

VFW OBJECTIVES

- TO ENSURE THE NATIONAL SECURITY through strength
- TO ASSIST THE ORPHANS and the disabled and needy
- TO SPEED THE RECOVERY of the nation's disabled
- TO PROMOTE AMERICAN education in patriotic service to the community.



VFW SSG DOZIER MEMORIAL POST 2894

Chesapeake, Virginia 23322

"Honoring the fallen by helping the living."

NEWSLETTER – Vol. V, Issue 3, June-July 2016



POST 2894

Meetings

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



Post Address:

VFW Post 2894
PO Box 15842

Chesapeake, VA 23328

Phone: 757-620-0087

Email: cdpost2894@va.vfwwebmail.com

Web Site:

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

Visit us on Facebook

OFFICERS

Commander..... Chris Mulholland
Sr. Vice Commander..... Matt Schweers
Jr. Vice Commander..... Mark Rios
Adjutant..... Tom Benson
Quartermaster..... Mike Kust
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

STATE

www.vfwva.org

VFW VA DISTRICT 2

www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2

COMMANDER'S CORNER

WHAT A YEAR!!! Our Teacher of the Year placed 4th in the country! Our Voice of Democracy placed 3rd at State! Our Post newsletter won the National Grand Award! We had 107% membership! And we made All-State Post!!!

And it's all thanks to you! Each and every one of you! Without you, we would not have had another successful Bataan Death March Memorial Walk, or Awards Ceremony, or Buddy Poppy drives!

I think our success also derives from our first priority being about 'Service to Others'. We're not your father's VFW. With 36,000 veterans in Chesapeake (5th largest in Virginia), we have room to grow!!!

Inside this edition you'll find stories and photos of some terrific activities by the post. By the time you read this, I will have visited the Veterans Group at St. Brides Correctional Facility. They are interested in working with us on various service projects.

Our new officers will be installed at our 8 June meeting – come on out and help kick-start another great year! We'll retire to a nearby "pub" afterwards to celebrate and share our camaraderie. Ask a veteran friend to join you as a potential new member.



flier is in the back of this newsletter.

We are planning on marching in the South Norfolk 4th of July parade. **Check our Facebook page for more details on this and a lot more!**

Semper Fidelis, *Chris Mulholland, Commander*

You've only got a few more weeks to buy one of the raffle tickets offered by **Bass Pro Shops** for 50 items worth over \$13,000. For every \$5 ticket sold, the post receives \$1. See me if you're interested. *The*

therefore, the Auxiliary will not have a meeting in June or July. Our next meeting will be August 10, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m. I hope everyone enjoys their trips and returns home safely.

The Bataan Death March was a great success and I know there was a lot of hours planning, organizing, reaching out for sponsorship, etc. This event is one of many where the Post and the Auxiliary work together as a team to get things done. I want to Thank everyone for your help and I know we have more activities that we will be working together to benefit the Veterans.

At the Awards Meeting, Krystal Harris was awarded a check from the Post and gift card from the Auxiliary for her entry in the Patriotic Art Contest. The winner will be announced at the Dept. Convention in June. We wish her Good Luck and Best Wishes for her future in art.

June 16th thru 19th Dept. Convention will be held at the Ramada Williamsburg East, 500 Merrimac Trail, Williamsburg.

Our next District 2 Meeting/School of Instruction will be on August 13, 2016.

Our VFW has been helping Hampton Roads Hounds for Heroes and I had an opportunity to ask the Bethel of Job's Daughter's to use the HRHH for a community project. Valerie Melton was in charge of this project and contacted Linda McAbee what she needed. We collected Pup-Peroni treats, tennis balls, paper towels, Fabuloso Cleaning Detergent, picture frames and plastic bags. On Sunday, May 15th, the girls got a tour and met Chase. The girls enjoyed playing with him and Linda demonstrated some of the things Chase has learned to do.



Jose, Gary and I went to the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for HRHH on April 29th. It was very nice and we got a chance to learn and see what Linda has been doing and her plans for the future.

As everyone makes plans for Memorial Weekend, I hope we all take a few moments to remember what the day represents. Some of us are going to City Hall for the Memorial Ceremony and some of us are going to Portsmouth's Memorial Day Parade. Whatever your plans may be, **Remember the Vets.**

Thanks, *Sandy Dunbar, President*

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from the VFW Auxiliary. Spring has arrived; however, there are days that you are not sure what to wear because of the weather. Several of us have vacation plans for the next month or so;

5th ANNUAL BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK

Although the night before the walk was wet and stormy, the 23rd of April dawned clear and bright. We had more than 650 participants walk one of the three various distances. One of our comrades, Ron Mayfield, completed the 16 miles with his hand-cycle!

Afterwards, we had some terrific speakers including author Steve Melillio and 94-year-old survivor, Dan Crowley, who kept people spellbound with his stories of survival and patriotism. As Councilwoman Debbie Ritter stated, "Sound of body and mind, he delivered an inspirational and powerful message about maintaining our military before we are again caught sleeping and the enemy strikes thinking we are weak and unable to fight back." Mr. Crowley even



Mr. Crowley "reenacting" Bataan!

drove himself from and to Connecticut in a convertible Mustang!

We all owe another big shout out to Grace and Matt Schweers for taking the lead on this event

which has become popular with people up and down the East Coast. Also a big "bravo-zulu" (BZ) to the committee which was instrumental in pulling off all the little things: Carl and Jean Dozier, Mark and Becky Junghans, Jose Vazquez, Ann Jones, and Chris Mulholland. They solicited donors, designed the t-shirts, arranged for



Some of our comrades and volunteers.

publicity, coordinated the volunteers, etc., etc. Jose even got us a jeep to put on display!

We also need to thank the Sheriff's Department for all that they did, the Fire and Police

Departments, the Marines of Security Training Group Northwest, and the VFW Riders and Patriot's Guard who escorted Mr. Crowley from the hotel to the Dismal Swamp.

And of course, thanks to all the post and auxiliary members who were there to set up, monitor and clean up afterwards. And now for the bottom line...**we raised over \$5.000 for our charitable efforts!!! THANKS TO ALL!!!**

2016-'17 POST OFFICERS

The following officers were elected at the 13 April meeting for the 2016-17 year. We appreciate everyone's participation in the vote since these are the comrades who will keep the post "on an even keel" and be responsible for all the upcoming activities and finances. The installation ceremony will take place at the 8 June Post meeting.

| ELECTED OFFICERS | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Commander | Chris Mulholland |
| Senior Vice Cdr | Matt Schweers |
| Junior Vice Cdr | Mark Rios |
| Quartermaster | Mike Kust |
| Chaplain | Mark Junghans |
| 1 st Year Trustee | Ben Larson |
| 2 nd Year Trustee | John Guill |
| 3 rd Year Trustee | Carl Dozier |
| APPOINTED OFFICERS | |
| Judge Advocate | Matt Hamel |
| Surgeon | Jose Vazquez |
| Adjutant | Tom Benson |
| Service Officer | Gary Dunbar |

POST AWARDS NIGHT - A GREAT SUCCESS!

We held our annual Awards Ceremony on 11 May with a large crowd on hand ranging from Mayor Krasnoff, Chief of Police Wright, Deputy Fire Chief Fermil, School Board member Louis Tayon, District 2 Commander "Butch" Schupska, and many others.

We gave out two new awards this year for the first time ever: the Auxiliary presented the Patriotic Art Award to Krystal Harris, who will be attending VCU this fall in order to study art. Her piece combined elements of Vietnam and WWI but she also put a twist on it by using the Ace of Hearts (love) instead of the Ace of Spades (death). We used her art on the program for the ceremony.



The other new award was our Deputy Sheriff of the Year. We have always recognized the Police Officer of the Year but we thought it only right to add another award for the Deputy Sheriff.

We were also especially honored with the presence of three "veteran" veterans: Mickey Casady, who joined the Navy in 1937 and served in both the Atlantic and Pacific campaigns; Sisneros "Tony" Rivera, a survivor of Corregidor who is transferring his membership to our post; and Jack Garnier, a former post commander from



Comrade Rivera hangs the Pacific Campaign Streamer while Mickey Casady and Jack Garnier observe.

Lake Placid, New York, and Korean war veteran.

At the end of the awards, we hung battle streamers on our Post flag from each of the major campaigns in the past 75 years and asked any veterans of those

campaigns to stand and be honored. We hung streamers from the WWII European, American, and Pacific campaigns; Korean War and Service; Vietnam War and POW/MIA; Armed Forces Expeditionary; Desert Storm/Desert Gulf; Global War on Terrorism Service and Expeditionary; Afghanistan; and Iraq.

We also presented plaques to the Sheriff's Department for all that they do in support of the Post and local veterans, and a plaque to Wendy Childers for her unwavering support of deployed Marines through her "We Care Marines" program which has already sent more than 5,000 care-packages overseas.

The reception afterwards was a great success due to the efforts of Sandy Dunbar, Jim Keiper and the Auxiliary. Thanks to you all!

The following awards were presented:

Patriots' Pen Award

Each year more than 130,000 students in grades 6 through 8 enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen youth essay contest. The contest encourages young people to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern society, by drafting a 300 to 400-word essay,



expressing their views on different themes, this year's being, "What Freedom Means To Me." The winner of Post 2894's Patriots' Pen for 2015-16 is Kayleigh Hamel, an 8th grader at St. Gregory the Great Catholic School in Virginia Beach and her parents are Matt and Karen. In her essay, Kayleigh wrote, "I take great pride in knowing that my dad is a veteran of a foreign war, but as he continually reminds me, there are so many other great veterans who gave their lives willingly so that I could continue to enjoy the daily freedoms so often taken for granted. We must never take these freedoms and our democracy for granted...I will do everything in my power to do my part to honor those that have gone before me and to serve as an example to those who shall follow." Kayleigh received a certificate, a \$100 check, a PP medal, and a pin. Congratulations, Kayleigh!

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Award

The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest was begun in 1979 to recognize up-and-coming artists and encourage patriotism in youth. Each year more than 3,500 high school students from across the country participate in the contest. This year is the very first time that this award will be presented in Chesapeake. The winner of the Post 2894 Auxiliary's Patriotic Art Contest is Krystal Harris. Her mother is Jeannett. Krystal is a senior at Western Branch High School who will be attending VCU in the fall to study art. Her winning art work was portrayed on the front of the program for the ceremony. What we veterans really enjoyed is that she incorporated buddy poppies - a symbol of the blood shed during World War I - with a symbol from the Vietnam war, a playing card in the headband of a helmet. The National Winner receives \$21,000 so we wish her the best of luck as her art piece moves to the State level for judging. Krystal received a certificate, a \$25 gift card from the Auxiliary, a \$100 check from the Post, and a Patriotic Art pin. Well done, Krystal.

Voice of Democracy Award

The Voice of Democracy Award is VFW's premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 40,000 high



school students compete for more than 2.2 million dollars in scholarships and incentives. These scholarships range up to a national first place prize of \$30,000. The VFW established the program in 1947 to provide high school students the opportunity to express themselves in regards to democratic ideas and principles. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme was: "My Vision for America." The winner of this year's Voice of Democracy contest for Post 2894 is Caitlin Head, a senior homeschooler from Virginia Beach. Caitlin also won the

District 2 award and she placed 2nd runner-up at the State level. Here's what she expressed in her essay, "While necessity might be the mother of invention, innovation is the child of competition, and competition is only possible through free enterprise. If we were to sacrifice the rights of the individual for the supposed sake of the whole, we would sacrifice the Edisons, the Carnegies, and the Fords. We'd never know another Steve Jobs or Walt Disney. On the other hand, if we encouraged the success of individuals, the whole would ultimately benefit from their success...The same concept applies on a global scale. When one nation prospers, the whole world is affected. America's success challenges and enables the rest of society to follow suit. No other nation has had the global influence America enjoys, because no other nation has made the contribution we have." With ideas like these, Caitlin was enthusiastically awarded our Post's Voice of Democracy award. From our Post, Caitlin received a certificate, a \$150 check, a VOD medal, and a pin. From the Department, she received a plaque and a \$400 check!

Scout of the Year

Some of the VFW's earliest ties to the community involve youth groups and perhaps none are stronger or more lasting than the relationship between the VFW and America's scouting organizations. In fact, VFW's partnership with the Scouts of America dates back to 1915 when VFW Post 2100 helped to establish Boy Scout Troop 1 in Everett, Washington. Through the VFW's Scout of the Year program, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Venture Crew Scouts who display standout citizenship, patriotism and love of country have the opportunity to be rewarded with college scholarships of up to 5,000 dollars. The winner of our Post's Scout of the Year is Elizabeth Acors of Girl Scout Troop 658. Elizabeth is a senior at Grassfield High School and is used to being up here as a Post award winner,



last year she won the Voice of Democracy contest. Elizabeth is ranked 10th in a class of 531 and her GPA is a 4.575! She has more achievements and activities than you can shake a stick at but it was still one of the closest contests we've ever had. The difference maker was her service project. She devoted her Gold Award toward improvements at "LZ Grace", a retreat for special operations force troops seeking post combat deployment support. The center provides a confidential and secure place for warriors to decompress before reentering family and civilian life. As a former US Ranger said, "I have very few places to hide. My life is so busy. It's virtually impossible to unplug and unwind. When I go out to LZ-Grace, everything else goes away and I can breathe. When I drive (or ride) away from the property, I feel cleansed and rejuvenated." Elizabeth contributed to this

state of well-being and renewal for the highest trained – and strained – servicemen of our country and for that we enthusiastically selected her as our Scout of the Year. Elizabeth received a certificate, a \$180 check, and a VFW patch.

Teacher of the Year

The Teacher of the Year program recognizes teachers who promote a sense of national pride in their students. Every year, 7500 VFW posts around the country nominate teachers for awards at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Last year, our post winner, Craig Blackman, won National high school teacher of the year and traveled to Pittsburgh with his family where they met the President. Kimberly was also selected as the District 2 as well as the Department of Virginia High School Teacher of the Year! Kimberly set a Guinness Book of World Records when she held the largest in-person civics class in history with 714 students. She held their rapt attention while teaching them what it means to be a free American citizen with all the rights and responsibilities that entails. As Alexis de Toqueville pointed out, each new generation is a new people that must acquire the knowledge,



Kimberly Hammers (rt) with Mayor Krasnoff (ctr) and Principal Mike Perez of Grassfield HS.

learn the skills, and develop the dispositions or traits of private and public character that undergird a constitutional democracy. Kimberly's past students have described her as, "a great teacher who is also a little bit eccentric. She hates people who talk back, people who argue with her and don't know what they're talking about, and people who talk during the announcements... so don't do it! If you're smart, a good student, don't misbehave and genuinely try in her class, you're fine. Hammerland! WOOH!" Another exclaimed, "Mrs. Hammers was soooo cool...[I'm] taking AP Gov't just cause she's teaching it. Hammerlanian for life!" This past year, her students had a 99% passing rate on the college AP exams. She has chaired numerous committees in school while doing a lot of work out of the classroom. She not only 'talks the talk' about giving back to the community, she sets the example for her students by 'walking the walk.' She has been honored with a Teaching Excellence award by the Future Educators of America, and her personal classroom management plan was published in a book for teachers. For her passion in teaching and interest in our future generations, Kimberly Hammers is awarded the Post 2894 Teacher of the Year award. As part of her reward for finishing in the top 5 at National, Kimberly will be attending the Medal of Honor lecture series at Valley Forge this summer. This has been a dream of hers for several years and now she gets to go

there for free! Kimberly received a certificate and a \$250 check.

Deputy Sheriff of the Year

Deputy Specialist Richard Scott of the Chesapeake Sheriff's Department is our first ever Deputy of the Year. Deputy Scott is a 20 year veteran and has worked in a variety of sections. He is currently assigned to the Sheriff's K-9 Unit with his partner Max. The partners have made numerous arrests and been instrumental in removing many pounds of illegal narcotics and multiple dangerous weapons from our streets, making Chesapeake a safer place to live. This past October, a cash box was snatched from a restaurant manager as he was walking into a bank on South Battlefield Boulevard. Witnesses



were able to describe the car that the suspect got into. When Deputy Scott heard the call on the radio, he realized the suspects would more than likely use the bypass as their getaway route and he was right. He led the chase into Norfolk where the suspects eventually stopped and fled on foot. Two of them were eventually apprehended after a foot pursuit and the money was recovered. Without his attention to detail and assistance, the suspects would have likely escaped. Although engaged in other duties at the time, Deputy Scott had the presence of mind to monitor his police radio and perform his duties far above and beyond what would be expected. For that, he is awarded our Deputy Sheriff of the Year Award. Richard received a certificate and a \$125 check.

Emergency Medical Technician of the Year

Our next award went to the Emergency Medical Technician of the Year, Firefighter Paramedic David Brock. As was written in his citation, Firefighter Brock is a key member in the development of the current Advanced Life Support Orientation and Field Training



Evaluation Program. He spent many hours creating realistic scenarios that challenged new medics. He is a dynamic and powerful communicator who possesses the gift of being able to make complex subjects understandable. But he is also a humble and approachable person who loves to share his extensive knowledge with others. He has been a Field Training Evaluator and played a major role in helping many new firefighters successfully become the experts they are today. He also served in Philadelphia and overseas in Kuwait and Kwajalein Atoll. He is a member of FEMA's urban search and rescue team based in Virginia Beach. Congratulations Firefighter Paramedic Brock! David received a certificate and a \$125 check.

Firefighter of the Year

Firefighter/EMT Charles "Crow" Crowthers has been a member of the Chesapeake Fire Department since 2007. His citation read, "It is challenging to find where



Firefighter Crowthers has displayed superior performance because he makes exceeding the department's expectations the norm!" He is a physical training instructor at the fire academy with a 'motivational' style all his own that includes "making sounds like the Tasmanian Devil"! Another statement in his citation reads, "He has a highly competitive attitude and superior physical abilities that all members of the fire service should strive to attain." He constantly seeks to improve himself. If someone is better at something than he is, by the next week he will be doing it better than they do! One of his superiors summed it up with, "The biggest compliment I can pay him is to say that I seek to bring the 'Crow' out of every firefighter." Crow is a former Marine who served in Desert Shield/Desert Storm. For his intense passion for the fire service and the department, Firefighter Crowthers is recognized as our Post Firefighter of the Year. Crow received a certificate and a \$125 check.

Police Officer of the Year

Officer Michael Hilton is our Police Officer of the Year. He is a native "Great Bridger", having graduated from high school here in 2001. He has been with the Department since the summer of 2004 and is currently assigned to the 3rd Precinct. This is a bitter sweet award for Officer Hilton, because while we honored his professionalism, attention to detail, and mental preparation, there was a fatal consequence. Just like many members of this post have done in overseas environments, he went to work one day hoping for a slow

day but found himself in a life-and-death situation before it ended. A year ago this past January, he responded to a



shots-fired call – a suicide-by-cops attempt. Before entering the area, Officer Hilton stopped his vehicle and did what many of us have done before going into a fire – he checked his weapons. When he got back into his car and drove around the corner he came under immediate fire and then used his vehicle to provide cover for himself and another officer. When the suspect didn't comply with orders to drop the weapon, Officer Hilton returned fire and the suspect was hit and later died. But Officer Hilton is defined by much more than this one incident. He is a loving husband and the father of two young girls. He has received numerous awards including the Star Performer Award and Lifesaver Award after performing CPR to a female driver who had a heart attack and crashed her car. While veterans put their lives on the line in foreign lands, officers like Michael put their lives on the line back here at home. And for that, and for everything else that Officer Hilton has done during the entirety of his career, we honor him as our Police Officer of the Year. Michael received a certificate and a \$125 check.

Special Awards

A plaque was presented to Deputy Specialist Scott on behalf of Sheriff O'Sullivan, as a measure of our appreciation for all that the department has done and



continues to do to in support of Post 2894 and all the veterans of Chesapeake.

Wendy and Randy Childers, were then presented with a plaque with our appreciation for all that they have done and continue to do to support our young servicemen and women deployed overseas in defense of our nation.

Lastly, Comrades Mark Junghans and Jose Vazquez, were presented with certificates thanking them for their Exemplary Dedication to the Post and our Community.

During the past year, they were always the first ones to throw their hands into the air whenever volunteers were needed. Thank you both.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR WINNERS!

After the ceremony, we had a reception with drinks and appetizers for everyone.

**IN MEMORIAM: CDR ROBERT S. IKE, SR,
USN (Ret) - February 4, 1929 – April 9, 2016**

Robert C. "Bob" Ike, 87, of Chesapeake, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family on Saturday, April 9, 2016, after a courageous battle against multiple myeloma cancer.

Born in Wharton, Texas, he was the son of the late William M. and Alma C. Ike. At age 17, Bob enlisted in the U.S. Navy, rose to the rank of Chief, attended OCS and was then commissioned as an Ensign. During his Naval career, Bob earned a Masters Degree in Public Administration. After 34 years, he honorably retired as a full Commander. Bob was a Veteran of WWII, Korea and Vietnam, having served aboard the USS Midway and America's first guided missile destroyer, the USS Durant. Additionally, he served as a civilian



in Saudi Arabia, supporting Operation Desert Storm. After returning to Chesapeake, Bob, with his son Robert, founded Sentry Security Systems in 1989, retiring in 2015. During his second retirement, Bob enjoyed researching family genealogy, stamp collecting and tending to his purple martins.

Survivors include his loving wife of 66 years, Georgia E. Ike; children, Marsha J. Chase and husband Russell, Tami L. Ike and wife Patricia, Robert C. Ike, Jr. and wife Brenda; grandchildren, Shannon and husband Jeff, Heather and husband Dan, Tanner and wife Erin, Robert III and wife Heather, Christopher, Jeremy and wife Andrea; great-grandchildren, Adam, Brandon, Brooke, Aiden, Lilly, Logan, Brinleigh and Abigail, as well as numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

A graveside service with full military honors was conducted at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, April 14, 2016 in Rosewood Memorial Park, Virginia Beach. Dr. Will Langford officiated.

The family received friends on Wednesday, April 13, at Oman Funeral Home & Crematory, Chesapeake.

Bob was a longtime member of VFW Post 2894 in Chesapeake.



4th OF JULY PARADE, SOUTH NORFOLK

We have been talking about getting more involved in community activities and have finally decided to make the first move. We will be marching in the 36th Independence Day Parade in South Norfolk. The parade takes place on 4 July with lineup at 0800 at the South Norfolk Baptist Church at 101 Chesapeake Avenue. The parade actually starts at 1000 and it's only a one mile. We will have a color guard – NEED



VOLUNTEERS! – two rifle bearers, national and post flags, and a color sergeant. We will also have a jeep in our “parade”, the same one that was at the Bataan Death March, thanks to Jose Vazquez!

The parade finishes at Lakeside Park which, if you've never been there, includes a war memorial to all of the Gold Star Heroes of South Norfolk, Norfolk County and Chesapeake since WWI.

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

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

OTHER POST NEWS

On 28 April, SSG Jon Dozier was remembered during the annual “Run for the Fallen” which starts at Ft. Story and ends at Arlington Cemetery. The



group of runners stop at every mile and render honors to one or more fallen Virginians. Comrades Carl Dozier and Chris Mulholland

brought the Post Flag and Jon's Honor-and-Remember flag to mile marker 8 in Virginia Beach to meet the runners.

Comrade Jim Keiper attended the grand opening and ribbon cutting of the Thrift Store which supports the Montero Medical Mission. The store is located next to the Farm Fresh and opposite Chesapeake General Hospital. Consider stopping by and doing some “contemporary antique” shopping!

Chesapeake finally acquired the signs for the Gold Star Bridge on Route 168 going towards Nags Head as it



crosses the Northwest River.

Comrade Jay Redman (ctr below) gave a presentation to the annual conference of the NJ Society of Plastic Surgeons and received a letter from Governor Christy honoring his recovery from wounds and for setting an example for others. This



year's conference focused on reconstruction of battlefield injuries. Jay has also been heavily involved in the filming of a documentary

movie about the tribulations of returning servicemen and women with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and more, and their relationships with friends and



family. The movie is called “When War Comes Home.” We'll keep you updated on its release.

Joint Base Langley-Eustis held a dedication of a Soldier's Cross in honor of Gold Star Families on 14 May. Carl and Jean Dozier attended in memory of their son, Jonathan. If you're ever on the base at Ft. Eustis, be sure to stop by and render honors.

WWI History, 100 Years Ago Today...

June 1, 1916 – Battle of Jutland ends. Germans at Verdun continue offensive success along Meuse River and attack French on the east bank, targeting Fort Vaux and fortification at Thiaumont. Eight days later, both objectives taken as French suffer heavy casualties. Germans push onward toward ridge that overlooks Verdun and edge toward Meuse bridges. Entire nation of France now rallies behind their troops in defense of Verdun as French generals vow it will not be taken.

June 4, 1916 - Four Russian armies on Eastern Front, under innovative new commander, General Alexei Brusilov, begin general offensive in southwest along 300-mile front. Brusilov avoids predictable narrow frontline attacks used previously, in favor of sweeping offensive over hundreds of miles that is harder to pin down. Thinly stretched Austro-Hungarian troops defending Front are taken by surprise. Realizing their distress, Germans pull four divisions from Verdun and send them east. By end of summer, Germans will send 20

more divisions and merge surviving Austro-Hungarian troops into Germany Army.

June 9, 1916 – Jidda (Arabia) captured by Arab forces.

June 10, 1916 – Turkish garrison of Mecca surrenders to Sherif.

June 22, 1916 - Germans resume offensive near Verdun, targeting Fort Souville which overlooks city and Meuse bridges. Using poisonous phosgene gas at start of the attack, initially take village of Fleury just two miles north of Verdun, but further advance southward is halted by strong French counter-attack. Verdun has become battle of attrition for both sides with death toll already approaching 500,000 men.

Battle of the Somme; July 1-November 18, 1916

June 24, 1916 - Allies begin week-long artillery bombardment of German defensive positions on Somme River in northern France, in preparation for major British-led offensive. Over 1.5 million shells fired along 15-mile front to pulverize intricate German trench system and blow apart rows of barbed wire. British Commander Douglas Haig believes this will allow unhindered infantry advance and rapid breakthrough of German Front on first day of battle.

July 1, 1916 - British Army suffers worst single-day death toll in history as 18,800 soldiers killed on first day of Battle of Somme. Losses come as 13 attacking divisions encounter German defenses still intact despite seven-day bombardment designed to knock them out. British also attack in broad daylight, advancing in lines shoulder-to-shoulder only to be systematically mowed down by German machine-guns. Somme offensive quickly becomes battle of attrition as British and French troops make marginal gains against Germans but repeatedly fail to break through entire Front as planned.

July 10, 1916 - Germans attack again at Verdun, using poison gas, and advance toward Fort Souville. Four days later, French counter-attack and halt Germans.



July 13, 1916 - British launch night attack against German positions along 3.5-mile portion of Somme Front. After advancing nearly 1,000 yards, advance halted as Germans regroup defenses. Two days later, British once again penetrate German line and advance to High Wood but are then pushed back.

www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/firstworldwar/index-1916.html

www.greatwar.co.uk/timeline/ww1-events-1916.htm

CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE

Remembering D Day from a Different Perspective. The article you are about to read was originally published in the "Daily Signal" by Rich Toker, on June 6, 2012 and is titled: "D Day: Let Us Pray" I find it very fitting for this year's 72nd Anniversary of the D Day landing:

When we look back across history, it's all too easy to assume that because something happened, it had to happen exactly the way it did.

But there was nothing inevitable, for example, about Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo or the Union's victory at Gettysburg. These battles could easily have turned in a different direction, and the tide of human history might have changed with them.

The same is true for D-Day, June 6, 1944, when Allied forces began carrying out the largest amphibious invasion in history. Within a year, the Allies succeeded in freeing Europe from Nazi domination.

But nobody knew what the outcome would be when the mission started. Just in case, commanding General Dwight D. Eisenhower drafted a brief letter stating: "Our landings in the Cherbourg-Harve area have failed to gain a satisfactory foothold and I have withdrawn the troops. My decision to attack at this time and place was based upon the best information available. The troops, the air and the Navy did all that bravery and devotion to duty could do. If any blame or fault attaches to the attempt it is mine alone."

He never had to release that note.

At the White House, President Franklin Roosevelt also knew that the mission might not succeed. That evening he took to the airways to encourage Americans to pray for the success of the invasion.

As Americans remember D-Day 71 years later, it's fitting that we also remember FDR's moving prayer. Here's one way to do so: The World War II Memorial "commemorates the sacrifice and celebrates the victory of 'the greatest generation,'" as the National Park Service notes.

Sixty eight years after D-Day, the House of Representatives passed HR 2070, "To direct the Secretary of the Interior to install in the area of the World War II Memorial in the District of Columbia a suitable plaque or an inscription with the words that President Franklin D. Roosevelt prayed with the nation on June 6, 1944."

FDR's prayer, calling upon God to bless America's mission in Europe, deserves a prominent place at the World War II Memorial. The entire prayer, with its powerful appeal to God and its emphasis on the goodness of America's fight, follows:

My Fellow Americans:

Last night, when I spoke with you about the fall of Rome, I knew at that moment that troops of the United States and our Allies were crossing the Channel in another and greater operation. It has come to pass with success thus far.

And so, in this poignant hour, I ask you to join with me in prayer:

Almighty God: Our sons, pride of our nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our Republic, our religion, and our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity.

Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith.

They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph.

They will be sore tried, by night and by day, without rest—until the victory is won. The darkness will be rent by noise and flame. Men's souls will be shaken with the violence of war.

For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and goodwill among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home.

Some will never return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, Thy heroic servants, into Thy kingdom.



And for us at home—fathers, mothers, children, wives, sisters, and brothers of brave men overseas, whose thoughts and prayers are ever with them—help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice.

Many people have urged that I call the nation into a single day of special prayer. But because the road is long and the desire is great, I ask that our people devote themselves in a continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts.

Give us strength, too—strength in our daily tasks, to redouble the contributions we make in the physical and the material support of our armed forces.

And let our hearts be stout, to wait out the long travail, to bear sorrows that may come, to impart our courage unto our sons wheresoever they may be.

And, O Lord, give us faith. Give us faith in Thee; faith in our sons; faith in each other; faith in our united crusade. Let not the keenness of our spirit ever be dulled. Let not the impacts of temporary events, of temporal matters of but fleeting moment—let not these deter us in our unconquerable purpose.

With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances. Lead us to the saving of our country, and with our sister nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace—a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men. And a peace that will let all of men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.

Thy will be done, Almighty God. Amen.

✦ SAFETY CORNER ✦ JUNE IS START OF HURRICAN SEASON

VFW Ready (Safety & Preparedness)

Severe Weather Can Threaten Summer Fun, Safety and Health

Summer means vacation, outdoor activities, and fun in the sun! It's a time when families hit the road to visit national parks or distant relatives. The warm months and long days mean that there is plenty of time for baseball games and barbecues. The sultry temperatures practically invite you to take a dip in the pool or ocean.

But don't let the sunny days and warm nights fool you. Summer also holds significant weather hazards. Heat waves can be lengthy and deadly. Lightning deaths are at their peak during the summer. June 1st is the start of hurricane season.

This summer, the VFW wants you to be prepared for weather hazards. You're not powerless in the face of these hazards. With just a few simple steps, you can become VFW-Ready. Stay safe this summer:

Know Your Risk

Being prepared means learning about summer weather hazards such as hurricanes, heat, lightning, rip currents, air quality and wildfires. Here's what you need to know:

- Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30. Hurricane hazards come in many forms, including storm surge, heavy rainfall, inland flooding, high winds, tornadoes, and rip currents.
- Since 2003, 43 states within the continental United States have come under a tornado watch; 49 states have come under severe thunderstorm watches; and lightning strikes occur in every state.
- Heat waves are common across the country during the summer. They are dangerous because the human body cannot cool itself properly when exposed to an extreme combination of heat and humidity.
- Between 1959 and 2003, lightning has killed 62 people in Virginia and injured at least 252 people.
- Wildfires kill 30 people, destroy 2,800 homes and burn more than 7 million acres, on average, per year.
- Flash flooding is the number one killer associated with severe weather.
- Air pollution can make it harder for people with asthma and other respiratory diseases to breathe. Children and teens may be more sensitive than adults to the health effects caused by air pollution. According to the EPA, poor air quality is responsible in the U.S. for an estimated 60,000 premature deaths each year.

Take Action

While the weather may be wild, you are not powerless. Prepare for summer hazards with these simple steps:

- Do you live in a hurricane evacuation zone? If so, you need to plan on where you and your family would ride out the storm if you are told to evacuate.
- You may have only minutes to find shelter before a tornado strikes. Practice a family tornado drill at least once a year.
- Protect yourself from extreme heat by rescheduling outdoor activities to earlier in the day.
- There is no safe place outside when lightning is in the area. If you hear thunder, you are likely within striking distance of the storm. Just remember, When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors.
- If you live near wildland areas, make sure your home is Firewise and fire-safe. Also determine evacuation routes from your home. Visit weather.gov to determine if your area is at risk for dangerous fire weather conditions.
- Whether on foot or in a car, if you encounter flood waters, "Turn Around - Don't Drown!"
- Make sure to check the Air Quality Index for your area at <http://airquality.weather.gov> or <http://aimnow.gov>. If the air quality is poor, avoid prolonged or extreme exertion outdoors.

Be a VFW Ready

Your action can inspire others. Be VFW Ready and share how you're working to stay safe from weather hazards this summer at your post.

- Create a Family Communication Plan so that your loved ones know how to get in touch during an emergency. And let your friends know that they should create a plan also.
- Look for ways to help your town prepare, such as volunteering with the American Red Cross or joining a Community Emergency Response Team.
- Register for America's PrepareAthon! to learn how to stay safe during disasters.

With these steps, you'll be doing more than just protecting yourself - you'll help us build a VFW Ready Organization, and helping VFW to do it's part to meet organizational goals as spelt out in the National Response Framework

Get to Know your local National Weather Service Warning Forecast Office. NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) provides weather, water and climate data and forecasts and warnings to protect life and property and enhance the national economy. NOAA's vision is a Weather-Ready Nation, one that is prepared for and responds to weather-dependent events. Here's what we're doing to prepare the public for summer weather hazards.

✦ SAFETY CORNER ✦ JULY - TAKE CAUTION WITH SUMMER TIME FUN

Experts offer advice for a safe day at the beach

By [Denise Mann](#), WebMD

From death-defying rip currents and red-hot sun to jellyfish stings and shark attacks, the beach can be a pretty scary place. But it doesn't have to be. Experts tell WebMD that a day at the beach can be ... well ... a day at the beach -- when you know what to look out for.

"Swimming and water activities are very healthy so long as you use appropriate caution for yourself and your family when you visit the beach," says B. Chris Brewster, president of the United States Lifesaving Association (USLA), a national organization based in Huntington Beach, Calif. The first step is knowing where danger lurks and how to avoid it.

Conquering Rip Currents

The best way to protect yourself from rip currents is to avoid them.

"Select a beach where lifeguards are present because the chances of drowning are 1 in 18 million if a lifeguard is present," he says. Sounds simple enough, but there are many beaches around the U.S. where no lifeguards are provided by the local community, he says. "Make sure beaches are staffed at the time you are swimming," he adds. "At some beaches, lifeguards are only staffed until 6 p.m., for example, so the mere fact that you go to a beach where a lifeguard is present doesn't mean a lifeguard will be present when you are swimming," he says. "Check with them before you swim and ask where the safe places are," he says. "It is their role

"You are far more likely to be injured in a car accident driving to the beach than to ever even see a shark," says Brewster. To avoid becoming a statistic, "don't wear shiny jewelry or swim at dusk," Brewster suggests. "Shark bites are believed to be a result of prey identification mistakes where the shark thinks you are a fish or a seal."



Fireworks: The possession, manufacture, storage, sale, handling and use of fireworks are prohibited in the City of Chesapeake. Leave the fireworks to the professionals this 4th of July and be SAFE!

Propane Grilling Do's

- Always use the grill outdoors in a well-ventilated area. Always follow all the manufacturer's instructions and keep written materials and manuals in a safe, accessible place.
- Make sure the grill burner controls are turned off and keep the cylinder valve fully closed when not in use.
- Make sure the gas grill is shut off and completely cooled before covering it after use.
- Always use or store cylinders in an upright, vertical position. Be sure to store them outdoors away from sources of ignition (i.e. heat, matches, or lighters).
- When a cylinder is refilled, have your Propane Supplier check for dents, damage, rust, or leaks.
- After filling, take the cylinder home immediately. While transporting, keep the vehicle ventilated with the cylinder valve closed and plugged or capped.
- When a grill is not in use, cover disconnected hose-end fittings and burner air intakes with small plastic bags, or obtain protective fitting caps from the propane gas retailer to keep out dirt, insects, and moisture.
- Before lighting a propane gas grill burner, test the gas fittings for leaks. The NFPA provides this leak detection solution: Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.

Charcoal grills

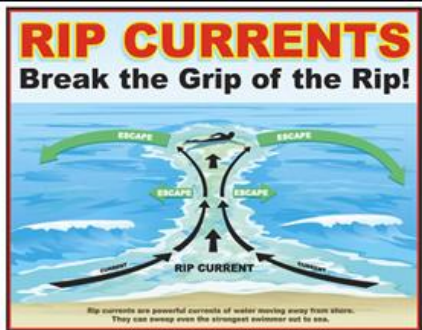
- There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.



Safe Boating Tips

No matter how much experience you have, it's always a good idea for everyone to review boating safety rules before departures. Below you will find 10 basic boating safety tips to help you stay safe:

- Be Weather-Wise** Always check local weather conditions before departure; TV and radio forecasts can be a good source of information. If you notice darkening clouds, volatile and rough changing winds or sudden drops in temperature, play it safe by getting off the water.



IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT

- Don't fight the current
- Swim out of the current, then to shore
- If you can't escape, float or tread water
- If you need help, call or wave for assistance

SAFETY

- Know how to swim
- Never swim alone
- If in doubt, don't go out

More information about rip currents can be found at the following web sites:
www.ripcurrents.maa.gov
www.aquatic.org

to help you find the safest place [and] if there are no lifeguards present, you may find a kiosk or signs at beach access points listing such information."

If you do happen to get caught in a rip current, "swim to the side one way or the other until you no longer have difficulties or feel yourself being pulled," Brewster advises.

Whatever you do, "don't fight the current because

these currents can move up to 8 knots, which is faster than an Olympic swimmer can swim," he says. "In many cases, you will be simply unable to overpower the rip current, so you'll want to outsmart it," he says.

Another option is to tread water until someone can assist you, Brewster suggests.

"Learn to swim in the environment where you are going to be swimming," Brewster says. "You may be a confident pool swimmer, but that doesn't prepare you for conditions on the North shore of Oahu in Hawaii," he says. "Always swim near a lifeguard and never swim alone," he says. "Even a very confident swimmer can experience difficulties and if there is an emergency and you are alone, you may not be noticed."

Alcohol and Swimming Don't Mix

According to the USLA, alcohol can reduce your [body temperature](#) and impair your swimming ability as well as impair judgment, causing you to take unnecessary risks.

Float Where You Can Swim

"If you have a raft, don't take it any further from shore than you have the capability to swim," Brewster says. "If you are using a floating device such as a body board or raft, use a leash so that if you fall off, you don't lose the device," he recommends.

Steer Clear of Sharks

Each summer, we tend to hear about at least one horrific shark attack. In fact, in mid-June, a surfer died after a shark bit him in the left thigh in waters off northeastern Brazil that are known for large concentrations of sharks, according to media reports. But shark attacks are actually rather rare. In fact, worldwide there is an average of 50 to 70 shark attacks every year, according to statistics compiled by the International Shark Attack File.

2. Follow a Pre-Departure Checklist Proper boating safety includes being prepared for any possibility on the water. Following a pre-departure checklist is the best way to make sure no boating safety rules or precautions have been overlooked or forgotten.

3. Use Common Sense One of the most important parts of boating safety is to use your common sense. This means operating at a safe speed at all times (especially in crowded areas), staying alert at all times and steering clear of large vessels and watercraft that can be restricted in their ability to stop or turn. Also, be respectful of buoys and other navigational aids, all of which have been placed there to ensure your own safety.

4. Designate an Assistant Skipper Make sure more than one person on board is familiar with all aspects of your boat's handling, operations, and general boating safety. If the primary navigator is injured or incapacitated in any way, it's important to make sure someone else can follow the proper boating safety rules to get everyone else back to shore.

5. Develop a Float Plan. Whether you choose to inform a family member or staff at your local marina, always be sure to let someone else know your float plan. This should include where you're going and how long you're going to be gone. A float plan can include the following information:

- name, address, and phone number of trip leader
- name and phone number of all passengers
- boat type and registration information
- trip itinerary
- types of communication and signal equipment onboard, such as an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) or Personal Locator Beacon (PLB)



6. Make Proper Use of Lifejackets. Did you know that the majority of drowning victims are the result of boaters not wearing their lifejackets? Make sure that your family and friends aren't part of this statistic by

assigning and fitting each member of your onboard team with a life jacket prior to departure. Wear it!

7. Avoid Alcohol. Practice boating safety at all times by saving the alcohol for later. The probability of being involved in a boating accident doubles when alcohol is involved and studies have shown that the effects of alcohol are exacerbated by sun and wind.

8. Learn to Swim. If you're going to be in and around the water, proper boating safety includes knowing how to swim. Local organizations, such as the American Red Cross and others, offer training for all ages and abilities. Check to see what classes are offered in your area.

9. Take a Boating Course. Beginning boaters and experienced experts alike need to be familiar with the boating safety rules of operation. Boater education requirements vary by state; however, some require validated completion of at least one boating safety course. Regardless of your individual state's requirements, it's always important to be educated and prepared for every circumstance that might arise. You can learn boating safety rules by taking a local community course or online course to help educate yourself.

10. Consider a Free Vessel Safety Check. Take advantage of a free vessel safety check from the US Coast Guard. They offer complimentary boat examinations to verify the presence and condition of certain safety equipment required by state and federal regulations. Free of charge, they'll provide a specialist to

check out your boat and make helpful boating safety tips and recommendations. They also offer virtual online safety checks as well.

For more information about safety and emergency preparedness checkout our VFW Ready Facebook page located online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/148777455151824/>

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, Mike Kust, Chris Mulholland, Carl Dozier.
- **Awards Committee:** Gary Dunbar, Mark Rios, Jose Vazquez, Matt Schweers, 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

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MILITARY SERVICE

If you served in the military after 1956, you paid Social Security taxes on those earnings. Since 1988, inactive duty service in the armed forces reserves (such as weekend drills) has also been covered by Social Security. Under certain circumstances, special extra earnings for periods of active duty from 1957 through 2001 can also be credited to your Social Security earnings record. **YOU MUST BRING YOUR DD-214 TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE AND ASK FOR THE BENEFIT TO RECEIVE IT!**

- **From 1957 through 1967**, the extra credits will be added to your record when you apply for Social Security benefits (by showing your DD-214).
- **From 1968 through 2001**, the credits were automatically added to your record (no need to apply).
- **After 2001**, there are no special earning credits for military service.

If you served from 1940 through 1956, including attendance at a military academy, you didn't pay Social Security taxes. However, your Social Security record may be credited with \$160 /month for service from 16 Sept 1940 through 31 Dec 1956 under following circumstances:

- You were honorably discharged after 90+ days of service, or were released because of disability or injury in line of duty, or
- You are still on active duty, or
- You're applying for survivor benefits and the veteran died while on active duty.

If you were on active duty after 1956, you can still get the special earnings for 1951-'56, even if you're receiving a military retirement based on service during that period. *These extra earnings credits are added to your earnings record when you apply for Social Security benefits.*

See more information at:

<https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10017.pdf>

QUARTERMASTER DESK

Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$30.00

Annual dues can be paid via mail (see our new address on front of newsletter) or to the Quartermaster at one of our meetings. If you pay on-line to National, the cost is \$45.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

You can become a VFW Life Member by paying a one-time fee as listed in the table below, or making an initial \$45 payment and then paying the remaining installments over the next 11 months. 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 by 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 is issued upon completion of payments.

| 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, via mail, or in-person at the meetings.

MARINE CORPS NIGHT HARBOR PARK "CODY CHILDERS 3RD BASE PATIO PARTY"

GET YOUR GET YOUR TICKETS!!!!



The Tidewater Tides will be celebrating **"Marine Corps" Night** on June 18th at 7:05 pm. Get there early so as not to miss any of the opening festivities.

The **Cody Childers Memorial Fund** has reserved the 3rd Base Patio Party Deck for the first 40 people to sign up – contact Wendy Childers (Childersx5@aol.com) to reserve your tickets. Ticket includes game, hotdogs/hamburgers with fixings and drinks/beer.

They will be posting the price soon on their website at <http://wecaremarines.com>

They also hope to be able to have a few cool raffles that night too.

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@vfwnationalhome.org

JUNE MILITARY HISTORY

- 1774 British close Port of Boston in punishment for "Tea Party"
- 1862 Battle of Seven Pines: Confederate Gen. Joe Johnston wounded, relinquishes command to Robert E. Lee
- 1864 Battle of Cold Harbor, Day 1
- 1866 Fenians attack Fort Erie, Ontario, from US soil
- 1871 US Sailors & Marines land in Korea, to protect U.S. citizens
- 1877 US troops authorized to pursue bandits & Indians into Mexico
- 1914 SecNav Josephus Daniels' G.O. 99 bars alcohol in fleet
- 1939 Director of Naval Research Laboratory, proposes research in atomic energy for use in subs
- 1944 Allied forces begin covering much of Britain with smoke screens, as troops crowd assembly areas for D-Day
- Feast of St. Elmo, Patron of Sailors
- 1774 Parliament passes Quartering Act, billeting troops in private homes
- 1784 Congress disbands last elements of Continental Army, save for 100 troops guarding supplies at West Point and Ft. Pitt
- 1865 Confederate Trans-Mississippi Department surrenders to Union forces
- 1914 Glenn Curtiss flies his 'Langley Aerodrome'
- 1784 Congress creates US Army, forming 1st American Regt (now 3rd Infantry) on a cadre of 100 troops left over from Continental Army
- 1916 Congress establishes ROTC (based on Norwich Univ. program)
- 1959 First US Air Force Academy graduation
- 1965 First American "space walk", Maj. Edward White, Gemini 4
- 1789 Constitution of United States goes into effect
- 1918 US & French halt Germans at Chateau-Thierry
- 1942 Battle of Midway: Japanese lose four CVs, USS Yorktown badly damaged
- 1944 Allied forces liberate Rome
- 1917 US begins draft registration: 10 million eventually sign up
- 1944 First B-29 raid over Tokyo; one lost to engine failure
- 1947 SecState George C Marshall outlines "Marshall Plan"
- 1967 Six Day War begins between Israel & Arab neighbors
- 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
- 1944 Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., earns Medal of Honor on Utah Beach
- 1945 Okinawa: Marines capture Naha airfield
- 7** 1775 "United Colonies" change name to "United States"
- 1912 US Army Air Service tests an airplane-mounted machine gun
- 1917 Liverpool: first American troops reach Europe
- 1942 Aleutians Campaign: Japanese troops land on Attu.
- 1942 Midway Campaign: 'Yorktown' (CV-5) sunk
- 8** 1965 US troops ordered to fight offensively in Vietnam
- 1967 Israeli air and naval forces attack USS 'Liberty' (AGTR-5), 34 Americans die
- 9** 1863 Battle of Brandy Station; largest cavalry fight of Civil War
- 1944 Normandy: U.S. VII & V Corps link up to form continuous beachhead
- 1945 Luzon: Sixth Army manages to isolate Japanese forces.
- 1945 Premier Kantaro Suzuki declares Japan will never surrender
- 1959 First ballistic missile sub launched, USS 'George Washington' (SSBN-598)
- 10** 1776 Congress appoints committee to write a Declaration of Independence
- 1801 Tripoli declares war on US, for refusing to pay protection, initiating First Barbary War (1801-1805)
- 12** 1987 Ronald Reagan says, "Mr. Gorbachov, tear down this wall."
- 1999 NATO peacekeeping forces begin operating in Kosovo, Yugoslavia
- 13** 1900 Boxer Rebellion begins in China
- 1912 First successful parachute jump from airplane, Capt Albert Berry, Jefferson, Ms
- 14** 1775 US Army formed from New England forces before Boston
- 1777 Congress replaces "Grand Union Flag" with "Stars & Stripes"
- 1777 John Paul Jones takes command of USS 'Ranger'
- 1942 Bazooka goes into production at Bridgeport, Ct
- 1949 State of Vietnam formed within 'French Union' under Emperor Bao Dai
- 1982 Falklands: Argentines surrender to Britain; 74-day war ends
- 1985 Lebanese Shiite gunmen hijack TWA 847 after takeoff from Athens
- 15** 1776 Americans burn and abandon Montreal
- 1864 Battle of Petersburg: Grant's first assault
- 1864 Robert E Lee's home, Arlington, becomes military cemetery
- 1877 Henry O Flipper becomes first black cadet to graduate from West Point
- 1944 US Marines land on Saipan
- 1955 First nationwide civil defense drill - "Duck and Cover!"
- 1978 Soyuz 29 carries two cosmonauts to Salyut 6, to stay 139 days
- 1991 Mt Pinatubo, Philippines erupts, closes Clark Air Force Base
- 16** 1858 Lincoln says "A house divided against itself cannot stand"
- 1864 Siege of Petersburg & Richmond begins
- 17** 1745 American colonials capture Louisburg, Cape Breton I., from French
- 1775 Battle of Bunker Hill (Breeds' Hill)
- 1777 19 year old Marquis de La Fayette (Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier) & several other French volunteers for American Revolution land at Charleston
- 1898 Navy Hospital Corps ("Corpsmen") established
- 1916 Pershing leads Punitive Expedition into Mexico in unsuccessful attempt to kill Pancho Villa
- 1945 Final Japanese defensive line on Okinawa breached
- 1965 Vietnam: First B-52 raid, 50 km north of Saigon
- 1972 Watergate: Republican operatives break into Democratic Party offices at Watergate Hotel in Washington
- 18** 1778 British evacuate Philadelphia
- 1812 US declares war against Britain
- 1878 Congress creates US Life Saving Service ("Coast Guard")
- 19** 1778 Washington's troops leave Valley Forge
- 1878 Congress passes Posse Comitatus Act, to prevent military from enforcing civil rights laws
- 1944 "Marianas Turkey Shoot" - Battle of Philippine Sea: in 2 days Japanese lose 3 CVs, 426 a/c, US 70 a/c.
- 1967 Muhammad Ali convicted of refusing induction into Army
- 20** 1675 Wampanoag Indians raid Swansea, Mass., initiating "King Philip's War" (1675-1676)
- 1782 Congress adopts Great Seal of United States
- 1813 War of 1812: US gunboats engage three British ships at Hampton Roads, VA
- 1867 US buys Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million
- 1941 US Army Air Corps is reorganized as Army Air Forces
- 1947 Cold War: Congress charters CIA
- 1963 Cold War: Washington-Moscow "hot line" established
- 21** 1876 Gen Terry sends Custer's 7th Cav to scout Little Bighorn River
- 1948 Berlin Airlift begins
- 22** 1938 Joe "Brown Bomber" Louis KO's Max "Hitler's Heavyweight" Schmeling at 2:04 into their rematch, in Yankee Stadium
- 1942 US introduces "V-Mail" for military personnel
- 1944 FDR signs "Servicemen's Readjustment Act", better known as "GI Bill of Rights"
- 1945 Okinawa secured: 110,000 Japanese troops, 100,000 civilians, 17,520 US troops died
- 23** 1938 Congress establishes US Maritime Service
- 25** 1864 Petersburg: Union troops begin a tunnel under Confederate lines
- 1876 Battle of Little Big Horn: Crazy Horse does in Custer
- 1942 Eisenhower takes command of US forces in Europe
- 1950 North Korea invades South Korea. claiming "self-defense"
- 1996 Dhahran, Saudi Arabia: Islamists bomb Khobar Towers, 19 Americans die, 500 Saudis & Americans injured
- 26** 1917 First American combat troops arrive in France
- 1924 US Marines leave Dominican Republic, after 8 years of occupation
- 1963 Berlin: Kennedy's "Ich bin ein Berliner" is wildly applauded
- 27** 1927 USMC adopts "Sgt Jiggs," an English bulldog, as its mascot
- 1950 US sends 35 military advisers to South Vietnam
- 28** 1948 Berlin Airlift begins
- 1965 President Johnson orders US ground forces to Vietnam
- 29** 1863 Lee orders his forces to concentrate near Gettysburg
- 1945 Operation Olympic: Truman sets invasion of Japan for Nov 1st

JULY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day1: Lee wins, but Union troops fall back on very strong position
- 1864 Battle of Petersburg (to July 31)
- 1867 Dominion of Canada formed
- 1870 James W Smith becomes first black man to enter West Point
- 1918 Marines secure Belleau Wood
- 1950 First US ground troops arrive in Korea

- 2 1776 Continental Congress declares Thirteen Colonies independent
1777 Vermont abolishes slavery, first "state" to do so
1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 2: A draw
1903 US leases Guantanamo Bay from Cuba for \$2,000 a year
1926 Congress authorizes Distinguished Flying Cross
1942 JCS authorize "Operation Watchtower," seizure of Guadalcanal
1957 'Seawolf' (SSN 575) completed, first sub with liquid metal cooled reactor
- 3 1754 Col. George Washington (22) surrenders Ft. Mifflin to French
1775 George Washington assumes command of Patriot forces investing Boston
1863 Battle Gettysburg, Day 3: "Pickett's Charge" is shattered
1950 First US-North Korean clash: TF Smith overrun
1988 USS 'Vincennes' (CG-49) accidentally shoots down Iranian airliner, 290 die
- 4 1776 Independence Day: Two days after voting for independence, Continental Congress adopts formal "Declaration of Independence"
1777 John Paul Jones hoists Stars and Stripes on USS Ranger, Portsmouth, NH
1801 1st Presidential Review of Marine Band and Marines, at White House.
1802 US Military Academy opens at West Point
1818 Congress rules flag shall have 13 stripes and one star for each state
1832 Samuel Francis Smith's "America" sung in public for first time
1863 Vicksburg surrenders to US Grant
1942 First American bombing mission over Nazi-occupied Europe
1942 American Volunteer Group ("Flying Tigers") becomes 14th AF
1950 Carriers USS 'Valley Forge' (CV-45) & HMS 'Triumph' make first UN air strikes of Korean War
- 5 1814 Battle of Chippewa: "Those are regulars, by God!"
1814 US Sloop-of-War 'Peacock' captures four British ships
1861 Skirmish at Newport News: US retakes Gosport Naval Base
1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 5: Lee retreats
- 6 1777 Burgoyne's British & Hessians capture Fort Ticonderoga
1785 Congress introduces dollar
1911 First naval air station established, Annapolis, MD
1976 Women admitted to US Naval Academy for first time
- 7 1846 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 war is over
1950 Douglas MacArthur named CinC UN forces in Korea
- 9 1755 Braddock's Defeat: Battle of Monongahela - Daniel Boone is wagon driver
1776 Declaration of Independence read to Washington's troops in NY, whereupon citizens pull down George III's statue to make musket balls
1918 Congress establishes Distinguished Service Cross
1944 US secures Saipan: 3,200 US, 27,000 Japanese KIA, & many civilian suicides
- 10 1821 US takes possession of Florida from Spain
1943 Operation Husky: US & Commonwealth forces invade Sicily
- 1953 American troops abandon Pork Chop Hill, Korea
- 11 1786 US pays Morocco \$10,000 to "protect" merchant ships from piracy
1798 Congress reactivates USMC, disbanded in 1784
1812 US invades Canada near Detroit
1919 US Navy Pay Corps becomes Supply Corps
1943 USN surface ships break German-Italian tank attack at Gela, Sicily
1955 USAF Academy opens with 300 cadets at Lowry AFB, CO
- 12 1942 U-Boat lands four German saboteurs on Long Island, soon captured
- 14 1813 Lt John M. Gamble, becomes only US Marine to command a ship, prize 'Greenwich'
1825 Lafayette reviews 2nd Bn, 11th NY Arty (7th NY), which adopts name "National Guard"
1900 "China Relief Expedition" captures Tientsin from Boxers
1959 First nuclear powered cruiser commissioned, USS 'Long Beach' (CGN 9)
1972 Vietnam: Jane Fonda makes first of 10 broadcasts on Radio Hanoi.
- 15 1958 Marines land in Lebanon, to support government
- 16 1861 Bull Run Campaign: Gen McDowell advances from Washington toward Fairfax Courthouse
17 1927 USMC pilots conduct first combat dive bombing, Ocotol, Nicaragua.
- 18 1863 54th Mass. leads gallant attempt to storm Fort Wagner, near Charleston
1914 US Army Air Service formed within Signal Corps
1944 US troops capture St. Lo, Normandy
- 19 1812 1st Battle of Sackett's Harbor: Americans beat off British attack across Lake Erie
1886 'Atlanta' commissioned, first USN steel cruiser
1897 Lt Robert E. Peary departs on year-long Arctic Expedition
- 20 1881 Sioux leader Sitting Bull surrenders to federal troops
1942 Congress creates Legion of Merit
1942 First WAACs begin basic training
1944 Marines land on Guam.
1948 US reinstates draft, for Cold War
- 21 1823 Lt David G. Farragut leads raid to destroy pirate base in Cuba
1861 First Battle of Bull Run/Manassas: Confederate Victory
1930 Veterans' Administration established
1969 Neil Armstrong's "small step" on moon - 2:56:15 AM GMT
- 22 1802 US Frigate 'Constellation' defeats 9 corsair gunboats off Tripoli
1905 Remains of John Paul Jones removed from Paris for transportation to Annapolis
1943 Patton captures Palermo
1987 USN begins escorting re-flagged Kuwaiti tankers in Persian Gulf
- 23 1944 US forces land on Japanese-held Tinian from nearby Saipan
- 24 1948 Soviets initiate blockade of Berlin
1969 Muhammad Ali convicted of refusing induction in US Army
- 25 1866 David G. Farragut appointed first Admiral in US Navy
1866 US Grant is named first full general in US Army
1947 US Army, Navy, & Air Force subordinated to new DoD
- 26 1948 Truman initiates integration of Armed Forces
- 27 1909 Orville Wright demonstrates plane for Army, flying 72 minutes
1953 North Korea & UN sign armistice
1954 Armistice divides Vietnam in two
1995 Korean War Veterans Memorial dedicated in Washington
- 28 1898 Skirmish at Ponce, Puerto Rico, which shortly surrenders to US
28 1914 Austria-Hungary attacks Serbia, igniting WW I
1931 Congress makes "Star-Spangled Banner" national anthem

- 1932 Douglas MacArthur routs Bonus Army against orders
- 1945 Kamikaze sink their last ship, USS 'Callaghan' (DD-792), off Okinawa.
- 1945 US Army B-25 crashes into 79th floor of Empire State Bldg, 14 die
- 29 1949 Berlin Airlift ends, as Soviets end blockade
- 1967 Fire aboard USS 'Forrestal' (CV-59), Gulf of Tonkin, 134 killed
- 30 1864 Petersburg Campaign: Battle of Crater
- 1909 US Army accepts delivery of first military airplane
- 1942 WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) created
- 1945 USS 'Indianapolis' (CA-35) torpedoed & sunk; nearly 900 die over next 4 days
- 1966 US airplanes bomb demilitarized zone in Vietnam
- 31 1777 Marquis de Lafayette becomes major-general in Continental Army
- 1813 British attack Plattsburgh, NY
- 1925 Last Allied occupation forces leave Rhineland

FROM THE EDITOR

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

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

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

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

Semper fidelis, - Chris Mulholland

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!!!



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

BASS PRO RAFFLE



Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia and Bass Pro Shops of Hampton Roads proudly announce a fifty (50) prize raffle with the winners being determined at the VFW State Convention in Williamsburg on June 18, 2016. The value of the 50 prizes is approximately \$20,000. As a winning ticket is drawn it will be placed back in the drum to have a chance at the remaining prizes. Tickets are \$5.00 each and available from your Post Commander or State Headquarters. All proceeds will be used to support Veterans Programs and Activities.

| | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HENRY GOLDEN BOY .22 CAL 2. YETI ROADIE 3. SAVAGE 16 .243 CAL 4. QUANTUM BAITCASTER OUTFIT 5. THUNDER HAWK XBO 6. OA OCEANMASTER REEL W/B 7. RUGER 10/22 .22 CAL 8. FRONTIER REVOLVER .45 CAL LC 9. COSTA 580P SUNGLASSES 10. \$500 BPS GIFT CARD 11. MINN KOTA TROLLING MOTOR 12. CHAR-BROIL PROPANE GRILL 13. TEKNETICS METAL DETECTOR 14. BUSHNELL BINOCULARS 15. \$500 BPS GIFT CARD 16. REMINGTON 870 17. RUGER MK111 18. ASCEND C156 CANOE 19. PARKER ENFORCER C'BOW 20. \$500 BPS GIFT CARD 21. BROWNING TWO BURNER 22. YETI HOPPER 20 23. TIKKA T-3 .308 CAL 24. HENRY BIG BOY .44 MAG 25. BASS PRO 4 P'SN TENT | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 26. LANDMAN FIRE PIT 27. BASS PRO RAIN JACKET 28. \$500 BPS GIFT CARD 29. BASS PRO CAMP KITCHEN 30. \$500 BPS GIFT CARD 31. ORVIS FLY OUTFIT 32. YETI TRUNDRA 45 33. MASTERBUILT ELECT. SMOKER 34. REDHEAD 10 GUN SAFE 35. BROWNING BPS 12GA 36. TRAEGER PELLET GRILL 37. PENN BATTLE II & OA BAG 38. BROWNING ROD STORAGE 39. YETI 125 40. \$500 BPS GIFT CARD 41. BASS PRO BAITCAST 42. BUSHMASTER .223MSR 43. WINCHESTER SX3 13GA 44. BROWNING SPINNING CB 45. YETI 65 46. \$250 BPS GIFT CARD 47. UBIRITE .45CAL PISTOL 48. PENN SENATOR R&T 49. BROWNING MAXUS 12GA \$1,349.99 50. \$250 BPS GIFT CARD |
|--|---|

POST 2894 CALENDAR

| <u>JUNE</u> | |
|-------------|---|
| 2-5 | Wall That Heals exhibit, VaBch oceanfront |
| 6 | D-Day Anniversary (1944) |
| 8 | Post Meeting, 1900 – Officer Installation |
| 14 | Army “Birthday” (1775) – Flag Day |
| 16-19 | VFW Department of VA Convention, Williamsburg |
| 18 | Marine Night, Tidewater Tides |
| 19 | Father’s Day |
| 20 | First Day of Summer |
| 25 | Start of Korean War (1950) |
| 30 | End of VFW Fraternal Year |

| <u>JULY</u> | |
|-------------|--|
| 1 | Start of VFW Fraternal Year |
| 2 | US Army Air Corps established (1926) |
| 4 | Independence Day / South Norfolk Parade |
| 6 | Post Meeting, 1900 – District Inspection |
| 23-27 | VFW National Convention, Charlotte, NC |
| 27 | Anniversary of Korean Armistice (1953) |
| 28 | Anniversary of start of WWI (1914) |
| 31 | Quarterly Audit due to Department |

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



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

Place
Stamp
Here



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED