

## 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..... Bob Gregory  
Adjutant..... Matt Hostettlar  
Quartermaster..... Mike Kust  
Chaplain..... Andrew McMenamin  
Surgeon..... Dave 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 Hostettlar  
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)

### VFW VA DISTRICT 2

[www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2](http://www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2)



## 70 Years Ago: "The Frozen Chosin"

BY C. DOUGLAS STERNER

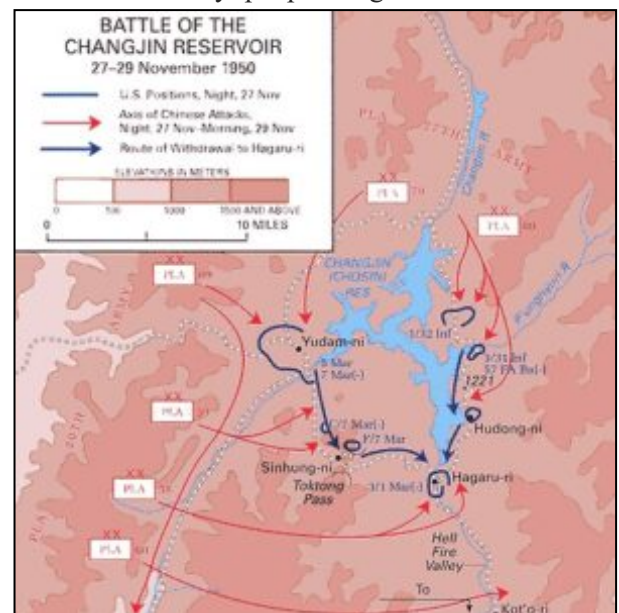
In November 1950, eight thousand Americans, most of them US Marines, struggled to survive the coldest winter in 100 years in North Korea.

Surrounded by 120,000 Chinese soldiers, their only lifeline was a 15'-wide, steep mountain road they called the MSR (Main Supply Route) that led to the port city of Hungnam.

From Yudam-ni at the northwest corner of the Chanjin Reservoir, the MSR was a dangerous, 78-mile journey to the Sea of Japan. The trip was made far more difficult by the massive enemy force surrounding it. The withdrawal, the longest in American military history, would take 13 days and cost many lives. Those who didn't understand what was happening called it a "retreat", while one American general simply said, "We're attacking in a different direction." How you assess what happened over those two freezing weeks in North Korea depends on your perspective.

It is adversity that demands valor, a trial that demonstrates the highest

levels of brotherhood. The Marines at the Chanjin Reservoir, identified on Japanese maps as the Chosin Reservoir, pulled together to ensure the success of the withdrawal. What many people might have considered



being the darkest two weeks in Marine Corps history may have, in fact, become the Marine Corps' defining moment. With their backs to the wall, the men of the 1st Marine Division pulled together to accomplish the impossible. Their teamwork cemented a band of brothers who came to call themselves: "The Frozen Chosin".

(Continued on page 7)

### COMMANDER'S CORNER

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

Please tell family, friends, co-workers and neighbors about what you do, what our Post does, and what the VFW does. I have included the latest copy of our community report status at the end of this newsletter.



Don't be shy about 'bragging' about what we do. Suggest to those who are eligible that they join us in helping others, whether they contribute 5 minutes, 5 hours, or 5 days – it's all welcome! 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 several times larger than our current 154!

A reminder that our "His & Hers" pistol raffle is going on 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 three great programs that have applications due on November 1<sup>st</sup>: **Teacher of the Year**, **Voice of Democracy** and **Patriots Pen**. 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.

And ELECTION DAY is November 3<sup>rd</sup>! Make sure your voice is 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 EVERYONE! The Auxiliary hopes everyone is SAFE and Doing Well. On Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, the Auxiliary went to a car Show in Portsmouth to sell some more of



the die-cast cars and trucks that were donated to us. We cleared \$196. Thank You Barbara, Anne, Grace and Cheryl.

During this time of COVID, let us remember to do what we can to help Veterans and their families. Thanks for your support and remember to send in Reports.

Last, please remember to VOTE! If you can help on Election Day it is Appreciated.

*Sandy Dunbar, President*



### POST BUDDY POPPY DRIVE, 7-8 NOVEMBER

We will be conducting the Veterans' Day Buddy Poppy Drive over the weekend of 7-8 November at a location yet to be finalized. Last year, we collected \$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.

## DAYS FOR VETERANS

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

## POST AWARDS

• **Post Honors State Trooper of the Year.** The Post’s annual awards ceremony was cancelled due to the Wuhan flu so we have had to arrange for independent awards ceremonies. On 5 August, we were able to hold a ceremony to recognize and award our Post “State Trooper of the Year.” This was our second ever such award and we presented it at the State Trooper Barracks in Chesapeake. This year’s awardee was Special Agent Accountant Austin Pittman. He was born at Royal Air Force base Mildenhall in England, and is an Air Force “military



From left: Jim Keiper, Chris Mulholland, Trooper Austin Pittman, and Jim Ireland

brat”. He attended six different schools for primary/secondary education and graduated from Tabb HS in York County and Longwood University. He joined the VSP in 2004 and was also a canine officer with his German Shepard partner, “Haro”. Trooper Pittman was promoted to Special agent and assigned to Chesapeake in 2014. He has made over 75 arrests related to financial crime since arriving in

Chesapeake. Councilmember Debbie Ritter was also on hand to share in this recognition. We made a \$200 donation in his name to the Virginia State Police Association’s Teddy Bear Program which provides teddy bears to state troopers to give out to traumatized children at accident or crime scenes.

• **Post Honors Fire Department Awardees.** On Wednesday, 26 August, Post representatives handed out awards to members of the Chesapeake Fire Department (CFD) in a ceremony at Station 12 in Western Branch. Junior Vice Commander Bob Gregory, Service Officer Jim Ireland, and former Commander Carl Dozier, along with Fire Chief Elliott and members of the Command Staff participated in the ceremony. Lt Waistel Kelley was our EMS Provider of the Year and FF Timothy Livingston was our Firefighter of the Year. In



Post members and CFD Awardees along with Chief Elliott

addition, FF/PM Richard Gray was presented with the National VFW Paramedic of the Year Award – the Post’s fifth national public servant award in five years! Congratulations to all who were recognized and their continued dedication to the City of Chesapeake. The ceremony was followed by a sit-down breakfast with the firefighters.

• **Post Honors Deputy Sheriffs of the Year.** Post 2894 normally recognizes a single awardee in each category of Public Service but this year was special because two deputies equally earned the accolade. In November 2019, Deputies Quitez Burke and Ronald Hastings, Jr., came across a multiple vehicle accident involving an overturned 18-wheeler and a tour bus in the Afton Mountains. They secured the scene, helped evacuate the tour bus, and freed the driver of the 18-

wheeler who was pinned in the cab of his vehicle! On Thursday, 27 August, Comrades Jim Ireland and Carl Dozier presented plaques to the two deputies recognizing them as the Post’s “Deputies of the Year.” Congratulations to these heroes!



*From left: Carl Dozier, Jim Ireland, Deputy Burke, Deputy Hastings, and Sheriff Jim O'Sullivan*

• **Post Middle School Teacher of the Year.** At our Post meeting on 9 September, we recognized and awarded our 2019-20 Middle School Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Virginia “Ginny” Corbett, of Hugo Owens MS. Ginny is in her 21<sup>st</sup> year of teaching and is strongly involved in the Military Child Club, which supports students who have parents serving in



*Post Commander Mulholland presents Mrs. Corbett with her “crystal apple” while her husband, a Chesapeake Fire Fighter, looks on*

the military. She engages her students in all aspects of Civics: including historical documents leading to Declaration of Independence, Constitution and its Amendments. She stresses the importance of Citizenship, its rights and responsibilities, and the positive character traits of citizens through simulations. Among civic duties she discusses is the military draft and she has each class propose a Bill to include women in the draft and debate if the draft is still necessary in today’s

times. She routinely has students create their own political parties allowing them to produce platforms using current events and teaches them to respect ideas that are different from their own. Ginny brings her subject to life and believes it is her duty to instill pride and love for one’s country, one child at a time. Congratulations!

• **Post Honors Local Veteran Business Owner.** Also at our September Post meeting, we took time to recognize Troy Hare, owner/operator of Hare’s Heating, Cooling and Electrical, who fixed the A/C for an elderly Korean War veteran who had been without it since May. She was covered with heat sores when we found out about her and the Post purchased a small unit to cool one room



*CDR Mulholland presents check to Troy Hare.*

but it wasn’t enough. Troy’s repair of her A/C very likely saved her life this summer, which was extremely hot. The total value of his work and a ‘used’ system would have cost over \$2,500. If we had to buy a new system it would have been much more. He donated his labor and reduced the cost to \$800. We received assistance from Posts 4411 and 3160 and presented him with a check for \$500 (along with a Home Depot card worth more than \$331). Troy has also found a company to donate a new air handler which is dented and unable to be sold. And he will look for a donated – or at least buy at a reduced cost – 2-1/2 ton A/C unit and will install them both for her when the weather cools. She will have a total new system! Troy is a veteran and will be joining the Post. Incredibly, he turned around and gave back the check we presented him and told us to use it on another needy vet! Thank you, Thank You, THANK YOU!

## Other Post News

### • Congratulations to Ted Roberts and His Family Upon His Retirement From the US Air Force!

Post comrade – and Air Force Lieutenant Colonel – Ted Roberts, officially retired from the US Air Force in a ceremony held on 21 August 2020 at American Legion Post 280 (due to the Wuhan corona virus). Ted enlisted in the Air Force in 1989, was accepted into the Air Force Academy in 1996 and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2020 after 31 years of faithful service. He was joined by his family: wife Ruth, daughters Nyla and Alina, and son Blake.

• **Post Comrade Teaches Kids Martial Arts during the Wuhan Flu Lockdown.** Post comrade Nelson Lebron is a champion ultimate fighter who gives back by teaching kids martial arts and self-defense. Between March and July, the studio he



teaches at was closed so he had travel to the homes of his students to continue their training. In late July, the domo was finally allowed to open and he was able to publicly award some belts to his younger trainees.

• **Post Comrade Helps Kick Off Election Campaign In North Carolina.** Post comrade John

Peterson traveled to Wake, North Carolina to help a fellow veteran, Alan Swain, kick-off his campaign as Congressman for North Carolina's 2nd District. As John wrote in an e-mail, "Very proud to participate in Alan Swain's congressional kickoff campaign for North Carolina's 2d District. Alan and I were 2LTs in Field Artillery Basic Course in 1976 and we were assigned to the same battalion in Germany under LTC Marvin Covault.



Left to right: John Peterson, Alan Swain, and Marvin Covault

Coincidentally COL Covault was my Field Artillery Brigade Commander again in Ft Sill from 1982-1984. He went on to become a Lieutenant General. LTG (R) Covault gave a fantastic keynote speech for Alan's campaign. It was great seeing him and Alan after all of these years. Alan Swain for Congress!"

• **Post Comrade Was Keynote Speaker at City's "Virtual" 9-11 Ceremony.** Post comrade – and City Councilmember – Susan Vitale was the keynote speaker at this year's annual 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony hosted by the city of Chesapeake. Last year's speaker was also a Post member and City Councilman – Matt Hamel. He talked about being in New York City on 9-11 and seeing the attack on the World Trade Center. On the same morning, in Washington DC, Susan was active duty Navy and driving across the 14<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge when American Airlines Flight 77 struck the Pentagon. She



recounted how the bridge shook at the impact and the pandemonium afterwards. In an emotional speech, she also reminded everyone how the country

came together in the aftermath: "In the midst of tragedy, Americans stood together, despite their differences of opinion or political ideology." She asked everyone to try and regain that solidarity. Chesapeake is the only city on the East Coast with artifacts from all three 9-11 sites.

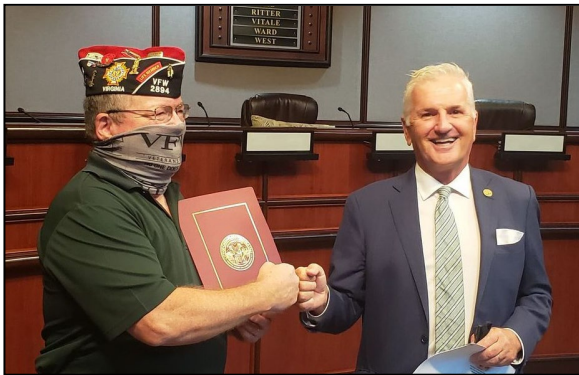
• **Post Honors POW/MIA Remembrance Day.** For the past three years, the Post has coordinated with the City Library to erect a display honoring National POW/MIA Day.



A father explains the meaning of the display to his two young daughters

On display was a "missing man" table, with all the

associated symbols, and a list of all 72 POWs and MIAs from Chesapeake, South Norfolk and Norfolk County, starting from the Revolutionary War and going all the way through to the War in Vietnam. For the sixth year in a row, the Post organized and conducted a POW/MIA



Remembrance Ceremony at City Hall on National POW/MIA Day (the third Friday in September). Due to tropical storm Sally, we could not hold the ceremony outside but the city was gracious enough to allow us to use the City Council chambers. Mayor Rick West read a proclamation and several city dignitaries, including City Councilmember Debbie Ritter and Assistant City Manager (and Post comrade) Robert Geis, were in attendance as well. Comrade Kimball Thompson acted as Post Chaplain and Post Commander Chris Mulholland shared the personal stories of a number of the POWs/MIAs.

• **Birthday Parade for Eddie!** Eddie Vincek is our Iwo Jima vet and turned 96 years young in September. His family wanted to honor him but because of the restrictions caused by the Wuhan virus, the only way they could do that was through a "birthday parade"! So the Post organized a "drive-by" birthday celebration parade. We had motorcycles and patrol vehicles from the Chesapeake Sheriff's Department and Police Department, over a dozen of vehicles from the Chesapeake Fire Department, and a number of decorated cars, trucks and vans from the Post. Channel 13, WVWEC, even aired a story about the parade (you can watch it on our Facebook page.) We even had "fly-overs" by Marine Corps Ospreys and Navy MH-53s! (from the air show though we'll take the credit!) Happy Birthday, Eddie!



## CHAPLAIN'S FOXHOLE

### Prayer for Korean War Veterans.

Our prayer is focused on the 5.8 million Americans who served in the U.S. armed services during the three-year period of the Korean War.

*We give the Almighty thanks for the men and women who served in the Korean War.*

*Our hearts and prayers are with the families of these brave military personnel.*

*We give thanks for the families who have endured the loss of loved ones and we give thanks for the FREEDOMS we hold so dear.*

*Wars fought abroad by the US Military are the sacrifice we make for freedom, O Lord, as we endeavor to keep in remembrance all those who served and give undying gratitude for them.*

*Our prayer is to keep our shores safe and our nation at peace.*



*Bless you, O Lord, for the Dedication of our Military  
in your Sovereign name Amen*

Chaplains Robert and Theresa Phillips,  
St Charles Veterans Center, Illinois

## **"THE FROZEN CHOSIN"** *(continued from front page)*

### **Theirs Not To Reason Why**

The war in Korea began early on the morning of Sunday, June 25, 1950, when nearly one hundred thousand soldiers from the North crossed the 38th parallel that divided South Korea from Communist North Korea.

Unprepared and overwhelmed, the Army of the Republic of Korea was almost destroyed and the South's capital city of Seoul fell to the invaders within days. Six days later soldiers of the American 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry arrived to assist the Republic of Korea (ROK) Army in the defense of their homeland, but it was too little, too late. By early fall, the future of South Korea was uncertain.

On September 15<sup>th</sup> United Nations forces, led by General Douglas MacArthur and consisting primarily of United States soldiers and Marines, made the daring landing at Inchon and the tide of battle began to turn. Within weeks it was the North Korean army that was almost destroyed, giving up the cities they had taken earlier and falling back in full retreat behind the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel. The victory had been swift and decisive, returning control of South Korea to its rightful owners. General MacArthur wanted to follow with steps to ensure their future as well.

The divided peninsula of Korea rests between the Sea of Japan and the Yellow Sea. Its only neighbor sits along the north-east boundary of North Korea. That border is the Yalu River, and that neighbor is the Chinese Manchuria. Fearful of an American sweep into the North following the successful landing at Inchon, the Chinese government issued a warning that if General MacArthur sent his troops north of the 38th parallel, they would be met by soldiers of the Chinese Army. Military planners doubted that the threat was real, and sent the Allied forces north to "neutralize" the forces of North Korea and ensure that a repeat of the June 25th invasion would not occur. On October 9, 1950, the first elements of American military units crossed the 38th parallel to take the battle home to the North Koreans. Five days later two Chinese Armies consisting of 12 Divisions (120,000 soldiers) crossed the Yalu River undetected.

For weeks the Chinese soldiers moved into the rugged mountains of North Korea, traveling only under cover of night and camouflaging their positions during the day. As MacArthur's forces moved north in a two-prong front, the 8th Army moved toward the Yalu River from the western side of the peninsula and the 10th Army on the eastern coast, the



Americans didn't realize a well-hidden, massive force was waiting to pounce on them. On October 25<sup>th</sup> the hidden enemy attacked, surprising forces of the ROK army. In three days they destroyed four ROK regiments. Still, American war planners were hesitant to believe the Chinese Force was more than just a few scattered units of North Korean soldiers, and committed the men of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Armies to an offensive campaign to end the war and, as General MacArthur promised, get American soldiers "Home by Christmas".

While the 8<sup>th</sup> Army was moving up the western edge of North Korea, on the east coast the port city of Wonsan was taken, followed by the city of Hangman. From there, members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division would move northwest on the MSR to the vital Chosin Reservoir. The village of Koto-ri was almost midway from Hungnam to the north edge of the reservoir, and the 4,200 Marines of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Regiment set up there. The 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division Headquarters was established at Hagaru-ri, a small village at the southern tip of the reservoir. By November 27<sup>th</sup>, 3,000 Americans inhabited Hagaru-ri, most of them engineers, clerks, and supply personnel.

The combat troops, warriors of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiments, moved 12 miles northwest to the village of Yudam-ni. From here they were to travel west, crossing the rugged mountains to link up with the 8<sup>th</sup> Army. That was the plan, but the plan hadn't factored in two unexpected obstacles:

1. Between 120,000 and 150,000 well-hidden Chinese Communist soldiers, and
2. The worst winter weather conditions in 100 years.

One can only guess how cold it became in the high Taebaek Mountains around the Chosin Reservoir during the winter of 1950. At one regimental headquarters, the thermometer fell to



minus 54 degrees. American Marines shivered in their foxholes, while vehicle drivers were forced to run their engines 24-hours a day. If the engine were shut down, chances were high that it couldn't be restarted. A rare hot meal could quickly freeze in the time it took a Marine to move from the serving line to a place where he could sit down to eat it. Then, to add to the misery, the Chinese launched their surprise attack.

The "Home by Christmas" offensive officially began on November 24<sup>th</sup>, the day after Thanksgiving. In the west the 8<sup>th</sup> Army began their push to the Yalu, only to be surprised by an unbelievable swarm of hidden Communist soldiers. Within days the CCF (Chinese Communist Forces) destroyed the ROK II Corps, leaving the 8<sup>th</sup> without flanking cover or general support. The badly battered 8<sup>th</sup> Army was ordered to fall back on November 19<sup>th</sup>, a 275-mile withdrawal that in six weeks cost 10,000 casualties.

On the eastern slope of the Taebaek Mountains, most of the Marines were unaware of what was happening in the west, or just how badly outnumbered and surrounded they were. The first indication came on the morning of November 27<sup>th</sup> as two companies of the 5<sup>th</sup> Marines began the push from Yudam-ni westward. Before noon they ran into an enemy roadblock. Unaware of the numbers of enemies around them, the Marines engaged the Chinese, destroying the roadblock. Then the enemy fire began to rain on them from all directions. The Marines knew they were in for a fight, one that lasted for nearly four hours. Then, when the firing subsided, the Marines attempted to dig in. The intensity of the battle convinced them that they were facing more than straggling units of North Korean soldiers. They knew the enemy would attack again, in force, under the cover of darkness. They did!

*"The American Marine First Division has the highest combat effectiveness in the American armed forces. It seems not enough for our four divisions to surround and annihilate its two regiments. (You) should have one or two more divisions as a reserve force."*

-Mao Zedong's orders to Chinese General Song Shilun

As night fell on November 27, tens of thousands of Chinese soldiers came out of hiding, attacking American soldiers and Marines at all points around the Chosin Reservoir. The two companies dug in to the west of Yudam-ni were shivering from the cold in make-shift foxholes when the overwhelming force attacked. In the darkness the Chinese swarmed the hill, coming within yards of the embattled Marines to toss grenades among them with deadly effectiveness. In one sector of the American perimeter, protected by two machine-guns, the horde quickly overran one of the key defensive positions. When a grenade landed near the only remaining machine-gun, Staff Sergeant Robert Kennemore recognized the danger to nearby soldiers, as well as the gun emplacement. Quickly he stomped his foot on the grenade to push it into the snow, the subsequent blast throwing his body into the air.

The Marines somehow held through the night, but their heavy losses were quickly visible in the breaking daylight. For S/Sgt Kennemore the cold may have been a lifesaver. He was

found, the stumps of his legs frozen in blood-caked snow, still alive. Others were not so fortunate. And it was only the beginning.

From November 27<sup>th</sup> to December 10<sup>th</sup>, American soldiers and Marines would find themselves in a battle unlike any other in history. Survival would call for leadership, teamwork, and immense courage. From it was born a brotherhood perhaps unmatched by veterans of any other battle. During the horrible 14 days that followed "LIFE" magazine photographer David Duncan, himself a Marine Corps veteran of World War II, captured many heart-rending images. None, perhaps, was quite as poignant as the one at left. Even more, telling was the three simple words spoken by this soldier.

Upon capturing the image with his camera, David Duncan couldn't help asking this soldier, "What would you like for Christmas?" His simple answer echoed the hope of so many young Marines facing a hopeless situation at the Chosin Reservoir. He replied: "Give Me Tomorrow."

The hope for any tomorrows lay in the Marines' ability to support each other. Eight thousand troops from the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Marines were at the northwest corner of the Chosin Reservoir at Yudam-ni. Their only hope of support was provided by the



3,000 clerks and supply personnel 14 miles south at Hagaru-ri. The lifeline was the MSR, winding its way through the snow-covered mountains. If the MSR fell to the Chinese, the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Marines would be cut off... trapped. To prevent this, Company F (Fox), 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division was sent to the high mountains of the 3-mile long Toktong Pass, almost mid-way between Yudam-ni and Hagaru-ri.

#### **Monday, November 27<sup>th</sup>**

Captain Bill Barber had only been in Korea for a month, but he was no "rookie company commander". He had proved his leadership abilities and courage five years earlier at Iwo Jima, where he was awarded the Silver Star. On November 27<sup>th</sup> Captain Barber and his 240 Marines were moved by truck to the Toktong Pass, where Barber found a high ridge overlooking the MSR. As night fell his Marines tried desperately to break through the frozen ground to dig foxholes. Their position, dubbed "Fox Hill", was going to be home for a while.

At 2:30 in the morning on November 28<sup>th</sup>, while Staff Sergeant Kennemore lay bleeding in the snow miles north of Barber's company, the Chinese swarmed Fox Hill. Swooping in from their hidden positions in the mountains, the Communist soldiers surrounded Barber's Marines. Wave after wave came at Barber throughout the early morning, threatening to overrun Fox Hill, but the Marines held. Many had been roused from their sleeping bags by the surprise onslaught and fought for hours in their bare feet. Wounded Marines ignored serious



injuries to continue the fight. One of them, Private Hector Cafferata, fought a lone battle to keep the fanatical Communists from over-running his position. As daylight dawned, an enemy grenade landed in a shallow trench where the more seriously wounded had been moved. Cafferata rushed forward and grabbed the grenade, lobbing it away to save the wounded Marines. The heroic action cost him serious wounds to his hand and arms, but even those wounds weren't enough to stop Cafferata. He continued to resist, to battle the enemy, until wounded by a sniper bullet.

Daylight signaled the potential for the Marines to receive air support, and the Chinese pulled back. On the first night on Fox Hill, Barber's company had lost 20 men killed, one out of five wounded. The withdrawing Chinese left 450 dead on the rocky slopes of Fox Hill. But they would return.

As the Chinese soldiers were simultaneously attacking Yudam-ni and Fox Hill near the Toktong Pass, other CCF elements unleashed early morning assaults throughout the entire region. On the eastern side of the Chosin Reservoir, Army Lieutenant Colonel Don Faith watched as his 3,000-man force crawled into their sleeping bags to escape the sub-zero Korean night. Most of Faith's force, dubbed "Taskforce Faith", consisted of soldiers from the Army's 21<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 32<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. As they settled in for the night, they had no idea they were surrounded by an overwhelming number of enemies. As they slept, the enemy slipped quietly across the snow and into their midst. By the time the sleeping soldiers were awakened to the attacking horde, many of their comrades had been quietly overcome and killed and the Chinese were inside the perimeter. A fierce battle, often hand-to-hand, raged on until the sun began to rise.

Lieutenant Colonel Faith's leadership that first night was essential to maintaining order and organizing the resistance that allowed his task force to survive. The following day Faith reported that his soldiers had been attacked by two Chinese divisions. His task force had been ordered to advance to the Yalu River, but now Faith was concerned that his troops might not survive the force mustered around him at the Chosin Reservoir. General Almond flew in during the day to review the situation with LTC Faith and quickly dispelled any mention of Chinese soldiers in the area, much less two divisions. He ordered Faith to continue his mission, pinned a Silver Star to Faith's jacket, and then flew back out. As the general's helicopter disappeared in the distance leaving Lieutenant Colonel Faith with a sense of impending disaster, the disgusted leader took the medal from his jacket and threw it into the snow.

### **Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**

Lieutenant Colonel Faith expected the worst as night fell on November 28<sup>th</sup>, but his force was spared that night. Captain Bill Barber's wasn't. The Chinese wanted to control the Toktong Pass, isolating the Marines at Yudam-ni for annihilation. To do that they had to dislodge what remained of Barber's company. A mortar barrage softened up the defenses at Fox Hill. Then the

CCF attacked at 2 o'clock in the morning, breaking into the small perimeter and engaging Barber's valiant Marines in desperate, personal combat. Barber rallied his men, shouting orders in the darkness and moving from position to position encouraging his men and engage the enemy. When enemy fire ripped into Captain Barber's leg he quickly stuffed a handkerchief into the wound to stem the flow of blood. Then he continued to hobble from position to position, alternating between encouraging his Marines to resist, and continuing to rain devastating fire on the encroaching enemy.

Meanwhile, back at Hagaru-ri, engineers, clerks, and other support personnel suddenly found themselves operating as infantry. The CCF had begun a series of nightly probes and attacks on the small headquarters garrison, and survival demanded that every man, even the wounded, fight for their lives. Shortly after midnight signaled the beginning of the new day, the CCF had taken control of much of East Hill just outside Hagaru-ri. The high hill was critical to the defense of Hagaru-ri, but the defense of the hill had fallen to soldiers more accustomed to building things or moving material, than firing rifles and throwing grenades. Many had fought bravely, dying on the slopes of East Hill. Others fled back down the hill in terror. Somehow, East Hill had to be wrested back from the CCF. At Hagaru-ri Major Reginald Myers was dispatched to organize the broken remnants of Americans that were falling back in panic.



Myers wasn't polite about forcing reluctant clerks back towards the hill they had abandoned in panic. He gathered the rag-tag force around him with threats and sheer command leadership, finally managing to put together a force of 300 men. At their head he led the way back to East Hill, urging his force

forward through the early morning darkness and falling snow. As enemy fire raked into his force, Myers watched man after man falls at his side. So thin was his force, he couldn't spare stretcher-bearers to carry the wounded back down the hill. They had to lay where they fell.

As morning broke the winter skies, Myers and his force had almost reached the crest of East Hill. Though down to less than a hundred men, Myers urged them to attack, leading the way himself. The enemy was too well-entrenched. Finally, Major Myers pulled his few survivors back into a defensive line and used the dawn of the new day to call airstrikes in on the CCF holding the hill's summit. He had been promised that reinforcements were coming from Koto-ri if he could just hold on through the day. Myers wasn't sure his meager force could repel another enemy attack but had little choice. He and his men dug in to wait for "the cavalry" to arrive and save the day.

The "Cavalry" was Task Force Drysdale, a 250-man element of the 41<sup>st</sup> Royal Marine Commandos under British Lieutenant Colonel Donald Drysdale based back at Koto-ri. Task Force Drysdale, supported by Company G, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Marines, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division planned to leave Koto-ri on the morning of the 29<sup>th</sup> to fight their way into Hagaru-ri to reinforce the headquarters there. What the task force hadn't anticipated was that first, they would have to fight their way out of Koto-ri. Leaving shortly after morning broke the skies, by noon they had only advanced two miles. It had been a bitterly fought advance that had cost many lives and gained little ground.

Company G's commanding officer, Captain Carl L. Sitter finally fought his way to link up with LTC Drysdale, where the two held a council. They decided the ridge-by-ridge battle to reach Hagaru-ri would only result in the meaningless slaughter of their men. More than 150 vehicles had left Koto-ri with the task force, supported by more than two dozen tanks. Drysdale and Sitter loaded their Marines on the vehicles and, with the tanks leading the way, proceeded forward on the MSR while the CCF lined the ridges on both sides to rain deadly fire on them. The task force pushed ahead gaining a mile an hour, Marines dying with every yard. Captain Sitter's jeep was destroyed, the driver killed, but the company commander managed to survive. It was fortunate for the column, for as the afternoon wore on Lieutenant Colonel Drysdale was seriously wounded and command of the column fell to Sitter.

Sitter did his best to organize the task force, fighting each roadblock that arose and skirmishing with enemy soldiers on all sides. At one roadblock the enemy was close enough to throw a grenade into a truck filled with American Marines. Marine Private First Class William Baugh recognized the danger, knew that in seconds the grenade would explode to kill or seriously wound every man aboard. He also realized his shouted warning wouldn't be enough, and did what had to be done, throwing his own body on the grenade to absorb the full blast and spare his comrades. Seriously wounded, he died during the night.

The twelve-mile trip to Hagaru-ri took 12 hours. When finally the column had fought their way in to reinforce the battered command post a few hours before midnight, only 160 of Sitter's 270-man Company G remained to crawl exhausted into their sleeping bags. A few hours after midnight the wounded Drysdale arrived with the remainder of his Royal Marines. His unit had been cut in half by the desperate attempt to break through the Chinese and reach Koto-ri.

At Fox Hill, Captain Barber's beleaguered Marines faced a third straight night of horror as the enemy came again. Captain Barber ignored the pain from the bullet wound in his leg to hobble from position to position to encourage his warriors. Less

than 90 men remained of his 240-man company, but Barber wouldn't let them go down without a fight. As the Communists swarmed Fox Hill that night he shouted orders, urged his men to resist, and continued to fight the waves of enemy soldiers. When an enemy bullet shattered his remaining good leg, Barber called for a stretcher. Unable to walk among his men any longer, he ordered the stretcher-bearers to carry him to the most tenuous positions in the battle, where he continued to lead his men, prostrate on the stretcher. There was no "quit" in Captain Bill Barber, and his own tenacity and courage gave his embattled Marines new hope. Against overwhelming odds, for the third night in a row, they held Fox Hill.

East of the Chosin Reservoir, Task Force Faith was hit again. The day before Lieutenant Colonel Faith had learned how serious the battle had become at Hagaru-ri and knew that there would be no relief for his battered force. Task Force Faith was on its own. After four hours of battle, shortly after 2 A.M. on November 30<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant Colonel Faith ordered a withdrawal to the south. More than one hundred wounded were loaded on the remaining vehicles as he assembled what remained of his 3,000-man force in a ragged column attempting to break through to safety in the darkness while surrounded and taking fire from all directions.

In just three days the battle at the Chosin Reservoir had turned into a massacre. Like the infamous "*Charge of the Light Brigade*", American soldiers and Marines had found themselves in "the jaws of death" because someone (in military planning) had blundered, refusing to believe that the Chinese could have secretly moved so vast a force into North Korea.

For the soldiers and Marines at the Chosin, it didn't matter who was at fault. They had been ordered in, and they had followed their orders. Now, it was time to pull together to make the best of their bad situation. The Chinese had attacked with one mission, not to just defeat the Americans or send them out of North Korea in retreat, but to completely annihilate the First Marine Division.

#### **Breakout From The Frozen Chosin**

As it became apparent that the soldiers and Marines at the Chosin were facing an enemy that had surrounded them and outnumbered them more than 10 to 1, and in the face of similar opposing forces facing the 8<sup>th</sup> Army in the west, the drive to the Yalu halted and a withdrawal was finally ordered. Hagaru-ri would do its best to hold while the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>

Marines withdrew from Yudam-ni, then they would continue together with the forces from Hagaru-ri on the 12 mile stretch of the MSR to Koto-ri. From there the combined forces would move on to evacuation ships waiting in the Sea of Japan at Hungnam.

Back home the news media began referring to the withdrawal as a "retreat", something no Marine, much less any survivor of the battle at the Chosin Reservoir would ever utter. A retreating force usually withdraws in panic, soldiers running in all directions without order, seeking to save themselves. That didn't happen at the Chosin. Instead of running from the enemy, soldiers and Marines had repeatedly fought their way into the



trap, with full knowledge of what lay ahead. On Fox Hill, Bill Barber had placed his company in the middle of the opposing force, simply because he knew how critical it was to keep the MSR opened. In the east, the column from Task Force Faith was fighting its way back towards the embattled soldiers at Hagaru-ri. From Koto-ri, Task Force Drysdale had jumped "from the frying pan into the fire". Rather than withdrawing to Hungnam, the Marines in Captain Sitter's company had literally fought their way into the surrounded camp at Hagaru-ri. Before the Marines could fight their way out, they had to fight their way in to link up with their surrounded comrades.

At Hagaru-ri General O.P. Smith quickly pointed out that the Marines weren't retreating, they were simply: "Attacking in a Different Direction"

Lieutenant Colonel Raymond G. Davis assembled his 800 men for a dangerous trip. It wasn't a withdrawal, they were going to fight their way into the middle of the mountains where the CCF forces waited in their hidden sanctuary. High above Toktong Pass, Bill Barber and the remnants of his valiant Marines were cut off, surrounded, and taking new casualties nightly. If there was going to be a withdrawal, no one, including Bill Barber, would be left behind.

Even as Captain Sitter's tired Marines were bedding down after their 12-hour battle to reach Hagaru-ri, Davis' Marines were preparing for a cold night in the North Korean mountains. No one knew if Barber could hold out one more night, but Davis would do his best to break through to pick up whatever "pieces" remained of Fox Company.

Meanwhile, Task Force Faith continued to move slowly towards relief, facing constant enemy roadblocks and attacking the fire. When Lieutenant Colonel Faith ordered the withdrawal at 2:00 A.M., the ragged column had begun to assemble for the trek to safety. What remained of Task Force Faith was held together only by sheer "guts" and the valiant leadership of the commander for whom the force was named.

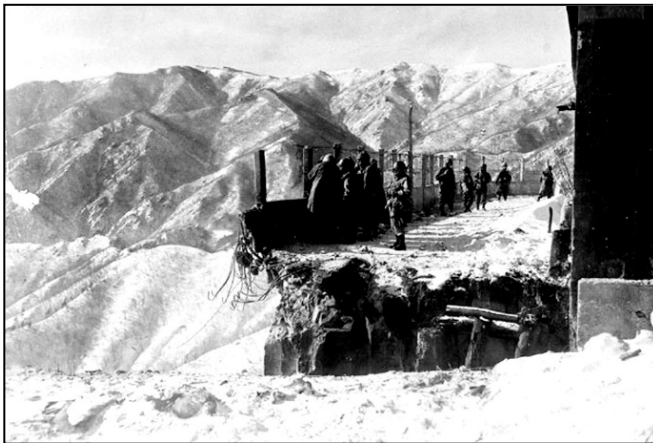
With daylight on the morning of November 30<sup>th</sup>, it seemed that every Marine was either trapped and surrounded or fighting his way into that trap to rescue his brothers. At Hagaru-ri the exhausted Captain Sitter was awakened with new orders. "Take East Hill!"

After a 12-hour fight the day before that had almost reduced the company in half, it was a formidable order. But Sitter knew that somewhere out there on East Hill, surrounded and fighting for survival, was Major Reginald Myers. He roused his exhausted Marines from their sleeping bags and moved out with the dawn. Somewhere around noon his force found what remained of Myer's rag-tag force and linked up with them. Then, under the direction of Myers and Sitter, the soldiers and Marines continued their assault on the enemy.

By nightfall, Sitter believed he could control enough of East Hill to keep the Chinese from mounting a successful attack on Hagaru-ri. His Marines dug in for the night, prepared to hold out against whatever the enemy threw at them. They were the last line of defense for Hagaru-ri, already stretched thin and

surviving only on "grit and determination". The enemy came, not just in force, but in waves. The continuous attacks through the night quickly depleted the dug-in Marines ammunition. Sitter sent an element down the hill for more, then continued to fight through the night. Wounded repeatedly, Sitter was determined to preserve what remained of Company G, and keep control of East Hill as well. It was an impossible task, but somehow, he got it done. Daylight found his valiant force had done the unthinkable. It was the morning of December 1<sup>st</sup> and Sitter would hold out for four more days before being relieved. When he finally prepared to leave Hagaru-ri, only 96 men remained to move out to safety with him. Amazingly, Barber too had survived a fourth straight night of attacks at Fox Hill. Davis continued to lead his rescue force through the mountains, engaging the enemy throughout the day. By nightfall, he was close, but not close enough. Barber would have to hang on for one more night.

After fighting through the night, Task Force Faith was almost decimated. The battle didn't end with the dawning of daylight that first day in December. Roadblocks met the column at every turn. From the mountains on either side of the battered soldiers, the Chinese Communist Forces fired indiscriminate death on Task Force Faith. It was especially dangerous for the wounded, lying unprotected in the few remaining vehicles and unable move to cover when a new volley of lead rained in. At one roadblock Faith called for air support. Errant napalm fell on some of the American soldiers creating panic and death. As the column struggled for any sanctuary, Faith was wounded and died that night. In a full-scale panic, his force disintegrated and



ran into the mountains. Over the following days, some stragglers managed to find their way to Hagaru-ri...in all, perhaps 500 of them. Five out of every six men in Task Force Faith was either killed or captured. Those captured were never heard from

again.

Late in the afternoon on 1 December 1950, because enemy aggressors at Yudam-ni surrounded his company, the Marines were ordered to move toward Hagaru-ri. By the time they reached Hill 1520 (Hill number shows elevation in meters), three miles southeast of Yudam-ni, it was very dark and the temperature averaged a minus 40 degrees. The companies relocated a few times, and then back to a knoll between two rugged mile-high mountains where grenades, machine guns, and rifle fire bombarded them. Staff Sergeant William Windrich led a rifle squad of twelve men to meet the enemy head-on, armed with an M-2 carbine. Seven of his men were wounded or killed before they reached the forward position they were to defend.

Windrich was also wounded in the head by a bursting grenade. As blood gushed down his shoulder and back he moved his remaining men into a tight fire group. Then he ran to the company command post, drafting a small group of volunteers, and led them to evacuate the dying and wounded. Assuming command of what was left of a platoon, Windrich once more took up defensive positions. Now shot in both legs, he kept fighting, always refusing medical attention. For a long time, he crawled in the snow, back and forth between his men shouting words of encouragement, deploying his forces, and helping to throw back the attackers.

Only after the communist had been beaten off on the morning of December 2<sup>nd</sup> did Staff Sergeant Windrich collapse and die due to the bitter cold, excessive loss of blood, and severe pain. In the end, two officers and eighteen enlisted men lived, to stagger down the mountain to be with the rest of the column headed toward Hagaru-ri. Windrich was not there! They could not take his body down the treacherous mountain terrain.

From a distance, Lieutenant Colonel Davis could hear the sounds of battle throughout the night of December 1<sup>st</sup> and into the morning of the second. He hoped and prayed that Barber could hold out one more night, sure that if his own force could survive the constant attacks of the enemy, they would reach Barber with daylight. Somehow Barber did survive that fifth night, and shortly before noon on December 2<sup>nd</sup> he welcomed Davis and his Marines to Fox Hill. From its heights, the two could look down on the MSR as 8,000 men from the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Marines moved from Yudam-ni to Hagaru-ri. It had been a costly effort, the mission to secure the Toktong Pass, but as those Marines struggled down the road to safety, Barber knew it had been worth it.

Despite the presence of Barber and Davis on Toktong Pass, the movement to Hagaru-ri was not easy. For the entire 14-mile mountainous route, the Marines had to fight for every inch of progress. The Chinese weren't content to see the First Marine Division leaving, they wanted to wipe them out to-a-man. Dressed in the uniforms of friendly forces, one CCF force attacked near a position held by Sergeant James E. Johnson of Company J, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Marines, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division. Johnson rallied his men to resist the opposing force, then placed himself in a position to provide covering fire for his men. It was obvious that he had stationed himself in a no-man's land from which there could be no rescue. Still, he fired on the enemy as the Marines withdrew, buying them precious time before his own time ran out. With his own life, he purchased "tomorrow" for many Marines.

On Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> the first units from Hagaru-ri began the dangerous 12-mile journey to Koto-ri. Every step was a battle but the survivors of the Chosin Reservoir fought their way out of the frozen lake none would be sorry to leave behind. Back at Hagaru-ri, a mass grave held the remains of far too many comrades who hadn't "reasoned why", but simply gone where they were told, did what duty demanded, and ultimately given everything they had.

By mid-day on December 7<sup>th</sup>, the last men from Hagaru-ri arrived, nearly 25,000 frozen, starving, wounded, battle-weary Marines and their supporting elements from what was left of the Army's 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Over the following days, the

dangerous withdrawal continued along with the 53-mile distance from Koto-ri to the port at Hungnam.

In a final, desperate attempt to crush the First Marine Division, the CCF destroyed a vital bridge over a 1500-foot gorge between Koto-ri and Chinhung-ni ten miles away. In one of the engineering marvels of modern warfare, the US Air Force dropped eight spans of M2 prefabricated bridge. The two-ton, bulky structures were erected and on December 9<sup>th</sup> the first Americans crossed the bridge to safety, followed by thousands more. On December 11<sup>th</sup> the last American troops arrived in Hungnam for evacuation.

Despite their best efforts, the Chinese forces had failed to crush the indomitable First Marine Division. They came out unashamed, bringing their equipment, their wounded, and most of their dead. They would live to fight another day and continue the gallant legacy of the United States Marine Corps. At the Chosin Reservoir, they established their own legacy, not one of retreat, but one of surviving against incredible odds through leadership, teamwork, and the highest degree of brotherhood.



There were many acts of heroism by thousands of soldiers and Marines at the Chosin that went unheralded simply because they were unseen or unreported. Twelve soldiers, Marines, and one Naval Aviator received Medals of Honor, seven of them surviving to wear their award. All would be quick to point out that the award they wear, they did so in honor and memory of the valiant men whose awards went unrecognized.

<https://homeofheroes.com/heroes-stories/korean-war/frozen-chosin/>

## **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 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>, 2020** and the theme is: **"Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?"**

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>, 2020** and the theme is: **"What Is Patriotism to Me?"** Essays must be between 300-400 words long and should be submitted to a Post 2894 officer, along with the completed entry form.

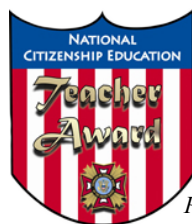
Entry forms can be downloaded at:

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

**TEACHERS OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS DUE 31 OCTOBER**

Post 2894 has been 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-State Post this year, **we need to submit a nominee for one of the three levels** 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>, 2020!**



Nominations must include the nomination form, a 350 word justification, a one page resume', up to five 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 2021 VFW National Convention which will be in Baltimore, MD.

Entry forms can be downloaded at:

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

**+** 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.

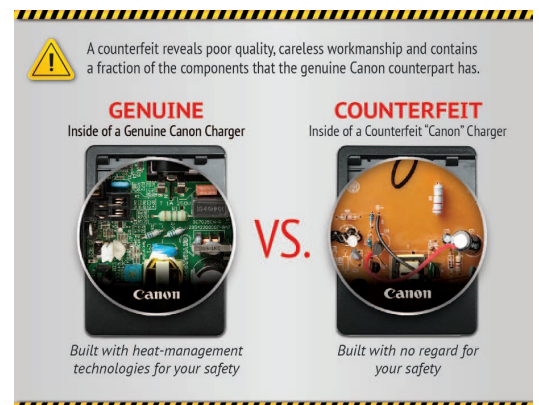
**Protecting Yourself Against Counterfeits**

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.

### 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 Quartermaster at one of our meetings. If you pay on-line to National, the cost is \$40.50.

#### **LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP**

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

<b>Age</b>	<b>One-Time Payment</b>	<b>Installment Payment</b>
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.

### **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!!!**

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

<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 _____ ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ EMAIL _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____ GENDER (M) (F) _____ PHONE _____ SSN (optional) _____ 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 QUALIFYING CAMPAIGN MEDAL(S) AND/OR SERVICE _____ DATES OF SERVICE: _____ LOCATION OF QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE: _____ <small>Please see reverse for terms and conditions of Automatic Payment and Installment Life Plans.</small></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. <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. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> FORMER MEMBER ID No. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSFER From Post No. _____ to Post No. _____ RECRUITER (please print) _____ QUARTERMASTER _____ <small>NAME ADDRESS PHONE NO. MEMBER NO.</small></p>
<p>TEMPORARY RECEIPT Membership Application - Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Date: _____ Received from _____ \$ _____ Post No: _____ City and State _____ Received By: _____ <small>(circle one) CASH CHECK VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMEX</small></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 _____ 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 _____. 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: center;"><b>CERTIFICATION (See Sec. 104 By-Laws)</b> I testify that I am a citizen or national of the United States, that my Campaign Service was honorable, that I have never subsequently been discharged from military service under dishonorable conditions. I also certify that (1) I am entitled to a campaign ribbon or medal authorized by the U.S. Government based on my overseas service or (2) I have served overseas in Korea or; I have received Imminent Danger or Hostile Fire Pay. I further give authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to verify honorable overseas service entitling me to membership. DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____ \$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



# His & Her Pistol Raffle



**Win both  
with one \$10  
ticket!**

***Drawing on 11 November 2020***

***Need not be present to win***

*Must be 21 years of age and legally eligible to purchase a firearm.*

**A 2-for-1 deal! A Bersa Thunder .380 for her and an FN Herstal FNS 9mm for him! (or vice versa!)**

**The Bersa has earned a worldwide reputation of quality and is truly one of the best on the market. This Bersa is based on the Walther PPK – James Bond's gun! It's lightweight, small-frame and ideal capacity combines with Bersa's time-tested reliability and accuracy to make the Thunder .380 an excellent choice for personal protection. It is the official sidearm of the Argentinian Air Force. Black grips included as well.**

**The Herstal FNS is loaded with features to benefit a range of shooters, from personal defense to law enforcement and military personnel. A MIL-STD mounting rail on the underside accepts tactical lights and lasers. This pistol comes with three 17-round magazines!**

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

**Community Activity Reports**

**Post 2894**

**2020 - 21**

**As of 10/31/2020**

**TOTAL = 422**

<b>Americanism</b>		<b>89</b>
+ LOYALTY DAY	0	
+ MEMORIAL DAY	8	
+ FLAG DAY	2	
+ INDEPENDENCE DAY	3	
+ POW/MIA DAY	3	
+ VETERANS DAY	0	
+ PEARL HARBOR DAY	0	
+ FLAG PRESENTATION	10	
+ FLAG RAISING	0	
+ COLOR HONOR GUARD	0	
+ GET OUT TO VOTE	14	
+ PARTICIPATED IN PATRIOTIC ASSEMBLY	0	
+ DISTRIBUTED PATRIOTIC LITERATURE	0	
+ CONDUCTED FLAG EDUCATION	0	
+ FLAG DISPOSAL	8	
+ PARADES	2	
+ OTHER	3	
+ PATRIOTS DAY	1	
+ VFW DAY	0	
+ SUPPORT OUR TROOPS	7	

<b>Community Service</b>		<b>228</b>
+ ORGANIZED / ASSISTED BLOOD DRIVE	10	
+ ORGANIZED / ASSISTED CPN CLASS	0	
+ ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS	17	
+ OTHER COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	28	
+ MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY	0	
+ COOP OTHER ORG FUND RAISER	8	
+ UNITED STATES BOND PROGRAM	0	
+ OTHER COOPERATION PROJECT	48	
+ AD TO COMM HOBBY/URB/HOME VOLB	20	
+ AD TO SENIOR CITIZENS	7	
+ AD PERSONAL OR FAMILY W/TRADE/ILLNESS	40	
+ AD TO OTHERS	0	
+ SCHOOL OR CHURCH MENTOR PROGRAM	18	
+ SCHOOL OR CHURCH BREAKER PROGRAM	8	
+ OTHER SCHOOL OR CHURCH ASSISTANCE	28	
+ HOMELESS VETERANS	0	
+ BLOODY POPPY	1	
+ VA MEDICAL CENTER	0	
+ RECYCLING PROGRAMS	4	

<b>Hospital</b>		<b>81</b>
+ HOSPITAL REPORTS	81	

<b>Safety</b>		<b>40</b>
+ PEDESTRIAN / BICYCLE SAFETY	1	
+ DRUG AWARENESS	3	
+ RECREATION / BOATING / HUNTING SAFETY	8	
+ HIGHWAY SAFETY	1	
+ HOME / FIRE SAFETY	2	
+ FIREARM SAFETY / FIRE CLASS	0	
+ RECOGNITION / FIRE POLICY / EMT PERSONNEL	7	
+ CHILD SAFETY	18	
+ OTHER SAFETY PROJECTS	11	
+ VOICE OF DEMOCRACY	0	

<b>Youth Activities</b>		<b>30</b>
+ SPORTS / ACTIVITIES	3	
+ SCOUTS/ORGANIZATION/RAIBLE BOOUT	6	
+ YOUTH CENTERS	4	
+ SPECIAL EVENTS	3	
+ EDUCATION / INSTRUCTIONS	5	
+ YOUTH RECOGNITION	3	
+ JROTC PROGRAM	3	
+ SCHOOL MENTOR PROGRAM	0	
+ CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION	2	
+ OTHER YOUTH ACTIVITIES	3	
+ CONTACT	0	

Total Members	422
Total Hours	803
Total Miles	8420
Total Cost	\$2,815.00
<b>Community Member</b>	
Total Members	587
Total Hours	1028
Total Miles	11437
Total Cost	\$73,414.00
<b>Seniors</b>	
Total Members	258
Total Hours	318
Total Miles	3780
Total Cost	\$8,801.00
<b>Youth Activities</b>	
Total Members	188
Total Hours	378
Total Miles	3700
Total Cost	\$7,088.00

Total Hours	4,888
Total Miles	24,441
Total Cost	\$71,288
Hourly Cost	\$14.58
Mileage Cost	\$5.42
Grand Cost	\$179,119

Members	1228
---------	------

<b>Hospital</b>		<b>228</b>
Patients Benefited	388	
Total Members	87	
Total Hours	2073	
Total Miles	873	
Value of Services	\$40,280.00	

Patients	388
----------	-----

# POST 2894 CALENDAR

<b>OCTOBER</b>	
3	National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Day
7	Sheriff's Great American Food Fest
7	Start of OEF (2001)
12	USS Cole Bombing (2000)
12	Columbus Day
13	US Navy Birthday (1775)
14	Post Meeting, 1900 / Quarterly Audit
23	Bombing of Marine Barracks Beirut (1983)
27	Navy Day
31	Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, Teachers of the Year due to Post
31	Halloween

<b>NOVEMBER</b>	
1	Daylight Savings ends (back 1 hour)
3	Election Day
7-8	Buddy Poppy Drive, TBD
10	US Marine Corps Birthday (1775)
11	Veterans Day Ceremony, 1100, City Hall
11	Post Meeting, 1900
14	District 2 meeting, Post 3160 Oceanview, 1200
14	M1 Garand/M1 Carbine Rifle Competition, Norfolk Co. Rifle Range
26	Thanksgiving

Place  
Stamp  
Here



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



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED