

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.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

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

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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 McMenamin
Surgeon..... David Davis
Staff Judge Advocate..... Matt Hamel
Service Officer..... Jim Ireland

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

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VFW VA DISTRICT 2

www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2



CHRISTMAS

US Troops Have Been At War On Christmas Since Our Nation's Founding

by Lt Col Jason Nulton, USAF

For those who serve, war is surreal, but celebrating Christmas while in a combat zone can be particularly somber. This time last year, I was on a different continent, and instead of a Santa hat, I wore protective plates and a kevlar helmet.

Just to feel somewhat festive, many of us decorated our vests with battery-powered Christmas lights and placed candy canes in our equipment. Under the threat of imminent danger at our deployed location, Christmas was surreal indeed. But we coped.

The surrealness of celebrating Christmas while in a war is not a new experience. Through American history, our troops have endured the holidays while serving far from home in a lot of different ways. Sometimes highlighted with humor, it has also been cause for melancholy. But in countless cases, there was no celebrating — only danger, fear, and death.

One of the most famous Christmas days in American military history occurred in 1776. That night, Gen. George Washington made his iconic crossing of the Delaware River from Pennsylvania into New Jersey, and marched his army toward Trenton. The next morning, he surprised 1,500 Hessian forces fighting for the British, many of whom were allegedly hungover from holiday celebrations the night before.

The Hessians couldn't get their units organized in time, and Washington's army ended up capturing more than a third of the enemy force, suffering only two deaths and five wounded. Prior to the battle, however, the Continental army had suffered some significant defeats and morale was in the gutter. Americans at the Valley Forge winter camp had also been suffering greatly.

Soldiers were dying without proper



U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan watch Afghanistan countryside from tail of aircraft after delivering bundles containing care packages, Christmas stockings and mail to soldiers stationed at a remote base in eastern Afghanistan Dec. 24, 2013. US Army

food, clothing, or other provisions, and the King's armies (as well as American colonial citizens) suspected the Continentals were near a full defeat. No doubt the poor morale and prospects of another defeat — at Christmas time, no less — weighed heavily on the minds of American soldiers.

But their actions at Trenton, followed by a similar victory at Princeton a week

later, electrified people across the colonies. Washington handed two sound defeats to the most powerful fighting force on the planet, and to Americans, independence suddenly became a real possibility. Morale in the ranks shot into the stratosphere and soaring enlistments followed.



The American Civil War was another instance in which US soldiers spent Christmas in conflict. It was a painful time in our history, marked by lofty victory and shocking loss. Probably the most famous Christmas "gift" during the war was from Gen. William T. Sherman to President Abraham Lincoln.

In December 1864, Sherman was reaching the end of his controversial "March to the Sea," and on the Dec. 22, his army captured the city of Savannah, Georgia. Sherman wrote a letter to Lincoln that read in part: "I beg to present you, as a Christmas gift, the city of Savannah, with 150 heavy guns and plenty of ammunition, and also about 25,000 bales of cotton."

Lincoln naturally received the message with great relief, replying, "Many, many thanks for your Christmas gift - the capture of Savannah ... the undertaking being a success, the honor is all yours."

Both Union and Confederate troops found creative ways to celebrate Christmas while on the battlefield. Personal letters of many soldiers describe units erecting Christmas trees and decorating them with stale hard-tack (a large, saltine-like biscuit that served as a form of ration) and salt pork. Carols we recognize today were sung in camps across the continent — tunes such as "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," "Jingle Bells," and "Deck the Halls" — and while cards didn't enjoy widespread use until the 1870s, elaborate Christmas cards were known to be exchanged.

Perhaps the most eventful Christmas during the Civil War occurred December 1862 during the Fredericksburg campaign. During the Dec. 12 battle on the plains south of town, Union troops, under Gen. Ambrose Burnside, made repeated suicidal assaults against the entrenched southern Army on Marye's Heights, resulting in more than 12,000 Federal casualties — more than double that of Robert E. Lee's.

Burnside withdrew after the spectacular defeat, but tried to restore his tarnished reputation the next month in what became known as the "mud march." In an effort to follow up with a second campaign against Lee, the Union again tried to hit its enemy south of the Rappahannock River, but a brutal two-day rainstorm turned the crossing into a mucky quagmire that swamped horses, artillery, and men in the cold mud.

Resigned to his failure, Burnside again pulled back and was fired by Lincoln soon after. It was a terrible Christmas for the

Union army, yet one that the South used to find reason to celebrate.

Fast forward to Dec. 16, 1944 — forever known as the Battle of the Bulge. A legion of Hitler's troops overran thinly spread American lines along the border areas of Belgium, Luxembourg, and Germany, and advanced toward the port of Antwerp. It was the coldest winter in at least 100 years and temperatures had plunged below zero.

The outnumbered, outgunned, and poorly equipped Americans put up a gallant fight and delayed the Nazi timetable. But casualties were alarming. It would be a terrible Christmas for many families back home.

By Christmas Day, Gen. George Patton and the 3rd

Army had swung northward, mounting a major counteroffensive that ultimately pushed the Germans back by New Year's.

That year though, many American soldiers in Europe spent their time trying to keep warm and ate frozen food (if they had any at all) because they weren't allowed to light fires. Others on the front lines didn't even know it was Christmas. Despite the death and devastation, though, combined enemy voices sang versions of "Silent Night" in many locations across the icy lines of battle.

Christmas is indeed a strange time at war. Our troops will often cope in ways that many of us would consider funny, or even morbid, but through our nation's history, the holidays at war have often been fraught with sacrifice.

This Christmas, take a moment to remember our veterans, as well as those today who are defending our liberties far from home.

Historically, as well as today, our troops have stood guarding the gates of freedom, protecting the things we hold dear, and our way of life, no matter the time of year.

Lt. Col. Jason Nulton is an Air Force logistics officer with experience in deployed environments and as a squadron commander. Article copied from Task & Purpose website: <https://taskandpurpose.com/u-s-troops-combat-christmas-since-americas-founding>



BG Anthony McAuliffe and staff gathered inside Bastogne's Heintz Barracks for Christmas dinner Dec. 25th, 1944. This barracks served as Division Main Command Post during siege of Bastogne, Belgium

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings – and Merry Christmas! The Post has been busy again this fall, between a very successful Buddy Poppy drive, assisting needy veterans and their families, the city's Veterans Day remembrance ceremony, and all of our service projects – thanks!

We had the MOST EVER entries for our Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen scholarship contests! We had ELEVEN PPs and EIGHT VODs! The winner of the VOD is Maysie Casper, a senior at Grassfield High School. The winner of the PP is Jacob Zinn, a 7th grader at GB Middle and the son of our Auxiliary Sr. Vice President, Christina Zinn. Congratulations and good luck to both of them as their packages go up for District and State judging.

Our Teacher of the Year is Kristine Iaquinto, a 7th grade history and English teacher at GB Middle. Kris is a retired Navy Commander who had the opportunity to use her expertise to write her own ticket anywhere in the communications and/or computer fields but chose to give back to the community by enrolling in the troops-to-teachers program. We're keeping our fingers crossed that she will receive national recognition!

And now that the holiday season is almost here, I ask everyone to come to our Post Christmas Party on 12 December, at 7 pm. Please invite your families to come (and any prospective members you know!) and bring a dish to share. The Post will provide the beverages and the paperware. Please



RSVP to me by 10 Dec so we know how many plates, cups, etc., we'll need to bring.

We received a wonderfully fortuitous donation from the Great Bridge United Methodist Men's Club the week before Thanksgiving...they donated \$1562 to the Post! We immediately turned it around to purchase the necessary supplies to replace the roof for a disabled

Korean War veteran. Thank you GBUMC Men's Club!!!

Our Service Officer(s!) were also generous. The Post had been donated a (rarely) used wheelchair that needed new batteries. Jim Ireland and Gary Dunbar found out about a disabled wife of a veteran who was unable to get around her own home. They brought the renovated chair to her in mid November and told me that her smile was incredible! She's now not only mobile in her home, but has been out, up and down the street visiting neighbors she hasn't seen in years! The two previous stories are what this Post is all about - what YOU'RE all about! Thanks to all of you for what you do!

Which reminds me, ALL of you have been busy! The "Other Post News" keeps growing and growing! If you're doing something - anything - as a service to someone else, please let me know so that I can include it on our State reports and newsletters.

Don't forget to tell all the Eagle Scouts and Girl Scout Gold Stars about our Scout of the Year contest. The form is included in this newsletter.

Lastly, January 9th is the 10th anniversary of the Sinsil 8 - when our Post namesake, SSG Dozier, and 7 others perished in Iraq. Jon's father, Carl, is planning a remembrance gathering on that date - I will let you know what the final plans are.

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

And, as always, thanks to all of you for your service to our country, and your dedication to our veterans and their families! Semper Fidelis

Chris Mulholland, Commander

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Seasons Greetings! A big welcome to our two newest members to the Auxiliary, Patty Lambeth and Sally Durbin. We hope you enjoy being a member of the Auxiliary and helping the Veterans and their families and spreading patriotism through the many VFW Auxiliary National Programs.

Some upcoming events and dates that we need to put on the calendar are:

December 12th - Meeting and Christmas Party, bring finger food to share Post and Auxiliary

December 15th - Laying wreaths at Horton Veterans Cemetery, Suffolk

December 16th - Christmas Party for the Auxiliary at Sandy's home, 2pm until ???

January 11-13, 2019 - Winter Council held at the Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel



Please remember to report the events you have accomplished for all our Programs: Veterans and Family Support, Americanism, Hospital and VA Volunteers, Legislative and Youth Activities. The more reports we turn in, the better we look as an Auxiliary. Thank you!!

Wishing you and your families the Merriest Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sandy Dunbar, President

POST BUDDY POPPY DRIVE 3-4 NOVEMBER

We held our annual Veterans Day Buddy Poppy Drive over the weekend of 3-4 November in front of the Walmart at Battlefield Boulevard Shopping Center, and collected \$2362.42!!! We will be conducting our next Buddy Poppy Drive during the weekend of 18-19 May in honor of Memorial Day at the same Walmart.



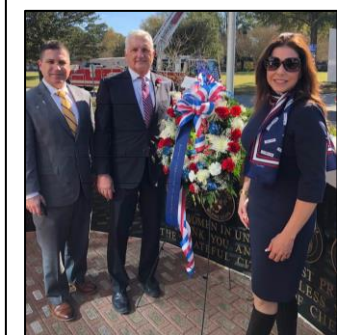
Auxiliary members (lt-rt) Sandy Dunbar, Bea Oakley, and Anne Thompson handing out buddy poppies

We also met a number of veterans and active duty service members who expressed an interest in joining the Post. **Thanks to all who helped out during this poppy drive!!!**

CHESAPEAKE'S VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

The City of Chesapeake held memorial ceremony for Veterans Day at 11 am on the 11th day of the 11th month in front of City Hall. This was an especially poignant celebration since it was the 100th anniversary of "The War to End All Wars."

The ceremony was coordinated by the Mayor's Commission on Veterans Affairs, which



Post members – and City Council Members – Matt Hamel and Susan Vitale flank Mayor Rick West



includes four members of the Post, and one emeritus member, Comrade Carl Dozier.

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

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA - 10 DECEMBER -

Wreaths Across America will take place on **Saturday, 15 December**, at 9:30 am at **Albert J. Horton Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery**, 5310 Milners Road in Suffolk.

You can sign up as a volunteer on the Horton Cemetery website at www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/17240/Overview?relatedIds=0.



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

11TH "SINSIL 8" ANNIVERSARY

The 11th anniversary of the sacrifice of the Sinsil 8 is coming up on 9 January. Our Post namesake, SSG (posthumously promoted to SFC) Jonathan K. Dozier, along with five other soldiers and one translator, died that day in an IED explosion that collapsed a house on them. In October 2011, an eighth soldier, Jordan Riddle, who had been critically wounded in the blast, died as a result of his sorrow and a broken heart. Now they are all collectively known as the "Sinsil 8." Here is the article from the New York Times about the bombing:

An Iraqi House Was Rigged to Kill American Soldiers

By STEPHEN FARRELL, Published: January 14, 2008

SINSIL, Iraq – The courtyard was a scene of devastation, strewn with medieval mud brick and modern cinder block, shattered alike by the explosion that killed six American soldiers and their Iraqi interpreter.

From the alleyway outside a day later, there was little sign that this was the house where the bomb exploded Wednesday, during an offensive to clear Sunni insurgents from the northern Diyala River valley, 60 miles north of Baghdad.

The same building complex had been cleared of explosives two weeks earlier, commanders say. But the ill-fated unit was apparently lured back to it by a villager who did not tell them that insurgents had sneaked back in later and rigged the house to explode.

A soldier who was there, Sgt. Joseph Weeren, described in a telephone interview on Sunday how, after he was pulled from the wreckage, he and his comrades pulled four badly wounded survivors, men "screaming in pain," from the rubble using only their bare hands and vehicle jacks.

"It was scary, because how do you move 1,000 pounds of concrete?"

said Sergeant Weeren, 27, a sniper team leader from Winchester, Mass. "At that time that's all I was thinking."

"It was difficult because your buddy is screaming out in pain about his legs and to get him out, but we all pitched in and focused, and we jacked up that concrete," he said from an American military base in Diyala where he was recovering from a severe concussion that he suffered in the initial explosion.

He said he believed that the explosion had been set off by a trigger wire hidden beneath a rug, which one of the soldiers stepped on.

"We saved who we could, and who we couldn't save they didn't feel a thing because concrete either fell on them or the bomb killed them," he said.



Jehad Nga for The New York Times
American soldiers in Sinsil, Iraq, questioning the family of a man who had directed the unit to a bomb-rigged house.

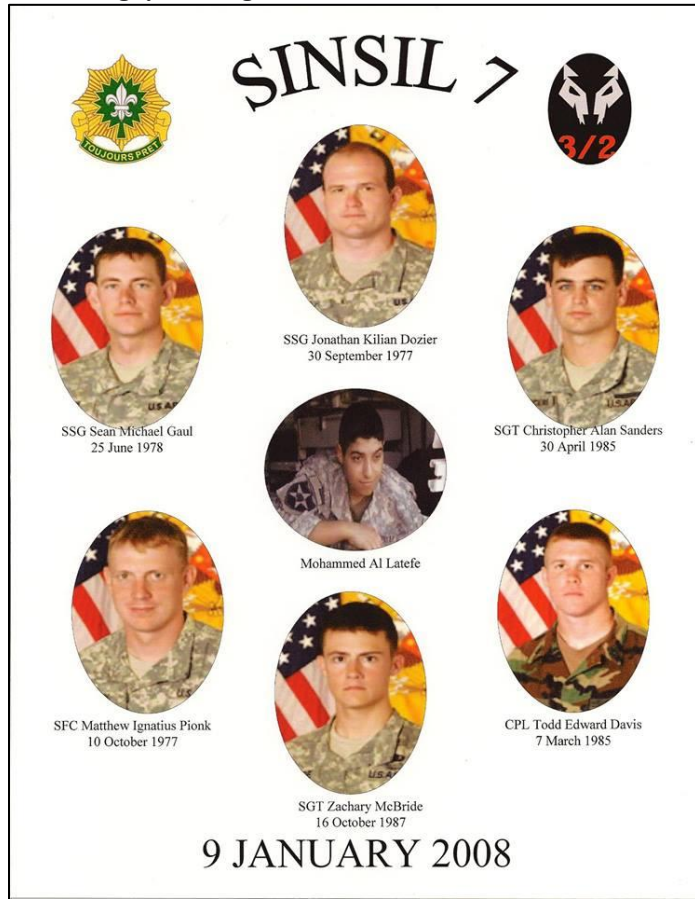


Jehad Nga for The New York Times
A bomb-rigged house exploded and killed six American soldiers and their Iraqi interpreter

Sergeant Weeren was praised by commanders for his presence of mind because after the explosion, ignoring his concussion and blurred vision, he headed straight back into the village, alone, to arrest the shopkeeper who had directed them to the compound.

"I never felt like that in my life before," he said, explaining why he went after the shopkeeper. "I can't really describe it," adding: "I didn't have any body armor

on. I didn't have a helmet. I was just so angry I went back after this guy, and I grabbed him."



The American military identified the six dead soldiers as Specialist Todd E. Davis, 22, of Raymore, Mo.; Staff Sgt. Jonathan K. Dozier, 30, of Rutherford, Tenn.; Staff Sgt. Sean M. Gaul, 29, of Reno, Nev.; Sgt. Zachary W. McBride, 20, of Bend, Ore.; First Sgt. Matthew I. Pionk, 30, of Superior, Wis., and Sgt. Christopher A. Sanders, 22, of Roswell, N.M.

All were assigned to the Third Squadron, Second Stryker Cavalry Regiment, based in Vilseck, Germany, which is attached for the Diyala operation to the Second Infantry Division.

House bombs are a common threat in Diyala, where American troops have found five since the start of last week's operation against [Al Qaeda in Mesopotamia](#), the homegrown Sunni insurgent group that American officials say is foreign-led.

Capt. David Gohlich, the company commander, said

the house had been used as an insurgent base for the last five or six months after it was commandeered from a wealthy Shiite family, which was forced out.

Speaking at the scene the day after the blast, Captain Gohlich said that the compound was cleared of bomb-making equipment by a different coalition force about two weeks before his platoon went in, but that the insurgents seem to have returned two or three days later and planted more explosives.

Sergeant Weeren said on Sunday that he and his colleagues did not know the background of the house before they went in. Asked if they could have done anything differently, he said: "I think about that. I don't know."

"It was an open compound," he continued. "We are the most experienced platoon. We made the call to go in. I can't go back on anything we have done."

Although he was farther south when the bomb exploded, Captain Gohlich, 29, from New Jersey, went straight to the scene.

"As a commander it's pretty much the worst thing that could happen," he said. "But there are a lot of other guys that are counting on you at that moment to do the right thing and keep them safe, so you do your best to stay disconnected, take care of everyone else and catch those who are responsible."

His squadron commander, Lt. Col. Rod Coffey, said he believed that the shopkeeper, who is now in custody, was involved. "I think he was complicit because what the locals were saying was that" the insurgents "used to stop by his store," he said.

He praised his men for their "enormous character," saying their performance had been "stellar." "That platoon and company did everything right," he said. "They were extraordinarily brave."

NEW VFW LOGO

On 1 November, the VFW rolled out a new logo.



According to National VFW, "The brand logo refresh you are about to discover was carefully undertaken with full respect to the VFW heritage and its future. A bold step was taken to bring forward a solid, contemporary look and feel that sets us apart as the longest established and largest combat veterans service organization with a relentless pursuit of exceptional service and dedication... This logo includes an artistic representation of service stripes, easily recognizable insignia indicative of military service. Worn on most service uniforms, they denote length of service.

As such, the first and leaner of the two service stripes represents our steadfast entry into our second century of



The New York Times
Sinsil lies in the Diyala River valley north of Baghdad.

service to America's veterans, service members and their families. The second, broader stripe represents our first storied century of service, spanning back to 1899. The bold letters and sharp angles of this text represent the strength and stability of our organization, and the clarity with which we work to fulfill our mission."

WWII LOCAL GOLD STAR HEROES

By Chris Mulholland

As an amateur genealogist and avid historian, I have been taking my spare time to identify all the World War II Gold Star Heroes from South Norfolk and Norfolk County. I've used a number of sources, starting with a memorial stone in front of the old Great Bridge High School and an Eagle Scout Project by Will Wheaton in 2009. The University of Virginia maintains an on-line registry of all the Gold Stars from Virginia since the founding of the Commonwealth. The biggest find, however, was a book at the Central Library titled "Gold Star Honor Roll of Virginians in the Second World War" which lists all of them by city and/or county. As of today, I have identified 282 Gold Stars who gave their lives in the fight against fascism and imperialism around the globe and will begin sharing their stories in the newsletter so that they will never be forgotten.

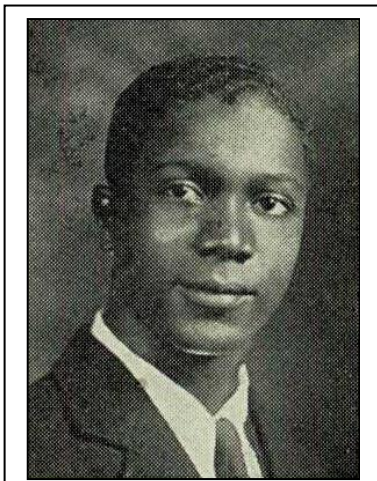
Some of these heroes were born and raised in the area, others came and lived here for work or while in the Service, and a number of them married local girls with the intention of settling down here.

I will begin with the very start of the war for the United States when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7th, 1941, "A date which will live in infamy."

Stationed in Hawaii that day were two sailors from Norfolk County: Steward's Mate First Class (StMIC) Robert Nelson Carpenter and Fireman First Class (F1C) William Nicholas Royals. They were both assigned to the USS ARIZONA:

Robert "Carp" Carpenter was born on August 12th, 1915 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Rahlston "Ross" and Margaret (Oliver) Carpenter. Carpy had an older sister, Edith (b.1913), and two younger brothers, Julius (1920) and Henry (1922). Through the 20s and early 30s, they lived at 71 Strauss Street in Pittsburgh.

In 1934, Carpy graduated from Oliver High School where he ran track and cross-country, served on the Senior Council, was a "Home Room Officer", and a member of the "Traffic Squad". He was described as, "cheerful... carefree... ambition to make a success in life... likes boxing... wrestling... football... tall... husky... Cab Calloway gets his attention... likes geometry... hopes to appeal to him... habit of being tardy."



Robert N. Carpenter's HS yearbook photo (1934)

Taking the summer off after graduation, he joined the US Navy, enlisting in Pittsburgh on

October 1st, 1934. He was assigned serial number 250-40-00 and received the rating of "Steward's Mate" or "Mess Attendant". This meant that he was responsible for preparing and serving meals; cleaning and maintaining officers' quarters; and receiving, issuing and inventorying stores. As he progressed in rank he became responsible for planning menus; keeping records; requisitioning or purchasing stores and equipment; and overseeing the kitchen as well as other mess attendants.

Sometime in the mid-1930s, Carpy was stationed in the Hampton Roads area because on August 21st, 1939, he married Dorothy Bright in Norfolk.

CARPENTER, Robert Nelson, Mess Attendant 1c, USN. Wife, Mrs. Dorothy Bright Carpenter, Rt. 1, Box 179, Hickory.
Entry in US Navy Casualty Book

Dorothy was born on June 14th, 1913, in Hickory (southern Norfolk County), the daughter of David and Emma (Harper) Bright. At the time of their marriage, Carpy was stationed aboard the USS NITRO (AE-2) and was already a "Mess Att. 1/c, U.S. Navy". The NITRO, a ship specially built to refrigerate and carry explosives and ammunition, was homeported in Norfolk and averaged three cruises yearly between the east and west coasts by way of the Panama Canal.

During the next two years, Carpy and Dorothy had two daughters, Doris Yvette and Sharon DeAnn and lived in the Hickory area of Chesapeake. But by early 1941, Carpy found himself separated from them, halfway around the world.

A 1941 US Navy Muster Roll notes that Carpy was assigned to the USS ARIZONA (BB-39) on April 28th, 1941. On the morning of December 7th, he was very likely in the middle of serving and overseeing the Sunday morning breakfast service for the sailors and officers of the ship.

William Nicholas Royals was born on New Year's Day (January 1st), 1921 in the Deep Creek section of Norfolk County. His parents were Ira and Mary Ann (Denning) Royals and he was the youngest of four boys, his older brothers being Bernard (b.1914), James (1918) and John (1920). In the 1930 US Census, the family was living at 3 Gilmerton Road (just north of the Military Highway/George Washington Highway interchange). Ira, William's father, passed away in 1934 at the age of 48, leaving Mary Ann to raise the four boys by herself.

Eight months after turning 18, William "enlisted for six years" with the US Navy on September 11, 1939 in Norfolk and received serial number 265-93-20. His first assignment was to "US NTS [Navy Training Station] NOB [Navy Operating Base] Norfolk, Va., for recruit training."

After basic training he was rated as a "Sea2c" (Seaman 2nd Class) and sent to the USS VINCENNES (CA-44) with which he deployed to the Caribbean and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The VINCENNES was a New Orleans-class cruiser and later sunk by the Japanese at the Battle of Savo Island in 1942.

On February 9th, 1940, William was transferred to the USS BROOKS (DD-232), a Clemson-class destroyer which was launched in

ROYALS, William Nicholas, Fireman 1c, USN. Mother, Mrs. Mary Ann Royals, Rt. 3, Box 22, Portsmouth.
Entry in US Navy Casualty Book

1919. During late May or early June of 1940, he was injured or ill because he is listed in the records of the US Naval Hospital in Chelsea, Massachusetts.

In December 1940, William – now an “F3c” (Fireman 3rd Class) – was transferred to USN Receiving Station, PSNY [Puget Sound Naval Yard], Bremerton, Washington for further orders. A Fireman works on the ship’s engines and auxiliary machinery, ensures they run correctly, and performs maintenance. The name originated in the “coal” days when a Fireman was responsible for keeping the fires burning in the ship’s boilers which were used to make steam.

On January 4th, 1941 William was transferred “to USS ARIZONA for duty” in Hawaii and by September 30th he had been promoted to “F1c”. On Sunday morning, December 7th, he was likely relaxing after a Saturday night out on the town.

Commissioned in 1916, the ARIZONA was the second – and last of – the *Pennsylvania* class of "super-dreadnought" battleships. At 7:48 am Hawaiian time, Pearl Harbor was attacked by 353 Imperial Japanese aircraft launched from six aircraft carriers. During the attack, a bomb detonated in a powder magazine of the ARIZONA, and the battleship exploded violently and sank, with the loss of 1,177 officers and crewmen. Unlike many of the other ships sunk or damaged that day, ARIZONA was irreparably damaged by the force of the magazine explosion, though the Navy removed parts of the ship for reuse. The wreck still lies at the bottom of Pearl Harbor and the USS ARIZONA Memorial, dedicated to all those who died during the attack, straddles but does not touch the ship's hull.

StMIC
Robert
Carpenter and
F1c William
Royals still lie
onboard the
ARIZONA,
which was
designated a
national shrine
on 30 May
1962. Their
names are



USS ARIZONA during the attack



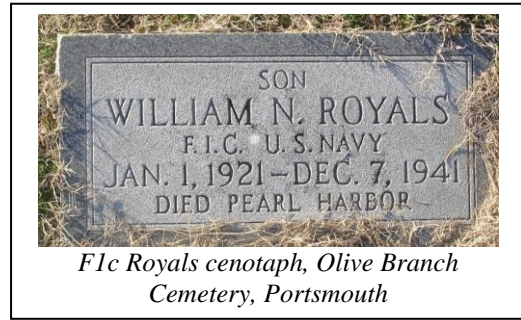
USS ARIZONA Memorial

listed on the marble cenotaph in the shrine room of the ARIZONA Memorial as well as on a memorial at Punchbowl National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific above Honolulu.

On March 15th, 1950, Carpy’s parents applied to the Veterans’ Compensation Bureau for the benefits awarded to his survivor(s). The application was reviewed and his parents were informed that they were “not the statutory beneficiary of the deceased... and as there is an unremarried widow, who takes precedence over you, the Bureau has no alternative other than to reject your claim.”

Carpy’s wife, Dorothy, never remarried and raised the two girls by herself. She died on November 22nd, 1993 at the age of 80 and is buried in Magnolia Cemetery, Norfolk (Block 33, Space 37). Survivors included “daughters, Doris Yvette Woodard and Sharon DeAnn Coley, both of Norfolk; eight grandchildren, Zeontray Woodard, Shenekqa Woodard, Antreon Woodard, Nathaniel Woodard Jr., Naesha Coley, Chiquita Coley, Kendra Coley and Kenyatta Coley, all of Norfolk; a son-in-law, Nathaniel Woodard Sr. of Norfolk; two sisters-in-law, Louise Bright of Baltimore, Md., and Addie M. Bright of Middleton, N.J.; and a great-grandchild, Jaontray Coley of Norfolk.”

William’s mother, Mary Ann, had a cenotaph (memorial stone) emplaced at Olive Branch Cemetery in Portsmouth (Section E) to memorialize her youngest son. She passed away in 1974 and is buried in Olive Branch next to her oldest son, Bernard (also died in 1974), not far from William’s stone.



F1c Royals cenotaph, Olive Branch Cemetery, Portsmouth

As Franklin D. Roosevelt stated on the day after Pearl Harbor, “I believe that I interpret the will of the Congress and of the people when I assert that we will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost, but will make it very certain that this form of treachery shall never again endanger us. Hostilities exist. There is no blinking at the fact that our people, our territory, and our interests are in grave danger. With confidence in our armed forces, with the unbounding determination of our people, we will gain the inevitable triumph -- so help us God.”

FROM THE CHAPLAIN’S FOXHOLE

Freedom of Religion

By Rev. Andrew McMEnamin, Post Chaplain

Our First Amendment Rights were established in part to protect freedom of religion. In his introductory speech to the Bill of Rights on June 8, 1789, James Madison stated that the government endeavored to prevent the establishment of a "national" religion. A majority of legislators agreed that the major goal was to forestall any possibility of the federal government choosing one religion that enjoyed exclusive financial and/or legal support. In examining the documents drafted by the Founding Fathers, it appears evident that religious practices were also to be free of restrictions imposed by the government. Ours was to be a nation of tolerance and of refuge; peoples of all faiths would be welcome here. We know that much of the motivation for this was the fact that a great many of the first settlers left their home countries because of religious persecution sanctioned by their former governments. Their intent was clear; the Framers were looking to create a nation free of any and all restrictions to the religious activities of its citizens.

It is interesting to note that under Article 18 of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights: "Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance." As a sovereign nation, we are not legally bound by Article 18, but one can not escape the fact that the United Nations considers religious freedom to be a basic human right.

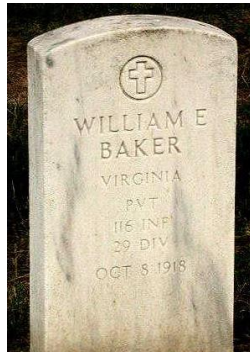
The First Amendment was designed to enforce the "separation of church and state" and not to exclude religion from public life. According to the First Amendment, the government "shall make no law ... prohibiting the free exercise of religion." Yet the Supreme Court has stepped in on numerous occasions and has made "rulings" (read laws) that have essentially prohibited some of our citizens from "freely" practicing their faith, i.e., no prayers in school; and "forcing" groups like the Little Sisters of the Poor to purchase contraception, including abortion-producing drugs, and sterilization coverage for their employees, even though this clearly violates their religious beliefs. At the local government level, New York City adopted a policy that barred churches from renting public schools on weekends for worship services, even though non-religious groups could rent the same schools for other uses; and politicians in Chicago and Boston threatened to prevent Chick-fil-A from opening new franchises in their cities, because of its owners' public stance on the biblical definition of marriage. Educational institutions have been permitted to violate the First Amendment - the University of California Hastings College of Law has denied student organization status to only one group, the Christian Legal Society, because it required its leaders to be Christian and to abstain from sexual activity outside of marriage. It has become quite apparent that hostility towards religious freedom is growing in the United States and that "separation of church and state" has been turned upside-down. The government is becoming more and more involved in situations resulting in the violation of one group's religious beliefs/freedoms because it has chosen to side with another group that believes in something different.

The line of separation between church and state was and is intended to work both ways; religion shall not interfere with government, and government shall not interfere with religion. As veterans we took an oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States." Stay abreast of the facts and hold your federal, state and local representatives accountable to the oaths they took.

NEWLY DISCOVERED WWI GOLD STARS

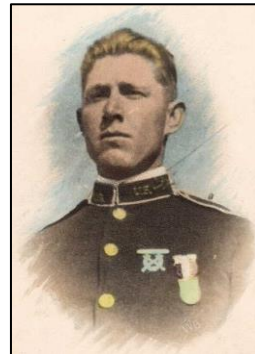
When we first began publishing information related to World War I and the 100th anniversary of its ending, we were only aware of 11 Gold Stars from South Norfolk and Norfolk County who served during the "war to end all wars." Recently, however, we have 'discovered' nine more. In honor to them, here are their stories:

William E. Baker was born about 1895 along the Norfolk County line near the Magnolia area of Suffolk (Nansemond).



He joined the Army as a Private with Machine Gun Company, 116th Infantry Regiment, 29th Infantry Division. The 116th "The Stonewall Brigade" is the oldest continuous service regiment in the Virginia National Guard and seventh oldest in the United States Army. They were the spearhead of the Meuse Argonne Offensive in October 1918 for which they earned the French Croix de Guerre. Baker was killed in action while in support of the 1st and 3rd battalions as they attacked on October 8, 1918. He was initially buried in the American Cemetery of the Meuse, Argonne but in 1922 his body was reinterred and reburied in Arlington National Cemetery, Section 18 Site 4228.

James Richardson Herbert was born on May 13th, 1895 in the Western Branch area of Norfolk County. He joined the

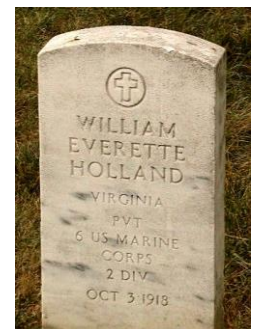


Army between 1913-15 and was sent to the Texas border with Mexico as a Private with C Company, 28th Infantry Regiment, 1st Division. On 29 June 1917, the division became the first American combat unit to set foot on European soil at Saint-Nazaire, France. During the Battle of Catigny, the 28th attacked the Germans and earned the moniker; "The Black Lions of Catigny." According to a newspaper article Herbert was, "Killed In Action.

Mr. and Mrs. J.E.M. Herbert of Bowers Hill, Norfolk County, have been informed by the War Department of the death of their son, Private James R. Herbert, who was killed in action in France July 21, 1918. He is the first Norfolk County man to die in battle." He died in Soissons, Departement de l'Aisne, Picardie, France and was returned home after the war to be buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Portsmouth, VA, plot D-374.

William Everette Holland was born in February 1894 in Chuckatuck (Nanesmond), Virginia along the Norfolk County line. He enlisted in the Marine Corps on May 1st, 1918. After basic training he was assigned to Supply Company, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division as a Supply Clerk on August 3rd, 1918.

The September 1918 Muster Roll notes that on the 26th he was "awd. [awarded] 7 days EPD [extra punishment duty] by C.O. [Commanding Officer] for entering QM. [Quartermaster] warehouse without proper authority and confiscating goverment [sic] property (clothing)." Not long after arriving in France, he was admitted to Camp Hospital #13, Mailly-le-Camp, Aube, France. The muster roll for September 1918 notes that Holland was, "28-30 [Sept] sick in Hosp." The October 1918 muster roll notes that he was still "sick in hosp". Five days after being admitted, on October 3rd, 1918, he died of what was officially listed as "bronchitis" but what was probably the Spanish flu. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery, Section 18, Site 1282.



Clarence Jones was a Corporal with Company E, 116th Infantry, 29th Division when he boarded the SS FINLAND on June 15, 1918 in Hoboken, New Jersey on his way to France. This was the same regiment that William Baker, Arthur Donahoe, and Nicholas Keller served with. On the ship's manifest, Clarence listed his mother, Mrs. Alice M. Jones, of 116 Chestnut St., Suffolk as his next of kin. He was killed on October 25th, 1918 during the attack on Hill 361 during the Meuse-Argonne offensive. The total casualties of the regiment in the offensive were 1,005 wounded, 59 died of wounds, and 198 killed. During the offensive, the regiment captured 2,000 German prisoners, 250 machine guns, and 29 high-caliber guns. Clarence is buried in the Meuse-Argonne Cemetery, Romagne, France, in Plot C, Row 27, Grave 1.



died of "Broncho pneumonia [sic]" on October 30th. His body was eventually returned home (likely around 1922) and buried in the Cape Charles Cemetery in Northampton County.

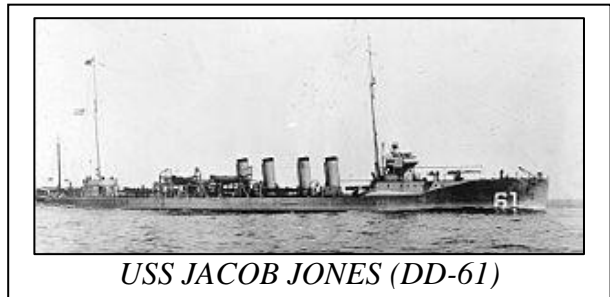
Martin Joseph Nee, Sr. was born on March 7th, 1884 in Boston, Massachusetts to Irish immigrants. He enlisted in the US Navy about 1902 and eventually found himself in Norfolk, Virginia where he met a girl from Pinetown, North Carolina, Katie Mae Gurkin. They were married about 1908-09 and had 3 children by 1916 of whom only one, Marta "Marty" Adelia, lived to adulthood. In 1917, the family was living on Hawthorne Avenue in South Norfolk (now the Norfolk Highlands neighborhood of the Indian River area.) Martin was part of the crew of the USS JACOB JONES (DD-61) out of Boston. He was the ship's Chief Machinist Mate and was assigned to the ship on December 16th, 1915, just two months before its commissioning in February 1916. After the US entered WWI in April 1917, the JONES was sent overseas. On 6 December, JONES was steaming independently from Brest, France, for Queenstown, Ireland, when she was torpedoed and sunk by German submarine U-53 with the loss of 66 men, becoming the first US destroyer sunk by enemy action.



Arthur James King was born in August 1899 in the Tanner's Creek District of what was then Princess Anne County. He enlisted in the Marine Corps on April 28th, 1917 and sent to France in late 1917 or early 1918. On April 15th, 1918, he was a member of 74th Company, 6th Marine Regiment when he was gassed by the Germans in the Toulon Sector of the line near Verdun. He was in a hospital for almost two months before

being returned to active duty on June 10th, when he was transferred to 97th Company (M Company, 3rd Battalion), 6th Marines. On October 6th, he was involved in the battle of Blanc Mont Ridge in Champagne, Marne, France when he was severely wounded by a "GSW" (gunshot wound) to the abdomen and died the following day in Field Hospital #17. King was initially buried in the American Military Cemetery at Sommepey, Marne, France. His body was reinterred and returned to the US for burial in Arlington National Cemetery, Section EUR, Site 2981.

Bernard T. Moore was born on February 11th, 1894 in Cobbs, Virginia which is located in Northampton County. When he enlisted in the Army on May 6th, 1918, he was living in South Norfolk, Virginia. The book, "Soldiers of the Great War, Volume 3", lists him as "MOORE, Bernard T., Chesapeake [sic]". A month after enlisting as a Private, he was in New York boarding the SS BELGIC on July 6th, 1918, bound for France. He listed his brother, John W. Moore, of "Chesapeake, VA" as his next of kin. Bernard was a member of A Company, 54th Infantry, 6th Division and eventually promoted to Private First Class (PFC) in the late summer or early fall of 1918. Between September 3-October 18 he was wounded, probably during combat in the Geradmer sector of Vosges, France, and



USS JACOB JONES (DD-61)

JONES was struck about 3 feet below the water line on the starboard side and sank in eight minutes without issuing a distress call. The German submarine commander, after taking two badly injured crewmen aboard his submarine, radioed the U.S. base at Queenstown with the coordinates for the survivors, most of whom were rescued. Nee was lost at sea with the ship. His name is listed on a memorial at sea at the Brookwood American Military Cemetery in Brookwood, Surrey, England. VFW Post 2017 in Dedham, Mass. is named for the ship. His wife, Katie, continued to live in Norfolk until her passing in 1948. His daughter, Marty, was married twice and lived until 1983. She is buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Norfolk. Martin had a brother or a cousin, John Nee, who also enlisted in the Navy out of Boston and was a Fireman Third Class. He died in the Chelsea, Mass. Naval Hospital on February 25th, 1918 of "measles, lobar pneumonia and pleurisy suppurative."

There is not much information on the following two Gold Stars but hopefully more will be found:

Wilson Wanamaker was an Army Private from "Northwest" who served as a cook and died of "disease" – most likely, influenza – in France two days before the end of the war, on November 9, 1918.

Andrew S. Woolridge was born about 1894 and was a Sergeant in the Quartermaster Corps of the US Army. He was married in June 1918, probably just before his enlistment. Because he had been a "railway brakeman" as a civilian, he was likely working the rails in the Army as well. He never got a chance to leave stateside since he too died of "disease" – his

death certificate listed "lobar" and "broncho" pneumonia - on September 28, 1918 at Camp Lee in Petersburg, Virginia.

#2894.

It's part of Home Depot's National Celebration of Service Campaign to Serve Veterans.

It's the eighth year of the campaign, which goes from September to November.

Since 2011, the foundation stated it has helped repair more than 40,000 homes and facilities for veterans across the country.

Eboni Ricks, an Army veteran, had her home redone Thursday afternoon.

Home Depot employees volunteered their time to install new toilets, fans, vanities, and painted rooms in the home.

New carpets will be installed on Saturday.

"To have Home Depot come through for us is amazing and a blessing," said Ricks, who has six children.

Ricks said she was out with her husband shopping last year when she met a man from the VFW [our own Gary Dunbar!!] asking if they were veterans and needed some work done on their homes.

"He said 'Hey! Email me your information, what you need done on your house, and a year later, we're here,'" she said.

Her family has lived in the home for 11 years.

Ricks said she is thankful for all those who took the time out to come out.

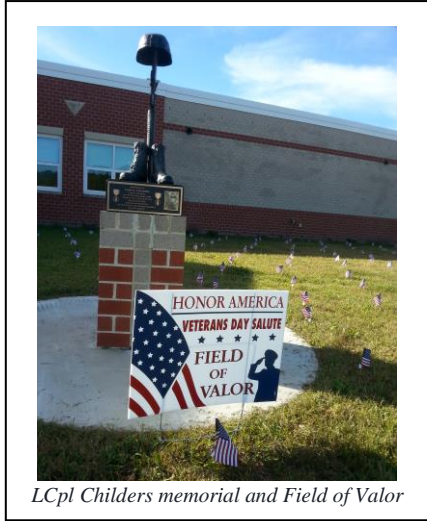
"Very grateful. They've volunteered their time. Thank you. I'm humbly blessed," she said.

A spokesperson with Home Depot said the cost was over \$9,000 and that they are always busy helping veterans in our area.

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FIELD OF VALOR, GRASSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Our 2016 National VFW Third Runner-Up Teacher of the Year, Kimberly Hammers of Grassfield High School, organized the second annual "Field of Valor" in front of the school during the week of Veterans' Day. Her goal was to display a field of flags representing a living or deceased veteran around the LCpl Cody Childers Memorial in front of the school to recognize family, friends, and others who have dedicated their lives to protecting this nation and all of the freedoms afforded to each citizen. Each flag was sponsored and all the proceeds from this project dedicated to our Post.



LCpl Childers memorial and Field of Valor

As Kimberly wrote, "Hampton Roads is an enormously patriotic community and home to innumerable armed forces service members. Saluting those members in recognition of Veterans Day is priceless in terms of the importance of honoring those who serve and have served to protect America over the years. This project was aimed at generating a visual and heart-felt salute to military service members through a display of American flags."

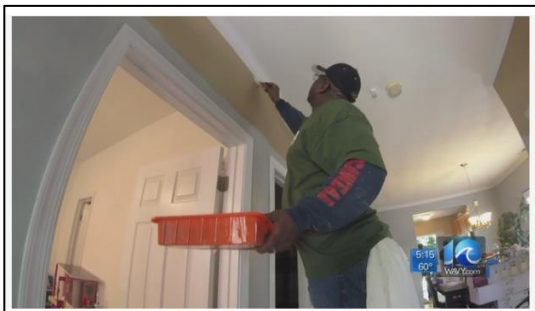
All of the funds will be used to support other veterans in need and their families! Thank you so much, Kimberly!

POST HELPS ARMY VET IN CHESAPEAKE

Local VFW, Home Depot help transform Chesapeake veteran's home

By: Kara Dixon Posted: Oct 18, 2018 10:06 PM EDT www.wavy.com/news/local-news/local-vfw-home-depot-help-transform-chesapeake-veteran-s-home/1534538590

CHESAPEAKE, Va. (WAVY) -- A Chesapeake veteran had her home transformed thanks to Home Depot and VFW Post



OTHER POST NEWS

• The Post was lucky to welcome a visit from the Republican candidate for the 4th Congressional District, Ryan McAdams at our 10 October meeting.

Ryan gave a brief presentation about himself and why he was running for office before entertaining a number of question from the membership.

Although he was not successful in the election, we all appreciate his interest in us and taking the time to visit with us.

• The invitation for Ryan's visit actually took place at the Sheriff's Great American Food Fest. The post had a booth and we were very successful in



McAdams (rt) poses with Carl and Jean Dozier.

recruiting new members and selling pistol raffle tickets. The Post has a close relationship with the Chesapeake Sheriff, Jim O'Sullivan. Every year we are invited to set up a recruiting/information tent at his "Great American Food Fest". Additionally, various VIPs show up to meet-and-great.

- Comrade Nelson Lebron, a black belt and certified self-defense

instructor, gave a free seminar for women on 15 November on self-defense and active shooter survival. It was very well received by everyone who attended.



Nelson with several of his students.

- Comrade Jason Redman organized a skydive for 25 combat wounded warriors, Gold Star family members and Overcome Academy (OA) graduates on 13 October. Jay said, "For our other wounded veterans, these jumps give them the freedom they may not have in their everyday lives. They have no limitations in the air. For our Gold Star family members, they get to experience what many of their family members got to achieve while in the military and it gives them a sense of connection to that loved one."

- Post members Ron Mayfield, Brad Waters and Chris Mulholland attended a Veterans Day ceremony at Cedar Manor Assisive Living Center where the 14 veteran residents were recognized for their service. The



Post Commander Mulholland hands out Buddy Poppies

residents include WWII Post members Valand Copeland and Thomas Land. All of the residents were presented with Buddy Poppies.

- Comrade Becky Waters, a retired Senior Chief Petty

Officer and a graduate of the Culinary Institute of Virginia, recently began volunteering with Mercy Chefs which provides free meals to those in need – from professionally prepared, restaurant quality meals served to victims, volunteers and first responders in national emergencies and natural disasters to nutritionally rich meals served in low income communities and among homeless populations within the United States. On 16 October, Becky Waters assisted Mercy Chefs with feeding the homeless at the New Life Ghent Dream Center. They planned for 55 and ended up doing 75 plates. In addition to food, they arranged for free haircuts for the attendees.



Becky (far right) poses with some of the other Mercy Chefs.

- Post comrade Ted Roberts joined his son for a breakfast for veterans at Hickory Elementary School.

- Comrades Becky and Brad Waters have a personal connection to the devastation caused by Hurricane Michael in the panhandle of Florida. Their brother/brother-



in-law is a firefighter on St. George's Island and was responding to a call on one part of the island, not knowing that his own home was being blown away by the hurricane, losing all of his own possessions. The Post organized a collection of donations which the Waters mailed down one portion and then personally



Just some of what was collected

drove down the rest. In all, they were able to deliver over 700 lbs of clothing and housewares to those in need. Thanks to all!

- Our pistol raffle (M1911) was a tremendous success! We raised \$2506 net! The drawing was held at the Veterans Day ceremony in front of city hall with the winning ticket drawn by the guest speaker, MG John P. McLaren, Jr., USA (Ret). And



MG McLaren drawing the winning ticket – Brad Waters holds the "bucket"



Ross poses with Post Commander Chris Mulholland and his new 1911

the winner was...drum roll please!...Ross Fouts! He was a very happy winner!

- This past summer, the Post and Auxiliary were shocked and saddened when one of the founding members of the Auxiliary, Brenda Ike, committed

suicide. The mother of 4 veterans and the wife and daughter of veterans, her loss was deeply felt by everyone in the Post. Her husband, Robert, organized a team to participate in the "Walk Out of the Darkness" campaign against suicide. Several comrades and auxiliary members joined in raising money, distributing information, and walking in the event.

• The Central Chesapeake Republican Women's Club hosted the annual "Leadership Luncheon" on 20 October. The luncheon honors someone for his/her contributions to the local community. This year's honoree was Wendy Childers, the mother of Gold Star hero Lance Corporal Cody Childers.



From left: Post Trustee Bradley Waters, Deputy Police Chief Louis Tayon (retired), and Post Commander Chris Mulholland

After his death in Afghanistan in 2010, Wendy started a foundation that to keep her son's memory alive by sending care packages in his name to the deployed

Marines that he loved; Marines who were truly his brothers. Over the years she has sent over 10,000 packages to Marines overseas.

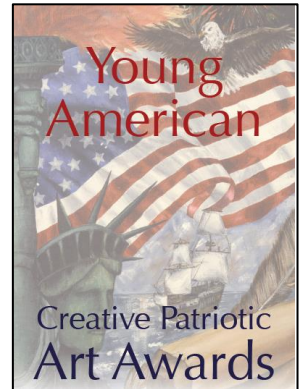
• Our Post "Santa Claus" is at it again! Comrade Keith Lindgren and his wife, Carol, are busy during the months of November and December,



attending functions all over Tidewater as Mr. and Mrs. Claus. They are the most perfect looking couple and - if that wasn't enough - they show up on a red motorcycle with sidecar! Keith is also the director for motorcycle driving classes in Hampton Roads and coordinates all the clinics throughout the area. Merry Christmas and Ho-Ho-Ho!!!

PATRIOTIC ARTIST NOMINATIONS DUE 31 MARCH

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



Entry forms can be downloaded from our website at:

<http://myvfw.org/va/post2894/files/2015/07/Patriotic-Art-VFW-2894-Aux.pdf>

SCOUT OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS DUE 1 MARCH



Now's the time to start thinking about Scout of the Year! Any high schooler who has earned the Boy Scout Eagle Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Crew Silver Award, or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award is eligible for the Scout of the Year Award.

Nomination packages are due to the Post by 1 March 2017. To be eligible, nominees must:

- Be a registered Scout;
- Have demonstrated exemplary citizenship in school, Scouting, and community; and
- Be at least 15 and enrolled in high school.

Entry forms can be downloaded from our website at:

<http://myvfw.org/va/post2894/files/2015/07/ScoutoftheYearBrochureandEntryForm-2894.pdf>

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

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



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

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

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

- Inspect all toys before purchasing. Avoid those that shoot or include parts that fly off. The toy should have no sharp edges or points and should be sturdy enough to withstand impact without breaking, being crushed, or being pulled apart easily.
- When purchasing toys for children with special needs try to: Choose toys that may appeal to different senses such as sound, movement, and texture; consider interactive toys to allow the child to play with others; and think about the size of the toy and the position a child would need to be in to play with it. Consult the "AblePlay" website at www.ableplay.org/ for more information.
- Be diligent about inspecting toys your child has received. Check them for age, skill level, and developmental appropriateness before allowing them to be played with.
- Look for labels that assure you the toys have passed a safety inspection – "ATSM" means the toy has met the American Society for Testing and Materials standards.
- Gifts of sports equipment should always be accompanied by protective gear (give a helmet with the skateboard)
- Keep kids safe from lead in toys by: Educating yourself about lead exposure from toys, symptoms of lead poisoning, and what kinds of toys have been recalled; being aware that old toys may be more likely to contain lead in the paint; having your children wash their hands frequently and calling your doctor if you suspect your child has been exposed to lead. Consult the last two websites listed below for more information.
- Do **NOT** give toys with small parts (including magnets and "button" batteries which can cause serious injury or death if ingested) to young children as they tend to put things in their mouths, increasing the risk of choking. If the piece can fit inside a toilet paper roll, it is not appropriate for kids under age three.
- Do **NOT** give toys with ropes and cords or heating elements.
- Do **NOT** give crayons and markers unless they are labeled "nontoxic".

For more information:

- Call Prevent Blindness America at (800)331-2020 or go to their website immediately below
- www.preventblindness.org/children/safetoy.html
- www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/category/toy.html
- http://kidshealth.org/parent/firstaid_safe/home/safe_toys.html
- www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/faq/toys.html
- www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/002473.htm

+ JANUARY SAFETY CORNER +

Winter Driving

Be Prepared for Winter Driving

Driving in the winter can be harrowing, especially where blizzard and icy conditions crop up seemingly out of nowhere. But new

safety technologies are being added to cars at a record rate. Some can even take control of the vehicle to help us avoid crashes.

One such technology that's particularly useful in winter is traction control. This function helps your vehicle gain traction on snowy, icy or wet surfaces, particularly when accelerating from a stopped or slowed position, or when trying to make it up a slippery hill. Traction control is now standard on most new vehicles.

My Car Does What? is a campaign of the National Safety Council and the University of Iowa to help educate drivers on dozens of new vehicle safety technologies. But remember, you are your car's best safety feature. Take precautions to ensure you arrive safely at your destination.

Check the Weather Before You Go

If the weather is frigid, you're going to want to warm up the car before you drive it. To prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, never leave a vehicle running in an enclosed area, such as a garage. In fact, the Consumer Product Safety Commission warns that a car running in an attached garage is never safe, even with the garage door open.

If the forecast looks iffy, wait out the storm if possible. But if you must travel make sure you share your travel plans and route with someone before you leave.

If you become stranded in an unfamiliar area, do not leave your car. Light flares in front and behind the car and make sure the exhaust pipe is not blocked by snow, mud or any object.

Prepare Your Car for Winter

Besides checking the weather, it's important to have a mechanic check the condition of the following vehicle systems before heading out on the road:

- Ignition
- Brakes
- Wiring
- Hoses and fan belts
- Spark plugs
- Air, fuel and emissions filters, and PCV valve
- Distributor
- Battery
- Tire wear and air pressure
- Antifreeze level and freeze line



Know What to Do to Avoid a Crash

You've done all you can to prepare your car, you've checked the weather, but suddenly you find yourself driving in a slippery mess. If visibility is severely limited due to a whiteout, pull off the road and don't even attempt to drive farther until conditions improve.

But sometimes water or ice on the road can surprise drivers, even with little to no precipitation. Do you know how to prevent a skid? Would you know what to do if you ended up sliding toward another vehicle or fixed object? If you don't want to end up in a crash like the one in Michigan, AAA offers some winter driving tips.

- Never mix radial tires with other types of tires
- If possible, avoid using your parking brake in cold, rainy and snowy weather
- Do not use cruise control in wintery conditions
- Look and steer in the direction you want to go
- Accelerate and decelerate slowly
- Increase following distance to 8 to 10 seconds
- Know whether you have antilock brakes, which will "pump" the brakes for you in a skid

- If possible, don't stop when going uphill
- Keep your gas tank at least half-full
- If you do get stranded, don't try to push your vehicle out of snow
- Signal distress with a brightly colored cloth tied to the antenna or in a rolled up window

Don't Leave Home Without These

In an emergency situation, in addition to a full tank of gas and fresh antifreeze, National Safety Council recommends having these with you at all times:

- Properly inflated spare tire, wheel wrench and tripod jack
- Shovel
- Jumper cables
- Tow and tire chains
- Bag of salt or cat litter for better tire traction or to melt snow
- Tool kit
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Reflective triangles or flares
- Compass
- First aid kit
- Windshield cleaner
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Scissors and string or cord
- Nonperishable, high-energy foods like unsalted, canned nuts, dried fruits and hard candy
- Blankets, mittens, socks and hats

Winter road trips – even short ones – are a great way to celebrate with family and friends. Being prepared can ensure a safe and happy time is had by all.

www.nsc.org/home-safety/tools-resources/seasonal-safety/winter/driving

POST COMMITTEES – YOU CAN HELP!

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

- **Bataan Death March Committee:** Ann Jones, Grace Schweers, Becky Waters, Brad Waters, Anne Thompson and Bob Gregory.
- **Budget Committee:** José Vazquez, Mark Rios, Mike Kust, and Carl Dozier.
- **Awards Committee:** Brad Waters, Mark Rios, Tony Gravina, Joe Hammers, and Elizabeth Van Velzen.
- **Membership Committee:** José Vazquez, John Guill, Mark Rios, and Gary Dunbar
- **Building Committee:** Carl Dozier, José Vazquez, Becky Waters and Chris Cameron.
- **Visiting Committee:** Chaplain Andy McMenamin
- **Health Committee:** Surgeon Bob Gregory
- **Scholarship Committee:** Carl Dozier, Elizabeth Van Velzen, Andy McMenamin, and Kimball Thompson.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP – AND CONSIDER A LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Every year, we have members who forget to renew their annual memberships. They then become ineligible to hold

office in the Post and have to scramble to renew their status.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1-800-313-4200, help@vfwnationalhome.org

QUARTERMASTER DESK

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

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



LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

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

<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.

DECEMBER MILITARY HISTORY

- 1 1909** President Taft severs official relations with Nicaragua's government and declares support for revolutionaries.
- 1918** American army of occupation enters Germany.
- 1955** Rosa Parks refuses to sit in back of Montgomery, AL, bus, defying South's segregationist laws.
- 1969** America's first draft lottery since 1942.
- 2 1823** President Monroe proclaims Monroe Doctrine, 'American continents, by free and independent condition... are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by European powers.'
- 1921** First successful helium dirigible, C-7, makes test flight in Portsmouth, Va.
- 1927** New Ford Model A introduced to American public.
- 1942** Allies repel strong Axis attack in Tunisia, North Africa.
- 1944** General Patton's troops enter Saar Valley and break through Siegfried line.
- 3 1918** Allied Conference ends in London deciding that Germany must pay for war.
- 1989** Presidents Bush and Gorbachev announce official end to Cold War at meeting in Malta.
- 4 1862** Winchester, VA, falls into Union hands, resulting in capture of 145 Southern soldiers.
- 1942** US planes make first raids on Naples, Italy.
- 1991** Last American hostages held in Lebanon released.
- 5 1933** 21st Amendment ends Prohibition in US, begun 13 years earlier.
- 1955** Bus boycott begins under Rev. ML King, Jr., in Montgomery.
- 1978** Soviet Union signs 20-year friendship pact with Afghanistan.
- 6 1492** Columbus lands on Santo Domingo in search of gold.
- 1934** American Ambassador Davis says Japan is grave security threat in Pacific.
- 1941** President FDR issues personal appeal to Emperor Hirohito to use influence to avoid war.
- 7 1917** US declares war on Austria-Hungary.
- 1941** Japanese planes raid Pearl Harbor in surprise attack.
- 1942** USN launches USS *New Jersey*, largest battleship ever built.
- 8 1943** US carrier-based planes sink 2 cruisers and down 72 planes in Marshall Islands.
- 1944** US conducts longest, most effective air raid on Iwo Jima.
- 9 1941** FDR tells Americans to plan for a long war.
- 1992** US Marines land in Somalia to ensure food and medicine reach deprived areas.
- 10 1898** US and Spain sign Treaty of Paris, ceding Spanish possessions, including Philippines, to US.
- 1918** US troops called to guard Berlin as coup is feared.
- 1941** Japanese troops invade Philippine island of Luzon.
- 1949** 150,000 French troops mass at border in Vietnam to prevent Chinese invasion.
- 11 1941** US declares war on Italy and Germany.
- 1945** Boeing B-29 Superfortress shatters records by crossing US in 5 hours and 27 min.
- 12 1753** George Washington, adjutant of Virginia, delivers ultimatum to French forces at Fort Le Boeuf, reiterating Britain's claim to Ohio River valley.
- 1863** Orders given in Richmond, Virginia, that no more supplies from Union be received by Federal prisoners.
- 1967** US ends airlift of 6,500 men to Vietnam.
- 13 1862** Battle of Fredericksburg ends with bloody slaughter of Union troops at Marye's Heights.
- 14 1799** George Washington dies on Mount Vernon estate.
- 1960** US Boeing B-52 bomber sets 10,000-mile non-stop record without refueling.
- 15 1890** US soldiers attempt to arrest Sitting Bull in Standing Rock, SD; shooting breaks out and Lt. Bullhead shoots great Sioux leader.
- 1924** Soviet Union warns US against repeated entry of ships into Soviet territorial waters.
- 1938** Washington sends fourth note to Berlin demanding amnesty for Jews.
- 1965** US drops 12 tons of bombs on industrial center near Haiphong Harbor, North Vietnam.
- 16 1773** Young Americans, disguised as Indians, throw chests of tea in Boston Harbor.
- 1944** Germany opens Battle of Bulge in Ardennes Forest in Belgium.
- 1950** President Truman declares National Emergency as Chinese communists invade deeper into S.Korea.
- 1998** US launches missile attack on Iraq for failing to comply with UN weapons inspectors.
- 17 1903** Wright brothers' 1st successful flight near Kitty Hawk, NC.
- 1943** US forces invade Japanese-held New Britain Island in New Guinea.
- 1944** US approves end to internment of Japanese Americans.
- 18 1865** Slavery abolished in US. 13th Amendment formally adopted into Constitution.
- 1941** Defended by 610, American-held island of Guam falls to more than 5,000 Japanese invaders in 3-hour battle.
- 1972** President Nixon declares bombing of North Vietnam will continue until accord reached.
- 19 1959** Last civil war veteran, Walter Williams, dies at 117 in Houston.
- 20 1941** Flying Tigers, American pilots in China, enter combat against Japanese over Kunming.
- 1989** US troops invade Panama to oust General Noriega.
- 21 1620** Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock.
- 1862** Congress authorizes Medal of Honor for Navy personnel.
- 1944** German troops surround 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne in Belgium.
- 1945** General Patton dies at age 60 after injured in car accident.
- 22 1775** Esek Hopkins takes command of Continental Navy — total of 7 ships.
- 1944** During Battle of Bulge, General McAuliffe responds to German surrender request with: "Nuts!"
- 23 1941** US defenders on Wake Island capitulate to 2nd Japanese assault.
- 1944** Gen. Eisenhower confirms death sentence of PVT Slovik, only American shot for desertion since Civil War.
- 1948** Japan's Prime Minister Tojo and 6 others hanged for war crimes.
- 1974** B-1 bomber makes first successful test flight.
- 24 1814** Treaty between US and Britain, ending War of 1812, signed. News does not reach US until 2 weeks later (after Battle of New Orleans).
- 1943** General Eisenhower appointed Allied Supreme Commander.
- 26 1776** After crossing Delaware River night before, Washington leads attack on Hessian mercenaries at Trenton, takes 900 men prisoner.
- 27 1941** Japanese bombers attack Manila, despite claim as open city.
- 1944** General Patton's Third Army relieves Bastogne in Belgium.
- 1979** President Amin of Afghanistan murdered in coup backed by Soviet Union, beginning 10 year war.
- 28 1946** French declare martial law in Vietnam as war appears

inevitable.

- 29 1778** British, attempting new strategy to defeat colonials, capture Savannah.
- 1890** Last major conflict of Indian wars as 7th Cavalry tries to disarm Chief Big Foot and followers at Wounded Knee SD.
- 1965** Christmas truce observed in Vietnam, while President Johnson tries to get North Vietnamese to bargaining table.
- 30 1803** US takes possession of Louisiana area from France.
- 1972** President Nixon halts air offensive and agrees to resume peace negotiations with Hanoi representative.
- 2006** Saddam Hussein hanged for crimes committed against own people during rule.
- 31 1775** George Washington orders recruiting officers to accept free blacks into army.
- 1942** After 5 months of battle, Emperor Hirohito allows Japanese commanders at Guadalcanal to retreat.

JANUARY MILITARY HISTORY

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

weapons.

- 1991 Congress authorizes Pres G.H.W. Bush to undertake offensive operations against Iraq
- 12** 1946 82nd Airborne Division marches up Fifth Avenue to tumultuous greeting
- 13** 1968 Beginning of Tet Offensive in Vietnam
- 14** 1784 Congress ratifies Treaty of Paris, ending Revolutionary War
- 1867 Alfred Nobel makes first public demonstration of dynamite
- 1943 Casablanca Conference: FDR, Churchill, & Stalin
- 1969 Fire aboard USS 'Enterprise' (CVN-65), off Vietnam, 28 die, 344 injured
- 15** 1865 Union soldiers, sailors, & Marines take Ft Fisher, NC
- 1973 Pres Nixon suspends all US offensive action over North Vietnam
- 16** 1776 Continental Congress approves enlistment of free blacks
- 1944 Gen Eisenhower takes command of Operation Overlord
- 1957 Three B-52s leave California on first non-stop world flight
- 1970 Col Kadhafi becomes premier of Libya
- 17** 1781 Battle of Cowpens: Dan Morgan annihilates Tarleton's Anglo-Tory force
- 1955 USS 'Nautilus' (SSN-571) gets underway on nuclear power
- 1966 B-52 carrying four hydrogen bombs crashes off Spanish coast
- 1991 Operation Desert Storm: Coalition airstrikes against Iraq
- 18** 1911 First airplane lands on ship: Eugene Ely in Curtiss Flyer on USS 'Pennsylvania' (ACR-4)
- 19** 1920 Senate rejects American membership in League of Nations
- 20** 1778 1st American court martial opens, Cambridge, MA
- 1783 Hostilities cease in Revolutionary War
- 1887 Senate approves lease of Pearl Harbor for a base
- 1914 USN opens school for aviators at Pensacola, Fla.
- 1944 Rapido River: US 36th Div begins two-day attempt to force German defenses
- 1981 Illegally held by Iranian government for 444 days, 52 Americans are finally released
- 21** 1903 "Dick Act" creates modern National Guard
- 1968 Battle of Khe Sanh begins -- ends Apr 8
- 22** 1944 Operation Shingle: Allies land at Anzio
- 23** 1968 North Koreans capture USS 'Pueblo' & 83 crew in East Sea/Sea of Japan
- 24** 1847 Col. Price defeats 1,500 Indians & Mexicans to secure New Mexico for US
- 25** 1945 Audie Murphy earns Medal of Honor
- 1969 US-North Vietnamese peace talks begin in Paris
- 26** 1862 Lincoln issues General War Order #1, calling for Union offensive
- 1911 Glenn Curtiss tests first successful sea plane, San Diego
- 1913 John Paul Jones laid to rest in Chapel of US Naval Academy
- 1942 Marines land in Northern Ireland - 1st US troops to reach Europe
- 1948 Executive Order 9981: Truman orders Segregation in Armed Forces ended
- 27** 1915 US Marines begin occupation of Haiti
- 1943 First USAAF raid on Germany, at Wilhelmshafen
- 1973 US and North Vietnam sign cease-fire
- 1977 Pres Carter pardons most Vietnam War draft evaders
- 28** 1915 US Coast Guard created from Life Saving and Revenue Cutter Services
- 1942 Ens. Donald Mason radios, "Sighted sub, sank same."
- 29** 1944 USS 'Missouri' (BB-63) launched in Brooklyn
- 30** 1781 Articles of Confederation, establishing perpetual union of "United States of America"

- 1945 Philippines - Cabanatuan: 126 US & Filipino raiders liberate 500 prisoners from a Japanese P/W camp
- 31** 1944 U.S. troops land on Kwajelein and nearby islands in the Marshalls
- 1945 11th Airborne Div lands - by sea - at south entrance to Manila Bay.
- 1961 Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr., becomes first black American to command warship, 'Falgout' (DE-324)
- 1981 Last enlisted USN aviator retires

FROM THE EDITOR

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

505 Piping Rock Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23322
 757-482-4981 or cdrrpost2894@va.vfwwebmail.com

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

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

Semper fidelis, - Chris Mulholland

POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u>DECEMBER '18</u>	
1	Chesapeake Christmas Parade
2	Start of Hanukkah
7	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
8	Snowball Express departs Norfolk
8	Opening of GB History Foundation
8-9	Battle of Great Bridge Reenactment
12	Post Meeting/ Christmas Party, 1900
15	Wreaths Across America, Suffolk, 0930
16	Auxiliary Christmas Party, 1400-?
21	Winter Begins
24/25	Christmas Eve/Christmas
31	New Year's Eve

<u>JANUARY '19</u>	
1	New Year's Day
9	Sinsil 8 Anniversary (2008)
9	Post Meeting, 1900 (Quarterly Audit)
11-13	VFW Dept of VA Winter Council, Portsmouth
21	Martin Luther King Day

JOIN US!

VFW Post 2894 Christmas Party

Wednesday, 12 December, at 1900 (7 pm)
Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 9
110 Kempsville Road, Chesapeake

Bring dish to share – Families invited!

RSVP by 9 Dec: cdrpost2894@vfwva.org

Scout of the Year Program



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

girl scouts



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

WHAT IS THE SCOUT OF THE YEAR PROGRAM?

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

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

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for the award, the candidate must:

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

Prior National Scout of the Year winners are ineligible. Applicants still in high school who reach their 18th birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified. A Scout may enter through only *one* VFW Post. A local Post can be identified by zip code at www.vfw.org/find-a-post.

WHAT ARE THE DEADLINES?

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

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

WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED?

The following documentation should be submitted:

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

- **Scouting Record** — maximum of three pages, one side only, listing of all Scouting participation beginning with Cub Scouts or Brownies - years of participation, unit numbers and sponsors. Also include when Eagle, Gold, Summit or Quartermaster Award was received and Palms. Identify leadership positions held at all levels, participation in Scouting activities (jamborees, Order of the Arrow conferences, etc.) and the candidate's Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster Project.
- **Community Service Record** — a single page, one sided resume listing participation in community and religious service organizations (excluding Scouting and school), noting leadership positions held and any recognition received.

Official Entry Form

VFW Scout of the Year Program

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

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

()

Home Phone

Email

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

Scout Troop Number

SCOUT/VENTURE CERTIFICATION

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

Scout/Venture Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

UNIT LEADER'S CERTIFICATION

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

Unit Leader's Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

PARENT'S CONSENT

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

Father, Mother or Guardian Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

- **Letters of Recommendation** — Submit three letters, no more than two pages in length from:
 - A scout leader.
 - A community member.
 - A teacher/faculty member (if homeschooled, a parent letter is allowed).
- In addition, you may include one or two additional letters, no more than two pages in length from local community members who have special knowledge of the candidate's abilities/accomplishments.
- **Completed Entry Form** — submitted to a local VFW Post. Local Posts can be identified by zip code at www.vfw.org/find-a-post.

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

OR HERE!!!



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

Place
Stamp
Here



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED