



VETERANS BULLETIN

A Monthly Publication of the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center



★ ELECTION TIME ★

— FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS —

ON THE COVER:

Election time for BVMC Board of Directors

Read about candidates and
cast your ballot. Your voice
matters!

Read more on page 11

★ A STRONGER TOMORROW



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CHECK OUT CALENDAR
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OCTOBER 2026

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ADVERTISE IN THE VETERANS BULLETIN

Business Card: \$50 per year

Quarter Page Color: \$100 per year

Half Page Color: \$200 per year

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

Articles for submission and request for advertisement must be sent to the address listed below. The deadline is the 25th of each month.

Please send submissions to:
brevardvmc@gmail.com

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Our Organization

As of 24 August 2026:

[List of Board 2025-2026](#)

As of 24 August 2026:

[BVMC Committee Departments 2025-2026](#)

As of 1 December 2025:

[BVMC Org Chart 2025-2026](#)


Mission Statement

The Brevard Veterans Memorial Center (BVMC) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. BVMC's mission is to maintain and operate a premier facility to educate the public, and provide a vibrant memorial to the service and sacrifice of all military veterans and their families through a museum, memorial plaza, library, and veterans park. 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.

Brevard Veterans Memorial Center, Inc.
400 South Sykes Creek Parkway
Merritt Island, FL 32952-3547
Office 321-453-1776
DAV Service Office 321-452-1774



President's Report

Dean Schaaf, LCDR, USN (Ret)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the NAVY, celebrating 251 years on October 13.

This is the month for our elections, please volunteer for one of the spaces available. We need around 75 volunteers to fill the positions needed to keep the Veterans Memorial Center running smoothly. BJ McGuire (DAV) has stepped up to be the elections chairman and he and his committee has been asking for volunteers to fill the officer and numerous other volunteer positions. We will be voting at the general meeting on October 14. As you know, I am stepping down from the president's position after ten good years to spend more time at home with family. I will remain involved as your past president on the Board of Directors and will always be available as I will "never stop serving."

On September 11, we held the 25th Anniversary Commemoration of the attacks on America. The event was sponsored by the BVMC, Sheriff Ivey's Office and by the local chapter of "10-13", a club made up of retired New York City Police Officers (NYPD). Chapter 10-13 donated an exhibit that had been in the Police Officer's Hall of Fame Museum in Titusville which had closed. The club had built this humbling tribute to honor their brothers who made the ultimate sacrifice. It is on display in our museum, please check it out, it is impressive.

On September 30, we held another Brevard No One Veteran Left Behind (BVNOLB) Memorial Service at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery from 0900-1000. We interned 18 Veterans whose ashes were abandoned and left on funeral home shelves, in some cases for decades. Volunteers carried the flag, urn, and flowers during the service. During October we will have the first two JROTC Raider Challenge Meets in the park with the awards being presented on the amphitheater stage. Come out on the 3rd and the 31st, the events run from 0630-1230. Guests should arrive around 1000 to observe some of the competition and the awards presentation.

October 10 will be the Fall Festival in the Park sponsored by Space X, the BVMC and the Medal of Honor Society, Melvin Morris Veterans Assistance Program. The car show will run from 10-2pm, Arts & Crafts Fair from 10-4pm Food Trucks from 10am-9:30 pm and live music from 2-9pm. Don Pearsall will cover more on the festival in his section. The November general meeting falls on Veterans Day this year, so we will have the Veterans Day event and Dana Blinky (Property Appraiser) will swear in the officers. Space X is also providing a brunch following the program for all guests. The Harbor City Harmonizers will entertain during the brunch in the Gray Hall.

The August 24 edition of the Brevard Business News had an excellent article on the Space Coast Jazz Society who marked their 40th anniversary with a performance at the Veterans Memorial Center on September 13. The next jazz concert at VMC will feature the Richard Dresler Trio on Sunday, Oct 11. The November 8th performance will feature the John Oxford Trio. General admission is paid at the door, and I think they charge our members \$25. Bring your own snacks and beverages, including wine and liquor. The performances run from 2-4pm. Gigi Gordon has been the coordinator for the Jazz Society for several years, thank you Gigi. The Brevard County Zoo was the setting for the 28th annual Teacher Open House on Wednesday, September 23rd. Dean Schaaf and Ed Pingston were one of forty vendors set up to promote our military history opportunities and our traveling trunk program to the attending teachers. The event was attended by 217 teachers from Brevard, Volusia, St Lucie, Indian River, and Orange counties.

The Veterans Memorial Center was honored with an award, a Quilt, from The Quilt of Souls Historical Preservation Project, Orange County Regional History Center in downtown Orlando. We were honored because of our support for the Space Coast Quilters and the Quilts of Valor program. We will place the quilt on display in the lobby area of the VMC. The inscription on the back of the quilt reads "Military Star Quilt Honoring Brevard Veterans Memorial Center by Quilts4Cops.org Diane Pryor-Holland, President September 2026. Once it is on display, I will include a picture in the Bulletin. Along with our award, quilts were presented to four fire and police officers to commemorate their service during the attacks on America on 9/11/2001. The History Center is an impressive center located in the same building as the Orange County Library, at 65 E. Central Blvd. The impressive displays cover history from 5000 BC to the history of the founding of Orlando. It is worth a "day trip" from the Space Coast.

I also attended the Joint Military Ball held at the Saturn V facility at Kennedy Space Center. Over 400 people attended, with all branches of the services represented, mostly in their formal uniforms. I saw for the first time the dress uniform of the Space Force, or was it Star Trek, they look very similar. God bless the USA, especially on our 250th celebration as a nation and the Navy's 251st birthday. Bless our fallen heroes, MIAs, POWs, and our armed forces.

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Dave Clayton
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Vice President's Report

Don Pearsall USA(Fmr)

Trivia Question: What is the oldest continuous active Air Force Base in the country? (answer at the end)

Wow, what an awesome month this has been. The September 11th memorial service was off the charts. People came up and told us that they had been coming to this event for years and this was by far the best with the videos shown on the Sheriff's Jumbotron video truck.

I am happy with the decision that was made to move it from the impersonal environment of the amphitheater back to the plaza where our 9/11 artifacts are on display, and where the almost 200 museum visitors got to see them all that night. Thank you to Marco Calderon and the 10-13 club for allowing us to display their artifacts here, and what a collection it is. Pieces of the aircraft fuselage, plumbing fixtures from the towers and many more precious memories of what happened that day. Stop by and see it on display near the elevator. Incidentally, the 10-13 Brevard Chapter is made up of Retired New York City Police Officers, many with memories of that day.

On to the election cycle. I am running for President of the BVMC. Taking Dean's place will have its challenges, but my experience as Chairman of the Brevard Veterans Council and BVMC Vice President has helped me understand what it takes to keep the operation running smooth and continue growing to meet the needs of our members, veterans and the community. Over the years, I have made many good contacts with state and county leaders, and solid business relationships within the community.

People ask me what my goals are if I were to become President. I tell them that my Daddy taught me two important things in life. "If it's not broken don't fix it." and "If you don't know something, surround yourself with people who do" a very wise man my Pop, he taught me how to handle myself and perform in the various roles of leadership, and in any situation. My goals are rather simple but may change a little as we go into the future. I would love to work on fixing up the Gray Hall and bringing our rental pricing up to match other area venues, accomplished all through donations and fundraisers. I also wish again, through fundraisers, to replace our aging golf cart, and other projects.

I would also like to do things to enhance our presence in the Veteran community and to focus more as an umbrella for many other military organizations like our VFW's, American Legions etc. This will be accomplished by attending their meetings and offering support and updates, like we now do with MAC. (Military Affairs Council) There are so many ways to assist veterans and their families and have specific goals with a purpose. Also important, will be to develop and maintain working partnerships with big businesses, like the one we

have now with SpaceX. I like working with our current Board of Directors, and I am hopeful this election cycle produces more dedicated people that wish to run for the board positions available.

Assisting veterans has been my life's calling ever since the day myself and my UH1 flight crew were shot down by enemy ground fire and spent a scary overnight evading the enemy Viet Cong in Vietnam. The AC and I were both wounded but were finally rescued out of the jungle the next morning by a Marine LRRP team. It always bothered me that I never got their names or the chance to thank them, so I decided to pay my rescue forward by rescuing other veterans in need.

I see a bright and prosperous future for the center. With addition of the new county amphitheater, and the continued hard work of our dedicated volunteers, I see lots of potential for new opportunities.

Every day we are surrounded by history, by heroes, and by stories of service. Whether you served our country then or are serving as a volunteer now we are all proud of what we have become since the early days. This place is a celebration of something we all fought for, and for the enjoyment of our comradery. Sure, we sometimes banter back and forth and joke with each other about our choice of branch of service. We earned that right, but make no mistake, when one of us needs something, we are all one military family.

My respect and expectations are high because of the bar that was set years ago. Like the saying goes, "The windshield is much larger than the rear-view mirror because where you are going is far more important than where you have been"



Don Pearsall - 155 Assault Helicopter Co/First Aviation BDE, 1st Cavalry Division, Door Gunner aboard the Gunship "Ivan the Terrible" Vietnam 67-69 Biography and qualifications in last month's edition or on Facebook. Jan 18 / Langley Field, Virginia. First established in December 1916.



Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Chip Hanson
USMC (Fmr)

I was speaking of the upcoming election with a group of my peers. When I said that the over Two hundred fifty years ago, we started an experiment in Democracy. He stopped me and said, with all due respect, our nation is a "republic" not a democracy, there is an important difference.

Of course, this piqued my curiosity. After a little research on Google, and several other search engines, this is what I discovered.

The word "republic" — deriving from the Latin phrase res publica, or "the people's concern" — suggests a measure of popular involvement in government. And at least for their age at time of our Revolution the believing that the only legitimate form of government was one in which public authority derived entirely from the people.

Democracy is an inclusive political system in which all groups can participate and all voices are heard. It is where transparent and accountable politicians work together in the interests of their citizens. Government by the people; a form of government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised directly by them or by their elected agents under a free electoral system.

The first republics date back to before the birth of Christ. Here are just a few
Mahajan pada c. 600 – c. 345 BC: A clan confederacy of two oligarchic republics and other states (kingdoms) in ancient India Licchavis[1] c. 600 – c. 345 BC: One of the eight confederate clans of the Vajji Clan Mahajanapada;[2] the city of Vaishali was the republic's capital.[3]
Roman Republic 509–27 BC
Classical Athens 508–322 BC: Various Greek city-states under Classical Athenian influence;
Republics of the 20th Century include Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR)

Finally, I must admit that my good friend is correct, our nation, is a Republic, however without Democracy, we could have not had the success that our Nation has enjoyed.

The United States is a representative Democracy. This means that our government is elected by citizens. Here, citizens vote for their government officials. These officials represent the citizens' ideas and concerns in government. Voting is one way to participate in our democracy. Citizens can also contact their officials when they want to support or change a law. Voting in an election and contacting our elected officials are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy.

Based upon my research. Our Country was formed as a Republic experimenting with Democracy, the combination of both has formed the Greatest Nation ever.

Please remember to vote on November 3rd. If you do not vote do not complain.

Proverbs 11:14 ESV

"Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

May God always bless America
Chaplain Chip Hanson



OCTOBER 30, 2026

**DINNER
5-7 PM**

at **AMERICAN LEGION**

105 LINCOLN AVE

CHALLENGER 7 POST 348

CAPE CANAVERAL FL 32920



**Old Fashioned Pot Roast
Potatoes, Carrots, Onions
and Dessert!!**

**\$10
DINE IN OR
TAKE OUT!**

50/50 RAFFLE

**LIVE MUSIC
6-9 PM**

**Dinner and Raffle to benefit
ALA Unit #344 BVMC Merritt Island, FL**



Secretary's Report

Kristi Blanchard
USA (Fmr)

Hello BVMC Members

We want to remind you that election day is just around the corner, and your vote counts. The decisions we make at the ballot box shape our future.

Here are a few quick tips to make the process smooth:

- Check your registration status – BVMC members (individual or organizational) may vote
- Know your polling place – 400 S. Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island in the Library
- Review your ballot ahead of time and make a plan – The candidates are:
President: Don Pearsall
Vice President: Jim Carleton
Secretary: Amanda Saul
Treasurer: Paul Julian
BOD (Select 3): Harry Beaver, Ed Pingston, Kevin Skope, Ted Suzor, and Donn Weaver.
- Mark your calendar and don't forget to vote on October 14th 8:00-9:30 am

Your voice is one of the strongest tools you have. We encourage all our members to participate, encourage friends to vote, and be part of shaping our direction.

Thank you to our members, volunteers and supporters! I recently returned from my latest adventure in Peru, where I had the opportunity to visit the incredible Machu Picchu. Getting there was a challenge in itself, as I took on the stone steps of the Inka Trail with some friends, spending several days hiking through breathtaking mountain scenery and camping along the way. The journey was physically demanding, but the experience—and the reward of finally reaching Machu Picchu—was truly unforgettable.

As I reflect on adventures like this one, I'm also grateful for another journey that has meant a great deal to me: serving as Secretary for the past 5 years as we completed the consolidation to a single BVMC organization in support of our veterans and their families. We're strongest as a team so thank you to everyone who has supported me over the years and made my time in this role so rewarding.

I'm looking forward to continuing that work and helping move our organization forward, particularly through software updates and improvements that support the Library, Museum, and Brick Committees. I'll also continue working on enhancing our website and social media presence so we can better share all the wonderful things happening at the Center with our members and community. It's a privilege to contribute, and I look forward to seeing what the next chapter brings!





VMC Librarian Report

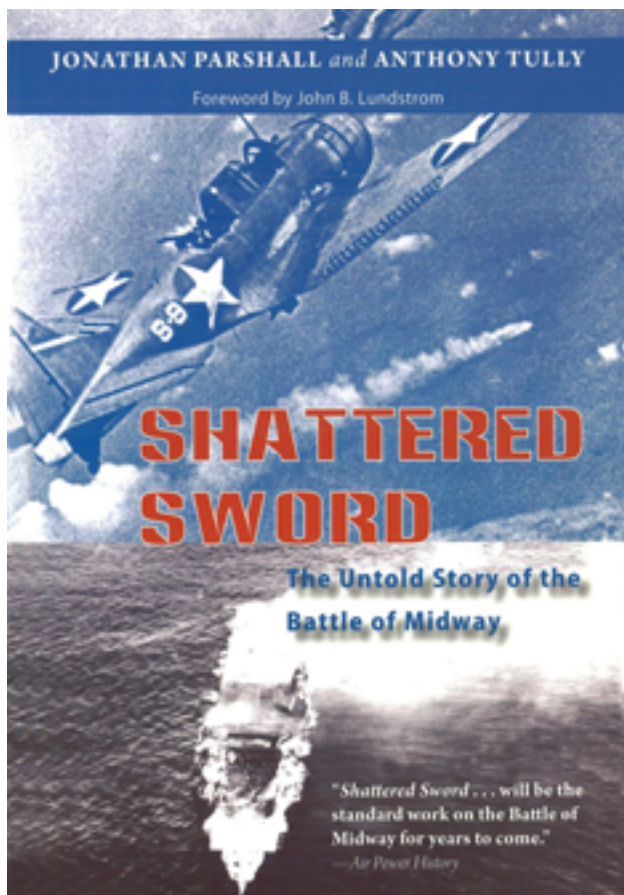
Hank Rhodes
USN (Fmr)

The library hosted 168 visitors in August (the last month for which data is available).

All outstanding Veterans History Project interviews have been submitted to the Library of Congress, where they become part of the American Folklore Project. We hope that people of the future appreciate what our veterans have accomplished, and that historians of the future appreciate our team's efforts to document and record these first-person narratives.

The Library Team has completed the initial phase of deaccessioning some of our holdings. We have reduced our fiction collection by 80%, retaining only works regarded as classics or works by notable authors, or alternate history because of the insight they provide on actual events.

Recent donations have been carefully screened to assure they do not duplicate what we already have, or to assure their value-added to our mission. We are primarily interested in hardcopy non-fiction with direct relevance to the American military.



Book of the Month: *Shattered Sword* by Jonathan Parshall and Anthony Tully

Reviewed by Nino Federico

I have been fascinated by the Pacific Theater of World War II since I was eight years old. The Battle of Midway is likely the most famous air and naval engagement of WWII. Several dozen books and movies have introduced millions to the incredible American victory so needed in the summer of 1942. However, if you think this book is a reiteration of Midway events from the American perspective, you are in for a remarkable rediscovery.

Shattered Sword: The Untold Story of the Battle of Midway is a deeply researched military history that reexamines one of the most consequential naval battles of the war. It represents a source-driven reassessment of Midway - perhaps more suited for readers who have prior knowledge of the battle. The authors focus heavily on Japanese sources, doctrine, carrier operations, and decision-making to explain how the Imperial Japanese Navy entered the battle with flawed strategy and expectations, which resulted in the loss of the battle.

The authors spent over five years reviewing American documents, in some cases for the first time. They also consulted Japanese ship logs and reports of the battle. Countless hours have been spent translating Japanese logbooks and other archived documents that have led the authors to shatter some of the popular myths held over the years. They enlisted Japanese scholars and historians to decipher and understand the Japanese naval leaders' philosophy on the preparation and conduct of the battle. The two authors have upended the Japanese account of the battle. Many long-held explanations for Japan's crippling loss at Midway have now been shown to be erroneous.

This book is best suited for those who want a detailed, technical reassessment of tactics and events of the battle of Midway. The brave and heroic actions by both American and Japanese aviators are described in great detail. Readers interested in naval history, World War II, or the Pacific War, will love *Shattered Sword*, since it explains why the battle unfolded as it did and why many earlier interpretations were incomplete. This book is now considered by naval historians of WWII to be the landmark work on this battle.

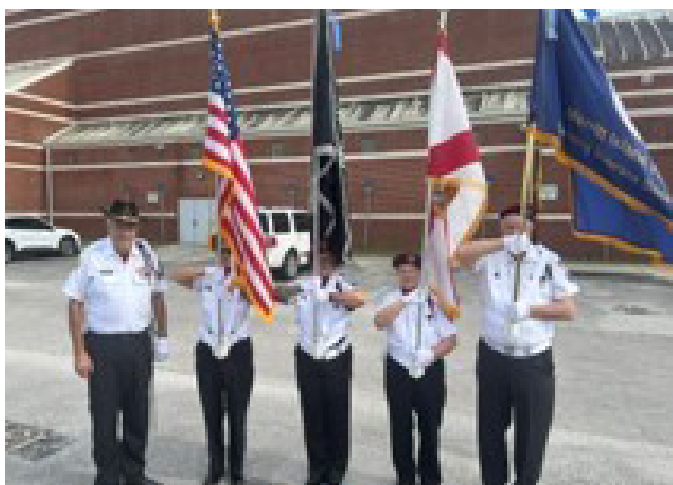
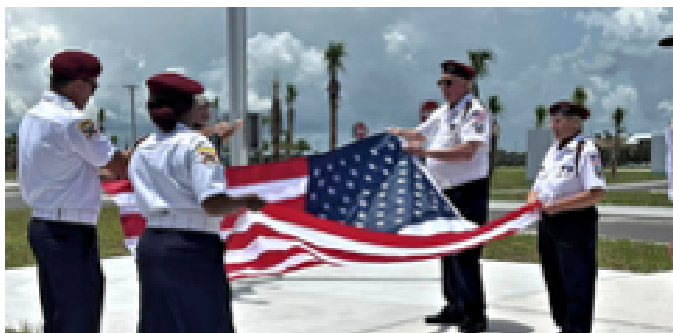
If you are interested in other information on the Pacific War's battles, campaigns and strategies, I would highly recommend *The Unauthorized History of the Pacific War* podcast hosted by Seth Paridon and Jonathan Parshall

Shattered Sword is found in the BVMC Library at WWIIPM-01.

BVMC Color Guard

By Don Pearsall

We are still looking for new and younger members to join this team. Represent the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center at functions, community occasions and our home events. Great sense of pride and patriotism for our community and our organization. Please contact Don Pearsall (321) 313-2444



Store Updates

By Jalaine Spears

Happy Fall!!

We have lots of new hats and tee shirts available for your favorite veteran. Not too early to shop for the holidays for the family. We have plenty of military toys for the youngsters.

Here are some of the most notable historical World War 2 facts for your enlightenment:

The Battle of Leyte Gulf began on 23 October 1944 and was widely considered the largest naval battle in history. It raged across more than 100,000 square miles of the Pacific Ocean, involving over 200,000 Naval personnel and more than 280 warships. The battle ended in a decisive Allied victory, crippling the Imperial Japanese Navy and sealing American control of the Pacific.

On 25 October 1944, the Japanese officially deployed Kamikaze attacks, suicide pilots would crash into Allied ships. It was a concept born out of desperation during the Battle of Leyte as Japan faced dwindling resources and lost aerial and Naval supremacy. Approximately 3800 to 4000 Japanese pilots died. The Japanese killed over 7000 Allied personnel and sank around 6 ships and damaged 20 to 30 others. By comparison, the Japanese Navy was completely devastated, losing 26 to 28 major warships, including 4 aircraft carriers and 3 battle ships ending its ability to conduct large-scale offensive operations.

Our historical event for October is the Medal of Honor events at the new Amphitheater on 10 October from 9 am to 9 pm. Hope you can make it for an amazing time and hope to see you in the Museum Gift Store!



Vietnam Welcome Home Dinner a Moving and Packed Event

By Donn Weaver USA

Four hundred attended the Welcome Home Vietnam dinner and program on 26 Sep at the Azon Shriner Temple in EauGallie. The meal was free and the emotions were high with at least 60 combat veterans who fought in Vietnam joined by family and friends. The Vietnam Exhibit Project led by Ben Bydalek and the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1096 created and sponsored the event with donations of food and auction items. MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation provided \$800 toward the cost as the event ended with a promise to do another Welcome Home Vietnam Dinner around the 29th of March next year — the date in 1973 when all American combat troops left Vietnam

The keynote speaker was 1SG Leonard Ross, USA, Ret who served two tours in Vietnam the first when he was 18 years old right out of high school in Plains, GA. He received the Purple Heart his second tour and worked for USPS after his Army Career. Leonard is very active in the veteran community in northern Brevard, serving since inception on the Support Committee of the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery. His talk was riveting and personal as he received a sustained standing ovation.

Sheriff Ivey conducted the auction and the 50/50 raffle was huge with the winner taking home \$850. Quite an evening was had by all with 50 plus year memories brought forward by photos, songs and 1SG Ross.






WREATHS
across
AMERICA

Sunday December 20, 2026 2:00

Emory Lawrence Bennett
1929—1951
**Korean War Congressional Medal
of Honor Recipient**

Pinecrest Cemetery
Clearlake Road, Cocoa, FL

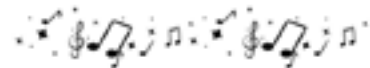
*Their Voice
of Hope*

Joint Ceremony By
Military Order of the Purple Heart
Space Coast Chapter 453
&
Their Voice of Hope

To sponsor a wreath click the link
[https://wreathscrossamerica.org/
pages/1633310/Overview?relatedId=0](https://wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/1633310/Overview?relatedId=0)
Or scan the QR code



The Space Coast Jazz Society presents:
Monthly JAZZ Concerts
by a variety of professional bands



Brevard Veterans Memorial Center, Gray Hall
400 S. Sykes Creek Pkwy, Merritt Island

**\$5 discount for members of the
Brevard Veterans Memorial Center**



Schedule
& details at:



Open to the
Public

SpaceCoastJazzSociety.org



By Appointment Only
Drive Up Estimates/ Consultations
Wednesdays 10am-4am
485 E Eau Gallie Blvd.

Candidate Bios

Read more about each candidate!



Donn Weaver

2026-27 Candidate for BVMC Board

Donn Weaver is a US Army Veteran who served from 1968-72 including over one year on the DMZ in Korea and as a Basic Training Company Commander

After Grad School at Florida State he spent over 45 years on staff and contract with the Federal Government in the Foreign Service including serving in nine countries.

Even before full professional retirement in 2023, Weaver began volunteering at the BVMC in 2013 and has held many leadership positions including Council Chairman, BVMC Vice President and Coordinator for Expansion working with State, County and TDC to help obtain over \$12M in funds for the Museum and Amphitheater/Park.

Thus, for over 13 years, the BVMC and our amazing facilities have been his major volunteer focus in addition to serving in several other veteran organizations and special projects.

Among Weaver's goals for the coming year are to continue to improve and expand the use of all BVMC facilities for veterans, our youth and the public; especially by helping BVMC leadership work with the County and others to better use our great new Park and increase its impact.



Kevin F Skope

2026-27 Candidate for BVMC Board

Kevin F Skope, Master Sergeant USAF/Ret
Born: Dublin, Ireland, 1960
Hometown: Orlando, Florida

USAF 07/13/1978-09/30/1999

- Logistics Specialist
 - Inventory Management,
 - Stock Control

- Bench Stock
- Mobility Control

- Law Enforcement Specialist
 - Patrolman
 - Desk Sergeant
 - Alarm Monitor
 - Watch Commander
 - Physical Security
 - Nuclear Security
 - Personnel Security
 - Traffic Homicide Investigator
 - Military Police Investigator
 - Fingerprint Analyst
 - Crime Scene Investigations
 - SWAT Team Leader
 - Hostage Negotiator
 - First Responder
 - Ground Combat Training School
 - Peacekeeper Challenge Competition (X2)
 - Supt, Security Police Operations
 - Supt, Range Security (CCAFS)
 - Supt, Admin & Reports.

- Long-term substitute teacher (2015-2025), responsible for safety, security, classroom management, conflict resolution, course curriculum, lesson plans, syllabi, ancillary & recurring training, testing, etc. Primary role concentrated in the History Dept., focusing on American History, Government, and Political Science.



Paul Julian

2026-27 Candidate for Treasurer

I am running for Treasurer of the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center (BVMC). I am a Navy veteran and a retired Department of War (was DoD) contract auditor. I joined the VMC/BVC in March 2017, initially helping to organize the library and build its electronic database. I have also served as VMC Vice President and as a director. I currently serve as liaison to the tenant Naval Sea Cadet Corps' "Courageous Division". I have served as Treasurer for this organization for over 20 years.

If elected Treasurer, I will work with the other members of the Executive Council to ensure that all donated and otherwise received funds are properly accounted for and used prudently to advance BVMC's objective: "to promote the interests and welfare of military veterans and their dependents in Brevard County." My military and civilian experience, together with nearly 10 years of service to Brevard's veterans, has prepared me to serve effectively in this role. I respectfully ask for your vote for BVMC Treasurer.

BALLOT 2026-2027 BVMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ELECTION: OCTOBER 14, 2026

BVMC President

Select One

☐

Don Pearsall

BVMC Secretary

Select One

☐

Amanda Saul

BVMC Vice-President

Select One

☐

Jim Carleton

BVMC Treasurer

Select One

☐

Paul Julian

FOLD HERE

BVMC Board of Directors 1-year

Select Three Only

☐

Harry Beaver

☐

Ed Pingston

☐

Kevin Skope

☐

Ted Suzor

☐

Donn Weaver



Brevard VMC Vets Calendar

October 2026 and Beyond

Contact BVMC for any additions or other information.

NOTE: Some events change in between our monthly mailing of the BVMC Calendar. Keep up to date with those changes using our web link: <https://veteransmemorialcenter.org/upcoming-veterans-events/>

OCTOBER

03 Oct – JROTC Raider Challenge Meet #1 at BVMC Park and Amphitheater. (0630- 1230)

10 Oct – Medal of Honor BBQ , Craft Fair, Specialty Car show, live music, food trucks and more. Sponsored by SpaceX and other MOH Foundation supporters with proceeds going to support veteran families in distress. Contact BVMC VP Don Pearsall for more information on 321-313-2444. . (1000- 1600).

15 Oct – Defending America Conversation "Understanding the Threat of Islamic Extremism" by Ambassador Stanley Escudero. Sponsored by the American Security Council Foundation. 1130-1300 at the Double Tree Suites in Indialantic - 1665 A1A. Registration \$50 which includes lunch. more info and to register : info@ascf.us or 772-388-2490.

17 Oct – Space Coast Honor Flight #5 of 5 2026 visits by veterans to see their monuments and memorials in Wash DC. Starts at 0400 hours at Melbourne International Airport Main Terminal with Welcome home set 2030 hours same evening. Come out and honor these veterans , some from the Korean War era and their Guardians that will travel with them. Many veteran organizations and community groups support this amazing program. MOAACC Good Deeds funds FIT ROTC Cadets and Veterans in the VA sponsored FIT Psych PhD program to serve as guardians throughout the year. Contact schf.org for more information and to sign up on the waiting list for both honorees and guardians.

27 Oct – Resilience: From Service to Strength. A morning of Inspiration, Connection and Hope. For First Responders and Veterans Space Coast Health Foundation 1100 Rockledge Blvd 0900-1200. MG Gregg Martin Keynote Speaker, Contact the SCHF to register. Space is limited.

31 Oct – JROTC Raider Challenge Meets #2 at BVMC Park and Amphitheater. (0630-1230)

NOVEMBER

07 Nov – Annual St Francis Hospice 5K Run for Veterans at the new Veterans Memorial Park Amphitheater and Plaza 0730- 1130. Includes vendors, awards, veteran pinning as SFH raises funds for their " We Honor Veterans Program " throughout the County all year. Details and registration in September.

07 Nov – Third Annual Cape Canaveral Veterans Day Parade sponsored by VFW Post 10131. Starts and Ends near the Cape Canaveral City Hall at 1111 Hours until 1330. Includes music, vendors, food, and more. Sign ups and more information via VFW Post 10131 and the City of Cape Canaveral.

07 Nov – Second Annual VyStar MOACC Good Deeds Foundation Veterans Recognition Dinner 1700-2000 Fundraiser at the Melbourne Hilton Rialto as they recognize veteran organizations, projects and individuals who have made major contributions on the Space Coast 2025-26. Keynote Speaker is Rep Mike Haridopolos, with Clerk of Courts Rachel Sadoff as MC and Sheriff Wayne Ivey as Auctioneer. Sign up to sponsor tables or reserve seats at moaacc.org

08 Nov – Home Stretch 9th Annual 5K sponsored by National Veterans Homeless Support in the Eau Gallie Arts District with the start at 0800 hours. Sign up at <https://runsignup.com/homestretch5k>

11 Nov – Veteran Day Events at BVMC and many other locations in the county. Details in October.

13 Nov – NOTE: NEW DATE. Annual Marine Corps Ball at Space Coast Convention Center, Cape Canaveral 1700-2200 sponsored by Brevard Marine Corps League Chapter 513. Ceremony, dinner, silent auction, tradition, dancing and fun. Contact: mclbrevard513@gmail.com to sign up, pay and for more information. Tickets \$60 each.

For more events, [visit our website!](https://veteransmemorialcenter.org/upcoming-veterans-events/)

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