

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.



VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

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

Email: cdrpost2894@vfwva.org

Web Site:

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

Visit us on Facebook



OFFICERS

Commander.....	Chris Mulholland
Sr. Vice Commander.....	José Vazquez
Jr. Vice Commander.....	Ted Roberts
Adjutant.....	Matt Hostetlar
Quartermaster.....	Mike Kust
Chaplain.....	Mark Junghans
Surgeon.....	Bob Gregory
Staff Judge Advocate.....	Matt Hamel
Service Officer.....	Gary Dunbar

NATIONAL

www.vfw.org

STATE

www.vfwva.org

VFW VA DISTRICT 2

www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2

The Cornhusker, yearbook of the University of Nebraska, in 1918 was dedicated to "Nebraskans-Students, Alumni, Faculty-here and over there" who were serving in World War I. Included was a series of letters, reports, sketches, and pictures of servicemen associated with the school.

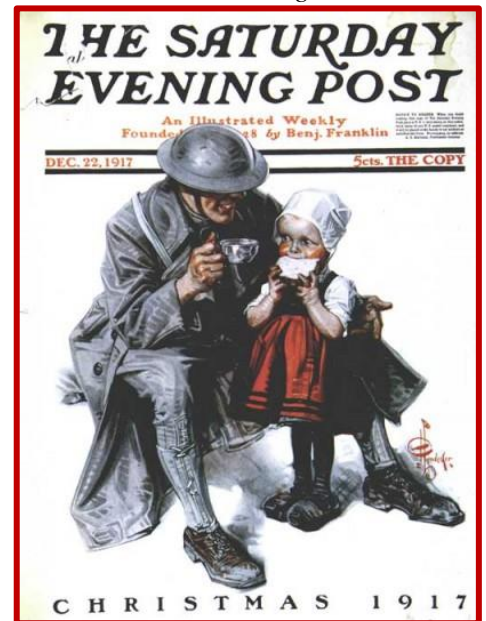
A December 26, 1917, letter home from Lt. Norman B. Curtice, stationed in France, described his Christmas observances there:

"Merry Christmas! And may this be the last time I have to write it and am not able to shout it right in your face! Be that as it may, it has been absolutely pleasant and wonderful and I can only say I have enjoyed the day thoroly. Listen, here is how I spent the Xmas of 1917:

"I arose at the swell hour of 10 A. M., and altho my sock wasn't hung by the fireplace ('cause there isn't any), and was lying in a wad on the floor without 'Santy's' prosperity and only full of holes, I shaved and had a bowl of hot coffee preparatory to dinner, and here is what we poor American soldiers had for Xmas dinner:

"S'awful! A. Hors d'ouvre (fish sausage, etc.) B. Turkey and peas (lots of it). C. Salad (real lettuce). D. Cheese, confiture, fruit cake, candy, petit gateau, nuts, fruit, red and white

wine, champagne and coffee. Cigars and cigarettes and much talk about what we would be having at home.



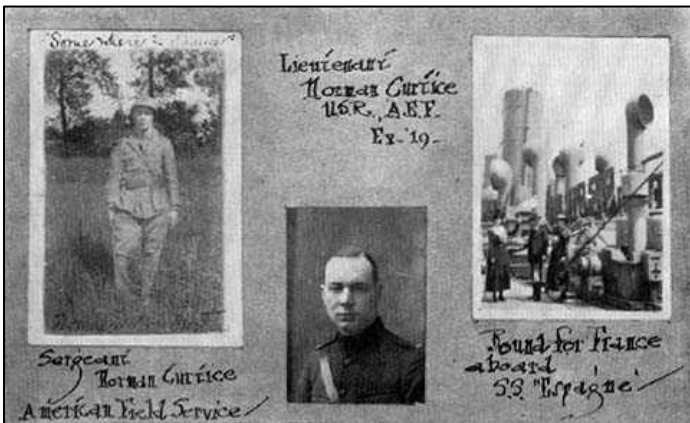
"By all the rights of normal men we should have ended the day by going immediately to bed, but not so! Over we tramped to the Y. M. C. A. to play Santa Claus, and I don't know when I have ever had such pleasure. All the children of the town were invited to the Y. M. C. A. to get presents, and we were told there were about seventy-five in town.

"Well, there were about 275! But, thanks to foresight, there were

enough presents to go around, or at least I think so, for I, being one of the 'Santas,' almost lost life and limb in a howling bedlam about two minutes after the thing started! I had an armful of presents which I started to distribute in an orderly way, but after seeing one little chap appear for about the 'steenth' time (good old American fashion which I know so well myself), I decided about the only way to do would be to drop the whole mess and leave it to the survival of the fittest. I did.

"There was one rather touching incident. An old lady held out her hand for some little toy boats I had (which were about the size of my little finger), and not seeing any children with her said, 'Pour les enfants'? 'Mon,' she said, ith one of those sad smiles that makes you feel like a dummy, 'Pour Moi' Well now, what in thunder she's going to do with that little boat is a mystery to me, but I gave it to her, and she could have had a dozen more if she had asked for them."

Curtice ended the account of his Christmas abroad in 1917 on a practical note: "Received a package of cigars from dad, mailed September 27, only three months ago tomorrow. C'est tout. NORMAN"



Story courtesy of the Nebraska State Historical Society (www.nebraskahistory.org/publish/publicat/timeline/soldiers_xmas_1917.htm)

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings – and Merry Christmas and Happy New Years – Comrades! This coming year marks the 100th anniversary of the end of the “War to End All Wars.” The next few issues of the newsletter will have a lot of information about America’s role in winning World War I.

The Post has been busy again this fall, between a successful Buddy Poppy drive, the city’s Veterans Day remembrance ceremony, and all of our service projects, thank you!

We are continuing on our path to a third recognition in a row as an All American post. But what will really help is if *everyone in the Post reaches out and recruits just one new member each*. Chesapeake has more than 34,000 veterans and we’re just touching the tip of the iceberg with our membership. Everyone

must have a neighbor, friend or co-worker who qualifies for the VFW. **There are membership forms included at the back of this newsletter. Give one to a veteran you know and tell him/her all about the things that we do.**

In just the past few months, we paid for the replacement of an HVAC unit for a disabled veteran, rebuilt the bathroom of a WWII vet to make it accessible for him and his wife, paid the rents of two veterans who were in arrears, and replaced the leaking roof of another. During the past 2 years, we have contributed or coordinated more than \$350,000 worth of charitable work around our city. All of these vets live in Chesapeake and are our friends and neighbors.

If you know of a Scout who has received the Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold, Venture Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster award, please let them know about our **Scout of the Year program**. The application form is in the back of this newsletter. It’s not too soon to start putting the nomination packages together now!

And now that the holiday seasons are here, I invite everyone to come to our **Post Christmas Party on 13 December, at 7 pm**. Please bring your families and a dish to share. The post will provide drinks, paperware and utensils.



Our members have all been busy!

The newsletter section “Other Post News” keeps growing and growing! If you’re doing something – anything – as a service to someone else, please let me know so that I can include it on our State reports and newsletters. On behalf of the Post I would like to congratulate comrade Albon Head and his family on his recent retirement for the Navy and wish them the best of luck on their upcoming move to Florida.

Finally, January 9th is the 9th anniversary of the Sinsil 8 – when our Post namesake, SSG Dozier, and 7 others gave their lives in Iraq. Please keep the Dozier family in your prayers this January.

I hope that each of you and your families has had a safe and happy year. And I wish to each of you a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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

Chris Mulholland, Commander

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello, Everyone. I would like to welcome the Auxiliary’s newest members. Pam Housler and Denise Devonshire.

The Auxiliary has been busy. In September we sold some of the die-cast cars/trucks that were donated to the Auxiliary. We have ordered our Auxiliary Flag with the proceeds. We still have some cars/trucks to sell and are planning to attend the Toys for Tots Car Show in Smithfield on December 2nd at Smithfield Auto and Truck Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There was a lot going on for Veterans Day. Barbara, Chris and I went to Portsmouth Naval Hospital and placed flags at the Veterans Cemetery. We picked them up on Tuesday. I went to

Grassfield High School on November 8th. The plans changed due to the weather, but the flags that were placed in their court yard looked very nice. This year they put the flags in alphabetical order so it was easier to find a person's name. On Saturday Jean, Bea, Donna, Barbara and I went to the Veteran's Ceremony at City Hall. We made 45 bags that were filled with toiletries and delivered them to the VA Hospital on Thursday, 11/9. Last but not least, November 4 and 5 some of us were at Wal-Mart handing out Poppies. Thanks to all for who were able to help.



The Winter Council Meeting will be January 12-14, 2018 at the Renaissance Portsmouth. We will be having a Christmas Party on December 13th. Hope everyone will be able to attend. An email will be sent separately for you to sign up to bring a dish.

Thanks to everyone for all that you do for our Veterans.
Merry Christmas to All and Happy New Year!!
Sandy Dunbar, President

**POST BUDDY POPPY DRIVE
4-5 NOVEMBER**

We held our annual Veterans Day Buddy Poppy Drive over the weekend of 4-5 November in front of the Walmart at Battlefield Boulevard Shopping Center, and collected \$1905.36. We will be conducting our next Buddy Poppy



Auxiliary members Donna Kust and Bea Oakley hand poppies to a young future citizen.



Drive over 19-20 May in honor of Memorial Day at the same Walmart.

We also met a number of veterans and active duty service members who expressed an interest in joining the Post.

Thanks to all who helped out during this poppy drive!!!

CHESAPEAKE'S VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

The City of Chesapeake held memorial ceremony for Veterans Day at 11 am on the 11th day of the 11th month in front of City Hall.

The ceremony was coordinated by the Mayor's Commission on Veterans Affairs, which includes six members of the Post, and one emeritus member, Comrade Carl Dozier.

Comrade Ted Roberts, LtCol, US Air Force, conducted an enlistment ceremony for 4 "poolees" from Chesapeake who are joining the Navy.

Commander Mulholland presented two plaques which will be placed on each side of the Battle Cross standing in front of City Hall. One plaque has all the names of those Chesapeans who died in Afghanistan participating in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) while the other lists those who died in Iraq supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). The names on the OEF plaque are:

- Specialist Pendleton Sykes, US Army, 2005
- 1st Lieutenant Michael Johnson, US Marine Corps 2009
- Sergeant First Class William Woods, Jr., US Army 2009
- Lance Corporal Cody Childer, US Marine Corps, 2010
- Lance Corporal Kielen Dunn, US Marine Corps, 2010
- Chief Petty Officer Kevin Houston, US Navy SEAL 2011



The two plaques after the unveiling.

The names on the OIF plaque are:

- Specialist Andrew Tuazon, US Army, 2004
- Sergeant Bradley Harper, US Marine Corps, 2005
- Private First Class George Lutz the 2nd, US Army, 2005
- Lance Corporal Steven Phillips, US Marine Corps, 2006
- Sergeant Michael C. Peek, US Army, 2007
- Sergeant First Class Jonathan Dozier, US Army, 2008 (he was posthumously promoted)

Every Memorial Day and Veterans' Day, plaques are placed on the bricks of the Veterans' Memorial honoring individual veterans. This year, one of our comrades, Phillip Marlowe, a Marine veteran of Guadalcanal, Tarawa, and Okinawa, was honored with a brass plaque.

[Lots more pictures are posted on our Post's Facebook page – check them out!]

FROM THE CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE

Belleau Wood

Oh, the snowflakes fell in silence, Over Belleau Wood that night;
For a Christmas truce had been declared, By both sides of the fight.

As we lay there in our trenches, The silence broke in two
By a German soldier singing, A song that we all knew.
Though I did not know the language, The song was "Silent Night"
Then I heard my buddy whisper, "All is calm and all is bright."

Then the fear and doubt surrounded me, "Cause I'd die if I was wrong;

But I stood up in my trench, And I began to sing along.
Then across the frozen battlefield, Another's voice joined in;
Until one by one each man became, A singer of the hymn.
Then I thought that I was dreaming, For right there in my sight;
Stood the German soldier, 'Neath the falling flakes of white.
And he raised his hand and smiled at me, As if he seemed to say:
Here's hoping we both live, To see us find a better way.
Then the devil's clock struck midnight, And the skies lit up again;
And the battlefield where heaven stood, Was blown to hell again.
But for just one fleeting moment, The answer seemed so clear;
Heaven's not beyond the clouds, It's just beyond the fear;
No, heaven's not beyond the clouds, It's for us to find it here.
~ from the Garth Brooks CD "Seven" - Belleau Wood.

and loving husband, a devoted and adventurous father, and committed friend, pastor, and leader.

David's extended family will also miss him greatly, including his treasured sisters - Diane Joan Girardin McKeen, Jane Marie Girardin Costello and her husband Ray, Wendy "Pooh" Baker Orford and her husband David, and his brother-in-laws Douglas Howard White, Walter Hackett White and his wife Miriam.

David was born in Detroit, Michigan to Anna Didyk Girardin and David Louis Girardin. He served 30 years in the U.S. military, primarily the Navy, under the mantra - "Lord let me live by the side of the road so I may be a friend to all." He is remembered for his chaplaincy ministry in the U.S. Navy (retired O-6), pastoring Seventh-Day Adventist churches in Minnesota, hospital ministry across the nation, and pastoral care and counseling. His dedication, hard-work, faithfulness, humility, leadership, and integrity are some of the characteristics that others will remember of him. He has impacted more people than he will ever realize...

David was an adventurer who was passionate about SCUBA diving, traveling, hiking, shooting with Norfolk County Rifle Range, HAMM radio club, leading out in AWANA youth group, and serving with Virginia Defense Force. He loved providing for his family, taking care of the house, and cutting the grass at our home and at the church. His bucket list demonstrates his spirit of adventure. Some items include: hiking the Camino de Santiago with his best friend - Harvey Prather, going sky diving on an upcoming birthday, taking his wife on a trip to Niagara Falls, and taking his family on a SCUBA diving trip to the South Pacific island of Niue. His David's faith in Jesus, despite the winds and the waves of the last eight months, was strong. He claimed the promise of Psalms 40:1-3 - "I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord." As an ordained pastor of the Seventh-Day Adventist church, his last sermon spoke about the spiritual growth through adversity. His favorite song "We Have This Hope," speaks to the family during this new chapter family plans on fulfilling each of these bucket list dreams for him.

In honor of David and in support of his family, in lieu of flowers and food, please consider donating in his name to Adventist World Radio (AWR), Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), or National Rifle Association - Institute of Legislative Action (NRA-ILA). Remembering his love for the great outdoors, consider planting a tree in his honor. If you have a special memory, a picture to share, or are doing something in his name, please share it with us via email (dbgirardin@cox.net or emily.girardin@icloud.com) or tag him on Facebook.

**COMRADE BUNION B. BUSSEY
1925-2017**

Bunion B. "B.B." Bussey, 92, formerly of Chesapeake, passed away Monday, October 2, 2017. BB was a founding and life member of VFW Post 2894 where he served as Chaplain. He was an Army Air Force veteran of WWII.



Born in Franklin County, Virginia, he was the son of the late John William Bussey and Elizabeth E. Bussey. He was also predeceased by his brothers, Cornelius "Jack" Bussey, James "Jake" Bussey, Artis "Bo" Bussey and Walter "Herbert" Bussey. B.B. retired as a supervisor from the Norfolk Ford Assembly Plant after 44 years. He was a 50+ year member of the Great Bridge Lodge A.F. and A.M. No 257, where he was a Lifetime Member in Perpetuity. He was a member of Great Bridge Baptist Church and was a charter member of the local VFW Post.

Survivors include his wife of 69 years, Myrtle Virginia Bussey; daughters, Gail Ward (Jack) and Karen Smith (Neal); grandchildren, Kari Ward, Leigh Haynes, Dawn Freasier (Ben), John Ward and Brian Smith (Kelli); siblings, Anna Morris, Nadine Rutrough, Avis Board, Rabon Bussey (Judy) and Patsy Bussey (Kay); as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family.

The interment was on Friday, October 6th, at Chesapeake Memorial Gardens.

**COMRADE DAVID GIRARDIN
1951-2017**

David Walter Girardin, born July 9, 1951 fell asleep awaiting the second coming of our Lord, just before 6am on November 3rd, 2017. He was peaceful; his family was surrounding him and "Talk to the Shepherd" (Buddy Houghtaling) was playing in the background. This was after an eight-month courageous battle with cancer.

David is survived by his beloved wife, Barbara White Girardin, married just over 41 years, with many cherished memories, adventures, and faithful ministry together. David is also survived by his two cherbs, David John Girardin (29) and Emily Grace Girardin (27) and her husband, David Snuffer. He was a faithful



**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA
- 18 DECEMBER -**

Wreaths Across America will take place on **Saturday, 18 December**, at 9:30 am at **Albert J. Horton Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery**, 5310 Milners Road in Suffolk.

A boyhood visit to Arlington National Cemetery left a big impression on Morrill Worcester—one he never forgot. Decades later, in 1992, his company's surplus of 5,000 wreaths and his desire to have them placed at Arlington kicked off an annual tribute that went on quietly for over ten years until 2005 when a photo of the headstones at Arlington, adorned with wreaths and covered in snow, circulated around the internet. Suddenly, the project received national attention. Thousands of requests poured in from all over the country from people wanting to help with Arlington, to emulate the Arlington project at their National and State cemeteries, or to simply share their stories and thank Morrill Worcester for honoring our nation's heroes.

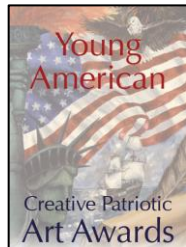
With national interest in the project having grown so greatly, in 2007 a dedicated group of volunteers formed Wreaths Across America as a non-profit 501(c)3 to continue and expand the mission to Remember, Honor, and Teach.



This year's ceremony starts at 0930 but you'll have to get there early – parking will be remote from the cemetery and you'll be shuttled in.

**PATRIOTIC ARTIST NOMINATIONS
DUE 31 MARCH**

The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Awards are presented by the VFW Auxiliary and judged on their originality of concept, presentation, and patriotism expressed; the content of how it relates to patriotism and clarity of ideas; the design technique; total impact of work; and uniqueness. Students must be in high school, no older than 18, and a US citizen or national.



Entry forms can be downloaded from our website at: <http://myvfw.org/va/post2894/files/2015/07/Patriotic-Art-VFW-2894-Aux.pdf>

**FIELD OF VALOR
GRASSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL**

For the second year in a row, our 2016 National VFW Third Runner-Up Teacher of the Year, Kimberly Hammers of Grassfield High School, organized a "Field of Valor" in front of the school during the week of Veterans' Day. More than a thousand flags were arrayed around the LCpl Cody Childers Memorial in front of the school to recognize family, friends, and others who have dedicated their lives to protecting this nation and all of the freedoms afforded to each citizen. Each flag was sponsored and all the proceeds from this project dedicated to our Post. In addition, teachers at the school paid money for the dispensation to 'wear jeans to work.' The result was that the Post

has received \$1,375 from the project! All of the funds will be used to support other veterans in need and their families!

Thank you so much, Kimberly!

As part of the overall project, on Friday, 10 November, Post and Auxiliary members Bob Gregory, Carl Dozier, Sandy Dunbar and Chris Mulholland went to the school to welcome students as they entered the school. But due to the rain, this



Left to right: LTC Carl Dozier, US Army (ret); MSgt Bob Gregory, USMC (ret); Commander Chris Mulholland and Principal Mike Perez

welcome was cancelled. But Carl, Bob and Chris did get the opportunity to talk to 5 classes of students for about 90 minutes about service, serving overseas, combat, and other experiences they'd had while in uniform. Kimberly later said that the students were entranced with the presentation and that more post members would be invited back in May 2018.

WELCOME HOME CHRIS KUST!

Life member and Post comrade Christopher Kust returned home on 24 September from a one year tour in Iraq. He spent 2016 deployed in Afghanistan. Chris is a Captain and Company Commander with the 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry, 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, NC. His parents are Quartermaster Mike Kust and Auxiliary Treasurer Donna Kust. Chris is a graduate of Great Bridge High School and Old Dominion University where he was commissioned into the infantry. He has served previously with the 25th Infantry Division and the 75th Ranger Regiment. Chris is a jumpmaster and jumping out of perfectly good airplanes in his blood. His great-uncle served with the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne during WWII and was killed in Operation Market Garden in Holland.



Chris and Bree Kust at his return to Ft. Bragg, NC

Chris is married to his college sweetheart, Bree, a registered nurse. They are hoping that his next assignment is to West Point as a professor of economics.

Welcome home Chris!!

VETERANS' DAY CEREMONY, CEDAR MANOR ASSISTIVE LIVING CENTER

Fourteen veterans live at Cedar Manor, an assistive living center run by Chesapeake General Hospital. In honor of Veterans' Day, a ceremony was held on November 9th featuring the AFJROTC unit of Great Bridge High School and a presentation by Commander Chris Mulholland.

As Commander Mulholland introduced each veteran, the cadets presented them with pins and a



Comrade Phillip Marlowe stands for the Pledge of Allegiance



Commander Mulholland making his presentation

certificate. Also in attendance were Senior Vice Commander José Vazquez and Comrade Kimball Thompson. Kimball brought the two M1's that were used as part of the display for the presentation.

After the ceremony, all the residents ate lunch with the veterans sitting at a headtable.

All of the veterans are honored on a "Wall of

Valor" which features photos of them in uniform and today. The wall was built and is kept up by the Post.

OTHER POST NEWS

• **Tap It Local and Honor Beer:** On 1 October, Tap It Local hosted a fundraiser for our Post's scholarship fund with the introduction of Honor Beer. A portion of the proceeds totaling



Display table at Tap It Local's Honor Beer introduction

\$490 went to the Post's scholarship fund. A number of Post and Auxiliary members attended the event.

• **Carl Dozier and Chris Mulholland** represented the Post at the Sheriff Jim O'Sullivan's Great American Food Fest at



Carl Dozier at the Food Fest Post Display

Chesapeake City Park on October 4th. They talked to veterans about the VFW and may have gained some potential new members.

• **Our Post Service Officer, Gary Dunbar,** coordinated repairs at the home of a disabled Marine veteran. But of all the work needed in the home, the Marine's biggest wish was that his flag



The finished flag pole

pole be repaired so that he could raise and lower the colors each day. Commander Mulholland took that project on and within a few hours had installed new hardware on the pole, bought new US and Marine Corps flags, and installed paving stones leading to the pole.

• **Portsmouth Medical Regional Center** has an old cemetery which dates back to



Cheryl Campbell, Sandy Dunbar, and Barbara and Chris Mulholland

1838. The VFW has assumed responsibility for placing flags on the 800+ graves every Memorial and Veterans' day. Auxiliary President Sandy

Dunbar, Auxiliary Secretary Barbara Mulholland, Sandy's sister, Cheryl Campbell, and Post Commander Chris Mulholland participated in the placing of the flags on 9 November.

• **Jay Redman** was featured in People magazine! He received the Red Bandanna Hero Award named for Welles Remy Crowther – "The Man in the Red Bandanna" who rescued more than a dozen victims of the World Trade Center attacks – the award pays tribute to the "everyday hero who exemplifies the American Spirit and defines us as a nation," according to a news release. It is given by the American Heroes Channel and the

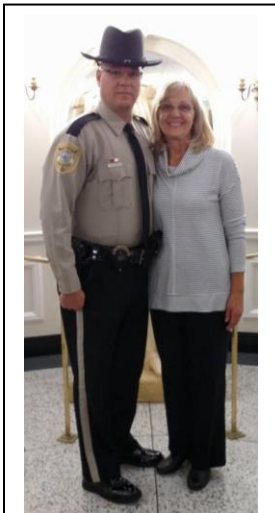
Welles Remy Crowther Charitable Trust, and the winner gets to donate \$10,000 to the charity of his or her choice. Jay received the honor during ESPN broadcast of the Boston College-Florida State football game on October 27th. He was also featured on an American Heroes Channel story about the award on Saturday, October 28th.

• **Mickey Casady** was a special guest at the Mission BBQ's Veterans' Day ceremony. Mission BBQ is a strong supporter of veterans and of everyday American heroes. Mickey was joined by another WWII veteran for the noontime national anthem.



Jay in People magazine

• On October 14th, Auxiliary former Senior Vice President **Jean Dozier** and Trustee **Carl Dozier** attended the graduation of the Rappahannock Regional Criminal



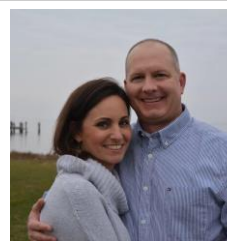
Jean Dozier stands proudly next to her son, Deputy Paul Brothers



Mickey (center) with WWII vet Sam (left) and Sr Vice Cdr José Vazquez (right)

Justice Academy program at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg. Jean's son, Paul Brothers, graduated and is now serving as a Deputy with the Northumberland County Sheriff's Department. Congratulations to the Dozier family!

• Comrade **Albon Head** recently retired from the US Navy and had begun flying for Air Wisconsin, the largest privately held regional airline in the US; it is also known as American Eagle, under contract to US Airways. As a result, he and his family are moving to Florida shortly. We'll miss them. Fair winds and following seas!



Molly and Albon Head

+ DECEMBER SAFETY CORNER + *Safe Toys and Gifts Month*

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 251,700 toy-related injuries in 2010 throughout the United States. 72% were to people less than 15 years of age. Additionally, in 2007 alone, toymakers recalled over 19 million toys worldwide because of safety concerns such as lead paint and small magnets.

When it comes to toys and gifts, the excitement and desire to get your children their favorite toys may cause shoppers to forget about safety factors associated with them. Before you make these purchases, it is critical to remember to consider the safety and age range of the toys.

Prevent Blindness America has declared December as Safe Toys and Gifts Awareness Month. The group encourages everyone to consider if the toys they wish to give suits the age and individual skills and abilities of the individual child who will receive it, **especially for infants and children under age three.**

This holiday season (and beyond), please consider the following guidelines for choosing safe toys for all ages:

- Inspect all toys before purchasing. Avoid those that shoot or include parts that fly off. The toy should have no sharp edges or points and should be sturdy enough to withstand impact without breaking, being crushed, or being pulled apart easily.
- When purchasing toys for children with special needs try to: Choose toys that may appeal to different senses such as sound, movement, and texture; consider interactive toys to allow the child to play with others; and think about the size of the toy and the position a child would need to be in to play with it. Consult the "AblePlay" website at <http://www.ableplay.org/> for more information.
- Be diligent about inspecting toys your child has received. Check them for age, skill level, and developmental appropriateness before allowing them to be played with.
- Look for labels that assure you the toys have passed a safety inspection – "ATSM" means the toy has met the American Society for Testing and Materials standards.
- Gifts of sports equipment should always be accompanied by protective gear (give a helmet with the skateboard)
- Keep kids safe from lead

in toys by: Educating yourself about lead exposure from toys, symptoms of lead poisoning, and what kinds of toys have been recalled; being aware that old toys may be more likely to contain lead in the paint; having your children wash their hands frequently and calling your doctor if you suspect your child has been exposed to lead. Consult the last two websites listed below for more information.



• Do **NOT** give toys with small parts (including magnets and "button" batteries which can cause serious injury or death if ingested) to young children as they tend to put things in their mouths, increasing the risk of choking. If the piece can fit inside a toilet paper roll, it is not appropriate for kids under age three.

- Do **NOT** give toys with ropes and cords or heating elements
- Do **NOT** give crayons and markers unless they are labeled "nontoxic".

✚ JANUARY SAFETY CORNER ✚ *Glaucoma Awareness Month*

January is National Glaucoma Awareness Month, an important time to spread the word about this sight-stealing disease.

Currently, more than 3 million people in the United States have glaucoma. The National Eye Institute projects this number will reach 4.2 million by 2030, a 58 percent increase.

Glaucoma is called "the sneak thief of sight" since there are no symptoms and once vision is lost, it's permanent. As much as 40% of vision can be lost without a person noticing.

Glaucoma is the leading cause of irreversible blindness. Moreover, among African American and Latino populations, glaucoma is more prevalent. Glaucoma is 6 to 8 times more common in African Americans than Caucasians.

Over 3 million Americans, and over 60 million people worldwide, have glaucoma. Experts estimate that half of them don't know they have it. Combined with our aging population, we can see an epidemic of blindness looming if we don't raise awareness about the importance of regular eye examinations to preserve vision. The World Health Organization estimates that 4.5 million people worldwide are blind due to glaucoma.

Help Raise Awareness

Talk to your family about glaucoma.

In the United States, approximately 120,000 are blind from glaucoma, accounting for 9% to 12% of all cases of blindness. Here are three ways you can help raise awareness:

1. Talk to friends and family about glaucoma. If you have glaucoma, don't keep it a secret. Let your family members know.
2. Refer a friend to our web site, www.glaucoma.org.
3. Request to have a free educational booklet sent to you or a friend.
4. Get involved in your community through fundraisers, information sessions, group discussions, inviting expert speakers, and more.

Connect with us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter for regular updates on glaucoma research, treatments, news and information. Share information about glaucoma with your friends and family.

What is Glaucoma?

Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that gradually steal sight without warning. Although the most common forms primarily affect the middle-aged and the elderly, glaucoma can affect people of all ages.

Vision loss is caused by damage to the optic nerve. This nerve acts like an electric cable with over a million wires. It is responsible for carrying images from the eye to the brain.

There is no cure for glaucoma—yet. However, medication or surgery can slow or prevent further vision loss. The appropriate treatment depends upon the type of glaucoma among other factors. Early detection is vital to stopping the progress of the disease.

Types of Glaucoma

There are two main types of glaucoma: primary open-angle glaucoma (POAG), and angle-closure glaucoma. These are marked by an increase of intraocular pressure (IOP), or pressure inside the eye. When optic nerve damage has occurred despite a normal IOP, this is called normal tension glaucoma.

Secondary glaucoma refers to any case in which another disease causes or contributes to increased eye pressure, resulting in optic nerve damage and vision loss.

Regular Eye Exams are Important

Glaucoma is the second leading cause of blindness in the world, according to the World Health Organization. In the most common form, there are virtually no symptoms. Vision loss begins with peripheral or

side vision, so if you have glaucoma, you may not notice anything until significant vision is lost.

The best way to protect your sight from glaucoma is to get a comprehensive eye examination. Then, if you have glaucoma, treatment can begin immediately.

Glaucoma is the leading cause of blindness among African-Americans. And among Hispanics in older age groups, the risk of glaucoma is nearly as high as that for African-Americans. Also, siblings of persons diagnosed with glaucoma have a significantly increased risk of having glaucoma.

Risk Factors

Are you at risk for glaucoma? Those at higher risk include people of African, Asian, and Hispanic descent. Other high-risk groups include: people over 60, family members of those already diagnosed, diabetics, and people who are severely nearsighted. Regular eye exams are especially important for those at higher risk for glaucoma, and may help to prevent unnecessary vision loss

[See www.glaucoma.org/news/glaucoma-awareness-month.php]



POST COMMITTEES - YOU CAN HELP!

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

- **Budget Committee:** José Vazquez, Mark Rios, Mike Kust, Mark Junghans, Chris Mulholland, and Carl Dozier.
- **Awards Committee:** Gary Dunbar, Mark Rios, José Vazquez, Matt Schweers, Mark Junghans, and Chris Mulholland
- **Membership Committee:** José Vazquez, John Guill, Mark Rios, Mark Junghans, Gary Dunbar, and Chris Mulholland
- **Building Committee:** Carl Dozier and Gary Dunbar
- **Visiting Committee:** Chaplain Mark Junghans
- **Health Committee:** Surgeon Jose Vazquez

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP - AND CONSIDER A LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Every year, we have members who forget to renew their annual memberships. They then become ineligible to hold office in the Post and have to scramble to renew their status.

If you are approaching the end of your annual membership, please renew ASAP! And consider upgrading to a Life Membership. As a Life Member you will:

- Avoid annual dues and renewals.
- Maintain your membership in any Post you choose, worldwide!
- Never pay an increase in dues — Guaranteed!
- Receive a 10% discount on exclusive VFW Store merchandise for the first year.

You can become a VFW Life Member by making a one-time payment as describe in the Quartermaster's Desk below. You can also pay for your Life Membership through an installment plan, with an initial \$45 payment, with the Life Membership amount billed over an 11-month period as shown in the table below.

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

QUARTERMASTER DESK

Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$30 IF you go through the QM – if you go through National you'll pay \$40.50!

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 \$45 payment and then paying the remainder over an 11-month installment plan. You will be issued an annual membership card and can elect, upon receipt of the first monthly invoice, to pay via check, credit card or ACH Debit. The applicable Life Membership fee is determined from the schedule using the applicant's age on Dec. 31 of the installment plan year in which the application is submitted, regardless of actual date of birth. A permanent Life Membership card will be issued upon completion of this agreement.



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

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

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

WWI HISTORY, 100 YEARS AGO TODAY...

December 6, 1917 – US Battleship Division, under Rear-Admiral Rodman, joins Grand Fleet at Scapa Flow.

December 7, 1917 – US declares war on Austria-Hungary.

December 9, 1917 – Jerusalem captured by British. Ends four centuries of control by Ottoman (Turkish) Empire.

December 15, 1917 – Soviet Russia signs armistice with Germany. With Russia's departure, 44 German divisions become available to Western Front in time for Spring Offensive.

January 1918 – President Woodrow Wilson outlines elaborate peace plan to Congress containing "Fourteen Points".

www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/firstworldwar/index-1918.html
www.greatwar.co.uk/timeline/ww1-events-1918.htm

DECEMBER MILITARY HISTORY

- 1909 President Taft severs official relations with Nicaragua's government and declares support for revolutionaries.
1918 American army of occupation enters Germany.
1955 Rosa Parks refuses to sit in back of Montgomery, AL, bus, defying South's segregationist laws.
1969 America's first draft lottery since 1942.
- 1823 President Monroe proclaims Monroe Doctrine, 'American continents, by free and independent condition... are

henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by European powers."

- 1921 First successful helium dirigible, C-7, makes test flight in Portsmouth, Va.
- 1927 New Ford Model A introduced to American public.
- 1942 Allies repel strong Axis attack in Tunisia, North Africa.
- 1944 General Patton's troops enter Saar Valley and break through Siegfried line.
- 1918 Allied Conference ends in London deciding that Germany must pay for war.
1989 Presidents Bush and Gorbachev announce official end to Cold War at meeting in Malta.
- 1862 Winchester, VA, falls into Union hands, resulting in capture of 145 Southern soldiers.
1942 US planes make first raids on Naples, Italy.
1991 Last American hostages held in Lebanon released.
- 1933 21st Amendment ends Prohibition in US, begun 13 years earlier.
1955 Bus boycott begins under Rev. ML King, Jr., in Montgomery.
1978 Soviet Union signs 20-year friendship pact with Afghanistan.
- 1492 Columbus lands on Santo Domingo in search of gold.
1934 American Ambassador Davis says Japan is grave security threat in Pacific.
1941 President FDR issues personal appeal to Emperor Hirohito to use influence to avoid war.
- 1917 US declares war on Austria-Hungary.
1941 Japanese planes raid Pearl Harbor in surprise attack.
1942 USN launches USS *New Jersey*, largest battleship ever built.
- 1943 US carrier-based planes sink 2 cruisers and down 72 planes in Marshall Islands.
1944 US conducts longest, most effective air raid on Iwo Jima.
- 1941 FDR tells Americans to plan for a long war.
1992 US Marines land in Somalia to ensure food and medicine reach deprived areas.
- 1898 US and Spain sign Treaty of Paris, ceding Spanish possessions, including Philippines, to US.
1918 US troops called to guard Berlin as coup is feared.
1941 Japanese troops invade Philippine island of Luzon.
1949 150,000 French troops mass at border in Vietnam to prevent Chinese invasion.
- 1941 US declares war on Italy and Germany.
1945 Boeing B-29 Superfortress shatters records by crossing US in 5 hours and 27 min.
- 1753 George Washington, adjutant of Virginia, delivers ultimatum to French forces at Fort Le Boeuf, reiterating Britain's claim to Ohio River valley.
1863 Orders given in Richmond, Virginia, that no more supplies from Union be received by Federal prisoners.
1967 US ends airlift of 6,500 men to Vietnam.
- 1862 Battle of Fredericksburg ends with bloody slaughter of Union troops at Marye's Heights.
- 1799 George Washington dies on Mount Vernon estate.
1960 US Boeing B-52 bomber sets 10,000-mile non-stop record without refueling.
- 1890 US soldiers attempt to arrest Sitting Bull in Standing Rock, SD; shooting breaks out and Lt. Bullhead shoots great Sioux leader.
1924 Soviet Union warns US against repeated entry of ships into Soviet territorial waters.
1938 Washington sends fourth note to Berlin demanding amnesty for Jews.
1965 US drops 12 tons of bombs on industrial center near Haiphong Harbor, North Vietnam.

- 16** 1773 Young Americans, disguised as Indians, throw chests of tea in Boston Harbor.
- 1944 Germany opens Battle of Bulge in Ardennes Forest in Belgium.
- 1950 President Truman declares National Emergency as Chinese communists invade deeper into S.Korea.
- 1998 US launches missile attack on Iraq for failing to comply with UN weapons inspectors.
- 17** 1903 Wright brothers' 1st successful flight near Kitty Hawk, NC.
- 1943 US forces invade Japanese-held New Britain Island in New Guinea.
- 1944 US approves end to internment of Japanese Americans.
- 18** 1865 Slavery abolished in US. 13th Amendment formally adopted into Constitution.
- 1941 Defended by 610, American-held island of Guam falls to more than 5,000 Japanese invaders in 3-hour battle.
- 1972 President Nixon declares bombing of North Vietnam will continue until accord reached.
- 19** 1959 Last civil war veteran, Walter Williams, dies at 117 in Houston.
- 20** 1941 Flying Tigers, American pilots in China, enter combat against Japanese over Kunming.
- 1989 US troops invade Panama to oust General Noriega.
- 21** 1620 Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock.
- 1862 Congress authorizes Medal of Honor for Navy personnel.
- 1944 German troops surround 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne in Belgium.
- 1945 General Patton dies at age 60 after injured in car accident.
- 22** 1775 Esek Hopkins takes command of Continental Navy — total of 7 ships.
- 1944 During Battle of Bulge, General McAuliffe responds to German surrender request with: "Nuts!"
- 23** 1941 US defenders on Wake Island capitulate to 2nd Japanese assault.
- 1944 Gen. Eisenhower confirms death sentence of PVT Slovik, only American shot for desertion since Civil War.
- 1948 Japan's Prime Minister Tojo and 6 others hanged for war crimes.
- 1974 B-1 bomber makes first successful test flight.
- 24** 1814 Treaty between US and Britain, ending War of 1812, signed. News does not reach US until 2 weeks later (after Battle of New Orleans).
- 1943 General Eisenhower appointed Allied Supreme Commander.
- 26** 1776 After crossing Delaware River night before, Washington leads attack on Hessian mercenaries at Trenton, takes 900 men prisoner.
- 27** 1941 Japanese bombers attack Manila, despite claim as open city.
- 1944 General Patton's Third Army relieves Bastogne in Belgium.
- 1979 President Amin of Afghanistan murdered in coup backed by Soviet Union, beginning 10 year war.
- 28** 1946 French declare martial law in Vietnam as war appears inevitable.
- 29** 1778 British, attempting new strategy to defeat colonials, capture Savannah.
- 1890 Last major conflict of Indian wars as 7th Cavalry tries to disarm Chief Big Foot and followers at Wounded Knee SD.
- 1965 Christmas truce observed in Vietnam, while President Johnson tries to get North Vietnamese to bargaining table.
- 30** 1803 US takes possession of Louisiana area from France.
- 1972 President Nixon halts air offensive and agrees to resume peace negotiations with Hanoi representative.
- 2006 Saddam Hussein hanged for crimes committed against own people during rule.

- 31** 1775 George Washington orders recruiting officers to accept free blacks into army.
- 1942 After 5 months of battle, Emperor Hirohito allows Japanese commanders at Guadalcanal to retreat.

JANUARY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1776 British torch Norfolk, Virginia
- 1863 Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect
- 1950 First woman doctor commissioned in USN, Mary T. Sproul
- 1950 Indo-China: Viet Minh open a major offensive against the French
- 1951 Massive Chinese/North Korean assault on UN-lines
- 1962 US Navy SEAL teams established.
- 2** 1776 First American flag displayed
- 1945 USN convoys depart Leyte to invade Luzon, while beating off Kamikaze.
- 3** 1777 Battle of Princeton: Washington defeats British
- 1944 Marine ace "Pappy" Boyington (28 kills) captured by Japanese
- 1990 Panama's Gen Manuel Noriega surrenders to US authorities
- 4** 1989 Second Gulf of Sidra Incident: two USN F-14s down two Libyan MiG-23s
- 5** 1608 Capt. John Smith is captured by Indians
- 1781 Richmond burned by British forces under Benedict Arnold
- 6** 1776 "NY Provincial Company of Artillery" organized; now 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, senior unit of Regular Army
- 1927 US Marines sent to Nicaragua
- 1941 FDR's "Four Freedoms" address; of speech & worship, from want & fear.
- 7** 1942 Bataan: 15,000 US & 65,000 Philippine troops go on half-rations, as Japanese close in
- 1953 Pres Truman announces development of hydrogen bomb
- 8** 1815 Battle of New Orleans, 15 days after Treaty of Ghent
- 1877 Battle of Wolf Mountain, Montana: Crazy Horse defeated by US Army - last battle of Great Sioux War
- 1973 Secret peace talks between US & North Vietnam resume near Paris
- 9** 1861 First Shot of Civil War: US steamer 'Star of the West' is fired on by Confederate batteries off Charleston
- 1936 Garand M-1 semi-automatic rifle adopted by US Army
- 1942 FDR establishes Joint Chiefs of Staff
- 1945 Luzon: 6th Army lands in Lingayen Gulf.
- 1952 USMC recalls Ted Williams to active duty for Korean War
- 10** 1847 US Navy-Marine Corps landing party occupies Los Angeles
- 1943 Guadalcanal: US forces begin general offensive to eliminate Japanese.
- 1946 Army Signal Corps bounces radar beam off moon.
- 11** 1785 Continental Congress convenes in New York
- 1945 Japanese decide to put remaining resources into suicide weapons.
- 1991 Congress authorizes Pres G.H.W. Bush to undertake offensive operations against Iraq
- 12** 1946 82nd Airborne Division marches up Fifth Avenue to tumultuous greeting
- 13** 1968 Beginning of Tet Offensive in Vietnam
- 14** 1784 Congress ratifies Treaty of Paris, ending Revolutionary War
- 1867 Alfred Nobel makes first public demonstration of dynamite
- 1943 Casablanca Conference: FDR, Churchill, & Stalin
- 1969 Fire aboard USS 'Enterprise' (CVN-65), off Vietnam, 28 die, 344 injured
- 15** 1865 Union soldiers, sailors, & Marines take Ft Fisher, NC

- 1973 Pres Nixon suspends all US offensive action over North Vietnam
- 16** 1776 Continental Congress approves enlistment of free blacks
- 1944 Gen Eisenhower takes command of Operation Overlord
- 1957 Three B-52s leave California on first non-stop world flight
- 1970 Col Kadhaffi becomes premier of Libya
- 17** 1781 Battle of Cowpens: Dan Morgan annihilates Tarleton's Anglo-Tory force
- 1955 USS 'Nautilus' (SSN-571) gets underway on nuclear power
- 1966 B-52 carrying four hydrogen bombs crashes off Spanish coast
- 1991 Operation Desert Storm: Coalition airstrikes against Iraq
- 18** 1911 First airplane lands on ship: Eugene Ely in Curtiss Flyer on USS 'Pennsylvania' (ACR-4)
- 19** 1920 Senate rejects American membership in League of Nations
- 20** 1778 1st American court martial opens, Cambridge, MA
- 1783 Hostilities cease in Revolutionary War
- 1887 Senate approves lease of Pearl Harbor for a base
- 1914 USN opens school for aviators at Pensacola, Fla.
- 1944 Rapido River: US 36th Div begins two-day attempt to force German defenses
- 1981 Illegally held by Iranian government for 444 days, 52 Americans are finally released
- 21** 1903 "Dick Act" creates modern National Guard
- 1968 Battle of Khe Sanh begins -- ends Apr 8
- 22** 1944 Operation Shingle: Allies land at Anzio
- 23** 1968 North Koreans capture USS 'Pueblo' & 83 crew
- 24** 1847 Col. Price defeats 1,500 Indians & Mexicans to secure New Mexico for US
- 25** 1945 Audie Murphy earns Medal of Honor
- 1969 US-North Vietnamese peace talks begin in Paris
- 26** 1862 Lincoln issues General War Order #1, calling for Union offensive
- 1911 Glenn Curtiss tests first successful sea plane, San Diego
- 1913 John Paul Jones laid to rest in Chapel of US Naval Academy
- 1942 Marines land in N. Ireland - 1st US troops to reach Europe
- 1948 Executive Order 9981: Truman orders Segregation in Armed Forces ended
- 27** 1915 US Marines begin occupation of Haiti
- 1943 First USAAF raid on Germany, at Wilhelmshafen
- 1973 US and North Vietnam sign cease-fire
- 1977 Pres Carter pardons most Vietnam War draft evaders
- 28** 1915 US Coast Guard created from Life Saving & Revenue Cutter Services
- 1942 Ens. Donald Mason radios, "Sighted sub, sank same."
- 29** 1944 USS 'Missouri' (BB-63) launched in Brooklyn
- 30** 1781 Articles of Confederation, establishing perpetual union of "United States of America"
- 1945 Philippines - Cabanatuan: 126 US & Filipino raiders liberate 500 prisoners from Japanese P/W camp
- 31** 1944 U.S. troops land on Kwajalein & nearby islands in Marshalls
- 1945 11th Airborne Div lands - by sea - at south entrance to Manila Bay.
- 1961 Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr., becomes first black American to command warship, 'Falgout' (DE-324)
- 1981 Last enlisted USN aviator retires

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 cdrpost2894@va.vfwwebmail.com

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

The primary means for disseminating the newsletter will be via e-mail. Semper fidelis, *Chris Mulholland*

POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u>DECEMBER '17</u>	
2	Chesapeake Christmas Parade
2-3	Battle of Great Bridge Reenactment
7	Nat'l Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
13	Post Meeting/ Christmas Party, 1900
18	Wreath Laying Horton Cemetery, Suffolk, 0930
21	Winter Begins
24	Christmas Eve
25	Christmas
31	New Year's Eve

<u>JANUARY '18</u>	
1	New Year's Day
9	Sinsil 8 Anniversary (2008) – Angelversary of Jon Dozier
10	Post Meeting, 1900 (Quarterly Audit)
12-14	VFW Dept of VA Winter Council, Portsmouth
15	Martin Luther King Day

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

VFW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION					
NAME _____ <small>FIRST MIDDLE LAST</small>		EMAIL _____		DATE OF BIRTH _____	
ADDRESS _____			HOME OF RECORD _____		PHONE _____ GENDER: (M) (F)
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____		CITY _____ STATE _____		SSN (optional) _____ ZIP _____	
BRANCH OF SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> ARMY <input type="checkbox"/> NAVY <input type="checkbox"/> AIR FORCE <input type="checkbox"/> MARINES <input type="checkbox"/> COAST GUARD			MEMBERSHIP TYPE (choose one)		
DATES OF SERVICE: _____			<input type="checkbox"/> ANNUAL MEMBER		
QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE			<small>Payment Authorization</small> You may pay by check or credit card. For payments by check, you will receive a yearly statement by mail. For credit card payments, please complete the following: <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$30.00 on a yearly basis to pay my Annual membership dues. <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of \$30.00.		
<input type="checkbox"/> WORLD WAR II <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPATION SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> KOREAN SERVICE (1950-54) <input type="checkbox"/> KOREAN DUTY (1955-present) <input type="checkbox"/> VIETNAM SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS <input type="checkbox"/> HOSTILE FIRE/IMMINENT DANGER PAY			<input type="checkbox"/> DESERT SHIELD/STORM <input type="checkbox"/> BOSNIA/KOSOVO <input type="checkbox"/> GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY <input type="checkbox"/> AFGHANISTAN (2001-present) <input type="checkbox"/> IRAQ (2003-2011) <input type="checkbox"/> SSBN DETERRENT PATROL INSIGNIA		
LOCATION _____ DATES _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NEW Post No. <u>2894</u> <input type="checkbox"/> FORMER MEMBER ID No. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSFER From Post No. _____ to Post No. <u>2894</u> <small>transfer complies with Sec. 107</small> RECRUITER (please print) _____ <small>NAME MEMBER NO.</small> QUARTERMASTER _____			<input type="checkbox"/> LIFEMEMBER <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLAN <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ _____ to be paid in 11 monthly installment payments after my initial payment of \$45.00. <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to charge the \$45.00 initial payment and I understand that I will be billed for the remaining 11 monthly installment payments.		

NATIONAL COPY AMEX
 DISCOVER
 VISA
 MASTER CARD
 Exp. Date: ____/____/____ AMOUNT: \$ _____

CERTIFICATION

I attest that I am a citizen of the United States, that my Campaign Service was honorable, that I have never subsequently been discharged from military service under dishonorable conditions. I also certify that (1) I am entitled to a campaign ribbon or medal authorized by the U.S. Government based on my overseas service or; (2) I have served overseas in Korea or; I have received imminent Danger/Hostile Fire pay. I further give authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to verify honorable overseas service entitled me to membership.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Recruiter _____ Recruiter ID# _____

Print _____

Quartermaster Approval _____ DD214 Attached () Requested ()

Signature _____

Annual Dues Received _____ or One Time Life _____ or Initial Payment** for installment * _____

Post Only Notes _____

VFW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION					
NAME _____ <small>FIRST MIDDLE LAST</small>		EMAIL _____		DATE OF BIRTH _____	
ADDRESS _____			HOME OF RECORD _____		PHONE _____ GENDER: (M) (F)
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____		CITY _____ STATE _____		SSN (optional) _____ ZIP _____	
BRANCH OF SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> ARMY <input type="checkbox"/> NAVY <input type="checkbox"/> AIR FORCE <input type="checkbox"/> MARINES <input type="checkbox"/> COAST GUARD			MEMBERSHIP TYPE (choose one)		
DATES OF SERVICE: _____			<input type="checkbox"/> ANNUAL MEMBER		
QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE			<small>Payment Authorization</small> You may pay by check or credit card. For payments by check, you will receive a yearly statement by mail. For credit card payments, please complete the following: <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$30.00 on a yearly basis to pay my Annual membership dues. <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of \$30.00.		
<input type="checkbox"/> WORLD WAR II <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPATION SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> KOREAN SERVICE (1950-54) <input type="checkbox"/> KOREAN DUTY (1955-present) <input type="checkbox"/> VIETNAM SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS <input type="checkbox"/> HOSTILE FIRE/IMMINENT DANGER PAY			<input type="checkbox"/> DESERT SHIELD/STORM <input type="checkbox"/> BOSNIA/KOSOVO <input type="checkbox"/> GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY <input type="checkbox"/> AFGHANISTAN (2001-present) <input type="checkbox"/> IRAQ (2003-2011) <input type="checkbox"/> SSBN DETERRENT PATROL INSIGNIA		
LOCATION _____ DATES _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NEW Post No. <u>2894</u> <input type="checkbox"/> FORMER MEMBER ID No. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSFER From Post No. _____ to Post No. <u>2894</u> <small>transfer complies with Sec. 107</small> RECRUITER (please print) _____ <small>NAME MEMBER NO.</small> QUARTERMASTER _____			<input type="checkbox"/> LIFEMEMBER <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLAN <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ _____ to be paid in 11 monthly installment payments after my initial payment of \$45.00. <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to charge the \$45.00 initial payment and I understand that I will be billed for the remaining 11 monthly installment payments.		

NATIONAL COPY AMEX
 DISCOVER
 VISA
 MASTER CARD
 Exp. Date: ____/____/____ AMOUNT: \$ _____

CERTIFICATION

I attest that I am a citizen of the United States, that my Campaign Service was honorable, that I have never subsequently been discharged from military service under dishonorable conditions. I also certify that (1) I am entitled to a campaign ribbon or medal authorized by the U.S. Government based on my overseas service or; (2) I have served overseas in Korea or; I have received imminent Danger/Hostile Fire pay. I further give authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to verify honorable overseas service entitled me to membership.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Recruiter _____ Recruiter ID# _____

Print _____

Quartermaster Approval _____ DD214 Attached () Requested ()

Signature _____

Annual Dues Received _____ or One Time Life _____ or Initial Payment** for installment * _____

Post Only Notes _____

Scout of the Year Program



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

girl scouts



VFW



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

WHAT IS THE SCOUT OF THE YEAR PROGRAM?

Annually, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States awards three individuals who are: Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients, Venture Summit Award recipients and/or Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the qualities of that rank. Awards are as follows:

- \$5,000 1st place National scholarship
- \$3,000 2nd place National scholarship
- \$1,000 3rd place National scholarship

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for the award, the candidate must:

- Be the recipient of the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award.
- Be a registered, active member of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship at the time the above reward was received.
- Have demonstrated exemplary citizenship in school, Scouting and community.

Prior National Scout of the Year winners are ineligible. 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. A local Post can be identified by zip code at www.vfw.org/find-a-post.

WHAT ARE THE DEADLINES?

- Deadline for entry to VFW Post is March 1.
- One candidate with full entry criteria must be submitted by a VFW Post to the next level of judging by April 1. The VFW Department (state) Scouting chairman can provide this information.
- The Department winner must be selected and submitted by their Department (state) Scouting chairman to the VFW National Headquarters by May 1.

Questions should be directed to Quentin Carroll at 816-756-3390 ext 6155 during normal business hours Monday through Friday or emailed to scouting@vfw.org

WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED?

The following documentation should be submitted:

- Photograph of the Scout — must be attached to this form. The Scout must appear in correct, complete uniform for their current rank. Recommended size 3" x 5".
- School Participation Record — a single page, one sided resume of the candidate's school activities indicating academic achievements, offices held, honors received and significant participation in other activities.

Official Entry Form

VFW Scout of the Year Program

MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH CONTESTANT
and submitted DIRECTLY TO A VFW POST IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

()

Home Phone

Email

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

Scout Troop Number

SCOUT/VENTURE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing information is accurate and if I am the winner, I will make myself available to receive the award at a presentation ceremony as designated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Scout/Venture Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

UNIT LEADER'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above-named Scout/Venture is an active member of our unit or was when the award was received and the information supplied by the candidate is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Unit Leader's Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

PARENT'S CONSENT

I hereby certify that all information on this application is correct. I willingly submit this name for consideration as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States' Scout of the Year. If this individual is selected as the winner, I will ensure that he/she is allowed to attend a presentation ceremony as designated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Father, Mother or Guardian Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)



Scout of the Year Program

VFW DEPARTMENT (STATE) SCOUTING CHAIRMAN

PHONE: _____

SPONSORING VFW POST

POST NUMBER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POST COMMANDER'S SIGNATURE:

DISTRICT CERTIFICATION
IF APPLICABLE, CHECK WITH THE VFW DEPARTMENT (STATE) SCOUTING CHAIRMAN

DISTRICT #: _____

DISTRICT CDR.: _____

DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION
MUST BE COMPLETED BY DEPT (STATE) VFW SCOUTING CHAIRMAN OR DEPT. COMMANDER

DEPARTMENT: _____

SUBMITTED BY: _____

SIGNATURE:

- **Scouting Record** — maximum of three pages, one side only, listing of all Scouting participation beginning with Cub Scouts or Brownies - years of participation, unit numbers and sponsors. Also include when Eagle, Gold, Summit or Quartermaster Award was received and Palms. Identify leadership positions held at all levels, participation in Scouting activities (jamborees, Order of the Arrow conferences, etc.) and the candidate's Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster Project.
- **Community Service Record** — a single page, one sided resume listing participation in community and religious service organizations (excluding Scouting and school), noting leadership positions held and any recognition received.
- **Letters of Recommendation** — Submit three letters, no more than two pages in length from:
 - A scout leader.
 - A community member.
 - A teacher/faculty member (if homeschooled, a parent letter is allowed).
 - In addition, you may include one or two additional letters, no more than two pages in length from local community members who have special knowledge of the candidate's abilities/accomplishments.
- **Completed Entry Form** – submitted to a local VFW Post. Local Posts can be identified by zip code at www.vfw.org/find-a-post.

WHO MAKES UP THE VFW SCOUTING TEAM?

The backbone of Scouting in the VFW is the VFW Scouting Team. These VFW members are deeply involved in Scouting, most with decades of experience.

Appointed by their Department commander, they are responsible for promoting Scouting in their state. They are available to encourage Posts to sponsor units support units and individual Scout projects. They should be the Department's "expert" on all phases of Scouting. Many Departments have multiple members of the VFW Scouting Team, but every Department should have at least one individual to promote the values of Scouting to youth and to the VFW itself. For more information on the VFW Scouting Team call 816-756-3390 ext 6155 or e-mail scouting@vfw.org



Veterans of Foreign Wars
816-756-3390 ext 6155



Join Us!
vfw post 2894
CHRISTMAS party

Wednesday, 13 December, at 1900 (7 pm)

Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 9

110 Kempsville Road, Chesapeake

Bring a dish to share

Families are invited!

RSVP by 10 Dec: cdrpost2894@vfwva.org

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

OR HERE!!!



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

Place
Stamp
Here

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Fold here