

## 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

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

#### Post Address:

VFW Post 2894

PO Box 15842

Chesapeake, VA 23328



Email: [cdRpost2894@vfwva.org](mailto:cdRpost2894@vfwva.org)

#### Web Site:

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

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## POST OFFICERS

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

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President..... Sandy Dunbar  
Sr. Vice President..... Christine Zinn  
Jr. Vice President..... Bea Oakley  
Secretary..... Barbara Mulholland  
Treasurer..... Donna Kust  
Chaplain..... Diane Hostettlar  
Conductress..... Grace Schweers  
Guard..... Becky Junghans  
Patriotic Instructor..... Shirley Casady

## NATIONAL

[www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

## STATE

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## VFW VA DISTRICT 2

[www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2](http://www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2)



## 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE TET OFFENSIVE

The Tet Offensive was one of the largest military campaigns of the Vietnam War, launched on January 30, 1968, by forces of the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese People's Army of Vietnam. It was a campaign of surprise attacks against military and civilian command and control centers throughout South Vietnam. The name of the offensive comes from the Tết holiday, the Vietnamese New Year, when the first major attacks took place.

Although the offensive was a military defeat for North Vietnam, it had a profound effect on the US government and shocked the US public, which had been led to believe by its political and military leaders that the North Vietnamese were being defeated and incapable of launching such an ambitious military operation; American public support for the war soon declined and the U.S. sought negotiations to end the war.

### WHAT WAS THE TET OFFENSIVE?

As the celebration of the lunar new year, Tet is the most important holiday on the Vietnamese calendar. In previous years, the holiday had been the occasion for an informal truce in the Vietnam War between South Vietnam and North Vietnam (and their communist allies in South Vietnam, the Viet Cong).

In early 1968, however, the North Vietnamese military commander General Vo Nguyen Giap chose January 31 as the occasion for a coordinated offensive of surprise attacks aimed at breaking the

stalemate in Vietnam. Giap believed that the attacks would cause Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) forces to collapse and foment discontent and rebellion among the South Vietnamese population.

Furthermore, Giap believed the alliance between South Vietnam and the United States was unstable—he hoped the offensive would drive the final wedge between them and convince American leaders to give up their defense of South Vietnam.

*In February 1968, in the wake of the Tet Offensive, TV journalist Walter Cronkite, who had been a moderate and balanced observer of the war's progress, announced that it seemed "more certain than ever that the bloody experience of Vietnam is to end in a stalemate."*

### KHE SANH ATTACKED

In preparation for the planned offensive, Giap and the troops of the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) launched a series of attacks in the fall of 1967 on isolated American garrisons in the highlands of central Vietnam and along the Laotian and Cambodian frontiers.

On January 21, 1968, PAVN forces began a massive artillery bombardment of the U.S. Marine garrison at Khe Sanh, located on the principal road from northern South Vietnam into Laos. As President Lyndon B. Johnson and General William

### The Tet Offensive: The Turning Point



Westmoreland focused their attention on the defense of Khe Sanh, Giap's 70,000 poised to begin their true objective: the Tet Offensive.

#### TET OFFENSIVE BEGINS

On the early morning of January 30, 1968, Viet Cong forces attacked 13 cities in central South Vietnam, just as many families began their observances of the lunar new year.

Twenty-four hours later, PAVN and Viet Cong forces struck a number of other targets throughout South Vietnam, including cities, towns, government buildings and U.S. or ARVN military bases throughout South Vietnam, in a total of more than 120 attacks.

In a particularly bold attack on the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, a Viet Cong platoon got inside the complex's courtyard before U.S. forces destroyed it. The audacious attack on the U.S. Embassy, and its initial success, stunned American and international observers, who saw images of the carnage broadcast on television as it occurred.

Though Giap had succeeded in achieving surprise, his forces were spread too thin in the ambitious offensive, and U.S. and ARVN forces managed to successfully counter most of the attacks and inflict heavy Viet Cong losses.

#### THE BATTLE OF HUE

Particularly intense fighting took place in the city of Huế, located on the Perfume River some 50 miles south of the border between North and South Vietnam.

The Battle of Huế would rage for more than three weeks after PAVN and Viet Cong forces burst into the city on January 31, easily overwhelming the government forces there and taking control of the city's ancient citadel.

Early in their occupation of Huế, Viet Cong soldiers conducted house-to-house searches, arresting civil servants, religious leaders, teachers and other civilians connected with American forces or with the South Vietnamese regime. They executed thousands of these so-called counter-revolutionaries and buried their bodies in mass graves.

U.S. and ARVN forces discovered evidence of the massacre after they regained control of the city on February 26. In addition to more than 2,800 bodies, another 3,000 residents were missing, and the occupying forces had destroyed many of the grand city's temples, palaces and other monuments.

The toughest fighting in Huế occurred at the ancient citadel, which the North Vietnamese struggled fiercely to hold against superior U.S. firepower. In scenes of carnage recorded on film by numerous television crews on the scene, nearly 150 U.S. Marines were killed in the Battle of Huế, along with some 400 South Vietnamese troops.

On the North Vietnamese side, an estimated 5,000 soldiers were killed, most of them hit by American air and artillery strikes.

#### IMPACT OF THE TET OFFENSIVE

Despite its heavy casualty toll, and its failure to inspire widespread rebellion among the South Vietnamese, the Tet Offensive proved to be a strategic success for the North Vietnamese.

Before Tet, Westmoreland and other representatives of the Johnson administration had been claiming that the end of the war was in sight; now, it was clear that a long struggle still lay ahead. Westmoreland requested more than 200,000 new troops in order to mount an effective counteroffensive, an escalation that many Americans saw as an act of desperation.

As anti-war sentiment mounted on the home front, some of Johnson's advisers that had supported past military buildup in Vietnam (including soon-to-be Secretary of Defense Clark Clifford) now argued for scaling back U.S. involvement.

On March 31, a beleaguered President Johnson declared that he was limiting the bombing of North Vietnam to the area below the 20th parallel (thus sparing 90 percent of communist-held territory) and calling for negotiations to end the war. At the same time, he announced that he would not be running for re-election that November.

Though peace talks would drag on for another five years—during which more American soldiers were killed than in the previous years of the conflict—Johnson's decision to halt escalation after the Tet Offensive marked a crucial turning point in American participation in the Vietnam War.

[From History channel's website:

[www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/tet-offensive](http://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/tet-offensive)]

### 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK, 21 APR 2018

Keep your calendar clear for the seventh annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk on **Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>** at the Dismal Swamp Canal Trail in Deep Creek just off Route 17. Since Post 2894 is hosting this event, we would like to see all the members come out and help in any way you can. We will also be receiving assistance from crew members of the USS Bataan (LHD-5), the Marines of Northwest Security Group, the Chesapeake Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, and more as we host this commemorative event. The flyer for this event can be found at the end of this newsletter along with a sponsorship form. **PLEASE SHARE WITH FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, FAMILY – EVERYONE!**



You can find more information on the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/pages/Chesapeake-Bataan-Death-March/464188050284397](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Chesapeake-Bataan-Death-March/464188050284397)

### COMMANDER'S CORNER

Even though you are receiving this newsletter in the "dead of winter", spring is just around the corner! And with it, comes our Post's biggest fund-raising event, the *Bataan Death March Memorial Walk (21 April)*.



It's not too soon to begin planning for this and all of our other events this spring such as the Norfolk St. Patrick's Day Parade (17 Mar), our Post elections (11 Apr), our annual Post Awards Ceremony (9 May), the Memorial Day Poppy Drive (26-27 May), the Memorial Day Ceremony in front of City Hall (28 May), and the installation of new officers (13 Jun). So get aboard quickly! The

train's ready to roll, and it's picking up steam!!!



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

I recognize that we focus a great deal of our time and effort on projects to help veterans while not thinking much about our own 'social life.' In response to some questions, I've heard some great ideas such as: pub-crawl, chili cook-off or BBQ contest, paint (and wine) night, and a "veterans' ball". These are all great ideas that we can think over and talk about in a future meeting.

I want to thank everyone who came and enjoyed the camaraderie at the Christmas Pot Luck after our December meeting. A reminder that our post meeting in February has been changed from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup>...so get that bottle of wine, the dozen roses, and a box of chocolate ready!!!

And, as always, thanks to all of you for your service to our country! Semper Fidelis and **Erin Go Bragh!**

*Chris Mulholland, Commander*

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

2018 came in with a storm we will remember for years to come. Hope everyone is doing well. The Auxiliary was able to sell some more of the die cast cars at the Toys for Tots Car Show, December 2 in Smithfield. We plan on buying an American Flag to match the Auxiliary Flag that we ordered and received. We still have cars and will try to sell them in the spring.



On January 13, Barbara Mulholland, Donna Kust, Christina Zinn and I went to Winter Council.

District 2 will have their meeting March 3 at Post 8545 in Smithfield, 223 Washington St. Lunch is at 12:00 and the meeting is at 1:00.

Please contact your House of Representatives and Senators and let them know how you felt about the Government Shutdown. They need to hear from all of us.

Thanks for all you do for the Veterans.

