

VFW OBJECTIVES:

- TO ENSURE THE NATIONAL SECURITY through maximum military strength
- TO ASSIST THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
- TO SPEED THE REHABILITATION of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
- TO PROMOTE AMERICANISM through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live.



POST 2894

Meetings

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..... Mark Rios
 Adjutant..... Matt Hostetlar
 Quartermaster..... Mike Kust
 Chaplain..... Andrew McMenam
 Surgeon..... David Davis
 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 Hostetlar
 Conductress..... Anne Thompson
 Guard..... Jean Dozier
 Patriotic Instructor..... Kevin Mulholland

NATIONAL

www.vfw.org

STATE

www.vfwva.org

VFW VA DISTRICT 2

www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2



POST NAMED ALL-AMERICAN POST 3RD YEAR IN A ROW!!!

POST NAMED NATL OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE POST 3RD YEAR IN A ROW!!!

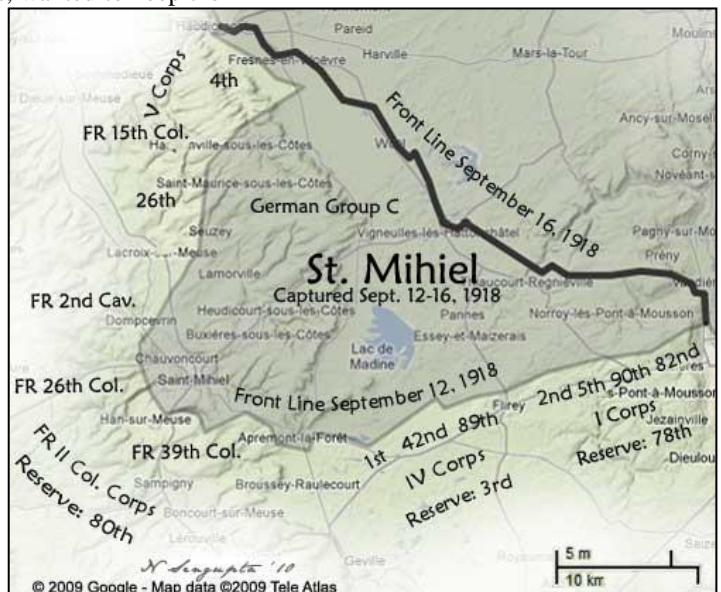
POST NAMED ALL-STATE POST 3RD YEAR IN A ROW!!!

100 Years Ago: The Battles of St. Mihiel and Meuse Argonne

On August 30, 1918, Pershing was given responsibility for the St. Mihiel sector; the same day, Foch and Pershing discussed plans for how to use the AEF next in the St. Mihiel salient. Foch, Commander in Chief of the Allied forces wanted to split up the American army. Pershing, Commander of the American Expeditionary Forces, wanted to keep the US Army intact – able to operate as a singular mass and throw its increasingly great weight around. In the upcoming days, Henri Petain also got sucked into the discussion and sided mainly with Pershing. The trio compromised by committing the Americans to the Meuse-Argonne offensive which was slated to start on September 26th, just two

weeks after St. Mihiel was to start.

By August 31st, the Foch Counterstroke against the Germans involving four French armies which had started on July 18th had now erased the Chateau-Thierry salient. The Germans in this sector both on the ground and in the air had been heeled, and Paris was safe once again. For the Americans, it was time to start planning offensives. The next attack would be to erase the St. Mihiel salient approximately 90 miles further to the east along the Western Front. That attack would be



launched on September 12, 1918.

On Thursday, September 12, 1918 thirteen American divisions of the US I, IV, V Corps and eight largely depleted French colonial divisions of the French II Colonial Corps launched a well-prepared attack. The American divisions included the 26th division from the V Corps on the left of the salient and the 1st, 42nd, 89th, 2nd, 5th and 90th hitting hard from the right representing the IV and I Corps respectively. In the middle were the French. The numbers totaled 264,000 American and French troops against 75,000 German and the only two divisions of Austro-Hungarian troops on the Western Front. The attack started off with a four hour long bombardment by 2,971 pieces of artillery shattering the four year long silence of the "quiet" sector with a tremendous rush of noise.



The timing of the successful St. Mihiel offensive had been excellent: the Germans had been planning a withdrawal anyway which made advancing relatively easy and correspondingly rapid. It didn't hurt that the odds were nearly four

to one on the ground in favor of the American and French troops. Within 30 hours, the Allies had grabbed 13,250 prisoners and 460 enemy artillery pieces in exchange for 8,000 casualties and wiped out a bulge that the Germans had held for almost exactly four years. It was a tremendous success marred only by the escape of many of the Germans to the northeast, which meant that they would be on hand to fight further battles. But the salient had been pinched off, the lines shortened and the Germans had been given yet another bloody nose which was good for American morale as well as credibility with the other Allies.

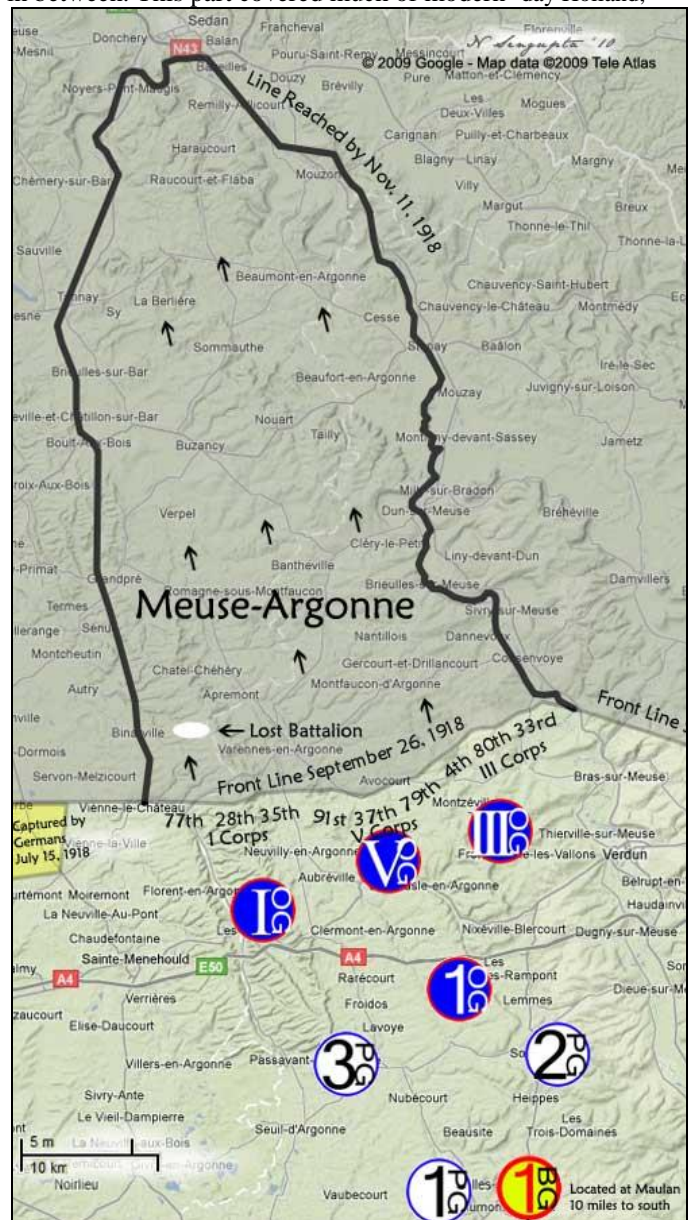
American Expeditionary Forces at Meuse-Argonne

On September 26, 1918 a massive series of offensives utilizing 92 British, Belgian, French and American divisions rippled urgently forward across the entire Western Front. Near the center of the offensive, 15 American and 22 French divisions attacked on a broad front from Rheims all the way to the Meuse River near Verdun. The offensive would eventually get the name Meuse-Argonne, in honor of the river on the right and the great forest on the left of the territory that was fought over.

The Meuse, known as the Maas to the Dutch and the Germans, had defined much of the front lines and for a very logical reason: it was a perfectly defensible natural barrier. The beautiful emerald green river had high forested embankments on both sides along much of its length which were penetrated mainly by easily defended cities and agricultural terrains susceptible to inundations.

For centuries, its sinewy looping course had been a convenient defining line between the Germanics to the east and their French cousins to the west. Going back to the time of

Charlemagne's grandchildren, his Frankish Empire had been divided in three parts at the Treaty of Verdun in 843. Grandson Louis received East Francia, loosely akin to Germany. Charles received West Francia, which corresponds vaguely to France. And Lothar received Middle Francia, a more or less equal part in between. This part covered much of modern-day Holland,



This map of the Meuse-Argonne sector shows the US Infantry Divisions as well as the supporting air units. The air units are denoted by the large circles. IOG is 1st Corps Observation Group, IOG is 1st Army Observation Group, IPG is 1st Pursuit Group, IBG is 1st Bomber Group, etc.

