

## 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

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

### Post Address:

VFW Post 2894

PO Box 15842

Chesapeake, VA 23328

Email: [cdpost2894@va.vfwwebmail.com](mailto:cdpost2894@va.vfwwebmail.com)

### Web Site:

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

Visit us on FaceBook

## OFFICERS

|                           |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Commander.....            | Chris Mulholland |
| Sr. Vice Commander.....   | John Guill       |
| Jr. Vice Commander.....   | Mark Rios        |
| Adjutant.....             | Tom Benson       |
| Quartermaster.....        | Craig Devonshire |
| Chaplain.....             | Mark Junghans    |
| Surgeon.....              | Jose Vazquez     |
| Staff Judge Advocate..... | Matt Hamel       |
| Service Officer.....      | Gary Dunbar      |
| Officer of the Day.....   | Tom Black        |

## 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 SSG DOZIER MEMORIAL POST 2894

CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA

Chesapeake, Virginia 23322

NEWSLETTER – Vol. IV, Issue 3, June-July 2015

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings Comrades!

April was an incredibly busy month for our Post as we formed our first Ladies Auxiliary, held the largest awards ceremony this Post has ever hosted, and conducted the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk!

Our Ladies Auxiliary was instituted and installed on 8 April and Sandy Dunbar is the new President!

At our Annual Awards Ceremony, we recognized 10 individuals and handed out more than \$1560 in cash awards alone!

This year's edition of the "BDM" raised



more than \$5200 for the Post to use in our charitable activities during the coming year!

And we aren't slowing down either! In May we

held two Buddy Poppy Drives over Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day weekend as well as participating in the Memorial Day ceremonies in front of City Hall.

Thanks to EVERYONE who has been coming and helping out with our busy schedule of events.

We held elections in April for our officers for the coming Fraternal Year. We have some new members who will hold offices: Mark Rios, Jose Vazquez, Mark Junghans, and Tom Black. Thank you!

Our membership numbers for the year are in and we are standing at 109.52%! At the District 2 Convention we were given an "Honor Post" banner for



membership! Unfortunately, we missed All-State Post by missing one District meeting but we'll know better for the coming year!

Thanks again to all of you for your service to our country! Semper Fidelis,  
*Chris Mulholland, Commander*

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello to everyone.

The Ladies Auxiliary has been busy since we were Instituted and Installed on April 8th. We now have 17 members.

A lot of ladies helped at the "BDM" and Donna was able to help with the Buddy Poppy Drive on May 16th.



We will be at Wal-Mart May 23-24 for the Poppy Event. Please come out and help with this event.

Bea Oakley and I went to the District Meeting on May 16th in Norfolk and I was elected to be the 3rd Year Trustee.

Some of us are planning on attending the Department Convention June 11-14 in Williamsburg.

We have a lot to learn and by attending the different events our knowledge of the Auxiliary will grow.

And a BIG Thank You to the Post for the Start-Up check of \$750.00!

*Sandy Dunbar, President*

## NEW POST OFFICERS FOR 2015-'16 FRATERNAL YEAR

The Post elections were held in April and the new officers will be installed in a ceremony at the 10 June Post meeting. Here are your officers for next year:

- Commander – Chris Mulholland
- Senior Vice Commander – John Guill
- Junior Vice Commander – Mark Rios
- Quartermaster – Craig Devonshire
- Chaplain – Mark Junghans
- Judge Advocate – Matt Hamel
- Surgeon – Jose Vazquez
- 1<sup>st</sup> Year Trustee – Ray Brogan
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Trustee – Matt Schweers
- 3rd Year Trustee – Carl Dozier
- Adjutant (appointed) – Tom Benson
- Service Officer (appointed) – Gary Dunbar
- Officer of the Day (appointed) – Tom Black

## POST ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

Numerous dignitaries came to the Post 2894 Annual Awards Ceremony on 8 April 2015 to help the comrades recognize and award a number of citizens who contributed to the community during the previous year.

On hand were Mayor Alan Krasnoff of Chesapeake, City Council Member Roland Davis, Fire Chief Edmund Elliot, Deputy Police Chief Mark Solesky, Secondary Social Studies Supervisor Lychellia Cheeks, School Board Member Louis Tayon, several members of the Mayor's Commission on Veteran's Affairs, and many others.

The first awards presented in the evening were for the Voice of Democracy contest. The two runner-ups were Collin Horstmann, a senior at Great Bridge High School, and Adam Nowak, a junior at Grassfield HS and they each received an award certificate and a \$90 check. The winner was Elizabeth Acors, a junior at Grassfield and she received a certificate and \$180 check. She is the second winner in her family since her sister, Brittany, won the same award last year. Elizabeth's parents accepted her award for her since she was traveling with her school orchestra.



Adam Nowak receiving his runner-up VOD award

have veterans shaped our country into the beautiful land of the free and home of the brave, they also contribute positively to our nation's future...I am thankful for all the veterans who have served our country and I will continue to revere the many positive contributions veterans make to our society."

The next set of presentations was for the Scout of the Year award. This year's runner-up was Kailey Kilcrease, a Gold Award Girl Scout with Troop 641, who is also a Junior at Great Bridge HS. Kailey was

in Texas, visiting different colleges but she will sent a certificate, a check for \$100 and a VFW Citizenship Medal.

The winner was Hannah Wheaton, a Silver Award winner with Venture Crew 824, and a junior at Norfolk Academy. One of her



Hannah Wheaton receiving her award; behind her are her parents, Laurie and Jim.

teachers wrote, "Hannah does not expect recognition for her talents. Instead she uses her talents to benefit programs and people."

And retired Marine Corps Master Gunnery Sergeant wrote, "It is evident that she embodies all those qualities found on our scout oath and law. Hannah's desire to serve something greater than herself is awe-inspiring." Hannah was presented with a certificate, a check for \$200 and a VFW Citizenship Medal. Hannah was also selected as VFW District 2's Scout of the Year!

For the first time in recent history, Post 2894 had the opportunity to present a number of Public Servant awards, including Police Officer, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Firefighter of the Year awards.



From left to right: Chief Elliott, Captain George, Firefighter Paramedic George, and Commander Mulholland



From left to right: Chief Elliott, Firefighter Todd Russell with his wife and parents, and Commander Mulholland



Firefighter Paramedic Mandy George of the Chesapeake Fire Department (CFD) was recognized as Post 2894's EMT of the year. Mandy joined the CFD in 2011 after teaching English and writing for many years. She has a Masters in Professional Writing from Old Dominion University and is currently an adjunct instructor in English at Saint Leo University. Mandy is assigned to Station 3 where she was one of the first in Chesapeake to be certified as a paramedic by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. Her peers voted her as the Chesapeake's Emergency Medical Services Provider of the Year for 2014. She was awarded a certificate and a check for \$100 from Post 2894 and will be nominated for State and National recognition.



*From left to right: Deputy Chief Solesky, Officer Beaver, and Commander Mulholland*



*From left to right: Deputy Chief Solesky, Officer Branson and his daughter, and Commander Mulholland*

Our Firefighter of the Year is Firefighter Specialist Todd Russell of the CFD. Todd has been with the Department for 28 years. He served as the coordinator for the Critical Incident Stress Management Team where he has been on call 24/7 for the past 4 years. This team assists firefighters when they respond to especially difficult calls, like the death of a child. He also has been the main force behind the CFD's retirement committee and takes a personal interest in the ensuring the well-being and maintaining the interaction with retired firefighters. He was voted by his peers as Chesapeake's Firefighter of the Year 2014 and received a certificate and a \$100 check from Post 2894. His nomination for state and national awards will be sent up the chain later this year.

For the second year in a row, Post 2894 presented a Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award. This year's recipient was Field Training Officer Brandon Morse of the Chesapeake Police Department (CPD). Brandon is a "native son" of Chesapeake having lived here all his life and is a graduate of Hickory High School. He joined the Force in 2008 and currently conducts field training of new officers. Brandon is a member of the Underwater Search and Recovery Team

Department in 2009, Officer Beaver was "Sergeant Beaver, US Army Airborne" and spent 6 successful years as a Counter Intelligence Agent and Interrogator. She conducted over 100 jumps, and earned numerous awards and commendation medals while deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afghanistan and Iraq. Due to her outstanding performance, Selena has held several key assignments including as a Negotiator on the Crisis Negotiation Team. Most recently, she has been selected to the K-9 Unit – her newest partner is "Dex". She is a key volunteer with 'Law Enforcement United' which supports the

families of officers who have died in the line of duty. She was presented with two VFW awards this night;

1. A plaque from the VFW Department of Virginia "in grateful recognition of her unyielding adherence to the highest ideals of law enforcement in maintaining, preserving, and protecting the lawful rights of all citizens." The plaque was presented to Selena along with a \$300



*From left to right: Miss Cheeks, the Blackman family, and Commander Mulholland*

check as thanks for her continued professionalism.

2. Selena was also presented with a VFW National Law Enforcement Award "In recognition and sincere appreciation of her dedication and selfless sacrifice ... this honor reflects the proud ideals and high standards of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States." The award was signed by the National Commander-in-Chief and Adjutant General of the VFW.



*All the award winners of the VFW Post 2894 Awards Ceremony for 2014- '15*

The next award of the evening was for our Post Teacher of the Year winner. Since our selection back in December, Craig Blackman has also been selected as the District 2, Department of Virginia and the VFW National High School Teacher of the Year! A few weeks ago, he was honored by the Mayor and the City Council with a certificate of recognition. In July, Craig and his family will attend the VFW National Convention in Pittsburgh where he will receive his national award, a check for \$1000 for himself and another \$1000 check for Indian River High School. At our awards ceremony, Craig was presented with a certificate and a \$300 check.

The ceremony continued with several additional awards. Gary and Sandy Dunbar, Carl and Jean Dozier, and Matt and Grace Schweers were all presented with certificates thanking them for all their services to the Post. Gary and Sandy were noted for his extraordinary work as the Post Service Officer and her new appointment as the President of our new Ladies' Auxiliary. Carl and Jean were recognized for their continued support of the Post in every activity and function. Matt and Grace were thanked for their vision and hard-work in starting and running the annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walks.

Lastly, the Post presented a plaque to Mayor Alan Krasnoff "with deepest gratitude for your generosity and support" of Post 2894.

After the ceremonies were closed, all the participants and attendees retired to a social where they shared refreshments and personal thanks!

### **NEW LADIES' AUXILIARY! INSTITUTION AND INSTALLATION CEREMONY**

VFW Post 2894 proudly instituted its new Ladies Auxiliary on 8 April 2015 in a ceremony conducted by the Department President, Ellen Carleton. Also in attendance were Department Senior Vice President Georgette Dausey, Department Secretary Susie DeShano, Department Treasurer Betty Gimble, and Department Chief of Staff Kathy Birch.

After the new members of the Ladies Auxiliary members were sworn in, an election was held with Sandy Dunbar receiving a unanimous vote to be the first President of the Auxiliary. The following officers were then elected and installed:

- Senior Vice President – Jean Dozier
- Junior Vice President – Bea Oakley
- Secretary – Barbara Mulholland
- Treasurer – Donna Kust
- Chaplain – Janet Hostetler
- Conductress – Grace Schweers
- Guard – Becky Junghans
- Patriotic Instructor – Jennifer Rider

One of the highlights of the evening was the recognition of Mrs.



*The new officers (from left): Becky Junghans, Grace Schweers, Jean Dozier, Jennifer Rider, Barbara Mulholland, Sandy Dunbar, and Donna Kust (missing are Bea Oakley and Janet Hostetler)*

Bea Oakley as a charter member. Her husband, Harry, a WWII veteran, was an original member of Post 2894 when it started up in 1996.

Another charter member is Mrs. Junetta Brashear, the widow of Master Diver Carl Brashear, the Navy's first African American deep-sea diver.

The Ladies Auxiliary will meet on the same night as Post 2894, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7 pm in the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge, 110 Kempsville Road, Chesapeake.

The Post has committed to providing seed money to the Auxiliary and all the assistance they need.

If anyone is interested in joining the Auxiliary, please contact Sandy Dunbar via e-mail at [sandy\\_l\\_dunbar@yahoo.com](mailto:sandy_l_dunbar@yahoo.com).

The Ladies Auxiliary, founded in 1914 to help veterans and their families, is the backbone of VFW volunteer efforts. Promoting patriotism and helping veterans in need are just two of the many ways that the Auxiliary serves America's communities. The Ladies Auxiliary also has its own volunteer programs at VA, State, and Community Hospitals.

For as long as men have been going into battle, women have been nursing sick and wounded warriors back to health. Until recently, this was a necessity because governments did not provide adequate medical facilities for their servicemen. In fact, medical care was often so abysmal that more men died of disease and food poisoning than of wounds.

Today, the Ladies Auxiliary is involved in a kaleidoscopic range of activities. While continuing to support the VFW and its causes, the Ladies Auxiliary has developed a social conscience of its own. With the paramount goal of helping families in distress, its members perform community service, fund cancer research, fight drug abuse and illiteracy, advocate for the rights of the elderly, and support the VFW National Home, Special Olympics, and other worthy causes.

Membership includes not only wives of VFW members, but also their mothers, widows, sisters, half-sisters, daughters, grandmothers, and granddaughters. Foster mothers and foster daughters are also eligible, provided their relationship with the VFW member predates their military service.

Congratulations!

### **4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK – SUCCESS!!!**

We had a great turnout at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk at the Dismal Swamp Park! Grace and Matt Schweers did another awesome job in organizing and running this tremendous event! They had a lot of help this year from Jose Vazquez, Carl Dozier, and Mark Junghans.

Sadly, 2 days before our event, Command Master Sergeant Alcide "Bull" Sylvio Benini, US Air Force (retired) passed away at the age of

93. Bull's final resting place will be Arlington National Cemetery. Alcide was born 15 October, 1921, in Cologne, Italy. With his mom Elvira (Zanoni), sister Ancilla, and brother Adriano, he boarded the Conte Grande ship and immigrated to the United States entering through Ellis Island in February 1930, to join his father Luigi Benini who was working in the coalmines of Pennsylvania.

Alcide joined the Army 6 May, 1940, arrived in the Philippines Jun, 1940, and was captured 7 April, 1942. He survived the Bataan Death March, Japanese Death Ships, and the Japanese POW





camps, serving three years and four months, until the end of World War II. He returned to the US 15 October 1945. After his release he served with the 82nd Airborne Division Pathfinder platoon. During his assignment to the Pathfinder Platoon, Benini was a fully trained Master Parachutist. In January, 1953 he left the Army and enlisted in the United States Air Force to establish the Air Force Pathfinders, later renamed Combat Controllers.

Bull, you will be missed.

It was a beautiful day and everyone had a GREAT TIME! We had a lot of help with the event from the USS Bataan (LHD-5) as



well as crewmembers from the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69). Virginia Patriot Guard came out in full force again this year, providing an impressive escort of roaring motorcycles for the appearance of our guest of honor, Master Sergeant John L. Mims, US Army retired. Additionally, the Chesapeake Sheriff's Department, Fire Department and Police Department were a great help in this event by managing the traffic and helping with any medical issues which came up. We also



had a number of young Marines from Security Group Northwest who cheerfully helped out in every way they could.

US Representative Randy Forbes, State Senator John Cosgrove, and Mayor Alan Krasnoff made some very touching remarks and an outstanding rendition of taps was played by a bugler from Langley Air Force Base.

Although the event was free to all the participants, we sold t-shirts, patches, and pins and our hot dog stand was working fulltime with some great volunteers. The bottom line, however, was a great one! **The Post made over \$5200 after costs!** THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO CAME OUT AND HELPED!!!! These funds will go a long way in helping us with our charitable activities in the coming year.

There are too many great pictures to publish all of them here but you can view them in an album on the Post Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10155432514540285.1073741832.257157270284&type=1>

You can find additional information on Facebook (Chesapeake Bataan Death March) or the website (<http://walkchesapeake.wix.com/chesapeakebataan>).

## POPPY DRIVE ON ARMED FORCES DAY

The Post ran a one day Poppy Drive on Armed Forces Day, Saturday, 16 May, in front of the Grassfield Walmart. We collected \$528 in donations and recruited at least one new member! The results of the Memorial Day poppy drive were not in yet at the time of printing.

VFW Buddy Poppies are assembled by disabled, needy, and aging veterans in VA Hospitals and domiciliaries across the country. The proceeds derived from each sale conducted by VFW Posts and Ladies Auxiliaries are retained locally to provide for veteran services and welfare. The minimal cost of Buddy Poppies to VFW units



provides compensation to the veterans who assembled the poppies, provides financial assistance in maintaining state and national veterans' rehabilitation and service programs, and partially supports the VFW National Home for orphans and widows of our nation's veterans. All the money contributed by the public for Buddy Poppies is used in the cause of veterans' welfare, or for the well-being of their needy dependents and the orphans of veterans.

We will be holding another Buddy Poppy drive on Flag Day, June 14<sup>th</sup>. More information will be sent later.

## WWI History, 100 Years Ago Today...

**June 12, 1915** - After pausing to regroup, Austro-German troops resume their offensive in Galicia on the Eastern Front. Within five days, they break through the Russian lines and push the Russian 3rd and 8th Armies further eastward. Russian casualties soon surpass 400,000.

**June 16, 1915** - The French 10th Army launches its second attempt to seize Vimy Ridge from the Germans in the Artois. This time the troops encounter an intensive artillery bombardment from the improved defenses of the German 6th Army. The French achieve their initial objective, but then succumb to a German counter-attack, just as they did in the first attempt at Vimy. The French call off the Vimy offensive with 100,000 casualties. The Germans suffer 60,000.

**NOTE:** Commander Chris Mulholland's grand-uncle, "Pionier" Friedrich Wilhelm Frese was killed on 17 June 1915 while pushing French forces out of the village of Givenchy. Just a few miles away, and several weeks later (6 July 1915), Friedrich's older brother, Wilhelm Friedrich Frese, Cdr Mulholland's grandfather, was wounded when the bunker he was in collapsed during a massive bombardment. He would remain in a coma for more than a month and in a hospital for more than a year before he was released from the Kaiser's service. He finished up seminary school and served as a Lutheran pastor until his death in 1960. In 1918 he married the nurse who gave him a drink of water on the train back to Belgium when he briefly came to during his coma.

**June 23, 1915** - The First Battle of Isonzo begins as Italian troops attack Austrian defenses. Initial gains by the Italians are soon repulsed by the Austrians with heavy casualties for both sides. Three additional battles are fought through the end of 1915 with similar results, totaling 230,000 casualties for the Italians and 165,000 for the Austrians.

**July 1, 1915** - Russia creates a Central War Industries Committee to oversee production and address a severe shortage of artillery shells and rifles on the Front. Russian soldiers in the field without rifles can only get them from fellow soldiers after they are killed or wounded.

**July 9, 1915** - In Africa, the German Southwest Africa colony (present day Namibia) is taken by the Allies following 11 months of fighting between the Germans and South African and Rhodesian troops loyal to the British.

**July 13, 1915** - On the Eastern Front, the next phase of the combined Austro-German offensive against the Russians begins in northern Poland, with the Austro-Germans advancing toward Warsaw. The Russian Army now gets weaker by the day due to chronic supply shortages and declining morale. Once again, the Russians retreat, and also order a total civilian evacuation of Poland. This results in great hardship for the people as they leave their homes and head eastward, clogging the roads and hampering the movement of Russian troops.

**May 31, 1915** - The first aerial bombing of London occurs as German Zeppelins kill 28 persons.

## 1LT RICHARD THOMAS SHEA, US ARMY, MEDAL OF HONOR

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1953, a young man from Norfolk County (now Chesapeake) was killed in Korea after 18 hours of heavy fighting on Pork Chop Hill. For his leadership and bravery he was posthumously presented with our nation's highest award for valor, the Medal of Honor.

Richard "Dick" Thomas Shea graduated from Churchland High School. From his early childhood days on a small Virginia farm, Dick's loving parents trained him to lead the honest, Christian life.



He then attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute (now known as Virginia Tech) during the height of World War II, but left early to join the US Army in 1944. He served in the US Constabulary in post-war Europe, rising to the rank of staff Sergeant.

He competed and won at the "G. I. Olympics" in Berlin and his outstanding competitive and soldierly qualities helped earn for him an appointment to West Point. After one year at USMA prep

school, he entered West Point in 1948.

Shea was an All-American in track and was said to have been the greatest track star to attend West Point. He was even offered the opportunity to represent the US in the Olympics. Dick captured Heptagonal and IC4A individual cross country titles in three successive years (1949-51), helping Army to three straight team "Heps" titles during that time. The top performer on Army's dominant cross country team, Shea led the Black Knights to a 19-2 record during his West Point career, a mark that included three straight "shutouts" of arch-rival Navy. He set seven Academy records in indoor and outdoor track and field and established a meet record in the two-mile run at the prestigious Penn Relays in 1951. Shea repeated as the two-mile champ at both the Penn Relays and Heptagonal Championships in 1951 and 1952. His standards in the indoor mile run (4:10) and two-mile run (9:05.8) remained on Army's record books for more than a decade. Since 1952, only eight Army runners have achieved a better time in the mile, either indoors or outdoors. Today, Army's outdoor track and field complex, Shea Stadium, bears his name.

Turning down the opportunity to attend the Olympic Games, after graduating in 1952, he joined his classmates in the Korean War.

Before he left, and after many long years of waiting, he married his love, Joyce Riemann, of Oradell, New Jersey. After a few short months of intense training and happy married life, Dick, along with some of his classmates, left for Korea.

Shea was assigned as a platoon leader with "A" Company, 17<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and was eventually promoted to First Lieutenant. On 6 July 1953, they held positions on Pork Chop Hill, Sokkogae, Korea when they were attacked by thousands of Chinese. By the following day, Dick was the acting company commander and refused to withdraw despite facing hopeless odds and fighting on a position that was slowly being overrun. Fighting outnumbered, he voluntarily proceeded to the area most threatened, organizing and leading a counterattack. In the ensuing bitter fighting,

he killed two of the enemy with his trench knife. In over 18 hours of heavy fighting, he moved among the defenders of Pork Chop Hill organizing a successful defense. Leading a counterattack, he killed three enemy soldiers single-handedly.

Although seriously wounded in the body and neck, Dick refused evacuation five times; instead, he re-organized and led remaining units upon the hill. He was last seen alive fighting hand-to-hand while leading another desperate counterattack.

Against overwhelming odds and with a heart that knew only, "do or die", Dick with fifty remaining soldiers, died fighting for "Pork Chop" Hill. During the furious fighting, many of the wounded men who passed through the aid stations were heard praising the courage and strength of Dick Shea. Many of these eye witnesses returned to "Pork Chop" and to their deaths in those last bitter hours of fighting. Dick's company suffered such heavy casualties, particularly in Dick's platoon, that the complete story of heroism above and beyond the call of duty required more than a year to be pieced together.

Of the thirteen US company commanders on that hill, four were killed. The total of US casualties were 243 killed, 916 wounded, and nine captured. 163 of the dead were never recovered. Of the Korean troops attached to the 7th, approximately 15 were killed and 120 wounded. Chinese casualties were estimated at 1,500 dead and 4,000 wounded.

Less than three weeks after the Battle of Pork Chop Hill, the Korean Armistice Agreement was signed, ending the hostilities.

Dick left behind both a wife and an unborn son. His Medal of Honor was presented to his widow at the parade grounds of Fort Myer, Virginia by Secretary of the Army Robert T. Stevens on May 16, 1955. He is buried at Olive Branch Cemetery in Portsmouth, Virginia, in Section K, Lot 69A, Grave 3.

### Medal of Honor citation:

"1st Lt. Shea, executive officer, Company A, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and indomitable courage above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy. On the night of 6 July, he was supervising the reinforcement of defensive positions when the enemy attacked with great numerical superiority. Voluntarily proceeding to the area most threatened, he organized and led a counterattack and, in the bitter fighting which ensued, closed with and killed 2 hostile soldiers with his trench knife. Calmly moving among the men, checking positions, steadying and urging the troops to hold firm, he fought side by side with them throughout the night. Despite heavy losses, the hostile force pressed the assault with determination, and at dawn made an all-out attempt to overrun friendly elements. Charging forward to meet the challenge, 1st Lt. Shea and his gallant men drove back the hostile troops. Elements of Company G joined the defense on the afternoon of 7 July, having lost key personnel through casualties. Immediately integrating these troops into his unit, 1st Lt.





Shea rallied a group of 20 men and again charged the enemy. Although wounded in this action, he refused evacuation and continued to lead the counterattack. When the assaulting element was pinned down by heavy machine gun fire, he personally rushed the emplacement and, firing his carbine and lobbing grenades with deadly accuracy, neutralized the weapon and killed 3 of the enemy. With forceful leadership and by his heroic example, 1st Lt. Shea coordinated and directed a holding action throughout the night and the following morning. On 8 July, the enemy attacked again. Despite additional wounds, he launched a determined counterattack and was last seen in close hand-to-hand combat with the enemy. 1st Lt. Shea's inspirational leadership and unflinching courage set an illustrious example of valor to the men of his regiment, reflecting lasting glory upon himself and upholding the noble traditions of the military service."



Article is a compilation of information from:

1. Wikipedia [[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard\\_Thomas\\_Shea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Thomas_Shea)]
2. Congressional Medal of Honor Society [[www.cmohs.org/recipient-detail/3187/shearichard-t-jr](http://www.cmohs.org/recipient-detail/3187/shearichard-t-jr)]
3. West Point Memorials, "Cullum No. 18774 • Jul 08, 1953" [<http://apps.westpointaog.org/Memorials/Article/18774>]
4. Find-A-Grave [[www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=7857897](http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=7857897)]

## ✚ JUNE SAFETY CORNER ✚ Be VFW Ready for This Hurricane Season

### Hurricane season runs from 1 June to 30 November.

Experience teaches that a lack of hurricane awareness and preparation are common threads among all major hurricane disasters. By knowing your vulnerability and what actions you should take, you can reduce the effects of a hurricane disaster.

Hurricane hazards come in many forms, including storm surge, heavy rainfall, inland flooding, high winds, tornadoes, and rip currents. The National Weather Service is responsible for protecting life and property through issuance of timely watches and warnings, but it is essential that your family be ready before a storm approaches. Furthermore, boaters should be aware of special safety precautions when confronted with a hurricane.

**Learn the terms - Familiarize yourself with these terms to help identify a hurricane hazard:**

- **Tropical Depression:** An organized system of clouds and thunderstorms with a defined surface circulation and maximum sustained winds of 38 MPH (33 knots) or less. Sustained winds are defined as one-minute average wind measured at about 33 ft (10 meters) above the surface.
- **Tropical Storm:** An organized system of strong thunderstorms with a defined surface circulation and maximum sustained winds of 39-73 MPH (34-63 knots).
- **Hurricane:** An intense tropical weather system of strong thunderstorms with a well defined surface circulation and maximum sustained winds of 74 MPH (64 knots) or higher.
- **Storm Surge:** A dome of water pushed onshore by hurricane and tropical storm winds. Storm surges can reach 25 feet high and be 50-100 miles wide.
- **Storm Tide:** A combination of storm surge and the normal tide (i.e., a 15-foot storm surge combined with a 2-foot normal high tide over the mean sea level creates a 17-foot storm tide).

- **Hurricane/Tropical Storm Watch:** Hurricane/tropical storm conditions are possible in the specified area. Usually within 36 hours. Download your local emergency management app, or tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for information.
- **Hurricane/Tropical Storm Warning:** Hurricane/tropical storm conditions are expected in the specified area, usually within 24 hours.
- **Short Term Watches and Warnings:** These warnings provide detailed information about specific hurricane threats, such as flash floods and tornadoes.

### **Before the Tropical Storm or Hurricane**

**To prepare for a hurricane, you should take the following measures:**

- Check with your insurance agent to make sure you have enough insurance, especially Flood Insurance.
- Know whether or not you will need to evacuate or stay. This will depend on whether or not you live in a flood plain or not. If you are not sure whether or not you live in a flood plain, contact your insurance agent or your local emergency management office, or your local National Weather Service Warning Forecast Office.
- Develop an emergency plan. Include the community warning systems and evacuation routes. Make sure to include required information from community and school plans. Discuss and practice your plan with your family. Last of all don't forget to update your plan an annual bases.
- Collect and assemble disaster supplies kit. Kit should contain enough supplies for a 3-5 day period. Don't forget baby supplies, and pet supplies if necessary. Make sure you develop a To Go Bag in the event you are order to evacuate.
- Conduct a home inventory and photograph high dollar items. Place inventory on a CD and provide a copy of CD to a family member or friend who lives outside your area. This will come in handy should you need to submit a claim.
- Make plans to secure your property. Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection for windows. A second option is to board up windows with 5/8" marine plywood, cut to fit and ready to install.

Tape does not prevent windows from breaking.

- Install straps or additional clips to securely fasten your roof to the frame structure. This will reduce roof damage.
- Be sure trees and shrubs around your home are well trimmed.
- Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- Determine how and where to secure your boat.
- Consider building a safe room.

### **During a Hurricane**

**If a hurricane is likely in your area, you**

**should:**

- Listen to the radio or TV for information.
- Secure your home, close storm shutters, and secure outdoor objects or bring them indoors.
- Turn off utilities if instructed to do so. Otherwise, turn the refrigerator thermostat to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Avoid using the phone, except for serious emergencies.
- Moor your boat if time permits.
- Ensure a supply of water for sanitary purposes such as cleaning and flushing toilets. Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water.

**You should evacuate under the following conditions:**

- If you are directed by local authorities to do so. Be sure to follow their instructions.
- If you live in a mobile home or temporary structure—such shelters are particularly hazardous during hurricanes no matter how well fastened to the ground.



- If you live in a high-rise building—hurricane winds are stronger at higher elevations.
- If you live on the coast, on a flood plain, near a river, or on an inland waterway.
- If you feel you are in danger.

**If you are unable to evacuate, go to your wind-safe room. If you do not have one, follow these guidelines:**

- Stay indoors during the hurricane and away from windows and glass doors.
- Close all interior doors—secure and brace external doors.
- Keep curtains and blinds closed. Do not be fooled if there is a lull; it could be the eye of the storm—winds will pick up again.
- Take refuge in a small interior room, closet, or hallway on the lowest level.
- Lie on the floor under a table or another sturdy object.

**Download the Online Tropical Cyclone Preparedness Guide (PDF)** located at

[www.nws.noaa.gov/os/hurricane/resources/TropicalCyclones11.pdf](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/hurricane/resources/TropicalCyclones11.pdf)

Remember, this is only a guide. The first and most important thing anyone should do when facing a hurricane threat is to use common sense.

**National Hurricane Preparedness Week 2015 runs from May 24th through May 30th.** <<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/>>

**Commonwealth of Virginia Hurricane and Emergency Preparedness Equipment Sales Tax Holiday is May 25-31, 2015 and August 7-9, 2015. In subsequent years, this sales tax holiday will be held only in August.** For a list of qualifying items logon at: [www.tax.virginia.gov/sites/tax.virginia.gov/files/media/documents/2014%20qualifying%20items.pdf](http://www.tax.virginia.gov/sites/tax.virginia.gov/files/media/documents/2014%20qualifying%20items.pdf)

## ✚ JULY SAFETY CORNER ✚ Lightning and Rip Tides

### Be VFW Ready for Lightning and Stay Safe This Summer

#### Lightning: What You Need to Know

- **NO PLACE** outside is safe when thunderstorms are in the area!!
- If you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike you.
- When you hear thunder, *immediately* move to safe shelter: a substantial building with electricity or plumbing or an enclosed, metal-topped vehicle with windows up.
- Stay in safe shelter at least 30 minutes after you hear the last sound of thunder.

#### Indoor Lightning Safety

- Stay off corded phones, computers and other electrical equipment that put you in direct contact with electricity.
- Avoid plumbing, including sinks, baths and faucets.
- Stay away from windows and doors, and stay off porches.
- Do not lie on concrete floors, and do not lean against concrete walls.

#### Last Resort Outdoor Risk

##### Reduction Tips

If you are caught outside *with no safe shelter anywhere nearby* the following actions *may* reduce your risk:

- Immediately get off elevated areas such as hills, mountain ridges or peaks
- Never lie flat on the ground
- Never shelter under an isolated tree
- Never use a cliff or rocky overhang for shelter



- Immediately get out and away from ponds, lakes and other bodies of water
- Stay away from objects that conduct electricity (barbed wire fences, power lines, windmills, etc.)

**NWS Thunderstorm, Tornadoes, Lightning Preparedness Booklet**

<http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/resources/ttl6-10.pdf>

**NOAA's Lightning Safety Brochure**

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/lightning/resources/lightning-safety.pdf>

**NWS lightning links, forecasts, assessments:**

<http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov>

**Lightning Myths and Facts**

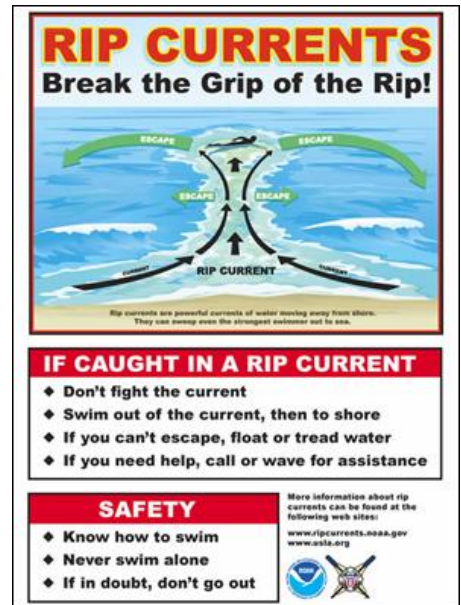
<http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/myths.shtml>

### Be VFW Ready for Rip Currents and “Break the Grip of the Rip!”

#### How to Avoid Getting Caught in a Rip Current

- Check water conditions before going in by looking at the local beach forecast before you leave for the beach and talking to the lifeguard at the beach.
- Only swim at a beach with lifeguards. The chances of drowning at a beach with lifeguards are 1 in 18 million (U.S. Lifesaving Association).
- Don't assume! Great weather for the beach does not always mean it's safe to swim or even play in the shallows. Rip currents often form on calm, sunny days.
- Learn how to spot a rip current. The Break the Grip of the Rip free online training will help you learn how to spot a rip current.
- Rip currents aren't the only deadly beach hazard. Learn more about dangerous waves and other hazards and why never to turn your back on the ocean.

**Beach Hazards and Safety:** A trip to the beach should be fun. Unfortunately, far too many people are injured or killed along our nation's beaches by hazards such as dangerous currents, heat and lightning. The National Weather Service can help ensure you leave the beach with good memories. NWS provides you the information you need to stay safe on beaches and in coastal areas and surf zones in consolidated products and services. A **surf zone** is defined as the area of water between the beach/shore and the first line of breaking waves. **Discover more online at:** NOAA's National Weather Service Rip Current Resources: <http://www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov/index.shtml>



### POST COMMITTEES – YOU CAN HELP!

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



- **Budget Committee:** Chair – Carl Dozier, Chris Mulholland. Looking for additional volunteers.
- **Awards Committee:** Jose Vazquez, Matt Schweers, Mark Junghans, and Chris Mulholland
- **Membership Committee:** John Guill, Mark Rios, Gary Dunbar, and Chris Mulholland
- **Building Committee:** Carl Dozier and Gary Dunbar

**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](mailto:help@vfnationalhome.org)

**QUARTERMASTER DESK**

**Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$30 – if you go through the QM. The cost is \$40 if you go through the National website!**



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.

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

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

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

**JUNE MILITARY HISTORY**

- 1774 British close Port of Boston in punishment for "Tea Party"
- 1862 Battle of Seven Pines: Confederate Gen. Joe Johnston is wounded, and relinquishes command to Robert E. Lee
- 1864 Battle of Cold Harbor, Day 1
- 1866 Fenians attack Fort Erie, Ontario, from US soil
- 1871 US Sailors & Marines land in Korea, to protect U.S. citizens

- 1877 US troops authorized to pursue bandits & Indians into Mexico
- 1914 SecNav Josephus Daniels' G.O. 99 bars alcohol in the fleet
- 1939 Director of Naval Research Laboratory, proposes research in atomic energy for use in submarines
- 1944 Allied forces begin covering much of Britain with smoke screens, as troops crowd assembly areas for D-Day
- 2 Feast of St. Elmo, Patron of Sailors
- 1774 Parliament passes Quartering Act, billeting troops in private homes
- 1784 Congress disbands last elements of Continental Army, save for 100 troops guarding supplies at West Point and Ft. Pitt
- 1865 Confederate Trans-Mississippi Department surrenders to Union
- 1914 Glenn Curtiss flies his 'Langley Aerodrome'
- 3 1784 Congress creates US Army, forming 1st American Regt (now 3rd Infantry) on cadre of 100 troops left over from Continental Army
- 1916 Congress establishes ROTC
- 1959 First US Air Force Academy graduation
- 1965 First American "space walk", Maj. Edward White, Gemini 4
- 4 1789 Constitution of the United States goes into effect
- 1918 US & French halt Germans at Chateau-Thierry
- 1942 Battle of Midway: Japanese lose four CVs, USS Yorktown badly damaged
- 1944 Allied forces liberate Rome
- 5 1917 US begins draft registration: 10 million eventually sign up
- 1944 First B-29 raid over Tokyo; one lost to engine failure
- 1947 SecState George C Marshall outlines the "Marshall Plan"
- 1967 Six Day War begins between Israel & its Arab neighbors
- 6 1898 Marines land at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
- 1898 Action at Santiago, Cuba: US ships exchange fire with Spanish batteries
- 1918 US Marines secure Belleau Wood
- 1944 D-Day - [www.strategypage.com/cic/docs/cic174b.asp#three](http://www.strategypage.com/cic/docs/cic174b.asp#three)
- 1944 Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., earns Medal of Honor on Utah Beach
- 1945 Okinawa: Marines capture Naha airfield
- 7 1775 The "United Colonies" change their name to the "United States"
- 1912 US Army Air Service tests airplane-mounted machine gun
- 1917 Liverpool: first American troops reach Europe
- 1942 Aleutians Campaign: Japanese troops land on Attu.
- 1942 Midway Campaign: the 'Yorktown' (CV-5) sunk
- 8 1965 US troops ordered to fight offensively in Vietnam
- 1967 Israeli air and naval forces attack USS 'Liberty' (AGTR-5), 34 Americans die
- 9 1863 Battle of Brandy Station; largest cavalry fight of the Civil War
- 1944 Normandy: U.S. VII & V Corps link up to form continuous beachhead
- 1945 Luzon: Sixth Army manages to isolate Japanese forces.
- 1945 Premier Kantaro Suzuki declares Japan will never surrender
- 1959 The first ballistic missile sub is launched, USS 'George Washington' (SSBN-598)
- 10 1776 Congress appoints a committee to write a Declaration of Independence
- 1801 Tripoli declares war on the US, for refusing to pay protection, initiating the First Barbary War (1801-1805)
- 12 1987 Ronald Reagan says, "Mr. Gorbachov, tear down this wall."
- 1999 NATO peacekeeping forces begin operating in Kosovo, Yugoslavia

- 13** 1900 Boxer Rebellion begins in China  
1912 First successful parachute jump from an airplane, Capt Albert Berry, Jefferson, Ms
- 14** 1775 US Army is formed from New England forces before Boston  
1777 Congress replaces "Grand Union Flag" with "Stars & Stripes"  
1777 John Paul Jones takes command of USS 'Ranger'  
1942 The bazooka goes into production at Bridgeport, Ct  
1949 State of Vietnam is formed within 'French Union' under Emperor Bao Dai  
1982 Falklands: Argentines surrender to Britain; 74-day war ends  
1985 Lebanese Shiite gunmen hijack TWA 847 after takeoff from Athens
- 15** 1776 Americans burn and abandon Montreal  
1864 Battle of Petersburg: Grant's first assault  
1864 Robert E Lee's home, Arlington, becomes military cemetery  
1877 Henry O Flipper becomes first black cadet to graduate from West Point  
1944 US Marines land on Saipan  
1955 First nationwide civil defense drill - "Duck and Cover!"  
1991 Mt Pinatubo in Philippines erupts, closes Clark Air Force Base
- 16** 1858 Lincoln says "A house divided against itself cannot stand"  
1864 Siege of Petersburg & Richmond begins
- 17** 1745 American colonials capture Louisburg, Cape Breton I, from French  
1775 Battle of Bunker Hill  
1777 19 year old Marquis de La Fayette (Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier) & several other French volunteers for American Revolution land at Charleston  
1898 Navy Hospital Corps ("Corpsmen") is established  
1916 Pershing leads Punitive Expedition into Mexico in unsuccessful attempt to kill Pancho Villa  
1945 Final Japanese defensive line on Okinawa breached  
1965 Vietnam: First B-52 raid, 50 km north of Saigon
- 18** 1778 British evacuate Philadelphia  
1812 US declares war against Britain  
1878 Congress creates US Life Saving Service
- 19** 1778 Washington's troops leave Valley Forge  
1878 Congress passes Posse Comitatus Act, to prevent military from enforcing civil rights laws  
1944 "Marianas Turkey Shoot" - Battle of Philippine Sea: in 2 days Japanese lose 3 CVs, 426 a/c, US c. 70 a/c.  
1967 Muhammad Ali is convicted of refusing induction into Army
- 20** 1675 Wampanoag Indians raid Swansea, Mass., initiating "King Philip's War" (1675-1676)  
1782 Congress adopts Great Seal of the United States  
1813 War of 1812: U.S. gunboats engage three British ships at Hampton Roads, Va  
1867 US buys Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million  
1941 U.S. Army Air Corps is reorganized as Army Air Forces  
1947 Cold War: Congress charters CIA  
1963 Cold War: Washington-Moscow "hot line" established
- 21** 1948 Berlin Airlift begins
- 22** 1938 Joe "the Brown Bomber" Louis KO's Max "Hitler's Heavyweight" Schmeling at 2:04 into their rematch, in Yankee Stadium  
1942 US introduces "V-Mail" for military personnel  
1944 FDR signs "Servicemen's Readjustment Act", betterknown as "the GI Bill of Rights" --  
<http://www.strategypage.com/cic/docs/cic310b.asp#two>  
1945 Okinawa secured: 110,000 Japanese troops, 100,000 civilians, 17,520 US troops died
- 23** 1938 Congress establishes U.S. Maritime Service
- 25** 1864 Petersburg: Union troops begin tunnel under Confederate lines  
1876 Battle of Little Big Horn: Crazy Horse does in Custer  
1918 4th Marine Brigade secured Belleau Wood, Chateau-Thierry, France  
1942 Eisenhower takes command of US forces in Europe  
1950 North Korea invades South Korea. claiming "self-defense"  
1996 Dhahran, Saudi Arabia: Islamists bomb Khobar Towers, 19 Americans die, c. 500 Saudis & Americans injured
- 26** 1917 First American combat troops arrive in France  
1924 Marines leave Dominican Republic after 8 years of occupation  
1963 Berlin: Kennedy's "Ich bin ein Berliner" is wildly applauded
- 27** 1927 USMC adopts "Sgt Jiggs," an English bulldog, as its mascot  
1950 US sends 35 military advisers to South Vietnam
- 28** 1948 Berlin Airlift begins  
1965 President Johnson orders US ground forces to Vietnam
- 29** 1863 Lee orders his forces to concentrate near Gettysburg  
1945 Operation Olympic: Truman sets invasion of Japan for Nov 1st

## JULY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day1: Lee wins, but Union troops fall back on strong position  
1864 Battle of Petersburg (to July 31)  
1867 Dominion of Canada is formed  
1870 James W Smith becomes first black man to enter West Point  
1918 Marines secure Belleau Wood  
1950 First US ground troops arrive in Korea
- 2** 1776 Continental Congress declares Thirteen Colonies independent  
1777 Vermont abolishes slavery, first "state" to do so  
1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 2: A draw  
1903 US leases Guantanamo Bay from Cuba for \$2,000 a year  
1926 Congress authorizes Distinguished Flying Cross  
1942 JCS authorize "Operation Watchtower," seizure of Guadalcanal  
1957 'Seawolf' (SSN 575) completed, first sub with liquid metal cooled reactor
- 3** 1754 Col. George Washington (22) surrenders Ft. Necessity to French  
1775 Gen. George Washington (43) assumes command of Patriot forces investing Boston  
1863 Battle Gettysburg, Day 3: "Pickett's Charge" is shattered  
1950 First US-North Korean clash: TF Smith is overrun  
1988 USS 'Vincennes' (CG-49) accidentally shoots down Iranian airliner, 290 die
- 4** 1776 Independence Day: Two days after voting for independence, Continental Congress adopts "Declaration of Independence"  
1777 John Paul Jones hoists Stars and Stripes on Ranger, Portsmouth, NH  
1801 1st Presidential Review of Marine Band and Marines, at White House.  
1802 US Military Academy opens at West Point  
1818 Congress rules that flag shall have 13 stripes, and 1 star for each state  
1832 Samuel Francis Smith's "America" is sung in public for first time  
1863 Vicksburg surrenders to U.S. Grant  
1942 First American bombing mission over Nazi-occupied Europe  
1942 Te American Volunteer Group ("Flying Tigers") becomes 14th



- AF
- 1950 Carriers USS 'Valley Forge' (CV-45) & HMS 'Triumph' make first UN air strikes of Korean War
- 5** 1814 Battle of Chippewa: "Those are regulars, by God!"
- 1814 US Sloop-of-War 'Peacock' captures four British ships
- 1861 Skirmish at Newport News: US retakes Gosport Naval Base
- 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 5: Lee retreats
- 6** 1777 Burgoyne's British & Hessians capture Fort Ticonderoga
- 1785 Congress introduces the dollar
- 1911 First naval air station established, Annapolis, MD.
- 1976 Women are admitted to US Naval Academy for first time
- 7** 1846 Commo John D. Sloat takes Monterey, claims California for US
- 1920 USN aircraft tests "radio compass", Norfolk, Va
- 1941 Iceland: US Marines relieve British forces so they can fight elsewhere
- 1944 Saipan: Japanese troops make final "banzai" charge
- 1944 US B-29s from China attack Japan.
- 1966 Marines initiate "Operation Hasting" - to clear NVA from DMZ
- 8** 1853 Commodore Perry sails frigate Susquehanna into Tokyo Bay
- 1865 C.E. Barnes receives US patent for machine gun
- 1945 TF38 arrives off Japan with 20 carriers; to stay until end of war
- 1950 Douglas MacArthur named CinC UN forces in Korea
- 9** 1755 Braddock's Defeat: Battle of the Monangahela – Daniel Boone is a wagon driver
- 1776 Declaration of Independence read to Washington's troops in NY, whereupon citizens pull down George III's statue to make musket balls
- 1918 Congress establishes Distinguished Service Cross
- 1944 US secures Saipan: 3,200 US, 27,000 Japanese KIA, & many civilian suicides
- 10** 1821 US takes possession of Florida from Spain
- 1943 Operation Husky: US & Commonwealth forces invade Sicily
- 1953 American troops abandon Pork Chop Hill, Korea
- 11** 1786 US pays Morocco \$10,000 to "protect" merchant ships from piracy
- 1798 Congress reactivates USMC, disbanded in 1784
- 1812 US invades Canada near Detroit
- 1919 US Navy Pay Corps becomes Supply Corps
- 1943 USN surface ships break German-Italian tank attack at Gela, Sicily
- 1955 USAF Academy opens with 300 cadets at Lowry AFB, Colo.
- 12** 1942 U-Boat lands four German saboteurs on Long Island, who are soon captured
- 14** 1813 Lt John M. Gamble, becomes only US Marine to command a ship, prize 'Greenwich'
- 1825 Lafayette reviews 2nd Bn, 11th NY Arty (7th NY), which adopts name "The National Guard"
- 1900 "China Relief Expedition" captures Tientsin from Boxers
- 1959 First nuclear powered cruiser commissioned, USS 'Long Beach' (CGN 9)
- 1972 Vietnam: Jane Fonda makes first of 10 broadcasts on Radio Hanoi.
- 15** 1958 Marines land in Lebanon, to support government
- 16** 1861 Bull Run Campaign: Gen McDowell advances from Washington toward Fairfax Courthouse
- 17** 1927 USMC pilots conduct first combat dive bombing, Ocotal, Nicaragua.
- 18** 1863 54th Mass. leads gallant attempt to storm Fort Wagner, near Charleston
- 1914 US Army Air Service is formed within Signal Corps
- 1944 US troops capture St. Lo, Normandy
- 19** 1812 1st Battle of Sackett's Harbor: Americans beat off British attack across Lake Erie
- 1886 'Atlanta' commissioned, first USN steel cruiser
- 1897 Lt Robert E. Peary departs on year-long Arctic Expedition
- 20** 1881 Sioux leader Sitting Bull surrenders to federal troops
- 1942 Congress creates Legion of Merit
- 1942 First WAACs begin basic training
- 1944 Marines land on Guam.
- 1948 US reinstitutes draft, for Cold War
- 21** 1823 Lt David G. Farragut leads raid to destroy pirate base in Cuba
- 1861 First Battle of Bull Run/Manassas: Confederate Victory
- 1930 Veterans' Administration established
- 1969 Neil Armstrong's "small step" on moon - 2:56:15 AM GMT
- 22** 1802 US Frigate 'Constellation' defeats 9 corsair gunboats off Tripoli
- 1905 Remains of John Paul Jones removed from Paris for transportation to Annapolis
- 1943 Patton captures Palermo
- 1987 USN begins escorting re-flagged Kuwaiti tankers in Persian Gulf
- 23** 1944 US forces land on Japanese-held Tinian from nearby Saipan
- 24** 1948 Soviets initiate blockade of Berlin
- 1969 Muhammad Ali is convicted of refusing induction in US Army
- 25** 1866 David G. Farragut is appointed first Admiral in US Navy
- 1866 U.S. Grant is named first full general in US Army
- 1947 US Army, Navy, & Air Force are subordinated to new Dept of Defense
- 26** 1948 Truman initiates integration of Armed Forces
- 27** 1909 Orville Wright demonstrates plane for Army, flying 72 minutes
- 1953 North Korea & UN sign armistice
- 1954 Armistice divides Vietnam in two
- 1995 Korean War Veterans Memorial dedicated in Washington
- 28** 1898 Skirmish at Ponce, Puerto Rico, which shortly surrenders to US
- 28** 1914 Austria-Hungary attacks Serbia, igniting WW I
- 1931 Congress makes "The Star-Spangled Banner" national anthem
- 1932 Douglas MacArthur routs Bonus Army against orders
- 1945 Kamikaze sink their last ship, USS 'Callaghan' (DD-792), off Okinawa.
- 1945 Army B-25 crashes into 79th floor of Empire State Bldg, 14 die
- 29** 1949 Berlin Airlift ends, as Soviets end blockade
- 1967 Fire aboard USS 'Forrestal' (CV-59), Gulf of Tonkin, 134 die
- 30** 1864 Petersburg Campaign: Battle of the Crater
- 1909 US Army accepts delivery of first military airplane
- 1942 WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) created
- 1945 USS 'Indianapolis' (CA-35) torpedoed & sunk; nearly 900 die over next 4 days
- 1966 US airplanes bomb demilitarized zone in Vietnam
- 31** 1777 Marquis de Lafayette becomes major-general in Continental Army
- 1813 British attack Plattsburgh, NY
- 1925 Last Allied occupation forces leave the Rhineland

## 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

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

## POST 2894 CALENDAR

| JUNE  |   |
|-------|---|
| 10    | Post Meeting, 1900 (7 pm) – Officer Installation Ceremony |
| 11-14 | Department Convention – Williamsburg                      |
| 14    | Flag Day – Buddy Poppy Drive, Grassfield Walmart          |
| 21    | Father's Day  |

| JULY  |   |
|-------|---|
| 3     | Fireworks, Chesapeake City Park                             |
| 4     | Independence Day  |
| 8     | Post Meeting, 1900 (7 pm) –Quarterly Audit due end of month |
| 18-22 | VFW National Convention – Pittsburgh                        |



YOUR AD COULD  
BE HERE!!!



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PO Box 15842  
Chesapeake, VA 23328



Place  
Stamp  
Here

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED