

Brevard Veterans Council/



Veterans Memorial Center

Council Courier

Oct 2021



Veterans Memorial Park as seen from drone photography courtesy of
Brevard County Parks and Recreation

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

Don Pearsall — Editor (321) 313-2444

In This Issue Oct 2021

The Wonders of Our America
from Sea to Shining Sea



Cascade Mountains, California

In This Issue

Chairman's Report	Page 4
President's Report	Page 5
Committees	Page 6
Board Membership List	Page 7
Chaplin's Corner	Page 8
Operations	Page 9
Calendar	Page 10
Special Events	Page 12
In Their Honor	Page 13
Troop Support	Page 15
Park Report	Page 17
Honor Flight	Page 18
Library Report	Page 19
Book Report	Page 20
Veteran Support	Page 22
Gift Shop	Page 23
Museum Report	Page 24
Feature - American Nightmare	Page 26
Feature - Rescue of Granada	Page 34
Boosters	Page 38
Organization Meeting Dates	Page 39
Advertising Fliers	Page 40

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.

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 Those submissions received after that date will not be published.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

Featuring

Remembering the Tragedy Page 26



It is said,

“New York City has the Chrysler Building, the Empire State Building, and the boxes they came in”

This issue will pay tribute to the deaths that day including 265 on the four planes (including the terrorists), 2,606 in the World Trade Center, the intentional crash in Shanksville, and 125 at the Pentagon. The attacks remain the deadliest terrorist act in world history .

WARNING: These featured articles may trigger PTS



Rescue of Grenada - 1983 Page 34



Council Chairman's Report



By: Donn Weaver
Former Captain U.S. Army
Gold Star Father –Army Son Todd



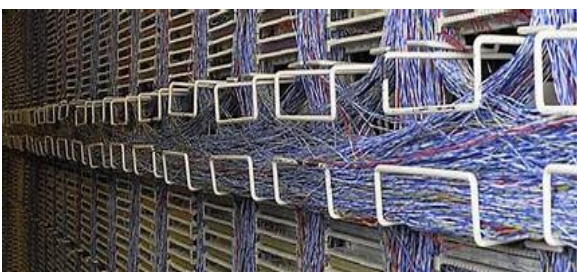
If you were not there you can tell from the story and photos in this Courier Edition that VMC hosted, together with Club 1013, a fantastic 9/11 20th Anniversary Commemoration of that Day and the 20 year, to date, aftermath. Thanks again to all who came and helped!!

We can be proud of some great events this past summer — Ride for Freedom, Memorial Day, July 4th Parade, Purple Heart Day, 9/11 Ceremony and many more. By checking our calendar you will see many, many more are booked in the months ahead and our pace of rentals, vet assistance, organizational meetings, etc are all picking up. Wait until our Park is fully completed early in 2023 with a very special Amphitheater!!

Again, thanks to dozens of our active members and other volunteers who have stepped up to our expanded Committees and more hours of coverage in the Museum, Store and Library. I want to laud some new and re-focused committees that are off to great starts: Parks/Events; Women Veterans Outreach; Social Media, Cemetery Support, Veterans Support and thanks to all the rest as well.

We hope to highlight each committee's work via quarterly reports in the Courier beyond those regular articles already included. I think we will see major progress when the above and other committees offer their reports at the 13 October General Membership Meeting.

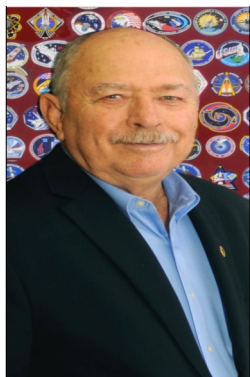
Meanwhile, please welcome Kelly Martin, our new paid maintenance coordinator taking over from John Suzor, who did a great job for us and was stolen by the County Parks and Recreation for a much better long term job for him. Good luck John. Thanks to Dean and Susan for organizing a surprise good bye party for John on 17 Sep.



Uninterrupted Telephone Service

On September 11th it was the ongoing job of Verizon® the regional telephone company to maintain communications within the two towers. Office phones up to the 110th floor were serviced by three 2400 pair cables originating in the subterranean floors of both towers through the elevator shafts and to switching equipment rooms on each floor. Other than the cables severed by the airplane, much of the equipment stayed intact until the collapse.

Being they were four stories underground, the equipment although slightly damaged and very dirty, still produced dial tone the day after the collapse. The equipment room needed to be accessed to check for casualties. Access was made through manholes in the street.



VMC Presidents Report

By Former LCDR Dean Schaaf
Veteran United States Navy Aviation



I want to thank all individuals and organizations that participated in the 9/11 event in the Plaza. This was a combined effort of the VMC and the New York 1013 Club and attracted around 500 visitors. We received numerous accolades for the moving event.

The Veterans Memorial Center was a finalist for the Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Champion of the Year Award (BCOY), receiving the monthly Business Champion award in April of this year. We were in the 501(c)(3) award category and lost out to the American Space Museum in Titusville.

The VMC is also a member of a group called the MOB, or Museums of Brevard. This organization is made up of 20 museums, historic houses/estates, and cultural centers in Brevard County. We meet monthly to exchange ideas of how to promote our museums or facilities and to get the word out to the public about events we are sponsoring. Check it out at www.museumsofbrevard.org or with our newly published brochure that you will find in the display racks in the VMC lobby or the museum.

We continue to meet with the Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency (MIRA) on further improvements to our Park. The planned Amphitheater is almost through the planning stage, and we hope to see construction in late 2022.

The US Navy's 246th Birthday is October 13. GO NAVY!

In Memoriam



In keeping with the memory of the National tragedy of 9/11 and unsung heroes, these six individuals did something really special. They were the radio and television engineers who died that day when Tower One collapsed.

Their job was to keep the massive antenna and transmitters on tower one working flawlessly bringing the world the news of the ongoing events.

Despite the smoke and heat in the 110th floor studio, these six dedicated technicians stayed on station until the very end. This written tribute is to them.

Left Top to Bottom

Donald J. Di Franco ABC TV
Steven Jacobson WPIX
William Steckman NBC

Right Top to Bottom

Bob Pattison WCBS
Gerard Coppola WNET
Pastor Isaías Rivera CBS TV

Since three of the major television broadcast network owned-and-operated stations had their transmission towers atop the North Tower (One World Trade Center), coverage was limited after the collapse of the tower. The FM transmitter of National Public Radio station WNYC was also destroyed in the collapse of the North Tower and its offices evacuated. For an interim period, it continued broadcasting on its AM frequency and used NPR's New York offices to produce its programming.

COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT ASSIGNMENTS

18 AUGUST 2021

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 Desmarias, Doug Bissett, Eleanor Fadok, Hank Rhodes, Jill Rippon, Vic Rogers, Wayne Rowe
Museum	Ed Pingston	Alex Terrero, Kristi Blanchard, Ted Schmid, Docents
Operations/Security	Bob Doyle/Ted Suzor	MOD, CSW, AARP
Park Planning	Joint	Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf, MIRA (County Parks&Rec)
Park Events	Donn Weaver	Dean Schaaf, Dave Clayton, Dorothy Walsh, Don Pearsall, Garet McKimmie
Plaza	Donn Weaver (V)	Dean Schaaf, Sandy Eliason, Garet McKimmie
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	INTSU BIRCHDALE, Sandy Eliason
Finance	Dave Clayton	Jay Longway, Rich Tomasso, Ed Pingston, Kristi Blanchard, Dave Boyd
Governance	Dorothy Walsh	Ernie Hoffman, Ray Norman, Ted Suzor, Chip Hanson, Harry Beaver, EX COMM REP, Ted Schmid
Public Affairs	Harry Beaver	Chip Hanson, Ray Norman, EX COMM REP
Social Media / FB / Web / Mobile	Kristi Blanchard	Joe Davie, Doris Hendricks
COUNCIL ONLY COMMITTEES		
Cemetery Support	Chip Hanson	Dorothy Walsh (Brevard), Donn Weaver (CCNC), Ray Norman (MI)
Membership	Sandy Eliason	Kristi Blanchard, Dave Clayton
Scholarship	Doris Hendricks	Dean Schaaf, Ray Norman, Rich Tomasso, Mary Ann Tucker, Jay Longway
Stand Up	Don Pearsall	Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf, Dorothy Walsh, Bob Doyle, Ted Suzor
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, Doris Hendricks, Rich Tomasso, Paul Julian
Speaker's Bureau	Paul Julian	Norm Desmarias, Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf
Veterans History Project	Paul Julian	Donn Weaver, Chip Hanson, Julie Adamson, Joe Davie
Vets Back to Class / JFI	Donn Weaver	Dean Schaaf, Chris Gibson, Doug Bisset, Paul Julian, Joe Davie, Norm Desmarias, Hank Rhodes
Youth Activities	Paul Julian	Bob Doyle, Dean Schaaf, Brian Delaney (SCYM)
(V) - Vacancy and looking for a new lead		

2021-2022

BVC/VMC Leadership Team

BVC Chair/VMC Vice Pres	Donn Weaver	757-871-6576	donnweaver2020@gmail.com
VMC President/BVC Vice Chair	Dean Schaaf	794-4371	dschaaf@brevard.net
BVC/VMC Secretary	Kristi Blanchard	449-1226	brevardvmc@gmail.com
BVC/VMC Treasurer	Dave Clayton	401-255-5461	bvmctreasurer@gmail.com

Brevard Veterans Council Board of Directors

3 Year	Ed Pingston	794-9401	ed@pingstonservices.com
3 Year	Ray Norman	452-5376	normanrayl@yahoo.com
3 Year	Ted Schmid	863-3640	tedschmid88@gmail.com
2 Year	Bill Pollock	258-6414	wrp50@yahoo.com
2 Year	Rich Tomasso	613-5417	rich4400@gmail.com
2 Year	Ted Suzor	271-4327	dolfyys21@cfl.rr.com
1 Year	Alex Terrero	759-5543	aja3@bellsouth.net
1 Year	Bryant Faulkenberry	423-6723	law.faulken.19dmil@outlook.com
1 Year	Vic Rogers	603-707-2304	itcret@yahoo.com
BVC Chaplain	Chip Hanson	543-7505	chipvietnam@aol.com
DAV Chapter 123	Rodger Pickett	795-3108	rpickett@davfla.com
Immed. Past BVC Chair	Donn Weaver	757-871-6576	donnweaver2020@gmail.com

Veterans Memorial Center Board of Directors

3 Year	Dave Boyd	266-3825	dboyd52@outlook.com
3 Year	Mary Ann Tucker	986-9494	wellmare@aol.com
3 Year	Paul Julian	749-7369	pjulian54@yahoo.com
2 Year	Dorothy Walsh	426-6736	dwalshusa@gmail.com
2 Year	Harry Beaver	507-4228	sgmbeaver@netzero.net
2 Year	Lou Rossi	394-1669	No email
1 Year	Doris Hendricks	458-1138	dorisroses@yahoo.com
1 Year	Garet McKimmie	571-239-9991	garetmck@yahoo.com
1 Year	Jay Longway	449-9037	jpl3x@yahoo.com
VMC Advisory Chair	Dennis Herring	693-7209	dmherring7602@sbcglobal.net
Immed. Past VMC Pres	Dean Schaaf	794-4371	dschaaf@brevard.net

Veterans Center - Non Voting Support Positions

Asst. Secretary	Julie Adamson	446-4663	Juliecladamson@gmail.com
Asst. Treasurer	Kristi Blanchard	449-1226	bvmctreasurer@gmail.com
Courier	Don Pearsall	313-2444	djp32927@gmail.com
Librarian	Joe Davie	636-8644	jdavie@cfl.rr.com
Membership	Sandy Eliason	750-4724	sandyk.eliason@gmail.com
Museum Curator	Ed Pingston	794-9401	ed@pingstonservices.com
Museum Curator (Assoc.)	Alex Terrero	759-5543	aja3@bellsouth.net
Operations Director	Bob Doyle	276-7814	vmcoperationsmgr@gmail.com
Photographer	Roger Scruggs	795-6545	scruggs@tvphotog.com
Security/Asst, Operations	Ted Suzor	271-4327	dolfyys21@cfl.rr.com
Social Media	Kristi Blanchard	449-1226	brevardvmc@gmail.com

Chaplin's Corner



By: Chaplin Chip Hansen
United States
Marine Corps

Breakfast & Lunch Donna & Robert Lahr Owners

Cozy Corner Cafe

(321) 452-0305
2425 N. Courtenay Pkwy, Merritt Island, FL 32953
www.thecozycornercafe.webs.com

**Family-friendly joint
serving American fare for
breakfast & lunch in**



www.TVPHOTO.com

ROGER SCRUGGS

Videography
Photography

PO Box 321054, Cocoa Beach, FL 32932-1054 AV8RTV
AERIALCAM@TVPHOTO.COM 321 783-6545 o 795-6545 c

**Roger Scruggs can
communicate your public
relations message with ei-
ther still photos or video.**

Mary Consolato (321) 305-6009 office
Owner (407) 402-3993 cell



mconsolato@bellsouth.net
285 N. Plumosa St., Merritt Island, FL 32953

Be Our Guest!

321.452.2625
210 North Tropical Trail
Merritt Island, FL 32953
www.MIUnity.org



A positive, practical approach
to Christianity based on Jesus's teachings
and the power of prayer.

Flag Etiquette and the U.S. Flag Code

We in America have been through some very tough times over the last couple of years. Covid 19 that seems to never go away, riots, the economy, disagreement over the last election, the cancel culture and a country that is so very divided. Finally, the total disrespect by some groups to the symbol that defines the United States of America. The American Flag. The facts of proper care and respect for our flag was taken from Military .com. Please read, save and pass along the following.

The U.S. Flag Code formalizes and unifies the traditional ways in which we give respect to the flag, also contains specific instructions on how the flag is not to be used. The following is a list of do's and don'ts associated with Old Glory, the U.S. Flag. Display the U.S. flag from sunrise to sunset on buildings and stationary flagstaffs in the open. When a patriotic effect is desired the flag may be displayed 24-hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

- When placed on a single staff or lanyard, place the U.S. Flag above all other flags. When flags are displayed in a row, the U.S. flag goes to the observer's left. Flags of other nations are flown at same height. State and local flags are traditionally flown lower.
- When used during a marching ceremony or parade with other flags, the U.S. Flag will be to the observer's left.
- On special days, the flag may be flown at half-staff. On Memorial Day it is flown at half-staff until noon and then raised.
- When flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day. By "half-staff" is meant lowering the flag to one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff.
- When the flag is displayed over the middle of the street, it should be suspended vertically with the union (blue field of stars) to the north in an east and west street or to the east in a north and south street.
- When placed on a podium the flag should be placed on the speaker's right or the staging area. Other flags should be placed to the left.
- When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall (or other flat surface), the union (blue field of stars) should be uppermost and to the flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left.
- When displayed in a window it should be displayed in the same way -- with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street.
- When the flag is displayed on a car, the staff shall be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender.

- When the flag is used to cover a casket, it should be so placed that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground.
- When saluting the flag DO the following: All persons present in uniform (military, police, fire, etc.) should render the military salute. Members of the armed forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute.
All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. When stowing or disposing of the flag, DO the following:
- Fold in the traditional triangle for stowage, never wadded up.
- The flag should be folded in its customary manner.
- It is important that the fire be fairly large and of sufficient intensity to ensure complete burning of the flag. Place the flag on the fire.
- The individual(s) can come to attention, salute the flag, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and have a brief period of silent reflection.
- After the flag is completely consumed, the fire should then be safely extinguished and the ashes buried.
- Please make sure you are conforming to local/state fire codes or ordinances.

Quick list of Flag Etiquette Don'ts:

Don't dip the U.S. Flag for any person, flag, or vessel.

Don't let the flag touch the ground.

Don't fly flag upside down unless there is an emergency.

Don't carry the flag flat, or carry things in it.

Don't use the flag as clothing.

Don't store the flag where it can get dirty.

Don't use it as a cover.

Don't fasten it or tie it back. Always allow it to fall free.

Don't draw on, or otherwise mark the flag.

Don't use the flag for decoration. Use bunting with the blue on top, then white, then red.

"But God will never forget the needy; the hope of the afflicted will never perish." -Psalm 9:18



VMC Operations

By Bob Doyle

U.S Army

U.S Marine Corps

In this article about your operations staff when a major event is occurring at the center your Operations staff is responsible for setting the locations for the vendors and participants on the grounds and ensuring that they

they need to set up. Security handles the transportation of the elderly and handicapped with the golf carts and maintains visual awareness for any possible medical or security issues that may occur during the event. With our many volunteers we try to make each event safe and secure for our veterans and their families. With a successful conclusion of several events we will be getting back to preparing for the park up-grade and fixing a few issues that need done in the main building. All groups are back on board and the calendars are filling up with many events. A sad moment is that there are many celebrations of life now happening as people are feeling better about leaving their houses to honor their fallen family members. Hopefully this trend will turn and we will see the birthdays and weddings get back up to speed. This is your center and if the need arises for someplace to hold an event please keep it in mind.

UNOFFICIAL BREVARD VMC VETS CALENDAR (MAY AND BEYOND)

Contact VMC for any additions or other information.

- 22-26 Sep —** US Military World Annual Softball Tournament at Space Coast Stadium for five days on multiple fields. Teams from all over the world represented bases and branches of the services in different age categories will compete. We encourage all veterans and others to support the players, especially on 23 Sep when the COED team from Patrick and Canaveral Air Station plays.
- 23 Sep —** Sen. Rubio's representative holds office hours (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.
- 01 Oct —** Tuskegee Airmen 3rd. Annual Charity Golf Tournament 0700-1300 at Rosen Shingle Creek Golf Club 9939 Universal Blvd, Orlando. Play with descendants of the Tuskegee Airmen. Register via tai-cfl.org.
- 02 Oct —** Young Marines Drug Reduction Dash at Veterans Memorial Center Park 5K track 0730 -1000. First ever Space Coast Young Marines effort to raise awareness and funding. Contact Unit Leaders Brian Delaney 818-636-6565 or email spacecoastyoungmarines.com. For more Information.
- 01, 02 and 03 Oct —** Operation America Standing in Support (OASIS) Garage/Estate Sale at 2526 Tomoka Ave, Titusville (0800-1400). Volunteers are welcome. Community Points for Students. Call Laura 321-607-0195; Beth 321-208-6953; Tess 321-243-7753 for information and to make donations to be sold. OASIS provides deployed active duty troops with holiday care packages all year round. Check out their web site at www.oasisofcfl.org.
- 02 Oct —** Jack's Back New Show, Songs and Look 1800- 2200 at Space Coast Convention Center in Cocoa (520 and I-95). A Fund Raiser for the Medal of Honor Memorial at the Veterans Memorial Center and Park. Salute to music from the 60's to the 80's and More. Dinner and Show (1900) included for \$48 each. Reservations through Karen at 321-604-1344. A great, one of a kind evening, for a great cause.
- 09 Oct —** OASIS Troops a Treating to prepare Halloween goodie packages for deployed active duty troops at the VMC 0900-1100 in the Gray Hall. Contact Tess above if you would like to help or donate. (See 01 Oct).
- 09 Oct —** Field Manor's Museum 6th Annual Oyster and Fish Fry Fundraiser. 1500- 1900. Features music, vendors, tours, brews and much more. Tickets and info 321-848-0365 or event@fieldmanor.org. This event dates back to the 1890's when the Field Family hosted annual fish fry. The historic manor is located right along the Indian River at 750 Field Manor Drive on North Merritt Island.
- 15 Oct —** Shrimp Feast at the Port sponsored by the Propeller Club of Port Canaveral 1800-2200. Held outdoors at the Exploration Tower. Tickets and sponsorships, baskets available through the web site: ShrimpFeast2021.com. This is a fundraiser and wonderful community event with years of history broken by covid in 2020.
- 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.
- TBD Oct — MIAP-FL:** Fourth Missing in America Project - FL Call to Honor Ceremony (CTH) in Brevard at CCNC TIME TBD. In Brevard we continue to research dozens of abandoned veteran cremains in our area. The October MIAP FL Ceremony at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery will include Brevard County Veterans for the first time. Due to VA restrictions at the CCNC, limited to 50 participants. Another MIAP FL CTH at CCNC is planned late 2021 or early 2022 which will hopefully be fully open to the public when over 200 usually attended before covid-19.
- 21 Oct —** Happy Hour Fundraiser and Bourbon Tasting sponsored by Frogman Outdoors, a 501c3 that supports veterans and wounded warriors. 18-2100 hours at Sunset Waterfront Grill and Bar, CB. Call Missy at 321-397-4294 or register at eventbrite.com 166503557623.

28 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.

06 Nov — Palm Bay Veterans Day Parade 0900-1030 with details coming out in early October. Contact Rec Supervisor off Palm Bay Randy on 321-726-5671.

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

13 Nov. — Savannahs Golf Club Third Annual "FOLDS OF HONOR" Golf Tournament fundraiser. Save the date. Details follow

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.

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

19 Feb 2022 — 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 Feb 2022 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 November at the VMC. This event will focus on at risk veterans and matching them with job options on the Space Coast.

12 Mar 2022 — Commemoration of the Last Naval Battle of the American Revolution 1000-1100 Veterans Memorial Center Plaza Outdoors area. Sponsored by the Brevard Sons of the American Revolution Chapter with SAR and DAR Units from all over Florida expected to attend. Food Trucks and other festivities planned. Contact the VMC, Donn Weaver, for more information.



"Remember the Alamo"

"Remember the Alamo" was a call for vengeance against Mexicans that was used as a rallying cry at San Jacinto and during the Mexican-American War. James E. ... Lamar, tried to kill or expel all Native Americans. Alamo lore served to define Mexicans and their descendants as enemies of the state. David Crockett, James (Jim) Bowie, and William

Barret Travis were among those remembered by the cry of ***"Remember the Alamo,"*** reported to be yelled at the victory at San Jacinto. The cost entailed in regaining San Antonio contributed to General Santa Anna's defeat less than two months later at the Battle of San Jacinto.



Special Events

By Donn Weaver



Meeting with the Veterans of Brevard County at Congressman Posey's Veterans Advisory Committee, were Dean Schaaf representing the Veterans Memorial Center, Don Pearsall representing the agency Veteran Connections, Donn Weaver representing the Brevard Veterans Council and invited guest veterans advocate Dorothy Walsh . Other distinguished VMC Members included Chaplin Chip Hanson and Col Danny Mc Knight. Congressman Posey spoke to his task force about legislation he is supporting in Washington DC.



"Serving the veteran community with meaningful information."

Ray Osborne Director
8700 Astronaut Blvd #394
Cape Canaveral FL 32920
Info@Veteran-Interests.us

Learn more: Like our page or visit our veterans website:
www.Veteran-Interests.US

- Smart Discounts for Vets
- Events, speakers, local news,
- jobs, paid surveys & more

Now 32,500+ Strong!

Comprehensive nationwide network of businesses owned by veterans, active duty, reservists and military spouses as well as nonprofit organizations.

Launched Veterans Day 2008

VeteranOwnedBusiness.com

130,000,000 Pages Viewed | 30 Million Visitors | 300,000+ Supporters



FREE SIGN UP!

"Support Your Local Businesses"

In Their Honor .. at the VMC

By Donn Weaver



(Left) 10-13 President Al Boettjer salutes the presentation of the colors as LTC Cynthia Watkins-Pishdad retired sings our National Anthem. The 10-13 club is made up of retired New York City Police Officers, Transit Patrolmen and Housing Authority.



There was plenty of pride among the young people of the community. It was refreshing to see young teens taking their education serious but at the same time showing tremendous pride in our flag and country. The older generation salute the organizations like the Sea Cadets and Young Marines. These organizations are always there to help with events at the Memorial Center





(Above) Tower view of the 911 Memorial Service Ceremony.



Brevard County Fire Rescue First Responders had their photo taken with their Chief Mark Schollmeyer . We thank these heroes for their support. Every holiday they raise the giant flag for us over the entrance to the park



(Right) Ladies of ALA 344 Sandy Eliason (L) and Ailene Picheco (R) take a well deserved break from working their table top display at the 9-11 Memorial Program



Saying Goodbye to a Friend



We said goodbye to John Suzor our custodian (Center) who took a position with Brevard County Parks and Recreation. Left photo flanked by BVC Chairman (L) and Dean Schaaf. We know the county is getting an excellent employee. John was responsible for keeping the center clean and sanitized through the COVID months and many times was eager to help others no matter what the task.



Many times there are coinciding events where the VMC or BVC has obligations for an appearance representing our organization. One such event was the dedication of the new monument at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery. It was the same day as our 9-11 event. While a few stayed back to set up for the one event, Donn and Jeanne Weaver attended that other important event. First, The Ceremony could not be fully advertised prior since VA Cemeteries do not allow more than 50 to attend any event due to covid restrictions.

It took 18 months for full approval by local, regional (Atlanta) and National VA/NCA officials. Fundraising ran from Jan-July 2021. \$24k was raised. The main bronze plate comes from an original oil painting by Jeanne Weaver called "Terra Nova". It is from photos on 14 Sep 2010 taken at the Field Boot Memorial Ceremony in Afghanistan.

The monument honors and remembers all military related fallen since the Revolution. It is located along the Memorial Path at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery.



JROTC Raider Challenges return to Veterans Memorial Center Park

JROTC Raider Challenges return to Veterans Memorial Center Park— By: Donn Weaver

While covid and its variants still influence many events in Brevard and across the country, it was great for VMC Park to host 250 JROTC Cadets from 9 different high school Army, Marine and Air Force JROTC units. The cadets were joined by well over 200 family members as parking at the VMC on Saturday 25 September was at a premium. We also hosted 40 USCG Auxiliary members for a training course, 30 Wreath Across America (CCNC) members for a planning session and several other small meetings and our open museum. Doing things of all types at our facility is really picking up!!

The raider challenge includes five events starting with our first official 5k race in the expanded VMP; the rope bridge; litter carry; carry, drag, pull and the giant truck Tire Flip. Only a few minor injuries after five hours of competition. The teams gather in photos below for the award presentation. LTC Tim Thomas, USA Ret and the Viera HS JROTC Instructor led the event. The next Raider Challenge at VMP will be the District Meet on 30 October. Come out and see the action from 0800-1230.



Park Report

By Donn Weaver



Thanks to Jay Longway, a new sub-committee working with the Museum and Plaza is looking at long term ways to get sponsorships and other support to maintain our outdoor museum pieces to include helicopters, trucks, jeeps, a tank and other large artifacts we may get in the future.

Brick donations continue for the Plaza averaging 3 or so per week. We are working with American Legion Post 344 on a unique project they have to purchase an empty cement bench in the Plaza to honor all those who have fallen in military service from Merritt Island High School and eventually to all MI residents since WWI — a giant research task, but such a noble endeavor.

The Park Events Committee has been very busy with reports due out 13 Oct. Bob Doyle has prepared a new Park Reservation and Rental form to support an already growing number of requests to use our beautiful Park. — we already have three 5 K's booked, never mind the Key Lime Pie Festival in January and the CBRCC/MAC Food Fest in March.



Honor Flight

By Paula Suzor



Space Coast Honor Flight returned to active flight status on 11 September 2021 with our first trip back to Washington, DC since shutdown due to Covid outbreak.

The flight was with 2 WW2 veterans, 4 Korea veterans and 19 Vietnam veterans to visit their memorials. It was an emotional day to both remember and honor friends and family who sacrificed so much for our freedom and to be honored by the general public. People of all ages were there to greet the veterans and show their appreciation. It was also a day to remember sacrifices of many on the anniversary of 9/11.

In the words of one veteran it was a "poignant and emotional experience." Another veteran commented "I have never been so appreciated by so many real Patriots who understand the importance of sacrifices made by many to protect them and our country from those who want to destroy us." Personally, as a guardian, it is a special day to observe the veterans honored for their service and meet the public who acknowledges our freedom is due to their sacrifices and those of their fellow veterans. Jacksonville is adding a new hub to the Honor Flight system and had 3 representatives fly with us on this special day. Their first flight is 2 October 2021.



(Left) Honor Flight prepares to leave Brevard County destination Washington DC (Right) Veterans tour the area which honors them.



(Left) Veterans return home to Melbourne after a long day of travel and displays of camaraderie that only veterans would understand.



*Veterans Say
Thank You*

Library Report

By Joe Davie

"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

We were not able to schedule any VHP interviews during September, however, we have been approached by Susan Miller, Volunteer Coordinator of Hospice of health First, to arrange an interview with WWII Marine veteran Truett Smith. His background is that he was a gunner during the War. We have uploaded to our YouTube channel our last few interviews at "Brevard Veterans Memorial Center" online. Vinnie Howard, Commander of our local Marine Corps League detachment, has been uploaded to our Veterans Memorial Center website here <https://youtu.be/Kb0lzmBo1Kk>

We have added new books to our library display of Local Authors for sale in the bookstore. Two books were added by the same author Dave "Bio" Baranek including "Top Gun Days" and "Tomcat Rio". Dave was a former Top Gun instructor and pilot and tells us real-life stories. Also we have "I don't give a flying fig" politically incorrect poetry by Local author L. A. Pritchett. "Ship Ahoy" by Sarah Chase Mamika, is a children's book about a boy that enjoys a day aboard his father's Navy ship.

We have begun a new reference section thanks to a large donation from Cocoa's County library. The books were their former Reference Books and not for checkout. Included were Encyclopedias and a series on the History of the Cold War called "War In Peace". We have given these books a new section above our "Cold War" section.

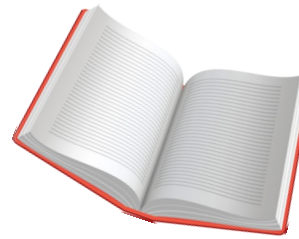
Joe Davie

VMC Librarian



Book Report

By Ray Norman



Seal Team 6: Memoirs of an Elite Navy Seal Sniper

by Howard E. Wasdin & Stephen Templin

331 pages, about four-five hours.

The estimated salary for a Navy SEAL -- with over a dozen years of experience and an E-7 pay grade -- is about \$54,000, according to an estimate based on data from the [Department of Defense](#). Of course they receive extra for various special skills, dangerous assignments, etc. Still, my life and yours is worth more than \$100,000 which is probably the maximum salary per year that an advanced Seal or an Army Delta Force operator would make. The individual is not in the job for financial gain. Minimum recognition and medals only go so far. It has to be love of country, self respect and satisfaction that one has done a good job for civilization that makes these guys (and soon females) function.

Wasdin had a very tough childhood with an abusive stepfather which led him to accept physical punishment.. this developed mental toughness served him well. ..later as he went through Seal training and 14 years of operations. He made over 700+ parachute jumps, shot thousand of rounds in practice scenarios and battle. This guy is a true warrior. Dr. Wasdin is now a chiropractic physician in Georgia just up the road from us here in Brevard County.

Wasdin was in Mogadishu during Black Hawk Down. He almost lost his leg after being shot several times. Whether Wasdin and our local Black Hawk Down survivor Danny McKnight met is unknown. No doubt they communicated on the radio during the "event". Wasdin was not too complimentary about the escape routing led by McKnight as I read it. However the fog of war is real especially when the lead is flying.

If the reader is interested in details of BUD'S basic training, this book will give you an insight. Rolling in the surf, getting sand coated, and running in close to freezing weather is part of the SEAL training that you can get another dose of in this autobiography. As the old saw horse says: "When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

Seals also had another motto "The only easy day was yesterday".

**PIP PRINTING**
Merritt Island
DESIGN • PRINT • SIGNS • MAIL • PROMOTE

April Balmer
CEO / Owner

 info@pipbrevard.com
www.pipbrevard.com

 **321-452-2800** P
321-452-7339 F

 275 Magnolia Ave., Suite 2
Merritt Island, Florida 32952



Your Complete Car Care Company

You Can Advertise Here For \$5.00 a month or \$50.00 a Year. Other sizes, features and prices are available.
(321) 313-2444

Sick Call



Taps

*Thankfully
No Report*

*Thankfully
No Report*

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

U.S. Army Post Fort Jefferson, Florida

WHAT ? A U.S. Army Post in the Florida Keys ?

Fort Jefferson is a massive but unfinished coastal fortress. It is the largest brick masonry structure in the Americas, and is composed of over 16 million bricks. The building covers 16 acres. Among United States forts, only Fort Monroe in Virginia and Fort Adams in Rhode Island are larger.

The fort is located on Garden Key in the lower Florida Keys within the Dry Tortugas National Park, 68 miles (109 km) west of the island of Key West. The Dry Tortugas are part of Monroe County, Florida, United States.

Frequent hurricanes and yellow fever epidemics convinced the War Department to remove the garrison, leaving a small caretaker force for the armaments and ammunition in 1874. In 1889, the Army turned the fort over to the Marine Hospital Service to be operated as a quarantine station. The U.S. Navy used the Keys as a coaling station.

In 1902, the property was transferred to the Navy Department, and coal rigs and water distilling plants were built. When these were destroyed by hurricanes in 1906, the fort was again abandoned. Two years later the entire group of islands was set aside as a Federal bird reservation. Until 1934 Garden Key and the crumbling ruins were merely a rendezvous for fishermen and tourists.



Marine Hospital at Key West established in 1844





Veteran Support



By Don Pearsall Sgt E-5,
1st Cavalry, US Army Aviation
Gold Star Father –Army Son David



September accomplishments by the Independent agency Veterans Connections to a New Life Inc.

The agency assisted a total of 26 veterans, assisted 1 veteran with a water service payment, Purchased groceries for two families in need, Distributed 18 meal boxes, sorted 1,700 dehydrated emergency meals . Distributed 12 blankets to homeless camps in Brevard County,

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
- Service and Comfort animals
- Career Support Specialties
- Holistic and Meditation Therapy
- Peer Support Case Worker.
- New and used furniture free to veterans
- Bus Passes for public transportation
- Shelter for cold or inclement weather

**ALL Services are
Free for veterans**



New For Brevard Veterans



I am re-starting our Equine Therapy program for veterans.

Everyone knows horses are quite soothing and offer many other benefits. Known as equine therapy, or equine-assisted therapy, horses are able to promote spiritual, physical, psychological and occupational healing in post-traumatic stress disorder sufferers. Non-threatening, trusting and open relationships can be built with these connections breeding further positive feelings of patience, love, respect, safety and empathy.

Equine therapy is found to reduce levels of anxiety and stress, improve moods, create a sense of peace and contentment, among other benefits.

Anyone who is interested, as a helper or therapist, please contact me at the Veterans Center. I will teach you but, you must be comfortable around horses.

Visit our Museum Gift Shop



(Left) Store Manager Dave Boyd
Veteran US Army Specialist 4th
Class, Pershing Missiles

(Right) Jalaine Spears,
Museum Docent / Ass't Store Mgr.



©ROGER SCRUGGS 2020
www.TVPHOTOOG.com
FLICKR/AV8RTV YOUTUBE/SURF4TV

AMY B. VAN FOSSEN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Elder Law • Estate Planning • Probate
VA Planning • Medicaid Planning
Guardianship • Litigation • Case Management

1696 West Hibiscus Blvd. Ste. A | Melbourne, FL 32901
Tel: 321-345-5945 | Fax: 321-345-5417

www.AmyBVanFossen.com

RE/MAX
ALTERNATIVE REALTY, INC.

321-431-1661
megansellsbrevardcounty@gmail.com
www.serittrealestate.com
Serving Brevard County

Megan Seritt
REALTOR

Each RE/MAX office is independently owned and operated
1800 S. Harbor City Blvd., Suite 100 | Melbourne, FL 32901

Nothing Could Be Finer Than To Eat At...
321-459-3209

112 E. Merritt Island Cswy
Merritt Island, Florida 32952

Debbie's Diner

Robert & Debbie Reich
Owners

454-9060

• A/C Diagnostics & Repair
• Suspension & Alignments
• Complete Brake Service
• Computer Diagnostics
• General Repairs & Maint.

TRIANGLE AUTO II

Your Complete Car Care Company
56 East Merritt Island Causeway
Mon-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. See _____

ASE Approved
AAA Approved Auto Repair

Hortencia's Cleaning Services

321 986-7039

A cartoon illustration of a woman wearing a blue cap and gloves, holding a spray bottle and a cloth, ready to clean.

Perrusquiah@gmail.com
600 Crystal Lake dr
Cocoa FL, 32926



Museum Report

By: Ed Pingston - Museum Curator
Former Captain, U.S. Army
Retired 20 years

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



The Veterans Memorial Center is pleased that pieces of history have been displayed here. (Left) a piece of the damaged limestone from the front of the Pentagon and (Below) twisted steel from Ground Zero taken from the twin towers 9/11/01



Because of these terrorist attacks, US and others sent armed forces into Afghanistan to hunt down and bring those involved to justice.

American service members killed in Afghanistan through April: 2,448.

U.S. contractors: 3,846.

Afghan national military and police: 66,000.

Other allied service members, including from other NATO member states: 1,144.

Afghan civilians: 47,245.

Taliban and other opposition fighters: 51,191.

Aid workers: 444.

Journalists: 72





The Golden Spike



Golden Spike National Historic Site is located at the place where the ceremonial final spike was driven, and one of the "Frequently Asked Questions"

"Is Golden Spike located at Promontory Point?"

The answer? "No. Promontory Point is thirty-five miles south of Golden Spike. The correct name for this location is Promontory Summit. For unknown reasons, some reporters and railroad officials in 1869 wrote that the transcontinental railroad was completed at Promontory Point, and this falsehood has been perpetuated throughout history in textbooks, films, and all other forms of media." The Golden spike was manufactured in San Francisco.



It's Trivia Time

1. This Japanese General led the invasion of the Philippines and ordered the Bataan Death March ?
2. It was officially named and recorded as a bomber with the designation of B-17 What was the more common name for this bomber ?
3. In July of 1943 Paratroopers of an American Airborne Division parachuted into Sicily in the first large scale allied airborne assault of the war. Which division made that jump ?
4. Where would the expression "Two Blocks" be used?
5. In the U.S. Navy, the name "Black Gang" has a special meaning aboard ship. What is it ?

Answers on Page 33



The American Nightmare

September 11, 2001

The September 11 attacks, often referred to as 9/11,¹ were a series of four coordinated terrorist attacks by the militant Islamist terrorist group al-Qaeda against the United States of America on the morning of Tuesday, September 11, 2001.

On that morning, four commercial airliners traveling from the northeastern United States to California were hijacked mid-flight by 19 al-Qaeda terrorists. The hijackers were organized into three groups of five hijackers and one group of four. Each group had one hijacker who had received flight training and took over control of the aircraft. Their explicit goal was to crash each plane into a prominent American building, causing mass casualties and partial or complete destruction of the targeted buildings.

The first plane to hit its target was American Airlines Flight 11. It was flown into the North Tower of the World Trade Center complex in Lower Manhattan at 8:46 am. Seventeen minutes later at 9:03 am, the World Trade Center's South Tower was hit by United Airlines Flight 175. Both 110-story towers collapsed within an hour and forty-two minutes, leading to the collapse of the other World Trade Center structures including 7 World Trade Center, and significantly damaging surrounding buildings.

A third flight, American Airlines Flight 77, flown from Dulles International Airport, was hijacked over Ohio. At 9:37 am, it crashed into the west side of the Pentagon (the headquarters of the American military) in Arlington County, Virginia, causing a partial collapse of the building's side.



The fourth, and final flight, United Airlines Flight 93, was flown in the direction of Washington, D.C. This flight was the only plane not to hit its intended target, instead crashing in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania at 10:03 am.

The plane's passengers attempted to regain control of the aircraft and ultimately diverted the flight from its intended target. Investigators determined that Flight 93's target was either the White House or the U.S. Capitol.



New York



Washington DC



Pennsylvania

Editorial

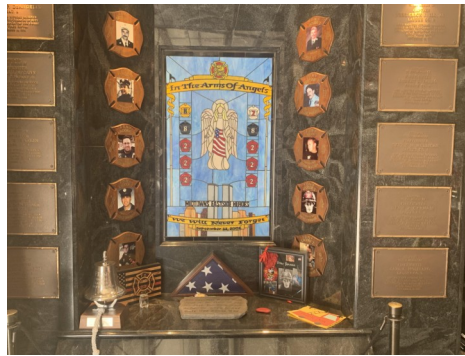
As the editor of the Courier, I strive to present items that are not only entertaining, but also educational as well as bringing you the latest from the BVC and the VMC. The month long project presents many challenges. The greatest challenge this year so far was walking to the memorial pools which was once the footprint of the World Trade Center towers.

Although my farm upstate New York, is a 6 hour ride to the city, I feel a loss that the twin towers , the symbols of NYC are gone. I recently went home, and was compelled to visit New York City. Mostly to eat the best, and diverse food the planet has to offer. It was overwhelming sadness as I stood where many people died.

As I approached Ground Zero for the first time ever, I felt heartsick as I realized what happened that day 20 years ago. One cannot possibly imagine living through the calamity of 9/11. As I walked the terraces and monument grounds I thought of Vietnam, the TET Offensive, the feeling of such fear you could feel your heart beat in your heels. Below are some photos I took of the plaza.



Eternal Pool in the footprint of Tower 1



Engine 8 Truck 11 lost 15 fire fighters from their station on 9/11



You can still feel the spirit of the souls as you walk in the fire stations. Understandably the few firemen that were there that day were reluctant to speak of that day.



New Freedom Tower in New York City



Eternal Pool in the footprint of Tower 2

To lose 343 brother firefighters in a single day was totally incomprehensible. Not many of the old guard are still on the job, most have retired and replaced by the next generation of firefighters

One World Trade Center (also known as One World Trade, One WTC, and Freedom Tower) is the main building of the rebuilt World Trade Center complex in Lower Manhattan, New York City. One WTC is the tallest building in the United States, the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere, and the sixth-tallest in the world.



FDNY "The 10 House"

550 Feet from Ground Zero ... 1st on the scene

On September 11, 2001, five members from the Ten House made the supreme sacrifice. Lieutenant Gregg Atlas, Firefighter Jeffrey Olsen, Firefighter Paul Pansini were from Engine 10, and Lieutenant Stephen Harrell and Firefighter Sean Tallon were from Ladder 10.

As the towers collapsed, tons of building debris fell onto the firehouse and forced its way into it, blowing out windows and doors and causing extensive damage to the facade, interior structures, utilities, lighting and the roof. Inside the firehouse, the apparatus floor was flooded with over three feet of debris and in some areas in and around the firehouse the debris from the collapse was nearly six feet deep. The building's ventilation system, air conditioning units and the Nederman exhaust system were completely destroyed.

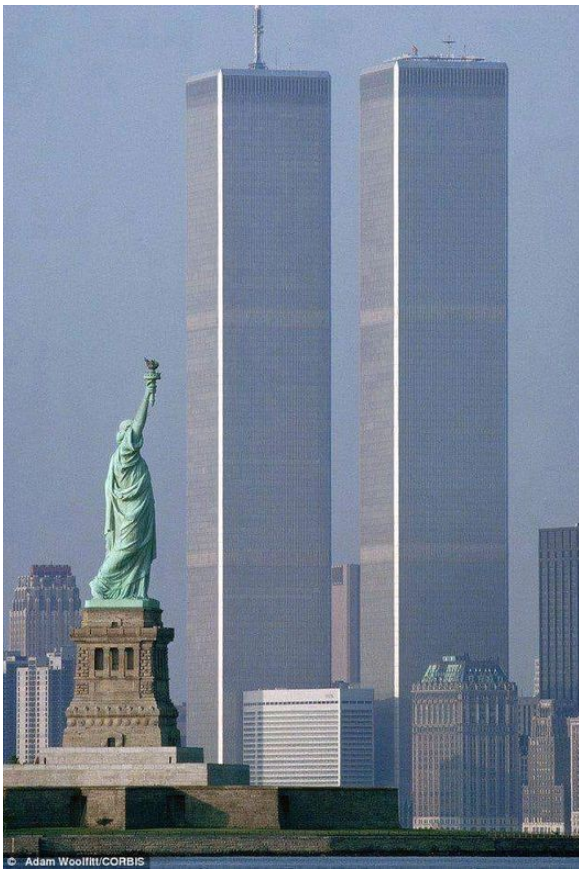
Although it was unable to be used as a firehouse after the collapse of the towers, the quarters of Engine 10 and Ladder 10 nevertheless played a vital role in the daily operations at ground zero. During the early days of the rescue and recovery operations and even during the clean up of the site, the Ten House was used as a rest and recuperation station as well as a command post for fire department operations at the site. Since September 11, 2001 both Engine and Ladder 10 have been temporarily quartered in nearby firehouses. Engine 10 was stationed at the quarters of Engine 7 and Ladder 1 on Duane Street and Ladder 10 at the quarters of Engine 4 and Ladder 15 on South Street.



UPDATE: New York City Fire Department cut the ribbon on the newly renovated quarters of Engine 10 and Ladder 10 ("Ten House") in Lower Manhattan. The Ten House, located on Liberty Street directly across from where the World Trade Center once stood, suffered significant damage and was nearly destroyed on September 11, 2001. The \$3.5 million repair project took more than two years to complete and was funded in part by a \$1.5 million grant from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

"The re-opening of the Ten House is the final brick in the Fire Department's rebuilding efforts after the devastation of September 11th," said Mayor Bloomberg. "Since that horrible day, the department has sworn in more than 2,100 probationary firefighters, promoted a new generation of leadership, and replaced more than 92 key pieces of equipment, including engines, ladder trucks and ambulances. The reopening of the Ten House marks the close of an important chapter in the history of the Fire Department, one filled with triumph and tragedy. While we celebrate this achievement, we will never forget the 343 firefighters we lost only steps from here."





Did You Know ?

There were **75** firehouses in which at least one member was killed. The FDNY also lost its department chief, first deputy commissioner, one of its marshals, one of its chaplains, as well as other administrative or specialty personnel.

On Sept, 11th, 121 engine companies, 62 ladder companies and 27 fire officers were deployed to the World Trade Center. All off-duty firefighters were recalled — the first time the FDNY had issued a total recall in over 30 years. In addition to the regular fire apparatus, and personnel assigned to the incident, the FDNY also deployed its only Haz-Mat unit, its mobile command center, its field communications unit, all its five rescue units, both of its high-rise units, six of its seven squad units, and one of its two tactical support units. 343 of New York's Bravest lost their lives that day. May they all rest in peace.



Shanksville, Pennsylvania

Shanksville is a borough in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, United States, with a population of 245, as of the 2000 census. It is part of the Johnstown, Pennsylvania Metropolitan Statistical Area, as well as the Metropolitan Pittsburgh area.



Honoring The Selfless Heroism of the Passengers of United Flight 93



On September 11, 2001, United Airlines Flight 93 had forty passengers and crew members on board, travelling non-stop from Newark to San Francisco. The passengers ranged in age from twenty to seventy-nine. They were from New Jersey, California, Connecticut, Colorado, Germany, Japan, Minnesota, Maryland, Florida, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and New York. Among them was a federal wildlife biologist, a former book-keeper, a toy-company executive, an arborist, a retired bartender, attorneys, college students, and an iron-worker who had helped build the World Trade Center.

Forty-five minutes into the flight, at around 9:30 *a.m.*, air-traffic controllers received two radio transmissions—a frantic “Mayday!” and the sounds of violent struggle, followed by “Get out of here!” United 93 plummeted seven hundred feet, over eastern Ohio. A hijacker, one of four, was heard announcing that there was a bomb on board. Using autopilot, the hijackers pointed the jetliner toward Washington, D.C. Its transponder disabled, the flight became harder to track. The plane’s cockpit voice recorder captured the sound of a woman struggling with a hijacker; she then went silent.

The crew and passengers, herded into the back of the plane, used the onboard phones, and their personal cell phones, to call people on the ground. Learning that other hijackers had just flown jetliners into both towers of the World Trade Center, they held a vote. Unarmed civilians, unbound by duty, they included a college judo champ, a former air-traffic controller, and a retired registered nurse. In an act that has become American lore over the past twenty years, the passengers and crew members chose to attack the knife-wielding hijackers and “retake the plane.”

They rushed the first-class cabin, carrying out what the 9/11 Commission’s report called a “sustained” assault. One of the plane’s data recorders captured “loud thumps, crashes, shouts, and breaking glasses and plates.” The hijacker flying the plane, as if to throw the assaulters off balance, rocked the aircraft left and right. One hijacker asked, “Shall we finish it off?” Another said to wait. A passenger shouted, “In the cockpit. If we don’t, we’ll die!” The hijacker soon asked again, “Shall we put it down?” This time, the answer was yes. The 9/11 Commission concluded that the hijackers “judged that the passengers were only seconds from overcoming them.” The plane roared low across pastoral Somerset County, Pennsylvania, skimming the village of Lambertville. The aircraft flipped, then crashed at nearly six hundred miles per hour near Shanksville. People miles away felt the ground shake.





The Remains Of The Towers Off to Staten Island Landfill

Following the attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11th, 2001 Tully Construction was one of four contractors chosen to perform the clean up after the collapse of the towers of the World Trade Center.

Tully's workforce responded quickly to the call for help using equipment which they had on site from other jobs in Manhattan. The Tully team helped to move the massive steel structures and huge amount of debris and concrete which hampered the search and rescue operations. Although the original concern was for rescuing survivors, it soon became apparent there were few to rescue. Tully assisted the first responders – with the dignified recovery of remains. The magnitude of this recovery was of astronomic proportions and unprecedented in our nation's history. Tully crews worked 24-hours a day, seven days a week, moving tremendous quantities of debris, transporting the debris to the Fresh Kills Landfill in Staten Island which was re-opened for the recovery operation. Tully trucked some 500 loads of debris per day. At the height of the recovery operation, Tully had up to 300 workers at the site repairing and

replacing utility pipes and ducts for Con Edison and Verizon and another 250 workers working on the "pile." More than 120 back-hoes, pay loaders and trucks were operated each day for more than 8 months.

The World Trade Center sat in what was known as the "bathtub" which consisted of a slurry wall that surrounded the complex – 80 feet deep and 3,500 feet in total length and which served as a barrier/restraining wall to hold back the water of the Hudson River and consisted of more than 900 tie-backs. The collapse of the towers damaged the "bathtub" and was in eminent danger of failing. If the wall failed, the resulting flooding would be catastrophic to the entire area and the New York City subway systems. The original

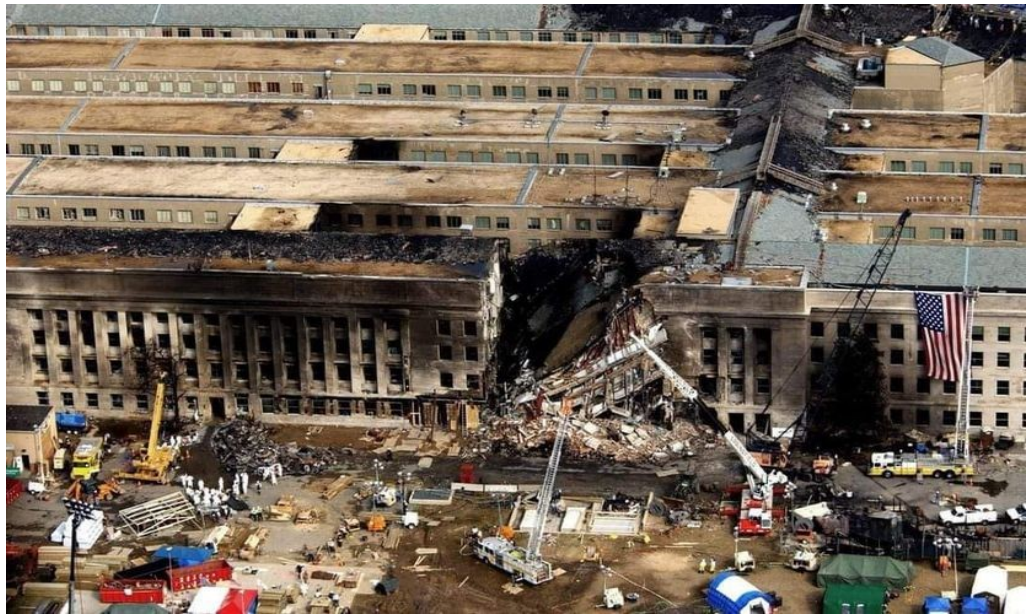
slurry wall was constructed back in the 1960's by a joint venture known as the West Street Associates, which was a joint venture that included

It was determined by Tully engineers that the debris from the towers were in fact supporting the slurry wall and could not be removed until the wall was repaired. Tully's engineers coordinated all facets of the tieback operation and trucked in more than 100,000 cubic yards of stabilizing material and a dewatering system to relieve the pressure on the wall.

The efforts by all the contractors on the site were monumental, but Tully's workforce move more material with less equipment and personnel than the other 3 contractors combined.



Did You Know?



After flight 77 hit the Pentagon on 9/11, the following incident occurred:

A chaplain, who happened to be assigned to the Pentagon, told of an incident that never made the news. A day-care facility inside the Pentagon had many children, including infants who were in heavy cribs. The daycare supervisor, looking at all the children they needed to evacuate, was in a panic over what they could do. There were many children, mostly toddlers, as well as the infants that would need to be taken out with the cribs.

There was no time to try to bundle them into carriers and strollers. Just then a young Marine came running into the center and asked what they needed. After hearing what the center director was trying to do, he ran back out into the hallway and disappeared. The director thought, "Well, here we are, on our own." About 2 minutes later, that Marine returned with 40 other Marines in tow. Each of them grabbed a crib with a child, and the rest started gathering up toddlers. The director and her staff then helped them take all the children out of the center and down toward the park near the Potomac.

Once they got about 3/4 of a mile outside the building, the Marines stopped in the park, and then did a fabulous thing - they formed a circle with the cribs, which were quite sturdy and heavy, like the covered wagons in the Old West. Inside this circle of cribs, they put the toddlers, to keep them from wandering off. Outside this circle were the 40 Marines, forming a perimeter around the children and waiting for instructions. There they remained until the parents could be notified and come get their children.

The chaplain then said, *"I don't think any of us saw nor heard of this on any of the news stories of the day. It was an incredible story of our men there."* There wasn't a dry eye in the room. The thought of those Marines and what they did and how fast they reacted; could we expect any less from them? It was one of the most touching stories from the Pentagon. It's the Military, not the politicians that ensures our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. It's the Military who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag. If you care to offer the smallest token of recognition and appreciation for the military, please pass this on and pray for our men and women, who have served and are currently serving our country, and pray for those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for freedom."

Bet Ya Didn't Know This.



The airship U.S.S. Shenandoah was the first American built rigid airship. Although built in the United States, Shenandoah was based on the design of the German L-49, a World War I high altitude bomber which had been forced down intact in France in October, 1917 and carefully studied. The L-49 was one of the "height climbers" designed by the Germans late in World War 1, when improvements in Allied fighter aircraft and anti-aircraft artillery made it necessary for zeppelins to climb to great altitudes to avoid being shot down.

(Left) The USS Navy's first rigid airship is moored at Navel Air Station NAS San Diego.

Trivia Answers

1. General Masaharu Homma (Hanged as a war criminal in 1946)
2. Flying Fortress
3. 82nd Airborne Division
4. On board a U.S. Naval vessel when hoisting the American Flag all the way up
5. It refers to the Engineer personnel of the ship. It originated when ships were powered by coal.

Humor in Uniform



Hostility in the Caribbean - 1983



The crisis in Grenada in late 1983 caught US Army planners off-guard.

When orders came down to prepare to invade the Caribbean island, they knew so little about the country that they had to plan the operation using maps normally sold to tourists.

Think of it as "Improvise, Adapt, Overcome" on a grand strategic scale. When word came down that US Army troops would be shipping out soon after the US Marine Corps barracks in Beirut were blown up October 23, 1983, by the Islamic terrorist group Hezbollah, killing 241 service members, military leaders assumed they were invading



Lebanon. But they soon learned that "Operation Urgent Fury" meant a US invasion of Grenada, a tiny Caribbean island tucked away between Puerto Rico and Venezuela. They were forced to pivot.

Grenada had secured independence from the United Kingdom nine years earlier. At the time, no one imagined it could end up as the staging area for Soviet military operations in the Western Hemisphere. Grenada's independence didn't bring unity and peace in the streets. There was widespread unrest in the island nation after the United Kingdom granted its independence, and the first government was overthrown by Marxist-Leninist dictator Maurice Bishop. After he took power, the country's relationship with communist Cuba grew closer. Yet Bishop made friendly overtures to the United States — which would prove to be part of his downfall.



(Photos Above) US Army soldiers secure a trail coming from the village. (Left) Army Rangers parachute into Grenada during Operation Urgent Fury.



Operation “Urgent Fury” A US Invasion of Rescue out of Grenada How It All Began



Two battalions of elite U.S. Army Rangers had received a warning order days before and were already preparing to assault the Caribbean island. But at Fort Bragg, N.C., the 82nd Airborne Division, which would supply most of the invasion force, was caught by surprise. So soon after the attack on the Marine barracks most of the division's senior leaders assumed they would be heading to the Middle East, as part of what they

were sure would be an overwhelming reaction to the Beirut tragedy. In a scene repeated many times that night, one battalion commander returned to find his briefing room walls papered in maps. When asked what the maps were for, a young staff officer replied, “They are of Lebanon and Beirut sir.” “Tear all that s *** down,” the commander replied. “We’re heading for Grenada.” Perplexed, the staff officer asked, “Why are we invading Spain?”

In the end, there were no maps of Grenada to be had anywhere at Fort Bragg. In an inspired moment a division staff officer headed for downtown Fayetteville, where he procured tourist maps of the island. Planners superimposed a military grid atop the map and distributed copies to the invading troops before they boarded their air craft. Interestingly, many senior leaders were relying on articles copied out of The Economist for the most up-to-date intelligence on the island.

President Ronald Reagan, citing the threat posed to American nationals on the Caribbean nation of Grenada by that nation's Marxist regime, orders the Marines to invade and secure their safety. There were nearly 1,000 Americans in Grenada at the time, many of them students at the island's medical school. In little more than a week, Grenada's government was overthrown.

The situation on Grenada had been of concern to American officials since 1979, when the leftist Maurice Bishop seized power and began to develop close relations with Cuba. In 1983, another Marxist, Bernard Coard, had Bishop assassinated and took control of the government. Protesters clashed with the new government and violence escalated. Citing the danger to the U.S. citizens in Grenada, Reagan ordered nearly 2,000 U.S. troops into the island, where they soon found themselves facing opposition from Grenadian armed forces and groups of Cuban military engineers, in Grenada to repair and expand the island's airport.



Matters were not helped by the fact that U.S. forces had to rely on minimal intelligence about the situation. (The maps used by many of them were, in fact, old tourist maps of the island.) Reagan ordered in more troops, and by the time the fighting was done, nearly 6,000 U.S. troops were in Grenada. Nearly 20 of these troops were killed and over a hundred wounded; over 60 Grenadian and Cuban troops were killed. Coard's government collapsed and was replaced by one acceptable to the United States.

With tears and expressions of relief, scores of American students evacuated from Grenada told yesterday of days and nights of terror on the strife-torn island and praised the Reagan Administration and United States invasion forces for bringing them safely away. Many of the students from St. George's University School of Medicine said they had not been directly threatened or endangered by the turmoil and fighting, and some said they believed their safety had been used as an excuse by the United States to invade Grenada.

Silent Rescue

Grenada

- In 1983 Reagan sent in 2,000 US Marines to overthrow a Pro-Cuban government and rescue US citizens
- 18 US soldiers were killed




(Right) President Ronald Reagan watches as events unfold in Grenada



But others told of bullets crashing through their dormitory rooms, of fears of being taken hostage, of a week of campus confinement under the Government's "shoot to kill" curfew, of soldiers pointing guns at them and of wading through surf to board rescue helicopters amid raging gunfire and booming explosions. "I don't think I can ever go back to Grenada," said Elizabeth Nelson of Woodmere, L.I. "I could never concentrate on my studies. I'm sure that if I were back in class in the lecture hall, I would recall the 24 hours I spent there in terror, with the sound of gunfire and not knowing whether we would get out of there alive.



Modern Grenada 2021





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)

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)

Ted Schmid (March 2023)

Susan Neugebauer March 2022

Raymond (Ray) Norman December 2022

Dick & Louise Malpass (May 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)

Jim & Ann Tootle (Feb 2022)

Dean & Susan Schaaf (May 2022)

John S. (Tank) Sherman (Sept 2022)

Rheta Campbell Sherman (Sept 2022)

William C Weimer (Dec 2021)

Donn and Jeannie Weaver (September 2022)

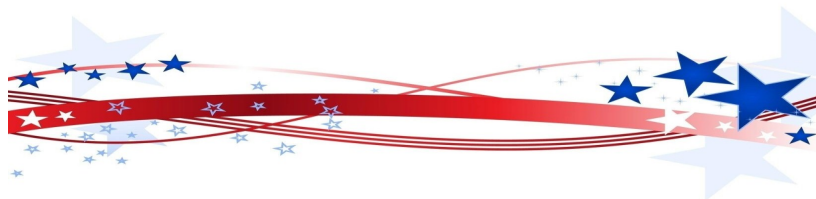
Diane & Adrienne Davison (December 2021)

Maryanne Tucker (March 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**

Karaoke Contest



Send Us Your Best

*Open to all non-professional singers for Trophies,
Prizes and Bragging Rights..*

Benefit Fundraiser for Brevard County



Troop and Veteran Support

Friday Oct 29th 7:00 P.M.

VFW Post 4534 3250 S. US 1 Rockledge

- Raffles
 - 50/50
 - Judges From The Community
- GREAT 4534 Dinner (Serving 5:00-7:00)**



Rules Of Engagement

- \$20.00 Registration Fee for each Contestant (registration appreciated but not required)
- No Professional Singers 2 Judged Songs Each
- All Proceeds go to pay for returning troops Transition and Programs offered by Veterans Connections to a New Life and their new Equine Therapy Program. Info Call: (321)-313-2444

Jack's Back!

New Show!
New Songs!
New Look!

Jack Smink
and Lightning Strikes Twice
Production Present

JACK'S BACK in a salute to music from
the 60's, 70's, and more! Dinner Show!

Saturday, October 2nd, 2021

Dinner at 6pm, Show at 7pm

Dinner and Show \$48
at Space Coast Convention Ctr.

301 Tucker Lane, Cocoa, FL 32926

Call or text Karen at 321-604-1344

Tickets are on Sale Now!



This show to benefit
The Medal of Honor Memorial
by way of auctions, donations, and more!
Auction items will include Military Memorabilia
and other items donated by our local friends.



The Medal of Honor Memorial