

Brevard Veterans Council/



Veterans Memorial Center

Council Courier

July 2021



The Courier is a publication of the
Brevard Veterans Council & Veterans Memorial Center
Merritt Island, FL 32952

Don Pearsall — Editor (321) 313-2444

Best viewed at 100%

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The Wonders of Our America
from Sea to Shining Sea



Big Sky Country - Montana

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Mission Statements

Brevard Veterans Council: The mission of the Brevard Veterans Council is to work in conjunction with area veterans, local government, and other veterans' organizations to support and promote the interests and welfare of Brevard County veterans and their families.

Veterans Memorial Center: The mission of the Veterans Memorial Center is to maintain and operate a premier facility to support veterans and their families, educate the public, and provide a vibrant memorial to the service and sacrifice of all military veterans through a museum, memorial plaza, library, and park.

The Council Courier

The Courier is a monthly publication prepared and distributed in both print and electronic forms by the Brevard Veterans Council. It reports the ongoing projects by the many committees and departments.

Articles for submission must be sent to the address listed below.

The deadline is the 25th of each month. Those submissions received after that date will not be published.

All Submissions Please Send To:

Don Pearsall at djp32927@gmail.com

Council Chairman's Report



By: Donn Weaver
Former Captain U.S. Army



Half way through 2021 and we have much to be happy about compared to one year ago. First of all, a month away from his transplant operation, Dean Schaaf , our VMC President, is doing well. His monthly column is already back!

Second, in 2021 we have been busier with more great events and progress in May, June and July than for any similar time period of those three months since I started here in 2013, especially when compared to last year. Thank Heavens.

The Calendar has some details and a couple fliers are included about big events on 02 July (Vet night at Space Coast Stadium) and 03 July (The static Independence Day Parade with the BCSO in the morning and fun events and a concert in the Park in the Afternoon and Evening). Hope you will plan to join in one or more of these programs to really create a spectacular 4th of July after the subdued one last year — Our Static Parade with BCSO was the only event in the county as I recall in 2020.

The Year Ahead: In this note to you I want to focus on getting ready for our 2021-22 BVC/VMC Year with our new Board and two of Four new members of the Executive Committee. Once we are confirmed as the new leadership team on 14 July, among others we have three major goals to reach:

A. Fill out all committee rosters including three new ones: Park, Veteran Support, and Events Scheduling.

NOTE: The latter will be tasked to provide the Boards by September a projected 2021-22 event and program year plan. We hope this will get more members and volunteers involved and help as better schedule competing events from many other organizations and rentals we expect as our physical plant continues to improve. Special thanks to Operations Director Bob Doyle for creating a week by week calendar with ALL the growing number of users, rentals, meetings, etc, in one place. At a glance we now know what is available as we continue to expand. He will continue to coordinate and approve all scheduling in close coordination with the ExVComm.

B. Review our Organization Chart and Make sure we are modernized and ready to take on new challenges consistent with the newly approved By Laws of the BVC and VMC.

C. Continue to improve our operation in all areas, including better utilizing new volunteers including 8 students this summer; cleaning and improving storage and the grounds and finding ways to better increase corporate donations and funding through rentals, bricks, trees and benches, etc.

Hope all of you are looking forward to a great new BVC/VMC Year 2021-22. Again, Thanks for hanging during Covid and thanks for making us the best!!



VMC Presidents Report

By Former LCDR Dean Schaaf
Veteran United States Navy Aviation

I am back (in a limited capacity) and will be working, mainly in the afternoons to limit exposure to large crowds. Thank you to everyone who wished me well over the past month since I received a kidney transplant. Everything is going great, the new kidney started working

Along with the 4th of July celebrations, July will be a busy month. Our Board of Director meetings on the 7th and the all-important General Membership meeting on the 14th. At this meeting, all elected and appointed positions will be sworn in by Wayne Justice, RADM USCG (ret) and Chairman of the Port Commission. I also plan on presenting several Distinguished Service Silver Medal awards. The Distinguished Service awards are presented to the volunteers who go above and beyond to support the goals of the Memorial Center. There is a plaque in the lobby with all of the previous awardees.

The Veterans Memorial Center is an active member of the Museums of Brevard (MOB), an organization of approximately 20 museums and venues that promote the history of Brevard County. We are working on publishing an up-dated brochure of all the museums/venues. On June 26, several of the organizations gathered at the American Space Museum in Titusville to promote their facility. All are hidden gems of Brevard County and have much to offer in historical preservation, artifacts of the region and the unique history of heritage, nature, space and military history.



Visit the Gift Shop store at the Veterans memorial Center feature on page 21

BVC/VMC Leadership Team

BVC Chair/VMC Vice	Donn Weaver	613-2403	donnweaver2020@gmail.com
VMC Chair/BVC Vice	Dean Schaaf	452-0365	dschaaf@brevard.net
Past Chairman	Don Pearsall	313-2444	djp32927@gmail.com
Secretary	Kristi Blanchard	449-1226	kblanc3@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ted Schmid	863-3640	tedschmid88@gmail.com
Chaplain	Chip Hanson	543-7505	chipvietnam68@aol.com

Brevard Veterans Council Board of Directors

3 Year	Ted Suzor	271-4327	dolfyns21@cfl.rr.com
3 Year	Les Beecher	452-1806	les.acp@gmail.com
3 Year	Kristi Blanchard	449-1226	kblanc3@yahoo.com
2 Year	Alex Terrero	759-5543	aja3@bellsouth.net
2 Year	Bryant Faulkenberry	423-6723	Law.faulken.19mil@outlook.com
2 Year	Brian Whalen	205-5986	whalenbri@hotmail.com
1 Year	Ed Pingston	794-9401	ed@pingstonservices.com
1 Year	Ray Norman	452-5376	normanrayl@yahoo.com
1 Year	Rich Tomasso	452-8543	rich4400@gmail.com

Veterans Memorial Center Board of Directors

3 Year	Dorothy Walsh	426-6736	dwalshusa@gmail.com
3 Year	Harry Beaver	507-4228	sgmbeaver@netzero.net
3 Year	Lou Rossi	604-1814	No email
2 Year	Doris Hendricks	458-1138	dorisroses@yahoo.com
2 Year	Chris Gibson	503-467-6102	dasgibby@hotmail.com
2 Year	Jay Longway	449-9037	jpl3x@yahoo.com
1 Year	Mike Schulze	202-255-3158	mcschulze@verizon.net
1 Year	Ernie Hoffman	203-962-9000	ernest-hoffman@hotmail.com
1 Year	Mary Ann Tucker	986-9494	wellmare@aol.com

Veterans Center Non-Voting Supporting Organizations

DAV Chapter 123	Bill Benagh	NA	NA
Fleet Reserve 263	Dave Clayton	NA	ddcri@aol.com

Veterans Center – Non-Voting Support Positions

Asst. Secretary	Julie Adamson	446-4663	Juliecladamson@gmail.com
Asst. Treasurer	Kristi Blanchard	449-1226	kblanc3@yahoo.com
Operations Director	Bob Doyle	276-7814	vmcoperationsmgr@gmail.com
Security/Asst, Operations	Ted Suzor	271-4327	dolfyns21@cfl.rr.com
Museum Curator (Assoc.)	Alex Terrero	759-5543	aja3@bellsouth.net
Website	Kristi Blanchard	449-1226	kblanc3@yahoo.com
Museum Curator	Ed Pingston	794-9401	ed@pingstonservices.com

Standing Committees 2021-2022

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EX COMM)		
Ad Hoc Committees as needed		Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf, Dave Clayton, Kristi Blanchard
Events		Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf, Dave Clayton, Kristi Blanchard
Fund Raising		Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf, Dave Clayton, Kristi Blanchard
Special Projects		Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf, Dave Clayton, Kristi Blanchard
ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENT	LEAD	VOLUNTEERS
CENTER DEPARTMENTS		
Library	Joe Davie	Bill Wilkening, Norm Desmarais, Doug Bissett, Eleanor Fadok, Hank Rhodes, Jill Rippon, Vic Rogers
Museum	Ed Pingston	Alex Terrero, Kristi Blanchard, Ted Schmid, Docents
Operations/Security	Bob Doyle/Ted Suzor	MOD, CSW, AARP
Park	Bob Doyle	Donn Weaver
Park Events	Donn Weaver	Dean Schaaf
Plaza	Donn Weaver (V)	Dean Schaaf, Sandy Eliason
Store	Dave Boyd	Chris Gibson, Bob Estes, Kristi Blanchard, Donna Longway, Ray Norman, Jay Longway, Mike Wrazen, Vic Rogers, Jalaine Spears, Garet Mckimmie
JOINT COMMITTEES		
Courier	Don Pearsall	Kristi Blanchard
Finance	Dave Clayton	Jay Longway, Rich Tomasso, Ed Pingston, Kristi Blanchard, Dave Boyd
Governance	Dorothy Walsh	Ernie Hoffman, Ray Norman, Ted Suzor, Harry Beaver, Mike Shultz EX COMM REP, Dave Clayton, Ted Schmid
Public Affairs	Harry Beaver	Chip Hanson, EX COMM REP
Social Media / FB / Web / Mobile	Kristi Blanchard	Joe Davie, Doris Hendricks
COUNCIL ONLY COMMITTEES		
Cemetery Support	Chip Hanson	Dorothy Walsh, Donn Weaver, Ray Norman
Membership	Sandy Eliason	Kristi Blanchard, Dave Clayton, Dorothy Walsh
Scholarship	Doris Hendricks	Dean Schaaf, Ray Norman, Rich Tomasso, Mary Ann Tucker, Jay Longway
Veterans Support	Don Pearsall	Bob Doyle, Dorothy Walsh, Bryant Faulkenberry
Veterans Treatment Court	Brian Whalen	Skip Taylor, Dorothy Walsh
Women Veterans Outreach	Christine Tate	Tabitha Miller, Dorothy Walsh, Amanda Herrnkind, Adrienne Leonhardt
CENTER ONLY COMMITTEES		
MIAP-FL Brevard	Donn Weaver	Chip Hanson, Skip Taylor, Doris Hendricks, Les Beecher
Speaker's Bureau	Bill Muckler	Paul Julian, Norm Desmarais, Donn Weaver
Veterans History Project	Paul Julian	Donn Weaver, Chip Hanson, Julie Adamson, Joe Davie, James Gray
Vets Back to Class / JFI	Donn Weaver	Dean Schaaf, Chris Gibson, Doug Bisset, Paul Julian
Youth Activities	Paul Julian	Bob Doyle, Dean Schaaf, Brian Delaney (SCYM)

(V) Vacancy and looking for a new lead

Chaplin's Corner



By: Chaplin Chip Hansen
United States
Marine Corps

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Owner (407) 402-3993 cell



mconsolato@bellsouth.net
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The United States of America has survived for 245 years. There have been ongoing arguments concerning our Constitution and the various amendments. As Chaplain, I will attempt to address the issue that our forefathers made very clear. The first amendment to the US Constitution states Free Speech. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; Our forefathers quoted John Adams- The Christian religion is, above all the religions that ever prevailed or existed in ancient or modern times, the religion of wisdom, virtue, equity and humanity Ben Franklin-.

As to Jesus of Nazareth, my opinion of whom you particularly desire, I think the system of morals and His religion as He left them to us, the best the world ever saw or is likely to see. John Hancock- that all nations may bow to the scepter of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and that the whole earth may be filled with his glory. George Washington-, You do well to wish to learn our arts and ways of life, and above all, the religion of Jesus Christ. These will make you a greater and happier people than you are.

The 1854 Congress, - The great, vital, and conservative element in our system is the belief of our people in the pure doctrines and the divine truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ Martin Luther King I HEREBY PLEDGE MYSELF--MY PERSON AND MY BODY--TO THE NONVIOLENT MOVEMENT. THEREFORE, I WILL KEEP THE FOLLOWING. MEDITATE daily on the teachings and life of Jesus.

All I have done is quote various Patriots, you make your own decision

Peter 2:16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.

Be Our Guest!

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unity
of Merritt Island

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UNOFFICIAL BREVARD VMC VETS CALENDAR (JULY AND BEYOND)

Contact VMC for any additions or other information.

02 Jul — Military and Vet Appreciation Night and Special Fundraiser at Space Coast Stadium in Viera 1800-2100. Sponsored by Space Coast Stadium and the VMC, special military and veteran recognition before and during the international USA Pride vs. Mexico Women's Fast Pitch Softball game. Military and Veterans with ID get in free. Regular cost \$10. WWII and Korean War vets recognized and all military branches honored. Wrap up for the Ranger Mike Fund (22 June Main event).

03 Jul — Third Annual Merritt Island Independence Day Parade sponsored by BCSO and VMC (0900-1100). Static display of the "Parade" in front of Mall in the inner lane as two lanes pass by east bound on Rte 520. (See Flyer)

03 Jul — The Great American Blast at Veterans Memorial Park on MI 1200 - 2100 includes food trucks, booths, games, a car show and evening concert not celebrate 245 Years of American Freedom. (See Flyer).

04 Jul — Melbourne City 4th of July Parade (0900-1100) in downtown Melbourne. Several vet organization floats entered.

22 Jul — Sen. Rubio's representative holds office hours (1400-1600) in the VMC Library to support veterans in need of federal attention or to pass along ideas to the Senator. Contact Maria Montano on 407-254-2573 for more information.

25 Jul — Second Annual First Responders and Military Appreciation BBQ presented by Back Brevard Heroes at Kiwanis Island Park, MI 1200-1500. Open to the Community so come out and show your support. For more information contact BACKBREVARDHEROES on Facebook.

08 Aug — Annual Military Order of the Purple Heart Ceremony at the VMC and Memorial Plaza to recognize and honor 12 recipients of the Purple Heart during combat operations (1400- 1600). Contact VMC for more information.

26 Aug — Sen. Rubio's representative holds office hours (1400-1600) in the VMC Library to support veterans in need of federal attention or to pass along ideas to the Senator. Contact Maria Montano on 407-254-2573 for more information.

TBD Sep — Space Coast Honor Flight hopes to return to operations in September with possible 2021 Honor Flights. Check their website :

SpaceCoastHonorFlight.org for updated information. Meanwhile, luncheons for SCHF have resumed at several county restaurants.

11 Sep — Rockledge Remembering 9/11 Ceremony 1030 at Rockledge City Hub — The 20th Anniversary of the Events on 11 September 2001.

11 Sep — Patriots Day and 9/11 Commemoration at the VMC 1630-1900. Sponsored by Club 1013 Ret NYPD and the VMC. Full details in July. This event marks the 20th anniversary of the attacks on America and almost two decades since America took the fight to enemies in Afghanistan and around the world. It will be a special Re-

23 Sep — Sen. Rubio's representative holds office hours (1400-1600) in the VMC Library to support veterans in need of federal attention or to pass along ideas to the Senator. Contact Maria Montano on 407-254-2573 for more information.

25 Sep — The Space Coast Food Festival 1600-2000 at the VMC and Veterans Memorial Park. Sponsored by the Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce, this popular, community event has been held at the Port and other large venues. Room for organizational tables and canopies as well as good entertainment and great food to sample. POC is Jennifer Sugarman of CBRCC 321-459-2200.

16 Oct — NVHS Sponsored 2021 6th Annual Dinner Fundraiser 1730-2100 at the Radisson Resort at Cape Canaveral. The National Veterans Homeless Support non-profit event includes Sheriff Ivey and many Brevard officials who strongly support veterans in need. Table and other level of sponsorships are available. Register on line at Kasey@nvhs.org or call Kasey Corson 321-208-7562 for more info.

29 Oct — Sen. Rubio's representative holds office hours (1400-1600) in the VMC Library to support veterans in need of federal attention or to pass along ideas to the Senator. Contact Maria Montano on 407-254-2573 for more information.

TBD — MIAP-FL: The March 2020 Missing in America Project - FL Call to Honor Ceremony (CTH) was the last one of four held in Brevard over the previous three years. In Brevard we continue to research dozens of abandoned veteran cremains in our area. We hope the next CTH Service for the MIAP-FL at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery will occur by October or early in 2022.

TBD — The Veteran Stand Up (Formerly known as Stand Down) event was postponed due to COVID 19 in 2020/21. The VMC Boards and EXCOMM decided it was better to postpone the event until Fall 2021 due to uncertain COVID conditions that could impact such a large, indoor gathering. We hope many veterans, organizations and others will find ways in the meantime to help Homeless and at risk Veterans in Brevard County. Planning meetings begin in Early August at the VMC.

11 Nov — VMC Veterans Day Ceremony at VMC (0930-1100) Food and refreshments provided; Special events and displays.

18 Nov — Sen. Rubio's representative holds office hours (1400-1600) in the VMC Library to support veterans in need of federal attention or to pass along ideas to the Senator. Contact Maria Montano on 407-254-2573 for more information.

04 Dec — The 2021 Veterans and Military Support Golf Tournament sponsored by Good Deeds Foundation of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAACC) at the Cocoa Beach Country Club (0800-1400) This tournament funds MOAACC GDF support to all JROTC and related units in the county; active duty military needs not covered by DoD; and support to veterans in urgent need. Sign up for the event and sponsorship levels at moaacc.org.

Jan 2022 TBD — The Fourth Annual Key Lime Pie Festival at the Veterans Memorial Park at VMC. Proceeds support the VMC and major Park improvements should make the event very special.

Donn Weaver BVC Chairman 757-871-6576



Sheriff Wayne Ivey Invites You To



SATURDAY
JULY 3, 2021
9:00-11:00 AM



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For Additional Information Contact : LINDSEY DEATON 321-505-8752

***Food trucks & celebration will be
held at the Veteran Memorial Center
after the parade!***

**JOIN
US!**

JULY 3, 2021



EVENT SCHEDULE

7AM -	ZYBEK BASEBALL / SOFTBALL COMBINE REGISTRATION ZYBEK COMBINE VENDOR SETUP
8AM -	ZYBEK BASEBALL / SOFTBALL COMBINE
9AM -	ZYBEK FOOTBAL COMBINE REGISTRATION
10AM -	ZYBEK FOOTBALL COMBINE
11AM - 12PM -	VENDOR SETUP FOR AFTERNOON / EVENING EVENTS FOOD TRUCKS SETUP
12 - 4PM -	AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES / GAMES
4 - 7PM -	KULTURE KLASH VEHICLE SHOW
7 - 9PM -	MUSIC CONCERT

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CHRIS.PERCEPTEDGEFLORIDA@GMAIL.COM

Park and Plaza Report

By Donn Weaver BVC Chairman

Donations Mount in the Memorial Plaza and our Improved Park Attracts new Business

June saw a steady uptick with 24 Donations for new bricks, including 12 to be installed after the Military Order of Purple Heart's 08 August Purple Heart Day Ceremony. We also received two new orders for the large white bench tops in the Plaza which makes three in two months for a total of \$4000 in donations. The 2020-21 Plaza upgrade was completed in June and it is looking better than ever. Again, thanks to CSpray and Chad and Kitty Stoudt for making our plaza a project of their heart as well as their business. They have been with us since the beginning in 2009.

The Park survived the four day Memorial Day Weekend with 3-4000 people and is already being readied for the Great American Blast after the Static Parade on 03 July. Both events include fliers in this edition of the Courier. We expect several Scout Campouts this summer and a big event in the Park as well as at VMC event area for the 20th Anniversary of the attack on 9/11 on 11 Sep. We have been meeting with MIRA and County Officials in June to continue Park improvements (about \$1M) leading up to the construction of our \$2.3 M Amphitheater later this year or early next.

We are working also with the County and River Rats on a revised and improved location for the Medal of Honor Tribute in the VMP.

We are searching for a stand alone Park Committee which will help plan, schedule, upkeep and fundraise via the expanding interest in using the Veterans Memorial Park. Also, look for our new signs advertising our Memorial Brick, Trees and outdoor Benches in the Plaza and Park.

Contact the Executive Committee to join the new Park management committee for if you have questions or suggestions about the Plaza or Park.



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Library Report

By: Joe Davie and Paul Julian



The number of visitors to the Library increased over the last month. We are not up the last year's numbers yet, but we are getting there.

We conducted Two VHP interviews during the month of June. Lloyd Stafford a U.S Air Force Officer with service in country during the Vietnam war. Lloyd was one of the founders of the newly created Red Horse Construction Squadron Specializing in rapid construction of Base Facilities. Ronald Ehster a Coast Guard veteran served during the Korean War. He was stationed on the Island of Batan in the Philippines. He set up the LORAN navigation station on the island that enabled night bombing raids on Korea.

Joe Davie photographed and posted a new page on our main website here <https://veteransmemorialcenter.org/featured-past-events/> We had many visitors in the library. Hank Rhodes, Barbara Prisco and Paul Julian all worked during the Memorial Day 2021 Event. We had many more visitors to the library than we had the year before.

Vic Rogers and Wayne Rowe have returned to their homes in New Hampshire and Rhode Island respectively. We expect them back by October. Garett McKimmie will fill in for Vic during his absence. Bill Wilkening will take Wayne's place while he is gone. Jill Rippon has returned and will work with Bill on VHP and archiving. Alex Plonsky and Leanne England are summer interns that are assisting us on multiple projects such as Veterans History Project, online search catalog, and Archiving BVC/VMV History and Events. Our Library now has its complete collection catalog posted on our webpage and can be searched using Book Title or Author. Barbara Prisco has completed the Women in the Military display case that displays Medals awarded women in the military.

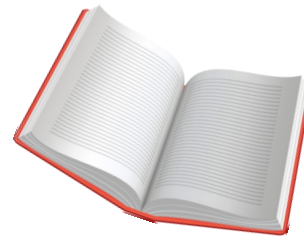
The MOAACC provided a donation of \$400 towards the Veterans History Project. We are looking forward to the Volunteer Appreciation Event to be held later this month. This Event will Honor and reward our Volunteers. We received a new desk and chair thanks to the Florida Department of Child support in Melbourne.

"A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert."

Andrew Carnegie

Book Report

By Ray Norman



Shields of Honor: The Exciting Life of a Naval Reservist.

In my earliest days of military experience-- the military experience was all new except for the WWII tales from my father and other relatives...OH! And the 16 MM war movies in High School ROTC. However in 1952 the Birmingham AL USNR Fleet Air Service Squadron (FASRON -681) could use another 18 year old ordnance person and I volunteered with my school chums. They said reservist life is exciting and we wear these neat uniforms....we also get paid real money....the work is better than cutting grass.

My first exposure to active duty was Moffett Field, San Francisco, CA. Dry and dusty. Chow line food was some of the best ever...As reservist we were given a "chit" for the meal which was presented to the end of the line-no cost. I was educated in two aspects of this wonderful meal...first I did not have to pay. Secondly, the sailor next in line had to pay about fifty cents. I ask why he paid and I did not. "Brown bagger" was a new expression ... it was obviously a paper brown bag. The sailor who had to pay said he was a "Brown Bagging Station Keeper on active duty". He did not much appreciate reservist coming in and disturbing the status quo. I found quickly that active duty were jealous of our whole squadron but we minded our own business, flew our missions and dropped our (practice) bombs. The main takeaway was jealousy of reservists....probably of National Guard also.)

This BVC book is authored by CDR Jack Sullivan ---. I read it twice...book was written by Sullivan-a reservist-and given/inscribed to BVC member Tank Sherman. Tank is an old golfing buddy of mine and friend of Sullivan. Sullivan has the same name as the 1930's Boxer and later another same named Secretary of the Navy. Sullivan was a RESERVIST who never became regular Navy...but his career had enough adventures that it does not matter as he wore the same uniform, flew the same planes and took the same risks as any other pilot.

Sullivan was almost a priest and a few months from taking his vows as the WWII was ending. His patriotic call to duty was stronger than the religious vocation and he volunteered as a Naval flight cadet. He wound up in WWII, fighter pilot flight qualified but no war or active duty assignment. He was released and found work as a New York detective. He was recalled as a pilot for Korea and finally again during the Cuban Missile crisis. In his military sabbatical he maintained reserve pilot flight status as he concurrently worked for the New York police detectives. Trust me, any reservist can tell you it is a real balancing act to keep

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current in two professions. (One year I worked a regular NASA engineering job plus another 1000 hours of reserve duty as aircraft back seat Intel intercept operator and as security manager for the 200 member 138th Aviation Intel unit in Orlando).

During Vietnam, Sullivan was maintenance manager at Subic Bay in the Philippines. His expertise of supervising the maintenance of the C2 (COD) became legendary and served him well after Navy retirement. After he retired from the Navy he was hired by Grumman Aerospace and supported the Iranian military as Khomeini became a rising militant renegade. Sullivan arranged to get his Grumman employees out of the grasp of the coup. After Iran he was promoted to Base Manager at Vandenberg AFB and supported a variety of aircraft. He retired finally in the Virginia area for a life of golf (six holes in one and a single digit handicap).

Membership

By: Sandy Eliason

BVC-VMC membership is a total of 472. National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Cape Canaveral Chapter, was presented last month and members voted for their lifetime membership. Our numbers are Military 84.53%, Military and Related to Mil 97.03%, and Civilian 2.33%, which are in legal format with the IRS requirements. Please remember to keep me posted with your current email, phone, and address. Thank you and have a great month.

sandyk.eliason@gmail.com

(321)750-4724

Did You Know ?

Neil Hosler McElroy was secretary of defense under President Eisenhower from October 9, 1957, to December 1, 1959. Prior to his appointment to the cabinet, McElroy's only political experience was in chairing a White House conference on education in 1955. McElroy graduated from Harvard in 1925 as an economics major and began work in the advertising department of Procter and Gamble. He became manager of Procter and Gamble's promotion department in 1929, established a new branch in England in 1930, was made advertising and promotion manager in 1940, became vice president of advertising and promotion in 1943, and finally rose to become president of the company in 1948.



Special Honors

Quilts of Valor Presentations Continue



At the VMC General Membership meeting on 09 June, Quilts of Valor (QOV) leader Karmel Sowers and her team led off our program with two presentations. VMC members will recall several QOVs were presented at our 2020 Veterans Day Ceremony and Ms. Sowers will visit 2-3 times per year to present more to deserving veterans. On 09 June the recipients were Billy Dewey (top), an Army Korean War veteran and Craig Grindle, an Army veteran of Desert Shield/Storm and Operation Just Cause. Congratulations to these deserving veterans and thanks to Ms. Sowers and her team of quilters for the hundreds of hours spent crafting the quilts to be presented.



On 09 June, the Rotary Club of Indialantic which includes Carl Miller, one of the VMC's newest members, arranged a luncheon meeting in the Gray Hall.

The group then was given a tour of the Memorial Plaza and Museum with a tower look at the Park. A number of the Rotarians are veterans, but all seemed to enjoy the special visit. Even better, they donated \$200 to the VMC and covered the \$150 usage fee as well. Suspect we will see more of this civic group in the months ahead. In the photo below, USAF veteran and Military Affairs Committee Chair for the Rotary Club, John Haralson, presents the check and a nice letter to VMC VP Donn Weaver.

He organized a special event at the Club over Memorial Day after we gave him 60 poppy pins which raised the \$200.





(Above) A Growing Partnership: At the 29 May Ride For Freedom in Veterans Memorial Park, MOAACC 2nd Vice Pres and Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) Board member, Brian Whalen (R) , presents a check for \$400 to the Veterans Memorial Center (VMC) .

The funds from GDF are to cover 2021 expenses at the Veterans Memorial Center for the Vets Back to Class and Veterans History Project (VHP) both run out of the VMC Library. Accepting the check is VMC Past Library Director and incoming BOD member Paul Julian (C) and Don Pearsall, VMC Board member and Courier Editor. This exchange is also an example of veteran teamwork: Brian is an outgoing VMC Board Member and Paul is a member of MOAACC.

What are the 3 things buried under the flag pole on all Military bases ?

Tradition calls for a **bullet** to defend the flag till the last man standing, a **razor** to cut the field out and a **match** to burn it so no enemy can capture it.



No One Left Behind: Flag 87 in Position at Clearlake Unique School

Wait a minute! Was not the unique project by BPS and Rolling Thunder FL Chapter 1 to raise the POW/MIA Flag at EVERY Brevard Public School completed on 11 May at Mims Elementary? The project that was supported by many veteran groups including the VFW and MOAA Cape Canaveral Chapter took six months from the BPS Headquarters in Viera until Mims. There was great media coverage at Mims as the motorcycles of RTFL-1 and cars of other veterans departed Mims smiling about a special mission accomplished well.

What happened? The answer lies in the reality of the covid year at Clearlake which covers K-12 and Adult Education, but which had been virtual only during the other flag raisings. At every other school dozens if not hundreds of students saw the flag raising ceremony which was a major mission goal — educate our youth. It was natural then to leave Clearlake off the list. But, as in the military, so with Brevard Public Schools, “No One Shall Be Left Behind.

So, on 08 June about 8 RTFL-1 motorcycles and 15 people total went to the Clearlake School and raised the flag in front of the principal and many staff members. Now, MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!!!



Sea Cadet Award Ceremony

On 05 June at the VMC, the Courageous Division of the Sea Cadets held their annual Awards Ceremony. With Covid in the rear view mirror this was their first full ceremony in two years. Dan McIntyre of MOAACC presented their award along with 6 other veteran organizations including MOPH (Pat Keane) and VFW (Joe Tichich).

In the photos below, a former Sea Cadet and now Naval Aviator addresses the assembly of cadets, parents and guests and VMC/BVC Chairman Donn Weaver presents VMC Challenge coins to the two graduating Sea Cadets, Tom Herrington and Landon Williams. The VMC and Good Deeds of MOAACC are delighted to directly support the Courageous Division which is looking to expand in the 2021-22 School year. They have their home "Port" at the VMC,



Sick Call

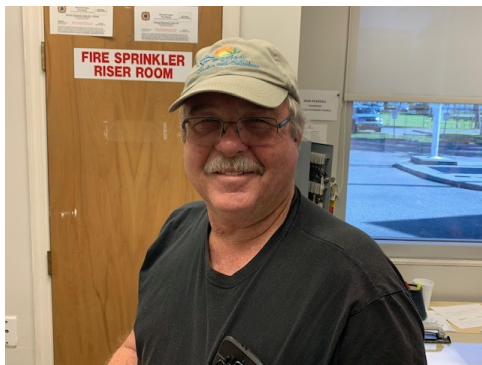


Taps

No Report

No Report

If you know of anyone in the hospital or any member deceased, Please call Chaplin Chip
Hanson at (321) 543-7505



**Ed Pingston Captain
US Army Retired**

Museum Report

Summer is here and attendance is up at the Museum. The latest display in the museum is a uniform of a United States Military Academy graduate parade uniform. The Traveling Trunk program is underway as part of our Educational Outreach and should be ready for the Autumn Semester. The trunks will each contain objects related to the various conflicts from the American Revolutionary War up to the Vietnam War. These trunks will be available to educators and speakers. Keep watching our webpage for further information regarding the Traveling Trunk Program.

*Visit the Museum at the
Veterans Memorial Center,
where history never gets old.*

For further information, questions, specifications, or if you have an artifact researched or wish to donate,

Please call Ed Pingston at
(321) 453-1776



Veteran Support Team



By: Don Pearsall Sgt E-5,
1st Cavalry, US Army Aviation

**ALL Services are
Free for Veterans**

March / May accomplishments by the Independent agency Veterans Connections to a New Life Inc.

The agency assisted a total of 22 veterans, assisted 1 veteran with a electric FPL reconnection payment, Distributed 8 meal boxes, Distributed 1,081 MRE Meals. Distributed 14 blankets to homeless camps in Brevard County, Paid ATT bill for veteran. Purchased 2 mattresses for veterans new HUD/VASH home

Veterans Connection to a New Life is a non-affiliated 501 C (3) Non-Profit foundation that oversees many Veterans Assistance programs in the county. They are the only agency in the county that is totally funded exclusively by private donations. Having no administration or employee compensation costs, allows 100% of the donations to go to the benefit of area veterans in need.

- Transitioning from military to civilian life
- Family Acceptance and understanding
- Financial Services Assistance with expenses
- PTSD Counseling
- Substance Abuse Counseling
- Moving from the bush to a home or apartment
- Helping families adjust to the transition
- Substance Abuse Programs
- Legal Services
- Assistance with VA Issues
- Wellness Programs
- Equine Therapy
- Aroma Therapy
- Service and Comfort animals
- Career Support Specialties
- Reiki, Holistic and Meditation Therapy
- Peer Support Case Worker.
- New and used furniture free to veterans
- Rides to VA Appointments available
- Bus Passes for public transportation
- Shelter for cold or inclement weather
- Supplies and equipment for homeless veterans

Did You Know ?

Arlington National Cemetery is located on Confederate General Robert E. Lee's confiscated estate.



More than a decade after Lee's death, the Supreme Court ruled that the U.S. government had seized his estate without due process and ordered it returned to his family in the same condition as when it was illegally confiscated. If followed, the ruling could have required the exhumation of all of Arlington's dead, but instead Lee's son officially sold the property to Congress for \$150,000 in 1883.

Visit our Museum Gift Shop

By: Former Major Chris Gibson, (L) U.S. Army Veteran PSYOP 20 years.



Dave Boyd, (R) Veteran U.S. Army Specialist 4th Pershing Missiles

Sales have picked up in the last month thanks to an above average Memorial Day Weekend totaling almost \$2,000.00 . We are restocking Polo Shirts, Hats, Decals, Signs, License Plates & Frames and have a new batch of VMC Tees featuring all the Branches of Service and are available in men And women's sizes. This month we were able to contribute \$500.00 to the VMC General Fund and \$ 250.00 for museum improvements



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BECOME A BOOSTER TODAY and help defray the cost of printing and mailing our newsletter. Only \$10.00 per name, per year.

- Boosters -

Skip and Ruth Bateman (July 2026)

In memory of Noel Lee Bateman

In Memory of Robert M. Best

M.D. Bisset (Sept 2021)

Steve Bodie (July 2021)

Mary Consolato (June 2021)

Bob Estes (April 2021)

Rick & Joan Fugaro (Oct 2021)

John & Cindy Kaufmann (Mar 2022)

J.P. & Donna Longway (Dec 2023)

John & Roberta Martin (Nov 2022)

Fleet Reserve Branch 263 (May 2022)

Rick Leonhart (March 2021)

Ted Schmid (March 2023)

Susan Neugebauer March 2022

Raymond (Ray) Norman December 2022

Mel & Dora Mueller (Mar 2022)

Gary W. Rapp, USMC (Aug 2022)

Don & Barbara Rathbun (Dec 2023)

Jeff & Yvonne Rathbun (Dec 2021)

Tom & Patrice Roseland (Jan 2023)

Space Coast Honor Flight (Mar 2021)

Jim & Ann Tootle (Feb 2022)

Dean & Susan Schaaf (May 2021)

John S. (Tank) Sherman (Sept 2022)

Rheta Campbell Sherman (Sept 2022)

Philip Weiler (Feb 2021)

William C Weimer (Dec 2021)

Donn and Jeannie Weaver (September 2021)

Diane & Adrienne Davison (December 2021)

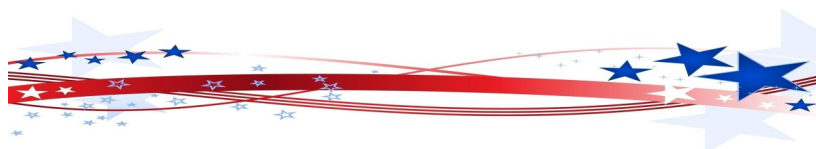
Maryanne Tucker (March 2022)

Dick & Louise Malpass (May 2022)

If you feel your name is missing and that you paid for Booster sponsorship this year, please contact the Treasurer. Thank you for your forbearance and understanding. Fill in your names and send to the BVC along with your check. Please make your check payable to:

Brevard Veterans Council. *Single Name per year- \$10.00 / Double Names – \$20.00*

Name(s) _____



Organizational Meetings Time and Dates

American Legion Post 344 (Last Thursday of Month at 1800 Hours)

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 344 (2nd Thursday of Month at 1730 Hours)

Combat Veterans Motorcycle Club (3rd Saturday at 1100 Hours)

DAV Chapter 123 (2nd Thursday of Month at Noon)

The Fleet Reserve Association Branch 263 (1st Wednesday of Month at 1800 Hours)

Marine Corps League Detachment 513 (1st Thursday of Month at 1800 Hours)

Military Order of the Purple Heart (4th Monday of Month at 1100-1330 Hours)

Navy League (1st Monday of Month at 1800 Hours)

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (2nd Tuesday of Month at 1800 Hours)

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Exec. Meeting (Last Wednesday of Month at 1800 Hours)

Rolling Thunder FL Chapter 1 (Fourth Sunday of Month at 1400 Hours)

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 12167 (Last Thursday of Month at 1700 Hours)

Non-Veteran Organizations Meeting Times at the VMC Cape Canaveral Ladies

U.S. Power Squadron (1st Tuesday of the month at 1800 Hours)

Sea Cadets (2nd Friday of Month at 1800 Hours)



**We thank Those
Who Tonight, Are Guarding
The Gates Of Freedom**