*Sandy Dunbar, President*

### PHILLIP B. MARLOWE, CPL, USMC 1925-2017

**It is with a sad heart that we announce the passing of Comrade Phillip Marlowe on Tuesday, 28 November. Here is his obituary:**

Chesapeake - Phillip Brewer Marlowe, 92, died on Nov. 28, 2017. He was born Nov. 17, 1925, in his beloved Asheville, NC to the late Brisco Willis Marlow, Sr. and Mary Aubrey Miller Marlow, and was also predeceased by his loving wife of 63 years, Shirley Moore Marlowe; sister, Mary A. Palmer (Tissie); brother, Brisco (Billy) Marlowe, Jr.

He is survived by his loving children, John Marlowe (Millie), Ann Walthall (Steve), Phyllis Maness (Tommy), Brisco W. Marlow III (Elizabeth) and Elaine Lassiter (Jimmy); 4 grandchildren, Keith, Stephanie, Neil and Cristy; 6 great-grandchildren; and by numerous cousins, nephews and nieces.



*Phillip Marlowe, 1945*

Mr. Marlowe proudly served his country during WWII as a Corporal in the USMC in the Pacific Theater, enlisting at the age of 17. He was a patriot and loved God, his country and his family. He also served as a VA State Trooper from 1951-59 in Suffolk. He was later employed with Sidney Kelsey law firm in Norfolk for over 10 years, and later enjoyed careers with the VBPD Forensics Unit and a VA State Police Motorist Assistant.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the two organizations that he cared about so much: [marineshelpingmarines.org](http://marineshelpingmarines.org) and [vspsa.org](http://vspsa.org)

A visitation will be held at Hollomon-Brown Funeral Home, Great Bridge Chapel on Sunday, December 3, 2017 from 2-4 p.m. The funeral will be held in the funeral home chapel at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, December 4, 2017 with burial following at Chesapeake Memorial Gardens. Condolences may be offered to the family at [www.hollomon-brown.com](http://www.hollomon-brown.com)

*Published in Virginian Pilot on Nov. 30, 2017*

When he was a teenager in Asheville, NC, he was a golf caddie at the historic Grove Park Inn and met President FDR. Phil jumped on the running board of FDR's car and the President asked him, "What do you want to be when you grow up, son?"

When Phil replied, "A United States Marine!" FDR said, "Good for you!"

After completing training at Parris Island, he was sent to California for further transport to the western Pacific. While waiting for his ship, Phil got to meet Greer Garson and even skated with Shirley Temple!

What his obituary does not convey is that Phil was in the middle of some of the most famous battles of WWII.

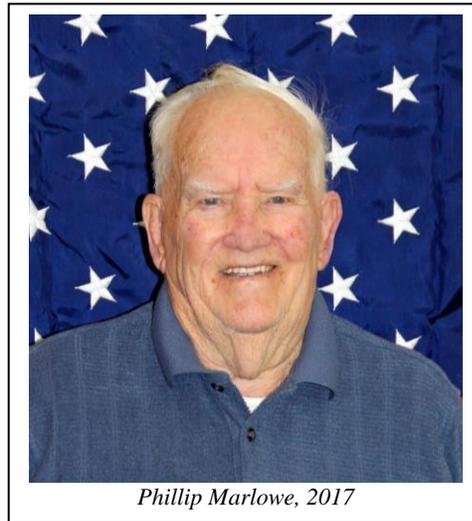
He landed on Guadalcanal as a 17 year old member of Company C ("Charlie Company"), 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment (1/6), Second Marine Division (2nd MARDIV), Fleet Marine Force (FMF). 6th Marines is a storied unit within the Marine Corps. Its most famous event before WWII was the charge across the wheat field outside Belleau Wood, France in June 1918. The battle was such a hard-won success it led General Pershing to say, "The deadliest weapon in the world is a Marine and his rifle!"

Phillip and his fellow Marines landed on Guadalcanal on 4 January 1943. There, they fought as part of a temporary Army-Marine division in the final American offensive by advancing from Kokumbona to Cape Esperance and eliminating the last remaining enemy forces. 6th Marines suffered 223 casualties (53 killed in action or died of wounds, 170 wounded in action), during its six weeks on the "Canal."

His next action was during the Battle of Tarawa, when 6th Marines was the V Amphibious Corps' floating reserve. The assault waves stormed ashore on 20 November 1943 but ran into stiff opposition. Casualties were so heavy that the entire division reserve was committed on the first day. The 6th Marines was ordered ashore the following morning.

Phil landed on Betio's Green Beach along with the rest of 1/6 and 3/6. They were ordered to drive the length of the island, with 2/6 as a blocking force on nearby Bairiki Island. Betio was declared secure after 76 bloody hours. Phil and his fellow Marines were then sent to Hawaii where they reassembled in a new rest camp. 6th Marines suffered 355 casualties (99 dead, 256 wounded) and received a Presidential Unit Citation for its

He next participated in the Battle of Saipan and the Tinian operation. The regiment landed under heavy fire at Saipan's Red Beach on 15 June. This was the most difficult assault landing in regimental history; two of the three battalion commanders were seriously wounded in the first minutes ashore. Early the next morning, the 6th Marines repulsed several tank-supported counterattacks that saved the beachhead. The regiment then drove north up the west side of the island through the coastal town of Garapan and on toward Tanapag, where the Marines faced the largest Japanese "Banzai" attack of the war.



*Phillip Marlowe, 2017*

The next battle Phil was at Tinian on 25 July when the 6th Marines joined the rest of the 2nd Marine Division as they elbowed their way down the island until reaching the escarpment that marked Tinian's southern tip on 1 August. It took three days of tough fighting to reduce the final

enemy stronghold. The regiment lost 34 killed and 165 wounded in ten days on Tinian.

In September 1945, Phil deployed to Nagasaki where he participated in the Occupation of Japan from September 1945 to June 1946.

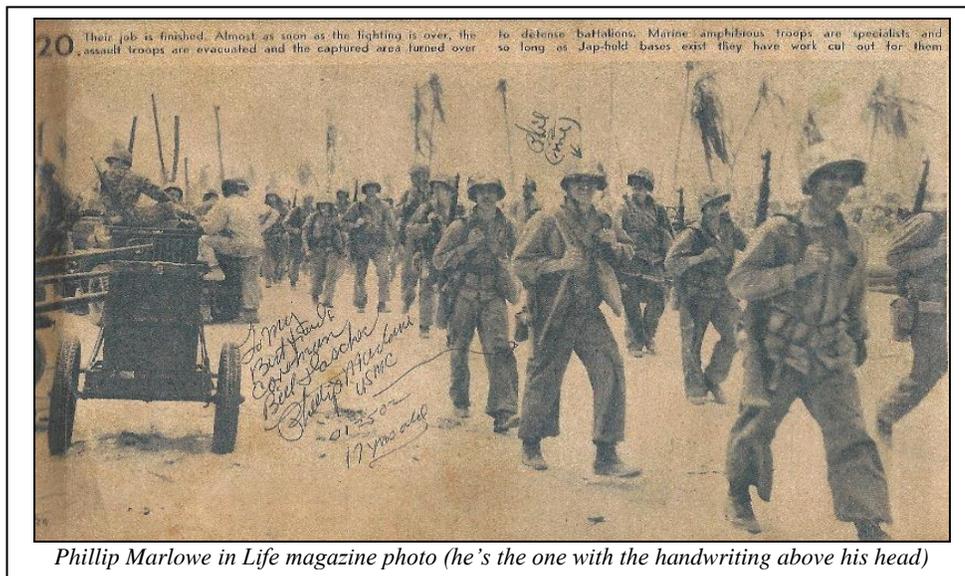
In December 1945, Phil was sent back to the US as one of the longest serving members of his unit. In 1951, Phil was accepted as a Virginia State Trooper where he held multiple positions and was also elected several times as the President of the Virginia State Police Alumni Association.

He was known as "400" because he was issued badge number 400, the first time in history that the state police had more than 399 members! He had many funny stories about chasing bootleggers on the back roads of Suffolk. Once, his car got stuck on a railroad crossing chasing a speeder and he was able to get out just before the train totaled his cruiser. His family still has the door and a hubcap!

He loved to collect old toy trucks, Lionel trains, license plates and memorabilia of his youth. One of his most prized possessions was his Model A Ford.

When he joined the Post we looked into seeing if we could get him a Purple Heart for his actions during WWII (he

never received one) – but despite being involved in the thick of so many battles, including hand-to-hand combat, he never got a scratch!



*Phillip Marlowe in Life magazine photo (he's the one with the handwriting above his head)*

actions on Tarawa. A photograph of Phil on Tarawa made it into Life magazine.

He wrote of himself, "I have enjoyed my life and all my jobs, my children, family and many friends...I am blessed to have lived in a country where we are free, and I believe we are all given the opportunity to be happy and live a good life."

He was fun to talk to, always willing to share stories. We will miss him. Semper fi, Marine!

## **FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH – Fighting for Respect: African-American Soldiers in WWI**

*By Jami L. Bryan, Army Historical Foundation*

As the people of the United States watched World War I ignite across Europe, African American citizens saw an opportunity to win the respect of their white neighbors. America was a segregated society and African Americans were considered, at best, second class citizens. Yet despite that, there were many African American men willing to serve in the nation's military, but even as it became apparent that the United States would enter the war in Europe, blacks were still being turned away from military service.

When the United States declared war against Germany in April of 1917, War Department planners quickly realized that the standing Army of 126,000 men would not be enough to ensure victory overseas. The standard volunteer system proved to be inadequate in raising an Army, so on 18 May 1917 Congress passed the Selective Service Act requiring all male citizens between the ages of 21 and 31 to register for the draft. Even before the act was passed, African American males from all over the country eagerly joined the war effort. They viewed the conflict as an opportunity to prove their loyalty, patriotism, and worthiness for equal treatment in the United States.

Following the Civil War, the Army disbanded volunteer "colored" regiments, and established six Regular Army regiments of black troops with white officers. In 1869, the infantry regiments were reorganized into the 24th and 25th Infantry. The two cavalry regiments, the 9th and 10th, were retained. These regiments were posted in the West and Southwest where they were heavily engaged in the Indian War. During the Spanish-American War, all four regiments saw service.

When World War I broke out, there were four all-black regiments: the 9th and 10th Cavalry and the 24th and 25th Infantry. The men in these units were considered heroes in their communities. Within one week of Wilson's declaration of war, the War Department had to stop accepting black volunteers because the quotas for African Americans were filled.

When it came to the draft, however, there was a reversal in usual discriminatory policy. Draft boards were comprised entirely of white men. Although there were no specific segregation provisions outlined in the draft legislation, blacks were told to tear off one corner of their registration cards so they could easily be identified and inducted separately. Now instead of turning blacks away, the draft boards were doing all they could to bring them into service, southern draft boards in particular. One Georgia county exemption board discharged forty-four percent of white registrants on physical grounds and exempted only three percent of black registrants based on the same requirements. It was fairly common for southern postal workers to deliberately withhold the registration cards of eligible black men and have them arrested for being draft dodgers. African American men who owned their own farms and had families were often drafted before single white employees of large planters. Although comprising just ten percent of the entire United States population, blacks supplied thirteen percent of inductees.

While still discriminatory, the Army was far more progressive in race relations than the other branches of the military. Blacks could not serve

in the Marines, and could only serve limited and menial positions in the Navy and the Coast Guard. By the end of World War I, African Americans served in cavalry, infantry, signal, medical, engineer, and artillery units, as well as serving as chaplains, surveyors, truck drivers, chemists, and intelligence officers.

Although technically eligible for many positions in the Army, very few blacks got the opportunity to serve in combat units. Most were limited to labor battalions. The combat elements of the U.S. Army were kept completely segregated. The four established all-black Regular Army regiments were not used in overseas combat roles but instead were diffused throughout American held territory. There was such a backlash from the African American community, however, that the War Department finally created the 92d and 93d Divisions, both primarily black combat units, in 1917.

With the creation of African American units also came the demand for African-American officers. The War Department thought the soldiers would be more likely to follow men of their own color, thereby reducing the risk of any sort of uprising. Most leaders of the African American community agreed, and it was decided that the Army would create a segregated, but supposedly equal, officer training camp. In May 1917, Fort Des Moines opened its doors to black officer-trainees. Approximately 1,250 men attended the camp in Des Moines, Iowa.

Two hundred fifty of those men were already noncommissioned officers, and the rest were civilians. The average man attending the camp only had to have a high school education, and only twelve percent scored above average in the classification tests given by the Army.

Run by then LTC Charles C. Ballou, the fort's staff of twelve West Point graduates, and a few noncommissioned officers from the four original all-black regiments put the candidates through a rigorous training routine. They practiced drilling with and without arms,



*Image: National Guard Heritage Series*

signaling, physical training, memorizing the organization of the regiment, reading maps, and training on the rifle and bayonet. However, as Ballou noted after the war, the men doing the training did not take the job very seriously, and seemed to consider the school, and the candidates, a waste of time. Consequently, the War Department determined that the instruction at Fort Des Moines was poor and inadequate. Also adding to the poor training was the fact that no one knew exactly what to expect in France, so it was difficult to train as precisely as was needed.

On 15 October 1917, 639 African-American men received their commissions as either captain or first or second lieutenant, and were assigned to infantry, artillery, and engineer units with the 92d Division. This was to be the first and only class to graduate from Fort Des Moines; the War Department shut it down soon after their departure. Future black candidates attended either special training camps in Puerto

Rico (from which 433 officers graduated), the Philippines, Hawaii, and Panama, or regular officer training facilities in the United States .

The Army had no written policy on what to do if an officer training camp became integrated, so each camp was allowed to decide for itself the manner in which the integration was executed. Some were completely segregated and others allowed for blacks and whites to train together. Over 700 additional black officers graduated from these camps, bringing the total number to 1,353.

Although African Americans were earning higher positions in the Army, that did not necessarily mean they were getting equal treatment. Black draftees were treated with extreme hostility when they arrived for training. White men refused to salute black officers and black officers were often barred from the officer's clubs and quarters. The War Department rarely interceded, and discrimination was usually overlooked or sometimes condoned. Because many Southern civilians protested having blacks from other states inhabit nearby training camps, the War Department stipulated that no more than one-fourth of the trainees in any Army camp in the U.S. could be African American.

Even when integrated into fairly progressive camps, black soldiers were often treated badly and sometimes went for long periods without proper clothing. There were also reports of blacks receiving old Civil War uniforms and being forced to sleep outside in pitched tents instead of warmer, sturdier barracks. Some were forced to eat outside in the winter months, while others went without a change of clothes for months at a time. Not all black soldiers suffered treatment like this, however, as those who were lucky enough to train at newly erected National Army cantonments lived in comfortable barracks and had sanitary latrines, hot food, and plenty of clothes.

The first black troops sent overseas belonged to service units. Because the work that these units did was absolutely invaluable to the war effort, commanders promised special privileges in return for high-yield results. With such motivation, the soldiers would often work for twenty-four hours straight unloading ships and transporting men and materiel to and from various bases, ports, and railroad depots. As the war continued and soldiers took to the battlefields, black labor units became responsible for digging trenches, removing unexploded shells from fields, clearing disabled equipment and barbed wire, and burying soldiers killed in action. Despite all the hard and essential work they provided, African American stevedores received the worst treatment of all black troops serving in World War I.

Although not nearly as respected as any of the white soldiers involved in the war effort, African American combat troops, in many respects, were much better off than the laborers. The two combat divisions—the 92d and 93d Divisions—had two completely different experiences while fighting the Great War.

The 92d Division was created in October 1917 and put under the command of BG Charles C. Ballou, who had organized the first African American officer candidate school. Organized in a manner similar to the other American divisions, the 92d was made up of four infantry regiments, three field artillery regiments, a trench mortar battery, three machine gun battalions, a signal battalion, an engineer regiment, an engineer train, and various support units.

Although in no case did a black officer command a white officer, most of the officers (up to the rank of first lieutenant) in the unit were African American. Unlike just about every other American unit training to go into battle, soldiers from the 92d were forced to train separately while in the United States. The War Department, fearing racial uprisings, was willing to sacrifice the unit's ability to develop cohesion and pride. The lack of a strong bond between the men was one of the factors that led to the unit's poor performance in the Meuse-Argonne campaign.

The personal animosity between LTG Robert Bullard, commander of the American Second Army, and BG Ballou was another problem. Bullard was not only a staunch racist, but he also had a rivalry going with BG Ballou. In order to make both Ballou and the black soldiers appear completely incompetent, Bullard spread misinformation about the successes and failures of the 92d.

Even COL Allen J. Greer, Ballou's chief of staff, was in on the plan to sabotage the reputation of his African American unit, and helped put a negative twist on stories from the front lines. Regardless of how well the 92d Division actually did on the battlefield, it was virtually impossible to overcome the slander from prejudiced officers.

Following some initial successes in Lorraine in mid-August, on 20 September 1918, the 92d was ordered to proceed to the Argonne Forest in preparation for the Meuse-Argonne offensive. The division reached the front lines just before the first assault. The 368th Infantry Regiment immediately received orders to fill a gap between the American 77th Division and the French 37th Division. However, due to their lack of training with the French, shortages of equipment, and unfamiliarity with the terrain, the regiment did not successfully complete this important assignment. The failure to accomplish this crucial mission blemished the 92d's combat record, and it was often used by military authorities for more than thirty years to prove the inadequacy of African American soldiers in combat.

After the disaster in the Argonne, the entire division was sent to a relatively quiet area of the front in the Marbache sector. Their primary mission was nevertheless a dangerous one: harass the enemy with frequent patrols. The danger of the assignment was reflected in the 462 casualties sustained in just the first month of patrolling. Although American commanders were dissatisfied with the unit's performance, the French obviously had a different opinion—they decorated members of the 365th Infantry and 350th Machine Gun Battalion for their aggressiveness and bravery.

By late 1918, the German Army was in full retreat, the Allied Commander in Chief, Field Marshal Ferdinand Foch, wanted to apply heavy pressure for a decisive breakthrough and defeat. The 92d was ordered to take the heights east of Champney, France, on 10 November 1918. Although only lasting one day, the attack was fierce and bloody, costing the division over 500 casualties.

As the 92d Division struggled to clear its reputation, the 93d Division had a much more successful experience. Commanded by BG Roy Hoffman, the 93d Division was also organized in December 1917. Unlike other American infantry divisions, the 93d was limited to four infantry regiments, three of which were comprised of National Guard units from New York, Illinois, Ohio, Maryland, Connecticut, Massachusetts, the District of Columbia, and Tennessee. Being made up of mostly draftees and National Guardsmen, the 93d lacked any sort of consistency in its experience or composition. The unit also lacked its full number of combat units and support elements, and as a result never attained full divisional strength. Seeming to have odds stacked against it, the 93d fared remarkably well when faced with battle.



*National Archives*

The situation was desperate in France, and with exhausted and dwindling armies, the French begged the United States for men. GEN John Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Force, promised them four American regiments. He decided to give them the regiments of the 93d Division since the French, who had used French colonial troops from Senegal, had experience in employing black soldiers in combat. The first African American combat troops to set foot on French soil belonged to the 93d Division. Armed, organized, and equipped as a French unit, the 93d quickly adjusted to their new

assignment. Although experiencing some difficulties like language problems, the black soldiers were treated as equals.

The 369th Infantry was the first regiment of the 93d Division to reach France. They arrived in the port city of Brest in December 1917. On 10 March, after three months of duty with the Services of Supply, the 369th received orders to join the French 16th Division in Givry en Argonne for additional training. After three weeks the regiment was sent to the front lines in a region just west of the Argonne Forest. For nearly a month they held their position against German assaults, and after only a brief break from the front, the 369th was placed once again in the middle of the German offensive, this time at Minacourt, France. From 18 July to 6 August 1918, the 369th Infantry, now proudly nicknamed the "Harlem Hellfighters," proved their tenacity once again by helping the French 161st Division drive the Germans from their trenches during the Aisne-Marne counter-offensive.

In this three-week period, the Germans were making many small night raids into Allied territory. During one of these raids, a member of the 369th Infantry, CPL Henry Johnson, fought off an entire German raiding party using only a pistol and a knife. Killing four of the Germans and wounding many more, his actions allowed a wounded comrade to escape capture and led to the seizure of a stockpile of German arms. Johnson and his comrade were wounded and both received the French Croix de Guerre for their gallantry. Johnson was also promoted to sergeant.

From 26 September to 5 October, the 369th participated in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, and continued to fight well throughout the remainder of the war. The regiment fought in the front lines for a total of 191 days, five days longer than any other regiment in the AEF. France awarded the entire unit the Croix de Guerre, along with presenting 171 individual awards for exceptional gallantry in action.

Although the 369th won much of the glory for the 93d Division, the 370th, 371st, and 372d Regiments, each assigned to different French divisions, also proved themselves worthy of acclaim at the front. The 370th fought hard in both the Meuse-Argonne and Oise-Aisne campaigns. Seventy-one members of the regiment received the French Croix de Guerre, and another twenty-one soldiers received the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC). Company C, 371st Infantry, earned the Croix de Guerre with Palm. The 371st Regiment spent more than three months on the front lines in the Verdun area, and for its extraordinary service in the Champagne offensive, the entire regiment was awarded the Croix de Guerre with Palm. In addition, three of the 371st's officers were awarded the French Legion of Honor, 123 men won the Croix de Guerre, and twenty-six earned the DSC.

The 372d Infantry also performed admirably during the American assault in Champagne, and afterwards assisted in the capture of Monthois. It was there the regiment faced strong resistance and numerous counterattacks, resulting in many instances of hand-to-hand combat. In less than two weeks of front line service, the 372d suffered 600 casualties. The regiment earned a unit Croix de Guerre with Palm, and in addition, forty-three officers, fourteen noncommissioned officers, and 116 privates received either the Croix de Guerre or the DSC.

On 11 November 1918 at 1100, the armistice between the Allies and Central Powers went into effect. Like all other American soldiers, the African American troops reveled in celebration and took justifiable pride in the great victory they helped achieve. It was not without great cost: the 92d Division suffered 1,647 battle casualties and the 93d Division suffered 3,534. Expecting to come home heroes, black soldiers received a rude awakening upon their return. Back home, many whites feared that African Americans would return demanding equality and would try to attain it by employing their military training. As the troops returned, there was an increase of racial tension. During the summer and fall of 1919, anti-black race riots erupted in twenty-six cities across America. The lynching of blacks also increased from fifty-eight in 1918 to seventy-seven in 1919. At least ten of those victims were war veterans, and some were lynched while in uniform. Despite this treatment, African American men continued to enlist in the military, including veterans of World War I that came home to such violence and

ingratitude. They served their country in the brief period of peace after the World War I, and many went on to fight in World War II. It was not until the 1948 that President Harry S Truman issued an executive order to desegregate the military, although it took the Korean War to fully integrate the Army. African Americans finally began to receive the equal treatment their predecessors had earned in combat in France during World War I, and as far back as the American Revolution.

For more reading on African American soldiers in WWI, please see: **The Unknown Soldiers: African-American Troops in WWI**; by Arthur E. Barbeau & Florette Henri, **The Right to Fight: A History of African-Americans in the Military**, by Gerald Astor; and **Soldiers of Freedom**, by Kai Wright.

**About The Army Historical Foundation** The Army Historical Foundation establishes, assists, and promotes programs and projects which preserve the history of the American Soldier and promote public understanding of and appreciation for the contributions by all components of the U.S. Army and its members. The Foundation serves as the Army's official fundraising entity for the Capital Campaign for the National Museum of the United States Army. The Museum will be constructed at Fort Belvoir, Va., to honor the service and sacrifice of all American Soldiers who have served since the Army's inception in 1775. For more information about the Foundation, the National Museum of the United States Army, and the Registry of the American Soldier, visit [www.armyhistory.org](http://www.armyhistory.org).

[www.military.com/history/fighting-for-respect-african-american-soldiers-wwi.html](http://www.military.com/history/fighting-for-respect-african-american-soldiers-wwi.html)

## FIRST ISSUE OF STARS AND STRIPES, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1918

The Official  
Newspaper  
of the A. E. F.

The Stars and Stripes

By and For  
the Soldiers  
of the A. E. F.

VOL. I—NO. 1

WRENSHIRE, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1918.

PRICE: 10 CENTS

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF

IN this initial number of THE STARS AND STRIPES, published by the men of the Overseas Command, the Commander-in-Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces extends his greetings through the editing staff to the readers from the first line trenches to the base ports.

These readers are mainly the men who have been honored by being the first contingent of Americans to fight on European soil for the honor of their country. It is an honor and privilege which makes them fortunate above the millions of their fellow citizens at home. Commensurate with their privilege in being here, is the duty which is laid before them, and this duty will be performed by them as by Americans of the past, eager, determined, and unyielding to the last.



The paper, written by the men in the service, should speak the thoughts of the new American Army and the American people from whom the Army has been drawn. It is your paper. Good luck to it.

(Signed) JOHN J. PERSHING, Commander-in-Chief, A.E.F.

**MENTIONED IN ORDERS  
NEW HEADGEAR.**

The "Oversea Cap," the latest thing in military headgear, has been officially adopted as part of the uniform for officers, soldiers and other uniformed members of the A.E.F. For the latter two classes, the cap will be of 20 ounce olive drab cloth, or perhaps a little heavier. There will be no show of coloring on the cap, and the stiffening of the flap will be the same color as the cap itself. When the cap is issued to a man, he will be expected to turn in his service hat to nearest Quartermaster depot.

The officers' Overseas cap will be the same model as that worn by the men, but the material will be that of the officers' uniform. For officers other than general officers, the stiffening at the edge of the flap will be the same color as the arm of the service to which the officer belongs, and will project far enough above the edge of the flap to give the appearance of piping when the cap is worn with the flap up. General officers will have caps with stiffening of the same color as the cap cloth itself, with a strip of gold braid an eighth of an inch to a quarter of an inch from the outside of the flap. Except where the helmet is prescribed, officers actually commanding troops will wear the Overseas cap. At other times the Oversea or the service cap is optional.

**SHAVING IN FRANCE.**

The order says, "Shave every other day." Now you, personally, may need to shave every day; or you may need to shave as often as twice a day; or, again, you may be one of those lucky and youthful souls who really don't need to shave oftener than once a week. But, as the order makes the every-other-day shave obligatory, you, no matter what classification you may fall under, decide to compromise on the every-other-day shave in that way, and in that way only, can discipline be maintained and a pleasing variety of growths up and down the comp'ny front be secured.

The order being such as it is, you dispense with washing your face every day. You wash your face on your non-shaving day, and on your shaving day you let the shave take the place of the wash. To be sure, if you are a generous latherer you have to wash your face all over, including the remote portions behind the ears, after you get through shaving; but, being anxious to save time and economize water - thus living up to another order - you never count that in as a real wash. When writing home, you say simply that you wash and shave on alternate days.

**A Use for Helmets.**

To begin the shaving process, you secure a basin full or a tin helmet full of water - such water as the countryside affords. Usually it is dirty; sometimes in the regions bordering on what has been in German hands since 1914, it minutely resembles the drink that Gunga Dhin brought to his suffering Tommy friend. You remember:

"It was crawly and it stunk."

At that, you can't blame it for being crawly and stinking if it had been anywhere near the Boche.

If you are in billets or barracks, and there is a stove therein both handy and going, and if all the epicures and snappy dressers in the squad are not trying to toast their bread or thaw out their shoes or dry their socks on top of it at the same time, you may be allowed to heat your shaving water - if it can be called water - on said stove. If you are allowed to - which again is doubtful - you are generally saddled with the job of being squad stove-stoker for the rest of the day. This is a confining occupation, and hard on the eyes.

If, however, you are in neither billets nor barracks, but in the open somewhere or if there is no fire in the stove, or, if somebody else has got first licks at it, and you don't fit with the cook of the mess sergeant so as to be able to borrow a cup of hot water out of the coffee tank - why, there is nothing left to do but shave in cold water. This is hard on the face, the temper and the commandment against cussing. Also, if you neglected to import your shaving soap from the States and had to buy it over here, it may mean that you are out of luck on lather.

Anyway, after quite a while of fussing around, you got started. You smear your fine with something approaching lather if you've got hot water, with a sticky, milky substance that resembles, more than anything else, a coating of lumpy otlice paste. This done, and rubbed in a bit around the corners, you begin to hoe.

**Indoor vs. Outdoor Shaving.**

In billet shaving, somebody is always trying to climb into the bunk above over your slightly bent back while you shave - for it is impossible to get your little trench mirror directly in front of your face while you are in an upright position. In outdoor shaving - usually performed in the middle of a village square, near the town fountain - one is invariably bumped from behind by one of the lowing kine or frolicsome colts peculiar to the region: to say nothing of a stray auto truck or ambulance which may have broken loose from its moorings. These gentle digs, of course, produce far less gentle digs in one's countenance. In this way, America's soldiers, long before they reach the front, are inured to the sight of blood.

After you have scraped off a sufficient amount of beard to show a sufficient amount of skin to convince the Top, when he eyes you over, that you have actually shaved, you shake the lather off your razor and brush, dab what is left of the original water over the torn parts of your face, seize the opportunity, while you have the



mirror before you, of combing your hair with your fingernails, and button your shirt collar. The performance concluded, you are good for forty-eight hours more, having a perfect alibi if anyone comments on your facial growth. You are not, however, in any condition to attend a revival meeting or to bless the power-that-be who condemned you to having to shave in France.

**MY FIRST NIGHT IN THE ARMY.**

I'm there with two thin blankets,  
As thin as a slice of ham,  
A German spy was likely the guy  
Who made them for Uncle Sam.  
How did I sleep? Don't kid me --  
My bed-tick's filled with straw,  
And lumps and humps and big fat bumps  
That pinched till I was raw.  
Me and my two thin blankets  
As thin as my last thin dime.  
As thin, I guess, as a chorus girl's dress,  
Well, I had a dandy time.  
I'd pull 'em up from the bottom,  
Whenever I started to sneeze,  
A couple of yanks to cover my shanks.  
And then how my "dogs" did freeze.

You could use 'em for porous plasters,  
Or maybe to strain the soup,--  
My pillows my shoes when I tried to snooze --  
And I've chilblains, a cough and croup.

Me and my two thin blankets,  
Bundled up under my chin;  
Yes, a German spy was likely the guy,  
And - MY -- but they were thin.

You can read more WWI *Stars and Stripes* at [www.loc.gov/collections/stars-and-stripes/about-this-collection](http://www.loc.gov/collections/stars-and-stripes/about-this-collection)

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

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

**SANTA CLAUS IS A MEMBER OF OUR POST!!!**

Comrade Keith Lindgren is a "professional" Santa Claus during the month leading up to Christmas. He has been doing this for years but this season was especially significant because it was only two months ago that he was declared "cancer free" after a lengthy regime of chemotherapy. Keith's wife, Carol, dresses up as well and is the best looking Mrs. Claus in Tidewater! They appear all over Hampton Roads, from Suffolk's Grand Illumination Parade to Cub Scout Packs, hospitals, schools, family events, etc. Merry Christmas! Ho-Ho-Ho!!!



Keith and Carol in Suffolk's 2017 Grand Illum Parade

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SCHWEERS FAMILY!**

Comrade Matt and Auxiliary Conductress Grace Schweers traveled to Sumter, South Carolina to participate in a ceremony for their daughter, Megan Lettieri, on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Megan was promoted to Hospital Corpsman Second Class (HM2). Then, less than 3 weeks later, they had to travel back to SC for the birth of their first granddaughter, Astor Grace Lettieri, on Christmas Eve! Congratulations to



Megan (center) with her parents, Grace and Matt



Megan, her husband Jarrett, and Grace and Matt!

**JOIN US for the 50<sup>th</sup> OCEAN VIEW ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE, 17 MARCH**

**COME MARCH WITH US!!!** Post 2894 will



participate in this year's 50<sup>th</sup> Ocean View Saint Patrick's Day Parade in Norfolk



along with the Tidewater Military Vehicles Association. Bring your families, bring your friends. This is the 50<sup>th</sup> year for the fun filled Irish parade with marching bands, clowns, floats, cars, and people making an exciting and enjoyable parade. Everyone is Irish both in and along the parade route.

## OTHER POST NEWS

### • Comrade Takes Command:

On November 28th, Life Member Chris Kust – son of Quartermaster Mike Kust and Auxiliary Treasurer Donna Kust – assumed command of Alpha Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 508<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC. Chris recently returned from a year-long tour of duty in Iraq on September 24th. Chris is a graduate of Great Bridge High School and Old Dominion University and is married to his college sweetheart, Breeann. Best of Luck, Chris!



Chris Kust (right) prepares to take possession of the company guide-on

### • Post Members Participate in South American Championships:

Auxiliary member Kevin Mulholland spent a month in Rio de Janeiro during October-November of 2017, playing powersoccer (powered wheelchair soccer) with a Brazilian club. He was invited to play with Novo



Kevin and Chris in Rio de Janeiro

Ser as a guest player as they competed in the Brazilian championships and then the Copa Libertadores (the South American club championship). Kevin did not just play but also helped coach and instruct the players in tactics and individual skills. He

had traveled to Rio two years before as a member of the US National Team when they won the Copa Americas. The Copa Libertadores featured teams from Argentina, Uruguay and Brasil.

Commander Chris Mulholland joined his son in mid-November when he arrived to conduct an international referee clinic and then help coordinate the Copa Libertadores and the Sopa Sudamerica (a tournament featuring the National teams.)

The tournaments were held in the stadium which hosted the handball and fencing during the 2016 Olympics.

### • Post Members Place Flags at Portsmouth Naval Hospital Graveyard:

Auxiliary members Cheryl Campbell, Sandy Dunbar, and Barbara Mulholland and Post Commander Chris Mulholland placed American flags at the Portsmouth Naval Hospital cemetery on November

9<sup>th</sup> in honor of Veterans' Day. This is the first time in several years that flags have been placed on these graves. The oldest grave belongs to a sailor who fell off the yardarm of the USS Constitution when it pulled into Hampton Roads in 1838.



Lt to rt: Cheryl Campbell, Sandy Dunbar, and Barbara and Chris Mulholland

### • Comrade Presented with a Dedication Award:

On December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Post Comrade Nelson Lebron traveled to North Carolina where he was presented with a dedication award "For your years of dedication to the martial arts & to helping our students & academy continue to grow; You are being honored with much appreciation and gratitude." Congratulations Nelson!



Nelson Lebron (rt) with his award

### • New Pilot on Board!

Comrade Albon Head retired from the US Navy on September 7<sup>th</sup> and started his new job as a pilot with Wisconsin Air on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. He and his family will be moving to Florida in the near future. We wish the Head family the best of luck



"Captain" Albon Head

as they prepare to start the next chapter of their lives!

### • Comrade Redman is our "Front Man"!

Jason Redman made the cover of People magazine a couple of months ago and now he's on the cover of a brand new magazine, American Unsung Patriots, which came out on December 27<sup>th</sup>. The magazine is published



online and is offering FREE lifetime subscriptions to veterans. Just subscribe and they will receive a monthly copy emailed for the life of the magazine! No strings attached – Their email info will never be shared.

• **Post Scholarship Fundraiser.** On Saturday, 13 January, Honor Brewing Company and Tap-It Local,



Lt to rt: Jean and Carl Dozier with Dave Keuhner

Norfolk, hosted a fundraiser for the Post's scholarship fund. A portion of all of the sales – more than \$200 – was donated to the Post. The fund is intended to support a local high school graduate who will attend a private military college and does not already have any scholarship money. Everyone had a great time at Tap-It Local and we really appreciate all the help that the owners, Chris and Ashley McGrath have given to the Post as well as Dave Keuhner of Honor Beer who has been a tremendous supporter.

## YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST Due 31 March 2018

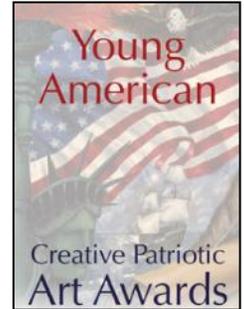
Each year, more than 3,500 high school students from across the country participate in the VFW Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. The contest began in 1979 to recognize up-and-coming artists and encourage patriotism in youth.

**Candidate requirements:**

- High school student under 18.
- US citizen or national.

**Submission Requirements:**

- Must be on paper or canvas - water color, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen-and-ink or oil.
- Digital art and photography NOT ACCEPTED.
- Submit canvas entries on stretcher frames or canvas board; other entries must be matted on white – NO FRAME.
- Art should be no smaller than 8" x 10" but no larger than 18" x 24," not including the mat.
- Include an explanation of the patriotism expressed in the art (150 words or less).
- Entry form must be attached to back of art piece. Forms are available at: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Creative-Patriotic-Art-Form-Fillable-For-Website.pdf>.
- Submit entry to the Post Auxiliary **by 31 Mar '18.**



## SCOUT OF THE YEAR Due 1 March 2018

The Veterans of Foreign Wars annually recognizes Scouts who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the exceptional qualities of that rank. Prizes range up to \$5,000 scholarship for first place.



To be eligible for the award, the candidate must:

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

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

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

Entry forms available on VFW website at:

[www.vfw.org/uploadedFiles/VFW.org/Community/Scout%20of%20the%20Year%20Brochure%20and%20Entry%20Form%20Rev%2009.30.13%20Editable.pdf](http://www.vfw.org/uploadedFiles/VFW.org/Community/Scout%20of%20the%20Year%20Brochure%20and%20Entry%20Form%20Rev%2009.30.13%20Editable.pdf)

## CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE

### Ecclsiastes 3

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. What do workers gain from their toil?

I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race.

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil —this is the gift of God.

I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him. Whatever is has already been, and what will be has been before; and God will call the past to account.

And I saw something else under the sun: In the place of judgment — wickedness was there, the place of justice — wickedness was there.

I said to myself, "God will bring into judgment both the righteous and the wicked, for there will be a time for every activity, a time to judge every deed."

I also said to myself, "As for humans, God tests them so that they may see that they are like the animals. Surely the fate of human beings is like that of the animals; the same fate awaits them both: As one dies, so dies the other. All have the same breath; humans have no advantage over animals. Everything is meaningless. All go to the same place; all come



from dust, and to dust all return. Who knows if the human spirit rises upward and if the spirit of the animal goes down into the earth?"

So I saw that there is nothing better for a person than to enjoy their work, because that is their lot. For who can bring them to see what will happen after them?

## + SAFETY CORNER + FEBRUARY IS FLU AWARENESS MONTH

### Flu: What You Need to Know

Getting an annual flu vaccine is the first and best way to protect yourself and your family from the flu. Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations. In 2017, a study in Pediatrics was the first of its kind to show that flu vaccination also significantly reduced a child's risk of dying from influenza. The more people who get vaccinated, the more people will be protected from flu, including older people, very young children, pregnant women, and people with certain long-term health conditions who are more vulnerable to serious flu complications.

CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine for everyone 6 months of age and older as the first and most important step in protecting against this serious disease.

In addition to getting a seasonal flu vaccine, you can take everyday preventive actions like staying away from sick people and washing your hands to reduce the spread of germs. If you are sick with flu, stay home from work or school to prevent spreading flu to others. In addition, there are prescription medications called antiviral drugs that can be used to treat influenza illness.

Encourage your loved ones to get vaccinated. Vaccination is especially important for people at high risk for developing flu complications, and their close contacts. Also, if you have a loved one who is at high risk of flu complications and they develop flu symptoms, encourage them to get a medical evaluation for possible treatment with flu antiviral drugs. These drugs work best if given within 48 hours of when symptoms start. CDC recommends that people who are at high risk for serious flu complications and who get flu symptoms during flu season be treated with flu antiviral drugs as quickly as possible. People who are not at high risk for serious flu complications may also be treated with flu antiviral drugs, especially if treatment can begin within 48 hours.

Some children 6 months through 8 years of age will require two doses of flu vaccine for adequate protection from flu. Children in this age group who are getting vaccinated for the first time will need two doses of flu vaccine, spaced at least 28 days apart. Children who have only received one dose in their lifetime also need two doses. Your child's doctor or other health care professional can tell you if your child needs two doses of flu vaccine.

Children younger than 6 months old are at high risk of serious flu complications, but are too young to get a flu vaccine. Because of this, safeguarding them from flu is especially important. If you live with or care for an infant younger than 6 months old, you should get a flu vaccine to help protect them from flu. Everyone else who is around the baby also should be vaccinated. Also, studies have shown that flu vaccination of the mother during pregnancy can protect the baby after birth from flu infection for several months.

## + SAFETY CORNER + MARCH - WINTER SURVIVAL KIT

### How to Make a Winter Survival Kit

Everyone should carry a Winter Survival Kit in their car. In an emergency, it could save your life and the lives of your passengers. Here is what you need:

- shovel, windshield scraper, and small broom
- flashlight with extra batteries
- battery powered radio
- water
- snack food including energy bars, raisins and mini candy bars
- matches and small candles
- extra hats, socks and mittens
- first aid kit with pocket knife

- necessary medications
- blankets or sleeping bag
- tow chain or rope
- road salt, sand, or cat litter for traction
- booster cables
- emergency flares and reflectors
- fluorescent distress flag and whistle to attract attention
- Cell phone adapter to plug into lighter

### Kit tips:

- Store items in the passenger compartment in case the trunk is jammed or frozen shut.
- Choose small packages of food that you can eat hot or cold.

### 911 tips:

- If possible, call 911 on your cell phone. Provide your location, condition of everyone in the vehicle and the problem you're experiencing.
- Follow instructions: you may be told to stay where you are until help arrives.
- Do not hang up until you know who you have spoken with and what will happen next.
- If you must leave the vehicle, write down your name, address, phone number and destination. Place the piece of paper inside the front windshield for someone to see.

### Survival tips:

- Prepare your vehicle: Make sure you keep your gas tank at least half full.
- Be easy to find: Tell someone where you are going and the route you will take.
- If stuck: Tie a florescent flag (from your kit) on your antenna or hang it out the window. At night, keep your dome light on. Rescue crews can see a small glow at a distance. To reduce battery drain, use emergency flashers only if you hear approaching vehicles. If you're with someone else, make sure at least one person is awake and keeping watch for help at all times.
- Stay in your vehicle: Walking in a storm can be very dangerous. You might become lost or exhausted. Your vehicle is a good shelter.
- Avoid Overexertion: Shoveling snow or pushing your car takes a lot of effort in storm conditions. Don't risk a heart attack or injury. That work can also make you hot and sweaty. Wet clothing loses insulation value, making you susceptible to hypothermia.
- Fresh Air: It's better to be cold and awake than comfortably warm and sleepy. Snow can plug your vehicle's exhaust system and cause deadly carbon monoxide gas to enter your car. Only run the engine for 10 minutes an hour and make sure the exhaust pipe is free of snow. Keeping a window open a crack while running the engine is also a good idea.
- Don't expect to be comfortable: You want to survive until you're found.

**BE VFW READY.**

## 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

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

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

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

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

**1-800-313-4200**, [help@vfnationalhome.org](mailto:help@vfnationalhome.org)

**QUARTERMASTER DESK**

**Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$35.50.**

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

**LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP**

You can become a VFW Life Member by paying a one-time fee as listed in the table below, or making an initial \$35 payment and then paying the remainder over an 11-month installment plan. You will be issued an annual membership card and can elect, upon receipt of the first monthly invoice, to pay via check, credit card or ACH Debit. The applicable Life Membership fee is determined from the schedule using the applicant's age on Dec. 31 of the installment plan year in which the application is submitted, regardless of actual date of birth. A permanent Life Membership card will be issued upon completion of this agreement.

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

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

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

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

- **Feb 5, 1918** – British S.S. "Tuscania" carrying U.S. troops, sunk by submarine off Irish coast (only loss sustained by U.S. transports when under British naval escort).
- **Feb 8** – First issue (Volume I, Number I) of *Stars and Stripes* published in France.
- **Feb 10** – Trotsky announces state of war between Russia and Central Powers, Bulgaria and Turkey is ended.
- **Feb 11** – President Wilson delivers Message to Congress laying down four additional Points.
- **Mar 3** – At Brest-Litovsk, Soviet Russia signs treaty with Germany formally ending participation in war. Harsh terms imposed by

Germans force Russians to yield quarter of prewar territory and over half of its industries. Meshed (Persia/Iraq) occupied by troops of British East Persia Cordon [approx date.]

- **Mar 7** – First German airplane raid on England undertaken on moonless night. Peace signed at Berlin between Germany and Finland.
- **Mar 21** – Germany's all-out gamble for victory begins with series of spring offensives on Western Front. Saint Michael Offensive, named after Germany's patron saint, begins after 5-hour 6,000-gun artillery bombardment as 65 divisions from German 2<sup>nd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Armies attack British 3rd and 5th Armies along 60-mile front in Somme. Seems destined to succeed as thinly stretched British 5<sup>th</sup> Army quickly overrun and wrecked. Using effective storm troop tactics, Germans recapture all ground lost in 1916 during Battle of Somme and press forward. However, during 2 week offensive, British 3<sup>rd</sup> Army manages to hold itself together and prevents Germans from taking Arras and Amiens, key objectives of offensive.
- **Mar 23** – Paris first shelled by long-range gun (from Crépy-en-Valois, 75 miles distant).
- **Mar 24** – First action of Es Salt (Palestine).
- **Mar 26** – At strategic conference in Doullens, France, British and French agree to appoint an Allied Supreme Commander on Western Front, in place of separate commanders, to better coordinate efforts. Ferdinand Foch, Petain's highly regarded chief of staff, accepts position.

[www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/firstworldwar/index-1918.html](http://www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/firstworldwar/index-1918.html)  
[www.greatwar.co.uk/timeline/ww1-events-1918.htm](http://www.greatwar.co.uk/timeline/ww1-events-1918.htm)

**FEBRUARY MILITARY HISTORY**

- 1 1800 USS 'Constellation' takes French 'Vengeance' in 5-hour night battle  
 1862 Julia Ward Howe's "Battle Hymn of Republic" is published  
 1865 Sherman begins marching through South Carolina  
 1968 Saigon: Nguyen Ngoc Loan summarily executes Viet Cong murderer
- 2 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ends Mexican-American War  
 1901 US Army Nurse Corps established  
 1945 Escape attempt at Mauthausen concentration camp  
 1989 Soviet troops leave Afghanistan, ending 9 years of war
- 3 1783 Spain recognizes US independence  
 1943 USS Dorchester sunk – the "Four Chaplains" immortalized
- 4 1779 John Paul Jones takes command of 'Bonhomme Richard'  
 1941 USO (United Service Organization) is formed  
 1944 US 7th Infantry Division completes capture of Kwajalein  
 1945 Yalta Conference begins: FDR, Churchill, & Stalin  
 1959 Keel laid for USS 'Enterprise' (CVN-65), 1st nuclear aircraft carrier
- 5 1918 Stephen W Thompson becomes first US pilot to down an enemy airplane
- 6 1778 France recognizes US, signs treaty of aid in Paris  
 1832 US ship destroys Sumatran village in retaliation for piracy  
 1899 Spanish-American War officially ends  
 1945 Battle for Manila begins  
 1945 Over 4,000 American POWs freed from Luzon prison camps
- 7 1800 Frigate USS 'Essex' becomes 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. warship to cross Equator  
 1945 General Douglas MacArthur returns to Manila
- 8 1865 Martin Delany becomes first black major in US Army  
 1910 Boy Scouts of America founded.  
 1918 "The Stars and Stripes" begins publication in France
- 9 1918 U.S. Army Chaplains' School formed at Fort Monroe

- 1943 Japanese complete evacuation of Guadalcanal, as US columns make contact at Cape Esperance, ending epic campaign
- 10** 1676 Battle of Lancaster: Massachusetts militia attack & defeat Wampanoag Indians
- 1763 Treaty of Paris ends French & Indian/Seven Years' War
- 1807 Congress establishes US Coast Survey
- 1962 USSR swaps U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers for spy Rudolph Abel
- 12** 1948 First black Regular Army Nurse is commissioned: 1st Lt Nancy Leffert; retires 1965 as major, USAF
- 1955 Pres Eisenhower sends US advisors to South Vietnam
- 13** 1861 1st Medal of Honor action: Asst Surg Bernard Erwin, Apache Pass, Az (awarded 1894)
- 1945 Allies begin fire-bombing of Dresden, about 50,000 die
- 14** 1778 USS Ranger carries recently adopted Stars and Stripes to foreign port for first time on arrival in France
- 1912 US sub 'E-1' (SS-24) commissioned, 1st American diesel boat
- 1945 US troops reach Bataan peninsula outside Manila
- 15** 1856 US 'Supply' loads 21 camels at Smyrna, Turkey, for US Army
- 1898 Havana Harbor: Second class battleship USS 'Maine' blows up from undetermined causes, 258 killed
- 1919 American Legion formed in Paris
- 1944 Italy: Allies commence bombing & shelling Monte Cassino
- 16** 1804 Stephen Decatur retakes and burns USS 'Philadelphia', which had been captured by Dey of Tripoli
- 1945 US airborne forces land on Corregidor (fighting lasts until March 3)
- 1959 Fidel Castro becomes premier of Cuba
- 17** 1621 Plymouth Colony elects Miles Standish "Captain" of militia
- 1864 CSS 'H.L. Hunley' sinks USS 'Housatonic', and herself: 1st submarine victory, albeit Pyrrhic
- 1915 Edward Stone, 1st US combatant to die in WW I, mortally wounded
- 1943 "Joltin' Joe" DiMaggio joins Army
- 1944 US forces land on Eniwetok Atoll, which is secured on Feb 22
- 1945 US Navy "frogmen" clearing beaches at Iwo Jima take heavy losses
- 1947 Voice of America begins broadcasting to USSR
- 18** 1846 US Navy adopts "port" in place of traditional "larboard"
- 1865 Sherman captures Charleston, SC
- 1941 CINCUS Husband Kimmel writes, "I feel that an attack . . . on Pearl Harbor is a possibility."
- 19** 1942 FDR orders internment of Japanese-Americans on West Coast
- 1943 Battle of Kasserine Pass: Rommel's panzers hit US troops
- 1943 US Naval forces under MacArthur designated Seventh Fleet
- 1945 US Marines land on Iwo Jima
- 20** 1942 E. H. "Butch" O'Hare downs 5 Japanese aircraft, helping USS 'Lexington' (CV-2) beat off an air attack
- 1962 John Glenn becomes first American in orbit
- 21** 1903 Cornerstone laid for Army War College (now NDU)
- 22** 1821 Spain sells East Florida to United States
- 1909 Great White Fleet returns to Hampton Roads after world cruise
- 1915 Germany begins "restricted" submarine warfare
- 1935 Airplanes are prohibited from flying over White House
- 1942 FDR orders MacArthur to leave Philippines for Australia
- 1943 'Iowa' (BB-61) commissioned in Brooklyn
- 1944 US Eighth Air Force erroneously bombs Enschede, Arnhem, Nijmegen, Netherlands, kill about 800
- 1974 First woman naval aviator: Lt, j.g., Barbara Ann Allen
- 23** 1778 Baron von Steuben joins Continental Army at Valley Forge
- 1795 US Supply Corps founded as Office of Purveyor of Supplies
- 1836 Santa Anna lays siege to Alamo, stormed on March 6
- 1903 US leases Guantanamo Bay from Cuba for \$4,000 a year; Castro has refused to cash checks since 1959
- 1942 Japanese submarine 'I-17' shells Elwood, California.
- 1945 Iwo Jima: 28th Marines raise US flag on Mount Suribachi
- 1945 Operation Grenade: Gen Simpson's Ninth Army attacks Ruhr
- 1945 Liberation of captives in Japanese internment camp at Los Baños, Philippines
- 1946 Yamashita Tomoyuki, 60, Japanese general, "Tiger of Malaya", hanged by Allies
- 1979 Frank Peterson Jr. becomes first black Marine Corps general
- 24** 1779 George Rogers Clark captures Vincennes from British
- 1917 Britain gives "Zimmermann Note" to US, revealing German efforts to get Mexico to invade southwest
- 1945 Manila liberated, after heavy fighting & serious civilian casualties
- 1968 US and Vietnamese troops complete liberation of Hue City
- 1991 Ground Phase of Operation Desert Storm begins, resulting in liberation of Kuwait from Iraqi occupation
- 25** 1836 Samuel Colt patents a practical revolver
- 1945 First B-29 fire bomb raid on Tokyo, burns 10,000 acres
- 26** 1775 Battle of Salem, Mass.: British expedition to seize colonists' arms is turned back, "Leslie's Retreat"
- 1848 Marx & Engels publish "The Communist Manifesto"
- 1863 Lincoln signs National Currency Act, establishing greenbacks
- 1940 US Air Defense Command established at Mitchell Field, LI, NY
- 1942 USN aviator Don Mason signals, "Sighted sub, sank same"
- 1944 First woman USN captain, Sue Dauser, Navy Nurse Corps
- 1949 USAF plane begins first nonstop around-the-world flight
- 1993 Islamist terrorists bomb World Trade Center, 7 die
- 2001 Taliban destroy Great Buddhas of Bamiyan, in Afghanistan
- 27** 1704 Indian raid on Deerfield, Ma; 40 die, 100 captured
- 1991 Operation Desert Storm: ground operations end, Iraqis ousted from Kuwait
- 28** 1893 USS 'Indiana' (BB-1) launched, first American 1<sup>st</sup> class battleship
- 1991 Desert Storm ground war ends after 100 hours
- 29** 1692 Salem witch trials begin
- 1704 Deerfield Massacre: French & Indian raid on Mass. town leaves about 100 dead
- 1864 President Lincoln signs U.S. Grant's commission as first substantive lieutenant general in army since Washington

## MARCH MILITARY HISTORY

- 1 1781 Continental Congress adopts "Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union."
- 1954 Bikini: US detonates 15 megaton hydrogen bomb
- 1954 Puerto Rican nationalists open fire in Congress, 5 wounded
- 1961 Peace Corps is established
- 2008 USS 'New York' (LPD-21), incorporating steel from World Trade Center, christened at New Orleans
- 2 1776 Americans begin shelling British troops in Boston
- 1807 Congress bans importation of slaves effective Jan 1, 1808
- 1836 Texas declares independence from Mexico
- 1859 Paddle steamer USS 'Saginaw' commissioned, first American warship built on West Coast, at Mare Island
- 1867 US Navy Civil Engineering Corps founded
- 1938 15th Infantry leaves China after 26 years in garrison at

- Tientsin & Peking.
- 1945 Philippines: Japanese resistance on Corregidor ends.
- 3 1776 US squadron under Commo Esek Hopkins attacks Nassau, Bahamas: First American overseas expedition
- 1813 Office of Surgeon General of US Army is established
- 1815 Second Barbary War: US declares war on Algiers for piratical acts, 3 years after Algerians declared war on US
- 1863 Congress passes "Enrollment Act," initiating federal conscription
- 1871 US Navy Medical Corps established
- 1899 George Dewey is promoted to Admiral of the Navy
- 1915 Congress authorizes a Chief of Naval Operations (CNO)
- 1915 Congress creates Naval Reserve
- 1931 Congress adopts "Star Spangled Banner" as national anthem
- 4 1789 U.S. Constitution goes into effect
- 1814 Battle of Longwood: Americans defeat British, near Wardsville, Ontario.
- 1861 CSA adopts "Stars & Bars" as national flag
- 1877 5-times wounded veteran Rutherford B Hayes inaugurated as president
- 1881 Former Maj Gen James A Garfield inaugurated as president
- 1889 Bvt Brig Gen. Benjamin Harrison inaugurated as 21st president
- 1897 Bvt Maj William McKinley inaugurated as 23rd president
- 1943 Battle of Bismarck Sea ends: Japanese lost 12 ships, thousands of men.
- 5 1770 The Boston Massacre
- 1821 Veteran James Monroe is inaugurated as 5th president
- 1945 US VII Corps captures Cologne (Köln)
- 1960 Elvis honorably discharged from US Army
- 6 1822 USS 'Enterprise' captures 4 pirate ships in Gulf of Mexico
- 1831 Edgar Allen Poe expelled from West Point
- 1836 Santa Anna's Mexicans storm Alamo, after 13 day siege
- 1944 USAF begins daylight bombing of Berlin
- 7 1774 British close port of Boston to all commerce
- 1876 Alexander Graham Bell is granted a patent for telephone
- 1942 First black cadets graduate from USAAF flying school at Tuskegee
- 1945 9th Arm Div captures Ludendorff Bridge over Rhine at Remagen and enters Germany
- 8 1945 1st African-American Navy Nurse commissioned: Ens. Phyllis Daley
- 1945 Luzon: Sixth Army offensive against Japanese Shimbu Line.
- 1950 First woman medical officer assigned to US naval vessel: B R Walters
- 1950 USSR announces development of atomic bomb
- 1958 'Wisconsin' (BB-64) decommissioned; for first time in 62 years, USN has no battleships in commission
- 1965 Vietnam: First US combat troops arrive (3,500 Marines)
- 9 1798 Dr George Balfour appointed first surgeon in USN
- 1847 Winfield Scott lands army at Veracruz, Mexico, and begins siege.
- 1862 Battle of Hampton Roads II: USS 'Monitor' fights CSS 'Virginia' to a draw, preserving blockade
- 1945 US B-29s bomb Tokyo, est. 80,000-120,000 die - highest toll in a single air raid, exceeding even atomic bombs
- 10 1942 NY's 27th Inf Div sails for Hawaii - first division to ship out in WW II.
- 11 1779 US Army Corps of Engineers established
- 1942 Bataan: MacArthur leaves for Mindanao on PT-Boat
- 1943 American Volunteer Group ("Flying Tigers") renamed Fourteenth Air Force
- 12 1912 Girl Scouts of America founded
- 1942 Burma: Joseph Stilwell assumes combined U.S./Chinese command.
- 1947 US announces "Truman Doctrine," to fight communism
- 13 1942 Julia Flikke, Nurse Corps, becomes first woman colonel in US Army
- 15 1493 Columbus returns to Spain from his first voyage
- 1781 Battle of Guilford Court House: British barely defeat Colonists and retire from Carolinas to Yorktown, Virginia
- 1916 Pershing begins 10-month pursuit of Pancho Villa in Mexico
- 1944 Abbey of Monte Cassino destroyed by Allied bombing
- 16 1882 US Senate ratifies treaty establishing International Red Cross
- 1945 Iwo Jima: organized Japanese resistance ends, mopping up continues.
- 1968 My Lai Massacre, perhaps 450 die
- 1985 AP correspondent Terry Anderson taken hostage in Beirut
- 17 1762 First St Patrick's Day parade in New York City
- 1776 British forces evacuate Boston; George Washington orders extra gill of whiskey to every Irish soldier in army
- 1966 US mini-sub locates missing H-bomb in Mediterranean off Palomares, Spain
- 18 1776 George Washington's army occupies Boston
- 1952 Communist offensive in Korea begins
- 1951 Herman Wouk's novel "Caine Mutiny" is published
- 1989 Maiden flight of Boeing V-22 Osprey VTOL aircraft
- 19 2003 Operation Iraqi Freedom begins (2003-2011)
- 20 1852 Harriet Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" published
- 1896 Marines land in Nicaragua to protect US citizens
- 1922 First US carrier commissioned: 'Langley' (CV-1)
- 1939 Naval Research Lab proposes development of nuke power
- 1942 Gen MacArthur vows "I shall return"
- 21 1866 Congress authorizes national soldiers' homes
- 1942 Jimmy Stewart enlists in USAAF
- 1946 Strategic Air Command is formed
- 1951 Julius & Ethel Rosenberg convicted of espionage
- 22 1622 1<sup>st</sup> Indian War: Powhatan attacks Jamestown, 347 die
- 1794 Congress prohibits export of slaves from United States.
- 1917 3rd Lt. Elmer F. Stone becomes USCG Aviator No. 1
- 1945 Patton's Third Army crosses Rhine
- 23 1775 Virginian Patrick Henry famously states "...give me liberty or give me death!"
- 1806 Lewis & Clark reach Pacific Coast
- 1882 USN establishes Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI)
- 1903 Wright Brothers receive patent for their airplane
- 1957 US army sells its last homing pigeons
- 1965 Gemini 3 launched, first US 2-man space flight (Grissom & Young)
- 2003 USMC Task Force Tarawa captures An Nasiriyah after hot fight
- 24 1898 Battleships 'Kearsarge' (BB 5) & 'Kentucky' (BB 6) launched at Newport News
- 1919 New York's 27th Division returns from Great War, marches up Fifth Avenue
- 1920 1st USCG air station established, Morehead City, NC
- 1944 The Great Escape: 76 Allied officers flee Stalag Luft 3
- 1945 Operation Varsity: Allied airborne crossing of Rhine

- 1945 Gen. George S. Patton pisses in Rhine from pontoon bridge near Oppenheim, Germany
- 1986 US & Libya air-sea clash in Gulf of Sidra
- 1999 Kosovo Campaign begins
- 25 1655 Battle at Annapolis, MD: between Puritans & Royalists
- 1813 USS 'Essex' takes 'Neryeda', first USN victory in Pacific
- 1905 Most battle flags captured during Civil War returned to South
- 1915 1<sup>st</sup> USN submarine disaster: USS 'F-4' sinks off Hawaii, 21 die
- 1945 US First Army breaks out of Remagen bridgehead
- 26 1943 First woman awarded Air Medal: Army Nurse Elsie Ott
- 1945 Okinawa: Kamikaze attack US fleet
- 1951 USAF flag approved
- 27 1794 Congress approves construction of 6 frigates, including USS 'Constitution'
- 1814 Battle of Horseshoe Bend: Andrew Jackson defeats Creeks
- 1945 Wiesbaden falls to US XX Corps
- 29 1973 Last US troops leave Vietnam, 9 years after Tonkin Gulf
- 31 1854 Commo Perry forces Japan to open ports to foreign trade
- 1917 US gains possession of Virgin Islands from Denmark for \$25 million
- 1968 LBJ announces he will not seek re-election

1995 Somalia Campaign ends

## FROM THE EDITOR

If you are interested in submitting articles, photos, updates on events, for inclusion in the newsletter, please send them to me at: 505 Piping Rock Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23322, 757-482-4981 or [cdpost2894@vfwva.org](mailto:cdpost2894@vfwva.org)

**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.**

## YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!!!

The primary means for disseminating the newsletter is via e-mail. If you prefer a 'hard-copy' via 'snail-mail' (a 'paper copy' via 'US Postal Service' for you old(er) farts!) please let know.

Semper fidelis, *Chris Mulholland*

# Become a Medal Sponsor of the Chesapeake Bataan Death March

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### VFW SSG DOZIER MEMORIAL POST 2894

**MISSION**

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

**VISION**

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

**CORE VALUES**

- Always put the interests of our members first
- Promote patriotism
- Ensure the care of veterans and their families
- Promote a positive image of the VFW
- Treat donors as partners in our cause
- Honor military service
- Serve our communities
- Respect the diversity of veteran opinions







The poster features a blue background with several key elements: the United States flag in the top left and the Philippine flag in the top right. A central illustration depicts a soldier in a helmet assisting another soldier who is crawling on the ground. To the left of this illustration is the emblem of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and to the right is the POW/MIA logo with the text 'YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN'. The event title '7TH ANNUAL CHESAPEAKE BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK' is written in large, yellow, curved letters. Below the title, the date 'April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018' is displayed in white. The location 'Dismal Swamp Park Chesapeake, VA' is written in green, slanted text. The bottom of the poster features the text 'Sponsored by VFW SSG Dozier Memorial Post 2894' in black, and a circular logo for 'THE BATTLING BASTARDS OF BATAAN' with the motto 'NO MAMA NO PAPA NO UNCLE SAM'.

**7TH ANNUAL CHESAPEAKE**

**BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK**

April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Dismal Swamp Park  
Chesapeake, VA

Sponsored by  
**VFW SSG Dozier Memorial Post 2894**

THE BATTLING BASTARDS OF BATAAN  
NO MAMA NO PAPA NO UNCLE SAM

# POST 2894 CALENDAR

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

<b><u>MARCH</u></b>	
1	Scout of the Year Nominations Due
3	District 2 Meeting, Post 8545 Smithfield
11	Daylight savings begins ("spring ahead")
14	Post Meeting, 1900 (7 pm)
17	St. Patrick's Day St. Patrick's Day Parade, Norfolk (10 am)
20	First Day of Spring
25	Palm Sunday
30	Good Friday
31	Patriotic Artist Nominations Due

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**21 APRIL – BATAAN DEATH MARCH  
MEMORIAL WALK!!!**



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