

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



Email: cdpost2894@vfwva.org

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Visit us on Facebook

POST OFFICERS

Commander..... Chris Mulholland
Sr. Vice Commander..... José Vazquez
Jr. Vice Commander..... Mark Rios
Adjutant..... Matt Hostetler
Quartermaster..... Mike Kust
Chaplain..... Andrew McMenamin
Surgeon..... Bob Gregory
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 Hostetler
Conductress..... Anne Thompson
Guard..... Jean Dozier
Patriotic Instructor..... Kevin Mulholland

NATIONAL

www.vfw.org

STATE

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OUR POST WINS HONORS AGAIN!!!

Through everyone's efforts the Post has once again been named an ALL-STATE POST and a NATIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE POST!!!

In the VFW, only one post in each state is recognized as a National Community Service Post and we have been honored with this for four straight years! And we were honored as an All-State Post for the 4th time in a row! We are one of the smaller posts in Virginia – we don't even have a post home – but we make an outsized difference in the Old Dominion!

Our newsletter also won national recognition this year, finishing 3rd for all Post/District Newsletters worldwide!

Thanks to all of you who do the little things every day in our community! Thank you, Thank You, THANK YOU!!!!
And congratulations to you all!!!



8th Annual Bataan Death March Memorial Walk Was a GREAT Success!

by Chris Mulholland

Post 2894 held our biggest event of the year, the Bataan Death March Memorial Walk, on 27 April. This annual event honors and remembers the thousands of American and Filipino service members who died and suffered during the atrocity known as the Bataan Death March.

We had over 350 participants and 75 volunteers – which is pretty incredible when you consider that we were competing with “Something in the Water”, the Virginia Tattoo, the Rubber Duck Race, and many more activities in the Tidewater area!!! The

walkers participated in one of three events (1, 5, or 16.6 miles).

Japan attacked the Philippines by air on the same day that they attacked Pearl Harbor. They landed on the northern end of the island of Luzon and pushed most of the US Army forces onto the Bataan Peninsula in late December. Four months later, began their final assault. On April 9th, 1942, Major General King surrendered the starving and unsupported US and Filipino troops in order to protect them from further suffering. On April 9th, 1942, after the surrender, between

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

As of this writing, our Post membership is at almost 126%! We are second for all posts in Virginia and within the top 48 worldwide! Thanks to everyone! And welcome aboard to our new comrades!

Here's what we've done this past year: won **ALL-STATE POST** (for the fourth straight year!), **NATIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE POST** (for the 4th straight year!), a **NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVANT AWARD** (the 4th in the last 5 years!), **NATIONAL 3rd PLACE AWARD FOR NEWSLETTERS**, and we're still waiting to see what comes at the Department Convention in June! *We are well on the way to duplicating our success from the last three years as an All-American Post!* Which reminds me, this will likely be the last convention in the Tidewater area for a while since it has been held here for the past 4 straight years. So I highly recommend to take the opportunity to attend.

Our Post's largest event of the year, the **Bataan Death March Memorial Walk** was an incredible success! I want to personally thank all the members of the committee who put it together. As I told everyone, 'when you're not the sharpest knife in the drawer, you surround yourself with smart people and let them go!' That's me! Thanks to Grace Schweers, Ann Jones, José Vazquez, Brad and Becky Waters, Bob Gregory, John Guill and Anne Thompson! And a very special thanks to my wife, Barbara, who put up with my distractions during all this planning and who hosted several of our meetings!

Bob Gregory and I had the distinct pleasure of presenting VFW medals at the city-wide JROTC awards ceremony on May 15th. What a great group of youngsters! All of them are go-getters with plans to go to college or join the military.

I want to thank the officers of this past year and welcome the new ones for the coming year. Our installation ceremony will be conducted at our next post meeting on June 12th. Come and wish the "new crew" good luck!

"Summer is coming" (Wait! What?! [For you GOT'ers!]) All that means is that the planning for our upcoming fraternal year is in full swing! The new year starts on July



1st, quickly followed by the Fourth of July parade and the national convention in Orlando, and – a month later – our night with the Tidewater Tides.

If you know of anyone who is eligible for the VFW and would like to give back to the community while helping veterans, please encourage them to consider joining our Post.

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

Chris Mulholland, Commander

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from the Auxiliary. Please welcome our newest member, Lynn Merryman.

At the meeting in May we installed the Officers for 2019-2020. President – Sandy Dunbar, Sr. Vice – Christina Zinn, Jr. Vice – Bea Oakley, Secretary – Barbara Mulholland, Treasurer – Donna Kust, Chaplain – Dianne Hostetlar, Conductress – Anne Thompson, Guard – Jean Dozier, Patriotic Instructor – Kevin Mulholland and Jacki Conway – 3 year Trustee.

I want to Thank Everyone for a great year. We turned in over 105 reports. I know the coming year will be just as busy and rewarding.

The Conference will be June 13-15 in Portsmouth. Remember our Veterans as we enjoy Memorial Day Weekend. Have a great Summer.

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

Sandy Dunbar, President



2019 POST AWARDS NIGHT – ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS!

The Post hosted our Annual Awards Ceremony on 8 May. In attendance were a number of special guests including Councilmembers Debbie Ritter, Matt Hamel and Susan Vitale; Police Chief Kelvin Wright, Fire Chief Edmund Elliott, Clerk of the Court Alan Krasnoff, Major Glen Strathman of the Sheriff's Office, VFW District 2 Commander Ronnie Steele, VFW District 2 Auxiliary President Theresa Evans, Lieutenant Ted Tynes and 1st Sgt Phillip Edmonds of the Virginia State Police, and School Superintendent Dr. Jared Cotton. We had so many friends and guests in attendance that there was "standing room only!"

The first award of the evening was the Patriot's Pen winner. Each year more than 130,000 students in grades 6 through 8 enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen youth essay contest. The contest encourages young people to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern society, by drafting a 300 to 400-word essay, expressing their views on different themes, this year's being, "Why I Honor the American Flag." This year we had the most nominations ever, with nine young students vying for the prize! The winner of Post 2894's Patriots' Pen for 2018-19 was Jacob Zinn, a 7th grader at Great Bridge Middle School. In his essay, Jacob wrote, "My dad serves in the Navy and through his service, I have learned what the American Flag has meant for our country. It has stood tall through treacherous battles, flown high above the rubble of destroyed building, and fought for peace in foreign nations. Our flag stands for the

with eight, the most ever for our post! The winner of this year's Voice of Democracy contest for Post 2894 was Maysie Casper, a senior at Grassfield High School. Here is what she expressed in her essay, "Not participating at the polls is disrespectful of the efforts of those who fought as early Americans and those who continue to fight for our rights today. By continuing to under-utilize this privilege, this freedom may be stripped from them forever. Performing such a simple task as voting is a sign of a person's allegiance to this country and the respect they have for the tremendous efforts exerted by America's founders and the defenders of current times as well." With dedication like this, Maysie was enthusiastically awarded our Post's Voice of Democracy award.

Each year, more than 3,500 high school students from across the country participate in the VFW Auxiliary's Young



Mickey Casady (sitting center) poses with all the Post awardees. Next to Mickey (from left): Candace Bryner, Jacob Zinn, and Gabi Glass. Standing (from left): Brendan Gilman and Uno, Shawn Ford, Terry Weidman, Bill Appleby, Benjamin Ventura, Maysie Casper, Richard Gray, Shirley Casady, Jeremy Morris, Kristin Iaquinto, Trea King, Brian Cuffie, and Mike Perez.

courage of our fallen veterans who bravely fought for our freedom...Our nation has a great flag, whether flying in battle, waving in a classroom, or being retired. The American Flag deserves to be honored." Jacob was also selected as the winner of the District contest.

The Voice of Democracy Award is VFW's premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 40,000 high school students compete for more than 2.2 million dollars in scholarships and incentives. These scholarships range up to a national first place prize of \$30,000. The VFW established the program in 1947 to provide high school students the opportunity to express themselves in regards to democratic ideas and principles. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme was: "Why My Vote Matters." Just like the Patriot's Pen, this year we had a record number of nominations

American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. The contest began in 1979 to recognize up-and-coming artists and encourage patriotism in youth. High school students can submit a two or three dimensional art for the chance to win one of the national awards which total almost \$30,000. This is only the second year that we have had a nomination, and we had two! Both were beautiful and deserved further recognition. We chose Gabi Glass' piece as our entry and gave the other entry to another VFW Auxiliary so they could submit it to District as well. Gabi's incredibly made a detailed combat boot out of fired-clay which included transfer photos from each of the armed services. She modeled it after her father's combat boot but portrayed it in monochromatic blue to symbolize the trust we have in our commander, the loyalty every citizen has to our wonderful country, and the wisdom our veterans pass down to us. Gabi says she made this boot to honor our veterans and all

those who chose to devote their lives to protect our country. Congratulations on a beautiful and heart-felt piece of art.

Some of the VFW's earliest ties to the community involve youth groups and perhaps none are stronger or more lasting than the relationship between the VFW and America's scouting organizations. In fact, VFW's partnership with the Scouts of America dates back to 1915 when VFW Post 2100 helped to establish Boy Scout Troop 1 in Everett, Washington. Through the VFW's Scout of the Year program, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Sea Scouts, and Venture Crew Scouts who display standout citizenship, patriotism and love of country have the opportunity to be rewarded with college scholarships of up to 5,000 dollars.

The winner of the Post's Scout of the Year award was Lea Bonner, a member of Girl Scout Troop 259 and a senior at Grassfield High School. Lea was unable to make the ceremony but she has already won just about every award one can think of in the Girl Scouts. She was recognized with one of scouting's highest awards as one of ten National Young Women of Distinction in 2017 and by the Kappa Delta Foundation and Susan Bulkeley Institute for the Development of Women Leaders. She is a National Ambassador for the



We had a packed house!

Girl Scouts and was on the cover of the Colonial Coast Magazine which also featured her Gold Award Project. Her project was called "Save the Shells" and involved starting an oyster shell recycling program in Chesapeake to help improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay. Over the past 2 years, she has spoken to thousands of girls at numerous venues. She says, "A good leader works side by side with her team; never asking of them that which she is not willing to do herself." Congratulations, Lea, and good luck in your future!

Mrs. Kristin Iaquinto of Great Bridge Middle School was our Teacher of the Year. This program recognizes teachers who promote a sense of national pride in their students. Every year, 7500 VFW posts around the country nominate teachers for awards at the elementary, middle and high school levels. In previous years, our post winners have finished first in the nation and third runner-up – a truly incredible achievement! *There is no more important task than the development of an informed, effective, and responsible citizenry*; and that's what our Post Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Iaquinto, does – teaching them what it means to be a free American citizen with all the rights and responsibilities that that entails. As Alexis de Toqueville pointed out, each new generation is a new people that must acquire the knowledge, learn the skills, and develop the traits of private and public character that undergird a constitutional democracy. Mrs. Iaquinto retired from the Navy after a successful 20 year career. Her expertise was in the highly competitive – and lucrative – field of computers and telecommunications. She could have written her ticket to a high-paying job anywhere in the US, but she was concerned about the future of our country and the education of our next

generation. So she entered the "Troops to Teachers" program at ODU and after graduation, began teaching students at Oscar Smith Middle School – one of the most challenging schools in Chesapeake. She was selected by her peers at Oscar Smith as teacher of the year. She recently moved to Great Bridge Middle to help with their program for challenged students – children who do not have a loving and supportive home life and tend to act out in school. Her experience as a military officer, her patience, and her ability to deal with disciplinary issues have been vital to her success with these children. She is dedicated to her students, encouraging them to pay attention to local and national elections and issues. One of her fellow teachers, a retired Marine Gunnery Sergeant with a PhD, wrote, "Her students love and respect her."

Her leadership outside the classroom is also beyond compare and was recognized with her appointment as the team leader for a group of teachers. She is a strong supporter of school activities and volunteers for numerous extracurricular events. For her passion in teaching, her interest in our future generations, and her empathy to our veterans, Kristin Iaquinto was awarded our Post Teacher of the Year award. She was also selected as

District 2's Teacher of the Year!

Firefighter/Paramedic Richard Gray was our Emergency Medical Technician of the Year. He began his career as a volunteer in Virginia Beach and certified as an EMT in 2010 and a Paramedic in 2012, the same year that he joined the Chesapeake Fire Department. He was recently selected to join the Chesapeake Police Department SWAT team as their medic. Rich is a mentor in EMS field training and routinely teaches EMS skills at training academies. He also teaches tactical combat care and pre-deployment medicine on the side. For his outstanding performance and commitment to the city of Chesapeake, Firefighter Paramedic Richard Gray was our Post EMT of the Year!

Our next award went to the Firefighter of the Year, Firefighter/EMT Jeremy Morris. Firefighter/EMT Morris has been a member of the Chesapeake Fire Department since October of 2001. He served four years in the Navy as a shipboard firefighter and then another 3 years with the Air Force Reserves. He was a volunteer firefighter in Hampton and Carrollton prior to joining the Chesapeake Fire Department. He enjoys being actively involved with probationary firefighters and serves as an excellent mentor. He has been stationed in every battalion in the city which provides him with a wealth of knowledge and experience to draw from. He is also a skilled carpenter and cabinet maker and has used his skills to make improvements to Station 11 which have saved the city tens of thousands of dollars. He has been described as "reliable, knowledgeable, and a confident leader." For his intense passion for the fire service and the department, Firefighter Morris was recognized as our Post Firefighter of the Year.

For the first time ever, we had a State Trooper of the Year Award. Special Agent Shawn Ford was born in Norfolk and grew up in the South Norfolk section of Chesapeake. He joined the State Police in 2012 and has been working in the Hampton Roads area ever since, first as a trooper on the road and more recently as a special agent working insurance fraud. Last July, he was driving to his mother's home in South Norfolk when he saw smoke rising up in the air. He hoped it was just someone using a burn barrel in a backyard but as he turned the corner he saw a house on fire. A couple of neighbors had already place a ladder against the house in an effort to get the five children out of the second floor. Shawn shouted up to the neighbor at the top to toss the kids down – aged 10, 7, 4, 3, and a 6-month old. In just a few minutes they were able to get the four oldest children out. The youngest was on the first floor and a firefighter entered the home and got him out. Shawn then grabbed stuffed animals from his mother's home and gave them to the children to help calm them down. For running towards the fire – instead of away from it – and playing an instrumental role in the rescue of four young lives, Shawn was our State Trooper of the Year

Our Deputy Sheriff of the Year was Deputy Brian Cuffie of the Chesapeake Sheriff's Department. Deputy Cuffie has been with the department for 14 years and holds a variety of certifications. He was recently selected by his peers as Deputy of the Year for the Sheriff's Department for stopping an assault on an elderly driver while he was off-duty. Deputy Cuffie has a passion for serving his country and his community. He is an honorable veteran having served two years with the Army and another four with the Navy. He is an active member of the twelve-time Champion Special Olympics Plane pull team. He earned an Associate's Degree from TCC; a bachelors and a master's degree from Liberty University, and is currently enrolled in a doctorate program – he will soon be "Doctor Cuffie"! In addition to all that and his work with the department, he is also an adjunct professor at Vincennes University!

Our Post Police Officer of the Year was awarded to Officer Brendan Gilman and his four-legged partner, Uno. Uno is a Belgian Malinois who came here from the Czech Republic. K9 Officer Gilman started with the Chesapeake Police Department in 2004 and joined the SWAT team in 2010. In 2011, he was assigned to the K9 unit which had been a goal of his since joining the force. In July 2011, he was partnered with then-19-month old Uno and they have been patrolling the streets of the city ever since. They have tracked down pizza delivery robbers, narcotic dealers, serial bank robbers, and violent domestic assault suspects. Officer Gilman received a life-saving award for rendering first aid and saving the life of a person who had attempted suicide. He and Uno have been honored with many team awards and have worked with several other police departments and federal agencies to reduce crime in and around Chesapeake. For this and much more, we honored Brendan Gilman as our Police Officer of the Year.

The next award was a very special one. We nominated last year's Post Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, Senior Police Officer Norwood "Trea" King, for a National VFW award – and he won! During the last four years, our post has won three national awards for Chesapeake Public Servants: two police officers and one EMT. This year makes our fourth in five years! K9 Officer Norwood King has been with the

Chesapeake Police Department since 1999 and his latest partner is "Rosco". Those who were at the ceremony last year heard all about the specific accomplishments and achievements of this "dynamic duo". His citation reads: "In recognition of his dedication and selfless service to the Chesapeake Police Department. During Norwood King's outstanding career, he has maintained a record of highly professional and exemplary service to the community and the nation. His extraordinary commitment clearly illustrates the proud core values and traditions of the law enforcement profession, further highlighted by the degree of admiration and respect of both his peers and the local public he serves. Officer King is truly an



Our Post Teacher of the Year was also the District 2 TOTY. From left, Dist 2 Cdr Ronnie Steele, Dr. Jared Cotton, Dist 2 Aux President Theresa Evans, Kristin Iaquinto, and her husband Charlie.

exceptional example of all who serve the community and this honor reflects the proud ideals and high standards of the VFW." Signed, BJ Lawrence, Commander-in-Chief.

The Post then recognized two extraordinary young leaders of tomorrow. The Civil Air Patrol is a congressionally chartered, federally supported, civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force. It performs three congressionally assigned key missions: emergency services, which includes search and rescue and disaster relief operations; aerospace education for youth and the general public; and cadet programs for teenage youth. Membership in the organization consists of cadets ranging from 12 to 21 years of age, and senior members 18 years and older. Civil Air Patrol is a major operator of single-engine general aviation aircraft, including orientation flights for cadets and the provision of significant emergency services. Because of these extensive flying opportunities, many Civil Air Patrol members become licensed pilots. The Post presented Cadet Senior Master Sergeant Candace Bryner with the Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year Award. Since joining the Civil Air Patrol in 2018, she has been regularly promoted and eagerly accepted increasing responsibility. Cadet Bryner has dedicated herself to working with senior leadership while mentoring junior cadets. She has become an integral part of the Cadet Program at Hampton Roads Composite Squadron 141.

The Post then presented Cadet First Lieutenant Benjamin Ventura with the Cadet Officer of the Year Award due to his exceptional service and outstanding personal example as a cadet officer. He demonstrated remarkable growth while rising

through the ranks to his current position as the Squadron's Cadet Commander. He personifies all the qualities that the cadet program seeks to inspire in its cadets. Congratulations to both cadets!

We also presented awards to Marine Corps Security Force Regiment's Training Company, and Grassfield High School.

Every year, Post 2894 hosts the Bataan Death March Memorial Walk on the Dismal Swamp Trail. The march was conceived by Grace and Matt Schweers to honor the sacrifices suffered by the American and Filipino soldiers who were captured by the Japanese after the fall of Bataan and Corregidor. We have since expanded it to recognize all the veterans of World War 2 – and now the Korean War as well.



Brian Cuffie, our Post Deputy Sheriff of the Year! And soon to be "Doctor"

The first walk was conducted in 2012 and had just a few participants. Since then, it has grown – we had nearly 1,000 participants from up and down the East Coast one year. It has become our Post's signature event of the year, but in order to conduct the walk, we need volunteers who can help us accomplish the various activities associated with the event. On behalf of all the Marines of the Training Company at Northwest Security Group, Major William Appleby and First Sergeant Terry Weidman of the Training Company located at Northwest Security Group were presented with our thanks and a plaque as a symbol of our appreciation. The company consists of a large group of hard-charging young Marines who are eager to help out in every way they can. Every year, they provide us with a crew of volunteers who come in and do anything and everything we need at our Bataan Death March Memorial Walk. We have had a great relationship with the Training Company and hope that it continues as long as they are located in Chesapeake.

Kimberly Hammers was our Teacher of the Year in 2016 and was the third runner-up for National Teacher of the Year. For the past 3 years, she has organized her students to set up a Field of Valor at Grassfield High School on every Veterans' Day. She and her students place hundreds of flags around the front entrance of the school and the Battle Cross for Cody Childers. Each flag is sponsored and honors a veteran, living or dead. The proceeds from this event are donated to our Post to help us with assisting veterans, their widows and their families. The Field of Valor also reminds the students at the school that freedom is not free, and that it is veterans who provide them

with the lifestyle they are able to live and the security they enjoy. Kimberly was not able to be present so Principal Michael Perez and Dr. Jared Cotton stood in to accept a plaque of gratitude from VFW Post 2894 on behalf of the students of Grassfield High School.

Our last award was a very special one since it involved the most senior member of our post. William "Mickey" Casady turned 101 on May 3rd! He was born during WWI! He enlisted in the US Navy in 1937 and was aboard the USS Ranger, hunting German submarines in the Caribbean when Pearl Harbor was bombed. By the end of the war, he had served in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the Pacific aboard six different ships. He is the oldest living plank-holder of the USS IOWA and was off Bikini Island when the Atom bomb was being tested. Everyone at the ceremony then serenaded Mickey with "Happy Birthday".

Then all the awardees of the ceremony came forward to have their photo taken with Mickey.

After the ceremony, everyone gathered for a reception of hors d'oeuvres and beverages while getting a chance to congratulate the awardees in person.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR HONOREES!

4th OF JULY PARADE, SOUTH NORFOLK

We will be marching in this year's Independence Day Parade in South Norfolk again. This will be the 38th parade and will take place on 4 July with lineup at 0800 at the South Norfolk Baptist Church at 101 Chesapeake Avenue. The parade actually starts at 1000 and it is only one mile. The parade finishes at Lakeside Park which, if you've never been there, includes a war memorial to all of the Gold Star Heroes of South Norfolk, Norfolk County and Chesapeake since WWI.



The parade will be followed with entertainment, food, games, paddleboat rides, children's crafts and family fun! The event is presented by the South Norfolk Civic League and Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

Anyhow, come on out. It's a relaxing event. And let's have some fun!!!

JROTC CEREMONY, 15 MAY

Every year, the JROTC cadets of the six high schools in Chesapeake gather for a night of recognition and awards. Amongst the various honors, our Post presents the VFW Award to two cadets from each school who have exhibited outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership abilities. This year's event was at Indian River High School. Post Commander Chris Mulholland and Post Surgeon Bob Gregory presented the medals and certificates and then posed with some of the night's awardees. What a great group of enthusiastic and patriotic youngsters!



Post Commander (left) and Post Surgeon (right) with some of the AFJROTC Cadets

OTHER POST NEWS

• **Thunderbirds Honor SSG Jonathan Dozier!** Emma Dozier, daughter of our Post’s namesake, traveled to Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, North Carolina over the weekend of 27-28 April to participate in a ceremony hosted by the USAF Demonstration team, the Thunderbirds. The ceremony was the naming of one of their F-16s “In Memory Of



Emma in front of F-16 bearing her dad’s name

Army SSG Jonathan Kilian Dozier”. What an honor and what wonderful memories she will have!

• **Post Comrade “Retired-retired”!** John Peterson finally decided to retire and enjoy life! His last day of “paid work” (he still has plenty of “honey-do-work”) was on April 30th. He and Sharon plan on sailing on their boat, traveling, and enjoying their grand-kids. John retired from the Army as an artillery LTC and has been working as a government contractor since then. Something interesting about John is that every two weeks he donates blood platelets – a 3 hour process – and has been doing that



Sharon and John Peterson

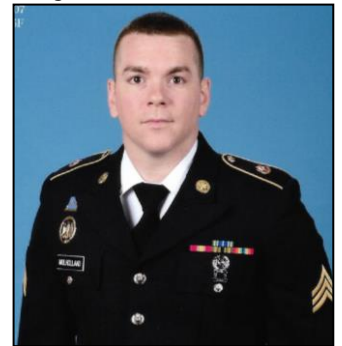
for years. He has donated over 240 times at this point! Amazing! **CONGRATULATIONS and don’t have too much fun!!!**

• **Another Post Comrade Retires from Active Service!** Captain Chris Brunett formally retired from the US Navy on May 31st in a ceremony at the US Naval Academy where he started his lengthy career thirty years ago. Chris is a helo pilot having flown CH-46 Seaknights and MH-60S Knighthawks. He flew medevac missions in Iraq and Kuwait and commanded the USS NEW YORK on her first-ever deployment (to CENTCOM

and a special, short-fused surge to provide direct support of counter-terrorism special ops in Libya). Chris held varied and interesting billets from OIC aboard the NASSAU and BATAAN, to aide-de-camp to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, squadron commander in Guam, senior military analyst with NATO Supreme Allied Command for Transformation, and Fellow with the Defense Innovation Board in DC. He received numerous awards including Instructor Pilot of the Year, the Naval Helicopter Association (NHA) President’s Award, and twice the Navy and Marine Corps Association Leadership Award for excellence in command. As Skipper of the NEW YORK, his ship won the Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund Award as the most battle-ready ship in the Atlantic Fleet. Chris and his wife Marci recently celebrated the graduation of their oldest daughter, Madison, from the University of Wisconsin. The Brunetts will remain in Chesapeake as Chris starts his “next” career as a civilian at ACT! Congratulations and good luck!



• **Auxiliary Member is Promoted!** Auxiliary member Chris Mulholland was promoted to Sergeant (E5) on April 1st. Chris is an intelligence analyst (35F) in the US Army Reserves. He is stationed with the 11th PSYOPS Battalion – the “Exploiters” – in Maryland and is in the process of applying for officer candidates’ school (OCS). Congratulations and good luck!



8th ANNUAL BATAAN DEATH MARCH MEMORIAL WALK

(continued from cover page)

60,000 and 80,000 American and Filipino prisoners of war were forced to walk 70 miles to a railhead. During the 3 to 4 day march, the prisoners received little food or water. Others were beaten and tortured. Many were forced to sit in sweltering sunlight, without helmets or other head covering. Anyone who asked for water was shot dead. Trucks drove over some of those who fell or succumbed to fatigue, while “cleanup crews” put to death those too weak to continue. Some marchers were randomly stabbed by bayonets or beaten. Others had their teeth knocked out for the gold fillings. Up to 18,000 Filipinos and 650 Americans died during the march which was later judged to be a Japanese war crime.

Coincidentally, eight citizens from South Norfolk and Norfolk County (what we call Chesapeake today) were

amongst those who were surrendered and died during the march or later in POW camps in the Philippines or on hell ships enroute to Japan. They are all listed as missing in action and include:

- Corporal James Beasley, US Army, who died as a POW in the Philippines
- Private Hilbert Caplan, US Army, sunk aboard the hell ship, Shinvo Maru near Mindanao, Philippines
- Private Harry Day Jr., US Army Air Force, also died aboard the Shinvo Maru
- Lieutenant Junior Grade Francis Golden, US Navy, died aboard the hell ship Brazil Maru in the China Sea
- Private Junious Moore, US Army Air Force, sunk aboard the hell ship Arisan Maru somewhere in the South Pacific
- Private First Class Charles Mott Jr., died as a POW in the Philippines
- Seaman Second Class Andrew Overton, died aboard the hell ship Enoura Maru
- Corporal James Shy, US Army, sunk aboard the hell ship Arisan Maru in the South Pacific

Our special guest of honor was Mr. Dan Crowley who, along with his wife Kelly, traveled down from Connecticut to be with us. Dan joined the Army in 1940 at the age of 18. After completing boot camp, he boarded a ship and sailed across the Pacific, arriving in the Philippines in March of 1941. Nine months later, the Japanese attacked. Dan was one of those who was “surrendered” on Bataan but when he saw the indiscriminate shooting of prisoners of war, he and some others jumped into Manila Bay and swam the three miles to the island fortress of Corregidor where he was then “enlisted” into the Marine Corps and fought for another

war ended, he was working in an ancient copper mine in Japan.

The day before the march, he and Kelly were special guests aboard the USS BATAAN (LHD-5), along with Post Comrades Mickey Casady and Tony Gravina. While aboard the BATAAN, Dan was surprised with a special event orchestrated by his wife and Post Comrade Ann Jones. The ship’s chaplain conducted “renewal of marriage vows” between Dan and Kelly in front of the entire ship’s company!

Later that afternoon, Dan and Kelly visited with the Marines of Marine Security Force Regiment’s Training Company.



Post 2894 Auxiliary was out in force!

We also had some other WWII “greatest generation” veterans with us at Memorial Walk – who also happen to be Post members! They were:

Mr. Anthony “Tony” Gravina who joined the Navy in 1944 at the age of 17 and spent two years aboard LST 687 in the South Pacific. He made 60 amphibious landings – 49 of them under fire! – at such places like Peleiu, New Guinea, Leyte, Lingayen Gulf, and Okinawa. After the war, he returned home to Boston and married his high-school sweetheart, Lee. In May they their 71st wedding anniversary!

Mr. John “Jack” Heerema joined the Army and became a paratrooper with the storied 11th Airborne Division. He arrived in the Philippines in June of 1945. Just a few months before, his unit had conducted the famous raid on Los Baños POW camp and liberated over 2,000 prisoners. Jack and his wife, Virginia, celebrated their 69th anniversary in May as well!

Mickey Casady, USN retired, joined the Navy in 1937 and was hunting German submarines in the Caribbean when Pearl Harbor was bombed. He saw combat in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the Pacific, and is the oldest living plankholder of the USS IOWA. He was off Bikini Island when the nuclear bomb was tested in 1946. On May 3rd he celebrated his 101st birthday!!

Our guest speaker may have been the best we’ve ever had at this event! Jason “Jay” Redman joined the US Navy in 1992. Three years later, he completed basic



Post Comrade and WWII vet Tony Gravina (left) shakes hands with Dan Crowley, Bataan survivor.

month before he was surrendered again. During the next three years he worked as a slave laborer in the Philippines before being sent to Japan aboard a “hell ship”. When the

SEAL training in Coronado, California. Over the next five years he conducted numerous counter-drug missions in South America. In 2000 he was one of just 50 enlisted sailors selected to the prestigious "Seaman to Admiral Program". He graduated summa cum laude from ODU and was commissioned as a Naval SEAL officer in 2004. The following year he deployed to Afghanistan and the year after that he graduated from the US Army Ranger course. In 2007 Jay was deployed to Fallujah, Iraq. That September, during an operation to capture a high value Al Queda target, he and his team came under fire. Jay was severely wounded when he was shot twice in the arm and once in the face by a heavy machine gun. Since then, Jay has written an award-winning biography, started several different companies, and tours the country as a



Jay Redman

motivational speaker. He developed a line of clothing for disabled veterans and holds an annual recognition ceremony honoring various disabled vets who have made great achievements. Jay himself has received numerous national awards and recognitions. While recovering at Bethesda Naval Hospital, Jay hung a sign on his door that gained national attention. In part, the sign said, "If you are coming into this room with sorrow or to feel sorry for my wounds, go elsewhere. The wounds I received, I got in a job I love, doing it for people I love, supporting the freedom of a country I deeply love. I am incredibly tough and will make a full recovery... This room you are about to enter is a room of fun, optimism, and intense rapid regrowth. If you are not prepared for that, go elsewhere."

The Post Auxiliary did a tremendous job of organizing the participants' registration and the money-raising raffle and silent auction.

We had a record number of donors who made this event a great success. We especially want to thank the National VFW, Wärtsilä Defense, Klett Consulting Group, Veterans United Foundation, GEICO, ITC Defense, Woodlawn Memorial Gardens, Virginia Asset Group, Atlantic Diving Service, West Service Center, Stevenson Tractor, and the Batangas Association. Home Depot provided us with great raffle items and Lowe's donated a whole pallet of water!

Special thanks to Rob Allen for stepping in as Chaplain at the last minute, the Marine Color Guard, Jason Cascio of VFW Post 392 for singing the National Anthem, Noel de Castro for singing the Filipino National Anthem, and Butch Barnard who played taps at the closing.

The Post owes a debt of gratitude to a number of groups who came out to help including the Chesapeake Sheriff's Department, the Chesapeake Fire and Police Departments, Marine Corps Security Force Regiment Training Company, VFW Riders, and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

David Stanley from North Carolina brought his own, restored M3 Scout Car again which served as a great backdrop for a myriad of photos. He also wore a period US Army uniform.

A large measure of thanks goes to the BDM Committee who have been planning this event for the past 5 months: Grace Schweers, Ann Jones, Becky and Brad Waters, Bob Gregory, Anne Thompson, José Vazquez and John Guill. Thanks to all the members for their vision, planning, hard-work and coordination that led to this year's great success!

And finally, thanks to all who helped out in whatever way they could to make this the most successful event to date!

SAVE THE DATE! OUR NEXT MEMORIAL WALK WILL BE ON APRIL 18th, 2020!!!

CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE

The Jefferson Bible

by Chaplain Andrew McMenamin



Elder statesman and one of our nation's founding fathers, Thomas Jefferson, died on July 4, 1826, exactly 50 years after signing the Declaration of Independence. Six years earlier, he completed an 84-page manuscript that he titled, "*The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth.*" Essentially, Jefferson extracted and assembled the "Dominical words" (those spoken by Jesus Christ) from the King James Version (KJV) of the New Testament. Using a razor and glue, Jefferson literally cut and paste Christ's words onto a separate manuscript. His intent was to present Christ's teachings aside and removed from the story line of the Bible. The manuscript was not intended to shock or offend a lethargic world, instead, our third President composed it for his personal use during his daily devotions. During a conversation with a friend, Jefferson stated, "A more beautiful or precious morsel of ethics I have never seen; it is a document in proof that I am a real Christian, that is to say, a disciple of the doctrines of Jesus." Jefferson stated that he had attempted the project before several years earlier and titled it "*The Philosophy of Jesus of Nazareth.*" He stated the earlier manuscript was much shorter; only 46 pages. The earlier manuscript has never been found. The second manuscript remained unknown until Jefferson's great-granddaughter, Carolina Randolph, sold it for \$400 in 1895 to the Smithsonian. A painstaking restoration project of the

fragile document ensued, resulting in what is now known as “The Jefferson Bible.” Copies are available online, both in print and as pdf downloads.

SURGEON’S OFFICE JUNE IS POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) AWARENESS MONTH



The National Center for PTSD promotes awareness and effective treatments throughout the year. In 2014, the Senate designated the full month of June for National PTSD Awareness.

After a traumatic event, most people have painful memories. For many people, the effects of the event fade over time. But for others, the memories, thoughts and feelings don’t go away – even months or years after the event is over. Mental health experts are not sure why some people develop PTSD and others do not. If stress reactions do not improve over time and they disrupt everyday life, it is important to seek help to determine if PTSD is present

The purpose of PTSD Awareness Month is to encourage everyone to raise public awareness of PTSD and effective treatments. We can all help those affected by PTSD.

What can cause PTSD?

Any experience that threatens your life or someone else’s can cause PTSD. These types of events are sometimes called **trauma**. Types of traumatic events that can cause PTSD include:

- Combat and other military experiences
- Sexual or physical assault
- Learning about the violent or accidental death or injury of a loved one
- Child sexual or physical abuse
- Serious accidents, like a car wreck
- Natural disasters, like a fire, tornado, hurricane, flood, or earthquake
- Terrorist attacks

During this kind of event, you may not have any control over what’s happening, and you may feel very afraid. Anyone who has gone through something like this can develop PTSD.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

Going through a traumatic event is not rare. At least half of Americans have had a traumatic event in their lives. Of people who have had trauma, about 1 in 10 men and 2 in 10 women will develop PTSD.



There are some things that make it more likely you’ll develop PTSD — for example, having very intense or long-lasting trauma, getting hurt, or having a strong reaction to the event (like shaking, throwing up, or feeling distant from your surroundings).

It’s also more common to develop PTSD after certain types of trauma, like combat and sexual assault. But there’s no way to know for sure who will develop PTSD.

“I was awarded a Silver Star for bravery. You’re not going to tell me I’m a coward. If somebody like me has PTSD, then anybody can have it.”

— MAJ Joshua Brandon US Army (2002–present)

How do I know if I have PTSD?

The only way to know for sure is to talk to a mental health care provider. He will ask you about your trauma, your symptoms, and any other problems you have.

PTSD Screen

Sometimes things happen to people that are unusually or especially frightening, horrible, or traumatic. For example, a serious accident or fire, a physical or sexual assault or abuse, an earthquake or flood, a war, seeing someone be killed or seriously injured, or having a loved one die through homicide or suicide.

Have you ever experienced this kind of event?

If yes, please answer the questions below. **In the past month, have you:**

- Had nightmares about the event(s) or thought about the event(s) when you didn’t want to?
- Tried hard not to think about the event(s) or went out of your way to avoid situations that reminded you of the event(s)?
- Been constantly on guard, watchful, or easily startled?
- Felt numb or detached from people, activities, or your surroundings?
- Felt guilty or unable to stop blaming yourself or others for the event(s) or any problems the event(s) may have caused?

If you answered “yes” to 3 or more of these questions, talk to a mental health care provider to learn more about PTSD and PTSD treatment. Answering “yes” to 3 or more questions does not mean you have PTSD. Only a mental health care provider can tell you for sure.

What if the screening tool says I don’t have PTSD?

You may still want to talk to a mental health care provider. If thoughts and feelings from the trauma are bothering you, treatment can help — whether or not you have PTSD.

Is it ever too late to get treatment for PTSD?

It’s never too late. Treatment can help even if your trauma happened years ago. And treatment for PTSD has gotten much better over the years. If you tried treatment before and you’re still having symptoms, it’s a good idea to try again.

What if I don’t feel ready for treatment?

It’s normal to feel like you’re not ready for treatment, or to come up with reasons why now isn’t the right time — like you can’t afford it or you’re too busy. But not wanting to talk or think about the trauma can actually be a symptom of PTSD.

You may never feel truly ready to get help for PTSD — but if you’re having symptoms, it’s better to get treatment now than to wait. The sooner you get treatment, the sooner you can start to feel better.

Where can I go to get help?

If you’re a Veteran, check with the VA about whether you can get treatment there. Visit

www.va.gov/directory/guide/PTSD.asp to find a VA PTSD program near you. If you’re looking for care outside the VA, ask your doctor for a referral to a mental health care provider who specializes in PTSD treatment, or visit <https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov> to search for providers in your area. When choosing a mental health care provider, here are some important things to consider:

- **Find a provider who uses PTSD treatments proven to work**
 - **Find out what your insurance will cover**
 - **Find someone who is a good fit for you**
- “My treatment has been a blessing to me and my family. It’s hard to put into words just how you feel after you know that you can control your anger, and you can control your emotions.”*
— Bradley Seitz, US Marine Corps (2002–2005)

⊕ SAFETY CORNER ⊕ JULY IS NATIONAL WATER SAFETY MONTH

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

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

Make Water Safety Your Priority

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

Prevent Unsupervised Access to the Water

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

Maintain Constant Supervision

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

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

- Know how and when to call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.
- If you own a home pool or hot tub, have appropriate equipment, such as reaching or throwing equipment, a cell phone, life jackets and a first aid kit.
- Enroll in Red Cross home pool safety, water safety, first aid and CPR/AED courses to learn how to prevent and respond to emergencies.

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

The National Home Helpline is the gateway to help for military and veterans' families, providing connections with

supportive services and resources in communities all across the nation as well as referrals to our on-campus programs.

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

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

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

QUARTERMASTER DESK

Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$30.

Annual dues can be paid via mail (see our 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.

JUNE MILITARY HISTORY

- 1774 British close Port of Boston in punishment for "Tea Party"
- 1862 Battle of Seven Pines: Confederate Gen. Joe Johnston wounded, relinquishes command to Robert E. Lee
- 1864 Battle of Cold Harbor, Day 1
- 1866 Fenians attack Fort Erie, Ontario, from US soil
- 1871 US Sailors & Marines land in Korea, to protect U.S. citizens
- 1877 US troops authorized to pursue bandits & Indians into Mexico
- 1914 SecNav Josephus Daniels' G.O. 99 bars alcohol in fleet
- 1939 Director of Naval Research Laboratory, proposes research in atomic energy for use in subs
- 1944 Allied forces begin covering much of Britain with smoke screens, as troops crowd assembly areas for D-Day
- 2 Feast of St. Elmo, Patron of Sailors
- 1774 Parliament passes Quartering Act, billeting troops in private homes
- 1784 Congress disbands last elements of Continental Army, save for 100 troops guarding supplies at West Point and Ft. Pitt
- 1865 Confederate Trans-Mississippi Department surrenders to Union

- forces
- 1914 Glenn Curtiss flies his 'Langley Aerodrome'
- 3** 1784 Congress creates US Army, forming 1st American Regt (now 3rd Infantry) on a cadre of 100 troops left over from Continental Army
- 1916 Congress establishes ROTC (based on Norwich Univ. program)
- 1959 First US Air Force Academy graduation
- 1965 First American "space walk", Maj. Edward White, Gemini 4
- 4** 1789 Constitution of United States goes into effect
- 1918 US & French halt Germans at Chateau-Thierry
- 1942 Battle of Midway: Japanese lose four CVs, USS Yorktown badly damaged
- 1944 Allied forces liberate Rome
- 5** 1917 US begins draft registration: 10 million eventually sign up
- 1944 First B-29 raid over Tokyo; one lost to engine failure
- 1947 SecState George C Marshall outlines "Marshall Plan"
- 1967 Six Day War begins between Israel & Arab neighbors
- 6** 1898 Marines land at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
- 1898 Action at Santiago, Cuba: US ships exchange fire with Spanish batteries
- 1918 US Marines secure Belleau Wood
- 1944 D-Day – www.strategypage.com/cic/docs/cic174b.asp#three
- 1944 Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., earns Medal of Honor on Utah Beach
- 1945 Okinawa: Marines capture Naha airfield
- 7** 1775 "United Colonies" change name to "United States"
- 1912 US Army Air Service tests an airplane-mounted machine gun
- 1917 Liverpool: first American troops reach Europe
- 1942 Aleutians Campaign: Japanese troops land on Attu.
- 1942 Midway Campaign: 'Yorktown' (CV-5) sunk
- 8** 1965 US troops ordered to fight offensively in Vietnam
- 1967 Israeli air and naval forces attack USS 'Liberty' (AGTR-5), 34 Americans die
- 9** 1863 Battle of Brandy Station; largest cavalry fight of Civil War
- 1944 Normandy: U.S. VII & V Corps link up to form continuous beachhead
- 1945 Luzon: Sixth Army manages to isolate Japanese forces.
- 1945 Premier Kantaro Suzuki declares Japan will never surrender
- 1959 First ballistic missile sub launched, USS 'George Washington' (SSBN-598)
- 10** 1776 Congress appoints committee to write a Declaration of Independence
- 1801 Tripoli declares war on US, for refusing to pay protection, initiating First Barbary War (1801-1805)
- 12** 1987 Ronald Reagan says, "Mr. Gorbachov, tear down this wall."
- 1999 NATO peacekeeping forces begin operating in Kosovo, Yugoslavia
- 13** 1900 Boxer Rebellion begins in China
- 1912 First successful parachute jump from airplane, Capt Albert Berry, Jefferson, Ms
- 14** 1775 US Army formed from New England forces before Boston
- 1777 Congress replaces "Grand Union Flag" with "Stars & Stripes"
- 1777 John Paul Jones takes command of USS 'Ranger'
- 1942 Bazooka goes into production at Bridgeport, Ct
- 1949 State of Vietnam formed within 'French Union' under Emperor Bao Dai
- 1982 Falklands: Argentines surrender to Britain; 74-day war ends
- 1985 Lebanese Shiite gunmen hijack TWA 847 after takeoff from Athens
- 15** 1776 Americans burn and abandon Montreal
- 1864 Battle of Petersburg: Grant's first assault
- 1864 Robert E Lee's home, Arlington, becomes military cemetery
- 1877 Henry O Flipper becomes first black cadet to graduate from West Point
- 1944 US Marines land on Saipan
- 1955 First nationwide civil defense drill - "Duck and Cover!"
- 1978 Soyuz 29 carries two cosmonauts to Salyut 6, to stay 139 days
- 1991 Mt Pinatubo, Philippines erupts, closes Clark Air Force Base
- 16** 1858 Lincoln says "A house divided against itself cannot stand"
- 1864 Siege of Petersburg & Richmond begins
- 17** 1745 American colonials capture Louisburg, Cape Breton I., from French
- 1775 Battle of Bunker Hill (Breeds' Hill)
- 1777 19 year old Marquis de La Fayette (Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier) & several other French volunteers for American Revolution land at Charleston
- 1898 Navy Hospital Corps ("Corpsmen") established
- 1916 Pershing leads Punitive Expedition into Mexico in unsuccessful attempt to kill Pancho Villa
- 1945 Final Japanese defensive line on Okinawa breached
- 1965 Vietnam: First B-52 raid, 50 km north of Saigon
- 1972 Watergate: Republican operatives break into Democratic Party offices at Watergate Hotel in Washington
- 18** 1778 British evacuate Philadelphia
- 1812 US declares war against Britain
- 1878 Congress creates US Life Saving Service ("Coast Guard")
- 19** 1778 Washington's troops leave Valley Forge
- 1878 Congress passes Posse Comitatus Act, to prevent military from enforcing civil rights laws
- 1944 "Marianas Turkey Shoot" - Battle of Philippine Sea: in 2 days Japanese lose 3 CVs, 426 a/c, US 70 a/c.
- 1967 Muhammad Ali convicted of refusing induction into Army
- 20** 1675 Wampanoag Indians raid Swansea, Mass., initiating "King Philip's War" (1675-1676)
- 1782 Congress adopts Great Seal of United States
- 1813 War of 1812: US gunboats engage three British ships at Hampton Roads, VA
- 1867 US buys Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million
- 1941 US Army Air Corps is reorganized as Army Air Forces
- 1947 Cold War: Congress charts CIA
- 1963 Cold War: Washington-Moscow "hot line" established
- 21** 1876 Gen Terry sends Custer's 7th Cav to scout Little Bighorn River
- 1948 Berlin Airlift begins
- 22** 1938 Joe "Brown Bomber" Louis KO's Max "Hitler's Heavyweight" Schmeling at 2:04 into their rematch, in Yankee Stadium
- 1942 US introduces "V-Mail" for military personnel
- 1944 FDR signs "Servicemen's Readjustment Act", better known as "GI Bill of Rights"
- 1945 Okinawa secured: 110,000 Japanese troops, 100,000 civilians, 17,520 US troops died
- 23** 1938 Congress establishes US Maritime Service
- 25** 1864 Petersburg: Union troops begin a tunnel under Confederate lines
- 1876 Battle of Little Big Horn: Crazy Horse does in Custer
- 1942 Eisenhower takes command of US forces in Europe
- 1950 North Korea invades South Korea. claiming "self-defense"
- 1996 Dhahran, Saudi Arabia: Islamists bomb Khobar Towers, 19 Americans die, 500 Saudis & Americans injured
- 26** 1917 First American combat troops arrive in France
- 1924 US Marines leave Dominican Republic, after 8 years of occupation

- 1963 Berlin: Kennedy's "Ich bin ein Berliner" is wildly applauded
- 27 1927 USMC adopts "Sgt Jiggs," an English bulldog, as its mascot
- 1950 US sends 35 military advisers to South Vietnam
- 28 1948 Berlin Airlift begins
- 1965 President Johnson orders US ground forces to Vietnam
- 29 1863 Lee orders his forces to concentrate near Gettysburg
- 1945 Operation Olympic: Truman sets invasion of Japan for Nov 1st
- 1920 USN aircraft tests "radio compass", Norfolk, Va
- 1941 Iceland: US Marines relieve British forces so they can fight elsewhere
- 1944 Saipan: Japanese troops make final "banzai" charge
- 1944 US B-29s from China attack Japan.
- 1966 Marines initiate "Operation Hasting" - to clear NVA from DMZ
- 8 1853 Commodore Perry sails frigate Susquehanna into Tokyo Bay
- 1865 C.E. Barnes receives US patent for machine gun
- 1945 TF38 arrives off Japan with 20 carriers; to stay until war is over
- 1950 Douglas MacArthur named CinC UN forces in Korea
- 9 1755 Braddock's Defeat: Battle of Monangahela - Daniel Boone is wagon driver
- 1776 Declaration of Independence read to Washington's troops in NY, whereupon citizens pull down George III's statue to make musket balls
- 1918 Congress establishes Distinguished Service Cross
- 1944 US secures Saipan: 3,200 US, 27,000 Japanese KIA, & many civilian suicides

JULY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 1: Lee wins, but Union troops fall back on very strong position
- 1864 Battle of Petersburg (to July 31)
- 1867 Dominion of Canada formed
- 1870 James W Smith becomes first black man to enter West Point
- 1918 Marines secure Belleau Wood
- 1950 First US ground troops arrive in Korea
- 2 1776 Continental Congress declares Thirteen Colonies independent
- 1777 Vermont abolishes slavery, first "state" to do so
- 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 2: A draw
- 1903 US leases Guantanamo Bay from Cuba for \$2,000 a year
- 1926 US Army Air Corps established and Congress authorizes Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1942 JCS authorize "Operation Watchtower," seizure of Guadalcanal
- 1957 'Seawolf' (SSN 575) completed, first sub with liquid metal cooled reactor
- 3 1754 Col. George Washington (22) surrenders Ft. Necessity to French
- 1775 George Washington assumes command of Patriot forces investing Boston
- 1863 Battle Gettysburg, Day 3: "Pickett's Charge" is shattered
- 1950 First US-North Korean clash: TF Smith overrun
- 1988 USS 'Vincennes' (CG-49) accidentally shoots down Iranian airliner, 290 die
- 4 1776 Independence Day: Two days after voting for independence, Continental Congress adopts formal "Declaration of Independence"
- 1777 John Paul Jones hoists Stars and Stripes on USS Ranger, Portsmouth, NH
- 1801 1st Presidential Review of Marine Band and Marines, at White House.
- 1802 US Military Academy opens at West Point
- 1818 Congress rules flag shall have 13 stripes and one star for each state
- 1832 Samuel Francis Smith's "America" sung in public for first time
- 1863 Vicksburg surrenders to US Grant
- 1942 First American bombing mission over Nazi-occupied Europe
- 1942 American Volunteer Group ("Flying Tigers") becomes 14th AF
- 1950 Carriers USS 'Valley Forge' (CV-45) & HMS 'Triumph' make first UN air strikes of Korean War
- 5 1814 Battle of Chippewa: "Those are regulars, by God!"
- 1814 US Sloop-of-War 'Peacock' captures four British ships
- 1861 Skirmish at Newport News: US retakes Gosport Naval Base
- 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, Day 5: Lee retreats
- 6 1777 Burgoyne's British & Hessians capture Fort Ticonderoga
- 1785 Congress introduces dollar
- 1911 First naval air station established, Annapolis, MD
- 1976 Women admitted to US Naval Academy for first time
- 7 1846 Commo John D. Sloat takes Monterey, claims California for US
- 10 1821 US takes possession of Florida from Spain
- 1943 Operation Husky: US & Commonwealth forces invade Sicily
- 1953 American troops abandon Pork Chop Hill, Korea
- 11 1786 US pays Morocco \$10,000 to "protect" merchant ships from piracy
- 1798 Congress reactivates USMC, disbanded in 1784
- 1812 US invades Canada near Detroit
- 1919 US Navy Pay Corps becomes Supply Corps
- 1943 USN surface ships break German-Italian tank attack at Gela, Sicily
- 1955 USAF Academy opens with 300 cadets at Lowry AFB, CO
- 12 1942 U-Boat lands four German saboteurs on Long Island, soon captured
- 14 1813 Lt John M. Gamble, becomes only US Marine to command a ship, prize 'Greenwich'
- 1825 Lafayette reviews 2nd Bn, 11th NY Arty (7th NY), which adopts name "National Guard"
- 1900 "China Relief Expedition" captures Tientsin from Boxers
- 1959 First nuclear powered cruiser commissioned, USS 'Long Beach' (CGN 9)
- 1972 Vietnam: Jane Fonda makes first of 10 broadcasts on Radio Hanoi.
- 15 1958 Marines land in Lebanon, to support government
- 16 1861 Bull Run Campaign: Gen McDowell advances from Washington toward Fairfax Courthouse
- 17 1927 USMC pilots conduct first combat dive bombing, Ocotla, Nicaragua.
- 18 1863 54th Mass. leads gallant attempt to storm Fort Wagner, near Charleston
- 1914 US Army Air Service formed within Signal Corps
- 1944 US troops capture St. Lo, Normandy
- 19 1812 1st Battle of Sackett's Harbor: Americans beat off British attack across Lake Erie
- 1886 'Atlanta' commissioned, first USN steel cruiser
- 1897 Lt Robert E. Peary departs on year-long Arctic Expedition
- 20 1881 Sioux leader Sitting Bull surrenders to federal troops
- 1942 Congress creates Legion of Merit
- 1942 First WAACs begin basic training
- 1944 Marines land on Guam.
- 1948 US reinstates draft, for Cold War
- 21 1823 Lt David G. Farragut leads raid to destroy pirate base in Cuba
- 1861 First Battle of Bull Run/Manassas: Confederate Victory
- 1930 Veterans' Administration established
- 1969 Neil Armstrong's "small step" on moon - 2:56:15 AM GMT
- 22 1802 US Frigate 'Constellation' defeats 9 corsair gunboats off Tripoli

