

## 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

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

### Post Address:

VFW Post 2894  
PO Box 15842  
Chesapeake, VA 23328



Email: [cdrpost2894@vfwva.org](mailto:cdrpost2894@vfwva.org)

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

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

### STATE

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



## 75 Years Ago: THE BATTLE OF HÜRTGEN FOREST

It was some of the most brutal fighting of the Second World War, a grinding battle in which thousands of American and German lives were lost. It was a site of great heroism and futile tragedy, in which the fighting was so deadly that soldiers called it “the Death Factory”. Yet the Battle of Hürtgen Forest is largely forgotten.

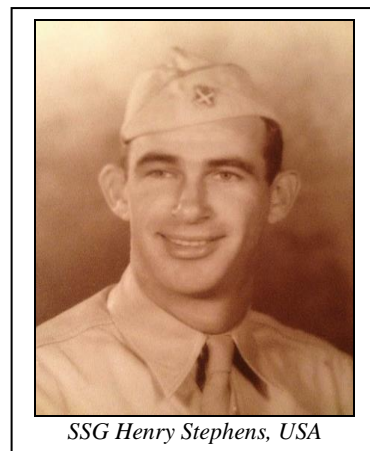
Eight U.S. infantry and two U.S. armored divisions fought in the six month battle: the 1st Infantry Division, the 4th Infantry Division, the 8th Infantry Division, the 9th Infantry Division, the 2d Ranger Battalion, the 5th Armored Division's 46th Armored Infantry Battalion and Combat Command Reserve, and numerous supporting units all spent time in the "green hell of Hürtgen"

### FOUR GOLD STARS FROM SOUTH NORFOLK/NORFOLK COUNTY

Four sons of “Chesapeake” were killed during the fierce fighting in the woods: Staff Sergeant Henry Hood Stephens (age 29), with L Company, 47<sup>th</sup> “Raiders” Infantry Regiment, 9<sup>th</sup> Division; Private Kirby Barrs Tatum (23) of the 39<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 9<sup>th</sup> Division; and Private First Class Rufus Allen Pridgen, Sr, (29) and Private Claude Howard Pearce (28) both of the 109<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 28<sup>th</sup> Division.

SSG Stephens was born on 29 January, 1915 to an unmarried teenage mother in Oriental, North Carolina. Oriental lies along the Pamlico Sound and is called, “The Sailing Capital of North Carolina”.

Henry must have been an experienced boatman because he was working as a “Seaman” for the Wood Towing Company of Norfolk, Virginia in the 1930s. The Wood Towing Company operated a fleet of tugboats in the Hampton Roads area. He enlisted in the Army in May 1941 – 7 months before Pearl Harbor – and was given serial



SSG Henry Stephens, USA

number 33043152. He married sometime after his enlistment but before he was deployed overseas with the 47<sup>th</sup> Raiders. The 47<sup>th</sup> stormed the beaches of Safi, Morocco in 1942 and then continued across North Africa to drive the Germans from the continent. The Raiders landed at Palermo, Sicily and 25 days later, the island was in the hands of the Allies. He then landed at Utah Beach on D-Day plus 4 (10 June, 1944) and assisted with the capture of Cherbourg and the “Battle of the Hedgerows.” The 47<sup>th</sup> was the first American unit to step onto Belgian soil and, later, the first to penetrate the Siegfried Line.

(Continued on page 6)

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

Fall is here! Which means we are well into our Fraternal Year (and that, "Christmas is coming!")

We're starting October off with the Fundraiser Dinner for the Gary Sinise Foundation at VFW Post 4809 in Norfolk on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Shane Johnson is the guest speaker - he is walking from New York City to Orlando while carrying a 100 lb pack. Tickets are still available (at \$27.50) and we're looking for all the support we can get. Dinner will be prepared by veterans who are attending or have graduated from the Culinary Institute of Virginia (CIV). We'll also have a silent auction. This event not just open for VFW members so feel free to invite friends and neighbors! The flier is in the back of the newsletter.

Thanks to everyone who came out to the Tidewater Tides game in August - it looked like everyone had a great time!

Please tell family, friends, co-workers and neighbors about what you do, what our Post does, and what the VFW does. Then suggest to those who are eligible that they join us in helping others. Membership applications for the Post and Auxiliary are included in this newsletter. Feel free to make copies and hand them around. There are rewards for those who recruit the most. With 35,000 veterans in Chesapeake, there's no reason why our Post shouldn't be ten times larger than our current 108!

A reminder that our M-1 rifle raffle is on-going and that with everyone's help, we can raise a lot of funds for the Post that will help us in our mission of "Honoring the Fallen by Helping the Living."

We have 3 great programs that have applications due on November 1<sup>st</sup>: Teacher of the Year, Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen. A big change for making All-American Post this year is the requirement to nominate a teacher in EACH of the three categories: K-5, 6-8, and high school. Please get the word out to anyone and everyone that you know in the schools. There are opportunities to earn some great scholarship money!

Don't forget that Veterans' Day is coming up. Please remember to come to City Hall on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 am to remember all those who have served. The weekend before, 2-3 November, we will need everyone's help with a buddy poppy drive in front of the Sam's Walmart. Bring family, friends, etc., to help out - after all, many hands make light work!

And ELECTION DAY is November 5<sup>th</sup>! Make your voices heard!

Hope everyone had a great - and safe - summer and that you're all looking forward to cooler weather and the fall! Semper Fidelis, *Chris Mulholland, Commander*



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy Fall to All, the Poppy Event for Veterans Day will be November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Wal-Mart on Battlefield. Please plan on helping us on that weekend. All money donated is used for Veterans.

District 2 meeting will be November 16<sup>th</sup> at Post 3160, Norfolk, 111 A View. Lunch is at 12:00 and the meeting starts at 1:00.

Election Day on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Please go vote. All elections are important and some people don't bother to vote in the smaller elections. The City Elections or the Mid-term elections are just as important.

The Auxiliary is always looking for new members. If you know of someone who might be interested, please let us know.

Reports - continue sending in the reports. We can never send in too many. If you have questions about the reports, please let me know. The reports go to National and then National uses them in their reports to Washington DC. Auxiliary 2894 does a lot for Veterans, let's show our pride and send in the reports.

Thanks for All You Do, *Sandy Dunbar, President*



## VOICE OF DEMOCRACY NOMINATIONS DUE 31 OCTOBER

*If you know of an eligible high schooler, please share this scholarship opportunity with him/her!*

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, more than 50,000 high school students compete for more than \$2.3 million in scholarships and incentives. Students compete by writing and recording a broadcast script on an annual patriotic theme.

Prizes and scholarships are awarded at the local, district, state and national level. Department (State) winners receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to tour the city, meet our nation's leaders, be honored by the VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary and receive their portion of \$151,000 in national awards, the top scholarship being \$30,000.

The Voice of Democracy Program is open to students in grades 9-12, who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the US and its territories.

Students should record their reading of the draft to a CD. The recording can be no shorter than 3 and no longer than 5 minutes (plus or minus 5 seconds). The **deadline is October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019** and the theme is: **"What Makes America Great."**





Once the student creates their essay and completes burning the audio version to a CD, he/she can submit the typed version, CD and Voice of Democracy entry form to VFW Post 2894.

Entry forms can be downloaded at:

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>

### PATRIOTS PEN SCHOLARSHIP NOMINATIONS DUE 31 OCTOBER

If you know of an eligible middle schooler, please share this scholarship opportunity with him/her!

The Patriot's Pen program is open to students in grades 6-8, who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States and its territories.

The **deadline is October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019** and the theme is: **"What Makes America Great."** Essays must be between 300-400 words long and should be submitted to a Post 2894 officer, along with the completed entry form.

Entry forms can be downloaded at:

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>



### TEACHERS OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS DUE 31 OCTOBER

In the last three years, Post 2894 was fortunate enough to have a National Teacher of the Year (Craig Blackman, Indian River HS, 2015), a National 3<sup>rd</sup> Runner-Up (Kimberly Hammers, Grassfield HS, 2016), a Department Winner (Kathy Doren, Greenbrier MS, 2017), and a District Winner (Kris Iaquinto, Great Bridge MS, 2019).

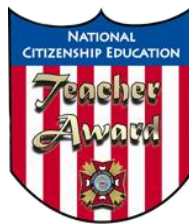
For the Post to qualify as an All-American this year, **we need to submit a nominee for each of the three awards** for teachers: grades K-5, 6-8, and 9-12. If you know of someone who promotes a sense of pride in students through the teaching of civic responsibilities, flag etiquette, and patriotism, please nominate them for this prestigious National VFW Award! The **deadline is October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019!**

Nominations must include the nomination form, a 350 word justification, a one page resume', up to 5 pages of supporting documentation (CV, references, news articles, etc.), and a head-and-shoulder photo.

The top prize winner receives \$1,000 plus another \$1,000 to the school, plaques for both teacher and school, and an all-paid expense trip to the 2020 VFW National Convention which will be in Reno, NV.

Entry forms can be downloaded at:

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/teacher-of-the-year>



### POST BUDDY POPPY DRIVE,

### BUDDY POPPY DRIVE 2-3 NOVEMBER

Poppy Drive over the weekend of 2-3 November at the Walmart at Battlefield Boulevard Shopping Center, 1521 Sam's Circle, Chesapeake, VA 23320. This is the same location where we had the largest poppy drive in our Post's history, collecting \$2.637 in donations! We can do more this year! But we'll need everyone's help. Additional information will be sent as we get closer to the dates. **Thank you in advance!**

### "IN FLANDERS FIELD"

by John McCrae, May 1915

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset  
glow,  
Loved and were loved, and  
now we lie  
In Flanders fields.



Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

### THE HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

[From Military.com]: November 11, or what has come to be known as Veterans Day, was originally set as a U.S. legal holiday to honor Armistice Day - the end of World War I, which officially took place on November 11, 1918.

President Woodrow Wilson honored the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words:

*"To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."*

In 1954, Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, struck out the word "Armistice" and inserted the word "Veterans."

With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Between 1968 and 1975, Veterans Day was moved around on the calendar, sometimes even appearing on the last Monday of October. Finally on September 20, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed a law which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

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Just a reminder, there are four National Days set aside for Servicemen and Women:

Armed Forces Day – to honor those currently serving

Veterans Day – to honor those who served

Memorial Day – to honor those who fell while serving

POW/MIA Day – to honor those who went missing or were captured while serving

## Other Post News

• **Doziers Attend VFW National Convention.** Jean and Carl Dozier traveled to Orlando, Florida in mid-July

to attend the 2019 National Convention of the VFW. They attended a number of different sessions, viewed the Buddy Poppy Art Displays, and enjoyed the nightlife of Orlando. On behalf of the Post, Carl



*Carl Dozier (center) accepting the Service Post Award Sr. Vice Cdr Hal Roesch (lt) and Natl Commander "BJ" Lawrence*

accepted the 2019 National Community Service Award from the VFW National Commander "BJ" Lawrence and incoming Senior Vice Commander – and fellow Virginian – Hal Roesch.

• **Auxiliary Sells Cars at Car Show.** Two years ago, Post member Big Wilson" Mintz (USAF, Vietnam) passed away. He was an avid toy car collector and his family did not know what to do with the thousands of cars he had so they gave them all to the Auxiliary as a fund-

raising device. Every year the Auxiliary sells the cars at various car shows and other events. On 17 August, they raised almost \$600 through the sales of the cars and buddy poppy donations at the Khedive Car Show in Greenbrier. They also handed out buddy poppies and taught some young Cub Scouts the history and meaning



*Auxiliary President Sandy Dunbar, Cheryl Campbell, Conductress Anne Thompson, Secretary Barbara Mulholland and Chaplain Diane Hostetlar (l to r)*

of the poppies.

• **WHAT A GREAT NIGHT WITH THE TIDEWATER TIDES!** Thanks to everyone who came out to the Post meeting at Harbor Park in Norfolk on 10 August. What another beautiful evening and great



camaraderie with veterans and their families! And the Tides won, too! Plan on joining us next year!





• **Post Judge Advocate was 9-11 Keynote Speaker.**

Post Judge Advocate Matt Hamel, who is also a City Councilman, was the keynote speaker at the city's 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony at City Park. He shared his heart-rending experience being near the World Trade Center on that earth-shattering day. And the Virginia Pilot put an emotional photo of him on their cover the following day! Thank you, Matt, for all that you do!



• **Jon Dozier's Family Receives a New Home!**

Last May, Amy and Emma Dozier were invited to a dinner where Amy thought she would be a guest speaker. Instead, she was informed that they had been selected for Operation Coming Home's (OCH's) newest home! The home is being built in Apex, NC. OCH was created by a group of local veterans and members from the Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake County in 2007.

The project builds and donates homes for disabled combat veterans – or the families of deceased veterans – who have served in the Middle East. Their mission is to aid a local military service member who was severely wounded in combat (or the family



*Amy and Emma Dozier receiving the announcement that they were selected for OCH's 20<sup>th</sup> Hero Home*

of a deceased veteran), by fulfilling his/her family desire to live the American Dream of home ownership. The ceremonial start ("roof raising") for the construction of the new home was on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. SSG Jonathan Dozier was killed 11 years ago in Iraq. Amy and Emma are expected to move into the new home on or around Veterans Day, 2019.

• **Post Honors POW/MIA Remembrance Day.** In honor of POW/MIA day on 20 September, the Post set up



a POW/MIA display at the Central Library which ran from 13-20 September. On display was a "missing man" table with all the symbols and a list of all 72 POWs and



MIA's from Chesapeake, South Norfolk and Norfolk County, starting from the Revolutionary War and going all the way through to the War in Vietnam. Then, on POW/MIA day itself, the Post conducted a Remembrance Ceremony.

Mayor Rick West read out a proclamation, the meaning of the items on the missing man table were explained, and the names of each of the 72 missing or POWs were read out with a bell toll. Thanks to all who came out in the middle of a work day to remember those who gave the



ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great country. Later that day, a number of Post and Auxiliary members traveled to Horton Veterans' Cemetery in Suffolk for the dedication ceremony of a POW/MIA Memorial. When you get the opportunity, you should travel out there to see this beautiful monument that remembers the MIAs and POWs still unaccounted for.

• **Post Members Helped Plan and Conduct the Mayor’s Breakfast for Veterans.** Five Post comrades



Comrade Ken Belkofer and his wife, Marie, (right) enjoying breakfast with Mayor Rick West (far left)

serve on the Chesapeake Mayor’s Commission on Veterans’ Affairs (MCVA): Comrade Ken Belkofer is the Chair along with Angela Taylor, David Weber, Richard Boyce, Chris Mulholland and emeritus commissioner Carl Dozier. One of the events they are responsible for is setting up and running the annual Mayor’s Breakfast for Veterans. All veterans in the city of Chesapeake were invited for a free breakfast and presentation hosted by the Mayor on September 21<sup>st</sup> to honor their service.

**CHAPLAIN’S FOXHOLE**

**A Prayer for Veterans Day**

God of peace,  
we pray for those who have served our nation  
and have laid down their lives  
to protect and defend our freedom.

We pray for those who have fought,  
whose spirits and bodies are scarred by war,  
whose nights are haunted by memories  
too painful for the light of day.

We pray for those who serve us now,  
especially for those in harm’s  
way.

Shield them from danger  
and bring them home.

Turn the hearts and minds  
of our leaders and our  
enemies

to the work of justice and a harvest of peace.  
Spare the poor, Lord, spare the poor!

May the peace you left us,  
the peace you gave us,



be the peace that sustains,  
the peace that saves us.

Christ Jesus, hear us!  
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer!  
Amen.

Concord Pastor

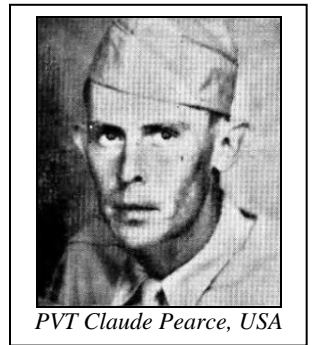
**BATTLE OF HÜRTGEN FOREST**

*(continued from front page)*

Another “Chesapean” serving with the 9<sup>th</sup> Division was PVT Kirby Barrs “KB” Tatum. Kirby was born in Osteen, Florida on September 29, 1921 to John and Liona Tatum – she passed away sometime in the early 1930’s. After high school, Kirby worked as a grocery clerk in DeLand, Florida, before moving to Norfolk with the start of WWII to work in “National Shirt Shops”. After enlisting in the Army, he was assigned serial number 33517712 and sent to join the 39<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment of the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Killed on October 8, 1944

PFC Rufus “Allen” Pridgen was born on April 5, 1915 in Roberson County, NC to James and Rosa Pridgen. Around 1935, he married Linda Lucille Poland and they had their first child, a girl named Joy, in 1937. By 1940, Allen was working as a “truck driver” in “Rural, Roberson, North Carolina”. On December 15, 1943, he enlisted in the Army in Richmond, Virginia and was given serial number 33545436. He was assigned to the 109<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment of the 28<sup>th</sup> Division.

Another soldier in the 109<sup>th</sup> also came from what would become Chesapeake, PVT Claude Howard Pearce. Claude was born on December 30, 1915 to Howard and Nellie (Privet) Pearce in Wendell, NC. On April 21, 1940, he married Lettie Buffalo in Halifax, Virginia (just north of South Boston). They settled in at 1215 Blueridge Street in Norfolk County (it may be now known as Blueridge Road behind Bergie’s Farm near Fentress Airfield.) He worked as a carpenter before enlisting in the Army on March 16, 1944. He then traveled to Camp Fannin, Texas for training before being sent overseas to join the 109<sup>th</sup> Regiment.



PVT Claude Pearce, USA

During its participation in the European Theater of Operations in the Second World War, the 109<sup>th</sup> Regiment served across France and through the Hürtgen Forest. The 109<sup>th</sup> Infantry won battle honors at Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, the Rhineland and Central Europe and were honored with the Luxemburg Croix de Guerre and the French Croix de Guerre.

The 28<sup>th</sup> is the oldest division in the armed forces of the United States, and its nickname was the *Keystone Division*, because of the Keystone patches that members wore on their shoulders. After its fighting in the forest, it was

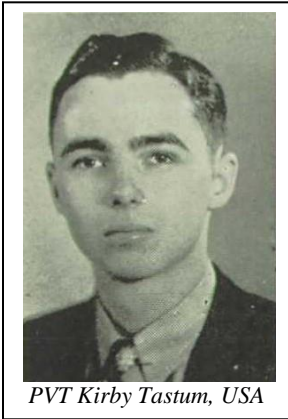




called the *Bloody Bucket Division*.

**Introduction**

The Hürtgen Forest battle area was about 50 square miles that became a chamber of horrors in the late fall of 1944. The forest lies on a plateau adjacent to the Ardennes. It begins a few miles southeast of Aachen, Germany lying in a triangle defined by Aachen, Düren and Monschau. Its 100 foot high, closely spaced fir trees created the equivalent of a twilight jungle in Europe where the enemy could not be seen or attacked until far too late. Large units could not operate cohesively among the deep gorges, high ridges, and narrow trails. Small unit patrols were routinely cut to pieces by machine guns and mortars firing from well-hidden German bunkers or were ambushed by mines, booby traps, and trip wires. The well-built and dug in defenses included elements of the Siegfried Line that ran through the forest. The winter of 1944 was cold and wet keeping the rugged terrain covered with snow or mired in mud while sleet, snow and fog obscured the scene.



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**Into the Woods**

From September 1944 to February 1945, American and German forces fought over the Hürtgen Forest, an area of wooded hills on the border between Belgium and Germany. The attack was originally launched to guard the flank of VIII Corps' advance into Germany. As the fighting progressed, other goals emerged including trying to take control of German industrial dams.

Though outnumbered, the Germans had a string of defensive positions in the form of concrete bunkers, barbed wire, minefields, and tank obstacles, all part of Germany's defensive Siegfried Line. Despite this, the American commanders were confident that they could break through.

**First Attacks**

Allied forces were eager to get into Germany. Following a swift sweep through France, they had reached the homeland of the Reich 233 days ahead of schedule.

The attack into the Hürtgen was preceded by air attacks by the USAAF and the RAF. Thunderbolts, Lightnings, and Typhoons pounded the German border defenses. But tree cover would prevent them from providing the support they could in other terrain, and entering the forest immediately lost the Americans one of their advantages.

The mobility and superiority of tanks and aircraft were largely canceled out. Infantry advanced on heavily defended positions with less support than they had had in the preceding months.

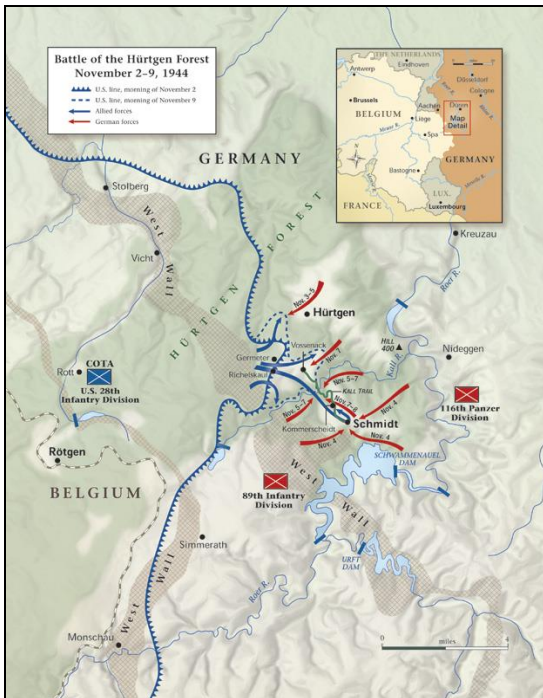


US troops on a trench line in the Hürtgen forest, the border between Belgium and Germany. December 1, 1944

The advance into the forest began on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September, as veterans of the Mediterranean campaign crossed the border from Belgium into Germany. By the next day, they were six miles through the German defenses.

The day after that, the Germans launched the first in a series of counterattacks. By the 17<sup>th</sup>, the fighting had turned into a slow grind. American infantry tried to advance down narrow trails between tough defenses, only to be stalled by German forces and hit by counter-attacks.

On October 5, the 39<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiments attacked towards the town of Schmidt while the 47<sup>th</sup> held a defensive position. Both regiments made good progress initially but were then slowed by defenses and suffered significant casualties: The 60<sup>th</sup>'s 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was reduced to a third after the first day. The 39<sup>th</sup> – KB Tatum's unit – was halted at the Weisser Weh Creek; there were problems with narrow paths, air bursts in trees, and fire breaks which were blocked or enfiladed. Evacuation and supply was difficult or impossible. It was there on October 8<sup>th</sup> that "KB" was killed in action. He is buried at the Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery in Liège, Belgium (Plot F, Row 9, Grave 2).



(Map: Baker Vail; Source: Gene Thorp map from "The Guns at Last Light," by Rick Atkinson)



517th Parachute RCT in the Hürtgen Forest

### Fighting in the Forest

With German pillboxes spread throughout the forest, the Americans had to advance cautiously when they could advance at all. Combat engineers and infantrymen moved slowly through the defenses, lifting mines, cutting barbed wire, defusing booby traps, and attacking pillboxes with flamethrowers and dynamite. The 15<sup>th</sup> Engineer Combat Battalion alone lifted 1,352 mines and neutralized 125 pillboxes under fire during the initial wave of intense fighting.

The Germans had a further advantage in experience. Many of them had fought in the forests of Russia and Finland. The Americans had no such experience and did not initially understand the nuance of combat in forests.

At many points, the Americans found themselves unable to break through the German lines. They stopped where they were, digging foxholes for their own defense. These had to be covered with logs and sod because of the tendency of artillery shells to explode in the treetops, showering them with shrapnel.



28th Infantry Division troops advance through Hürtgen Forest on November 2, 1944, at the start of a long, bloody fight. (PFC G. W. Goodman/U.S. Army/National Archives)

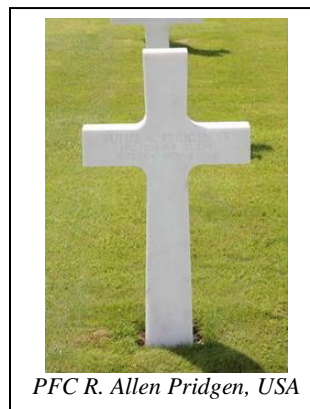
The ill supplied Americans were inexperienced and did not know how to fight against pillboxes. Their training at home had not taught them the techniques they would need to survive in the wooded areas. "When the Germans, secure in their bunkers, saw the GIs coming forward, they called down presighted artillery fire, using shells with fuses designed to explode on contact with the treetops. When men dove to the ground for cover, as they had been trained to do and as instinct dictated, they exposed themselves to a rain of hot metal and wood

splinters. They learned to survive a shelling in the Hürtgen by hugging a tree. That way they only exposed their steel helmets." The Americans, as Sgt. Mack Morris reports, had not realized the extent of the German defenses in the forest. "In one break there was a teller mine every eight paces for three miles. In another there were more than 500 mines in the narrow break. One stretch of road held 300 teller mines, each one with a pull device in addition to the regular detonator. There were 400 anti tank mines in a three-mile area.

The generals were determined to have their breakthrough, and kept launching offensives against German positions. Some led to small successes, though they were often swept away in counter-attacks. More often, little progress was made.

During breaks in the fighting, the two sides called truces to retrieve the dead and wounded. But many men were not found, and so lay dead or dying out among the trees.

The attack by the 28<sup>th</sup> Division – with Claude Pearce and Allen Pridgen – started on 2 November; the defenders were



PFC R. Allen Pridgen, USA

expecting it and were ready. The 109<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, assigned to capture the woods north of Germeter, was impeded after 300 yards by an unexpected minefield (the "Wild Pig"), pinned down by mortar and artillery fire, and harassed by local counterattacks. Just one mile was gained in two days, after which the 109<sup>th</sup> dug in and endured casualties. This initial attack was nearly all the ground

the 109<sup>th</sup> would take during the battle. Pridgen was killed in action on November 4, 1944 and, just one day later, so was Pearce. Claude was awarded a Bronze Star Medal in addition to his Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal.

Claude was returned to North Carolina where he is buried in the Greenmount Cemetery in Wendell while Allen remained in Europe and is buried in the Ardennes American Cemetery, Liège, Belgium (Plot B, Row 13, Grave 5.)

Henry Stephens' 47<sup>th</sup> Raiders remained in combat for weeks, long after other units were relieved and sent to the rear for recuperation. During its operations in early November in the area of Vossenack, Kommerscheidt, and Schmidt, known collectively as the battle of Schmidt, the 28th Infantry Division lost more men in the forest than any of the other divisions. Henry was one of them for he was killed on November 17, 1944. He was returned home and is buried back in his hometown at the Oriental Cemetery in Pamlico County, NC.

### The Strain of War

As fall drew on, endless drizzle turned the ground to mud. Snow followed with the arrival of winter. It was a miserable season for both sides, but particularly for the Americans. Living in cold, wet foxholes, many succumbed to trench foot, the bane of infantrymen in the previous war. They went for days without hot food, living off their packs of C and K rations.

Regular bursts of terrible combat took their toll on men's minds. What medics and commanders of the time called



“combat fatigue” led to many soldiers having to be taken off the line. Some men shot themselves in the foot to get out of combat.

Behind the scenes, generals clung to the delusion that the best thing they could do was to keep launching the same sort of attacks, just as their predecessors had done from 1914 to 1918. Beyond the Hürtgen, the war was moving on, and the Americans could simply have contained and moved around this impossible part of the German lines. But they kept pushing.

As the casualties mounted, inexperienced recruits replaced the veterans who had first entered the forest. Still the fighting ground on.



*US Army veterans of the Battle of Hürtgen Forest.*

### **Towards an End**

In December, the Germans launched a vast counter-attack through the neighboring Ardennes region [which became known as the “Battle of the Bulge”.] The focus of the fighting shifted away from the Hürtgen.

In February, the Americans launched their last substantial attack in the Hürtgen. Their target was now the Rur Dam. If the Germans opened its gates, then the Allied advance into Germany would be delayed by flooding.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of February, the Americans took the dam, but it was already too late. The Germans had jammed open the floodgates. Advances outside the Hürtgen were delayed by two weeks, costing the Americans, British, and Canadians heavy casualties.

The Americans had finally broken through the forest, but it could not be called a victory. The Germans under Field Marshal Model had held them up for six months. This victory belonged to the Germans.

### **Counting the Cost**

During six months of fighting, the Americans sent eight infantry divisions, two armored divisions, and several smaller units into the forest against 80,000 Germans in six full divisions and parts of others. Many rifle companies suffered 50% casualties. Two regiments suffered losses equaling 100% of their fighting strength. In total, out of 120,000 Americans, 33,000 were killed or wounded and thousands more were

knocked out of action by combat exhaustion: a staggering casualty rate of more than 25%.



*Artillery-damaged trees during the Battle of Hürtgen Forest.*

. Because it wasn't a success, the American government and press didn't draw attention to the fighting for the Hürtgen. They swept the story aside and focused on fighting elsewhere.

It was one of the most costly and unproductive American operations of the war. To the men who fought bravely and lost friends there, it would always be the Death Factory.

After the war, German General Rolf van Gersdorff commented, "I have engaged in the long campaigns in Russia as well as other fronts and I believe the fighting in the Hürtgen was the heaviest I have ever witnessed."



*Men of 2nd Platoon, D Company, 39th Infantry Regiment in action*

According to the U.S. Army's official history, “The real winner appeared to be the vast, undulating blackish-green sea that virtually negated American superiority in air, artillery, and armor to reduce warfare to its lowest common denominator.” Given the terrible cost, it seems clear that Major General James Gavin might have been more correct when he said: **“For us, the Hürtgen was one of the most costly, most unproductive, and most ill-advised battles that our army has ever fought.”**

The primary source for this article was *“Forgotten Meat Grinder: The Battle of Hürtgen Forest WWII”* by Andrew Knighton

**+ SAFETY CORNER +**  
**OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION MONTH**

**PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY: GET REAL AND AVOID COUNTERFEIT ELECTRONICS**

Counterfeit products are fake replicas produced in a manner that is increasingly difficult for consumers to identify, which is why we recommend always purchasing from a reputable source or directly from the manufacturer. This is the best way to ensure avoiding counterfeits.



So how else can you avoid purchasing counterfeit products and contributing to organized crime, gang activity, and other criminal activities? Follow these shopping tips to help make sure counterfeiters don't steal your hard-earned money.

**Protecting Yourself Against Counterfeits**

It's not always easy to spot a fake, even when it's side by side with the genuine product. However, it's important to know the clues that can help you spot a fake.

- Labels with missing punctuation or misspellings
- Different fonts or icons
- Blurred logos
- Poor grammar or typos on packaging and/or products

**COUNTERFEITS CAN BE DANGEROUS. GET INFORMED**

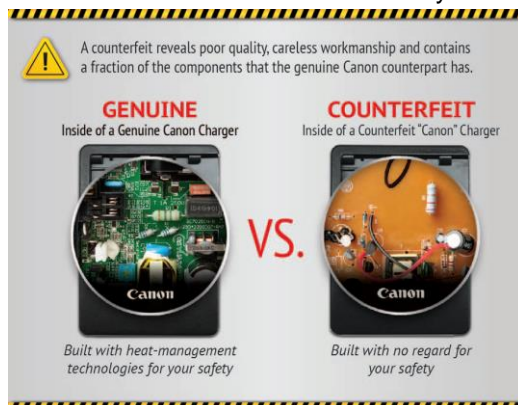
**Safety Tips** - Counterfeit power accessories including batteries, chargers, battery grips, and even external flashes can be dangerous. They may overheat, smoke, melt, or ignite and could cause bodily injury or property damage. These tips will help keep you—and your camera—safe.

**Top tips to help avoid counterfeits:**

- Beware of “too good to be true” prices
- Be careful when buying through foreign websites
- Purchase from authorized dealers or directly from the manufacturer

**Red flags to look for:**

- Check to make sure your battery fits easily in your device
- Check for overheating
- Make sure your battery holds a charge
- Compare logos for



consistency

- Look for a security label such as a genuine hologram which changes when tilted back and forth, as can be found on Canon replacement batteries, toner, single ink tanks, and on the base of select batteries

**Sure-fire Way to Protect Yourself**

When in doubt, let the manufacturer check it out! Don't hesitate to contact the manufacturer with questions or inquiries. Many resources are available to help you combat this insidious crime. For more information, go to [ncpc.org/stopfakes](http://ncpc.org/stopfakes).

**+ SAFETY CORNER +**  
**NOVEMBER IS DROWSY DRIVING PREVENTION MONTH**

**Driving while Drowsy – What's the Harm?**

Most people are aware of the dangers of driving while intoxicated, but many do not know that drowsiness also impairs judgment, performance and reaction times just like alcohol and drugs. Studies show that being awake for more than 20 hours results in an impairment equal to a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08, the legal limit in all states.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration conservatively estimates that 100,000 policereported crashes each year are caused primarily by drowsy driving and that such crashes result in more than 1,550 deaths, 71,000 injuries and \$12.5 billion in monetary losses. According to National Sleep Foundation surveys, half of American adults consistently report that they have driven drowsy and approximately 20% admit that they have actually fallen asleep at the wheel in the previous year. This brochure outlines the important facts about sleepiness behind the wheel and offers tips to help you drive alert and arrive alive.

**Watch Out for Signs of Sleepiness**

Most people are not very good at predicting when they are about to fall asleep. But there are key warning signs to tell you when you are too tired to drive, including:

- Trouble focusing, keeping your eyes open or your head up
- Yawning or rubbing your eyes repeatedly
- Daydreaming and wandering thoughts
- Drifting from your lane, tailgating and missing signs or exits
- Feeling restless, irritable or aggressive
- Turning up the radio or rolling down the window
- Slower reaction time, poor judgment

**Preventing a Fall-Asleep Crash**

The best way to avoid a drowsy driving crash is to get adequate sleep on a regular basis, practice good sleep habits, and seek treatment for sleep problems, should they arise. In addition, here are some important driving dos and don'ts:



**DON'T**

- Drive if you are tired or on medication that may cause drowsiness.(Check medication labels and speak to your doctor)
- Rely on the radio, an open window or other tricks to keep you awake.
- Drive at times when you would normally be sleeping.
- Drink even a small amount of alcohol, especially if you are sleepy.

**DO**

- Get a good night's sleep before a long drive.
- Get off the road if you notice any of the warning signs of fatigue.
- Take a nap – find a safe place to take a 15 to 20-minute nap.
- Consume caffeine – the equivalent of 2 cups of coffee can increase alertness for several hours, but DO NOT rely on it for long periods.
- Try consuming caffeine before taking a short nap to get the benefits of both.
- Drive with a friend. A passenger who remains awake can help watch for signs of fatigue in the driver and can take a turn driving, if necessary.
- Always wear your seatbelt.

**FROM THE EDITOR**

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

505 Piping Rock Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23322  
757-482-4981 or [majmule@verizon.net](mailto:majmule@verizon.net)

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

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

Semper fidelis, - Chris Mulholland

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

**QUARTERMASTER DESK**



**Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$30**

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

**LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP**

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


<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](http://www.vfw.org), via mail, or in-person at the meetings.

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

# FUNDRAISER DINNER WITH SHANE JOHNSON



## HIKE ACROSS AMERICA 2019

### PROCEEDS GO TO THE GARY SINISE FOUNDATION

**5:30 pm (1730) October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**

**VFW Post 4809, 5728 Barteet St, Norfolk**

**Come meet Shane Johnson and enjoy a fabulous dinner prepared by Veteran graduates of Culinary Institute of Virginia.**

*Menu: Chicken (w/white wine pan sauce) or Beef (w/red wine pan or horseradish sauce); rice pilaf or whipped potatoes; roasted carrots or green beans; fresh rolls; garden or Caesar salad; choice of gourmet cupcake*

Cash bar 5:30-6:00 pm - Dinner 6:00 pm followed by presentation

Ticket cost = \$27.25 Make your reservations now at:  
<https://vfw-post-2894.ticketleap.com/hike-across-america-fundraiser-dinner>

Event hosted by VFW Posts 2894 and 4809.



**ALLIANCE FOR VETERANS HEALTH (AFVH)**  
Presents

**A FREE VETERANS Health Fair and Adapted Sports Day**

**Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-1:00pm**

Fl. Monroe Community Center 100 Stillwell Road, Ft. Monroe, Va.

Get Set 4 All, Inc is a (501)(c)3 dedicated to provide opportunities 4 all to experience the freedom of adapted sports and activities creating relationships that can last a lifetime and save lives.

"AFVH" Alliance for Veterans Health is supported by Virginia VFW  
"AFVH" proudly serves our Veterans who valiantly fought to protect this great nation, its people and our freedoms!

**Veteran Healthcare Screening, Referral, and Information Stations**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Primary Care</li> <li>-Dental</li> <li>-Mental Wellness</li> <li>-Chiropractor</li> <li>-Mental Wellness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Hearing (no cost test &amp; phone available)</li> <li>-Vision (free exam &amp; eye glasses)</li> <li>-Diabetes &amp; Cholesterol Testing</li> <li>-Dept. of Veteran Services</li> <li>-Interment Counseling (Dignity Memorial)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Employment Opportunities</li> <li>-Podiatry</li> <li>-Healing Waters Fly Fishing</li> <li>-Navy Safe Harbor</li> <li>-and MORE...</li> </ul>
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Complimentary Breakfast and Lunch provided plus a free Goody Bag in appreciation for your service to this great Nation!

**Note: Please bring a copy of your Military ID or DD Form 214 for the Health Fair.**

A free Sun Wheelers Wheelchair Basketball Game begins at 1:30pm. Stay and be our guest!

**You can register <https://www.eventbrite.com>**  
*Eventbrite Title: Get Set 4 All and Alliance for Veterans Health Fair and Adapted Sports Day*



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>VFW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION</b> PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE</p> <p style="text-align: right;">NATIONAL COPY Ver 3/16</p> <p>NAME _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____</p> <p>EMAIL _____</p> <p>DATE OF BIRTH _____ GENDER (M) (F) _____</p> <p>PHONE _____ SSN (optional) _____</p> <p>BRANCH OF SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> ARMY <input type="checkbox"/> NAVY <input type="checkbox"/> AIR FORCE <input type="checkbox"/> MARINE <input type="checkbox"/> COAST GUARD</p> <p>QUALIFYING CAMPAIGN MEDAL(S) and/or SERVICE _____</p> <p>DATES OF SERVICE: _____</p> <p>LOCATION OF QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE: _____</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Please see reverse for terms and conditions of Automatic Payment and Installment Life Plans.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MEMBERSHIP TYPE (choose one)</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>ANNUAL MEMBER</b> Payment Authorization You may pay by check or credit. For payments by check, you will receive a yearly Statement by mail. For credit card payments, please complete the following: <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ _____ on a yearly Basis to pay my Annual membership dues.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of \$ _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>LIFE MEMBER</b> <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to charge my account for a one-time payment of \$ _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLAN</b> <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ _____ to be paid in 11 monthly installment payments after my initial payment of \$45.00. <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize the VFW to charge the \$45.00 initial payment and I understand that I will be billed for the remaining 11 monthly installment payments.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>QUARTERMASTER - PLEASE FILL OUT</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NEW Post No. _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> FORMER MEMBER ID No. _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> TRANSFER From Post No. _____ to Post No. _____</p> <p>RECRUITER (please print) _____</p> <p>QUARTERMASTER _____</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TEMPORARY RECEIPT</b></p> <p>Membership Application - Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Date: _____</p> <p>Received from _____ \$ _____</p> <p>Post No: _____ City and State _____</p> <p>Received By: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(circle one) CASH CHECK VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMEX</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PLEASE SEPARATE FORMS BEFORE SIGNING</b></p> <p>The Review Committee has performed its duties and recommends _____ approval _____ rejection. (signatures of Committee members below)</p> <p>Committee member _____ Committee Member _____ Date _____</p> <p>DUES PAID: _____ ADMISSION FEE PAID: _____ DATE: _____ RECEIVED BY: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>VFW Post Member Transfer Declaration</b> (used for Transfers in accordance with Sec. 107 of the Manual of Procedure) I hereby certify that it is my desire to transfer my VFW membership from VFW Post _____ located in _____ to _____ VFW Post _____ located in _____.</p> <p>I further certify that I am not indebted to my former Post, be it through oral or written commitment or otherwise, and that to the best of my knowledge no written charges have been preferred against me by my former Post, and I understand that any such indebtedness or charge which may be disclosed at any time hereafter will render this transfer null and void. <i>Please have the applicant sign to the right</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">\$1.98 of your membership goes towards your VFW magazine subscription.</p>

**MEMBERSHIP/MEMBER TRANSFER APPLICATION PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Recruited/Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_ Recruiter Member ID \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary No. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID (If already a member) \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership  Life  Rejoined Previous Member No. \_\_\_\_\_, Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_

Member-at-Large  Life Member-at-Large in Department of \_\_\_\_\_ or in  National

*These fields required.* Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Male  or Female   
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**POST AFFILIATED:** (\*Must be a member to the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)  
 Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ to Eligible Veteran\* \_\_\_\_\_ VFW Membership ID \_\_\_\_\_

**LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER,** Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_ Accepting Treasurer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL TRANSFER,** Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_ Paying  or Nonpaying  ? (check one)

**ANNUAL TRANSFER CONVERTING TO LIFE,** Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_ (Fill out Life Membership information below.)

**NON AFFILIATED:** (\*Veteran is not a member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)  
 Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ to Eligible Veteran\* \_\_\_\_\_ VFW Post \_\_\_\_\_ (If applicable)

Name of campaign ribbons or medals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dates of Service: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

I attest that I am a citizen of the United States or a U.S. National, and am at least 16 years of age. I further state that I believe in God. I pledge to comply with the National Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary. I attest I am not eligible for membership in the VFW. I further attest that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, including my stated relationship to the Veteran.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Investigating Committee: 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_

Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws.  Rejected  Election Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Obligated Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP**  Check here if this is a gift.  
 Card will be mailed to the Auxiliary Treasurer.  
 Payment:  Cash  Check  Visa  
 MasterCard  Discover  AMEX  
 Life Membership Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on credit card \_\_\_\_\_  
 Billing address for card \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 CVV Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP**  ACH (Bank withdrawal)  
 Name of Bank \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bank Routing No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Account No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attach voided check HERE. (Required)



**LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES**  
 Effective 1/1/2017

Attained age at 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.	
Through 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

**OBLIGATION**

In the presence of Almighty God and the members of this organization here assembled, I do of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise that I will never wrong or defraud this organization nor a member thereof nor permit either to be wronged if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership any person not eligible, according to our Bylaws. I further state that I believe in God. I will be faithful to the United States of America, obedient to the laws and loyal to the Flag. Should my membership with this organization cease in any way, I will consider this obligation as binding outside of the organization as though I had remained a member. I do so promise. Signature \_\_\_\_\_ (Must be signed by all members.)

VFW Auxiliary HQ Revised 01/2019





**“In my opinion, the M1 rifle is the greatest battle implement ever devised.”**

**- Gen. George S. Patton, USA**



# **M1 GARAND RAFFLE**

(CMP grade M1 Garand)



**\$10 per  
ticket!**

*We will  
remember  
them*



**Drawing on 11 November 2019**

*Need not be present to win*

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

**First semiautomatic standard rifle for US Military. Never officially referred to as the Garand, it is known by no other now. Adopted in 1936, it served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and a host of "police actions". The M1 has a classic elegance and grace characteristic of a bygone era, when steel was forged in white heat and walnut was carefully shaped for both form and function. There will never again be such a rifle, so brimming with the genius of an individual mind, so well constructed to outlive us all, so sculpted as to ask the hand to caress.**

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

# POST 2894 CALENDAR

OCTOBER	
2	Sheriff's Great American Food Fest
2	Hike Across America Fundraiser Dinner, Post 4809 Norfolk (1730)
5	Veterans Health Fair, Ft. Monroe Community center
6	National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Day
7	Start of OEF (2001)
9	Post Meeting, 1900 / Quarterly Audit / District Inspection
12	USS Cole Bombing (2000)
13	US Navy Birthday (1775)
14	Columbus Day
23	Bombing of Marine Barracks Beirut (1983)
27	Navy Day
31	Halloween

NOVEMBER	
1	Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, Teachers of the Year due to Post
2	Honor Flight, Indian River Parking Center
2-3	Buddy Poppy Drive, WalMart Greenbrier
3	Daylight Savings ends (back 1 hour)
5	Election Day
10	Marine Corps Birthday (1775)
11	Veterans Day Ceremony (1100, City Hall)
11	Vets Day Ceremony, Cedar Manor (1600)
13	Post Meeting, 1900
16	District 2 meeting, Post 3160 (1200)
28	Thanksgiving

Place  
Stamp  
Here



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



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED