

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

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..... Christina 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

STATE

www.vfwva.org

VFW VA DISTRICT 2

www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2



MICKY TURNS 100!!!!

Post 2894 is extremely lucky to have William “Mickey” Casady as a member. He is our “senior” member as he will be reaching a milestone very few have the privilege of reaching...to be a centenarian!

On May 3rd Mickey turns 100 years young!

We will be holding a very special dinner and party for him on May 8th at the Butcher’s Son restaurant in Great Bridge (the flier is attached at back of this newsletter.)

Mickey is the oldest living crewmember and plankholder of the USS IOWA (BB-61). He was born on May 3rd, 1918, in Pierce, Washington, when World War I was just entering its final phases and American troops were beginning to turn the tide of battle in Northern France.

After graduating from high school, Mickey enlisted in the Navy in 1937 but needed a request from his state senator for a height waiver before he could join – he was 3/4 inch short of the 5’ 4” minimum



Mickey and Shirley aboard the Iowa in 2012. It was his first time aboard since 1943 when he inspected its electrical equipment as a plank owner.

height requirement.

During his stellar career, he served in both World War II and the Korean War on



Mickey Casady holds a photo of himself in uniform during WWII. (Photo courtesy of the Virginia Pilot)

a total of 10 ships. He spent his first six years in the service aboard the USS Ranger (CV-4), the first "built from the keel up" aircraft carrier in the US Navy. When Pearl Harbor was bombed in 1941, he was in the Caribbean hunting German submarines.

After earning his Electrician's Mate (EM) rating in '42, he was then assigned to the USS Iowa (BB- 61) in 1943 as part of the commissioning crew. He would later also become a plankholder of the USS Basilan (AG-68) in 1944.

When Japan finally surrendered on August 11th, 1945, Mickey was aboard the USS Hopewell (DD-681) in the western Pacific. By the end of WWII he had served in all three naval areas of operation: the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, and the Pacific.

After the war, he was aboard the USS Appalachian (AGC-61) off the Bikini

Atoll during the testing of the atomic bomb in 1946.

When the Korean War broke out he was assigned to the USS Valley Forge (CVA-45) supporting operations ashore.

Teaching young sailors was Mickey's favorite assignment while in the Navy. He taught interior communications (IC) classes all over the U.S. including Washington DC and Miami.

On May 1st, 1959 Mickey retired from service as an Interior Communications Electrician Chief (ICC). He had served on active duty for a total of "Twenty-two years, two months and 10 days."

After his retirement, he worked as a mechanic at local naval shipyards for a couple of years before finding himself at Norfolk Air Station where he served 13 years as an aircraft electrician mechanics instructor, eventually retiring from civil service in 1975.

While stationed in Norfolk during the early 40's, he met and then married Almira Ballance, a local girl from Knott's Island, North Carolina. They were married for 51 years before her death in 1993. A year later, he met Shirley Jobes in church. She recalls that, "He was grieving himself to death." Mickey said that his time as a widower had been "rough" - it was important for him to have someone in love so in December

1995 - exactly one year after their first date - they were married.

He and Shirley have attended a number of reunions of the USS IOWA Veterans Association - including several aboard the actual battleship, now anchored in Los Angeles harbor. When he hasn't been able to attend in person, they have Skyped him in so that he could participate from a distance.

In 2015, Mickey joined Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2894 in his hometown of Chesapeake, Virginia. In 2017 - even though the Post



Mickey Casady (right) with Babe Ruth

was paying for his annual membership - he bought his own life-membership!

Last year, he attended a chief's initiation ceremony at Little Creek. He was repeatedly asked what his ceremony was like and was met with disbelief when he kept answering he didn't have one. Finally, the Command Master Chief of Little Creek demanded, 'You had to have had one and what was it?'

Mickey replied, "Mine was World War 2." At that, everyone shut up and the CMC even took off his rank and pinned it on Mickey!

Mickey is also one of the few people left around to claim having spent a night at a club with Babe Ruth. However, he says that the happiness he has found has been his proudest achievement. "Happiness means a lot. God kept me happy; he kept me not wanting to die."

We will be celebrating Mickey's milestone with a special celebration at the Butcher's Son in Great Bridge. We anticipate a number of VIPs including the current and several past MCPONs (Master Chief Petty Officers of the Navy), along with some local admirals and other luminaries. **Tickets are limited and will sell fast so get yours now!**

HISTORY OF MEMORIAL DAY

Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, the head of an organization of Union veterans - the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) - established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. It is believed that date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country.

The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C.

The ceremonies centered around the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Various Washington officials, including Gen. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, presided over the ceremonies. After speeches, children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and members of the GAR made their way through the cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns.

Local Observances Claim To Be First: Local springtime tributes to the Civil War dead already had been held in various places. One of the first occurred in Columbus, Miss., April 25, 1866, when a group of women visited a cemetery to decorate the graves of Confederate soldiers who had fallen in battle at Shiloh. Nearby were the graves of Union soldiers, neglected because they were the enemy. Disturbed at the sight of the bare graves, the women placed some of their flowers on those graves, as well.

Today, cities in the North and the South claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day in 1866. Both Macon and Columbus, Ga., claim the title, as well as Richmond, Va. The village of Boalsburg, Pa., claims it began there two years earlier. A stone in a Carbondale, Ill., cemetery carries the statement that the first Decoration Day ceremony took place there on April 29, 1866. Carbondale was the wartime home of Gen. Logan. Approximately 25 places have been named in connection with the origin of Memorial Day,



many of them in the South where most of the war dead were buried.

Official Birthplace Declared: In 1966, Congress and President Lyndon Johnson declared Waterloo, N.Y., the "birthplace" of Memorial Day. There, a ceremony on May 5, 1866, honored local veterans who had fought in the Civil War. Businesses closed and residents flew flags at half-staff. Supporters of Waterloo's claim say earlier observances in other places were either informal, not community-wide or one-time events.

By the end of the 19th century, Memorial Day ceremonies were being held on May 30 throughout the nation. State legislatures passed proclamations designating the day, and the Army and Navy adopted regulations for proper observance at their facilities.

It was not until after World War I, however, that the day was expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress, though it is still often called Decoration Day. It was then also placed on the last Monday in May, as were some other federal holidays.

Some States Have Confederate Observances: Many Southern states also have their own days for honoring the Confederate dead. Mississippi celebrates Confederate Memorial Day on the last Monday of April, Alabama on the fourth Monday of April, and Georgia on April 26. North and South Carolina observe it on May 10, Louisiana on June 3 and Tennessee calls that date Confederate Decoration Day. Texas celebrates Confederate Heroes Day January 19 and Virginia calls the last Monday in May Confederate Memorial Day.

Gen. Logan's order for his posts to decorate graves in 1868 "with the choicest flowers of springtime" urged: "We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. ... Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

The crowd attending the first Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery was approximately the same size as those that attend today's observance, about 5,000 people. Then, as now, small American flags were placed on each grave — a tradition followed at many national cemeteries today. In recent years, the custom has grown in many families to decorate the graves of all departed loved ones.

The origins of special services to honor those who die in war can be found in antiquity. The Athenian leader Pericles offered a tribute to the fallen heroes of the Peloponnesian War over 24 centuries ago that could be applied today to the 1.1 million Americans who have died in the nation's wars: "Not only are they commemorated by columns and inscriptions, but there dwells also an unwritten memorial of them, graven not on stone but in the hearts of men."

To ensure the sacrifices of America's fallen heroes are never forgotten, in December 2000, the U.S. Congress passed and the president signed into law "The National Moment of Remembrance Act," P.L. 106-579, creating the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance. The

commission's charter is to "encourage the people of the United States to give something back to their country, which provides them so much freedom and opportunity" by encouraging and coordinating commemorations in the United States of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance.

The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation. As Moment of Remembrance founder Carmella LaSpada states: "It's a way we can all help put the memorial back in Memorial Day."

[From the Department of Veterans Affairs
www.va.gov/opa/speceven/memday/history.asp]

Red Poppies

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

*We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.*

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael. When she returned to France she made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The

League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help.

Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office

honored Ms. Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.



COMMANDER'S CORNER

I want to thank everyone who brought a friend to our March meeting — we gained 7 new members! And several of our annual members changed their memberships to Life. Thanks to everyone! And welcome aboard to our new comrades!

Our Post's largest event of the year, the **Bataan Death March Memorial Walk** is coming on **April 21st**! It's our way of recognizing the heroes of Bataan and Corregidor as well as honoring all the men and women who served during World War II and Korea. We are also working with the Fil-Am Racing Club who will be holding a run in conjunction with the walk. Please set aside some time on Saturday, the 22nd, to help us make this another successful event.

Our post elections are just around the corner on April 11th. We've got a great slate of officers for the coming year.

City elections take place on May 1st...and we've got two of our own running for City Council! In addition, we have another comrade running for Congress on November 6th. Don't forget to exercise your hard earned right to vote when it counts!

I hope everyone has read the first article of this newsletter – Mickey's 100th Birthday! We've reserved the entire Butcher's Son restaurant and set up a great dinner selection. It looks like we will have a bunch of VIPs coming. This is a once in a lifetime occasion so come join us as we celebrate Mickey's extraordinary achievement!

Our annual Post Awards Ceremony is on May 9th. We've invited all sorts of dignitaries from around the area to attend and help honor our award winners.

For Memorial Day, don't forget to set aside the weekend of 19-20 May for the Buddy Poppy Drive, the 23rd for the JROTC awards ceremony, the 25th for the Korean War Veterans Ceremony, the 28th for the ceremony in front of City Hall, and some day late in the week of 21-25 May when we will be placing flags on the headstones at the Portsmouth Naval Hospital graveyard.

We are well on the way to duplicating our success from the last two years as an All-American Post! If you know of anyone who is eligible for the VFW and would like to give back to the community while helping veterans, please encourage them to consider joining our Post.



For those who participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Norfolk, thanks for your support!

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 invite the spouses of the new members of the Post to consider joining the Auxiliary. We are a young Auxiliary, in May we will have our 3rd Anniversary. We help the comrades on several of the events

such as Poppy Events, the Bataan Death March, selling hot South East Virginia Car Show to name a few. The Auxiliary has programs such as Veterans & Family Services, Americanism, Hospital and VA Volunteers, Legislative, Youth Activities, and Scholarships. Please keep in mind the Auxiliary is for anyone 16 years and older. If you have a son or daughter in high school, being a member of the Auxiliary would look good on a college application. Those eligible for membership are fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, widowers, widows, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, grandfathers, grandmothers, grandsons, and granddaughters of persons who were or are eligible for



membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

In April we will hold election of Officers and they will be installed before the Awards Ceremony in May.

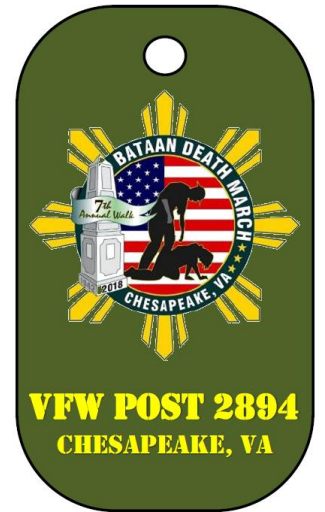
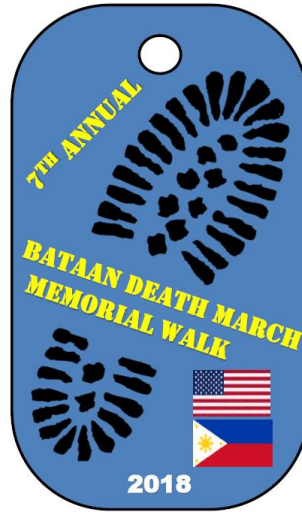
Thanks to all for the work you do for the Veterans.

Sandy Dunbar, President

7TH 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 21st** at the Dismal Swamp Canal Trail in Deep Creek just off Route 17.

One of the few living survivors of the original death march, Dan Crowley, is driving down from Connecticut as our guest of honor. We are also hoping to have Tony Rivero, a Filipino



Scout veteran of Corregidor living here in Chesapeake, attend as well.

Since Post 2894 is hosting this event, we will need all members to 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

USPS WWI STAMP

The U.S. Postal Service has announced that they will be issuing a stamp this year that pays tribute to the sacrifice of American soldiers and the millions of supporters on the home front who experienced World War I. Entering the "war to end all wars" in its later stages, the US helped turn the tide of war in favor of the Allies.



Detailed information and issuance date on this stamp will be announced later. All stamp designs are preliminary and subject to change until issuance dates.

POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Chesapeake Police Officer Heather Bishop was our Law Enforcement of the Year for 2016-17 but was participating in the annual Law Enforcement United bike ride to honor fallen officers and raise money for their families when our awards ceremony took place last May. We tried to schedule another presentation several times but finally were able to present her with the award at the annual CPD awards ceremony on 7 February. Just like many members of this post have done in deployments overseas, Officer Bishop and her partner, Konrad Kaufman, went to work in April 2016 hoping for a slow day but found themselves in a life-and-death situation before it ended. They were dispatched to serve an emergency custody order which is generally used to take a person into custody for a mental evaluation. When that person's mother opened the door and began talking with the officers, he came through the back door and shot at them, wounding



Commander Mulholland (left) presents Officer Bishop with her LEO of the Year plaque.

his mother. Officer's Bishop and Kaufman performed at the highest possible level while under fire. During the entire incident they consistently gave clear verbal commands and made it clear that even after being shot at, their intention was to provide the suspect with help and not to do him harm. Every action and decision they made was done so under great duress and with extreme disregard for their own personal safety. Their actions saved not only their own lives, but the lives of two other adults and four children who were still inside the home. Officers Bishop and Kaufman performed in a manner that brought great prestige and honor to themselves and the Chesapeake Police Department. The suspect opened fire on them again outside before he was shot and severely wounded and subsequently died at the hospital. *While veterans put their lives on the line in foreign lands, officers like Heather and Konrad put their lives on the line back here at home.* For that, and for what they have done during the entirety of their careers, we honored them as VFW Post 2894's Police Officers of the Year 2017. Officer Kaufman has since transferred to the Roanoke Police Department and we sent him his plaque and certificate for a presentation there.

BELKOFERS HONORED BY FIRE DEPARTMENT

On 16 February 2018 the Chesapeake Fire Department (CFD) held their annual awards ceremony at Tidewater Community College in Chesapeake. Post member Ken Belkofer and his wife, Marie, were presented with Citizen Service Awards for their help during a severe blizzard in

January 2017! As members of the Chesapeake Emergency Response Team (CERT) they assisted firefighters by driving them to / from their fire houses through the thick snow. Marie and Ken became very well acquainted with ALL of the stations around the city. **Congrats Ken and Marie!!!**



Ken (in front of US flag) and Marie Belkofer received Citizen Service Awards from Chesapeake Fire Dept on 16 Feb 2018.

COMRADE RECEIVES LETTER FROM COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

In the Spring of 2017, Post Commander Chris Mulholland contacted General Robert Neller, Commandant of the Marine Corps, to tell him about the two WWII Marine veterans who are members of Post 2894: Phil Marlowe, a veteran of Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan and Okinawa (who passed away last December) and Eddie Vincek, a veteran of Iwo Jima. The Commandant then personally wrote letters to each Marine which included hand-written notes. Phil was presented with his letter in the summer but we couldn't catch up with Eddie – yes, at age 95 he is still driving all over Chesapeake! – until this Valentine's Day. Here is Commander Mulholland presenting Eddie Vincek (right) with his letter. Eddie's wearing his VFW ball cap! His kids are very proud of him and are planning to frame the letter for him.



VETERANS UNITED HOME LOANS DONATES TO BATAAN DEATH MARCH

On February 27th, Commander Mulholland was invited to the home office of Veterans United Home Loans of Hampton Roads to receive a check for \$2200 in support of the post's Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk. The touching part about the gift is that it is all donated by the employees of Veterans United from their own paychecks.

They provided the money in order for the post to be able to bring Daniel Crowley, one of the few living survivors of the original walk, down from

public and, as it gets closer, we will send out additional reminders.

COMRADE ORGANIZES HEALTH FAIR FOR VETERANS

Comrade Jim Ireland planned, organized, and conducted a health fair for veterans at Old Dominion University's Student Center on February 24th. Jim used his experience from doing the same type of planning for the Montero Health Fairs for Veterans over the last several years.

The Veterans Health Fair provided 52 vets with free health and wellness screenings, counseling and referrals to address veterans' overall health. Jim persuaded local healthcare professionals, health educators and retired military personnel to volunteer in addressing the medical issues of veterans and educate them on how to maintain a balanced lifestyle.

The fair included a diverse selection of healthcare screenings, including 13 doctors who provided free primary care, dental, eyesight, mental health, chiropractic, dental, dermatology, women's health, and many others. Screenings included healthcare tips and referrals from local healthcare providers. Veterans also received wellness education through coaching and nutritional advice provided by staff of ODU's Department of Recreation and Wellness.

VFW District 2 also had a table with information about the VFW and members who helped escort the veterans around the different stations. District is now talking about hosting another health fair at one of the local posts. Bravo Zulu, Jim!!

EMMA DOZIER CHILD OF THE WEEK

A Soldier's Child (ASC) Foundation named our Post namesake's daughter, Emma Dozier, as their Child of the Week for 11-17 March 2018. As they stated in their announcement, "Emma is 11 and in the 5th grade. One of her favorite things to do is honor her daddy by doing nice things for others. She also loves to play the ukulele and do art projects. If you don't see her outside playing with her

friends, she's curled up in a cozy corner reading a good book. Emma's future plans include travel, baking, writing, and going to college to learn about marine biology."



ASC is dedicated to keeping the legacy of fallen soldiers alive by celebrating the birthdays of their children. The objective of ASC is to communicate to the children left behind that the memory of their parent will not fade away. They want the children to know that there are many Americans that are forever grateful for their parent's sacrifice.

Congratulations, Emma, and Happy Birthday!!



Post commander Mulholland (center) accepts donation from office staff at Veterans United for the Bataan Death March Memorial Walk.

Connecticut to participate in this year's event. The whole office plans to participate in this year's event along with their families.

There's also a better-than-even-chance that we recruited at least one more member for the Post! Veterans United - YOU ROCK!!!

JROTC CEREMONY, 23 MAY

Every year, the JROTC cadets of the six high schools in Chesapeake gather for a night of recognition and awards. Amongst the various honors, the VFW Award is presented to two cadets from each school who have exhibited outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership abilities. For the past several years, VFW Post 2894 has shared the costs of the medals and certificates with Post 4809 in Norfolk. This year, we have assumed sole responsibility for all of the Chesapeake JROTC awardees. This year's event will be at Indian River High School and is open to the public. All Post members are encouraged to come out and honor these enthusiastic and patriotic youngsters.



KOREAN WAR VETERANS' CEREMONY, 25 MAY

During this scholastic year, our 2014 National Teacher of the Year, Craig Blackman of Indian River High School, has had his students do a project recognizing and honoring local Korean War veterans. The students interviewed these heroes of "The Forgotten War", including our Post comrade, Alan Crouch who was a combat Marine in Korea in '52 and '53. These projects will culminate in a ceremony at Indian River HS on the evening of May 25th. The Post donated money so that each of the veterans will be presented with a personalized afghan during the ceremony. The event is open to the

OTHER POST NEWS

- **Comrade Raised \$96,285 for Veterans!** Jay Redman's foundation, the Combat Wounded Coalition (CWC)



Jay Redman (holding his service dog, Karma) and some of the attendees at the CWC gala

hosted its 8th Annual Toast to the Heroes Formal Gala on March 3rd at the Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel. The evening of dinner, dance, entertainment, and special guests was to recognize the sacrifices of the combat wounded warriors and to celebrate a night of camaraderie. Between the donations and a silent auction, almost \$100,000 was raised to support the different activities of CWC such as the Overcome Academy which teaches resiliency and communication skills for wounded warriors to get them back into their communities as leaders working with schools, businesses and youth mentorship programs. The inaugural Overcome Academy was run in Virginia Beach between 19 Feb-2 Mar. A short time before, on Feb 15th, Jay was in Los Angeles for another CWC fundraiser which included a live auction run by actress Sharon Stone. Jay was also a guest of Brian Kilmeade on his live national radio show. Congrats, Jay!

- **THREE Comrades Running for Office!** 1. Post Judge Advocate Matt Hamel announced his campaign for city council and held a campaign kick-off on March 7th. Matt is a Navy JAG reservist who served in Iraq and was



responsible for reviewing former Ba'athist Party members and the "deck of cards" detainees. He is a licensed attorney in three states and

founded Military Divorce, a law firm dedicated to serving military service-members and spouses of service-members seeking first-hand knowledge of the military and military-specific, family law issues.

2. Susan Vitale is a retired Navy Captain intelligence officer who recently transferred her membership to Post 2894 from Post 1054 in Yokosuka, Japan.



She works as an executive with Microsoft and was responsible for all of the information technology at the 2016 Republican National Convention.

3. One of our newest members, David Leon, is running for office as Congressman for District 4 in the US House of Representatives. Dave is a Navy rescue swimmer still on active duty. While deployed to the Gulf, he became interested in running for office and even asked SECDEF Jim Mattis for advice. A newcomer to politics, he's eager to make a difference.



The election for City Council is May 1st and for District 4 is November 6th. *Good luck, Susan, Matt, and Dave!*

- **Comrade Invited to White House for Private Viewing.** Jay Redman was also the lucky recipient of an invitation to twelve veterans for a private viewing of the new movie, "12 Strong" at the White House with President Donald Trump and former Vice President Dick Cheney.

Afterwards, Jay said, "Great movie and much respect to my green brothers."



- **Comrade Lecturers at Regional Conference.** Nelson Lebron was invited to the Voluntary Protection Programs Participants' Association (VPPPA) Region III conference in Hot Springs, Virginia March 7-9

to give a very auspicious presentation on work place safety and what to do during an active shooter situation. It really is a misfortune that we have to worry about things like this but it is the times we live in.

- **Comrade Flying High with New Airline!** Everyone remembers that Albon Head retired from the Navy last fall and was immediately hired by a regional airline, Air Wisconsin, as one of their pilots.

On March 7th, he received the big news that his application to Southwest Airlines had been approved so that he will be going from flying a turboprop to flying a Boeing 737! Congratulations, Albon and family!



Nelson demonstrating an arm bar



Molly and Albon celebrating the birth of their new child!

• **Auxiliary Member Meets Local NFL Star!** Kevin Mulholland and his parents, Barbara and Chris, were invited to the annual Chesapeake Sports Club awards banquet held on March 8th. One of the attendees was Don Carey, who plays safety with the Detroit Lions. Don graduated from Booker T. Washington HS in Norfolk and then attended Norfolk State. Kevin is a big fan of pro-football and, even though a NE Patriots fan, is looking forward

• **Scholarship Committee:** Joe Hammers, Kimball Thompson, Carl Dozier, Chris Mulholland

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTS

All of us are contributing to our community in many different ways. Some are Scout leaders, others active participants in church activities; some are coaches, others board members; you've attended funerals for veterans; visited them in hospitals, etc. etc. All of these activities are reportable as community activities by Post members. The VFW Department of Virginia has an on-line reporting system (<http://va.vfwportal.net/public/index.php>, password is "post2894") where you can add the entries yourself, or - if you're uncomfortable doing so - drop me an email telling me what you've done and I'll make the entries myself. Chris Mulholland

CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE

Prayer for Armed Forces Day

For our Commander-In-Chief and our political and military leaders that they may tirelessly seek peaceful settlements to international disputes; we pray to the Lord:

That the Lord may preserve the members of our Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and Air Force from all harm; we pray to the Lord:

That even in war, we may keep clearly before us the defense of all human rights, especially the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; we pray to the Lord:

That the families, relatives and friends of our military members may be strengthened in this time of concern and anxiety; we pray to the Lord:

That the Lord may help families with men and women in the armed forces to cope with daily challenges in the absence of their loved ones; we pray to the Lord:

That our homeland will be preserved from violence and terrorism; we pray to the Lord:

That the nations of the world will seek to work together in harmony and peace; we pray to the Lord:

That the hearts of all men and women will be moved to pursue true peace and justice; we pray to the Lord:

That violence may be overcome by peace; that weapons of destruction be transformed into tools of justice, and hate give way to true charity; we pray to the Lord:

That grateful for and inspired by those veterans who have given their lives for our country we may bravely face the challenges ahead; we pray to the Lord:



Prayer for Memorial Day

*God of power and mercy,
You destroy war and put down earthly pride.
Banish violence from our midst and wipe away our tears,
That we may all deserve to be called your sons and daughters.
Keep in your mercy those men and women
Who have died in the cause of freedom
And bring them safely
Into your kingdom of justice and peace.
We ask this though Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen*



Don Carey (lt) with Kevin Mulholland

to watching Don play in Lions games because their new coach, Matt Patricia, was formerly with the Pats.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Post members 51st St. Patrick's Day Parade in Ocean View, Norfolk on Saturday, March 17th. They rode in the back of a "deuce-and-a-half" belonging to the Military Vehicle Preservation Society of Tidewater.

Everyone had a great time. Bob Gregory said, "I saluted more and smiled more than I have since I retired!" Our driver - and owner of the truck - was a 17 year old mechanical genius. We can't wait to cooperate with them again at the 4th of July parade in South Norfolk. *Erin go Bragh!!*



The "Crew" before the start of the parade.

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:

- **Bataan Death March Committee:** Ann Jones, Grace Schweers, Becky Waters, Bradley Waters, Chris Mulholland
- **Budget Committee:** Jose Vazquez, Mark Rios, Chris Mulholland
- **Awards Committee:** Gary Dunbar, Mark Rios, Matt Schweers, Jose Vazquez, Mark Junghans, Chris Mulholland
- **Membership Committee:** Jose Vazquez, John Guill, Mark Rios, Gary Dunbar, Bradley Waters
- **Building Committee:** Carl Dozier, Gary Dunbar

+ SAFETY CORNER **+**
APRIL IS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTH

As we transition from Winter to Spring, as we transition from snow storms, ice storms, and Nor'easters to thunderstorms, tornadoes, and floods, we remind folks that while the weather event is different, the consequences remain the same.

What does it mean to prepare for the consequence instead of preparing for a hazard?

It means to prepare for events like power outages instead of thunderstorms. It means having an emergency kit for your car because you may get stranded, not necessarily because of a flood. It means having a weather radio handy and signing up for weather alerts for *any* hazard, not just for tornadoes, hurricanes, or severe storms.



Severe weather can happen during any season and impact any part of our country. Late-season snowstorms can impact the East Coast and the Northern Plains, thunderstorms rip across the South and Midwest, rivers overflow their banks and heat waves begin in the Southwest. You see, wind occurs whether or not it's brought on by a thunderstorm, a blizzard, or a hurricane. Power outages don't know whether or not they were caused by heavy, wet snow or by straight-line winds.

As we enter severe weather season, we ask you to prepare for the myriad of consequences that may occur due to the buffet of weather options Spring has historically brought us. Don't let this dangerous season catch you unaware. Get ready for severe weather with just a few simple steps: **Know Your Risk, Take Action and Be a Force of Nature.**

- **Know Your Risk:** Hurricanes, droughts, floods, tornadoes, thunderstorm winds, hail, lightning, heat, wildfires, rip currents, snowstorms – severe weather impacts every part of the country. The first step to becoming weather-ready is to understand the type of hazardous weather that can affect where you live and work, and how the weather could impact you and your loved ones.
- **Take Action:** Make an evacuation plan, build an emergency kit or update your existing kit, inventory and keep important papers and valuables in a safe place, and get involved in helping others prepare. You can begin by visiting Community.fema.gov.
- **Be an example where you live:** Be a helpful influence on your community by sharing your weather preparedness story. Be a Force of Nature by letting your friends and family know what you did to become weather-ready and the steps they can take to do the same.

April is also Financial Capability Month and one of the best safety nets you can have to help you recover from a disaster is to have your financial situation in order. This means, having copies of important financial documents, having the right insurance, and having some money put away for a “rainy day” fund. Now, while everyone's definition of financial security is different, we still encourage you to fill out the Emergency Financial First-Aid Kit and read our tips on preparing financially for disasters.



records is crucial for starting the process of recovery quickly and efficiently.

- Being ready for a disaster is more than storing water and supplies. You also need to be financially ready. Starting early and having adequate insurance, a plan to pay your bills and access to your important records and accounts will help you get back on your feet faster and avoid problems with your credit when you need it most.

- Americans at all income levels have experienced the challenges of rebuilding their lives after a disaster or other emergency. In these stressful circumstances, having access to personal financial, insurance, medical, and other

+ SAFETY CORNER **+**
MAY IS NATIONAL WATER SAFETY MONTH

As the weather warms up, pools are preparing to open and crowds are gearing up to head to the beach. National Water Safety Month is the perfect time to ensure you and your family are prepared to spend a fun, safe day by the water. And the American Red Cross can help!

Swimming is the most popular summer activity. While the best thing you can do to help your family stay safe is to enroll in age-appropriate swim lessons, it is also important to

Make Water Safety Your Priority

- Swim in designated areas supervised by lifeguards.
- Always swim with a buddy; do not allow anyone to swim alone. Even at a public pool or a lifeguarded beach, use the buddy system!
- Ensure that everyone in the family learns to swim well. Enroll in age-appropriate Red Cross water orientation and Learn-to-Swim courses.
- **Never leave a young child unattended near water** and do not trust a child's life to another child; teach children to always ask permission to go near water.
- Have young children or inexperienced swimmers wear U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets around water, but do not rely on life jackets alone.
- Establish rules for your family and enforce them without fail. For example, set limits based on each person's ability, do not let anyone play around drains and suction fittings, and do not allow swimmers to hyperventilate before swimming under water or have breath-holding contests.
- Even if you do not plan on swimming, be cautious around natural bodies of water including ocean shoreline, rivers and lakes. Cold temperatures, currents and underwater hazards can make a fall into these bodies of water dangerous.
- If you go boating, wear a life jacket! Most boating fatalities occur from drowning.
- Avoid alcohol use. Alcohol impairs judgment, balance and coordination; affects swimming and diving skills; and reduces the body's ability to stay warm.

Prevent Unsupervised Access to the Water

- Install and use barriers around your home pool or hot tub. Safety covers and pool alarms should be added as additional layers of protection.
- Ensure that pool barriers enclose the entire pool area, are at least 4-foot high with gates that are self-closing, self-latching and open outward, and away from the pool. The latch should be high enough to be out of a small child's reach.
- If you have an above-ground or inflatable pool, remove access ladders and secure the safety cover whenever the pool is not in use.
- Remove any structures that provide access to the pool, such as outdoor furniture, climbable trees, decorative walls and playground equipment.
- Keep toys that are not in use away from the pool and out of sight. Toys can attract young children to the pool.

Maintain Constant Supervision

- Actively supervise kids whenever around the water—even if lifeguards are present. Do not just drop your kids off at the public pool or leave them at the beach—designate a responsible adult to supervise.
- Always stay within arm's reach of young children and avoid distractions when supervising children around water.

Know What to Do in an Emergency. If a child is missing, check the water first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability.

- Know how and when to call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.

- If you own a home pool or hot tub, have appropriate equipment, such as reaching or throwing equipment, a cell phone, life jackets and a first aid kit.
- Enroll in Red Cross home pool safety, water safety, first aid and CPR/AED courses to learn how to prevent and respond to emergencies.

FOR FAMILIES IN NEED, 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

QUARTERMASTER DESK

Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$30.00.

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

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.

<u>Age</u>	<u>One-Time Payment</u>	<u>Installment Payment</u>
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

- **April 1, 1918** – Britain’s Royal Air Force (RAF) founded with merger of Royal Flying Corps and Royal Naval Air Service.
- **April 5, 1918** – End of First Battles of Somme 1918 (called by Germans “Kaiserschlacht: Operation Michael.”) Japanese and British Marines land at Vladivostok.

- **April 9-29, 1918** – Second offensive in Germany's victory gamble, Georgette Offensive, begins as 46 divisions from German 6th Army attack British 2nd Army around Ypres. Germans push British back three miles to outskirts of Ypres, even taking back hard-won Passchendaele Ridge. Arrival of British, French and Australian reinforcements from south breaks German momentum and offensive halts. Gen. Ludendorff's goal of separating British and French armies and then destroying British is not achieved. Additionally, Germans suffer 330,000 casualties in two offensives and lack sufficient reserve troops.

- **April 12, 1918** – Last airship raid over England in which casualties are inflicted.

- **April 14, 1918** – General Foch appointed CINC of Allied Armies in France.

- **April 21, 1918** – Germany's Red Baron (Manfred von Richthofen) shot down and killed by British. German Ace credited with shooting down 80 Allied aircraft. Buried with full military honors by British.

- **April 27, 1918** – First contingent of Italian troops arrive on French front.

- **April 29, 1918** – German Government establishes military dictatorship in Ukraine.

- **May 17, 1918** – Sinn Fein leaders arrested and interned in Ireland.

- **May 24, 1918** – Kirkuk (Mesopotamia – N. Iraq) evacuated by British forces.

- **May 25, 1918** – British Government publish account of Irish-German plots.

- **May 27-June 3, 1918** - Blücher-Yorck Offensive, Germany's third in a row, begins with goal of bogging down Allies in central France, preventing further reinforcements from reaching British positions in north. 41 divisions of German 1st and 7th Armies successfully attack inadequate defenses of French 6th Army along 25-mile front east of Aisne River. After highly effective artillery barrage, German storm troops roll over decimated 6th Army. Startling success emboldens Gen. Ludendorff to change overall strategy, decides to make run for Paris to draw Allies into final climactic battle that will decide the war. Within two days, Germans cross Aisne River and rapidly advance westward, coming within 50 miles of Paris. But troops pushed to limit for too long and soon succumb to exhaustion, unable to maintain breakneck pace. Advance sputters to halt as Allied reinforcements, **including Americans**, pour in to region.

First American Action

- **May 28-29, 1918** - Troops of U.S. 1st Infantry Division capture village of Cantigny from Germans and hold it. American Expeditionary Force (AEF) commanded by Gen. John Pershing who is determined to maintain all-American fighting units, rather than parcel out to British and French armies. By now, 650,000 American soldiers have arrived in France, with number growing by 10,000 per day.

- **May 31, 1918** – German forces reach Marne River and capture Château-Thierry and Dormans, not far from Belleau Woods. **US Army's 3rd Division and Marine Corps' 4th Brigade are about to make military history.**

<http://www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/firstworldwar/index-1918.html>

<http://www.greatwar.co.uk/timeline/ww1-events-1918.htm>

LOCAL WWI GOLD STARS

With the 100th anniversary of the climax of WWI approaching this November, we will run a series to remember those citizens of South Norfolk and Norfolk County who made the ultimate sacrifice in serving their country during the “War to End All Wars”.

Norman Albert Hempel was born in Cleveland, Ohio on December 3rd, 1901. His father was a German immigrant who worked as an officer with the Salvation Army. On his draft registration card, Norman listed himself as a Christian and a member of the fraternal order, Modern Woodmen of America (WMA). He made his home at 41 B Street, South Norfolk, Virginia, where his mother, Rose, moved after his death. Norman enlisted in the US Naval Reserve Force in Norfolk on May 16th, 1917 and was assigned to the USS *Cyclops*, a Proteus-class collier, as a coxswain.

March 13th, 1918: On this day, the *Cyclops*, a massive American coal transport ship, was due to dock in Baltimore... but never showed up.

"In terms of loss of life and size of ship, it's probably the last great mystery left unresolved," said James Delgado, a renowned underwater explorer.

Built in Philadelphia, steel-hulled and immense, the *Cyclops* splashed in as the Navy's biggest, fastest fuel ship. About 540 feet long, 65 feet wide, the ship could haul 12,500 tons of coal and steam 15 knots. Its winches could send 800-pound bags of anthracite along cables. Huge clamshell buckets could lift two tons of coal in a single mouthful.

"A monster collier," newspapers called it. "A floating coal mine."

Launched May 1910, the ship was designed to refuel the Navy fleet — work both grueling and dangerous. The coal in the cargo hold was prone to catching fire. Cables snapped. Bucketfuls tumbled to the deck.

The sailors steamed out of Norfolk, and down the Atlantic Coast to U.S. bases in Cuba, Haiti and Puerto Rico.

With U.S. entry into World War I in April 1917, the *Cyclops*, outfitted with 50-caliber guns, delivered doctors and medical supplies from the Johns Hopkins Hospital to Saint-Nazaire, France.

Months later, the ship arrived at Brazil to load 10,000 tons of manganese ore. Denser and heavier than coal, the ore for steelmaking was unfamiliar cargo for the crew. The heavily laden vessel voyaged to Barbados, resupplied for nine days at sea, then steamed off for the steelyards of Baltimore. It was March 4, 1918.

The *Cyclops* was never seen again.

"COLLIER OVERDUE A MONTH," blared a headline in the New York Times on April 15, 1918, next to a list of the 15 officers, 221 men, and 73 passengers, including the American Consul General at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

"Numerous ships sailed to locate the collier as she was thought to have been sunk by a German submarine," the Naval History and Heritage Command says on its website. "Her wreck has never been found, and the cause of her loss remains unknown."

The search was exhaustive: Navy cruisers scoured the trade routes, scouted the beaches, inspected remote bays. Crews radioed the lost ship day after day, but nothing — no reply, no debris, not even an oil slick. Out in the West Indies, the ship had vanished.

In June 1918, then-Assistant Navy Secretary Franklin D. Roosevelt announced the ship and its 309 men were presumed lost at sea. It was the greatest loss of life unrelated to combat in U.S. Naval history.

"There has been no more baffling mystery in the annals of the Navy than the disappearance last March of the U.S.S. *Cyclops*," Navy Secretary Josephus Daniels wrote. "There has not been a trace of the vessel, and long-continued and vigilant search of the entire region proved utterly futile."

Speculation swirled. Could the heavy ore have ruptured the hull, sinking the ship instantly? Did the unfamiliar cargo leak fumes that poisoned the crew? U-boat torpedoes could have sunk the ship, but where was the debris? Rough seas could have swamped it, but there was no storm, and no distress call. German raiders could have captured the ship, taken the crew hostage and steamed home with their prize, but the *Cyclops* lacked fuel for a transatlantic voyage.

Wilder theories emerged of sea monsters, mutinies and meteorites. The loss of the *Cyclops* — along with the later disappearance of five Navy torpedo bombers known as "Flight 19" — gave rise to the ship-swallowing lore of the Bermuda Triangle, a myth roundly debunked today.

The loss became a discomfiting episode for the Navy, says Marvin Barrash of Kent Island, the great-nephew of one of the ship's firemen.

"The whole existence of the ship has been swept under a rug," he said. "It wasn't like it was lost in a glorious battle. It just kind of fell off the face of the Earth."

Barrash spent more than a decade researching the *Cyclops*, amassing Navy records, ship logs, dispatches, photos, even a sooty bag of manganese

ore. In 2010, he published a 700-page history of the ship. Now, he's working with the office of U.S. Rep. Andy Harris to erect the *Cyclops*' first monument.

Barrash believes a cascade of failures doomed the *Cyclops*. One of two engines broke. The ship was unbalanced by the heavy ore. At night, with the deck battened down and crew asleep, a big wave rolled the *Cyclops*. The huge collier, Barrash figures, eludes explorers because it sank into the Puerto Rico Trench, the deepest part of the Atlantic. The trench cleaves the ocean floor across nearly 1,000 miles.

"I just want her to be found," Barrash said. "I want the 309 to be at rest, as well as the families. It's something everybody needs: some resolution."

Underwater explorers have dived for the prized wreck for decades, but a succession of recent, splashy discoveries brings renewed hope to the hunt. Today's crews employ devices that can detect the magnetic field of a washing machine buried in sea mud. Their sonar can sweep the depths like a flashlight. Year after year, the number of shipwrecks still lost dwindles.

"The short list keeps getting shorter these days as technology steps in," said Delgado, the explorer. "Things can be found. It's just a question of time and money."

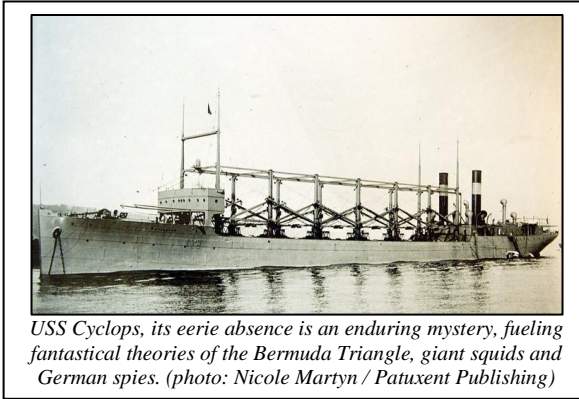
Delgado and researchers from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced two years ago that they had found the Baltimore-built tug USS *Conestoga*, missing since 1921, outside San Francisco Bay. A research crew led by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen said last August that it had found the USS *Indianapolis*, a Navy cruiser torpedoed in the Pacific late in World War II. Last week, Allen's crew said they had found another vessel beneath the Coral Sea: the World War II aircraft carrier USS *Lexington*.

These deep-pocketed, well-equipped research crews haven't yet taken on the hunt for the *Cyclops* — at least, not publicly. But solo explorers sometimes write Barrash, believing they have found the ship.

A Navy diver thought he located it off Virginia's coast in the late 1960s. Bad weather forced him up, and crews never found the wreck again. Excitement grew over a wreck upside down off Florida's coast, but it turned out to be a German fuel ship from World War II.

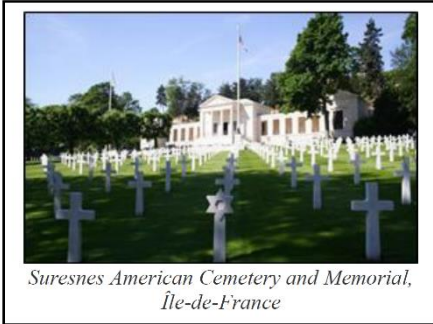
Out there, somewhere, the great collier remains.

Compiled from articles in the Baltimore Sun by Tim Prudente (www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/baltimore-city/bs-md-uss-cyclops-20180312-story.html) and **Fox News by Greg Norman** (www.military.com/daily-news/2018/03/14/mystery-vanished-uss-cyclops-still-unsolved-100-years-later.html).



GRIGGSBY, EARLV, New Palestine, Ind.
GEORGE, COST, Peretasas, Turkey.
HEMPEL, NORMAN A., South Norfolk, Va.
HERRAS, STAMATIOS, Chios, Greece.
JARVIS, EUGENE, Norfolk, Va.

Simpson Hunter was born on December 23rd, 1896 in Camden, South Carolina and was working as a "laborer" with the NS Wood Preserving Company in "Buell, Virginia" when he filled out his draft registration card in 1917. Buell is the industrial area of Money Point just west of route 464 in Chesapeake, along the Elizabeth River. Simpson was assigned to the 511th Engineer Battalion (Colored) as a Private. The regiment formed at Camp Lee in January 1918 before deploying overseas in March. The 511th was responsible for "general construction". Private Simpson died on April 16th, 1918 in France and is buried in the Suresnes American Cemetery and Memorial in Île-de-France just outside Paris along with 1541 other Americans.



Suresnes American Cemetery and Memorial, Île-de-France

Just this past February, a sharp-eyed employee at the Virginia War Museum in Newport News, Virginia, found a treasure trove of historic flags including the World War I flags belonging to the 510th and 511th Engineer Service Battalions. The 510th and 511th were African American units comprised of draftees from Virginia who trained at Camp Lee and then deployed to France and Britain in March 1918.

The Virginia War Museum will exhibit the WWI unit flags of the Virginia units on Nov. 11, 2018. The flags will be arranged in sequence of unit deployment to France.

The discovery of these unit flags means that all Virginia units which deployed to be part of the American Expeditionary Forces have now been found except for hospital units raised from the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond and the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, and the two Coast Artillery Companies that served in the 60th Coast Artillery Corps Regiment.

Information about Virginia War Museum and flags from Virginia Guard website (<http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2018/02/21/11066/>).

APRIL MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1863 US adopts conscription for Civil War
- 1893 USN establishes rate of Chief Petty Officer
- 1945 Okinawa: 60,000 U.S. soldiers and Marines land on Easter Sunday
- 1945 US First & Ninth Armies meet to form Ruhr pocket
- 1954 US Air Force Academy established
- 1954 US Army forms first helicopter battalion, Fort Bragg, NC
- 1991 Warsaw Pact officially dissolves
- 2** 1827 Construction of 1st U.S. Naval Hospital begins, Portsmouth, Va
- 1865 Battles of Petersburg/Ft Gregg/Sutherland's Station, Va: Robert E. Lee forced to evacuate Richmond
- 1917 Wilson asks Congress to declare war against Germany
- 1982 Argentina invades Falkland Is, initiating 72-day losing war with Britain
- 3** 1865 Union forces occupy Richmond & Petersburg, to tune of "Dixie"
- 1948 Harry Truman signs Marshall Plan
- 4** 1776 First USN victory at sea: USS 'Columbus' captures HM Tender 'Hawke'
- 1862 Yorktown: First serious fighting of Peninsular Campaign
- 1865 Lincoln sits in Jeff Davis' chair, in Confederate White House
- 1942 Bataan: Fil-American forces fall back after Japanese break through
- 1943 4th Marine Div activated at San Diego

- 1949 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) formed
- 5** 1951 Julius & Ethel Rosenberg, atomic spies, sentenced to death
- 1986 Berlin: 2 US servicemen & Turkish woman die in terrorist bombing
- 1991 Iraq: US begins relief air drops to Kurds in north
- 6** Army Day and National Tartan Day
- 1862 Battle of Shiloh, Day 1: Confederate success
- 1866 Union vets form Grand Army of Republic
- 1917 US declares war on Germany, entering WWI
- 1945 Okinawa: Massive kamikaze attack on US fleet sinks 6 ships
- 7** 1862 Battle of Shiloh, Day 2: Grant defeats Confederates
- 1942 USN agrees to accept black Americans for general service
- 1943 Japanese inflict heavy losses on Allied shipping around Guadalcanal
- 1945 First Navy Nurses land on Iwo Jima: Lt, jg, Ann Purvis & Ens Jane Kendeigh
- 1980 President Jimmy Carter breaks relations with Iran over hostage crisis
- 8** Feast of St Walther Gautier of Pontoise, Patron Saint of POWs
- 1865 Lee's retreat cut off near Appomattox Court House
- 1956 Parris Is, SC: 6 Marine recruits drown during unauthorized night exercise
- 2015 VFW Post 2894 Auxiliary founded
- 9** 1865 Appomattox: Robert E Lee & Army of Northern Virginia surrender
- 1898 Lt Andrew Rowan leaves for Cuba with "a message for Garcia"
- 1942 Bataan: 75,000 U.S. & Filipino troops surrender to Japanese
- 10** 1918 Near Toul, in eastern France, 104th Infantry begins 4 day determined defense against German assault, to become 1st American regt awarded Croix de Guerre
- 1945 Allies liberate Buchenwald concentration camp
- 1963 USS 'Thresher' (SSN-593) sinks east of Cape Cod, 124 die
- 11** 1863 Battle of Suffolk, VA
- 1898 Pres McKinley asks for Declaration of War against Spain
- 1899 Treaty of Paris: Spain cedes Puerto Rico, Philippines, Guam to US
- 1900 USN accepts first submarine, USS 'Holland', originally designed for Fenians
- 1942 American merchant mariners are authorized to receive DSM
- 1951 Harry Truman fires Gen Douglas McArthur
- 12** 1861 Confederates shell Fort Sumter, initiating Civil War
- 1911 First US naval aviator: Lt Theodore Ellyson
- 1916 Battle of Hacienda Santa Cruz de la Villegas: Maj. Charles Young, senior black officer in US Army, leads squadron of 10th Cav ("Buffalo Soldiers") to rescue white 13th Cav, besieged by Mexicans
- 1924 Off Balboa, Panama, 19-year old hooker Madeline Blair found aboard USS 'Arizona' (BB-39), plying her trade since ship left New York 1 month earlier
- 1942 Bataan: Japanese massacre 400 Filipino officers
- 1966 First B-52 raids on North Vietnam
- 1981 First US space shuttle launch (Columbia)
- 1993 Bosnia: USS 'Theodore Roosevelt' (CVN-71) & NATO initiate no-fly zone
- 14** 1818 US Army Medical Corps formed
- 1865 Abraham Lincoln mortally wounded by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theatre, on Good Friday
- 1898 USS 'Solace' commissioned, first hospital ship in USN since 1865, and only purpose-built hospital ship in history of fleet
- 1912 RMS 'Titanic' strikes iceberg, 11:40 pm
- 1945 Tokyo fire bomb raids: B-29s damage Imperial Palace
- 15** 1861 Ft Sumter surrenders

- 1861 Lincoln calls for 75,000 volunteers
1865 Stars and Stripes are again hoisted over Ft Sumter
1947 Former Army 2nd Lt Jackie Robinson begins playing for Brooklyn Dodgers, integrating modern Major League baseball
1952 First test flight of prototype B-52
1986 US bombs terrorist bases in Libya, following Berlin disco bombing
- 16** 1916 French Army forms Escadrille Americaine
1945 US troops enter Nuremberg
1945 USS 'Laffey' (DD-724) survives 6 kamikaze hits, off Okinawa
1946 US launches captured V-2 rocket, White Sands, NM
1947 Congress grants Navy Nurses full commissioned status
- 17** 1846 Battle of Cerro Gordo: Winfield Scott defeats Mexican Army
1861 Virginia is 8th state to secede from Union
1864 Grant suspends POW exchanges over Confederate refusal to treat black troops as soldiers
1961 Bay of Pigs: 1,400 Cuban exiles land to overthrow Castro
- 18** 1644 Thousands of Pamunkey and allied Indians raid Virginia Colony, killing 500 settlers, initiating 32-months' long Second Tidewater War, in which colonists triumph
1775 Paul Revere, Samuel Prescott, & William Dawes make "midnight ride"
1934 US Army stops issuing sabers to cavalry
1942 Doolittle Raid: 16 B-25Bs off CV Hornet strike Tokyo and other targets
1942 WWII edition of "Stars & Stripes" begins publication in England
- 19** 1775 Battles of Lexington & Concord -- "The Shot Heard 'Round the World"
1783 Congress orders hostilities with Britain at end, 8 years after "The Shot Heard 'Round the World."
1909 Canonization of Joan of Arc, Patron of Soldiers, & Women in Military Service
1919 Leslie Irvin of US makes 1st free fall parachute jump
1941 US Marines begin construction of airfield on Wake Island
1989 USS 'Iowa' (BB-61) gun turret explosion, 47 die
- 20** 1789 George Washington sworn in as 1st President, Federal Hall, NY
1861 Union forces burn and abandon Gosport (Norfolk, Va) Navy Yard.
- 21** 1836 Battle of San Jacinto: Texas secures independence from Mexico
1898 US declares war on Spain
1914 US Marines and sailors occupy Vera Cruz, Mexico
- 22** 1944 New Guinea: U.S. Army troops land near Hollandia
- 23** Feast of St. George, Patron of Soldiers
1861 Robert E Lee named major general and commander of Virginia state forces
1945 Allies in Italy reach Po River
- 24** 1863 War Department issues GO No 100, The Law of Land Warfare, first US ROE.
1943 US 7th Inf Div. trained for desert warfare, sails from San Francisco to Alaska
1944 1st Boeing B-29 arrives in China over Himalayas -- "the Hump"
1980 "Desert One": US operation to save 52 hostages in Iran fails, 8 die
- 25** 1862 Farragut occupies New Orleans, La
1875 Combat on Pecos: Lt. John Bullis and Black Seminole Indian Scouts SGT John Ward, Trumpeter Isaac Payne, & PVT Pompey Factor rout 25-30 Lipan Indian raiders, for which Scouts are awarded Medal of Honor
1914 First USN air combat mission: Lt. Patrick Bellinger conducts a reconnaissance over Veracruz, receiving some damage from machine gun fire.
1945 Last Boeing B-17 attack against Nazi Germany
1945 US & Soviet forces meet at Torgau on Elbe River
- 1960 USS Triton completes first submerged circumnavigation of globe
- 26** 1607 English colonists land at Cape Henry, VA
1805 William Eaton and Lt Presley O'Bannon attack Derna, Libya and phrase, "to the shores of Tripoli" enters national lexicon.
- 27** 1773 British Parliament passes Tea Act, leading to Boston Tea Party
1778 John Paul Jones begins 2-day raid on Whitehaven, U.K.
1813 Toronto captured by Americans under Gen Zebulon Pike
1861 Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson assumes command at Harper's Ferry
1945 US 5th Army liberates Genoa
- 28** 1945 US 5th Army reaches Italian-Swiss border
1956 French leave Vietnam
1965 US Marines land in Dominican Republic, stay until Oct '66
1967 Mohammad Ali refuses induction into army
1971 Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr., promoted to Rear Admiral; first black admiral in US Navy
- 29** 1863 Battle of Chancellorsville begins
1945 US liberates Nazi concentration camp in Dachau
1970 US & South Vietnamese troops invade Cambodia
1975 Last US personnel pull out of Vietnam
- 30** 1492 Ferdinand & Isabella agree to bankroll Columbus
1798 US establishes Department of the Navy
1900 US annexes Hawaii
1908 1st Co., Signal Corps, 71st Reg, NYNG, formed to conduct aeronautical operations; now 106th Rescue Wing, oldest Air Guard unit.
1945 American & Soviet forces link up at Torgau in Germany
1980 Terrorists seize Iranian Embassy in London

MAY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1** 1862 David Farragut captures New Orleans
1898 Battle of Manila Bay: Adm Dewey orders, "You may fire when ready."
1931 Empire State Building opens
1960 Francis Gary Powers' U-2 spy plane shot down over Sverdlovsk
- 2** 1863 Stonewall Jackson wounded by own men at Chancellorsville, dies May 10th
1945 Berlin formally surrenders to Red Army
1945 German forces in Italy surrender
- 3** 1846 Mexican army invades Texas
1861 Lincoln orders expansion of Army by 23,000 and Navy by 18,000
1943 US 1st Armored Div captures Mateur, Tunisia
1946 Military Tribunal in Tokyo begins war crimes trials
- 4** 1946 US Marines recapture Alcatraz from rioting prisoners
1970 Ohio National Guard kills 4 students at Kent State
1942 Battle of Coral Sea begins
- 5** 1814 British attack Ft Ontario, Oswego, NY
1862 Cinco de Mayo: Mexican forces defeat French at Puebla
1862 Peninsular Campaign: Battle of Williamsburg, VA
1864 Battle of Wilderness: Germanna Ford/Wilderness Tavern
1908 Great White Fleet reaches San Francisco
1942 Philippines: Japanese troops land on Corregidor
1945 Oregon: Japanese balloon bomb kills pregnant woman and 5 children
1965 First large US ground units arrive in South Vietnam
- 6** 1937 Hindenburg disaster, Lakehurst, NJ, 36 die

- 1941 Bob Hope stages his first USO show, March Field, California
- 1945 Axis Sally makes her last broadcast
- 1962 USS 'Ethan Allen' (SSBN-608) fires first nuclear warhead from submerged sub
- 7** 1942 Battle of Coral Sea begins
- 1954 Dien Bien Phu: Vietminh overrun French after 55-day siege
- 1989 Panama: Manuel Noriega seizes power after losing election
- 8** 1886 Confederate veteran John S. Pemberton invents Coca Cola
- 1911 Birth of Naval Aviation: USN orders first airplane, a Curtiss A-1
- 1942 Battle of Coral Sea, Day 2: USS 'Lexington' (CV-2) sunk
- 1945 V-E Day; Germany signs unconditional surrender
- 1952 US conducts first H-Bomb test, Eniwetok Atoll
- 9** 1831 Alexis de Tocqueville arrives at Newport, RI, for 10 month tour
- 1926 Lt Cdr Richard Byrd & CMM Floyd Bennett fly over North Pole
- 10** 1676 Bacon's Rebellion begins in Virginia
- 1775 Benedict Arnold, Ethan Allan, & Green Mountain Boys capture Ticonderoga
- 1862 Confederates torch & evacuate Norfolk and Pensacola Navy Yards
- 1960 USS 'Triton' (SSN-586) completes first submerged circumnavigation
- 1968 Vietnam War: Paris peace talks begin, as does Battle of Hamburger Hill
- 11** 1862 CSS 'Virginia/Merrimac' scuttled in James River
- 1938 First USCG award of DFC, LT C. B. Olsen, for rescue at sea
- 12** 1607 Foundation of Jamestown, Virginia
- 1789 NYC Revolutionary War veterans form Society of St Tammany
- 1943 Trident Conference: Roosevelt and Churchill plan strategy
- 1975 US merchant ship 'Mayaguez' seized by Cambodian forces
- 13** 1908 Navy Nurse Corps is established
- 1943 USN Bureau of Navigation becomes Bureau of Naval Personnel
- 14** 1653 Massachusetts Council declares that 1/8th of each militia company be available to march on 1 day's warning.
- 1801 Tripoli declares war on US, initiating First Tripoli War (1801-1805)
- 1804 Lewis & Clark Expedition sets out from St Louis
- 1836 Mexican President Santa Anna, prisoner of Texans, signs Treaty of Velasco, conceding Texan independence.
- 1845 USS 'Constitution' lands Marines at Danang, Indochina
- 1856 USS 'Supply' delivers 50 Turkish camels to US Army at Indianola, Texas
- 1942 US Army forms Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC)
- 1945 US offensive on Okinawa, Sugar Loaf Hill captured
- 1975 US raids free Cambodian-held ship 'Mayaguez' with heavy losses
- 15** 1862 Ben Butler issues famous "Woman Order," and proves every woman in New Orleans is a lady
- 1939 Dupont introduces nylon; within year Japanese sales of silk to US fall 30 percent
- 1940 First successful test flight of American helicopter, Vought-Sikorsky US-300
- 17** 1987 USS 'Stark' (FFG-31) hit by Iraqi missiles, 37 sailors die
- 18** 1775 1st USS 'Enterprise' enters service, prize taken by Benedict Arnold on Lake Champlain
- 1861 Battle of Sewall's Point, VA
- 1917 Congress passes Selective Service Act
- 19** 1951 UN begins counter offensive in Korea
- 1958 NORAD formed
- 1967 US bombs Hanoi
- 20** 1912 Battlecruiser SMS 'Moltke' reaches Hampton Roads, on only visit to US by German capital ship
- 1930 Pres. Hoover reviews US Fleet off Virginia Capes
- 21** 1861 Richmond, Va, designated Capital of Confederacy
- 1881 Clara Barton founds American Red Cross
- 1917 Leo Pinckney first American drafted during WW I
- 1944 West Loch, Pearl Harbor: ammo-laden LST blows up, 6 LSTs lost, 200 killed, "2nd Pearl Harbor"
- 1968 USS 'Scorpion' (SSN-589) sinks off Azores, 99 die
- 22** National Maritime Day
- 1959 Benjamin O Davis Jr. (USMA '36) becomes first black Army general
- 1985 US sailor Michael L Walker arrested for spying for USSR
- 23** 1775 Virginian Patrick Henry says "Give me Liberty or give me death!"
- 1862 Valley Campaign: Stonewall Jackson takes Front Royal, Virginia
- 24** 1764 James Otis coins phrase "No taxation without representation!"
- 1861 Benjamin Butler declares fugitive slaves Frank Baker, Shepard Mallory, & James Townsend "contraband of war"
- 25** 1787 Constitutional Convention opens in Philadelphia
- 1961 JFK pledges US will put man on moon by 1970
- 26** 1945 US fire bomb raid on Tokyo
- 27** 1607 Battle of Jamestown: English settlers repulse attack by 200 Indians
- 28** 1830 Congress authorizes Indian removal from Eastern states
- 1980 First 55 women graduate from U.S. Naval Academy
- 29** 1945 Okinawa: 1st Marine Division Captures Shuri Castle
- 30** 1868 First "Decoration Day" [now "Memorial Day"], designated by GAR CINC Maj Gen John Logan
- 1958 Unknown soldiers of WWII & Korean War entombed in Arlington National Cemetery
- 1962 USS 'Arizona' Memorial dedicated in Pearl Harbor
- 31** 1900 Boxer Rebellion: Multi-national relief forces reach Peking

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.

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

The primary means for disseminating the newsletter is via e-

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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

Contact us at walk.chesapeake@gmail.com or via Facebook @ Bataan Death March. We also have a PayPal account or you can send checks payable to VFW Post 2894 - Bataan Death March, 1007 Cuervo Court, Chesapeake, VA 23322

Bronze Star Sponsor \$250

Name or Company logo on our tee shirt



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Name or Company logo on our tee shirt and banners



Medal Of Honor Sponsor \$750

Large name or company logo on our tee shirt and banner and special recognition in media and in the closing ceremony



VFW SSG DOZIER MEMORIAL POST 2894

MISSION

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

VISION

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

CORE VALUES

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



VFW Post 2894

RIFLE RAFFLE

Henry .44 Big Boy Magnum

SASS APPROVED



\$10 per ticket!

Drawing on 17 June 2018

Need not be present to win

Must 18 years of age and legally eligible to purchase a firearm

Back when the West was still wild and the rifle was the tool of choice for survival and frontier justice, the venerable .44-caliber put more meat on the table and outlaws in the ground than any other bullet.

The West may have been tamed and fenced long ago, but its unbridled spirit lives on in this traditional big-bore Henry rifle.

Contact a VFW Post 2894 member to purchase your ticket(s) today!!

Join us for a once-in-a-lifetime celebration!!!!



MICKEY'S 100TH BIRTHDAY PARTY!

May 8th, 2018

Tickets \$80 per person

(limited bar seats are available as well at \$70)

Go to the Eventbrite website below to purchase your tickets

(use the password: **lowa**)

www.eventbrite.com/e/mickey-casadays-100th-birthday-party-tickets-43298846014?aff=efbevent

BUTCHER'S SON RESTAURANT, 500 Battlefield Blvd S., Chesapeake, VA 23322

Cocktails 6 pm, dinner 6:30 pm

Uniform: Service Dress / Coat and Tie / Ladies' equivalent

Dinner includes soup or salad, entrée and dessert

Entrée choices include: 12 oz Prime Rib, Shrimp Imperial, Pan Roasted Chicken,

12 oz Bone-in Pork Chop, or Lobster Pasta

Available \$5 house red/white wine, draft cocktails or draft beers; \$3.50 domestic beers

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW - SEATING IS LIMITED AND THEY'LL GO FAST!



7TH ANNUAL CHESAPEAKE

16.6 miles
5 miles
or 1 mile



April 21st, 2018



BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK

Dismal Swamp Park
Chesapeake, VA



Sponsored by

VFW SSG Dozier Memorial Post 2894

Check us on Facebook at **"Chesapeake Bataan Death March"**

POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u>APRIL</u>	
1	Easter / April Fool's Day
6	Army Day
8	Anniversary of Post 2894 Auxiliary founding (2015)
11	Post Meeting, 1900 – Officer Elections/ Quarterly Audit
17	Income Tax Day
21	7th Bataan Death March Memorial Walk – Dismal Swamp Park
26-29	Virginia International Tattoo

<u>MAY</u>	
1	City Elections
3	Mickey Casady's 100th Birthday!
5	Cinco de Mayo
8	VE Day (1945) Mickey's 100 th B'day Celebration, 1800
9	Post Annual Awards Ceremony, 1900
11	Military Spouses Day
13	Mother's Day
15	Peace Officers' Memorial Day
19	Armed Forces Day
19-20	Buddy Poppy Drive
23	JROTC Awards Ceremony, IRHS
25	Korean War Vets Ceremony, IRHS
28	Memorial Day Ceremony, City Hall, 1100

**Or YOUR AD
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VFW SSG Dozier Post 2894
PO Box 15842
Chesapeake, VA 23328



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