- 1905 Remains of John Paul Jones removed from Paris for transportation to Annapolis
- 1943 Patton captures Palermo
- 1987 USN begins escorting re-flagged Kuwaiti tankers in Persian Gulf
- 23 1944 US forces land on Japanese-held Tinian from nearby Saipan
- 24 1948 Soviets initiate blockade of Berlin
- 1969 Muhammad Ali convicted of refusing induction in US Army
- 25 1866 David G. Farragut appointed first Admiral in US Navy
- 1866 US Grant is named first full general in US Army
- 1947 US Army, Navy, & Air Force subordinated to new DoD
- 26 1948 Truman initiates integration of Armed Forces
- 27 1909 Orville Wright demonstrates plane for Army, flying 72 minutes
- 1953 North Korea & UN sign armistice
- 1954 Armistice divides Vietnam in two
- 1995 Korean War Veterans Memorial dedicated in Washington
- 28 1898 Skirmish at Ponce, Puerto Rico, which shortly surrenders to US
- 28 1914 Austria-Hungary attacks Serbia, igniting WW I
- 1931 Congress makes "Star-Spangled Banner" national anthem
- 1932 Douglas MacArthur routs Bonus Army against orders
- 1945 Kamikaze sink their last ship, USS 'Callaghan' (DD-792), off Okinawa.
- 1945 US Army B-25 crashes into 79th floor of Empire State Bldg, 14 die
- 29 1949 Berlin Airlift ends, as Soviets end blockade
- 1967 Fire aboard USS 'Forrestal' (CV-59), Gulf of Tonkin, 134 killed
- 30 1864 Petersburg Campaign: Battle of Crater
- 1909 US Army accepts delivery of first military airplane
- 1942 WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) created
- 1945 USS 'Indianapolis' (CA-35) torpedoed & sunk; nearly 900 die over next 4 days
- 1966 US airplanes bomb demilitarized zone in Vietnam
- 31 1777 Marquis de Lafayette becomes major-general in Continental Army
- 1813 British attack Plattsburgh, NY
- 1925 Last Allied occupation forces leave Rhineland

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 cdmpost2894@vfwva.org.

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

BECOME A LIFE MEMBER TODAY!

No More Worrying About Dues!

As a Life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, receiving dues notices is a thing of the past! Your membership is permanent, allowing you to enjoy the benefits of belonging to the nation's largest organization of combat veterans without needing to worry about renewals.



Keep Supporting Your Post!

Every year, VFW Posts receive an annual payout for every Life member on their roster, so you can take pride in knowing that your Life membership still goes directly towards supporting your VFW Post and our mission to help our fellow veterans in local communities.



Leave Your Legacy!

Life members of the VFW are eligible to take part in our Legacy Life program, an endowment that not only provides perks and benefits to you as a member, but sets up an annuity that pays out to your Post even after you're gone - truly leaving a lasting legacy to the VFW!



Learn more online at
<https://www.vfw.org/OMS/QuickRenew.aspx>
or by calling 1-833-VFW-VETS.

**YOUR AD COULD BE
HERE!**

97th ANNUAL CONVENTION
 DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA
 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
 RENAISSANCE PORTSMOUTH-NORFOLK WATERFRONT HOTEL
 PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA
 JUNE 13 - 16, 2019

Eugene Chavis
 Convention Chairman

Kathy Goodall
 Convention Vice Chairman

Tentative Subject to Change

Thursday,
 June 13, 2019

11:30 AM	NOON	COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING	PORTSMOUTH IV
NOON	4:00 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	PORTSMOUTH V-VIII
2:30 PM	4:00 PM	JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICES	PORTSMOUTH V-VIII
6:00 PM	9:00 PM	JOINT PRESENTATION OF AWARDS	

Friday,
 June 14, 2019

8:00 AM	5:00 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	PORTSMOUTH V-VIII
9:00 AM	11:00 AM	JOINT OPENING SESSION	PORTSMOUTH V-VIII
11:30 AM	2:00 PM	COMMANDERS CLUB LUNCHEON	PORTSMOUTH IV
2:30 PM	5:00 PM	BUSINESS SESSION	HOLLEY BALLROOM
9:00 PM	1:00 AM	(NOMINATION OF STATE OFFICERS) VFW RIDERS DANCE (OPEN TO ALL)	

Saturday,
 June 15, 2019

7:30 AM	8:30 AM	PAST STATE COMMANDERS/PRESIDENTS BREAKFAST	HOLLEY BALLROOM I-III
8:30 AM	10:30 PM	REGISTRATION, VFW	PORTSMOUTH IV
9:00 AM	11:00 AM	BUSINESS SESSION	PORTSMOUTH IV
11:00 AM	1:00 PM	ELECTIONS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS	AMPHITHEATER
3:00 PM	4:00 PM	VFW RIDERS MEETING	HOLLEY BALLROOM
6:00 PM	10:00 PM	RECEPTION/DANCE - DJ	

Sunday,
 June 16, 2019

9:00 AM	9:30 AM	JOINT DEVOTIONAL SERVICE	MADISON
9:30 AM	12:00 PM	NEW DISTRICT COMMANDERS SCHOOL	AMPHITHEATER
12:00 PM	1:00 PM	COUNCIL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DISTRICT COMMANDER'S SCHOOL	AMPHITHEATER

Registration \$3.00 (All VFW members are required to register in advance as delegates from their Post)
 FRIDAY VFW RIDERS DANCE: (Open to all members) \$10.00 per person

SATURDAY RECEPTION/DANCE WILL BE FREE TO ALL ATTENDING THE STATE CONVENTION

Bottles will be permitted in the ballroom during Fridays dance. The hotel will furnish ice and mix.

HOSPITALITY ROOMS
 State - Commodore Room ** Second District -
 Tenth District -

HARBOR PARK
 10 August, 7:05 pm*
 vs Syracuse Mets
 Followed by fireworks!

NORFOLK TIDES

VFW POST 2894
 "Night Out" with
 Norfolk Tides

Tickets \$25 (normally \$32.25**) - includes
 Patio seating & BBQ - adult beverages are
 extra. Contact cdrrpost2894@vfwva.org for
 reservations by 30 July.

* Meet on Party Patio at 1800 for a short Post meeting
 ** Post paying difference

POST 2894 CALENDAR

JUNE	
6	D-Day Anniversary (1944)
12	Post Meeting, 1900 – Officer Installation
14	Army “Birthday” (1775) – Flag Day
13-16	VFW Dep’t of VA Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth
16	Father’s Day
22	First Day of Summer
25	Start of Korean War (1950) / Khobar Towers bombing (1996)
27	Korean War Armistice (1953)
30	End of VFW Fraternal Year

JULY	
1	Start of VFW Fraternal Year
3	Fireworks show, City Park
4	Independence Day / South Norfolk Parade
10	Post Meeting/Quarterly Audit, 1900
11-16	Nat’l Vets Wheelchair Games, Louisville
20-24	VFW Nat’l Convention, Orlando, FL
27	Anniversary of Korean Armistice (1953)
28	Anniversary of start of WWI (1914)
31	Quarterly Audit due to Department

**OR YOUR AD
COULD BE HERE!**



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



Place
Stamp
Here

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED