

# Brevard Veterans Council/



## Veterans Memorial Center

# Council Courier

Dec 2021



A piece of the USS Arizona, a historic Piece of History is at home at the Veterans Memorial Center. Sunk at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. A total of 1177 men perished 80 years ago this year. The piece is on the third floor of the museum.

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

Don Pearsall — Editor (321) 313-2444

# Mission Statements

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**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 Those submissions received after that date will not be published.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](mailto:djp32927@gmail.com)

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The Las Vegas Strip is an approximately 4.2-mile (6.8 km) stretch of Las Vegas Boulevard in Clark County, Nevada.



# Council Chairman's Report



By: Donn Weaver  
Former Captain U.S. Army



November 2021 proved to be the busiest month we have had at the Veterans Memorial Center in the past several years. Not only did it include a special Veterans Day Ceremony you can check out in this issue, but also the most packed schedule in memory for events, veteran organization meetings, museum tours, student field trips, speaking at many schools and assisted living facilities and more. The VMC and Park are becoming again very sought after venues for a wide range of public and special functions. This is all possible because of our more than 60 volunteers who keep the place open, welcoming, clean and appealing. In fact, in the past two months 10 more volunteers have joined us!

Thanks to all of our members, especially those who volunteer and really make a difference in what we can do and offer to and for the community, all veterans and our youth. It has not been an easy 20 months since the March 2020 Covid-19 assault for the country or for us. But, we have remained focused yet careful in moving forward with our missions.

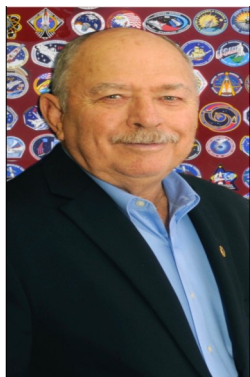
Thus, on behalf of our 500 members and the BVC, let me wish all the best of family focused holidays ahead and hope we all use some time away to refresh our spirit and determination to keep serving at the VMC. Our two day closings on 25-26 November; 24-25 December and 31 Dec- 01 January are designed in part to facilitate just that.

Take care of yourselves at whatever stage of life you enjoy now and cherish your families and friends this time of year especially.

Please also say some prayers for VMC members who have recently passed away, especially those four who have lost, in a matter of weeks, at an early age, children and a sister.

Very Respectfully,  
Donn Weaver





# VMC Presidents Report

By Former LCDR Dean Schaaf  
Veteran United States Navy Aviation



I want to thank all those who have sent cards or expressed their condolences for my daughter, Disa, passing. Every loss of a family member is tough to handle emotionally, but especially for one of your children. Susan and I want to express our heartfelt thanks.

Last month, I wrote a story about our Doughboy statue in our plaza and the sharing of the mold with Vero Beach. Well, I want to report that I did attend the Veterans Day ceremony in Indian River County, Vero Beach at the dedication of their Doughboy statue in the Veterans Serenity Park. Ed Pingston also shared a complete uniform of a WWI doughboy that was worn by a young man as part of their ceremony. I have shared a picture of their statue with the doughboy in uniform. It was an impressive ceremony and dedication. This is the thank you note received from Vero Beach:

*"Thanks, Ed, for the loan! The Doughboy was a big hit at our ceremony and we could not have done it without you. On behalf of the Indian River Council (IRC) of the Military Officers Association of America, the Veterans Council of IRC, our Doughboy, Ben Evans, and me, Terry Treat."*

Donn Weaver has posted the dates of our holiday closings in his write up. Please take advantage of the time off and enjoy the upcoming holidays. Everyone deserves to have a great Thanksgiving celebration, a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year with family and friends.

One last note, go PURDUE BOILERMAKERS in their upcoming bowl game and GO NAVY BEAT ARMY in their annual classic on December 11.

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## Did You Know ?

*The Statue of Liberty was originally intended for the Suez Canal*

As the Suez Canal neared completion in 1869, French sculptor Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi tried to convince Ferdinand de Lesseps and the Egyptian government to let him build a sculpture called "Egypt Bringing Light to Asia" at its Mediterranean entrance. Inspired by the ancient Colossus of Rhodes, Bartholdi envisioned a 90-foot-tall statue of a woman clothed in Egyptian peasant robes and holding a massive torch, which would also serve as a lighthouse to guide ships into the canal.

The project never materialized, but Bartholdi continued shopping the idea for his statue, and in 1886 he finally unveiled a completed version in New York Harbor. Officially called "Liberty Enlightening the World," the monument has since become better known as the Statue of Liberty.





## 2021-2022 Organization

as of 11/9/2021

### 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	352-258-6414	wrp50@yahoo.com
2 Year	Rich Tomasso	720-6944	rich4400@gmail.com
2 Year	Ted Suzor	271-4327	dolfyns21@cfl.rr.com
1 Year	Alex Terrero	759-5543	aja3@bellsouth.net
1 Year			
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. Store Mgr	Jalaine Spears	258-1139	jkspears1@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	dolfyns21@cfl.rr.com
Social Media	Kristi Blanchard	449-1226	brevardvmc@gmail.com



# COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT ASSIGNMENTS

22 OCTOBER 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
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE		
Facility Operations and Security	Dean Schaaf	Donn Weaver, Bob Doyle, Ted Suzor
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	Dean Schaaf	Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf, MIRA, County (Parks&Rec)
Memorial Park Events	Donn Weaver	Dean Schaaf, Dave Clayton, Don Pearsall, Garett McKimmie, Jalaine Spears
Memorial Plaza Bricks and Benches	Donn Weaver	Dean Schaaf, Sandy Eliason, Garett McKimmie
Memorial Plaza Preservation	Jay Longway	Ted Schmid, Dean Schaaf, Ed Pingston, Paul Julian, Ray Norman, Bill Pollock, Doug Bisset
Veterans Sales Store	Dave Boyd	Jalaine Spears (asst mgr), Chris Gibson, Bob Estes, Kristi Blanchard, Donna Longway, Ray Norman, Jay Longway, Mike Wrazen, Vic Rogers, Garett McKimmie
JOINT COMMITTEES		
Finance	Dave Clayton	Jay Longway, Rich Tomasso, Ed Pingston, Kristi Blanchard, Dave Boyd
Governance Review	Dorothy Walsh	Ernie Hoffman, Ray Norman, Ted Suzor, Chip Hanson, Harry Beaver, EX COMM REP, Ted Schmid, Mike Schulze
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), Bob Doyle (VFW), Ken Hill (AL)
Membership	Sandy Eliason	Kristi Blanchard, Dave Clayton
Scholarships	Doris Hendricks	Dean Schaaf, Ray Norman, Rich Tomasso, Mary Ann Tucker, Jay Longway, Garett McKimmie
Stand Up	Don Pearsall	Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf, 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		
Speaker's Bureau	Paul Julian	Norm Desmarias, Donn Weaver, Dean Schaaf
Veterans History Project	Paul Julian	Donn Weaver, Chip Hanson, Julie Adamson, Joe Davie
Youth Activities	Paul Julian	Bob Doyle, Dean Schaaf, Brian Delaney (SCYM)
TENANT COMMITTEES		
MIAP-FL Brevard	Donn Weaver	Chip Hanson, Doris Hendricks, Rich Tomasso, Paul Julian
Vets Back to Class / JFI	Donn Weaver	Dean Schaaf, Chris Gibson, Doug Bisset, Paul Julian, Joe Davie, Norm Desmarias, Hank Rhodes



# 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.





# Chaplin's Corner



By: Chaplin Chip Hansen  
United States  
Marine Corps

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I hope all of you had a Blessed Thanksgiving. Now we continue our very festive time of year. Remember Pearl Harbor, December 7<sup>th</sup> 1941, Japan attacked America killing thousands.

Sundown November 28<sup>th</sup> Chanukkah begins the seven-day eight-night celebration which celebrates two things: a miracle in which one day's worth of oil burned in lamps for eight days, and the victory of the Jewish freedom fighters over the Syrian-Greek forces that tried to wipe out Judaism. In a larger sense, then, Chanukkah celebrates a reaffirmation of freedom and a recommitment to the spiritual quest.

December 25th, we have the Christian celebration of the birth of Christ. The current celebration as we know it began under the Roman Emperor Constantine (his Mother was a Christian). He had accepted the one true God, and Jesus Christ as his Savior. The population of Rome was not converting easily. Constantine met with Christian leaders together they agreed to change the celebration of the winter solstice to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Thus, began Christmas, as we now know.

**Christmas 1944 General George Patton message to his troops.**

To each officer and soldier in the Third United States Army, I wish a Merry Christmas. I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty, and skill in battle. May God's blessing rest upon each of you on this Christmas Day

G. S. Patton, Jr.

Lieutenant General Commanding, Third United States Army

**Remember all of our Military many of which are spending the Holidays in  
harm's way and alone.**

## 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. .

**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](http://moaacc.org).

**04 Dec — Setting up the Annual Gold Star Family Christmas Tree** in the VMC Museum starting at 1000 am. Gold Star families are invited to attend the event. The tree will be up until 15 January 2022 to honor the Fallen and support their families in our area. There are 20 Gold Stars honoring the Fallen from Vietnam to Iraq and Afghanistan.

**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.

**11 Dec — Merritt Island Airport Toys** for its USMC 28th Annual Breakfast to support the program. 0830-1000 MI Airport Hangar; Look for signs. Contact Don White 321-266-7410 for more information.

**18 Dec — Wreaths Across America (WAA)** at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery in Scottsmoor , 1000 - 1200 for wreath laying at as many as possible of the 11,000 veterans grave and niche sites now located at the CCNC. Contact Betty Jo Green or Donn Weaver (757-871-6576) for more information. A Private WAA Ceremony on an earlier date will be held prior to laying the wreaths. This change is due to national VA restrictions on size of crowds gathering at NCA cemeteries.

**18 Dec — WAA** at numerous cemeteries throughout the county (various morning times) sponsored by many veterans organizations and cemetery support groups, five of which have direct WAA location coordinators. Contact Chip Hanson at VMC for more information.

**NOTE: NOV-FEB — POSTPONED DUE TO HEALTH ISSUES:** Legends of Country Music Concert Honoring Veterans (half price) (Sat 1900 and Sunday 1400) at Various HS Auditorium. Tickets at the door. Call 321-358-6037 for more information. "America's Favorite Country Tribute Show" Check again in Spring 2022.

**NOTE:** The Fourth Annual Key Lime Pie Festival at the Veterans Memorial Park at VMC is postponed until VMP upgrades are completed in 2023. Proceeds support the VMC. Major Park improvements should make the event very special as early as possible in 2023..

**04 Feb 2022**— St Francis Reflections Presents The Beatles Tribute Band from Liverpool in concert as part of their “Honor Veterans Program” at 1900 at Space Coast Stadium in Viera. Buy tickets at text 41444 or [RelectionsLSC.org/Beatles](https://RelectionsLSC.org/Beatles).

**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.

**06 Feb 2022** — Visit by National Wreaths Across America Mobile Team to Brevard County at VMC, Hours TBA. Learn about the origins and how to support this amazing, nation- wide program.

**13 Feb 2022** — Forever Remember 9/11: A Salute to First Responders Fund Raiser Dinner 1700 at Space Coast Convention Center /Holiday INN Express Cocoa. Sponsorships available, Seats at \$45 each for individuals. Proceeds to hold the 2022 Remembering 9/11 Ceremony in September at VMC , as well as the American Police Hall of Fame, the VMC and Club 1013 of retired NYPD Officers in Brevard-  
Contact: [artgrenci@yahoo.com](mailto:artgrenci@yahoo.com) or. [JaneyH@aphof.org](mailto:JaneyH@aphof.org) for more information

**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.

**25-26 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 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. See Don Pearsall for more information.

**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](mailto:backbrevardheroes@gmail.com) for more information.

**14 May 2022** —NEW DATE: 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.

**30 May 2022** — Memorial Day Ceremony at the VMC 0930- 1030.

**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.





# Special Events

By Donn Weaver



On 06 November the newest VMC Veteran Organization Member, the Space and Treasure Coast Chapter of the Army Officer Candidate School Association (STCOCSAA) met in the VMC Library. It was the group's inaugural meeting as well. They have 26 members to start with, 17 of whom attended the first meeting. Chapter Commander is Rob McCall (center). Several VMC members are active in the new organization which is looking for new members. Their new organization sign is on the wall outside the MOD Office and pamphlets about the group and mission are available - see Skip Taylor or Donn Weaver.

## Veteran's Day 2021



Another Veterans Day Ceremony took place at the center with many attendees. The popularity of the programs developed is certainly obvious by the numbers of people wishing to take part in our ceremonies.

Already people are looking forward to Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony planned for Tuesday, December 7th, between 2:00 P.M and 3:00 P.M. (Please see the flier on page 7)







(Left) During the VMC Veterans Day Ceremony there was a special presentation of a plaque naming the Raider Challenge rope bridge event after a very highly decorated Retired Army Ranger.

After the ceremony Donn Weaver (l) shares the new marker for The Ranger Mike Sonnenschein with RADM Wayne Justice of MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation and Tim Thomas, vice Mayor of Melbourne who worked with Ranger Mike at the Viera HS JROTC program before he went to Haiti and was nearly fatally shot in a robbery last Spring.



Danny McKnight Col Ret. U.S. Army (Center) from the real *"Blackhawk Down"* attended the ceremony with his wife, and Tim Thomas Col. Ret. U.S. Army (Right)

(Below) Capt. Jason Schneider Commander of the Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTO) addressed the people attending the ceremony



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More than 400 attended the Veterans Memorial Center Veterans Day Ceremony on 11 November 2021. In the midst of a very busy, post covid week there were several parades and other ceremonies in Brevard that day and in the week before, making everyone happy that more and more people want to celebrate what veterans have done for America after 18 months of Covid-19.

On this page is a photo collage of the event which was well received by many and which included a return to the community of the Active Duty military in the form of the Commanding Officer Jason Schneider, the Color Guard and the Saluting Battery which ended the event with a 21 gun salute from their submarine deck gun battery. VMC thanks all who came and our many volunteers who helped, including Sea Cadets, Young Marines and the great free lunch from Chick Fil A





## NOTU CPO PROMOTION CEREMONY

On Friday, 19 November the Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU) stationed at Port Canaveral, conducted a Chief Petty Officer (CPO) promotion ceremony in the museum with over 90 people in attendance. In the Naval service, when an individual is promoted from Petty Officer First Class (E-6) to CPO, a ceremony is held to mark the occasion. The three top enlisted ranks in the Navy E-7(CPO), E-8(SCPO) and E-9(MCPO) are all individuals who have been selected by a Selection Board in Washington, DC to be advanced to those ranks. At that point in their career, they go from the traditional bell bottom uniform and white hat (referred to as a Dixie Cup) to the commissioned officer style uniform. As part of the process from the time of selection to actual promotion, the CPO selectees are put through an "initiation" which encompasses many acts including community service. On the day of their actual promotion to CPO, a ceremony is conducted to pin on the collar devices that signify their new rank. This is usually done by a spouse, parent, or significant other as well as their sponsor (a previously promoted "Chief"). It was an honor for the VMC Museum to have been selected by NOTU to hold the ceremony, which included the NOTU Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Command Master Chief, and the entire CPO Mess, as well as several other senior Naval Officers. Congratulations to the new Chiefs – Bravo-Zulu!

The five individuals in the top right hand side of the picture in khaki uniforms are the five new CPO selectees about to be individually promoted to their new rank.



The five individuals in the top right hand side of the photo in khaki uniforms (Circled) are the five new CPO selectees about to be individually promoted to their new rank.





# Raider Challenge



## -Ranger Mike Sonnenschein Rope Bridge-

This Raider Training Area is dedicated and named in Honor of Army Ranger MSG (Ret) Michael Sonnenschein.

He is a highly decorated Army Infantryman that served 23 years in the Army including combat tours in Panama, the Gulf War and in Afghanistan.

His last assignment was teaching ROTC at the Florida Institute of Technology where he trained their Raider Challenge Team. After retiring from the Army he helped start the Army JROTC Program at Viera High School.

He was the consummate trainer, teacher and mentor to the thousands of students who he came in contact with. He was loved and admired by all.

Rangers Lead the Way!!!!

Overall County: M — CB, W — CB, MIX — MI

Overall Meet :

M- 1. CB, 2. MI, 3- V

F- 1 CB. (Only all Female Team)

MIX. 1 MI 2- Astro. 3- Viera

CB, MI and Astro to State

## Good Deeds / JROTC / Ranger Mike

On 30 October the Veterans Memorial Park played host to 210 JROTC cadets which included 17 teams from eight high schools competing in the District Raider Challenge Meet. The winners overall were awarded the 2021 County Raider Challenge Trophy and the Winners in each category of Male, Female and Mixed cadets were headed for the State Raider Challenge meet on 13 November. Here are some photos of the five grueling events.

At the end of the competition there was also a special unveiling as the Rope Bridge portion of the Raider Challenge course at VMP was named in honor of retired Army MSG Mike Sonnenschein and a sign unveiled and displayed by the Viera HS Army Raiders JROTC team. Before he was shot and nearly killed on a mission trip to Haiti, used to lead the Raiders and the VHS Program along with LTC Tim Thomas. A check from MOAACC/GDF was also presented for the Ranger Mike Fund, bringing the final total raised by the GDF to over \$28,000.



# Plaza and Park Report

By: Donn Weaver

November saw another 20 bricks installed and six requests pending for the Memorial Plaza. Thanks to the NOTU New Chiefs Group, on 06 November the Plaza and grounds were given great trimming, power washing and sprucing up for the Veterans Day Ceremony. See another article in this month's Courier about another visit by Chiefs from NOTU on 19 November. We are sure happy to have the Navy back.

This month, one family requested a first to honor their loved one, Bob Estes who died suddenly last month. Bob was a Korean War veteran and 93 years of age who served the past 6 years as a store volunteer and many years as commander of the now retired Korean War Veterans of America (KWVA) Chapter 210. Bob's family donated funds to obtain a brick in the plaza; a Memorial Tree in the Park which will be placed in the spring of 2022; and a Memorial Bench, also for the Park. Needless to say, his name has already been added to the KWVA Cement Bench by the Korean War Monument, a place of honor for all who served in the "Forgotten War" and in KWVA afterwards.

County permitting plans continue for the \$1.3 Million Veteran Memorial Park (VMP) series of upgrades as well as the \$2.3 Million Amphitheater, with more focus to be done in 2022 now that the final site plan has been approved by VMC, USA River Rats, Parks and Recreation, MIRA and the County. We hope to see real construction begin in early 2022 on this Phase III and IV intended to make our VMP the best in Florida.

Thanks to our two Park committees — Events and Planning— for the Veterans Day success and great progress toward very special future upgrades of VMP.







**George Golden (right) Wendy Ellis, Don Flamio and BVC Chairman Donn Weaver (Left) review the plans for the Medal of Honor section to the park.**

**Photo by Larry Lallo from MIRA**

On behalf of our Veterans Memorial Park Planning Committee, we wanted to update you on an important meeting on 29 October we had with the County as well as with Don and George of the USA River Rats and the Medal of Honor Project. Special thanks to MIRA's Wendy Ellis and Larry Lallo , and Don and George, for coming up with a new plan we ALL can be excited about.

Attending the meeting were Larry Lallo and Wendy Ellis representing the MIRA Board as well as the County in the form of Parks and Recreation and Facilities. Commissioner Lober could not attend at the last minute, but was briefed and approved the plan, I understand, just after the meeting in the Park and Library. Check out the photo taken by Larry Lallo. It was late in the day and no one else was left in the building!!

By finalizing the footprint and future location of the Medal of Honor Monument along a special waterside position just north of the entertainment cone toward the Fortenberry central entrance, other construction plans and areas can now be finalized. The MOH Monument will have a separated, pristine and respectful site available with an especially appealing footprint over the edge of the water/pond. The County can now proceed with final design drawings, permits and bidding for Phase III of the VMP upgrades setting the stage for Phase IV - the Amphitheater in 2023. In that process the County will also be looking at some additional MOH footprint space to add benches and flags redesigned to accommodate the Space Force Flag.

The approved place holders also include additional parking, restrooms, pathways and a roadway to allow staging vehicles to pass into all areas of the Park, as well as numerous other approved and prioritized projects for phase III which we hope can now begin in early 2022.

While the detailed drawings and final sketches need to be completed, we have copies in the VMC office for those interested of the now approved sketches.

Veterans Connection's Equine therapy program kicked off this month. 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. Veterans in the program learn everything from the ground up from cleaning stalls, fencing, baling hay and the other rewards of their efforts. They are taught riding techniques in a rural farm area abundant with trails and woodland areas. The program is open to both male and female veterans and all VMC / BVC members



(Left in tan shirt) VMC member Bryant Faulkenberry works on pasture fencing with VMC Veterans Outreach Chairman Don Pearsall.



(Above) The breed Gypsy Vanner one of the stars of the new veteran's program.



(Left) Chow Time.

Veterans enrolled in the program will learn every aspect of horsemanship including mixing certain feeds for dietary reasons







# Operations Report

By Bob Doyle Director

November has seen a large upswing in activities at the center and the calendar is filling up fast to the end of the year. Several new contracts have been established to include Jazz concerts starting in January on the 9th at 1:00 PM. They will mostly be on the 2nd Sunday except for May and Sept.

We are looking for Volunteers to work from 0800-1200 Monday through Friday each day as a manager on duty at the front desk. Anyone interested please let me know so we can schedule training and scheduling. Once established the Security Manager will be moving back into the Operations Office to assist in daily requirements.

The kitchen area is being renovated and there will be some changes in the near future. The center table will be on wheels and be able to move allowing wheelchair access to the refrigerators and sinks. The Pantry is being cleaned out and will be modified to keep the kitchen and party supplies more neat and readily available.

As the new year approaches, all tenants will be required to fill out a new point of contact sheet so that if and when we change the security codes we will have current information to use.

All contracts will be reviewed next month and will be reviewed for fees and scheduling for the upcoming year. All active tenants are usually given their primary meeting each month no charge. Utilization of the facility for other meetings and events can be subject to event fees based on availability and participation by the tenant organizations in building activities and other events.



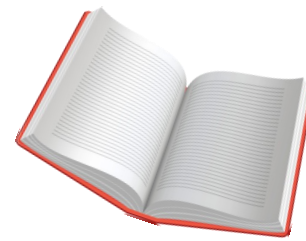
Remember to attend the 80th Anniversary Commemoration of the Attack on Pearl Harbor in the VMC Museum 1400-1500. Features short talks from veterans impacted by Pearl Harbor and WWII as well as stories about that day and how the world changed.

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.



# Book Report

By Ray Norman



## **Miracle Man: the Memoirs of Dr. William Kahn**

Andrew Hardy

This review will be a little unique. I was finishing the book about Miracle Man -149 pages-about two-three hours....I was flipping a coin to determine if I would go to Bugnuttty Brewing or write this. My neighbor Richard Richard was playing with his combo at Bug nutty. A friend that I was inviting turned out to be otherwise "involved" and so...maybe next time.... Richard's combo lost...Bugnuttty lost.... Book won.

Author Andrew Hardy is a local gent. He is a retired USAF officer and an engineer at Cape Canaveral -also a restaurateur. Hardy lives in Rockledge. Even with all of his local relationship I have never met him in my 60 years of rocket ships, military and civic endeavors...no matter. Hardy met with Dr. Kahn many times to congeal an interesting life. Seems as if Hardy/Kahn's meeting place was Titusville Denny's for long lunches for book progress reviews.

Kahn was born 1923. Father/family came from Poland in 1907. Parents naturalized at earliest time they could. Family was in various businesses in the Chicago area where Kahn lived. He was drafted for WWII. His initial assignment was with an anti-aircraft unit assigned training to Ft. Bliss, TX. Ft. Bliss is now the intersection for the illegal's coming from Mexico. It is also where my intel unit staged flying from Bliss AFB to White Sands. Other than illegals the area is not all that bad today but in 1942+ probably the hell hole of TX. Kahn was able to worm his way into an engineering type course in vs. OCS. He soon was shipped on Queen Mary at a high speed zigzag-zagging course to the European Theater of Ops.

His adventure ended/started in the Battle of the Bulge where he was taken as a POW and spent several years as a prisoner. Eventually escaping with the help of his diction perfect German. He was rescued by a tanker group. Medically returned to the US and discharged to civilian life. The interesting part is upon returning to civilian life he became an entrepreneur in several businesses. Health issues required him to seek warmer. He came to the Orlando and Sarasota. He started, ran several business as Disney was opening and continued his education. Eventually acquired a PhD.

Kahn was a religious man and very devout. He "walked the walk" and supported many charities in the central Florida area. The main take away from this book is Kahn's devotion to a Christian life style and helping his fellow man. As I approach my late maturity Kahn sets a good example for me and for all of us to follow Christ and the biblical teachings. We cannot discuss politics at the BVC but so far religion has not been excluded. Chaplain closes meetings with a prayer. I wake up (almost) every morning and ask myself: Who can I help today?; Have I hurt anyone? Can I make some ones life a little better? I hope that you can consider these thoughts in your life whether Christian or other. This book is on sale in the BVC bookstore at \$10 and would make a nice present for a friend or relative.

# Library Report

By Joe Davie



**Click on the following link to view the videos produced by the Library Committee**

<https://youtu.be/zK1iw6S6Mpg?t=29>

<https://youtu.be/lzoyAKerODk?t=11>

Paul Julian and Bill Wilkening were able to complete the VHP interview for Truitt Smith at his son's home on Merritt Island. Truitt was born in 1922 and he told his story from a hospital bed in his son's home. Truitt took part in the initial invasion of Guadalcanal during WWII in the Pacific. We have uploaded his one-hour long interview to our Veterans Memorial Center website here <https://youtu.be/zK1iw6S6Mpg> or click the links above.

Donn Weaver has put together another season of Veterans Back to Class teaching sessions for our local Brevard County schools. Paul and Joe filmed a classroom presentation by Colonel Jeff Rogers detailing his battlefield experience during the Vietnam War in our Library. Col Rogers was a young 22-year-old Lieutenant fresh out of West Point and Army Airborne training at the time he served in Vietnam. He led a platoon of young men recently drafted to the Highlands of Vietnam. Their mission was to stay in the Battlefield for extended periods during which time his Platoon would be resupplied every three days by helicopters. Col. Rogers explains in detail what it was like for them to live in the field environment and the equipment they carried. The half-hour Veterans Back to Class presentation by Donn and Jeff has been uploaded to our YouTube channel here <https://youtu.be/lzoyAKerODk>. We have new Portfolios available to look at in our display rack near the library entrance door. Bill Wilkening and Dean Schaff put together a Portfolio entitled Battle for Okinawa Shima. Large glossy black and white photos of the US led invasion of the island of Okinawa taken from March 26 to July 2, 1945.

Bill has also put together two new portfolios entitled "The Stars and Stripes November 26, 1963, Funeral of President Kennedy" and "The Visit of President Kennedy to Cape Canaveral on November 16, 1963 the last Saturday of his life". Large color photos of President Kennedy show him engaged in the Cape Canaveral missile development program. All Together three Stars and Stripes and one Yank newspaper editions have been added to portfolios. November brought the library Two Donations that filled requests for Library support. We needed a computer with a Media input port for displaying PowerPoint slides on our Library Television Screen. Bobby Lasher who heads up Computers Advancing Education Veterans Program donated a refurbished computer that we will be able to use. Doug Bisset, one of our Librarians, donated a Monitor that provided us a second monitor needed to display PowerPoint slides of WWII photos taken by our Veterans.



*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



# 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.



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# 真珠湾攻撃

*Shinjuwankōgeki*  
(Attack Pearl Harbor)



## "TORA TORA TORA"

These Japanese code words meaning *Tiger, Tiger, Tiger* was the signal that the surprise was complete. Those who saw the low flying airplanes think it is a training exercise. The first wave hits its targets just before 0755. An American alert is quickly sent. *"Air Raid Pearl Harbor, This is NO Drill"*. A second wave strikes an hour later. By 0955 the attack is over.

December 7th 1941, a day that will live in infamy. These words were spoken by President Roosevelt to Congress while asking them to declare war on the Japanese Empire.

# Did you know these facts about Dec 7, 1941

## AMERICANS FIRED THE FIRST SHOT BEFORE THE PEARL HARBOR ATTACK

The first of many Pearl Harbor facts, some new information discovered in the last year or so, is that on the morning of December 7th, 1941, the Wickes-class destroyer USS Ward attacked and sank a Ko-hyoteki-class midget submarine near the entrance to the harbor, making it not only the first shot fired on that day, but the first official American shots in the War. The Japanese sub's periscope was spotted above the water by the mine-sweeper Condor, which alerted the crew of the Ward, who opened fire on the intruder.

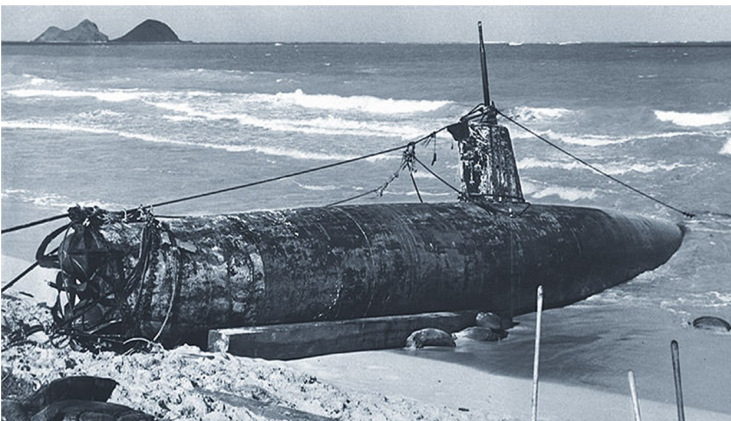
## THE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR LASTED FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS

Coming in from all directions. The defenders had no idea which direction they should fire. Wave-after-wave, Japanese planes arrived targeting airstrips, ships, buildings, and storage areas. Dive bombers, fighters, torpedo bombers, and high-level bombers blanketed the sky dropping their deadly payloads across the island of Oahu. The two waves of aircraft enacted a heavy toll on their targets, namely battleship row. The Pearl Harbor attack began at 7:55 am HST on Sunday morning. Japanese aircraft were launched from the Japanese fleet, north of Hawaii consisting of:

65 Ships	11 destroyers
353 Aircraft –	40 torpedo planes,
4 heavy aircraft carriers,	103 level bombers,
2 heavy cruisers,	131 dive-bombers,
35 submarines,	79 fighters
2 light cruisers,	125,000 Japanese Sailors
9 oilers,	745 Pilots, Zeros and Kates
2 battleships	



(Above) Japanese Nakajima B5N Torpedo Bomber known as a Kate (Below) the fast and feared Mitsubishi A6M Zero



## JAPANESE SUBMARINES WERE SUPPOSED TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN THE ATTACK





The Japanese forces had planned to use their submarines for a number of different tasks before, during, and after the Pearl Harbor attack. Prior to the Japanese bombers and fighter planes arriving from their aircraft carriers to the north, these submarines were to scout and penetrate the defenses of the harbor. Once the attack from the air started, they were to release their torpedoes at prime targets and escape back out the channel.

After the attack, these submarines were to station themselves in pre-designated spots of the islands to pick-up any pilots who couldn't make it back to their carriers due to fuel or mechanical issues. One such pilot landed on Niihau (a small Hawaiian island near Kauai). Unfortunately for that Japanese pilot, his submarine had long left it's position, stranding him there.

### **THE SURPRISE ATTACK DID NOT DESTROY THE ENTIRE AMERICAN PACIFIC FLEET**

In the surprise attack on 'Battleship Row' on December 7th, the Arizona and Oklahoma were damaged beyond repair by bombs or torpedo hits, most ships returned to service. Of the 2,026 American sailors and marines killed in the attack, 1,606 had been aboard these two ships.

Three more battleships (the *California*, *West Virginia* and *Nevada*) sank upright in the shallow water of the harbor. They were salvaged, and while many vessels did not return to the battlefield for several years but most suffered repairable damage. The Battleship Missouri is now anchored there.

### **ARIZONA MEMORIAL & BATTLESHIP MISSOURI ARE "BOOKENDS" TO THE WAR**

These two mighty naval battleships served the United States proudly for many decades stand, anchored near each other in the harbor. Battleship Arizona, resting below the gentle waves of the harbor, where it blew up and sank during the attack on the "day that will live in infamy". This attack started the USA formal entry into World War II. Battleship Missouri represents the end of the war. This mighty ship, launched in 1944 participated in the shelling of Iwo Jima and Okinawa before sailing into Tokyo Bay to host the formal surrender of Japan. They signed at a small table on her teak decks with sailors and marines witnessing the proceedings.

### **VETERANS CAN BE LAID TO REST AT PEARL HARBOR**

A wonderful *USS Arizona* fact that honors the survivors is that they have the option to join their lost comrades and make ship their final resting place. Crew members who served onboard the USS Arizona during the attack may choose to have their ashes deposited by divers beneath one of sunken Arizona's gun turrets. Roughly 44 Arizona survivors have chosen this option. Other military survivors can choose to have their ashes scattered wherever their ship was located during the attacks. The last person to be interred in the ship was in 2019.



## HOW MANY PEOPLE DIED IN PEARL HARBOR?

There were 2335 service members and 68 civilians for a total of 2403 people killed during the Pearl Harbor attack who are remembered on Pearl Harbor Day each year. (*There were 1178 wounded.*) Of those, almost 1/2 or 1177 died when Arizona blew up.

## PEARL HARBOR WAS ATTACKED TO PROTECT THE INVASION OF “SOUTHERN RESOURCE AREA”

Japan's naval forces depended on the United States for the supply of natural and industrial resources (namely, oil) without which its forces would be significantly impaired. This led to Japan to target South-east Asia, rich in minerals and oil. While they knew that such an invasion would lead to war against America, Japan decided to destroy America's Pacific Fleet to prevent American interference in its plan to access resources of countries in South-east Asia, which Japan called “*Southern Resource Area*”.

This was the primary reason behind the attack on Pearl Harbor.

## JAPAN COULD HAVE INFLICTED GREATER DAMAGE IF THEY TARGETED DIFFERENT AREAS

Japan concentrated on just destroying battleships of the US Navy as it thought that the Pacific fleet battles would be decided on them. This proved to be wrong. Had Japan-focused the attack beyond the fleet and targeted navy repair yards, oil tank farms, submarine base, and old headquarters building it could have inflicted far greater damage. Because the plan was made to focus on battleships, American aircraft carriers were untouched by the attack (they were out at sea). This led to America being able to rebuild quickly for the war on Japan and ultimately reverse the Japanese advance after the setbacks of early 1942. Admiral *Hara Tadaichi* summed up the Japanese result by saying, “*We won a great tactical victory at Pearl Harbor and thereby lost the war.*”

## JAPAN IS NOW ONE OF AMERICAS GREATEST ALLIES

While most people can tell you that the Japanese were responsible for the attacks, not everyone realizes that the Japanese now visit the memorial in droves. Japan, now one of America's strongest allies, is the largest source of international tourists to the state of Hawaii. Japanese visitors pay their respects at National Memorial just as Americans do.

## THE USS ARIZONA STILL LEAKS FUEL

The day before the attacks, the USS Arizona took on a full load of fuel, nearly 1.5 million gallons. Much of that fuel helped ignite the explosion and subsequent fires that destroyed the ships, but amazingly, *some fuel continues to seep out of the wreckage*. According to the History Channel, the Arizona “continues to spill up to 9 quarts of oil into the harbor each day.” This adds to the emotional gravity of this memorial and those visiting often refer to this phenomenon as the “tears of the Arizona” or “black tears.”

(Right) Black Tears from the USS Arizona





# Pearl Harbor 80 years later







# The Patriot Report



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

Dear Veteran,

You may be eligible for newly enacted service-connected benefits. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the expansion of disability benefits available to Veterans who served in Southwest Asia. Gulf War and post-9/11 Veterans are now able to receive presumption of service connection for conditions related to toxic exposures from their deployments.

Veterans who served in the Southwest Asia Theater of operations beginning Aug. 2, 1990, to the present; or Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Syria, or Djibouti beginning Sept. 19, 2001, to the present are presumed to have been exposed to particulate matter.

Bladder cancer, hypothyroidism and Parkinson's due to Agent Orange exposure have now been added to the list of presumptive conditions. The VA also announced it will presumptively pay disability benefits to Veterans who served in Afghanistan, Uzbekistan and southwest Asia who now suffer from asthma, sinusitis and rhinitis.

Service members whose conditions manifested and diagnosed within 10 years of qualifying service, are eligible to have their claims fast-tracked by the VA if they served:

- In the Southwest Asia theater of operations beginning Aug. 2, 1990, to the present (to include Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the neutral zone between Iraq and Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and the airspace above these locations), or
- In Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Syria, or Djibouti beginning Sept. 19, 2001 to the present.

Over the course of the last six months, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has begun processing service-connected disability claims for six new presumptive conditions related to environmental exposures during military service. We request your help in making more Veterans aware of these newly added presumptive conditions to help them file a claim and obtain any earned benefits.

In May 2021, VA started implementing provisions of the William M. Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (NDAA), adding bladder cancer, hypothyroidism and Parkinsonism to the list of medical conditions presumptively associated with exposure to Agent Orange. A few months later the VA added asthma, rhinitis and sinusitis (to include rhino sinusitis) on a presumptive basis based on particulate matter exposures during military service in Southwest Asia and certain other areas.



Any Veteran who was previously denied service-connection for any of these six conditions but had symptoms manifest within 10 years of military service would need to file a supplemental claim. Be sure to use VA Form 20-0995, *Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim* when filing. The claim form should include the name of the condition and specify that the condition is being claimed due to in-service exposure to environmental hazards.

The VA is committed to assisting Veterans who may have been exposed to hazardous materials during their military service. Be sure to stay plugged in to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) for the most recent developments around environmental exposures during military service, as the VA is constantly conducting research and surveillance as well as reviewing scientific literature for conditions that may be related to exposure during military service.

For more information about VA benefits and eligibility, or how to file a claim, Veterans and survivors can visit the nearest Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter or Hospital/Clinic Office or visit the VA's website at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or call toll-free at 1-800-827-1000.

George Furis  
(DSO/CSO Retired)

## Did You Know ?

On a typical day, a Pentagon tour guide walks five miles backwards, while guiding visitors through the building.



# Letters to the Editor

*BUY AMERICAN*

We the citizens of the United States wonder why our taxes are on the increase and our labor force is at rest. The reason for this disparity is the greed of our large and small powerful giants of industry. The manufacturers send our manufacturing tasks to Countries that have a much lower standard of living than this Country. Not that they can do any better of a job than our labor force, on the contrary; but they do it cheaper. Our manufacturers, with the blessing of our president and Congress, have found a way to maximize their profits using our liberal tax laws and our higher education system.

This could be called good business, and it would be good business if it did not shift the burden to support the unemployed citizens in our work force with our taxes instead of an honest day's work and the pride of accomplishment that a job well done brings to an employed person.

The strength of a nation in our modern world depends on the education and health of its citizens. When the money derived from employment is taken away from the basic work force the people can not educate their families, feed their families, or maintain their health.

This situation brings despair to the American family, the community, and the nation. The middle class of this nation has a burden that it cannot carry much longer. The middle class cannot support the less fortunate and purchase the goods that were manufactured outside of our economy with little or no return. Plain and simple, this situation deprives our Nation the gradual and eventually the complete failure of our family system as we know it today. It takes a steady flow of money to operate a family.

The manufacturing of our consumable goods must be brought back to our country and its people. It is true that the basic pay to produce these foods will go up and the profits to the owner of the manufacturing system will go down, but in the end we will all be better off.

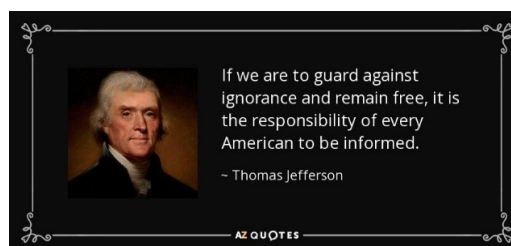
The need to lay Teachers off will disappear because the people will be able to pay taxes instead of needing a handout; this will reverse the cash flow.

The jail population will be reduced because people will work and not be tempted by idleness.

In this world, people become part of a problem or of the solution. By manufacturing outside of our country, we the citizens of this Nation have a problem. Bringing the manufacturing of our goods back to the United States and our work force will be the solution to this Country's labor and tax problems.

The industrial and Government leaders of this Nation must get away from their idea that I have mine, you get yours. We as people must be cohesive across the spectrum of our society and care for each other.

Louis N. Rossi  
4401 Cormorant Lane  
Merritt Island, FL 32953-8563





# 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 (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 1100 Hours)

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

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

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

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

Navy League (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of Month at 1800 Hours)

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (2<sup>nd</sup> 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)

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

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

Sea Cadets (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of Month at 1800 Hours)



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Who Tonight, Are Guarding  
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*- 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

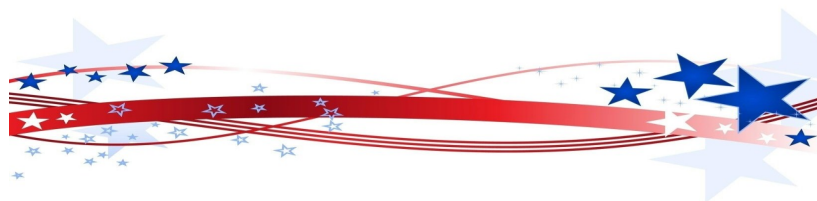
Weiler, Philip R. Feb, 2023

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) \_\_\_\_\_**







**Merry Christmas**



**Happy Hanukkah**