Belgium, Luxembourg, Lorraine, Burgundy, Switzerland, Tuscany, Lombardy and the Veneto. Through the middle of it as a linking backbone was the Meuse River. The cities it linked were significant, though rarely extremely large and included Neufchateau, St. Mihiel, Verdun, Dun-sur-Meuse, Sedan, Charleville-Mezieres in France and then Dinant, Namur, Liege in Belgium, Maastricht and Nijmegen in Holland. All of these were destined to frequently intersect with history due to their location between France and Germany.

Lothar and his Kingdom were squeezed out of existence by his two brothers, but his name lives on in the French province of Lorraine which the Germans call Lotharingia. And since that time, this middle ground has proven a meeting place for armies at war as well as a porous cultural-linguistic dividing line between Germanic and Francophone peoples.

Over time the French had fortified a number of their towns on the banks of the river, perhaps never quite trusting that the land was going to remain theirs.

For the Americans, the Meuse-Argonne was their third great offensive though it was actually part of a general attack across much of the Western Front involving the other Allies. At the center just to the left of the Meuse River and Verdun was the American First Army – pointing north at the German Fifth Army. The First Army consisted of I, V and III Corps running from west to east. The American divisions jumping forward on



the first day were, from west to east, the 77th, 28th, 35th, 91st, 37th, 79th, 4th, 80th and 33rd divisions. The rest of the American divisions were positioned behind them in reserve. On either side of the Americans were the French Fourth Army and the French XVII Corps.

For the Americans, the overall objective was a tall triangular section of land with the city of Sedan, about 35 miles away, at the top.

The following day, September 27th, the British Third Army with 15 divisions and the British First Army with 12 divisions attacked around Arras in northern France. On the 28th, the British Second Army with 10 divisions, the Belgian Army with 12 divisions and the French Sixth Army with six divisions attacked north of Arras to the Belgian coast.



For the troops it was like being in a slaughterhouse. Of the 29 American divisions that would see combat by the end of the war, all 29 were in combat in mid-October, and they were holding approximately one quarter of the Western Front, which was just a little more than the British, though far less than the French. In all, approximately 1.2 million American soldiers fought in the Meuse-Argonne offensive. The Germans were falling back, and their numbers

were starting to shrink with alarming acceleration, at least from their perspective. But they were hardly beaten, and even in retreat were able to show the stuff they were made of and inflict heavy casualties on the Americans. The three weeks from September 29th to October 19th saw the Germans kill 6,589, 6,019 and 5,019 Americans respectively making them the three bloodiest weeks of the war for the American Expeditionary Forces.

The Americans in their exuberance and confidence had made some of the same mistakes the other nations had made repeatedly previously during the war such as charging at machinegun posts. Such brave, but foolhardy tactics had not worked for the others, and not surprisingly they did not work for the Americans either. Yet in spite of such errors, the Americans and their Allies were making excellent progress across the Western Front, and it was the first time since the First Battle of the Marne that the Germans were falling back across such a broad front.

[Copied from the website, "American Expeditionary Force", www.usaww1.com/American-Expeditionary-Force/American-Expeditionary-Force-St-Mihiel.php4]

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Comrades, thanks to all of you, the Post was recognized as an **ALL-AMERICAN POST**...for the **third year in a row!** **We were in the top 70 out of 6,500 posts worldwide!** It was each of you, doing as much as you can whether it was 5 minutes, 5 hours, or 5 days, to help the Post with what we do best: taking care of veterans, their widows, and their families.

I will be attending the VFW National Convention in Kansas City, 21-25 July, where I will pick up our awards for All-American Post and **NATIONAL OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE POST** (only 63 posts worldwide received this award – also **our third time in a row!**) We are also now up to 110 members in the post!

At the Department Convention in June, the Post was recognized as an All-State Post and won the Bill Allen Hospital Award, the Claire B. Poff Public Relations Award for Most Outstanding Post Newsletter, Honor Post for 100% Membership, and Second Place Community Activities Award. You ROCK!

I think our success also derives from our first priority being about 'Service to Others'. We're not your father's VFW. With 34,000 veterans in Chesapeake (5th largest in Virginia), we have room to grow!!!

In June we installed our new officers and I look forward to ANOTHER tremendously successful year!

I want to thank those who came out to the Independence Day Parade in South Norfolk. We were joined by the Military Vehicle Preservation Society of Tidewater. The parade is a lot of fun and really reminds me of older times in 'small town USA.' We also raised more than \$1,200 through our rifle raffle – but I think we can raise a lot more in our next raffle! The proceeds go to help the Post with our charitable activities. Stand by for more news on that.

We started the new fraternal year on July 1st. We have already started planning fund-raising activities and different events like

the POW-MIA day remembrance ceremony on September 21st. Lots more information to come via emails and on our Post Facebook page.

And don't forget about our August meeting which will be on Saturday, the 11th, at Harbor Park – get your tickets ASAP! They are valued at \$30 apiece but we are selling them to Post and Auxiliary members and families at \$20 each. They include a barbeque dinner and seats at the party deck. If you know of someone who is thinking about joining the Post, this is a great way to introduce us to him/her! Gates open at 6 pm, our meeting will be about 6:30, and "Play Ball!" is at 7pm. See you there! I think our success also derives from our first priority being about 'Service to Others'. We're not your father's VFW. With 34,000 veterans in Chesapeake (5th largest in Virginia), we have room to grow!!!

Please keep JJ Dimmer and his family in your prayers. He was just elected as Commander of 2nd District but had to resign because of health problems. I consider him a good friend and a mentor of mine when I first started as Post Commander.

Semper Fidelis, *Chris Mulholland, Commander*



Other Post News

• **Brenda Hansen-Ike.** It is with sad hearts that we remember the passing of Brenda Hansen-Ike on July 15th. She was the loving wife of Robert Ike, II, former Chesapeake police officer and current City Councilman. She leaves four sons, Tanner Ike, Robert Ike III, Christopher Stine, and Jeramy Stine. Brenda was a Charter Member of our Auxiliary through three of her sons: Tanner (US Air Force), Jeramy (US Army), and Christopher (US Army). Our hearts go out to the entire family during this period of grief.



(Left to right) Jeramy (Deputy, CSD – US Army), Tanner (USAF), Robert II, Brenda, Robert III, and Christopher (US Army)

• **A new member in the Dozier clan!** Jean and Carl Dozier welcomed their 18th grandchild into the world on July 3rd! Paislee Marie arrived weighing 8lbs 5ozs and 21 inches long! Congratulations!!!

• **And a new marriage!** Congratulations to Vanessa and José Vazquez who were (re)married on June 30th! A number of Post and Auxiliary members helped with the planning, decorating and catering!



• **New City Councilmembers!** Two of our notable comrades were elected to City Council earlier this summer and were formally sworn in on June 26th at City Hall. Susan Vitale and Matt Hamel raised their right hands and gave an oath to serve the people of the city. Congratulations and good luck to you both!



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Everyone. Hope you are having a great summer. WE DID IT!! We received the placard for our banner at the June Dept. Convention. We also received an award for Veterans and Family Services and Youth. Thanks to all for your work and turning in the Reports. We had 4 members that attended the convention on either Friday or Saturday. Thanks for coming out and as an Auxiliary we are learning more about the VFW Auxiliary Dept.



We are always looking for new members. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining the Auxiliary, please let us know. They can contact me at sandy_1_dunbar@yahoo.com or call me at 757/508-6062.

I am sorry to inform you that the Auxiliary lost a member on Sunday, July 15, 2018, Brenda

Hansen-Ike. Brenda was one of the charter members when the Auxiliary was Instituted. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.

We are looking forward to the Tides Baseball Game on August 11, 2018. Hope to see you there. Enjoy the rest of your summer. Be Safe. See you soon.

Remember to Report!!

Thanks, *Sandy Dunbar, President*



Post members Matt Hamel, Susan Vitale, and Jim Keiper (left to right) at the swearing in ceremony.

• **Rifle Raffle Winner!** Paula Darling was the winner of our raffle for a Henry Repeating Arms .44 magnum! Here she is receiving her prize from Commander Mulholland.



• **Mickey receives a flag flown over the US Capitol.** Mickey Casady was presented with a flag from Senator Mark Warner that was flown over the US Capitol on his 100th birthday, May 3rd, 2018. The Post bought the flag and placed it in a presentation case which he now proudly hangs on the wall of his home.

• **SFC Dozier honored by NASCAR.** At the Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte Motor Speedway on Memorial Day weekend, all the racers proudly displayed the name of a Gold Star Hero on their windshields.



Denny Hamlin, a Virginia native, had the name of another Virginia native, Jonathan Dozier, on his. Jean and Carl Dozier were honored guests of NASCAR and were able to meet Hamlin and pose with an Honor and Remember flag with him.

• **Fallen Marine honored at City's Veterans' Memorial.** Post Commander Chris Mulholland was asked to place a plaque in honor of Gunnery Sergeant

Mark Hopkins, USMC, who was killed on July 10th, 2017 when the C-130 he was flying in crashed in Mississippi. Mark graduated from Great Bridge High School in 2001 and left a wife and three children. The plaque was placed at the city's Veterans' Memorial in front of City Hall. On behalf of his family, City Councilmember Debbie Ritter asked Commander Mulholland to dedicate the plaque at the city's Memorial Day ceremony.



• **Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Award.** On May 24th, Post 2894 presented our first-ever CAP Non-Commissioned Officer certificate and medal to a young Airman, Benjamin Ventura. The presentation was made by Commander Mulholland at the CAP monthly meeting at Chesapeake Regional Airport. As a result, the Post and local CAP detachment will continue an annual presentation of an award to a worthy NCO of the Detachment.



CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE

The Story Behind "In God We Trust"

By Post Chaplain Rev. Andrew McMenamin

With the outbreak of the Civil War political rhetoric linking the North and the South with a divine power occurred on a large scale. At the onset of the war a Pennsylvania clergyman recommended placing "In God We Trust" on coins to "place us (the North) openly under divine protection." While the war raged on some Protestant denominations advocated changing the preamble of the Constitution with language regarding the origin of American rights recognizing "Almighty God as the source of all authority and power in civil government." However the amendment's supporters lost out.



Though "In God We Trust" was added to coins, it was not added to paper money, and in the 19th century with the spread of secularism following the Civil War, it disappeared from coins as well.

In the 1950s a dramatic resurgence of religious language in government and politics reappeared and "In God We Trust" returned to popular use. In 1955, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill mandating that the phrase be placed on all currency. One sponsor of that legislation, Congressman Charles Bennett, proclaimed that our country "was founded in a spiritual atmosphere and with a firm trust in God." The following year, "In God We Trust" was adopted as the first official motto of the United States.

Historian Kevin Kruse stated that during and after the Cold War religious language was not merely rhetoric against communism. "In God We Trust" reflected domestic concerns as well. American religiosity over many years put "In God We Trust" on our currency and made it our national motto. During the 50's and 60's, conservative businessmen allied with ministers, including Billy Graham, to combat government expansion that began with FDR's "New Deal" and the explosion of social welfare policies following the Great Depression. Kruse notes that this alliance of conservative business leaders and ministers linked "faith, freedom, and free enterprise."

In February of this year during his address at the National Prayer Breakfast President Trump emphasized "the centrality of faith in American life." Describing our country as a "nation of believers," he reminded his audience of the phrase "In God We Trust" on our currency and "one Nation under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance, declaring "our rights are not given to us by man" but "come from our Creator." In his State of the Union address, President Trump linked religion with American identity and proclaimed that the "American way" in which "faith and family, not government and bureaucracy, are the center of the American life.

Let us pray. Dear Lord, we know we need prayer for our great country. We humbly ask Your wisdom and blessing on our Nation. Our Nation faces difficult situations today. But we have faced many difficult times in the past. Let us allow our love of country and patriotism to rise up in us. Let us pray for our troops and our leaders, as well as all our fellow Americans. We ask protection for all our men and women in uniform both here and around the world. We are grateful for their service and their dedication to keeping our Nation safe. We pray that You would keep them safe. We ask for blessings on our leaders. May these servants who are in positions of authority take that responsibility seriously and do their very best each day. May they realize their need for You and for Your direction. May they hear Your voice as they make their decisions, and may they follow Your guidance. May they have a passion for people, for truth, and for righteousness. Lord, bless each and every American. May we be a people who are pursuing You and Your plans for us - both, individually and together - ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL! Amen.

+ SAFETY CORNER **+**
AUGUST IS NATIONAL EYE EXAM MONTH

Although summer comes to an end in August, the UV Rays are still high and it's important to take proper precautions to protect yourself from the sun.

August is National Eye Exam Month, a month dedicated to the importance of eye health and safety. Sears Optical founded National Eye Exam Month in 1989 and since then, most ophthalmologists promote eye safety throughout the month. Most sponsor Eye Care America, a campaign for seniors ages 65 and up that can qualify for a free eye exam.

You may think you have healthy eyes and have no symptoms of vision problems, but if you are between the ages of 40 and 65, you should have your vision checked every 2-4 years; and at 65+, every 1-2 years. Some individuals may have a family history of eye disease or a chronic illness that can affect your vision. This puts you at a greater risk of vision problems, and therefore it is vital that you get your eyes checked more often than most.

Seniors are prone to blurred vision, eye irritation and more. Symptoms like this occur because the muscles in the eye become weaker. Consult your doctor if you experience:

- Blurred vision **with** glasses
- Extremely sensitive to light
- Consistent eye pain
- Red eyes
- Burning sensation
- Constant watering
- Black spots in sight

Although seniors are more prone to eye issues, there are ways they can protect themselves and prevent long-term issues.

- When washing your face, use a clean towel and water to wipe the lid to prevent infection
- Do not use others eye medication or glasses
- NO Smoking!!
- Be sure to get a healthy amount of rest
- Consume Vitamin A and proteins (nuts are perfect!)
- Do not use sprays (i.e. hairspray) close to the eyes
- When watching TV, on the computer and/or reading, be sure to have good lighting, take short breaks to rest the eyes and make sure the print is large and clear
- Do not read in a moving vehicle or bed
- Use UV protected sunglasses



Not only is August National Eye Exam Month, but it is also Cataracts Awareness Month. People over the age of 55 should be very cautious of Cataracts, an eye disease that clouds the lens of the eyes and can lead to vision loss. Those who have Cataracts Disease may experience, extremely blurry vision, a glare, colors that may appear faded and double vision.

To educate you more on this disease, the American Academy of Ophthalmology sponsors awareness sessions and information workshops during the month of August. For more information, be sure to contact your ophthalmologist or visit AAO.org.

If you would like to receive a free eye exam, check EyeCare America to see if you qualify. For more information, please visit EyeCareAmerica.org.

+ **SAFETY CORNER** **+**
SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH



National Preparedness Month (NPM), recognized each September, provides an opportunity to remind us that we all must prepare ourselves and our families now and throughout the year. This NPM will focus on planning, with an overarching theme: **Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How.**

Take time to learn lifesaving skills – such as CPR and first aid, check your insurance policies and coverage for the hazards you may face, such as flood, earthquakes, and tornados. Make sure to consider the costs associated with disasters and save for an emergency. Also, know how to take practical safety steps like shutting off water and gas.

The devastating hurricanes and wildfires of 2017 reminded the nation of the importance of preparing for disasters. Often, we will be the first ones in our communities to take action after a disaster strikes and before first responders arrive, so it is important to prepare in advance to help yourself and your community.

2018 Weekly Themes

- Week 1: Sept 1-8 Make and Practice Your Plan
- Week 2: Sept 9-15* Learn Life Saving Skills
- Week 3: Sept 16-22 Check Your Insurance Coverage
- Week 4: Sept 23-29 Save For an Emergency
- September 15 is a [National Day of Action](http://www.ready.gov/national-day-of-action)

Check the website <https://www.ready.gov/september> for more specific information.

QUARTERMASTER DESK

Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$30.00

Annual dues can be paid via mail (see our new address on front of newsletter) or to the Quartermaster at one of our meetings. If you pay on-line to National, the cost is \$40.50.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

You can become a VFW Life Member by paying a one-time fee as listed in the table below, or making an initial \$45 payment and then paying the remaining installments over the

next 11 months. You will be issued an annual membership card and can elect, upon receipt of the first monthly invoice, to pay via check, credit card or ACH Debit. The applicable Life Membership fee is determined by the applicant's age on Dec. 31 of the installment plan year in which the application is submitted, regardless of actual date of birth. A permanent Life Membership card is issued upon completion of payments.

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

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

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

WWI HISTORY, 100 YEARS AGO TODAY

- **August 1, 1918** - Allied Expeditionary Force attack and capture the defenses of Archangel.
- **August 3, 1918** - British troops land at Vladivostok.
- **August 8, 1918** - Germans in Somme experience "Black Day of the German Army" as later described by Gen. Ludendorff. This occurs as British 4th Army using 456 tanks attacks German positions east of Amiens. Six German divisions quickly fall apart and 13,000 prisoners are taken during rapid 7-mile advance. Attack is only slowed when Germans rush in nine divisions, their last reserves on Western Front.
- **August 11, 1918** - First Japanese contingents arrive at Vladivostok.
- **August 15, 1918** - Last bombardment of Paris by German long-range gun.
- **August 20, 1918** - French 10th Army takes 8,000 prisoners at Noyon and captures Aisne Heights.
- **August 21, 1918** - British 3rd Army begins an attack along 10-mile front south of Arras, while adjacent 4th Army resumes attack in Somme, as Germans continue to fall back.
- **August 24, 1918** - Battle of Dukhovskaya (Eastern Siberia). Bolsheviks decisively defeated by Allied forces. [Japanese, with one British battalion.]
- **September 4, 1918** - US contingent lands at Murmansk to join Allied Expeditionary Force.
- **September 12, 1918** - First stand-alone attack by Americans occurs as U.S. 1st Army attacks southernmost portion of Western Front in France in **Battle of St. Mihiel**. Offensive supported by unprecedented 1,476 Allied aircraft used as part of coordinated air-ground attack. Within 36 hours, Americans take 15,000 prisoners and capture over 400 pieces of artillery as Germans withdraw.
- **September 15, 1918** - Allies push Bulgarians out of Serbia, advancing nearly 20 miles northward from Greece in three days. Bulgarian troops are relentlessly bombarded by airplanes and overall troop morale collapses. Meanwhile, political turmoil strikes at home as anti-war riots erupt in Bulgaria's cities along with Russian-style revolutionary fervor that results in proclamation of local soviets.
- **September 19, 1918** - In Middle East, Allies launch cavalry attack to push Turks out of Palestine. Australian and Indian cavalry divisions smash through Turkish defenses around Megiddo on first day and gallop northward, as British infantry follow, while RAF and Arab

fighters disrupt communication and supply lines. As Turkish armies collapse, they withdraw northward toward Damascus with Allies in pursuit.

- **September 20, 1918** - Nazareth and Beisan (Palestine) occupied by British cavalry.
- **September 26, 1918** - U.S. 1st Army and French 4th Army begin a joint offensive to clear out the strongly defended corridor between the Meuse River and the Argonne Forest in **Battle of Champagne and Argonne**. Here, Germans do not fall back and battle soon resembles action from earlier years in war. Amid steady rain, troops advance yard-by-yard over muddy, crater-filled terrain with 75,000 American casualties suffered over six weeks of fighting.
- **September 27, 1918** - British 1st and 3rd Armies, aided by Australians and U.S. 2nd Corps, break through 20-mile portion of Hindenburg Line between Cambrai and St. Quentin.
- **September 28, 1918** - Belgian and British troops push back Germans in **Fourth Battle of Ypres**. Unlike previous drawn-out battles, this one lasts just two days as Belgians take Dixmude and British secure Messines.
- **September 28, 1918** - Confronted by unstoppable strength of Allies and faced with prospect of outright military defeat on Western Front, Gen. Ludendorff suffers nervous collapse, losing all hope for victory. He informs his superior, Paul von Hindenburg, the war must be ended. Next day, Ludendorff, accompanied by Hindenburg, meet with Kaiser and urge him to end the war. Kaiser's army is becoming weaker by the day amid irreversible troop losses, declining discipline and battle-readiness due to exhaustion, illness, food shortages, desertions and drunkenness. Kaiser takes heed, and agrees with the need for armistice.
- **September 29, 1918** - Bulgaria signs armistice with Allies, becoming first Central Power to quit war. Passchendaele retaken by Allied forces. German force in East Africa recrosses Rovuma and reenters German territory.

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

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

LOCAL WWI GOLD STARS

Vernon Christopher Parr was born in Wapakoneta, Ohio on February 6th, 1890 and worked as a fireman on locomotives before enlisting in the US Army on April 27th, 1917. He apparently lived in the Berkeley section of Chesapeake during this period. He was sent to Fort



Thomas, Kentucky for training and was assigned to the 19th Cavalry. The 19th Cav was transferred to Camp Ethan Allen in Vermont where it was converted and redesignated as the 77th Field Artillery Regiment. Vernon was by now a Sergeant assigned to

Battery D. The 77th was assigned to the 4th Division and deployed overseas in May 1918. Vernon's unit was supporting the attack across the Meuse River in Lorraine, France when he was hit with a "bursting shell" on September 27th, 1918 and died from his wounds. After the war, his body was disinterred and returned to the US where he was buried on July 24th, 1921 in Decatur, Indiana although there are also records which indicate that he was buried in the Berkeley section of Chesapeake.

James M. Stewart was born in County Londonderry in Northern Ireland and enlisted as a Private with the 318th Infantry Regiment in the 80th "Blue Ridge" Division – he was in the same unit as Corporal Arthur Donahoe. The 318th was made up mostly of men from the Shenandoah Valley and Tidewater areas. While training with the British in France, the 318th were nicknamed "Squirrels": 1st Battalion were RED squirrels; 2nd were GRAY squirrels; and 3rd were called FLYING squirrels. During the Meuse Argonne campaign, the 80th Division was the only one that saw action during each phase of the offensive and earned their motto, "The 80th Division Moves only Forward!" James was killed on September 29th, 1918 during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive and is buried in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne, France.



FROM THE EDITOR

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

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

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

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

Semper fidelis, - Chris Mulholland

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

Chesapeake
VIRGINIA

2018

Remembrance Ceremony - 21 September



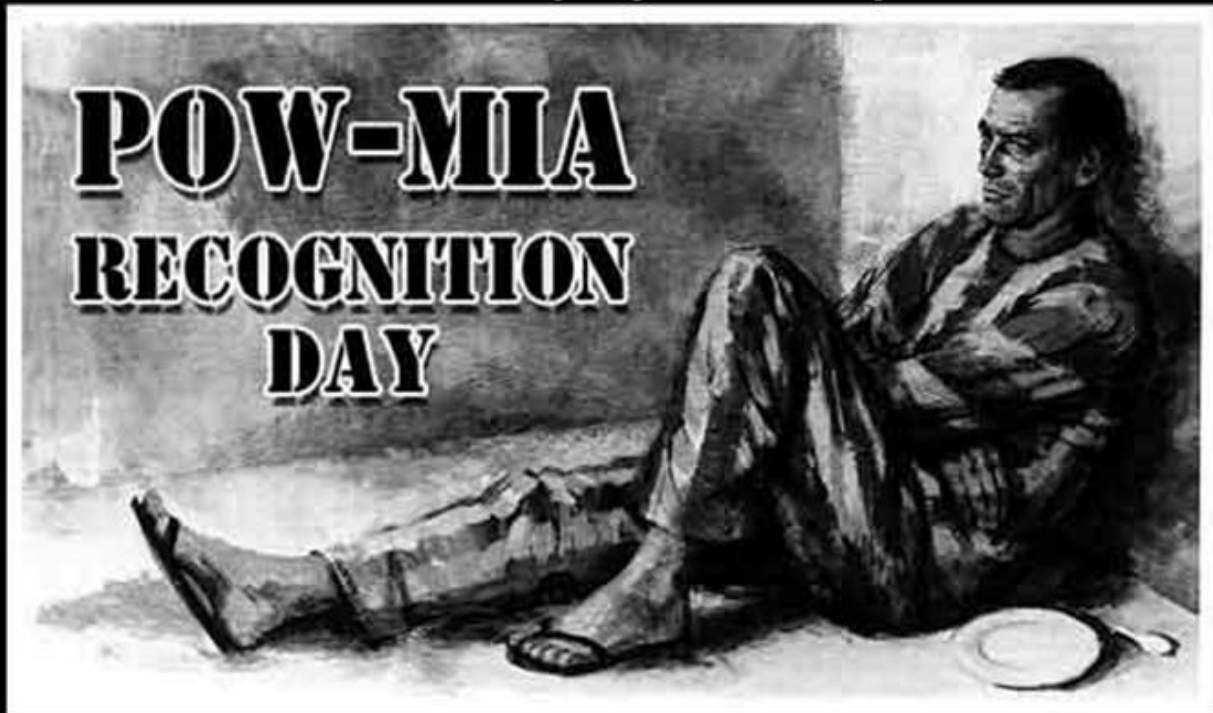
Friday, 21st
11:00 am
City Library



Hosted by

VFW SSG Dozier Post 2894

POW-MIA display 17-21 September



POST 2894 CALENDAR

AUGUST	
4	US Coast Guard birthday (1790)
7	Purple Heart Day/Start of Vietnam War (1964)/National Night Out
11	Post Meeting, 1900 – Night With The Tidewater Tides, Harbor Park
14	VJ Day (1945)/National Navajo Code Talkers' Day
23	Hampton Vet Administration Town Hall, FRA 40/National Airborne Day

SEPTEMBER	
2	Symphony Under the Stars, City Park
3	Labor Day
9	Grandparents' Day
11	Patriot Day, City Park (0830)
12	Post Meeting
14	Start of Oktoberfest
15	Mayor's Breakfast for Veterans, Convention Center (0800)
17	Citizenship and Constitution Day
18	US Air Force birthday (1947)
17-21	POW/MIA Display, Central Library
21	POW/MIA Ceremony, Central Library (1100)
23	First day of fall
29	VFW Day (1899)
30	SSG Jon Dozier's birthday (1977)/Gold Star Mother's Day

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



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



Place
Stamp
Here

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED