmacy, or at a doctor's office. Find more information at CDC's [High Blood Pressure Web site](http://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/highbloodpressure/).

Get your cholesterol checked. Your health care team should test your cholesterol levels at least once every 5 years. Talk with

your health care professional about this simple blood test. You can find out more from CDC's [High Cholesterol Web site](#).

Eat a healthy diet. Choosing healthful meal and snack options can help you avoid CVD and its complications. Limiting sodium in your diet can lower your blood pressure. Be sure to eat plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables—adults should have at least five servings each day. Eating foods low in saturated fat, trans fat, and cholesterol and high in fiber. For more information on eating a healthy diet, visit CDC's [Nutrition](#) page and [ChooseMyPlate.gov](#).

Maintain a healthy weight. Being overweight or obese can increase your risk for CVD. To determine whether your weight is in a healthy range, health care professionals often calculate a number called body mass index (BMI). Doctors sometimes also use waist and hip measurements to measure a person's body fat. If you know your weight and height, you can calculate your BMI at CDC's [Assessing Your Weight Web site](#).

Exercise regularly. Physical activity can help you maintain a healthy weight and lower cholesterol and blood pressure. The Surgeon General recommends that adults should engage in moderate-intensity activity for at least 150 minutes per week. Remember to incorporate exercise into your day in different ways: take the stairs instead of the elevator, or rake the yard instead of using the leaf blower. Exercising with friends and family can be a great way to stay healthy and have fun. For more information, visit CDC's page on [physical activity](#).

Don't smoke. Cigarette smoking greatly increases your risk for CVD. If you don't smoke, don't start. If you do smoke, quit as soon as possible. Your health care team can suggest ways to help you quit. For more information about tobacco use and quitting, see CDC's [Smoking & Tobacco Use Web site](#) and [Smokefree.gov](#).

Limit alcohol use. Avoid drinking too much alcohol, which can increase your blood pressure. Men should stick to no more than two drinks per day, and women to no more than one. For more information, visit CDC's [Alcohol and Public Health Web site](#).

Manage your diabetes. If you have diabetes, monitor your blood sugar levels closely, and talk with your health care team about treatment options. Visit [CDC's Diabetes Public Health Resource](#) for more information.

Take your medicine. If you're taking medication to treat high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, or another condition, follow the instructions carefully. Always ask questions if you don't understand something. If you have side effects, talk with your health care team about your options.

Need more inspiration? Follow [Million Hearts®](#) on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for even more ways to protect your heart and live a longer, healthier life. Million Hearts® is a national initiative to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes by 2017.

Together, we all can prevent and manage heart disease, one step at a time.

References

1. Go AS, Mozaffarian D, Roger VL, Benjamin EJ, Berry JD, Baha MJ, et al. [Heart disease and stroke statistics—2014 update: a report from the American Heart Association](#). *Circulation*. 2013 [Epub ahead of print].

2. CDC. [Vital Signs: avoidable deaths from heart disease, stroke, and hypertensive disease—United States, 2001–2010](#). *MMWR*. 2013;62(35):721–7

With so many people using computers at work and at home, complaints of eye strain, difficulty focusing and discomfort have become commonplace in doctors' offices.

One of the main reasons for this is — although offices have marched into the age of technology, not much else has. People are still using the same lighting, furniture and desk configurations they had when using typewriters.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology has put together some tips to help us alleviate some of the eye problems modern technology has given birth to. They are:

- First and most important — **get an eye exam** by your ophthalmologist, who can rule out the possibility of eye disease as the cause of your symptoms. You could simply need glasses when working at a computer, or your prescription might need updating;



- **Screen distance** — you should sit approximately 20 inches from the computer monitor, a little further than you would for reading distance, with the top of the screen at or below eye level.
- **Equipment** — choose a monitor that tilts or swivels, and has both contrast and brightness controls;
- **Furniture** — an adjustable chair is best;
- **Reference materials** — keep reference materials on a document holder so you don't have to keep looking back and forth, frequently refocusing your eyes and turning your neck and head;
- **Lighting** — modify your lighting to eliminate reflections or glare. A hood or micromesh filter for your screen might help limit reflections and glare; and
- **Rest breaks** — take periodic rest breaks, and try to blink often to keep your eyes from drying out.

Another thing to remember is that the forced-air heating systems in big office buildings can increase problems with dry eyes during the winter months. The usual symptoms of dry eye are stinging or burning eyes, scratchiness, a feeling that there's something in the eye, excessive tearing or difficulty wearing contact lenses.

Over-the-counter eye drops, called artificial tears, usually help, but if dry eye persists, see your eye doctor for an evaluation.

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:

- **Budget Committee:** Chair – Carl Dozier. Looking for additional volunteers.
- **Awards Committee:** Angela Taylor, Gary Dunbar, Mark Rios, and Chris Mulholland
- **Membership Committee:** John Guill, Mark Rios, Gary Dunbar, and Chris Mulholland
- **Building Committee:** Carl Dozier and Gary Dunbar



+ SAFETY CORNER **+**
MARCH IS EYE SAFETY MONTH

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

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

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

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

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

QUARTERMASTER DESK

Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$35.50.

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

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

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

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

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

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

FEBRUARY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1800 USS 'Constellation' takes French 'Vengeance' in 5-hour night battle
- 1862 Julia Ward Howe's "Battle Hymn of Republic" is published
- 1865 Sherman begins marching through South Carolina
- 1968 Saigon: Nguyen Ngoc Loan summarily executes Viet Cong murderer
- 2** 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ends Mexican-American War
- 1901 US Army Nurse Corps established
- 1945 Escape attempt at Mauthausen concentration camp
- 1989 Soviet troops leave Afghanistan, ending 9 years of war

- 3** 1783 Spain recognizes US independence
- 1943 USS Dorchester sunk – the "Four Chaplains" immortalized
- 4** 1779 John Paul Jones takes command of 'Bonhomme Richard'
- 1941 USO (United Service Organization) is formed
- 1944 US 7th Infantry Division completes capture of Kwajalein
- 1945 Yalta Conference begins: FDR, Churchill, & Stalin
- 1959 Keel laid for USS 'Enterprise' (CVN-65), 1st nuclear aircraft carrier
- 5** 1918 Stephen W Thompson becomes first US pilot to down an enemy airplane
- 6** 1778 France recognizes US, signs treaty of aid in Paris
- 1832 US ship destroys Sumatran village in retaliation for piracy
- 1899 Spanish-American War officially ends
- 1945 Battle for Manila begins
- 1945 Over 4,000 American POWs freed from Luzon prison camps
- 7** 1800 Frigate USS 'Essex' becomes 1st U.S. warship to cross Equator
- 1945 General Douglas MacArthur returns to Manila
- 8** 1865 Martin Delany becomes first black major in US Army
- 1910 Boy Scouts of America founded.
- 1918 "The Stars and Stripes" begins publication in France
- 9** 1918 U.S. Army Chaplains' School formed at Fort Monroe
- 1943 Japanese complete evacuation of Guadalcanal, as US columns make contact at Cape Esperance, ending epic campaign
- 10** 1676 Battle of Lancaster: Massachusetts militia attack & defeat Wampanoag Indians
- 1763 Treaty of Paris ends French & Indian/Seven Years' War
- 1807 Congress establishes US Coast Survey
- 1962 USSR swaps U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers for spy Rudolph Abel
- 12** 1948 First black Regular Army Nurse is commissioned: 1st Lt Nancy Leftenant; retires 1965 as major, USAF
- 1955 Pres Eisenhower sends US advisors to South Vietnam
- 13** 1861 1st Medal of Honor action: Asst Surg Bernard Erwin, Apache Pass, Az (awarded 1894)
- 1945 Allies begin fire-bombing of Dresden, about 50,000 die
- 14** 1778 USS Ranger carries recently adopted Stars and Stripes to foreign port for first time on arrival in France
- 1912 US sub 'E-1' (SS-24) commissioned, 1st American diesel boat
- 1945 US troops reach Bataan peninsula outside Manila
- 15** 1856 USS 'Supply' loads 21 camels at Smyrna, Turkey, for US Army
- 1898 Havana Harbor: Second class battleship USS 'Maine' blows up from undetermined causes, 258 killed
- 1919 American Legion formed in Paris
- 1944 Italy: Allies commence bombing & shelling Monte Cassino
- 16** 1804 Stephen Decatur retakes and burns USS 'Philadelphia', which had been captured by Dey of Tripoli
- 1945 US airborne forces land on Corregidor (fighting lasts until March 3)
- 1959 Fidel Castro becomes premier of Cuba
- 17** 1621 Plymouth Colony elects Miles Standish "Captain" of militia
- 1864 CSS 'H.L. Hunley' sinks USS 'Housatonic', and herself: 1st submarine victory, albeit Pyrrhic
- 1915 Edward Stone, 1st US combatant to die in WW I, mortally wounded
- 1943 "Joltin' Joe" DiMaggio joins Army
- 1944 US forces land on Eniwetok Atoll, which is secured on Feb 22
- 1945 US Navy "frogmen" clearing beaches at Iwo Jima take heavy losses
- 1947 Voice of America begins broadcasting to USSR
- 18** 1846 US Navy adopts "port" in place of traditional "larboard"

- 1865 Sherman captures Charleston, SC
1941 CINCUS Husband Kimmel writes, "I feel that an attack . . . on Pearl Harbor is a possibility."
19 1942 FDR orders internment of Japanese-Americans on West Coast
1943 Battle of Kasserine Pass: Rommel's panzers hit US troops
1943 US Naval forces under MacArthur designated Seventh Fleet
1945 US Marines land on Iwo Jima
20 1942 E. H. "Butch" O'Hare downs 5 Japanese aircraft, helping USS 'Lexington' (CV-2) beat off an air attack
1962 John Glenn becomes first American in orbit
21 1903 Cornerstone laid for Army War College (now NDU)
22 1821 Spain sells East Florida to United States
1909 Great White Fleet returns to Hampton Roads after world cruise
1915 Germany begins "restricted" submarine warfare
1935 Airplanes are prohibited from flying over White House
1942 FDR orders MacArthur to leave Philippines for Australia
1943 'Iowa' (BB-61) commissioned in Brooklyn
1944 US Eighth Air Force erroneously bombs Enschede, Arnhem, Nijmegen, Netherlands, kill about 800
1974 First woman naval aviator: Lt. j.g., Barbara Ann Allen
23 1778 Baron von Steuben joins Continental Army at Valley Forge
1795 USN Supply Corps founded as Office of Purveyor of Supplies
1836 Santa Anna lays siege to Alamo, stormed on March 6
1903 US leases Guantanamo Bay from Cuba for \$4,000 a year; Castro has refused to cash checks since 1959
1942 Japanese submarine 'I-17' shells Elwood, California.
1945 Iwo Jima: 28th Marines raise US flag on Mount Suribachi
1945 Operation Grenade: Gen Simpson's Ninth Army attacks Ruhr
1945 Liberation of captives in Japanese internment camp at Los Baños, Philippines
1946 Yamashita Tomoyuki, 60, Japanese general, "Tiger of Malaya", hanged by Allies
1979 Frank Peterson Jr. becomes first black Marine Corps general
24 1779 George Rogers Clark captures Vincennes from British
1917 Britain gives "Zimmermann Note" to US, revealing German efforts to get Mexico to invade southwest
1945 Manila liberated, after heavy fighting & serious civilian casualties
1968 US and Vietnamese troops complete liberation of Hue City
1991 Ground Phase of Operation Desert Storm begins, resulting in liberation of Kuwait from Iraqi occupation in 100 hours
25 1836 Samuel Colt patents a practical revolver
1945 First B-29 fire bomb raid on Tokyo, burns 10,000 acres
26 1775 Battle of Salem, Mass.: British expedition to seize colonists' arms is turned back, "Leslie's Retreat"
1848 Marx & Engels publish "The Communist Manifesto"
1863 Lincoln signs National Currency Act, establishing greenbacks
1940 US Air Defense Command established at Mitchell Field, LI, NY
1942 USN aviator Don Mason signals, "Sighted sub, sank same"
1944 First woman USN captain, Sue Dauser, Navy Nurse Corps
1949 USAF plane begins first nonstop around-the-world flight
1993 Islamist terrorists bomb World Trade Center, 7 die
2001 Taliban destroy Great Buddhas of Bamiyan, in Afghanistan
27 1704 Indian raid on Deerfield, Ma; 40 die, 100 captured
1991 Operation Desert Storm: ground operations end, Iraqis ousted from Kuwait
28 1893 USS 'Indiana' (BB-1) launched, first American 1st class battleship
29 1692 Salem witch trials begin
1704 Deerfield Massacre: French & Indian raid on Mass. town

leaves about 100 dead

- 1864 President Lincoln signs U.S. Grant's commission as first substantive lieutenant general in army since Washington

MARCH MILITARY HISTORY

- 1 1781 Continental Congress adopts "Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union."
1954 Bikini: US detonates 15 megaton hydrogen bomb
1954 Puerto Rican nationalists open fire in Congress, 5 wounded
1961 Peace Corps is established
2008 USS 'New York' (LPD-21), incorporating steel from World Trade Center, christened at New Orleans
2 1776 Americans begin shelling British troops in Boston
1807 Congress bans importation of slaves effective Jan 1, 1808
1836 Texas declares independence from Mexico
1859 Paddle steamer USS 'Saginaw' commissioned, first American warship built on West Coast, at Mare Island
1867 US Navy Civil Engineering Corps founded
1938 15th Infantry leaves China after 26 years in garrison at Tientsin & Peking.
1945 Philippines: Japanese resistance on Corregidor ends.
3 1776 US squadron under Commo Esek Hopkins attacks Nassau, Bahamas: First American overseas expedition
1813 Office of Surgeon General of US Army is established
1815 Second Barbary War: US declares war on Algiers for piratical acts, 3 years after Algerians declared war on US
1863 Congress passes "Enrollment Act," initiating federal conscription
1871 US Navy Medical Corps established
1899 George Dewey is promoted to Admiral of the Navy
1915 Congress authorizes a Chief of Naval Operations (CNO)
1915 Congress creates Naval Reserve
1931 Congress adopts "Star Spangled Banner" as national anthem
4 1789 U.S. Constitution goes into effect
1814 Battle of Longwood: Americans defeat British, near Wardsville, Ontario.
1861 CSA adopts "Stars & Bars" as national flag
1877 5-times wounded veteran Rutherford B Hayes inaugurated as president
1881 Former Maj Gen James A Garfield inaugurated as president
1889 Bvt Brig Gen. Benjamin Harrison inaugurated as 21st president
1897 Bvt Maj William McKinley inaugurated as 23rd president
1943 Battle of Bismarck Sea ends: Japanese lost 12 ships, thousands of men.
5 1770 The Boston Massacre
1821 Veteran James Monroe is inaugurated as 5th president
1945 US VII Corps captures Cologne (Köln)
1960 Elvis honorably discharged from US Army
6 1822 USS 'Enterprise' captures 4 pirate ships in Gulf of Mexico
1831 Edgar Allen Poe expelled from West Point
1836 Santa Anna's Mexicans storm Alamo, after 13 day siege
1944 USAF begins daylight bombing of Berlin
7 1774 British close port of Boston to all commerce
1876 Alexander Graham Bell is granted a patent for telephone
1942 First black cadets graduate from USAAF flying school at Tuskegee

- 1945 9th Arm Div captures Ludendorff Bridge over Rhine at Remagen
- 8 1945 1st African-American Navy Nurse commissioned: Ens. Phyllis Daley
- 1945 Luzon: Sixth Army offensive against Japanese Shimbu Line.
- 1950 First woman medical officer assigned to US naval vessel: B R Walters
- 1950 USSR announces development of atomic bomb
- 1958 'Wisconsin' (BB-64) decommissioned; for first time in 62 years, USN has no battleships in commission
- 1965 Vietnam: First US combat troops arrive (3,500 Marines)
- 9 1798 Dr George Balfour appointed first surgeon in USN
- 1847 Winfield Scott lands army at Veracruz, Mexico, and begins siege.
- 1862 Battle of Hampton Roads II: USS 'Monitor' fights CSS 'Virginia' to a draw, preserving blockade
- 1945 US B-29s bomb Tokyo, est. 80,000-120,000 die - highest toll in a single air raid, exceeding even atomic bombs
- 10 1942 NY's 27th Inf Div sails for Hawaii - first division to ship out in WW II.
- 11 1779 US Army Corps of Engineers established
- 1942 Bataan: MacArthur leaves for Mindanao on PT-Boat
- 1943 American Volunteer Group ("Flying Tigers") renamed Fourteenth Air Force
- 12 1912 Girl Scouts of America founded
- 1942 Burma: Joseph Stilwell assumes combined U.S./Chinese command.
- 1947 US announces "Truman Doctrine," to fight communism
- 13 1942 Julia Flikke, Nurse Corps, becomes first woman colonel in US Army
- 15 1493 Columbus returns to Spain from his first voyage
- 1781 Battle of Guilford Court House: British barely defeat Colonists and retire from Carolinas to Yorktown, Virginia
- 1916 Pershing begins 10-month pursuit of Pancho Villa in Mexico
- 1944 Abbey of Monte Cassino destroyed by Allied bombing
- 16 1882 US Senate ratifies treaty establishing International Red Cross
- 1945 Iwo Jima: organized Japanese resistance ends, mopping up continues.
- 1968 My Lai Massacre, perhaps 450 die
- 1985 AP correspondent Terry Anderson taken hostage in Beirut
- 17 1762 First St Patrick's Day parade in New York City
- 1776 British forces evacuate Boston; George Washington orders extra gill of whiskey to every Irish soldier in army
- 1966 US mini-sub locates missing H-bomb in Mediterranean off Palomares, Spain
- 18 1776 George Washington's army occupies Boston
- 1952 Communist offensive in Korea begins
- 1951 Herman Wouk's novel "Caine Mutiny" is published
- 1989 Maiden flight of Boeing V-22 Osprey VTOL aircraft
- 19 2003 Operation Iraqi Freedom begins (2003-2011)
- 20 1852 Harriet Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" published
- 1896 Marines land in Nicaragua to protect US citizens
- 1922 First US carrier commissioned: 'Langley' (CV-1)
- 1939 Naval Research Lab proposes development of nuke power
- 1942 Gen MacArthur vows "I shall return"
- 21 1866 Congress authorizes national soldiers' homes
- 1942 Jimmy Stewart enlists in USAAF
- 1946 Strategic Air Command is formed
- 1951 Julius & Ethel Rosenberg convicted of espionage
- 22 1622 1st Indian War: Powhatan attacks Jamestown, 347 die
- 1794 Congress prohibits export of slaves from United States.
- 1917 3rd Lt. Elmer F. Stone becomes USCG Aviator No. 1
- 1945 Patton's Third Army crosses Rhine
- 23 1775 Virginian Patrick Henry famously states "...give me liberty or give me death!"
- 1806 Lewis & Clark reach Pacific Coast
- 1882 USN establishes Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI)
- 1903 Wright Brothers receive patent for their airplane
- 1957 US army sells its last homing pigeons
- 1965 Gemini 3 launched, first US 2-man space flight (Grissom & Young)
- 2003 USMC Task Force Tarawa captures An Nasiriyah after hot fight
- 24 1898 Battleships 'Keasrage' (BB 5) & 'Kentucky' (BB 6) launched at Newport News
- 1919 New York's 27th Division returns from Great War, marches up Fifth Avenue
- 1920 1st USCG air station established, Morehead City, NC
- 1944 The Great Escape: 76 Allied officers flee Stalag Luft 3
- 1945 Operation Varsity: Allied airborne crossing of Rhine
- 1945 Gen. George S. Patton pisses in Rhine from pontoon bridge near Oppenheim, Germany
- 1986 US & Libya air-sea clash in Gulf of Sidra
- 1999 Kosovo Campaign begins
- 25 1655 Battle at Annapolis, Md: between Puritans & Royalists
- 1813 USS 'Essex' takes 'Neryeda', first USN victory in Pacific
- 1905 Most battle flags captured during Civil War returned to South
- 1915 1st USN submarine disaster: USS 'F-4' sinks off Hawaii, 21 die
- 1945 US First Army breaks out of Remagen bridgehead
- 26 1943 First woman awarded Air Medal: Army Nurse Elsie Ott
- 1945 Okinawa: Kamikaze attack US fleet
- 1951 USAF flag approved
- 27 1794 Congress approves construction of 6 frigates, including USS 'Constitution'
- 1814 Battle of Horseshoe Bend: Andrew Jackson defeats Creeks
- 1945 Wiesbaden falls to US XX Corps
- 29 1973 Last US troops leave Vietnam, 9 years after Tonkin Gulf
- 31 1854 Commo Perry forces Japan to open ports to foreign trade
- 1917 US gains possession of Virgin Islands from Denmark for \$25 million
- 1968 LBJ announces he will not seek re-election
- 1995 Somalia Campaign ends

FROM THE EDITOR

If you are interested in submitting articles, photos, updates on events, for inclusion in the newsletter, please send them to me at:

505 Piping Rock Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23322
757-482-4981 or majmule@verizon.net

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

The primary means for disseminating the newsletter will be via e-mail.

Semper fidelis,

- Chris Mulholland



4TH ANNUAL
BATAAN DEATH MARCH
MEMORIAL WALK



APRIL 18TH, 2015 | DISMAL SWAMP TRAIL, CHESAPEAKE

Take a part in a walking event commemorating the 73RD Anniversary of the Bataan Death March of World War II. Honor the 90,000 US and Filipino Servicemen who suffered and endured one of the most harrowing events in history.

The March is free & open to all. Families are invited, active duty military can come as a unit.

THREE WALK EVENTS:

16.6 mile walk | 06:00 start - walk to the NC border and back (0545 last check-in)

5 mile walk | 10:00 start (0945 last check-in)

1 mile family walk | 11:00 start (1045 last check-in)

Closing remarks honoring the veterans | 12:00

Participation is free, there will be an opportunity to donate to VFW Post 2894 for food and Tee Shirts after the event. Register on-line at Facebook @ Chesapeake Bataan Death March or walk.chesapeake@gmail.com



Become a Sponsor of the Chesapeake Bataan Death March

All donations will be graciously accepted and used for the Chesapeake Bataan Death March and in support of VFW Post 2894's ongoing mission to serve veterans. Become a **Medal Sponsor** for the 2015 event. Contact us at walk.Chesapeake@gmail.com, Chesapeake Bataan Death March on Facebook or call 757-675-7277. Pay on PayPal © or make checks payable to VFW Post 2894 – Bataan Death March, 1007 Cuervo Ct. Chesapeake Virginia 23322



Bronze Star Sponsor \$250

Name or Company logo on our tee shirt

Silver Star Sponsor \$500

Name or Company logo on our tee shirt and banners

Medal Of Honor Sponsor \$750

Large name or company logo on our tee shirt and banner and special recognition in media and in the closing ceremony

SSG JONATHAN KILIAN DOIZER POST 2894

MISSION

To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military, and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

VISION

Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

CORE VALUES

Always put the interests of our members first
Promote patriotism
Ensure the care of veterans and their families
Promote a positive image of the VFW

Treat donors as partners in our cause
Honor military service
Serve our communities
Respect the diversity of veteran opinions

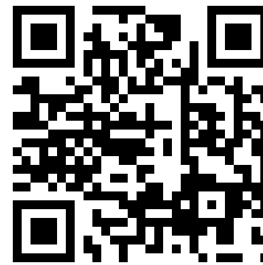


POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u>FEBRUARY</u>	
1	National Freedom Day
2	Groundhog Day
11	Post Meeting, 1900 (7 pm)
12	Lincoln's Birthday
14	Valentine's Day
16	Presidents' Day
18	Ash Wednesday
22	Washington's Birthday

<u>MARCH</u>	
1	Scout of the Year Nomination Due
8	Daylight savings begins ("spring ahead")
11	Post Meeting, 1900 (7 pm)
14	St. Patrick's Day Parade, Norfolk
17	St. Patrick's Day
20	First Day of Spring

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



VFW SSG Dozier Post 2894
Chesapeake, VA 23322

Place
Stamp
Here



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED