

## 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: [cdrpost2894@va.vfwwebmail.com](mailto:cdrpost2894@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  
Veterans' Advocate..... 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)



### COMMANDER'S CORNER

Even though you are receiving this newsletter in the “dead of winter”, spring is just around the corner! And with it, comes our biggest event, the Bataan Death March Memorial Walk (23 April).

It's not too soon to begin planning for this and all of our other events this spring such as the Norfolk St. Patrick's Day Parade (19 Mar), our Post elections (13 Apr), our annual Post Awards Ceremony (11 May), the Memorial Day Poppy Drive (28-29 May), the Memorial Day Ceremony in front of City Hall (30 May), and the installation of new officers (8 Jun).



So get aboard quickly! The train's ready to roll, and it's picking up steam!!!

If you are interested in holding office for the next fraternal year, please let one of the current officers know. We've got some major plans and would like everyone's input and assistance.

I want to thank everyone who came and enjoyed the camaraderie at the Christmas Pot Luck after our December meeting. It was a joy to see members from age 97 (Micky Casady!) to 27 (our newest member, Mike Tompkins!) as well as families.

And, as always, thanks to all of you for your service to our country!

Semper Fidelis and **ERIN GO BRAGG!**

*Chris Mulholland, Commander*



### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year to Everyone!

The VFW Auxiliary Post 2894 was busy with events in December. Donna and Mike Kust and I went to Horton National Cemetery to lay Christmas Wreaths on December 12<sup>th</sup>. I was there representing Job's Daughters as well. Mark and Becky Junghans had the Big Train Operators Holiday Show and their train layout honored Vets and especially the Viet Nam Vets. Jean Dozier and Jennifer Rider worked with the Snowball Express Organization



at the Norfolk Airport and Jennifer flew to Dallas to assist with activities there. My sister and I made 32 bags filled with shampoo, conditioner, lotion, tooth brush and holder, tooth paste, combs, wash cloth, soap and a Christmas Card from the Auxiliary and dropped them off at the Hampton VA Hospital. I am sure other members did some activity or event with Vets that I was not aware of. I submitted 14 reports to various Auxiliary Programs in December. If you did something that we can submit a report about, please let me know. One thing I have learned since becoming an Auxiliary Member, we have to report everything. So keep up the good work and submit those reports.

Thanks for Helping Vets.  
*Sandy Dunbar, President*

## BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK - APRIL 23<sup>rd</sup>

Keep your calendar clear for the fifth annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk on **Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>** 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), the Chesapeake Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, and more 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 more information on the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/pages/Chesapeake-Bataan-Death-March/464188050284397](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Chesapeake-Bataan-Death-March/464188050284397).

## JOIN US FOR THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE, 19 MARCH

**COME MARCH WITH US!!!** Post 2894 will participate in this year's Saint Patrick's Day Parade in Norfolk along with the Tidewater Military Vehicles Association. Bring your families, bring your friends. This is the 49<sup>th</sup> year for the fun filled Irish parade with marching bands, clowns, floats, cars, and people making an exciting and enjoyable parade. Everyone is Irish both in and along the parade route.

After the parade there is a party with live music, food, and fun hosted by The Columbian Club of Ocean View. 211 W. Government Ave, Norfolk, VA. It is open to the public (21 and up).

We will provide more details (as they finalize) via e-mail.



## VOICE OF DEMOCRACY and PATRIOTS PEN WINNERS

The winner of our Post's Voice of Democracy contest, Miss Caitlin Head, was also selected as the winner of District 2's contest. Her nomination package was then sent to the Department where it was selected as the second runner-up for the Commonwealth of Virginia! Congratulations Caitlin!

Caitlin is a homeschooled 12<sup>th</sup> grader whose father is an active duty Navy officer. She is hoping to attend college in Texas, which is where her family is originally from.

Caitlin's essay was terrific to read, and even better to hear when she read it aloud as part of the contest. Her presentation was so professional that she could definitely have a career in broadcasting!

Her essay was titled, "My Vision For America", and in it she said, "The truth of the matter is that America IS exceptional, and it's nothing to be embarrassed about. Nowhere else on earth can you take the life you long to live and turn it into a reality. Nowhere else on earth can



Caitlin Head

you speak your mind so openly and serve your conscience so freely. Nowhere else on earth is like America, because nowhere else on earth is built the same way. Capitalism and democracy are the foundation of America's success...Capitalism inspires and sustains the American Dream, and democracy works to protect it...No other nation has had the global influence America enjoys, because no other nation has made the contribution we have. Our status as a superpower wasn't stolen; it was earned."

With heartfelt expressions like these, it reminds us that our country will remain in good hands with the coming generations.

The runners-up for the Post VOD were Veronica Teller, a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at Hickory HS; and DelMarcus Talley, a senior at Salem HS.

The winner of the Post's Patriots' Pen contest, "What Freedom Means to Me," was Kayleigh Hamel, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at St. Gregory the Great Catholic School (and daughter of our own Staff Judge Advocate Matt Hamel!) The runners-up were Alina Roberts, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Hickory MS (daughter of Comrade Ted Roberts!); and Josephine McKlveen, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Great Bridge MS.

Caitlin and Kayleigh will be presented with their winner's certificates and checks at the Post's Awards Ceremony on 11 May.

**Congratulations to ALL of our contestants!**

## SNOWBALL EXPRESS

Comrade Carl and Auxiliary Jean Dozier participated in the Snowball Express send off at Norfolk Airport on 12 December. Their

granddaughter, Emma, was on her way to Dallas, Texas, along with Carl's daughter, Jenny, to participate in 4 days of fun and



Emma (left) in the cockpit

exciting activities!

Since 2006, the mission of Snowball Express has been a simple, yet profoundly important one: Provide hope and new happy memories to the children of military fallen heroes who have died while on active duty since 9/11. They bring together children from all over the world for a four-day experience filled with fun activities, like sporting events, dances, amusement parks and more. The living parents of children of the fallen often describe their child as reserved, withdrawn or unwilling to talk about their loss. Participating in Snowball Express changes that, making each child feel special and giving them an opportunity to share their feelings about losing something so precious, their parent.

Snowball Express creates a long weekend of events to connect the children and surviving spouses of the fallen with others going through the same experience. The children who attend walk away knowing they are not alone, and that everyone honors the sacrifice their parent made while serving our country. Children often return year after year to reunite with the friends they have made through Snowball Express.

Funnily enough, Emma "lost" a tooth while boarding the plane but found it...so the Tooth Fairy was able to help her out! While in Dallas, Emma attended a rodeo and numerous other events. Carl and Jean were back at the airport on the 16<sup>th</sup> to welcome Emma and Jenny home.



Emma and family with Santa (no, not the one with the VFW cap on!)

opportunities for the citizens of Chesapeake to promote lasting friendships through a variety of programs.

Here are the ticket prices for the event (all seating includes dinner and 2 drink tickets per person):

- Individual tickets - \$65 each
- Ambassador's Table - \$2,500
- Consulate Table - \$1,500
- Diplomat Sponsor - \$600

**The Dancers will be judged for their style and the amount of donations they have raised. You can vote for your favorites (Matt and Chris!) with a donation at: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=ymbehpkab&oeidk=a07ebv2dt4n0f952dc5>**

## TOY TRAIN HOLIDAY SHOW

If you don't know by now, Comrade Mark and Auxiliary Becky Junghans are crazy about toy trains!

Over the week of 4-12 December, they set up and helped



A youngster enthralled with the trains.

run the Tidewater Big Train Operators' (TBTO) holiday train show. Mark was



Vietnam memorial on display.

especially proud of his display which honored veterans, specifically those from the Vietnam War. Mark gave out

commemorative pins to all the Vietnam vets who stopped by. The Junghans were at the show every one of the 9 days that the event went on.

## DANCING WITH THE STARS FUNDRAISER, 20 FEBRUARY

Chesapeake Sister Cities will be hosting a Dancing with the Stars fundraiser on 20 February, 6:30 pm, at the Chesapeake Conference Center. Sister Cities holds an annual fundraising event and donates all the proceeds to a worthwhile cause. This year's cause is the Virginia Power Soccer Association which supports the sport of powered wheelchair soccer for disabled children and adults.



Post Comrades Matt Hamel and Chris Mulholland, along with their wives, Karen and Barbara respectively, will be kicking up their heels as contestants in this year's event! Come on out and have a laugh - I mean - support them in this worthwhile endeavor!

Both couples are not just judged on their dancing but also their fund-raising efforts, so please consider donating to one or both of them.

The Chesapeake Sister Cities Committee is a non-profit, volunteer organization, which is linked globally to create

## POST DONATION TO LZ GRACE

Post 2894's work at the Southeast Hot Rod Club car show this past August paid off with a \$1625 check to the post which we then turned around and donated to LZ Grace, a retreat for Special Forces warriors returning from deployment.

Post Commander Chris and Auxiliary Secretary Barbara Mulholland presented the check to Lynn Bukowski, the founder and director of LZ Grace, on 30 December.



She was extremely grateful and gave them a tour of the 35 acre facility afterwards.

## WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA 2015

On Saturday, 12 December, Comrade Mike and Auxiliary Donna Kust, as well as Auxiliary President Sandy Dunbar, went out to the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Suffolk to help with Wreaths Across America. They, along with several hundred other volunteers, laid Christmas wreaths at the headstone of each veteran buried there.



Mike (top) and Donna laying wreaths at Horton Veterans' Cemetery

What began in 1992 with a trailer load of wreaths, decorated by volunteers and laid at the graves of fallen soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery has now become a national organization with over 900 participating locations - all focused on the mission to Remember - Honor - and Teach.

Wreaths Across America receives no government funding. The cost of the program is paid by individual wreaths sponsors, corporate donors and volunteer truckers.

## VIETNAM COMMEMORATIVE PINS

During the month of November, Post Comrades Chris Mulholland and Jose Vazquez visited a number of senior living and assisted living centers and presented the Vietnam veterans there with special commemorative pins.

Even the youngest veterans of the war in Southeast Asia are now approaching retirement age. Some of the veterans in the centers that were visited are 3 war vets (WWII, Korea and Vietnam).

Here's a photo of Commander Mulholland and three Vietnam veterans at the Lighthouse Pointe Retirement Center.



## CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FOR SINSIL 7

January 9<sup>th</sup> marked the 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the deaths of the Sinsil 7, SSG Jon Dozier, SFC Matt Pionk, SGT Zachary McBride, SSG Sean Gaul, SGT Chris Sanders, SPC Todd Davis and Translator Roy. Every year, Comrade Car Dozier, honors his son and the other 6 with a candlelight vigil at the Veterans Memorial in front of City Hall. This year, he was joined by several Post and Auxiliary members to help remember and honor the memory of these Gold Star heroes.



## PRESENTS FOR OUR WWII VETS

Post 2894 delivered two special Christmas gifts to our oldest members, Micky Casady (97) and Eddie Vincek (91). Micky is the oldest living plankholder of the USS Iowa (BB-61) and Eddie landed on Iwo Jima on D-Day with the 28<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment.

On Christmas morning, Micky opened a package that contained a VFW cap while Eddie was presented with a framed photograph of him with four young Marines at the Veterans' Day Ceremony in front of City Hall. Eddie's sons were there when he opened his gift and they said there wasn't a dry eye in the room. To Micky and Eddie, our oldest comrades, members of the greatest generation, and living legends, Merry Christmas!



Eddie with his gift

## SCOUT OF THE YEAR

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

**FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH –  
EUGENE JACQUES BULLARD, AMERICA’S  
FIRST BLACK FIGHTER PILOT**

**Corporal Eugene Jacques Bullard  
First Black American Fighter pilot**

By William I. Chivalette

America’s first black aviator did not fly for the country of his birth America, but for his adopted country of France. A country for which he was severely wounded and received many medals for valor. Gene himself was a man who hesitated to speak of himself but one who stood on the principles of honesty and integrity. He treated everyone as he wished to be treated and because of that he was very well liked. He lived by the belief that all men were created equal and should be treated accordingly.

Eugene Jacques Bullard was born on October 9, 1894, in Columbus Georgia, the seventh of ten children born to William (Octave) Bullard, a black from Martinique, and Josephine ("Yokalee") Thomas, a Creek Indian. Eugene’s father could trace their family roots as far back as the American Revolution. His family came from Martinique, an Island in the West Indies and spoke French as an everyday language. They arrived in America as slaves when their French owners fled the Haitian revolution. His mother died



at age thirty three when Eugene was only five, leaving his father to raise him. Eugene said his father was an educated man who worked hard as a laborer and treasured his hours at home telling his children tales from the books he read. It was his father’s influence and those stories that would shape Eugene’s direction in life.

Eugene, divided by family loyalty and a quest for freedom, tearfully left his Columbus, Georgia home in 1902 at the tender age of eight. The catalyst for his early departure was the near unjust lynching of his father. The latter incident brought to Eugene’s mind the words his father had spoken earlier to him: in France a man is accepted as a man regardless of the color of his skin. He left home seeking this paradise, this France.

Because of his fourth grade education, and his young age, he wandered throughout the southeastern United States, mostly at night to avoid hostile whites, searching for the ways and means to travel to France. He stayed with Gypsies for a year and learned how to handle horses and did a little racing. He found he was skilled as a jockey and won a number of unofficial races all the time putting his money away in the hopes of traveling to France. He worked his way towards the seaport in Norfolk, Virginia and after four years of wandering and working at odd jobs to stay alive, he stowed away on a German ship bound for Aberdeen, Scotland – he was 12 years old.

He soon moved from Aberdeen to Glasgow and worked as a lookout man for gamblers and earned pennies as a whistler. He stayed in Glasgow for five months then moved to the larger seaport town of Liverpool, England. There he worked as a longshoreman and earned six shillings a day. He was still very young and light and the work soon wore him down. He found work as a helper on a fish wagon and doing odd jobs. Later he worked at an amusement park. He earned extra money by dodging balls people threw at him, money that allowed him free time, which he spent at the local gym.

Eugene made it his business to be at Chris Baldwin’s Gymnasium daily when he wasn’t working. Around the gym he did everything the owner wanted and his quick, warm smile and sunny nature made him popular and he made friends with most of the boxers. Soon he was being coached and worked in the ring with anyone who the manager asked him to. He started as a bantam weight but within a year of lifting weights and working out he worked up to light weight. He was just sixteen years old.

After a successful ten round fight against Billy Welsh he was noticed by and became a protégé of the renowned boxer the Dixie Kid. Eugene quickly developed as an aspiring fighter, winning bouts in England and France as a welterweight. When he finally got his bout in France, boxing in Paris at the Elysee Montmartre, it was November 28, 1913. From the moment he first set foot in France he knew this was the place he belonged, and that first visit cemented his long-held aspiration of moving to Paris.

Not long after he returned to Liverpool, Gene, with the help of the Dixie Kid, joined a traveling act called "Freedman’s Pickaninnies." They sang and danced and made people laugh with their jokes and slapstick comedy. He signed on because one of their stops was scheduled to be at the Bal Tabarin in Paris.

Soon after joining, the troupe began a tour of the continent where they amused audiences all over Europe and Russia. After Russia, they performed at the Winter Garden in Berlin, Germany, and finally Paris. When Freedman’s Pickaninnies left Paris Eugene was not with them. The chance to live in France was nothing less than a fulfillment of a dream for Bullard. He settled himself in Paris, found a place to stay and was soon employed back in the world of boxing.

Gene easily picked up languages and quickly learned to speak French quite well and picked up a little German when he performed in Berlin. His fellow boxers who could not speak French used Gene as an interpreter and he was soon setting up their boxing matches. Eugene described his fellow boxers as generous, kind people who showed their appreciation for his help. He was soon making more money than he previously



had in England.

Eugene Bullard was a very happy man who quickly discovered that his father had been right about France. He expressed his feelings like this, "it seems to me that the French democracy influenced the minds of both white and black Americans there and helped us all to act like brothers as near as possible...It convinced me too that God really did create all men equal, and it was easy to live that way."

By August 1914 the world was plunged into war and the French nation sustained a half-million casualties before the year was out. A number of Eugene's friends were on the casualty list but Bullard, not yet 19 years old, was too young to be accepted to fight for his adopted country. His love for his new country and his departed friends spurred him on to join the French Foreign Legion. Bullard joined his fellow American expatriates in the French Foreign Legion on 9 October, his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. He went to the Recruiting Bureau on Boulevard des Invalides, Paris and enlisted. He was sent to the Tourelles Barracks on Avenue Gambetta in Paris for training. Training was tough but Eugene's physical conditioning for boxing made it a little easier than many of his fellow recruits.

After five weeks of training he was assigned to the Moroccan Division, Third Marching Regiment, which he said contained 54 different nationalities. Eugene Bullard and his comrades were sent to the Somme front where 300,000 Frenchmen were lost by the end of November. Bullard and his fellow legionnaires did most of their fighting with the bayonet, if they weren't cut down by machine gun fire first. Battle casualties were very heavy.

As much a warrior as an adventurer and boxer, Eugene participated in some of the most heavily contested battles of 1914 through 1916. Besides the battles of the Somme front he participated in battles at Artois Ridge, Mont-Saint-Eloi, and they assaulted the German positions at Souchez and Hill 119.

Because of German atrocities Legionnaire officers ordered that no prisoners were to be taken, so the Germans retaliated by declaring that all captured legionnaires were to be shot. Because of this and the hard fighting by May 9, 1915 they would lose so many men in Eugene's Third Marching Regiment that it would be dissolved and the second and third regiments would combine to form the First and Second Regiments. For example at the Battle of Artois Ridge 4,000 men participated but only 1,700 survived. Bullard's company lost some 80 percent of its strength with only 54 of its 250 men left standing.

Occasionally before a battle each man was given, as a means of fortifying his fighting spirit, a drink of Tafia, a strong drink that was designed to spur a man's courage. Bullard wrote of it, "you wanted to fight, sing, dance, or anything. Oh, boy, what a wonderful feeling."

Bullard was sent into battle again



during the September 1915, Champagne Offensive. The battle and the rain started on the 25<sup>th</sup> at 4 A.M. and went through the 28<sup>th</sup> without a let up. The infantry had to bear the brunt of the battle as usual because there were no tanks in the Battle of Champagne. Five hundred men began the battle, but at the first evening's roll call only 31 remained - a 94 percent casualty rate. Eugene received what he called "a little head wound" during the battle. "In the Legion, as long as you could walk or your trigger finger is not out of commission, you are good for the service." Bullard's regiment had lost many of their men and seemed to bear the brunt of every offensive. The unit was basically disbanded in October and Bullard was sent to join the 170th Infantry, the "Swallows of Death." This was the unit from which Bullard took the name, The Black Swallow of Death. The German nickname for the unit was "The Chimney Swifts of Death."

Verdun became Bullard's next battlefield. The 170th marched for three days and three nights until, on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February, 1916, they arrived early in the morning in the region of Verdun. Bullard said it was obvious they had arrived in hell. He said, "I thought I had seen fighting in other battles but no one has ever seen anything like Verdun - not ever before or ever since."

The Germans codenamed the Verdun Operation, "Execution Place". It was aptly named. In the 10 months of Verdun more than 250,000 died, 100,000 were missing and 300,000 had

been gassed or wounded. On March 5<sup>th</sup> 1916 Bullard received the wounds that removed him from the ground war and subsequently awarded The Croix de Guerre and Medaile Militaire.

While he was convalescing in Lyons, the third largest city in France, from his wounds (they thought he would never walk again) Eugene gained his first bit of fame when he was interviewed by Will Irwin of *The Saturday Evening Post*. Since he was no longer fit for duty with the infantry, Eugene was afforded the opportunity to join the French Flying Corps. An American friend of Bullard's bet him two thousand dollars that he could not get into aviation and become a pilot. Eugene, perhaps bolstered by the challenge, soon earned his wings from the aviation school in the city of Tours on May 5, 1917, and just as promptly collected his two thousand dollars. This made Bullard the very first black fighter pilot in history.

Eugene was sent to several more flying schools and learned to fly the Caudron G-3 and the Caudron G-4. It took Eugene much longer than other students to be assigned to the front. Inquires were made because France needed pilots and Eugene seemed to be held back for no good reason. After that



Eugene Bullard, posing in uniform with his pet monkey, Jimmy (1917)



ABOVE - Fort Douaumont in 1915 before Battle of Verdun



BELOW - Aerial view of Fort Douaumont in November 1916

he was soon assigned to the now famous Lafayette Escadrille, Spad 93 flying Spad VIIIs and Nieuports. He said, "I was treated with respect and friendship - even by those from America. Then I knew at last that there are good and bad white men just as there are good and bad black men."

Corporal Eugene Bullard painted a red bleeding heart pierced by a knife on the fuselage of his Spad. Below the heart was the inscription "Tout le Sang qui coule est rouge!" Roughly translated it says "All Blood Runs Red."

Eugene's first mission was on September 8, 1917. He was flying a Nieuport that he called a real sweetheart, on a reconnaissance mission over the city of Metz. He went up that day and from then on never missed a mission. Bullard claimed two "kills," but he received confirmation on only one. One "kill" remained unverified because the German Fokker fell behind enemy lines. No one doubted he had shot the aircraft down. His mechanics found seventy-eight bullet holes in his plane. His second kill was in November 1917, and there was no doubt about this one. He shot down a German Pfalz after the pilot went into a classic Immelmann turn, flying nose up and then turning backward, to attempt to come in from behind. Bullard ducked into a cloud bank and emerged below and to the right of his foe where he pulled in behind him and shot the German down. This one was confirmed.

George Dock recalled him to be a humorous, brave and self-reliant man. Charles Kinsolving noted that Bullard had no fear.

When the United States entered World War I Eugene Bullard wanted to transfer to his country's air force. By that time he had fought for over three years in the war and been wounded four times, twice in the battle of Verdun. He had spent eight months in hospitals recovering from war wounds, earned medals for valor, and was now a military pilot with confirmed kills. As a pilot and an American he was invited to transfer to the American Air Force with the promise of being promoted. After passing the physical, when many other American pilots departed to fight with fellow Americans, Bullard's application was ignored for the duration of the war.

On November 11, 1917, Bullard was transferred from the French Air Service and sent to his old unit the 170th Infantry, where he performed non combat jobs in one of the service companies until the end of the war. Eugene wrote in his auto biography that he had a quarrel in a café with a French Captain who insulted him because of his race. His friends however, tell another story. One night when he was returning late from a 24 hour leave in Paris, he tried to enter a covered military truck to catch a ride. He was pushed out onto a rain-soaked, muddy road. He tried to enter again and was booted in the chest. Bullard, angry, grabbed the boot, pulled its owner from the truck, and knocked him backward into a ditch. The man turned out to be a French Lieutenant. Regardless of circumstance, an assault on an officer was a very serious offense, but Bullard's heroic record and wounds saved him from a court martial - he was simply returned to his old infantry unit.

In October, 1919, Eugene Bullard was discharged from the armed forces of France, a national hero of significant standing. He decided to remain in Paris and soon married a French Countess and fathered three children, one boy and two girls. The boy died soon after his birth from double pneumonia. His marriage failed after his wife inherited money and wanted Eugene to retire and be with her socially full time. But he loved people and his life the way it was, so they eventually went their

separate ways. Both were of the Catholic faith and did not believe in divorce. When his former wife died six years after their separation, Gene took custody of his two daughters.

At the nightclub, Le Grand Duc, where he was the host and part owner, Bullard entertained the likes of Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Gloria Swanson and England's Prince of Wales. He opened his own club soon after his marriage which soon became one of Paris' most famous entertainment spots for singers and musicians of the time.

Then, in 1939, war once again threatened the nation Eugene once more answered the call to duty. In July 1939, he joined the French underground and resistance movement. He spoke three languages including German, and readily agreed to honor a request to spy for France. The Germans arrogantly felt that no black man could properly understand their language, so Bullard was quite successful in this endeavor. Eugene worked occasionally with the famous French spy Cleopatra Terrier.

But as Paris was being overrun by the German army, Gene fled the city with his daughters. Upon arriving in Orleans he joined some uniformed troops who were defending the city. When the group Bullard was with came under heavy attack, his dozen or so compatriots were killed and he was badly wounded.

Rather than allow him to be captured and interrogated by the Gestapo, his espionage partner, Kitty, was able to successfully doctor his wounds and smuggled him to Spain with his daughters. Later he was medically evacuated to the United States.

Fully recovered in New York City and joined by his daughters Eugene settled down to rebuild his life. He was thrilled to again see



America, and he soon found work as an elevator operator in Rockefeller Center. It was the job he would hold until he retired.

Perhaps through disinterest or uncaring, America never recognized or realized the legacy of the brave and noble Corporal Eugene Bullard. But France never forgot.

In 1954, the French government requested his presence to help relight the Eternal Flame of the Tomb of the Unknown French Soldier at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. Eugene, along with two white French men, was presented the honor of relighting the flame. Yet, when he returned to America, it failed to recognize him as the hero he was.

In 1959 at age 65, he was named Knight of the Legion of Honor in a lavish ceremony in New York City. Dave Garraway interviewed him on the Today Show, still America did nothing to acknowledge this honor or acknowledge his place in history.

President-General Charles de Gaulle of France, while visiting New York City, publically and internationally embraced Eugene Bullard as a true French hero in 1960.

On 12 October, 1961, after suffering a long illness due to the wounds he received, Eugene Jacques Bullard passed away. But, again, France did not forget. On 17 October, with the tricolor of France draping his coffin, he was laid to rest with full honors by the Federation of French War Officers at Flushing Cemetery in New York.

When Eugene was awarded the Legion of Honor several years before his death, he tried to explain his feelings about both France and America. He said, "The United States is my mother and I love my mother, but as far as France is concerned, she is my mistress and you love your mistress more than you love your mother—but in a different way."

The first black fighter pilot in the world, the Black Swallow of Death, a man who had seen much war, was thus given final honors by the country he had loved and served during two world wars. On August 23, 1994, seventy seven years after Bullard's American flight physical, the USAF posthumously commissioned him a Lieutenant.

William I. Chivalete is the Curator at the Air Force Enlisted Heritage Research Institute's Enlisted Heritage Hall in Montgomery, Alabama. He spent 24 years in the U.S. Air Force, retired and became the Director of the Airmen Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. He has authored, edited or coauthored nine books including the first USAF enlisted history, *Unsung Heroes A history of the Enlisted Airmen from the Dawn of Flight to Desert Storm*. He has served at the Enlisted Heritage Hall for seven years. Article copied from the Air Power Museum website

([www.airpower.maxwell.af.mil/apjinternational/apj-s/2005/3tri05/chivaletteeng.html](http://www.airpower.maxwell.af.mil/apjinternational/apj-s/2005/3tri05/chivaletteeng.html)).

## CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE



Our Father, we thank You for the year we have completed, for its successes, and for the strength You have given us to overcome its failures. As we face a new year together, give us patience and understanding for all our comrades, wisdom in our decisions, and Your aid in building a better Veterans of Foreign Wars organization. Bestow Your special blessings upon all who assume the duties of leadership. Walk with each of us in heart and mind, day by day, so that we may continue to serve our God and our Country.

O God of mercy, peace, and love, we remember before You in this moment our comrade and friend *Jonathan Killian Dozier*. We recall with gratitude and respect all that he stood for in this life. Help us to live in the companionship of his spirit. May we be kind to the friends and family he loved; devoted to the community in which he lived; and loyal to the causes which he served. Thus, in our life, may he live on, to our great comfort, to the betterment of Your creation, and to the furthering of Your most Holy Will. Amen.

### *The Cost Of Freedom*

*He died serving our country,  
in a land far away.  
He gave his life for freedom.  
They buried him today.*

*Next time you see a soldier,  
don't just pass him by.  
Thank him for his service.  
He might be next to die.*

*He loved family more than life,  
and had to do what's right.  
To protect them and his country,  
he joined in the fight.*

*How great the cost of freedom.  
How brave those who defend.  
Protect them Lord, that they  
may safely come back home  
again.*

By Ron Tranmer, Copyright 2010

## SAFETY CORNER FEBRUARY IS FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

### Flood Safety - Preparedness and Awareness

A flood is defined as any high flow, overflow, or inundation of water that causes or threatens damage. Flooding can occur with prolonged rainfall over several days, intense rainfall over a short period of time, or when water from an existing source moves too quickly (i.e. snowmelt, dam break, etc.). Brief descriptions of the various types of flooding you may experience are found below. More information about these flood hazards can be found on the NWS Flood Safety Website at [www.floodsafety.noaa.gov](http://www.floodsafety.noaa.gov).

● Being aware of the possibility of hazardous weather in your area can save your life! Start your day by visiting [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) to find out if your area is under a flood threat or any other hazardous weather threat. Get updates throughout the day on your smartphone by visiting [mobile.weather.gov](http://mobile.weather.gov)

● Each year on average more than 50% of all flood fatalities are vehicle related. It only takes 12 inches of water to carry off a small car and 18 inches of water to sweep a larger vehicle away. Don't risk driving into flood waters. Turn Around Don't Drown!

[www.weather.gov/floodsafety](http://www.weather.gov/floodsafety)

● When you drive into floodwaters, you're not only putting your own life at risk, but also the lives of those who will be called in to rescue you. It's far better to be late to work or to an appointment and remain safe, than to take a risk and possibly lose your life. Turn Around Don't Drown!

● Being prepared in advance and knowing the types of hazards you may encounter will help you and your loved ones survive a flood. What types of flood hazards most commonly impact your state? Find out on our state pages at: [www.floodsafety.noaa.gov/map.shtml](http://www.floodsafety.noaa.gov/map.shtml)

● You can find out if any nearby rivers are currently flooding or if they are forecast to flood by visiting [www.water.weather.gov](http://www.water.weather.gov)

● Do you know the difference between a Flood Warning and a Flood Watch? A Warning means "Take Action!" because flooding is either happening or will happen shortly. A Watch means "Be Aware" because conditions are right for flooding to occur in your area.

[www.floodsafety.noaa.gov/watch\\_warning.shtml](http://www.floodsafety.noaa.gov/watch_warning.shtml)

● Play the Young Meteorologist Program Floods Challenge and learn about Flood Safety along with the National Weather Service mascot, Owlie Skywarn!



## SAFETY CORNER MARCH IS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS MONTH

Don't let bad weather sneak up on you! Get in the habit of checking [weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) every morning before you go out. Make sure that you're ready for whatever the day may bring. <http://www.weather.gov>  
Do you know the difference between a Severe Thunderstorm Watch and a Warning?

- **Thunderstorm Watch:** Be Prepared! Severe thunderstorms are possible in and near the watch area. Stay informed and be ready to act if a severe thunderstorm warning is issued.
- **Severe Thunderstorm Warning:** Take Action! Severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property. Take shelter in a substantial building. Get out of mobile homes that can blow over in high winds. Learn more:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/severeweather/ww.shtml>

Do you know the difference between a Tornado Watch and a Warning?

- **Tornado Watch:** Be Prepared! Tornadoes are possible in and near the watch area. Review and discuss your emergency plans, and check supplies and your safe room. Be ready to act quickly if a warning is issued or you suspect a tornado is approaching. Acting early helps to save lives!
- **Tornado Warning:** Take Action! A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. There is imminent danger to life and property. Move to an interior room on the lowest floor of a sturdy building. Avoid Windows. If in a mobile home, a vehicle, or outdoors, move to the closest substantial shelter and protect yourself from flying debris. The more you know: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/severeweather/ww.shtml>
- Your family may not be together when a disaster strikes so it is important to plan in advance: how you will get to a safe place; how you will contact one another; how you will get back together; and what you will do in different situations. Make a plan with a helpful guide from [ready.gov](http://ready.gov). Develop a plan: <http://www.ready.gov/makeaplan>



- Rest easy during tornado season with a NOAA Weather Radio! Tornadoes can occur at any time of day, making the night time hours particularly dangerous since most folks are asleep.
- An alarm will sound on the NOAA Weather Radio when a Tornado Warning is issued. Having the radio near your bed will alert you to danger. More about NOAA Radio's: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/>

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

## 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:** Jose Vazquez, Mark Rios, Craig Devonshire, Chris Mulholland
- **Awards Committee:** Gary Dunbar, Mark Rios, Matt Schweers, Jose Vazquez, Mark Junghans, and Chris Mulholland
- **Membership Committee:** Jose Vazquez, 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 \$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.

<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.

## WWI HISTORY, 100 YEARS AGO TODAY...

- **February 1, 1916** – British S.S. "Appam" brought to Norfolk, VA, by German prize crew from raider "Moewe".
- **February 10, 1916** – German Government sends note to US Government stating that defensively armed merchantmen will be treated as belligerents from March 1st onwards.
- **February 18, 1916** – In West Africa, German colony of Cameroon falls to French and British following 17 months of fighting leaving only one German colony remaining in Africa, known as German East Africa. There, 10,000 troops skillfully commanded by General von Lettow-Vorbeck prove elusive but deadly, as they are pursued by British-led force ten times larger.
- **February 21, 1916** – Battle of Verdun begins as longest battle in WWI, lasting for almost a year, until December 18<sup>th</sup>, 1916. Battlefield became known as "the mincing machine" to French troops, but they held out and Verdun was never captured. Casualties at close of battle amounted to over 400,000 German casualties and over 540,000 French casualties, many thousands of whom were killed. Battle took place in sector of fortified town of Verdun on river Meuse. Lying in middle of a salient, Verdun had a citadel fort at its heart and was surrounded by a ring of forts on high ground of northern and eastern banks of Meuse. Town had been saved from German occupation in Battles of the Frontiers in autumn 1914. On Western Front, German 5<sup>th</sup> Army attacks French 2<sup>nd</sup> Army north of historic city of Verdun, following nine-hour artillery bombardment. Germans under Chief of General Staff, Erich Falkenhayn, seek to "bleed" French Army to death by targeting cherished city. At first, Germans make rapid gains along east bank of Meuse River, overrunning bombed out French trenches, and capturing lightly defended Fort Douaumont four days later without firing a shot. However, German offensive soon stalls as French rush in massive reinforcements and strengthen their defenses, under new command of Henri Petain, who is determined to save Verdun. An early spring thaw also turns entire battlefield into mud, hampering offensive maneuvers.
- **February 29, 1916** – German Government sends note to US Government stating it will begin an extended submarine campaign on March 1st.
- **March 6, 1916** – Germans renew Verdun offensive, this time attacking along west bank of Meuse River, targeting two strategic hills northwest of Verdun that form main French position. However, by end of March, heavily defended hills are only partially in German hands.
- **March 28, 1916** – Inter-Allied Conference in Paris. Declaration of Unity between Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Russia, and Serbia regarding military, economic, and diplomatic affairs, drawn up.  
[<http://www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/firstworldwar/index-1916.html>]

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 YamashitaTomoyuki, 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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
- 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

## 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
- 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
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- 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 1<sup>st</sup> Indian War: Powahatan 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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 is via e-mail. If you prefer a 'hard-copy' via 'snail-mail' (a 'paper copy' via 'US Postal Service' for you old(er) farts!) please let know.

Semper fidelis,

- Chris Mulholland

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



Chesapeake  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

# 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Chesapeake

## Bataan Death March Memorial Walk

April 23rd 2016 at the Dismal Swamp Trail, Chesapeake



Help commemorate the 74<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bataan Death March of World War II by participating in the Annual Memorial March which honors the 90,000 US and Filipino Servicemen who suffered and endured one of the most harrowing events in history.

- The event is open – and free – to all
- Three events (see back page for details)
  - 16.6 Mile March: last check-in at 06:45, start walk at 07:00 am to NC border & back
  - 5 Mile March: last check-in at 10:15, start at 10:30 am
  - 1 Mile Family Walk: last check-in at 11:15, start at 11:30 am
- 12:00 - Closing ceremony honoring all veterans
- Donations will be accepted for Mountain Eagles © and ANCOP © two nonprofit charities who help poor Filipino children and wounded warriors after the event. Register on-line at [walk.chesapeake@gmail.com](mailto:walk.chesapeake@gmail.com) or on facebook @ Bataan Death March.
- VFW Post 2894 will sell hot dogs and drinks.



# Become a Medal Sponsor of the Chesapeake Bataan Death March

Contact us at [walk.chesapeake@gmail.com](mailto:walk.chesapeake@gmail.com) or via Facebook @ Bataan Death March. We also have a PayPal account or you can send checks payable to VFW Post 2894 – Bataan Death March, 1007 Cuervo Court, Chesapeake, VA 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

## VFW SSG DOZIER MEMORIAL 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



# DANCING WITH THE CHESAPEAKE SISTER CITIES Stars

February 20, 2016  
6:30 p.m.  
Chesapeake  
Conference Center

## DANCE WITH US!

You are invited to an unforgettable evening of dining and dancing in support of the programs and international exchanges of the Sister Cities Committee of Chesapeake.

Local celebrity couples will compete for the title of "Dancing Stars", all the while raising money for a worthwhile cause.

INDIVIDUAL tickets - \$65 each  
AMBASSADORS TABLE - \$2,500  
CONSULATE TABLE - \$1,500  
DIPLOMAT SPONSOR - \$600

*\*\*All seating includes dinner and two drink tickets per person\*\**



**Dancers will be judged for their style and the amount of donations they have raised. Vote for your favorites with a donation at:**

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=ybbehpkab&oeidk=a07ebv2dt4n0f952dc5>

*All proceeds go to Virginia Power Soccer Association, which supports powered wheelchair soccer for disabled athletes.*

For more information, go to <http://sistercities.cityofchesapeake.net>  
contact Sister Cities of Chesapeake at 757-774-6911, or  
email: [sistercities@cityofchesapeake.net](mailto:sistercities@cityofchesapeake.net)  
Like us at [www.facebook.com/DancingWithTheChesapeakeSisterCitiesStars](http://www.facebook.com/DancingWithTheChesapeakeSisterCitiesStars)





**SAVE THE DATE**



**TOAST TO THE HEROES VI**

**March 5th, 2016**



# Combat Wounded Coalition Presents Toast to the Heroes VI

March 5th, 2016 • 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Wounded Warrior Sponsor .....	\$6,000
Gold Star Sponsor .....	\$6,000
Platinum Sponsor .....	\$5,000
Breakfast Sponsor .....	\$4,500
Gold Sponsor .....	\$2,500
Silver Sponsor .....	\$1,200
Bronze Sponsor .....	\$600
General Tickets .....	\$125

For tickets or sponsorship, contact Combat Wounded Coalition at  
757-773-8079 or visit [www.CombatWoundedCoalition.org/events](http://www.CombatWoundedCoalition.org/events)

Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel  
425 Water St., Portsmouth, VA 23704

*Special Group Rate of \$90/night available  
for event guests by calling 757-673-3000*

# **POST 2894 CALENDAR**

<b><u>FEBRUARY</u></b>	
1	National Freedom Day
2	Groundhog Day
10	Post Meeting, 1900 (7 pm) / Ash Wednesday
12	Lincoln's Birthday
14	Valentine's Day
15	Presidents' Day / Teacher of the Year Nominations due
20	Sister Cities Dancing with the Stars (6:30 pm)
22	Washington's Birthday

<b><u>MARCH</u></b>	
1	Scout of the Year Nominations Due
5	Toast to Heroes VI
9	Post Meeting, 1900 (7 pm)
13	Daylight savings begins ("spring ahead")
17	St. Patrick's Day
19	St. Patrick's Day Parade, Norfolk
20	Palm Sunday / First Day of Spring
25	Good Friday
27	Easter Sunday

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



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



Place  
Stamp  
Here

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED