

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.



Meetings

2nd Wednesday of month – 7:00 pm
VFW Post 2894 Headquarters
3329 Battlefield Boulevard South
Chesapeake, Virginia 23322

Email: cdpost2894@vfwva.org

Web Site: <https://www.vfw2894.org>

Webpage: <https://vfw2894.org>

Visit us on Facebook



POST OFFICERS

Commander.....	Bob Gregory
Sr. Vice Commander.....	Susan Vitale
Jr. Vice Commander.....	Mike Kust
Adjutant.....	Dan Eaker
Quartermaster.....	John Peterson
Chaplain.....	Joseph McGourn
Surgeon.....	David Weber
Staff Judge Advocate.....	Matt Hamel
Service Officer.....	Jim Ireland

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President.....	Sharon Peterson
Sr. Vice President.....	Rosie Gregory
Jr. Vice President.....	Grace Schweers
Secretary.....	Sandy Dunbar
Treasurer.....	Donna Kust
Chaplain.....	Diane Hostetlar
Conductress.....	Laura Etheridge
Guard.....	Theresa Lynn Sein
Patriotic Instructor.....	Jean Dozier

NATIONAL

www.vfw.org

STATE

www.vfwva.org

VFW VA DISTRICT 2

www.vfwwebcom.org/va/dist2

VFW Post 2894 GoFundMe

<https://gofund.me/483584b0>



VFW SSG DOZIER MEMORIAL POST 2894 Chesapeake, Virginia

"Honoring the fallen by helping the living."

NEWSLETTER – Vol. XIII, Issue 6, December-January 2025

VFW POST 2894 PROVIDES DISASTER RELIEF TO AREAS DEVASTATED BY HURRICANES

Fall of 2024 will be remembered for the extreme weather that was ushered in, with two hurricanes in a span of two weeks that devastated the southeastern U.S. Hurricane Helene worked her way up the western side of Florida, continuing (continued on page 3)



VFW Post 2894 Quartermaster John Peterson (left) and Service Officer Jim Ireland purchase supplies to support relief efforts for Hurricane Helene victims.

COMMANDER'S CORNER



Greetings - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Comrades!

The Post has been busy again this fall, between a very successful Buddy Poppy drive, Veterans Day remembrance ceremonies at City Hall, planning

for the upcoming Ruritan Chesapeake Christmas Parade, and our service projects – thanks to everyone who volunteered to help - you guys rock!

Now that the holiday seasons are upon on us, I would like to invite everyone to our annual Post Christmas Party (potluck) to be held on 11 Dec 2024, immediately following our monthly business meeting. Please use the following link to let everyone know what you plan to bring in support of this event:

www.perfectpotluck.com/EURXR1915.

Prior to our business meeting we'll be holding an informal awards presentation for our Post Teacher of the Year, Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy winners starting at 1830. This year we decided to hold two awards presentations - this informal one so that the winners will receive their monetary award prior to Christmas and have some spending money for the holidays. The formal presentation will take place in May at City Hall.

We are continuing our path to All-State and All-American Post status but will need everyone's help. If everyone in the Post reaches out and recruits one new member each, we'll reach our goal, so if you know someone who qualifies for membership, please reach out to them and let them know who we are and what we do for the veterans of Chesapeake.

I hope each of you and your families have had a safe and happy year. I wish each of you a very merry and blessed Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. And, as always, thanks for all you do, for your service to our Country, and your dedication to our veterans and their families.

Semper Fidelis!

Bob Gregory, Commander

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hello from the VFW Auxiliary 2894.

I'd like to welcome our two new members: Tara Frederick and Murphy Brown. We're looking forward to having them as a part of our group.

This is a busy time of year. In November we had a Buddy Poppy Drive, and on Veterans Day a ceremony at the Chesapeake City Hall. We also collected and donated items for those affected by the hurricanes. December has us riding in the Chesapeake Christmas Parade, attending a reception at the Jones & Cabocoy Veterans Home in Virginia Beach, and purchasing Christmas gifts for five veterans in the Adopt a Senior program at the Cambridge Square Apartments. Several of our members will also be helping pass out the presents at the breakfast for the residents. A new year is only a few weeks away - a time to remember the year just past and to say thanks for all we have.

Have a merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Sharon Peterson
President, 2024-25

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: 3329 Battlefield Blvd S., Chesapeake, VA 23322, 757-572-3946 or adjpost2894@vfwva.org. Comments are always welcome.

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 newsletter is disseminated to the membership and friends of the Post via e-mail as well as being available on the Post website: Newsletters (vfw2894.org)

Semper fidelis,

Dan Eaker
Newsletter Editor

VFW POST 2894 PROVIDES DISASTER RELIEF

(Continued from page 1) ...up the Appalachian Mountain corridor, unleashing torrents of rain that left entire towns under water, something that had not been experienced in decades.



VFW 2894 Service Officer Jim Ireland pushes much needed relief supplies through the checkout lane at a local Sam's Club.

Local veteran-owned businesses quickly rose to the occasion, coordinating food drives and transporting goods to affected areas in southwestern Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina. A local North Carolina business, JDog Junk Removal & Hauling, provided a location for concerned citizens to provide donations. Along with other veteran organizations, VFW Post 2894 provided over \$600 worth of food, water and other basic necessities, dropping them with JDog who quickly got the much needed supplies to locations in the hard-hit areas where it was distributed to those individuals and families in need of support.

A great big THANK YOU to Brad and Becky Waters who provided the coordination for the Post contribution and others who participated to ensure items reached the victims of the hurricane.



Donations of food and supplies accumulates outside JDog Junk Removal & Hauling prior to its movement to Hurricane Helene-affected areas in North Carolina.



Dan Messick, a JDog volunteer, prepares to load donated supplies onto transport headed to affected areas.

BEA OAKLEY/GARY DUNBAR BUDDY POPPY FALL FUNDRAISER

On the weekend of 2-3 November, volunteers from VFW Post 2894 and its Auxiliary greeted customers at the North Battlefield and Edinburgh Walmarts during the fall Bea Oakley/Gary Dunbar Veteran's Day Buddy Poppy Fundraiser.



VFW Post 2894 Auxiliary members Sandy Duncan (left) and Cheryl Campbell man the tent during the Bea Oakley/Gary Dunbar Veteran's Day Buddy Poppy Fundraiser.

Over the course of the weekend members passed out poppies to commemorate the service of our veterans and remind local citizens to remember our veterans on the upcoming Veteran's Day weekend.



VFW Post 2894 member Jose Vazquez talks with a local veteran about the Veterans of Foreign War organization during the Buddy Poppy Fundraiser.

The two-day event saw over 4000 poppies handed out to those shopping at the two locations, as well as garnering over \$4000 in donations! Thanks to all the volunteers from both the Post and the Auxiliary who provided their time that contributed to the tremendous success of this year's fall fundraiser.

REMEMBERING VETERANS DAY

VFW Post 2894 Members Attend Annual Chesapeake Veteran's Day Ceremony. On Monday, 11 November, members of the Post attended the annual Veteran's Day Commemoration at Chesapeake City Hall. Due to the weather, the ceremony was held in the City Council chambers and was well attended by not only our Post, but also other area veteran's organizations such as the American Legion, the Marine Corps League and Disabled American Veterans Association.

Guest speaker for the event was Captain Janet Days, U.S. Navy, current Commanding Officer for Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia. Captain Days became the 51st Commanding Officer of the Naval Station in February 2023. She provided a rousing oratory for all the veterans in the audience, noting the World War II veterans present as well as others who have served in the various Services of our nation.

The event also provided the opportunity to greet our Post's oldest veteran, Iwo Jima Marine Corporal Eddie Vincek, who just celebrated his 100th birthday in September.



VFW Post 2894 members attend the Chesapeake Veteran's Day Ceremony in the City Council Chambers.

OTHER POST NEWS

- **VFW Post 2894 Recruits at Chesapeake Sheriff's Great American Foodfest.** On Wednesday, 2 October, three Post comrades ventured to Chesapeake City Park and provided information to many event participants who were interested in area Veterans organizations. Situated beside American Legion Post 280, past Post Commander Jose Vazquez, Quartermaster John Peterson and Adjutant Dan Eaker spoke with local residents as



VFW Post 2894 Comrades John Peterson, Jose Vazquez and Dan Eaker provide VFW information at the Annual Sheriff's Foodfest at Chesapeake City Park.

well as numerous visitors who were interested in what our organizations had to offer and how we supported various veterans issues throughout Hampton Roads.

Although the ground was a bit soggy, it did not dampen the spirits of those attending the event and it was a great opportunity

to provide information and discuss various issues facing both military veterans as well as those organizations supporting them. Several local personalities stopped by to thank us for providing visibility for our area veterans.

- **VFW Post 2894 Recognizes Chesapeake Fire Department with Top Supporter Award.** On Thursday, 10 October, VFW Post 2894 held an informal ceremony at the Post Headquarters for the Chesapeake Fire Department to thank them for their



Chesapeake Fire Department Chief Sam Gulisano accepts the VFW Post 2894 Top Supporter Award from Post Commander Bob Gregory.

tremendous support over the past several years. Department Chief Sam Gulisano accepted the plaque from Post Commander Bob Gregory as several members of the Fire Department from area stations looked on. After the ceremony, all in attendance enjoyed the opportunity to discuss various topics, from the history of Fire Station #7 (the current Post Headquarters location) to many stories of lore from past experiences, both military and first response related. Thanks again to the Chesapeake Fire Department for your outstanding support in the past and we look forward to continuing the relationship in the future!

- **Grassfield High School Remembers Area Veterans with Retreat Ceremony.** On Friday, 8 November, the Air Force JROTC cadets held a retreat ceremony commemorating the service and sacrifice of area veterans. The entire cadre stood in formation as a brass instrument trio provided the music for the occasion. The students of the school continued their tradition of the “Field of Valor”, with over a thousand miniature flags representing area veterans providing tribute in the shadow of the Fallen Hero Memorial for Lance Corporal Cody S. Childers, U.S. Marine Corps. Donations raised from the miniature flags was presented to VFW

Post 2894 to assist in their efforts to support veterans throughout the Hampton Roads area.



Flags fly at the Field of Valor during Grassfield High School's Retreat Ceremony remembering the sacrifice of our veterans.

- **Post Celebrates Marine Corps 249th Birthday with Annual Cake-Cutting Ceremony.** At the monthly Post membership meeting in November, Post 2894 Marine veterans hosted their annual birthday cake-cutting ceremony to remember the Corps service and contribution to our nation's security and the sacrifices made by all Marines, past, present and future. Post Commander Bob Gregory, a retired Marine Master Sergeant, was the Master of



Major Chris Mulholland, U.S. Marine Corps, retired, was Guest of Honor for the Marine Corps Birthday Cake-Cutting Ceremony.

Ceremonies, with various other Post members assisting with the event to ensure it followed the mandates outlined in Marine Corps Orders. Per tradition the first piece of cake went to the Guest of Honor, Major Chris Mulholland, U.S. Marine Corps, retired. Major Mulholland was a previous Post Commander for over eight years and passed the torch upon his diagnosis of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's Disease). It

was truly an honor to have Chris attend this year's ceremony due to the limitations caused by his condition.

The second piece went to the oldest Marine present, Lieutenant Colonel David Weber, U.S. Marine Corps, retired. Born in March, 1945, Colonel Weber enlisted in the Corps in 1968 and was selected for the Officer Commissioning Program. Completing a tour in

Vietnam in 1970, he remained in the Corps, retiring in 1993 after over twenty-five years of service.

Congratulations to all the Post members who are instrumental in ensuring this prestigious recognition for our organization!



Marine Captain (retired) Joe Branco cuts the first piece of cake as Marine Lieutenant Colonel (retired) David Weber looks on.

Colonel Weber then passed his piece to the youngest Marine present, Corporal Chris Butler, signifying the passing of faithful dedication and service to our country and Corps from the experienced veterans to those young Marines who will carry on the traditions of our Corps with the dedication, honor, and courage that continues to epitomize those young men and women currently serving in our Corps. Corporal Butler was born in December, 1987, and joined the Marine Corps in 2005, serving in Afghanistan in 2008 as a Light Armored Vehicle crewman.

Many thanks to those who participated and assisted with the event, especially Becky Waters who did a fantastic job with the cake and Jose Vazquez who did a marvelous job coordinating the music during the ceremony!

• **VFW Post 2894 Receives All American Recognition for the Ninth Year in a Row!** On Saturday, 9 November, the Post Commander of VFW Post 2894 was presented with the VFW All-American Post Streamer – the ninth year in a row that the Post has received this designation! The streamer was added to the Post colors during the monthly membership meeting in November.



VFW Post 2894 Junior Vice Commander Mike Kust (left) and Trustee Joe Hammers attach the 2024 All-American Post Streamer to the Post colors.

• **VFW Post 2894 Members Assist Local Veteran Family with Fall Yard Cleanup.** On Saturday, 23 November, members of the Post gathered at the Navy veteran Anthony Gross' residence for some basic fall yard maintenance and minor landscaping. Mr. Gross' wife recently passed and he was in need of assistance in clearing his property of accumulated debris and some routine trimming of shrubbery and lawn care. A tremendous showing of fourteen people made short work of the project, with the entire yard, front and back, completed in a little over two hours. Thanks to everyone who participated and made this a quick effort for this veteran in need.



VFW Post 2894 Gross Project volunteers: (lf-rt) M. Squires, L. Etheridge, K. Thorsten, J. Ireland, R. Mayfield, B. Waters, Mr. Gross, D. Weber, B. Gregory, J. Coladarci, T. Squires, J. Keiper and J. Etheridge.

DECEMBER 1943: THE BROWN-STIGLER INCIDENT*

The Charlie Brown and Franz Stigler incident occurred on 20 December 1943, when, after a successful bomb run on Bremen, Germany, 2nd Lt. Charles "Charlie" Brown's B-17F Flying Fortress "Ye Olde Pub" of the United States Army Air Forces was severely damaged by German fighters. Luftwaffe pilot Franz Stigler had the opportunity to shoot down the crippled bomber but did not do so, and instead escorted it over and past German-occupied territory to protect it.



"The Guardian" - B-17 Ye Old Pub painting by Nicolas Trudgian reflecting the Brown-Stigler Incident on 20 December, 1943.

The mission of 20 December 1943 was the *Ye Olde Pub* crew's first and targeted the Focke-Wulf 190 aircraft production facility in Bremen. The men of the 527th BS were informed in a pre-mission briefing that they might encounter hundreds of German fighters. Bremen was guarded by more than 250 flak guns. Brown's crew was assigned to fly "Purple Heart Corner," a spot on the edge of the bomber formation that was considered especially dangerous because the Germans often targeted the more vulnerable edges, instead of attacking straight through the middle of the formation. However, since three bombers had to turn back because of mechanical problems, Brown was told to move his plane up to the front of the formation.



2d Lieutenant Charles Brown, pilot of the B17 Flying Fortress "Ye Olde Pub".

Brown's B-17 began its ten-minute bomb run at 8,320m (27,300 ft) with an outside air temperature of -60 C (-76 F). Before the bomber released its bomb load, flak shattered the Plexiglas nose, knocked out the #2 engine and further damaged the #4 engine, which was already in questionable condition and had to

be throttled back to prevent overspeeding. As the damage slowed the bomber, Brown was unable to remain with his formation and fell back as a straggler, a position in which he came under sustained enemy attacks.

Brown's struggling B-17 was now attacked by over a dozen enemy fighters (a combination of Messerschmitt Bf 109s and Focke-Wulf FW 190s) of JG 11 for more than ten minutes. Further damage was sustained, including to the #3 engine, reducing it to only half power (meaning the aircraft had effectively, at best, 40% of its total rated power available). The bomber's internal oxygen, hydraulic, and electrical systems were also damaged, and the bomber had lost half of its rudder and port (left side) elevator, as



Crew of Ye Olde Pub - Standing (l to r): Coulombe, Yelesanko, Pechout, Jennings, Eckenrode, and Blackford. Kneeling (l to r): Brown, Luke, Sadok, and Andrews.

well as its nose cone. Several of the gunners' weapons had jammed, most likely because of the loss of on-board systems, leading to frozen firing mechanisms. This left the bomber with only two dorsal turret guns plus one of the three forward-firing nose guns (from 11 available) for defense. Many of the crew were wounded: the tail gunner, Eckenrode, had been decapitated by a direct hit from a cannon shell, while Yelesanko was critically wounded in the leg by shrapnel, Blackford's feet were frozen due to shorted-out heating wires in his uniform, Pechout had been hit in the eye by a cannon shell and Brown was wounded in his right shoulder. The morphine syrettes carried onboard had also frozen, complicating first-aid efforts by the crew, while the radio was destroyed and the bomber's exterior heavily damaged. Miraculously, all but Eckenrode survived. The crew discussed the possibility of bailing out of the aircraft, but realized Yelesanko would be unable to make a safe landing with his injury. Unwilling to leave him behind in the plane, they flew on.

Brown's damaged, straggling bomber was spotted by Germans on the ground, including Franz Stigler (then an ace with 27 victories), who was refueling and rearming at an airfield. He soon took off in his Messerschmitt Bf 109 G-6 (which had an American .50 BMG bullet embedded in its radiator, risking the engine overheating) and quickly caught up with Brown's plane. Through openings torn in the damaged bomber's airframe by flak and machine gun fire, Stigler was able to see the injured and incapacitated crew. To the American pilot's surprise, the German did not open fire on the crippled bomber. Stigler instead recalled the words of one of his commanding officers from JG 27, Gustav Rödel, during his time fighting in North Africa: "If I ever see or hear of you shooting at a man in a parachute, I will shoot you

myself." Stigler later commented, "To me, it was just like they were in a parachute. I saw them and I couldn't shoot them down."

Twice Stigler tried to persuade Brown to land his plane at a German airfield and surrender, or divert to nearby neutral Sweden, where he and his crew would receive medical treatment and be interned for the remainder of the war. However Brown and the crew of the B-17 did not understand what Stigler was trying to mouth and gesture to them, and so flew on. Stigler later told Brown he was trying to get them to fly to Sweden. He then flew near Brown's plane in close formation on the bomber's port side wing, so that German anti-aircraft units would not target it and escorted the damaged B-17 across the coast until they reached open water. Brown, still unsure of Stigler's intentions, ordered his dorsal turret gunner to target his guns on Stigler but not open fire, to warn him off. Understanding the message and certain that the bomber was finally out of German airspace, Stigler departed with a salute.



Lieutenant Franz Stigler, the German Luftwaffe fighter pilot who escorted the B17 bomber to the French coast in 1943.

Brown managed to fly the 250 mi (400 km) across the North Sea and land his plane at RAF Seething, home of the 448th Bomb Group and at the postflight debriefing informed his officers about how a German fighter pilot had let him go.

Brown went on to complete a combat tour. Stigler later served as a Messerschmitt Me 262 jet-fighter pilot in Jagdverband 44 until the end of the war. *Ye Olde Pub* did not return to combat; it was returned to the U.S. in April 1944 and was scrapped in August 1945.

After the war, Brown returned home to West Virginia and went to college, returning to the newly established U.S. Air Force in 1949 and serving until 1965. Later, as a U.S. State Department Foreign Service Officer, he made numerous trips to Laos and Vietnam. In 1972, he retired from government service and moved to Miami, Florida, to become an inventor.

Stigler moved to Canada in 1953 and became a successful businessman.

In 1986, the retired Lt. Col. Brown was asked to speak at a combat pilot reunion event called a "Gathering of the Eagles" at the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. Someone asked him if he had any memorable missions during World War II; he thought for a minute and recalled the story of the Bf 109 escort and pilot's salute. Afterwards, Brown decided he should try to find the unknown German pilot.

After four years of searching vainly for U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Air Force and West German air force records that might shed some light on who the other pilot was, Brown had come up with little. He then wrote a letter to a combat pilot association newsletter. A few months later he received a letter from Stigler, who was now living in Canada. "I was the one," it said. When they spoke on the phone, Stigler described his plane, the escort and

salute, confirming everything that Brown needed to hear to know he was the German fighter pilot involved in the incident.

Between 1990 and 2008, Charlie Brown and Franz Stigler became close friends and remained so until their deaths within several months of each other in 2008.



LTC Charles Brown, U.S. Air Force (retired), and Mr. Franz Stigler enjoy a friendly discussion after meeting each other in 1990.

*Ref:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charlie_Brown_and_Franz_Stigler_incident

JANUARY 1991: AIR WAR COMMENCES IN OPERATION DESERT STORM – KUWAIT/IRAQ**

Operation Desert Storm, the combat phase of the Gulf War, began with an extensive aerial bombing campaign by the air forces of the coalition against targets in Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait from 17 January 1991 to 23 February 1991. Spearheaded by the United States, the coalition flew over 100,000 sorties, dropping 88,500 tons of bombs widely destroying military and civilian infrastructure. The air campaign was commanded by United States Air Force (USAF) Lieutenant General Chuck Horner, who briefly served as Commander-in-Chief—Forward of U.S. Central Command while General Norman Schwarzkopf was still in the United States.

The initial strikes were carried out by AGM-86 ALCM cruise missiles launched by B-52 Stratofortress bombers Tomahawk cruise missiles launched from U.S. Navy warships situated in the Persian Gulf, by F-117 Nighthawk stealth attack aircraft with an armament of laser-guided smart bombs and by F-4G Wild Weasel aircraft as well as F/A-18 Hornet aircraft armed with HARM anti-radar missiles. These first attacks allowed F-14 Tomcat, F-15 Eagle, F-16 Fighting Falcon, and F/A-18 Hornet combat aircraft to gain air superiority over Iraq and then continue to drop television-guided and laser-guided bombs.



U.S. Air Force F-16A, F-15C and F-15E fighter aircraft fly over the Kuwaiti oil fires.

Armed with a GAU-8 rotary cannon and infrared-imaging or optically guided AGM-65 Maverick missiles, USAF A-10 Thunderbolt IIs bombed and destroyed Iraqi armored forces supporting the advance of U.S. ground troops. United States Marine Corps close air support AV-8B Harriers employed their 25mm rotary cannon, Mavericks, cluster munitions, and napalm against the Iraqi dug-in forces to pave the way forward for the U.S. Marines breaching Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's defenses. The U.S. Army AH-64 Apache and AH-1 Cobra attack helicopters fired laser-guided AGM-114 Hellfire and TOW missiles which were guided to tanks by ground observers or by scout helicopters, such as the OH-58D Kiowa. The Coalition air fleet also made use of the E-3A Airborne Warning and Control Systems and of a fleet of B-52 Stratofortress bombers.



F-14 Tomcats from the Red Sea and Persian Gulf await their turn refueling from a KC-10A over Iraq during Operation Desert Storm.

The first priority for Coalition forces was the destruction of Iraqi command and control bunkers, Scud missile launch pads and storage areas, telecommunications and radio facilities, and airfields. The attack began with a wave of deep-penetrating aircraft – F-111s, F-15Es, Tornado GR1s, F-16s, A-6s, A-7Es, and F-117s,

complemented by F-15C, F-14s and Air Defense Tornados. EA-6Bs, EF-111 radar jammers, and F-117A stealth planes were heavily used in this phase to elude Iraq's extensive SAM systems and anti-aircraft weapons. The sorties were launched mostly from Saudi Arabia and the six Coalition aircraft carrier battle groups (CVBG) in the Persian Gulf and Red Sea. During the initial 24 hours 2,775 sorties were flown, including seven B-52s which flew a 35-hour nonstop 14,000-mile round-trip from Barksdale Air Force Base and launched 35 AGM-86 CALCM cruise missiles against eight Iraqi targets.

The next coalition targets were command and communication facilities. Saddam Hussein had closely micromanaged the Iraqi forces in the Iran–Iraq War, and initiative at lower levels was discouraged. Coalition planners hoped that Iraqi resistance would quickly collapse if deprived of command and control.

The third and largest phase of the air campaign ostensibly targeted military targets throughout Iraq and Kuwait: Scud missile launchers, weapons research facilities, and naval forces. About one-third of the Coalition airpower was devoted to attacking Scuds, some of which were on trucks and therefore difficult to locate.

The Gulf War is sometimes called the "computer war", due to the advanced computer-guided weapons and munitions used in the air campaign, which included precision-guided munitions and cruise missiles, even though these were very much in the minority when compared with "dumb bombs" used. Cluster munitions and BLU-82 "Daisy Cutters" were also used.

The United States Air Force deployed over 1,300 aircraft during the course of the campaign, followed by the United States Navy with over 400 aircraft and the United States Marine Corps with approximately 240.

****Ref: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_War_air_campaign**

+ SAFETY CORNER + **DECEMBER IS FIRE SAFETY MONTH**



December brings us fun and family with the colder weather and Christmas, but it also causes us concern with home fire safety. Here are several areas we need to be aware of to prevent fire-related injuries and accidents.

- Install smoke alarms on every level and near bedrooms.
- Plan escape routes from your home in case of fire; don't get trapped!
- Cook carefully. We all want to enjoy safe, wonderful times and delicious family meals, yet cooking incidents are the leading cause of home fires. Unattended stoves and ovens can be the source of tragedy. Keep an eye on the food being cooked, and use the stove vent to lower the level of carbon monoxide.

FIRE SAFETY



- Space heaters can supplement your warmth, but home fires from space heaters increases come December. Keep space heaters at least 3 feet from flammable furniture and materials. Keep children 3 feet from space heaters as well.
- Candles can be festive, and everyone likes candle glow. Keep candles at least 1 foot from flammable material. And make sure children know candles and flames are not toys!
- Check all electric light strings for broken sockets or frayed cords. Do not overload electric sockets in your zeal to string up more lights.
- Consider maintaining a home fire extinguisher in the kitchen and in an easily accessible spot in the home.

Enjoy the winter holiday season ... but stay safe for the rest of the coming year.

✚ SAFETY CORNER ✚ JANUARY IS SNOW SHOVEL SAFETY MONTH



January in our area starts our winter season, with shorter days and colder weather. January also is the month where we can and sometimes do get snow. The action of sudden strenuous activity after weeks of sedentary life can be taxing on the body. Shoveling snow results in over 11,500 medical emergencies annually across the U.S. Adding the fact that cold weather increases heart rate and blood pressure as arteries restrict can increase your chances of injury or death, there are a few things we can do to safely keep our driveways and sidewalks clear (especially if we are over 40 years of age).

To decrease your chance of suffering from a back injury, leg injury, or cardiac incident:

- Do not shovel just after eating or while smoking.
- Do take it slow. Stretch your back, arms, and legs before beginning.
- Wear layered clothing, adjusting as the work warms you up.

- Try to shovel only freshly fallen snow. It is lighter.
- For heavier, older or packed snow, push it, don't lift it. If you must lift to clear the area, only lift small amounts, or use a smaller shovel.
- Rest regularly. The snow isn't going anywhere.
- If you feel dizziness, chest pain, shortness of breath, or palpitations, STOP.

Clear driveways and walkways are safe and neat ... but not worth your life.



POST COMMITTEES – YOU CAN HELP!

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

- **Bataan Death March Committee:** Ted Roberts, John Peterson, Matt Schweers, Grace Schweers, Ann Jones, Becky Waters, Brad Waters, Matt Hostetlar, Diane Hostetlar, Jose Vazquez, and Bob Gregory
- **Budget Committee:** John Peterson, Bob Gregory, Susan Vitale, Mark Rios, Brad Waters, Mike Kust, Dan Eaker and Carl Dozier
- **By-Laws Committee:** Bob Gregory, Matt Hostetlar, Frank Sgromolo and Jose Vazquez
- **Community Service Committee:** Jim Ireland, Susan Vitale, John Guill, David Weber, Frank Sgromolo, Kimball Thompson, Ron Mayfield, and John Peterson
- **Awards/Scholarship Committee:** Mark Rios, Mike Kust, Dan Eaker, Joe Hammers, Otmar Guzman, Ron Liston, Kimball Thompson, and Chuck Wolff
- **Membership/Recruiting Committee:** Bob Gregory, Susan Vitale, José Vazquez, and Dan Eaker
- **Building Renovation Committee:** Kimball Thompson, Jim Ireland, Susan Vitale, Anne Thompson, Ken Belkofer, Matt Overbeck and Jim Keiper
- **Visiting Committee:** Chaplain Joe McGourn and Dan Eaker

- **Health/Safety Committee:** Surgeon David Weber, Frank Sgromolo
- **Activities Committee:** Dan Eaker, Susan Vitale, Joe McGourn

QUARTERMASTER DESK



Post 2894 Annual Dues are \$35 IF you go through our Post – if you go through National make sure you indicate Post 2894!

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

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

You can become a VFW Life Member by paying a one-time fee as listed in the table below or making an initial \$35 payment and then paying the remainder over an 11-month installment plan. You will be issued an annual membership card and can elect, upon receipt of the first monthly invoice, to pay via check, credit card or ACH Debit. The applicable Life Membership fee is determined from the schedule using the applicant's age on Dec. 31 of the installment plan year in which the application is submitted, regardless of actual date of birth. A permanent Life Membership card will be issued upon completion of this agreement.

Annual Members!

Renewals are due now and must be paid by 31 June.

VFW Post 2894 will purchase your LIFE member hat when you convert to Life. \$50 value!

Join the 150 Life Members in the Post.

See Senior Vice Cmdr Susan Vitale or the Quartermaster, John Peterson

Life Member Options

AGE as of DECEMBER 31 st	One-Time Payment	\$45 + 11 Payments of
18-30 Years Old	\$425.00	\$38.64
31-40 Years Old	\$410.00	\$37.27
41-50 Years Old	\$375.00	\$34.09
51-60 Years Old	\$335.00	\$30.45
61-70 Years Old	\$290.00	\$26.36
71-80 Years Old	\$225.00	\$20.45
81 Years & Over	\$170.00	\$15.45

Installment plan requires member approval from National and must be validated before purchase of hat.

Life and Annual Dues can be paid on line at our web page
<https://vfw2894.org/join-the-vfw>

Points of contact for Annual dues and Life Conversion: susan.vitale@verizon.com and jpeter310@gmail.com.



crumbl cookies

A big thank you to Cami Fairbanks and Alli Bohls for providing free cookie samples during our Buddy Poppy Fundraiser at Edinburgh Walmart. They were greatly appreciated!

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!!!

BUSINESS CARD - \$25/ISSUE; \$100/YEAR
QUARTER PAGE - \$35/ISSUE; \$150/YEAR
HALF PAGE - \$45/ISSUE; \$200/YEAR

VFW MEMBERS/VETERAN-OWNED
BUSINESSES RECEIVE A 20% DISCOUNT

DECEMBER MILITARY HISTORY

- 1 1909** President Taft severs official relations with Nicaragua's government and declares support for revolutionaries.
- 1918** American army of occupation enters Germany.
- 1955** Rosa Parks refuses to sit in back of Montgomery, AL, bus, defying South's segregationist laws.
- 1969** America's first draft lottery since 1942.
- 2 1823** President Monroe proclaims Monroe Doctrine, 'American continents, by free and independent condition... are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by European powers.'
- 1921** First successful helium dirigible, C-7, makes test flight in Portsmouth, Va.
- 1927:** New Ford Model A introduced to American public.
- 1942** Allies repel strong Axis attack in Tunisia, North Africa.
- 1944** General Patton's troops enter Saar Valley and break through Siegfried line.
- 3 1918** Allied Conference ends in London deciding that Germany must pay for war.
- 1989** Presidents Bush and Gorbachev announce official end to Cold War at meeting in Malta.
- 4 1862** Winchester, VA, falls into Union hands, resulting in capture of 145 Southern soldiers.
- 1915** Frank Friday Fletcher is first US admiral to receive Congressional Medal of Honor.
- 1942** US planes make first raids on Naples, Italy.
- 1991** Last American hostages held in Lebanon released.
- 5 1933** 21st Amendment ends Prohibition in US, begun 13 years earlier.
- 1955** Bus boycott begins under Rev. ML King, Jr., in Montgomery.
- 1978** Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President George H.W. Bush, declare the Cold War over.
- 1989** Soviet Union signs 20-year friendship pact with Afghanistan.
- 6 1492** Columbus lands on Santo Domingo in search of gold.
- 1934** American Ambassador Davis says Japan is grave security threat in Pacific.
- 1941** President FDR issues personal appeal to Emperor Hirohito to use influence to avoid war.
- 2001** Battle of Tora Bora begins in a cave complex in Eastern Afghanistan's White Mountains.
- 7 1917** US declares war on Austria-Hungary.
- 1941** Japanese planes raid Pearl Harbor in surprise attack.
- 1942** USN launches USS *New Jersey*, largest battleship ever built.
- 2001** Kandahar, the last major stronghold of the Taliban, falls.
- 8 1943** US carrier-based planes sink two cruisers and down 72 planes in Marshall Islands.
- 1944** US conducts longest, most effective air raid on Iwo Jima.
- 9 1941** FDR tells Americans to plan for a long war.
- 1992** US Marines land in Somalia to ensure food and medicine reach deprived areas.
- 10 1898** US and Spain sign Treaty of Paris, ceding Spanish possessions, including Philippines, to US.
- 1918** US troops called to guard Berlin as coup is feared.
- 1941** Japanese troops invade Philippine Island of Luzon.
- 1949** 150,000 French troops mass at border in Vietnam to prevent Chinese invasion.
- 11 1941** US declares war on Italy and Germany.
- 1945** Boeing B-29 Superfortress shatters records by crossing US in five hours and 27 minutes.
- 12 1753** George Washington, adjutant of Virginia, delivers ultimatum to French forces at Fort Le Boeuf, reiterating Britain's claim to Ohio River Valley.
- 1863** Orders given at Richmond, Virginia, that no more supplies from Union be received by Federal prisoners.
- 1967** US ends airlift of 6,500 men to Vietnam.
- 13 1862** Battle of Fredericksburg ends with bloody slaughter of Union troops at Marye's Heights.
- 2003** Saddam Hussein is captured by US soldiers in ad-Dawr, Iraq.
- 14 1799** George Washington dies on Mount Vernon estate.
- 1960** US Boeing B-52 bomber sets 10,000-mile non-stop record without refueling.
- 15 1890** US soldiers attempt to arrest Sitting Bull in Standing Rock, SD; shooting breaks out and Lt. Bullhead shoots great Sioux leader.
- 1924** Soviet Union warns US against repeated entry of ships into Soviet territorial waters.
- 1938** Washington sends fourth note to Berlin demanding amnesty for Jews.
- 1965** US drops twelve tons of bombs on industrial center near Haiphong Harbor, North Vietnam.
- 16 1773** Young Americans, disguised as Indians, throw chests of tea in to Boston Harbor.
- 1944** Germany opens Battle of the Bulge in Ardennes Forest in Belgium.
- 1950** President Truman declares National Emergency as Chinese Communists invade deeper in to South Korea.
- 1998** US launches missile attack on Iraq for failing to comply with UN weapons inspectors.
- 17 1903** Wright brothers' first successful flight near Kitty Hawk, NC.
- 1943** US forces invade Japanese-held New Britain Island in New Guinea.
- 1944** US approves end to internment of Japanese Americans.
- 18 1865** Slavery abolished in US, 13th Amendment formally adopted into Constitution.
- 1941** Defended by 610, American-held island of Guam falls to more than 5,000 Japanese invaders in 3-hour battle.
- 1972** President Nixon declares bombing of North Vietnam will continue until accord reached.
- 19 1959** Last civil war veteran, Walter Williams, dies at 117 in Houston.
- 20 1941** Flying Tigers, American pilots in China, enter combat against Japanese over Kunming.
- 1989** US troops invade Panama to oust General Noriega.
- 21 1620** Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock.
- 1862** Congress authorizes Medal of Honor for Navy personnel.
- 1944** German troops surround 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne in Belgium.
- 1945** General Patton dies at age 60 after injury in car accident.
- 22 1775** Esek Hopkins takes command of Continental Navy – total of seven ships.
- 1944** During Battle of the Bulge, General McAuliffe responds to German surrender request with: "Nuts!"
- 23 1941** US defenders on Wake Island capitulate to 2nd Japanese assault.
- 1944** Gen. Eisenhower confirms death sentence of PVT Slovik, only American shot for desertion since Civil War.
- 1948** Japan's Prime Minister Tojo and six others hanged for war crimes.
- 1974** B-1 bomber makes first successful test flight.

- 24 1814** Treaty between US and Britain, ending War of 1812, signed. News does not reach US until two weeks later (after Battle of New Orleans).
- 1943** General Eisenhower appointed Allied Supreme Commander.
- 26 1776** After crossing the Delaware River the night before, Washington leads attack on Hessian mercenaries at Trenton, takes 9000 men prisoner.
- 27 1941** Japanese bombers attack Manila, despite claim as open city.
- 1944** General Patton's Third Army relieves Bastogne in Belgium.
- 1979** President Amin of Afghanistan murdered in coup backed by Soviet Union, beginning 10 year war.
- 28 1946** French declare martial law in Vietnam as war appears inevitable.
- 2014** The War in Afghanistan officially ends.
- 29 1778** British, attempting new strategy to defeat colonials, capture Savannah.
- 1890** Last major conflict of Indian Wars as 7th Calvary tries to disarm Chief Big Foot and followers at Wounded Knee, SD.
- 1965** Christmas truce observed in Vietnam, while President Johnson tries to get North Vietnamese to bargaining table.
- 30 1803** US takes possession of Louisiana area from France.
- 1972** President Nixon halts air offensive and agrees to resume peace negotiations with Hanoi representative.
- 2006** Saddam Hussein hanged for crimes committed against own people during rule.
- 31 1775** George Washington orders recruiting officers to accept free blacks into army.
- 1942** After five months of battle, Emperor Hirohito allows Japanese commanders at Guadalcanal to retreat.

JANUARY MILITARY HISTORY

- 1 1776** British torch Norfolk, Virginia.
- 1863** Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect.
- 1950** First woman doctor commissioned in USN, Mary T. Sproul.
- 1950** Indo-China: Viet Minh open a major offensive against the French.
- 1951** Massive Chinese/North Korean assault on UN lines.
- 1962** US Navy SEAL teams established.
- 2 1776** First American flag displayed.
- 1945** USN convoys depart Leyte to invade Luzon, while beating off Kamikaze attacks.
- 3 1777** Battle of Princeton: Washington defeats British.
- 1944** Marine ace "Pappy" Boyington (28 kills) captured by Japanese.
- 1990** Panama's Gen Manuel Noriega surrenders to US authorities.
- 4 1989** Second Gulf of Sidra Incident: two USN F-14s down two Libyan MiG-23s.
- 5 1608** Captain John Smith is captured by Indians.
- 1781** Richmond burned by British forces under Benedict Arnold.
- 6 1776** "NY Provincial Company of Artillery" organized; now 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, senior unit of Regular Army.
- 1927** US Marines sent to Nicaragua.
- 1941** FDR's "Four Freedoms" address; of speech and worship, from want and fear.
- 7 1942** Battan: 15,000 US and 65,000 Filipino troops go on half-rations, as Japanese forces close in.
- 1953** Pres Truman announces development of hydrogen bomb.
- 8 1815** Battle of New Orleans, fifteen days after Treaty of Ghent.
- 1877** Battle of Wolf Mountain, Montana: Crazy Horse defeated by US Army - last battle of Great Sioux War.
- 1973** US Army - last battle of Great Sioux War.
- 9 1861** First Shot of Civil War; US steamer 'Star of the West' is fired on by Confederate batteries off Charleston.
- 1936** Garand M-1 semi-automatic rifle adopted by US Army.
- 1942** FDR establishes Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- 1945** Luzon: 6th Army lands in Lingayen Gulf.
- 1952** USMC recalls Ted Williams to active duty for Korean War.
- 10 1847** US Navy-Marine Corps landing party occupies Los Angeles.
- 1943** Guadalcanal: US forces begin general offensive to eliminate Japanese.
- 1946** Army signal Corps bounces radar beam off the moon.
- 11 1785** Continental Congress convenes in New York.
- 1945** Japanese decide to put remaining resources into suicide weapons.
- 1991** Congress authorizes Pres G.H.W. Bush to undertake offensive operations against Iraq.
- 12 1946** 82nd Airborne Division marches up Fifth Avenue to tumultuous greeting.
- 14 1784** Congress ratifies Treaty of Paris, ending Revolutionary War.
- 1867** Alfred Nobel makes first public demonstration of dynamite.
- 1943** Casablanca Conference: FDR, Churchill, and Stalin.
- 1969** Fire aboard USS *Enterprise* (CVN-65), off Vietnam, claims 28 lives and injures 344.
- 15 1865** Union soldiers, sailors, and Marines take Fort Fisher, NC.
- 1973** Pres Nixon suspends all US offensive action over North Vietnam.
- 16 1776** Continental Congress approves enlistment of free blacks.
- 1944** Gen Eisenhower takes command of Operation Overlord.
- 1957** Three B-52s leave California on first non-stop world flight.
- 1970** Col Muammar Gaddafi becomes Premier of Libya.
- 17 1781** Battle of Cowpens: Dan Morgan annihilates Tarleton's Anglo-Tory Force.
- 1955** USS *Nautilus* (SSN-571) gets underway on nuclear power.
- 1966** B-52 carrying four hydrogen bombs crashes off Spanish coast.
- 1991** Operation Desert Storm: Coalition airstrikes against Iraq.
- 18 1911** First airplane lands on ship: Eugene Ely in Curtiss Flyer on USS *Pennsylvania* (ACR-4).
- 19 1920** Senate rejects American membership in League of Nations.
- 20 1778** First American court martial opens, Cambridge, MA
- 1783** Hostilities cease in Revolutionary War.
- 1887** Senate approves lease of Pearl Harbor for a base.
- 1914** USN opens school for aviators at Pensacola, FL
- 1944** Rapido River: US 36th Division begins two-day attempt to force German defenses.
- 1981** Illegally held by Iranian government of 444 days, 52 Americans are finally released.
- 2019** US Space Force established.
- 21 1903** "Dick Act" creates modern National Guard.
- 1968** Battle of Khe Sanh begins - ends April 8.
- 22 1944** Operation Shingle: Allies land at Anzio.
- 23 1968** North Koreans capture USS *Pueblo* and 83 crew in East Sea/Sea of Japan.
- 24 1847** Col. Price defeats 1,500 Indians and Mexicans to secure New Mexico for US.
- 25 1945** Audie Murphy earns Medal of Honor.
- 1969** US-North Vietnamese peace talks begin in Paris.
- 26 1862** Lincoln issues General War Order #1, calling for Union offensive.
- 1911** Glenn Curtiss tests first successful sea plane, San Diego
- 1913** John Paul Jones laid to rest in Chal of US Navl Academy.
- 1942** Marines land in Northern Ireland - first US troops to reach Europe.
- 1948** Executive Order 9981: Truman orders segregation in Armed Forces ended.
- 27 1915** US Marines begin occupation of Haiti.
- 1943** First USAAF raid on Germany, at Wilhelmshafen.
- 1973** US and North Vietnam sign cease-fire agreement.

- 1977** Pres Carter pardons most Vietnam War draft evaders.
- 28 1915** US Coast Guard created from Life Saving and Revenue Cutter Services.
- 1942** Ens. Donald Mason radios, "Sighted sub, sank same."
- 29 1944** USS *Missouri* (BB-63) launched in Brooklyn.
- 30 1781** Articles of Confederation, establishing perpetual union of "United States of America".
- 1945** Philippines - Cabanatuan: 126 US and Filipino raiders liberate 500 prisoners from a Japanese P/W camp.
- 31 1944** US troops land on Kwajalein and nearby islands in the Marshalls.
- 1945** 11th Airborne Div lands - by sea - at south entrance to Manila Bay.
- 1961** Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr., becomes first black American to command warship, USS *Falgout* (DE-324).
- 1968** Beginning of Tet Offensive in South Vietnam
- 1981** Last enlisted USN aviator retires.

POST 2894 CALENDAR

<u>DECEMBER '24</u>	
7	Chesapeake Christmas Parade
7	Beginning of Hanukkah
9	Post Staff Meeting, Post HQ
11	Post Meeting/Christmas Party, Post HQ
11	Post Academic Awards Ceremony
14	Army/Navy Game - Post Pot Luck
15	End of Hanukkah
21	Winter Begins
25	Christmas Day

<u>JANUARY '25</u>	
1	New Year's Day
6	Post Staff Meeting, Post HQ
8	Sinsil 8 Anniversary (2008)
8	Post Meeting, Post HQ
9-12	VFW Department of Virginia Winter Conference, Fort McGruder, Williamsburg
20	Martin Luther King Day



Buddy Poppy Fall Fundraiser this year! Thanks for your support in allowing us to solicit donations in front of your establishments. It is truly appreciated!

A big shout out to our friends at the Battlefield and Edinburgh Walmarts for their assistance with the VFW Bea Oakley/Gary Dunbar

SCOUT OF THE YEAR Program



WHAT IS THE SCOUT OF THE YEAR PROGRAM?

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

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for the award, the candidate must:

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

Prior National Scout of the Year winners are ineligible. There is no minimum age requirement for applicants as long as all other eligibility criteria has been met. The maximum age requirement for applicants is 18 years old. If an applicant reaches their 18th birthday during the nomination year, they remain eligible as long as they are still in high school at the time of the submission deadline. A Scout may enter through only one VFW Post. A local Post can be identified by zip code at vfw.org/FindaPost.

WHAT ARE THE DEADLINES?

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

Questions should be directed to during normal business hours Monday through Friday or emailed to scouting@vfw.org.

Official Entry Form

SCOUT OF THE YEAR Program

MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH CONTESTANT
and submitted directly to a VFW post in your community.

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

Home Phone

Email

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

Scout Troop Number

SCOUT/VENTURE CERTIFICATION

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

Scout/Venture Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

UNIT LEADER'S CERTIFICATION

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

Unit Leader's Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

PARENT'S CONSENT

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

Father, Mother or Guardian Signature

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)



SCOUT OF THE YEAR Program

VFW DEPARTMENT SCOUTING CHAIRMAN

PHONE: _____

SPONSORING VFW POST

POST NUMBER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POST COMMANDER'S SIGNATURE: _____

DISTRICT CERTIFICATION IF APPLICABLE, CHECK WITH THE VFW DEPARTMENT SCOUTING CHAIRMAN

DISTRICT #: _____

DISTRICT CDR: _____

DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION MUST BE COMPLETED BY DEPARTMENT VFW SCOUTING CHAIRMAN OR DEPT. COMMANDER

DEPARTMENT: _____

SUBMITTED BY: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED?

The following documentation should be submitted:

- **Photograph of the Scout** — must be attached to this form. The Scout must appear in correct, complete uniform for their current rank. Recommended size 3" x 5".
- **School Participation Record** — a single page, one-sided resume of the candidate's school activities indicating academic achievements, offices held, honors received and significant participation in other activities.
- **Scouting Record** — maximum of three pages, one side only, listing of all Scouting participation beginning with Cub Scouts or Brownies - years of participation, unit numbers and sponsors. Also include when Eagle, Gold, Summit or Quartermaster Award was received and Palms. Identify leadership positions held at all levels, participation in Scouting activities (jamborees, Order of the Arrow conferences, etc.) and the candidate's Eagle Scout, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit or Sea Scout Quartermaster Project.
- **Community Service Record** — a single page, one-sided resume listing participation in community and religious service organizations (excluding Scouting and school), noting leadership positions held and any recognition received.
- **Letters of Recommendation** — Submit three letters, no more than two pages in length from:
 - A scout leader.
 - A community member.
 - A teacher/faculty member (if homeschooled, a parent letter is allowed).In addition, you may include one or two additional letters, no more than two pages in length from local community members who have special knowledge of the candidate's abilities/accomplishments.
- **Completed Entry Form** — submitted to a local VFW Post. Local Posts can be identified by zip code at vfw.org/FindaPost.

WHO MAKES UP THE VFW SCOUTING TEAM?

The backbone of Scouting in the VFW is the VFW Scouting Team. These VFW members are deeply involved in Scouting, most with decades of experience.

Appointed by their Department Commander, they are responsible for promoting scouting in their state. They are available to encourage Posts to sponsor units, support units and individual Scout projects. They should be the Department's "expert" on all phases of scouting. Many Departments have multiple members of the VFW Scouting Team, but every Department should have at least one individual to promote the values of scouting to youth and to the VFW itself. For more information on the VFW Scouting Team call email scouting@vfw.org

