

Brevard Veterans Council/



Veterans Memorial Center

Council Courier

Nov 2021



The Museum Gift Shop at the Veterans Memorial Center has a wide selection of items.

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

Chairman's Report	Page 4
President's Report	Page 5
Committees	Page 6
Board Membership List	Page 7
Secretary	Page 8
Chaplin's Corner	Page 9
Calendar	Page 10
In Their Honor	Page 13
Special Events	Page 14
Plaza Report	Page 17
Park Report	Page 17
Governance	Page 18
Operations	Page 18
Special Events	Page 14
Troop Support	Page 15
Museum Report	Page 19
Book Report	Page 20
Veteran Support	Page 22
Gift Shop	Page 23
Feature - Saving Lives	Page 24
Feature - DUSTOFF in Vietnam	Page 26
DAV Report	Page 30
Boosters	Page 33
Organization Meeting Dates	Page 34
Advertising Fliers	Page 35

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 Those submissions received after that date will not be published.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

The Wonders of Our America
from Sea to Shining Sea



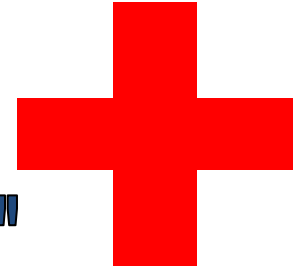
Giant Sequoia from the great Northwest



In This Issue Nov 2021

DUSTOFF

"Heroes of South East Asia"



Dustoff in Vietnam was a crew of four of the most dedicated and most people would say "*Certifiably Insane*" men that flew unarmed helicopters to the front line and beyond to rescue wounded soldiers. The mission for *Dustoff* was to get the wounded on board, out of harms way, most times under heavy enemy fire, provide live saving measures and delivering their patient to the nearest medical facility weather an aid station or field hospital. In this issue we will explain how these pilots and crews operated 24/7 under all weather conditions.

These crews witnessed more of the brutality of war then anyone. Weather a wounded infantry soldier, a tanker, truck driver or downed helicopter there was no more a welcoming sound then the familiar sound of the rotors of a UH 1 Huey Dustoff coming to get them out of Hell **Feature On Page 26**

Council Chairman's Report



By: Donn Weaver
Former Captain U.S. Army



As Dean notes in his message, the pace at your VMC is really picking up. Thanks to our 60 plus volunteers we can support every mission, rental, fund raising and ceremonial task that lies ahead. As we suspected getting some relief from Covid and funding for two more major Park upgrades is really picking up the pace.

This month I want to focus on the Calendar which you will see in every Courier Edition. This month it covers events into next July and is the most detailed we have ever published on behalf of veterans in the county. No one person could attend everything on the slate, especially around Veterans Day this month, but we need BVC/VMC Board and General members as well as other volunteers to focus on some key events, put them on your calendar early and help us make them special for the public who will come to VMC and the Park for those events. So, I highlight:

- 11 Nov Veterans Day (0930 with set up at 0800)
- 07 Dec Pearly Harbor 80th (Museum 14-1500)
- 08 Dec BVC/VMC Annual Christmas Party (0930-1200)
- 15 Jan Key Lime Pie Festival in the VMP
- 06 Feb Immortal Four Chaplains Ceremony
- 12 Mar AM: Last Naval Battle of Revolutionary War
- PM: Space Coast CBRCC Food Festival VMP

Please let any Board member know if you are interested in supporting the BVC/VMC in any way and we will find a match. Have a very wonderful Thanksgiving with Family and Friends and do what you can too help others, especially veterans, not so fortunate this time of year.

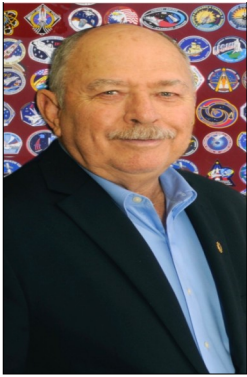
Happy Veterans Day, - Donn



Photo: Ed Jackson

Confederate Cemetery, Jonesboro, Georgia. While on Vacation, I needed gasoline, so I left the highway to fill up. On my way into town, I stumbled across this beautifully maintained cemetery, the final resting place for the soldiers of the confederacy. It also contained graves belonging to the Blue Coats. The graves were organized by states, Kentucky, Alabama etc. the Northern Army was represented mostly by Massachusetts and Delaware. These were the graves of the soldiers killed during the two day battle in 1864.

This exceptionally historic find is only 421 miles from Merritt Island. A great weekend trip, well worth it. -Editor



VMC Presidents Report



By Former LCDR Dean Schaaf
Veteran United States Navy Aviation

We have had a busy summer and the rest of this year should be just as busy. We are putting the finishing touches on our Veterans Day program on Nov 11. Please plan on attending and spread the word to family and friends. I want to share a story about our WWI Doughboy statue in the Plaza.

We were approached by a veteran from Indian River County about placing a replica of the statue in their veteran's park in Vero Beach. The mold has been in storage since ours was installed around 2001. The sixteen-piece mold was used again and American Bronze Foundry in Sanford, FL completed the statue installed it on a pedestal on Oct 15. If you have never visited the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary, Vero Beach, it is worth the 1 Hour drive. Address is 100 Dahlia Ln, Vero Beach, FL 32963. They are dedicating the statue during their Veterans Day ceremony on November 11. The mold has been retired as it can't be used again.

This project was in cooperation with the of Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Indian River Chapter. While you are down there, don't forget to visit the National Navy UDT Seal Museum at 3300 N. Hwy A1A, North Hutchinson Island, Fort Pierce, FL.

Paul Revere makes his famous midnight ride. On this day in history, April 18, 1775, Paul Revere makes his famous midnight ride to warn the countryside that the British Regulars were coming. Revere was one of the most well-connected and trusted patriots of the inner circle of patriot leaders in Boston. Patriots in Boston were constantly watching British movements and listening to their conversations surreptitiously.

*"The British are coming
The British are coming"*



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	Kristi Blanchard, 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 Herrmkind, 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

Secretary's Report

Protecting the Environment While Retiring Your Flag

By Kristi Blanchard

Like many of you, I proudly fly the United States National Flag and, as a veteran, still get choked up thinking about the sacrifices of those it represents. But the hot Florida sun takes a toll on the flag fabric, and when it is worn, torn, faded or badly soiled, it must be replaced.

You can drop the flag for retirement at a nearby VFW or the Veterans Memorial Center (VMC) but the VMC has become overwhelmed by the volume of newer flags made of nylon or polyester – instead of the traditional 100% cotton. The synthetic flags may hold their color longer and be less expensive to purchase, but they are made of petroleum-based products. According to the Boy Scouts (blog at SCAN ME), “A national flag that is worn beyond repair is usually retired in a ceremony conducted with dignity and respect, and the flag burned completely to ashes.” Boy Scouts use the Veterans Memorial Park burn pit to retire 100% cotton flags but retiring synthetic flags by burning is dangerous to the environment and those assisting in the ceremony because hazardous gases and vapors are produced, and the flag is only melted instead of turning it to ashes.



The US Scouting Service Project (ceremonies at SCAN ME) suggests, “A flag ceases to be a flag when it is cut into pieces.” Initially, I was turned off by the process, but on reflection I prefer to respectively retire the flag myself than harm the environment or those retiring the flag for me.

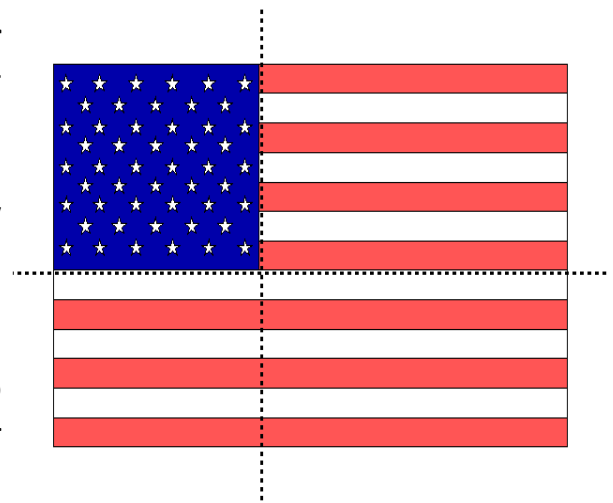


Continue to use the drop box at the VMC or VFWs to retire your 100% cotton flags. For nylon or polyester blends, take your scissors or shears and retire your flag at home.

Stretch out the corners of the flag. Cut the flag in half, vertically — do not cut into the blue star field.

Place the two halves together and cut in half, horizontally.

You will have four pieces of flag, one being the blue star field and the other three, red and white stripes. Once cut up, it's no longer a flag. Put the flag in a container and dispose of it properly.



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.thecozycomercacafe.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 AVBRTV
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

unity
of Merritt Island

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

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

April Balmer
CEO / Owner

info@pipbrevard.com 321-452-2800 P
www.pipbrevard.com 321-452-7339 F

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

f in +

**You Can Advertise Here For \$5.00 a
month or \$50.00 a Year. Other sizes,
features and prices are available.**



Your Complete Car Care Company

UNOFFICIAL BREVARD VMC VETS CALENDAR (MAY AND BEYOND)

Contact VMC for any additions or other information.

UNOFFICIAL BREVARD VMC VETS CALENDAR (NOVEMBER AND BEYOND)

Contact VMC for any additions or other information. .

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](https://www.eventbrite.com) 166503557623.

22 Oct — 45Th Security Forces Squadron Halloween Golf Tournament to benefit their outreach projects with kids and others. Golfers needed at \$60 per person in teams of four. Manatee Cove Golf Course 1300 start. Register via WYNOAKIA.WALTERS@SPACEFORCE.MIL to register or learn more.

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.

29 Oct — NVHS's Tournament at Manatee Cove Golf Course on Patrick SFB, in partnership with Northrop Grumman's Melbourne Management Club, are hosting a golf tournament fundraiser. Team registration can be made online by going to nvhs.org/events.

30 Oct — Regional JROTC Raider Challenge Meet at Veterans Memorial Park (0800-1230) includes five events involving 10 High Schools in the 2021 Regional Meet to qualify for State level competition. Events begin with 5 K run with male, female and mixed teams and ends with an awards ceremony with MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation supporting trophies for the winning teams.

06 Nov — Palm Bay Veterans Day Parade 0900-1030 . Staging starting at 0700 at City Hall. Route along Malabar to Emerson. Rep Bill Posey is Grand Marshall. Entry Deadline 29 October. Registration required parade@pbfl.org. Contact Rec Supervisor off Palm Bay Randy on 321-726-5671.

07 Nov — NVHS Event in the Eau Gallie Art District 4th annual Home Stretch 5k fundraising event in partnership with Tech Rev. Due to construction in Downtown Melbourne the event was moved to Downtown Eau Gallie. Registration information is on nvhs.org/events

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

13-14 Nov — Warbird Museum at Space Coast Air Field in Titusville 1000-1600 Veterans celebration with Vets getting free admission. Special displays and events. VMC will have a booth.

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

13-14 Nov — Legends of Country Music Concert Honoring Veterans (half price) (Sat 1900 and Sunday 1400) at Cocoa Beach Jr/Sr HS Auditorium. Tickets at the door. Call 321-358-6037 for more information. "America's Favorite Country Tribute Show" comes to the Space Coast Nov - May 2022.

18 Nov — Senior Life's Grand Slam Boomer Bash (0900-1300) USSSA Space Coast Stadium in Viera. VMC will have a booth. Lots of entertainment, food, drinks and educational opportunities focused on seniors.

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.

20- 21 Nov — Legends of Country Music Concert Honoring Veterans (half price) (Sat 1900 and Sunday 1400) at Bayside HS Auditorium. Tickets at the door. Call 321-358-6037 for more information. "America's Favorite Country Tribute Show" comes to the Space Coast Nov - May 2022.

27- 28 Nov — Legends of Country Music Concert Honoring Veterans (half price) (Sat 1900 and Sunday 1400) at Merritt Island HS Auditorium. Tickets at the door. Call 321-358-6037 for more information. "America's Favorite Country Tribute Show" comes to the Space Coast Nov - May 2022.

TBD Dec — MIAP-FL: Missing in America Project - FL Call to Honor Ceremony (CTH) #28 Cape Canaveral National Cemetery . Due to VA restrictions at the CCNC, CTH is limited to 50 participants and is not open to the general public. Invitees will be notified . Another MIAP FL CTH at CCNC is planned in early 2022 which will hopefully be fully open to the public when over 250 usually attended CTH Ceremonies before covid-19.

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.

04-05 Nov — Legends of Country Music Concert Honoring Veterans (half price) (Sat 1900 and Sunday 1400) at Cocoa Beach HS Auditorium. Tickets at the door. Call 321-358-6037 for more information. "America's Favorite Country Tribute Show" comes to the Space Coast Nov - May 2022.

04-05 Nov — Legends of Country Music Concert Honoring Veterans (half price) (Sat 1900 and Sunday 1400) at Cocoa Beach HS Auditorium. Tickets at the door. Call 321-358-6037 for more information. "America's Favorite Country Tribute Show" comes to the Space Coast Nov - May 2022.

07 Dec — 80th Anniversary Commemoration of the Attack on Pearl Harbor in the VMC Museum 1400-1500. Features short talks from veterans impacted by Pearl Harbor and WWII as well as stories about that day and how the world changed. History of Americans Helping: Like events after Pearl Harbor, this day will include a ONE BLOOD DRIVE to Donate Blood. All donors will receive a special blanket, a gift card and a wellness checkup including pulse and cholesterol screening.

18 - 19 Dec — Legends of Country Music Concert Honoring Veterans (half price) (Sat 1900 and Sunday 1400) at T Titusville HS Auditorium. Tickets at the door. Call 321-358-6037 for more information. "America's Favorite Country Tribute Show" comes to the Space Coast Nov - May 2022.

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.

06 Feb 2022 — Ceremony to honor the Immortal Four Chaplains and all Chaplains, at the VMC Plaza and Gray Hall 1400-1500 . Contact Chaplain Chip Hanson for more information as we continue the VMC and American Legion tradition of honoring Four Army Chaplains who went down on their torpedoed troop transport ship in the icy Atlantic Ocean on Feb 3.4, 1943. They gave up everything to save the lives of others that night.

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.

12 Mar 2022 —The Space Coast Food Festival 1400 - 1830 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 CBRCC 321-459-2200, Michelle Goldcamp.

18-19 Mar 2022 — The Veteran Stand Down to 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 Mar 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 December at the VMC. This event will focus on at risk veterans and matching them with job options on the Space Coast.

01 May 2022 — Third Annual First Responders Appreciation BBQ at the VMC and Park 12-1500. Free for all First Responders, Active Duty and Veterans including BBQ, drinks, music, special kids events, vendors that support First Responders and veterans. Done in partnership with Back Brevard Heroes and the VMC. Contact backbrevardheroes@gmail.com for more information.

31 Jul 2022 — Operation Thank You for All You Do BBQ at VMC and Park in honor of Law enforcement, Fire, EMS First Responders in Brevard (1400-1700). Free food and drinks for First Responders, kids games, special activities, music, etc.



It's Trivia Time

- 1 What was the nickname given to anti-aircraft fire during WWII ?
- 2 Who said, "If we don't stop them at the waters edge, defeat for us, is inevitable" ?
- 3 What is the significance of the Naval expression "*Sacred Twenty*"
- 4 What was the name of the first airplane personally assigned to the President of the United States and piloted by the U.S. Air Force ?
- 5 On May of 1975, Cambodian patrol boats seized this vessel, in the Gulf of Siam. What was the vessel's name?

Answers on Page 29

Honoring all who served

VETERANS DAY

9:30 A.M. November 11, 2021

At the Veteran's Memorial Center

400 S. Sykes Creek Pkwy

Merritt Island

**Special Cannon Tribute by NOTU
Naval Ordnance Test Unit**

- Guest Speakers
- Patriotic Music By Lonnie and Delinda
- Military Organization Information-Displays
- Refreshments By 
- Special Honor to America's Gold Star Families ★

PLEASE Bring
Your Own Chairs



THANK YOU VETERANS



Special Events

By Donn Weaver

Six Months of Caring: The Ranger Mike Fund Tops \$25,000.

In an effort begun in May through the Cape Canaveral Chapter of MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation as well as with support from the Veterans Memorial Center, the Ranger Mike Sonnenschein Family Support fund ended up receiving \$25,836 from special events, raffles, individual donations and web site fund raising. The final donation was for over \$3000 from Femme Fatale, a veteran owned gun store and range after they organized a raffle for a rifle over a three month period.

Ranger Mike worked for many years after his retirement from US Army Special Forces and Ranger Units at the Florida Tech ROTC Program and he helped start the Viera HS Army JROTC Program where he led the "Raider Challenge Teams" for several years, as well as many other aspects of the largest JROTC program in Brevard. He and his wife decided to travel to Haiti to serve their Viera Church as missionaries. Last Spring he was shot in a criminal ambush and was near death until he returned via Air Evacuation for US VA treatment. All his funds were exhausted in his missionary service and requirement to pay himself for the medical evacuation, so the Ranger Mike Fund was started by his former Viera HS JROTC Colleague and now Vice Mayor of Melbourne, LTC Tim Thomas, USA, Ret.

Pictured below, Donn Weaver on behalf of the MOAACC GDF, presents the final Check to LTC Thomas to pass to Ranger Mike during the 16 October Raider Challenge Meet at Cocoa Beach Jr/Sr High School in front of the Viera Raider Team. It was a fitting venue to finalize the Ranger Mike project!!



Military Officers Association of America
Cape Canaveral Chapter
P.O.Box 254186
Patrick AFB, FL 32925-4186



**"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"**

Collection for Standown 2022

The Pilot International Association of the State of Florida recently held a luncheon fundraiser to collect supplies for the BVC stand down planned for the spring of 2022

Hundreds of pairs of socks along with both male and female undergarments were collected for the stand down.

For those not familiar with the term, the definition of a *stand-down* is a state of rest or ease after a state of alert. An example of a stand-down is a platoon of army troops relaxing after being on guard and prepared for an attack.



When referred to veterans in need, it means to assist our Brothers and Sisters with items that will make their lives more comfortable., and allow them to relax and take a break from their everyday struggles.



(Above) Dorothy Walsh addresses the Pilot organization about the program Wreaths Across America) who wish to support the Brevard private cemeteries. (Below,) Don Pearsall talks about the need to support our veterans through new and existing programs.





VMC Members Don Pearsall and Dorothy Walsh were asked to represent BREC (Brevard Republican Executive Council) and join Governor Ron DeSantis and Brevard Sheriff Wayne Ivy for lunch.

Discussed were the veterans assistance programs Managed by "*Veterans Connections to a New Life*" through the *Brevard Veterans Council*.

The Governor was impressed and wanted to know more about the equine program and how the State could assist. Another 501 C (3) agency "*Their voice of Hope*" is putting together several comprehensive programs designed to assist veterans in need with the emphasis on Female veterans. The equine therapy program is the only one of it's kind in the state of Florida

Did You Know ?

The BLU-82/B (Bomb Live Unit-82) was a 15,000 pound bomb originally designed to clear helicopter landing zones in Vietnam. The warhead contained 12,600 pounds of GSX (Gelled Slurry Explosive) filler called DBA-22M. The bomb is detonated a few feet above ground level by a 38-inch fuse extender, optimized to clear vegetation while creating no crater. Nicknamed "Big Blue [BLU] 82,"



Sheriff Ivey has started a new program that shows much promise. It is called **SAVING** which means **Sheriff And Veteran Integrated Negotiation Group**.

How it works is simple. If a veteran barricades himself , is holding hostages or displays self harming tendencies, and the SWAT team is dispatched, a veteran will accompany them to the command post and possibly assist the negotiator by making the veteran feel more at ease. They can also communicate with the veteran knowing what the person is feeling, and can relate to certain terms a law enforcement office may not be familiar with.

For example : if the veteran holding a hostage keeps using military terms, the negotiator can ask a team member what they mean and how to respond. There are several members from the



Plaza Report

By: Donn Weaver



Plaza: In the past 30 days we have received donations 14 bricks which will be installed before Veterans Day. We also worked with Chad and Kitty Scout of CSpray to develop a longer range plaza maintenance plan which will be funded in our 2022 budget now under development.

Most importantly, the VMC created a new Committee — The Memorial Plaza Preservation Committee Chaired by Board Member and Museum volunteer Jay Longway. The new committee will provide a full

report in next months Courier as they define their mission spearheaded by an effort to get other organizations to “sponsor” the major artifacts like the helicopters, Jet, Truck and Tank as well as some items perhaps inside the museum to keep them painted, protected and upgraded as the years go by. We hope this effort will lead to a number of “adopt a highway” type agreements to maintain and spruce up those artifacts by spreading out the workload.

Park Report

By Donn Weaver

The County is now finalizing engineering drawings for the upgrades in Phase three of the Veterans Memorial Park, which are needed to lead up to the 2022 contractions of a major amphitheater which will be located in the space to the northeast of the main park parking lot on the east side of the existing walkway toward the fishing bridge. Good news this week as plans were approved for some new restrooms and a small two story maintenance shed and security viewing tower.

Park Benches: We received our first donation for a new Park Bench to go in the VMP. The bench is being kept on the left side of the Museum Entrance Door so check it out and help us spread the word. Bench options are still under review but so far we have four choices if orders come in:

4 Feet without arms: \$500

4 Feet with Arms \$600

6 Feet without arms \$750. (Pictured)

6 Feet with Arms \$850

Each bench will include a donor plaque and is made from modern rubberized deck type material which never wears or fades. As with many products these days in America, shipping delays may take their toll.



ch 6ft Cedar by American Recycled Plastic

Governance Committee

By Dorothy Walsh - Chairman



Happy Holidays Everyone!! Hard to believe it's that time of year again!!!

After a short sabbatical while the new regime took their places, the Governance Committee is back at it. We have met and are in the process of performing a six month review of the bylaws and procedures to ensure that the changes made meet the needs of the organizations and are being followed. We met this past week for the first round of reviews and will be making recommendations to the Boards of Directors at the Board meetings on November 3, 2021. Once approved they will then be presented to the general membership for approval.

Members of the Committee have been receiving feedback of concerns from members. If you have concerns about something, that's why we have monthly meetings. Please come to the meeting, the second Wednesday of the month at 9:30 am, and voice your concern and give your input. Please remember this is a membership organization.

Wishing you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving.



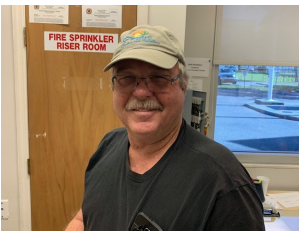
Operations Report

**U.S. Army
U.S. Marine Corps**

By Bob Doyle Director

As all of you have figured we are in full swing and getting very busy. Most days to the end of the year have activities and meetings now. Although Celebrations of life have been the staple event for many months we are now getting the birthday parties, baby showers and weddings back on board. Jazzercise will be starting back in November. In December we are going to start the Space Coast Jazz Concerts once a month on a Sunday afternoon and look forward to some outside ones, weather permitting around the Tiki Hut, Recent damage has been noted on the South end of the Kitchen area and Facilities will be fixing the outside walls and then working on the inside walls in the pantry. Much will be needed to repair the water damage. Remember Dance event November 5th and everyone is welcome to participate for a small fee and Veterans Day November 11th around 0900.





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

Museum Report

New Addition MG -08 Water Cooled Machine Gun

The *Maschinengewehr* 08, or MG 08, was the German Army's standard machine gun in World War I and is an adaptation of Hiram S. Maxim's original 1884 Maxim gun. It was produced in a number of variants during the war. The MG 08 served during World War II as a heavy machine gun in many German infantry divisions, although by the end of the war it had mostly been relegated to second-rate fortress units.



The MG 08—named after 1908, its year of adoption—was a development of the license made *Maschinengewehr* 01. The firing rate averages 500 to 600 rounds per minute. The gun used 250-round fabric belts of 7.92×57mm ammunition. It was water-cooled, using a jacket around the barrel that held approximately 3.7 litres (0.98 US gal) of water.

Its practical range was estimated at some 2,000 metres (2,200 yd) up to an extreme range of 3,700 metres (4,000 yd). The MG 08 was mounted on a sled mount (*German: Schlittenlafette*) that was ferried between locations either on carts or else carried above men's shoulders in the manner of a stretcher. Pre-war production was by *Deutsche Waffen und Munitionsfabriken* (DWM) in Berlin and by the government Spandau arsenal (so the gun was often referred to as a Spandau MG 08).

Brought back from France, 1919 by Major Herman B. Hale, Battery B 119th Field Artillery. Donated in his honor by his grandson, Cpt. Gaylord H. and Patsie Salvadore.

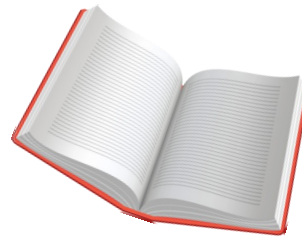


Maj. Hale third from right.



Book Report

By Ray Norman



Bomber Mafia: The longest night in WWII

The author Gladwell weaves a story of a Dutch genius (Norden-bomb sight). Norden was a late 1930s genius who built the bomb sight as a mechanical sighting unit. Additionally, in this small 240 page book, the reader is taken from the WWII destruction of Europe to the atomic bombing in Japan. From an engineering view it is challenging to imagine the complications of sighting a target from 33,000 feet at 300 MPH on a building partially obscured by clouds. Complicating the physics and meteorology is the German fighter planes attempting to shoot you down. Bombing was conducted early on at night. Curtis LeMay was the driving tactical genius who by force of personality made daylight bombing a reality. This book expounds on the tenants of the "Bomber Mafia". A group of Maxwell AFB think tankers that chose to revise air warfare doctrine. These concepts are extended through the book.

As the story progress's from the European theater to US academia we are given an overview of the development of napalm. Scientific experiences in academia led to the development of napalm which was used effectively in bombing Tokyo. Napalm was developed concurrently with the atomic bomb era. Of course the atomic bombing was discussed. LeMay had a successful career in commanding the European air program. His success led to a transfer to the Pacific theater. The commander was a bit timid as we are led to believe. LeMay was assigned and took over the 21st bombing leadership. Atmospheric environmental issues were a concern. Some planes just did not return due to limited range caused by the jet stream.

From a personal view my rocket launching job was to monitor the jet stream/upper air winds. We worked with the Air Force meteorological personnel. The program had a limit on the maximum change of wind speed at altitude as the rocket ascended to orbit. Wind speed was measured by tracking a weather balloon (wind sonde) transmitter. On one launch we had perhaps twelve (wind sondes) in the air. The transmitters were on the same frequency for tracking and soon they were interfering with each other. In our rocket launching process we were able to watch the change in wind speed at ascending thousand foot altitudes. If the speeds were too different the rocket could exceed its structural integrity, bend, break and blow up.

We eventually got the rocket launched and satellite into orbit. The interesting thing about this is that the jet stream was the influencing force. LeMay and his pilots did not know of the jet stream in in 40s. However, the stream was a known force as a Japanese scientist discovered it during the 1920's and published a paper in Esperanto-a little used language. Very few people knew Esperanto. When LeMay's pilots and navigators reported exceeding 500 mile per hour they were excoriated --but eventually believed.

The author of this book is Malcom Gladwell. He introduced the book with a conversation regards the Air Force Chief of Staff residence Air House near Reagan International Airport. LeMay's bombers wiped out many Japanese cities almost entirely with unguided bombs. While they were talking it was easy to visualize today's guided bombs destroying a particular wing of of the Air House vs. Washington DC in its entirety.

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

Humor in Uniform



BVC Veteran / Troop Support



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



*October 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 six families in need, Distributed 8 meal boxes, 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
- Supplies and equipment for homeless veterans

**ALL Services are
Free for veterans**



New For Brevard Veterans



We are-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.

Improvements in the Museum Store have increased sales. An acrylic board now holds the numerous service pins and enables the customers to easily select what they want and the corresponding numbered bins are easy for store personnel to access the correct item. We have a large supply of challenge coins, decals, Veterans Memorial polo shirts, and hats. We also have a large collection of mugs, glasses, and shot glasses including items dedicated to the newly formed Space Force. We also have new Navy and Marine tee shirts for the children, we have several toys: bears, tattoos, sunglasses, hot wing planes and new diving submarines. Books are now in a rotating rack to feature local authors and make more room for metal signs. Helicopter tee shirts have been reduced in price and will not be restocked after all are sold. For all your Christmas needs make sure to stop by the gift shop.

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.serritrealestate.com
Serving Brevard County

Megan Serritt
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 Auto Repair

Hortencia's Cleaning Services

321 986-7039

Perruquiah@gmail.com
600 Crystal Lake dr
Cocoa FL 32916

"Stop the Stigma – Save Lives" Submitted by Donn Weaver

Gregg F. Martin, Ph.D., Major General, US Army (Retired) [Note: September is National Suicide Prevention month. The national Suicide Prevention Lifeline is 1-800-273-8255 (TALK). For more information, visit www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org]

In July 2014, I was in my 36th year of military service, a 2-star general, combat veteran, and president of the National Defense University (NDU), located in Washington DC. I worked for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the nation's highest-ranking military officer, General Martin Dempsey.

After decades of success, I had become a maniac: extremely disruptive and erratic. Finally, the Chairman, who was a long-time mentor, boss, and friend, summoned me to his office and said, "Gregg, I love you like a brother, but your time at NDU is done. You have until 5:00 p.m. today to resign, or you're fired..., and you need to get a mental health exam!"

Unbeknown to myself and the Army, my genetic predisposition for bipolar disorder was triggered by the intense stress of the Iraq War in 2003, where I commanded a combat engineer brigade of thousands of soldiers.

My brain responded by producing and distributing excessive amounts of dopamine and endorphins, sending me into a euphoric, high-performing mania that made me feel fearless, hyper-energized, and like I was Superman. Unfortunately, this mania damaged my brain circuitry and launched me into a life dominated by unrecognized bipolar disorder. After a year of thrilling combat, with rushing adrenaline, surging bio-chemicals in my brain, and a powerful, natural "high," I redeployed to Germany, where the moon of depression eclipsed my sun of mania.

Unfortunately, the under-production of these same chemicals caused a months-long depression. I reported my depression, but because I was not suicidal and had no intention of hurting anyone, medical personnel declared me "fit for duty," but I wasn't. After months of hard work at my job, the depression lifted naturally. The structure of Army life was key in getting me through this difficult period. This completed my first full up/down cycle of mania/depression, which would become my life pattern.

My bipolar remained unrecognized by everyone from 2003 to 2014. Meanwhile, I was promoted twice and assigned to ever-tougher assignments, where the norm was complexity, budget cuts, and high stress. Yet, mania helped my performance in many ways by providing ever-higher levels of energy, drive, and creativity. It fueled my career ascendance, until it didn't.

My mania went higher, and my depression sank lower until I rocketed into acute, full-blown mania in 2014. Spinning out of control, I became disruptive, erratic, and over-the-top in virtually everything I thought, did or said. Thankfully, the Chairman removed me from command. It was the absolute best decision for myself, my family, and my health. After this, I crashed into dark, crippling, hopeless depression, accompanied by terrifying delusions. My mind was filled with morbid, vivid imagery of violent death and dying, what psychiatrists call "passive suicidal ideations." But, for me, they were anything but passive. Instead, they were real, powerful, and life-consuming. For the next two years,

I fought for my life. It wasn't until a friend helped get me into the VA that I had a feeling that my condition could change. The clinical staff of the VA provided me with excellent care, and it was the combination of professional treatment, along with the love and support of my wife and family, that prevented me from falling into

the abyss. After months of treatment, numerous medications, weeks in a VA psychiatric ward, and electroconvulsive therapy, the addition of the natural element Lithium, a salt, took my recovery to the next level and stabilized me in September 2016.

My bipolar disorder is now under control but not gone. To keep it at bay, I must take medications, meet with my doctors, and live a healthy life; mind, body, and spirit. My self-care includes exercise, healthy diet, plenty of sleep and water, little to no alcohol, no drugs, a network of friends, fun activities, faith, and as much as possible, minimizing stress, anxiety, and anger.

As a former Army officer, I know that one of the keys to victory in combat is vigilance. The same holds in my battle with bipolar. As long as I remain faithful to the task at hand, I will have the high ground and avoid an attack by the fiercest enemy I have ever faced – bipolar disorder. More than 10 million Americans have bipolar disorder. Another 50 million have depression, post-traumatic stress (PTS), traumatic brain injuries (TBI), or other mental health disorders that often lead to suicide. Thus, it is likely that nearly every person in America is affected in some way by mental illness: either themselves, a family member, friend, or colleague.

That's the bad news. The good news is that these medical conditions are treatable. Correctly diagnosed and treated, people can live healthy, happy, successful lives. I didn't want bipolar, but it wanted me. It nearly destroyed everything I value. But, thanks to the help of a great many others, I've been able to transform my 'gift' of bipolar into my mission: "sharing my bipolar story to help stop the stigma and save lives."

I share my experiences, providing knowledge and hope. My purpose is to help save lives, marriages, families, friendships, careers, and more. My vision is that everyone who has a mental health disorder gets medical help free of stigma. There is no stigma with cancer or diabetes, and neither should there be for mental illness. Science has validated that mental disorders are physiological and not due to a lack of character or willpower. It's not a person's fault they are ill, so we shouldn't blame them. Instead, we must understand and accept this scientific truth.

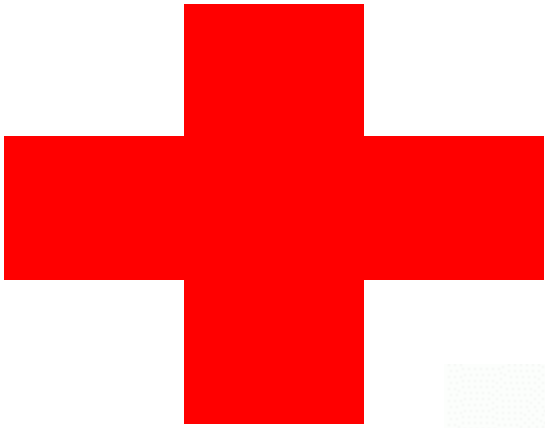
We must all learn to identify the basic symptoms of mental health disorders. Then, if you or another display them, get medical help, just as you would for a heart attack. But, don't wait; it could be a matter of life and death. Battling mental illness has been my most brutal fight. It's incumbent upon all of us to learn about it and help educate and encourage others. Join me in helping to stop the stigma!

Gregg Martin is a 36-year Army combat veteran, retired 2-star general, and bipolar survivor. He is a qualified Airborne-Ranger-Engineer and Strategist. He holds degrees from West Point (BS) and MIT (MS and PhD). He is a father, author, and speaker who lives with his wife in Cocoa Beach, FL. His forthcoming book is entitled

"Battling bipolar — my war with mental illness."

For more information, visit www.generalgreggmartin.com This piece represents the views of the author. It does not represent the official views of the US government or Department of Defense, nor do they vouch for its accuracy.





"DUST OFF"

Saving Lives in Combat

D Dedicated
U Unhesitating
S Service
T To
O Our
F Fighting
F Forces



"Heroic as Hell" - The Dustoff Pilots of The Vietnam War

Among a variety of iconic scenes of the Vietnam War depicted in movies, documentaries, and news coverage, there is one in particular that makes this "first-ever televised conflict" instantly recognizable.

The image, accompanied by a specific sound, is the sight of a Bell UH-1 Iroquois or "Huey" flying over the jungle suppressing enemy fire, deploying soldiers, or evacuating wounded GIs. While helicopters were used to some extent in Korea, it wasn't until the Vietnam War that the idea of a helicopter ambulance corps was fully developed.

This was due to the necessity of using aerial transport to evacuate the wounded in Vietnam, as dictated by the terrain. Since most of the combat activity was in the jungle, roads proved useless even if they were nearby.

Ambushes and mines made land routes very unpredictable, for the jungle belonged to the Viet Cong. However, the skies were off-limits for the guerrilla forces, making the Huey one of U.S. Army's most important assets. This feature is dedicated to the "Dustoff" men—the medics and pilots who rushed into "hot" zones and willingly risked their lives to rescue as many soldiers they could. The name "*Dustoff*" comes from the call sign of the 57th Medical Detachment which began operating in Vietnam in 1962. "Dustoff" soon became synonymous with any and all helicopter ambulance units operating in Vietnam.

A well-trained and experienced crew could provide medical treatment for wounded personnel in the field within just 35 minutes. The crew usually consisted of four men—two pilots with one acting as a commander, a medic assigned to evacuate evacuating the wounded, and the crew chief whose role was also to keep the chopper in top condition. Once in action, the pilot and the helicopter commander remained in the aircraft, ready for take-off. The commander would maintain radio communication with the unit requesting evacuation and headquarters.



During those very risky moments, the medic and crew chief would jump into the fire and load casualties into the helicopter with the assistance of nearby soldiers. It is important to note that most of these missions were undertaken during a skirmishes, so the helicopter would often come under a rain of small arms and mortar fire from the enemy.

Furthermore, the sheer size of a Huey would attract most of the enemy fire, making the evacuation crew an instant target. The “Dustoff” men earned universal respect among Vietnam War servicemen due to their sacrifices and capabilities to act under such pressure.

"When I have your wounded."

Thanks to Dustoff, or aero medical evacuation, American and Allied seriously wounded during the Vietnam War had the highest survival rates among wounded soldiers from any conflict in history to that time. If you weren't killed outright, Dustoff almost always got you to an aid station in time. Fast foreword to today's military



Advancements have modernized the emergency rescue mission. Today's helicopter in service is the Sikorsky HH-60M Medavac Black Hawk helicopter?

The helicopter is also fitted with an environmental control system, an integrated ECG machine, enroute medical care, suction, patient monitors, an infrared system and a built-in external electrical rescue hoist. The HH-60M is manned by a pilot, co-pilot, crew chief and flight medic. It can accommodate up to 11 troops.

Casualty evacuation, also known as **CASEVAC** or by the call sign Dustoff or colloquially Dust Off, is a military term for the emergency patient evacuation of casualties from a combat zone. **CASEVAC** can be done by both ground and air. "**DUSTOFF**" is the call sign specific to U.S. Army Air Ambulance units.

**Dust Off Crew
Losses in Vietnam**

***Greater Love Hath No Man Than This,
That A Man Lay Down His Life For His Friends."
John 15:13***



WO1 Thomas Edward Adams
SP5 Russell George Ahrens
SP4 Ronald Kevin Allgood
SP4 John Stephen Alling Jr.
PFC Orin Larry Allred
SP4 Robert Warren Alverson Jr.
WO1 Rocky D. Armstead
WO1 Rodney Keith Arnold
SP5 Steven Ernest Arnold
WO1 Orval Arthur Baldwin
MAJ William Joseph Ballinger
1LT Stephen Carl Beals
SP4 Gary Lee Bowdler
CPT Robert Neal Bradley
WO1 Michael Lee Bradley
WO1 Paul Robert Brass
SP4 Clifford Sheran Bratcher
WO1 John Ramsey Bregler
SFC James Harrison Brooks Jr.
CW2 Joseph Gordon Brown
SP5 Harry Willis Brown
SP5 Michael Lee Brummer
1LT Robert Gene Burlingham
WO1 Edward L. Bush
WO1 Gerald Lewis Caton
WO1 William Charles Cheney
1LT Thomas James Chiminello
WO1 John Stephen Chrin
SP4 Ralph Silvio Cinotti
WO1 Timothy Cole Jr.
SP6 James Thaddeus Conway
CW2 Donald Richard Cook
CPT Robert Lee Cottman
SP4 Charles Allen Covey
SP5 Daniel Franklin Cox
SGT Michael Lee Darrah
WO1 Sylvester Davis
CPL Ray Delgado
SP5 Billy Wayne Denley
SP5 Louis Scott DiBari
SP4 Robert W. Dieffenbach Jr.

SP5 Herbert C. Donaldson Jr.
SP5 Ronald L. Doolittle
WO1 Gary Wayne Doolittle
WO1 James Donald Doran
SP4 Gary Lynn Dubach
SP4 Zettie J. C. Dulin
1LT Dennis Boyd Easley
CW2 Gary W. Engelhardt
1LT Guy Bernard Ephland Jr.
PFC William Esposito Jr.
SP5 David J. Ewing
SP5 Joseph Michael Feeney
SGT Tennis Crispian Ferrell
SP4 Ronald Richard Fillmore
CPL Joel Carol Fowler
WO1 Reinis Fox
WO1 Randall Gaylord Freeman
CPT Joe Raymond Fulghum Jr.
SGT David John Funes
WO1 Alfred James Gaidis
1LT Lawrence Gallego
MAJ Kent Ellsworth Gandy
SP4 Harold Cornell Gay
SP4 Charles Elbert Gay
SGT Hugo Araux Gaytan
SP4 Dennis Elbert Gilliland
SP4 Francis E. Glazebrook
SP4 Dalton Truro Goff
WO1 Bruce Elliot Graham
SP4 Ronald Lester Granville
SP5 Willie F. Green
SP5 Johnny Glen Gregg
WO1 Dennis Arthur Groth
SP4 Wade Lawrence Groth
WO1 Alan Wendell Gunn
SP4 Gregory Lee Habets
CW2 Terence Arnold Handley
SP4 William Edward Hawkins
SFC William Roy Henderson
SGT Victor R. Hernandez
SP4 Ramiro Herrera Jr.
PFC Clifford Herrin
SP5 Theodore W. High IV

CPT John Richard Hill
CW2 Robert Oren Hill Jr.
WO1 William Colqueth Hix Jr.
CW3 Ferman Bobby Hodges
PFC Joseph Hoggatt
PFC William Delbert Holland
CW2 Robert Louis Horst
PFC Rudolph Jackymack
CW2 John C. Johnson
SP4 Gary Morgan Johnson
SGT David Keith Johnson
WO1 Guy Frederick Johnson
SP5 Stephen Freddie Johnson
PFC Phillip Harry Johnson
PFC Robert Earnest Jones
CPT Charles Franklin Kane Jr.
SP5 Kevin Reynolds Keleher
SP4 Michael Patrick Kelley
MAJ Charles L. Kelly
SP4 Jeffery David Kuersten
CPT Kurt Lloyd Kuhns
PFC Douglas Mason Kyser
SP4 Kenneth Howard Lamborn
SP4 Larry Gay Lance
SP5 Lawrence Lano
SP4 John Alyn Largent
SP4 Brent Robin Law
WO1 Robert Emmett Layman J
1LT Jerry Tyrus Lee
SP4 John Joseph Levulis
1LT William Russel Lewis Jr.
1LT Jack Rowley Lichte Jr.
PFC Randall Wayne Love
CW2 Chester Anthony Luc
WO1 Chrisr Dutcher Lucci
SP5 Charles Lavern Lumm
SP4 David Webster MacLurg
1LT Douglas Gerald MacNeil
SP4 William Arthur Malenfant
SP4 James Anthony Margro
SP5 Donald Ray Marlow
SP4 Ronald Andrew Martin
SGT Gilivaldo A. Martinez Jr

SP4 Guy Lamar Mears Jr.
SP5 David Phillip Medina
SP4 Alan Louis Matte
SP4 Calvin Eugene McGilton
SP4 James Ronald McNish
SP5 Kenneth Clifford Nokes
WO1 Edward Terry O'Brien
WO1 William Avalon Parker
PFC Ricky Alan Pate
CW2 Billy Dean Pedings
WO1 Hugh Michael Pettit
MAJ Harry V. Phillips Jr.
SP5 Michael John Poll
CPT Otha Lensey Poole
WO1 Robert George Porea
MAJ Larry Gene Powell
WO1 Thomas Ronald Pursell
WO1 Forrest De Vere Rains Jr.
WO1 John Veron Rauen
SP4 Dennis Edward Reese
PFC Karl Lewis Reineccius
WO1 George Warren Rice
Jeffery Allen Richardson
SP5 James Evert Richardson
SP5 Charles Samuel Ridout
SP4 Richard John Rochacz
WO1 Don Leslie Rock
1LT Jerry Lee Roe
WO1 Roger Clarke Rose
SGT Kenneth Ray Rucker
SP5 Carlos Wilson Rucker
CPT Marion Gilmer Runion
SP5 Stephen J. Saluga III
SP4 Richard W. Sanders
1LT Kenneth Martin Schlie
1LT Phillip Nicholas Schmitz
1LT Howard Jon Schnabolk
SP4 Anton John Schnobrich
CW2 Ronald Kenneth Schulz
SP4 Stephen Lawren
Schumacher
WO1 Arvid Oscar Silverberg
SP5 Wayne Carl Simmons

PFC Robert Royce Sloppy
WO1 Charles Franklin Smith
CW2 John Raymond Smith
WO1 John Martin Souther
SP5 Robert Fritz Speer
CW2 Thomas Joseph Stanush
WO1 Roy Miles Stillwell
WO1 Douglas Earl Stover

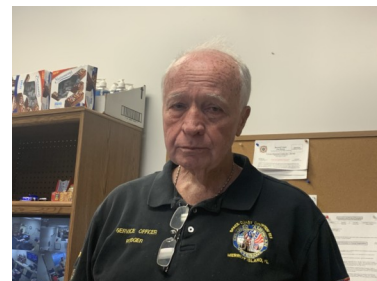
WO1 John Phillip Supple
SP5 Hubert Daniel Sutton
SP5 Loran Edgar Sweat Jr.
SGT Gary Lynn Taylor
WO1 Gary David Thatcher
SP4 John Douglas Thrasher
PFC Lewis Arthur Trask
SP4 Ronald Gale Trogdon

WO1 Jonathan R. Vars
SP4 Thomas Ray Weiss
SGT David A. Wencil
SP5 Gregory Lee White
SP4 Jeffrey Merle White
SGT James Lawrence Wieler
SSG Leroy Williams
PFC Morris Edward Williams

CPT Jesse Allan Wisdom
SP5 Jack Lee Wolfe
SP5 Donald Wood
CPT Donald Coles Woodruff
SP5 Dwight D. Woolf
SP4 Kirk Allen Woolley
WO1 James George Zeimet
1LT Alan Harry Zimmerman

Note:

VMC member /and DAV Service Officer Captain Roger Pickett flew 953 combat rescue flights with the 68th Medical Detachment serving in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, including Ban Me Thuot, Pleiku, Tuy Hoa and Qui Nhon.



Trivia Answers

1. FLAK
- 2 General Rommel-looking out to sea at the Normandy Beachheads prior to allied landings on 6 June 1944.
- 3 It referred to the first U.S. Navy nurses who reported to their first duty station at Washington DC. Naval Hospital in May 1098
- 4 Sacred Cow
- 5 SS Mayaguez

Did You Know ?

The two Sons of former President Theodore Roosevelt are buried side by side in the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach, France. Quinton, the younger brother was shot down and killed in WW 1 and his Brother Theodore Jr died of a heart attack during the Normandy Invasion in WW II.



The Patriot Report



Disabled American Veterans, Space Coast Chapter 123, Inc.
September 2021

VA Burial Benefits / National Cemetery

Questions about the Veterans Affairs Burial Benefit Program for the National Cemetery? VA burial benefits can help service members, Veterans, and their family members plan and pay for a burial or memorial service in a VA national cemetery. Family members can also order memorial items to honor the service of a Veteran. Find out how to apply for the burial benefits you've earned.

Eligibility Requirements

- You paid for a Veteran's burial or funeral, AND
- You have not been reimbursed by another government agency or some other source, such as the deceased Veteran's employer, AND
- The Veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, AND
 - The Veteran died because of a service-related disability, OR
 - The Veteran was receiving VA pension or compensation at the time of death, OR
 - The Veteran was entitled to receive VA pension or compensation, but decided not to reduce his/her military retirement or disability pay, OR
 - The Veteran died while hospitalized by VA, or while receiving care under VA contract at a non-VA facility, OR
 - The Veteran died while traveling under proper authorization and at VA expense to or from a specified place for the purpose of examination, treatment, or care, OR
 - The Veteran had an original or reopened claim pending at the time of death and has been found entitled to compensation or pension from a date prior to the date of death, OR

The Veteran died on or after October 9, 1996, while a patient at a VA-approved state nursing home.

NOTE: VA does not pay burial benefits if the deceased:

Died during active military service, OR

Was a member of Congress who died while holding office, OR

Was a Federal prisoner

Link for more information: [Eligibility for burial in a VA national cemetery](#)

Burial Benefits Service-related Death

VA will pay up to \$2,000 toward burial expenses for deaths on or after September 11, 2001, or up to \$1,500 for deaths prior to September 11, 2001. If the Veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery, some or all of the cost of transporting the deceased may be reimbursed.

Non-service-related Death

VA will pay up to \$796 toward burial and funeral expenses for deaths on or after October 1, 2019 (if hospitalized by VA at time of death), or \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses (if not hospitalized by VA at time of death), and a \$796 plot-interment allowance (if not buried in a national cemetery). For deaths on or after December 1, 2001, but before October 1, 2011, VA will pay up to \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses and a \$300 plot-interment allowance. For deaths on or after April 1, 1988 but before October 1, 2011, VA will pay \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses (for Veterans hospitalized by VA at the time of death).

An annual increase in burial and plot allowances for deaths occurring after October 1, 2011 began in fiscal year 2013 based on the Consumer Price Index for the preceding 12-month period.

Evidence Requirements

Acceptable proof of death as specified in [38 CFR 3.211](#), AND

- Receipted bills that show that you made payment in whole or part, OR
- A statement of account, preferably on the printed billhead of the funeral director or cemetery owner.

The statement of account must show:

- The name of the deceased Veteran for whom the services and merchandise were furnished, AND
- The nature and cost of the services and merchandise, AND
- All credits, AND The amount of the unpaid balance, if any

What does burial in a VA national cemetery include?

When a Veteran, service member, or family member qualifies for burial in a VA national cemetery, they receive certain burial benefits at no cost to their family.

VA burial benefits include:

A gravesite in any of the [national cemeteries](#) with available space

- Opening and closing of the grave

A burial liner provided by the government.

A [headstone or marker](#) provided by the government

Perpetual (ongoing) care of the gravesite

At the time of need, the person planning the burial can also request other [VA memorial items](#) as well as [military funeral honors](#) provided by the Department of Defense. These items and honors have other eligibility requirements.

[Download the National Cemetery Administration brochure \(PDF\)](#)

Find out if you Qualify for a Burial Allowance

Link <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/veterans-burial-allowance/>

How to Apply

You can apply [online at Vets.gov](#), OR

To submit a paper application, download and complete [VA Form 21P-530, Application for Burial Allowance](#) and mail it to the [Pension Management Center](#) that serves your state, OR

Work with an [accredited representative](#), OR

You may also go to your [local regional benefit office](#) and turn in your application for processing.

Additional Information

Other information regarding VA burial benefits such as flags, headstones and markers is provided by the [National Cemetery Administration](#).

Make an appointment with a Chapter Service Officer to discuss the VA Burial Benefit Program. Call 321-452-1774 for an appointment. DAV Chapter 123 is not open and fully operating as yet. We are open on an appointment basis only!

If you aren't sure your condition rates an increase, sometimes it is best not to kick a sleeping dog; it's best to leave it just lie there.

Did You Know ?



AC-47 "Spooky" gunship in Vietnam. This is one aircraft that spread fear among Viet Cong but saved many American soldiers and Marines! The AC-47 was a United States Air Force (USAF) C-47, (the military version of the DC-3) that had been modified by mounting three 7.62 mm General Electric miniguns to fire through two rear window openings and the side cargo door, all on the

left (pilot's) side of the aircraft, to provide close air support for ground troops. Other armament configurations could also be found on similar C-47-based aircraft around the world. The guns were actuated by a control on the pilot's yoke.



**DON'T LET YOUR BOOSTER
EXPIRE**

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

- Boosters -

Bateman, Skip and; Ruth July, 2026

Bisset, M.Doug Sept, 2023

Clayton, David and Anne July, 2022

Davison, Dianne and Adrienne Feb, 2022

Donovan, Charles and; Nancy Feb, 2022

Eliason, Sandra July, 2022

Fleet Reserve Branch 263 July, 2023

Kaufmann, John and Cindy Mar, 2022

Leonhart, Rick Mar, 2023

Longway, J.P and Donna Dec, 2023

Malpass, Dick and Louise May, 2022

Martin, John and Roberta Nov, 2022

Mueller, Mel

Neugebauer, Susan Mar, 2022

Rapp, Gary, USMC Aug, 2022

Rathbun, Don and; Barbara Dec, 2023

Roseland, Tom and; Patrice Jan, 2023

Space Coast Honor Flight May, 2023

Tootle, Jim and; Ann Feb, 2022

Tucker, Mary Ann Mar, 2022

Schaaf, Dean and; Susan July, 2022

Sherman, John S. (Tank) Sept, 2022

Sherman, and Rheta Campbell Sept, 2022

Schmid, Ted Jan, 2023

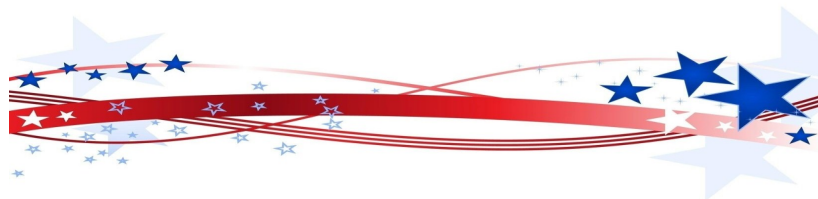
Weiler, Philip R. Feb, 2023

Weaver, Donn and; Jeanne Sep, 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**

HONORING
Our
VETS

**Half Off
Tickets**

**Half Off
Tickets**

**America's Favorite
Country Tribute Show**

**LEGENDS of
Country Music**

Shows: Saturday-7:00 pm & Sunday Matinee-2:00 pm

Doors Open 1 Hour Prior to Show Time

Reg Ticket Price \$50/Your Price Just \$25*



**Thank
You**



NOVEMBER

**13 & 14 Cocoa Beach P.A. Theater
20 & 21 Bayside P.A. Theater
27 & 28 Merritt Island P.A. Theater**



DECEMBER

**4 & 5 Cocoa Beach P.A. Theater
18 & 19 Titusville P.A. Theater**

FOR ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS & DATES CALL

321.358.6037

or Visit Our Web Site: www.lofcms.com

***ID Required/Can Not Be Combined With Other Offers/No Monetary Value/Limit 2 tickets @ \$25**

REMEMBERING

80 Years Ago



THE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR

DEC 7, 1941 - DEC 7, 2021

What: Ceremony of Remembrance - Our parents & Grandparents

When: Tuesday, Dec 7 from 2 - 3 pm

Where: Veteran Memorial Center Museum (call 321-453-1776 for info)

Homefront: As Americans came together after the attack, join us for a special ONE BLOOD DRIVE to donate to our citizens in need today.

