



# City of Jacksonville 2012 Veteran's Awards



## **Dallas Gaynor** **American Legion Post 265**

Dallas Gaynor served 7 years in the USMC before returning to civilian life. He is currently employed as a truck driver and makes time to dedicate himself to the American Legion and the community. He presently holds the position of 1st Vice Commander after less than 1 year with the post and volunteers for many activities held at the Legion hall with plans to volunteer more and more in the years to come.



## **Rae Oldham** **American Legion Auxiliary Unit 265**

Rae Oldham is one of the most valued members of the American Legion Auxiliary and has been a member for 5 years. She volunteers many hours to the community each month and still finds time to volunteer during Auxiliary functions. She helps out each week in the American Legion kitchen during Bingo and was a great help during the Onslow County Fair, working at a booth for the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. She also takes her certified dog, Joey, to visit with the patients at Premier Nursing Facility to brighten their days.



## **George M. Barrows** **Military Order of the Devil Dogs**

George has been with the Military Order of the Devil Dogs for over 20 years and has performed many tasks for the organization, the League and the City of Jacksonville. He is the Marine that organizes and hosts the Beirut Celebration at Camp Geiger every year. He has been the mainstay of the organization in keeping it organized and running smoothly.



## **Alex Nevglowski** **Non Commissioned Officer Association Down East Chapter #906**

Mr. Nevglowski continues to serve those within the military community daily as a Veteran Service Officer and as a member of the NCOA of Jacksonville. He serves as Vice-Chairman of the local NCOA Chapter and as a Trustee. He also serves as a vice-commander in another veteran organization and Commander in yet another veteran organization. He is a valuable and essential asset to the NCOA as proven by his planning and participation with the last two NCOA Job Fairs aboard Camp Lejeune which serviced thousands of active duty members and their families. Mr. Nevglowski is exemplary in his conduct and zealous in his need to provide assistance to others.



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## **Prentis F. Campbell** **NABVETS, Marine Chapter 0054**

Since October 2008, Prentis F. Campbell has been the commander of NABVETS, working many tireless hours informing and serving all veterans, spouses and children of their VA benefits. He has spent numerous hours at churches and other civic organizations recruiting and explaining benefits to veterans and their families. Under his leadership, NABVETS Chapter 0054 has increased membership from ten people to a present membership of two hundred and forty two. He has led the chapter to win several awards such as OCCOVO Chapter of the year for 2011, also 3rd, 2nd, and 1st places in the 2011 Veteran's Day parade. During his tenure, Commander Campbell has received several personal awards such as "The Man of the Year" from the Omega-Psi-Phi fraternity and several other awards from within Onslow County.



## **Rhonda Nelson Parker, Women's Auxiliary** **NABVETS, Marine Chapter 0054**

As a member of Nabvets Marine Chapter #0054 Womens Auxiliary, Rhonda Parker has demonstrated her ability to be a leader, team player, and problem solver. Mrs. Parker's ability to forecast, plan, and coordinate events using a strict eye for detail and quality has resulted in great success. Mrs. Parker unselfishly devotes her time without question, while accepting and conquering challenges placed before her. Dedicated, efficient, accurate, self-driven, knowledgeable, and cooperative are a few of the many qualities of excellence that Mrs. Parker displays in her duties. As a retired Veteran with over twenty years of service, she is dedicated to her family, committed to the successes of the organization, and devoted to serving this community as a team leader and facilitator. Her ability to motivate others and resourcefulness to obtain the best results is remarkable.



## **Verlando Frazier** **NABVETS – Marine Chapter 0069**

As the Financial Secretary of NABVETS - Chapter 0069 for the past two years, Verlando Frazier takes his position very seriously. He is professional in his demeanor and the performance of his duties. He is well versed when he articulates his input, suggestions and concerns regarding the Chapter; and his expertise in preparing financial documents has allowed the Chapter to present accurate reports that are forwarded by the State Command Council of the state of North Carolina to the headquarters of NABVETS. In addition to his professionalism, Mr. Frazier is dedicated and supportive of the activities sponsored at the local, state, and national levels of NABVETS. As a veteran, he is very much aware and concerned about the plight of those who are serving and have served the United States of America to ensure that its citizens continue to enjoy the freedom that comes at a high price.



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## **CPO Robert Neil Lathrop, USN (Ret)** **Military Order of the Purple Heart** **Beirut Memorial Chapter 642**

Robert Neil Lathrop, USN (Ret) was wounded twice in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star for his actions. He joined the ranks of the Military Order of the Purple Heart in October of 2004. Ever since, he has been steadfast in his support, cooperation and presence at the majority of the Chapter undertakings. In addition to being a regular attendee to the monthly meetings, he has always been one of, if not the first, to volunteer his service. Whether it's fundraising, recruiting or participation in chapter functions, Patriot Lathrop can always be relied on to "be there". He has volunteered to be the Finance Officer for the Corpsmen's Memorial Fund and has been awarded the Chapter Meritorious Service Medal.



## **Joseph G. Traumer** **Onslow County Council of Veterans Orgs**

Mr. Traumer has been the Veterans Council President for the past 5 years and has been a great asset to the council and the veteran community. He keeps the veterans council and leaders of all the veteran organizations within Onslow County well informed of veteran and community issues, along with many issues concerning military retirees and veterans. He is the Immediate Past President and present Disability and By-laws Chairman. He's also an active member of many veteran and local community organizations.

## **Roben Smith** **National Order of Trench Rats Dugout # 483**

Mr. Smith has been the Past Golden Rodent (Commander) and Past Red Eyed Gnawer (Secretary/Treasurer), he has helped many brothers and former service members, active duty and their families. He assists veterans with filing for copies of their records, filing for NC Disability Property tax relief, aids those in need with food, toys at Christmas time for their children, utilities, trash service and much more.

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## **Bill Joseph** **Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune** **Military Retiree Council**

Mr. Joseph continues to serve active duty, family members, retirees, and widows daily in his management of the Camp Lejeune Reception Center. He is actively involved in insuring professional services are delivered on a continual basis to his customers. Mr. Joseph has volunteered to serve as the Secretary for the Base Retiree Council for the last 2 years. He also served as a major planner and participant in the July 25, 2012 Onslow County Military Town Hall Meeting, which had over 240 attendees. The latest event he was a principle planning official in was the 2012 Military Retiree Appreciation Day, which was attended by over 450 people.



## **John Moore** **The Captain John C. Carr** **Veteran Resource Center**

John Moore is one of the founding fathers of the "The Captain John C. Carr Veteran Resource Center." He has been volunteering for the past 12 years as an overseer at our annual Memorial Day event. Every year, this hard working, caring, devoted veteran ensures that each year is greater than the year before for our Active Duty personnel, their families, retirees and veterans all alike. A meal is provided for around 3,200 plus people, with free entertainment, an antique auto show and access to the local Lynnwood Park Zoo at a discounted rate for the day. He puts in many hours planning, finding sponsors and volunteers for the event.



## **Joseph G. Traumer** **American Veterans Post # 225**

Mr. Traumer has been the Post Adjutant for the past five and a half years and has kept all the administrative records in excellent order. He was the Commander for three years and has held almost every position within the post. As the Operation/ Task Force DVD Chairman, he has traveled over 1,800 miles to pick-up over 4,000 DVD's and CD's which have been turned over to our Department of NC and flown overseas to be distributed to our troops. He supports the operation Deployed Santa with hundreds of dollars for toys and gift wraps each and every year for the past eleven years.



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## **Charles Woodward** **VFW POST 9133**

Commander Charles "Doc" Woodward, United States Navy (Retired) has been a driving force in upholding the ideals of the VFW's mission by volunteering countless hours at fundraising events as well as generously contributing monetarily to our Veterans in Need Program. Charles serves in many daily on-going capacities at the Post while preferring to remain anonymous. Never asking what needs to be done, he sees the need and does it. In short, "Doc" Woodward exemplifies the traditions of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Post 9133 is honored to welcome him the ranks of the most Outstanding Veterans of the Year.



## **Linda Uselton** **VFW 9133 Ladies Auxiliary**

Linda's boundless energy has been an inspiration to new recruits to the VFW Ladies Auxiliary as well as promoting camaraderie and volunteerism among the membership. Linda has enthusiastically supported VFW Post 9133 and the Ladies Auxiliary in many ways including preparing meals for our veterans and donating her time and talents to the many relief and fundraising projects of the Post. Linda also serves with distinction as ambassador, promoting the efforts of the Post and Auxiliary at community functions. Linda is always among the first to volunteer whatever the project; she never asks what needs to be done; she sees a need and fulfills it.



## **Gail S. Horn** **Women Marines Association NC-1** **Tarheel Chapter**

Gail Horn is a retired Master Gunnery Sergeant that continues to serve active and veteran service members. She is currently employed as a Veterans Employment Representative for the State of North Carolina. She works daily with transitioning active duty and veterans, assisting them in finding and retaining meaningful employment. She was recognized by the North Carolina Association of Workforce Professionals as Veterans Services Representative of the Year in April 2012. Ms. Horn volunteers with a number of organizations in the community including the USO, the Salvation Army and the Retiree Council aboard Camp Lejeune. As secretary for the Women Marine Association, she works diligently to recruit new members and to assist the Women Marines and veterans of the area.



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## **Elizabeth A. Horn**

### **Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter**

During the past year and in previous years, Elizabeth has been actively volunteering with a number of organizations in Onslow County to include the USO, the Women Marines Association, the Vietnam Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and has also volunteered with Northside High School. With the USO, Elizabeth has participated in preparations and serving holiday dinners. Elizabeth has attended nearly every meeting that the Woman Marines Association has held. She assisted in organizing the "Smiles Project," where the Women Marines Association created cards and wrote letters to the Field Engagement Team bringing many smiles to our deployed women.



## **Billy Ray Waddell**

### **Rolling Thunder**

Mr. Waddell is an outstanding member of Rolling Thunder, Inc. – Chapter NC-5, who works diligently toward their mission of keeping the POW/MIA issue alive as well as helping veterans from all wars. A retired marine, Billy Ray provides positive leadership as the Chapter Vice President, always ready to assist when necessary or when required to assume duties in the absence of the Chapter President. A long time member of Rolling Thunder, he is well respected by his peers and fellow officers alike. Billy Ray can be relied upon at any time to step up and volunteer his time in support of veteran's issues, and currently serves as the Chapter membership committee chairman, responsible for screening and processing new members.



## **Paul E. Crowell, Jr.**

### **Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 654**

Mr. Crowell is a Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. He is the secretary/treasurer of Jon Panarese Chapter 654. He is the vice chair of the National Veterans Against Drugs, PTSD and Minority Affairs committees. Paul served 24 years on active duty in the United States Navy as a Hospital Corpsman. After retiring, he became a Registered Nurse and now is studying to be a nurse practitioner. He is constantly looking out for the welfare of the veterans and anyone who is in need of help.



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**Julianne Froncek**  
**Marine Corps League**  
**Onslow County Detachment # 262**

Ms. Julianne Froncek is the Commandant of the Marine Corps League Onslow County Detachment. Ms. Froncek is a motivator and doer for the League and was unanimously selected as for this award. She has brought life back into the detachment and also attends all of the military functions as well as supports the City of Jacksonville in all it's endeavors.



**Jeremy G. Roberts**  
**Disabled American Veterans**  
**Onslow County Chapter 16**

Mr. Roberts has been a valuable member of the Disabled American Veterans – Chapter 16 for the past 6 years. He is a United States Marine Corps Veteran and has served in various jobs within the DAV to include Sr. Vice Commander, Jr. Vice Commander, Treasurer, Adjutant and Service Officer as well as volunteering as a bingo cashier. He has always given more of himself and is always happy to lend a hand. He has volunteered his time helping the homeless veterans of Onslow County by organizing food drives at the chapter as well as organizing the Annual Veterans Day Ceremony at the DAV. He is currently working on his doctorate of management in organizational leadership with the University of Phoenix.



**Elizabeth Pleier**  
**Disabled American Veterans**  
**Onslow County Auxiliary Chapter 16**

Elizabeth Pleier has been a valuable member of the Auxiliary for the past 3 years. She retired from the Department of the Navy in 2009 where she worked as an Administrative Assistant. Having moved here in 1981, Elizabeth really enjoyed the area and remained here with her husband who was serving in the Marine Corps. After raising a family, Elizabeth has devoted her time to volunteering for the Disabled American Veterans. She works endless hours with the DAV Transportation Network coordinating drivers and making sure that veterans get to their medical appointments. She delivers hot meals to the residents of Onslow County with the Meals on Wheels program and lives by her own motto which is, "In order for this to work, you must have a passion for this responsibility."



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## **Mark Rogers**

### **Fleet Reserve Association – Branch 208**

Mr. Mark Rogers serves as the Branch's Sergeant at Arms, maintaining proper decorum and discipline at meetings, acknowledging dignitaries and guests when required, and custodian of the flag during meetings. He also serves as the Branch's Scholarship Chairman and has contacted the eligible schools in Onslow County to promote a Fleet Reserve Essay contest with the winner receiving scholarship funding. He also has volunteered to serve as a Branch Trustee which is a position of considerable responsibility and trust.

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## **Ted Jones, MGSgt (Ret)**

### **Montford Point Marine Association, Inc. Camp Lejeune Chapter 10**

Mr. Ted Jones, MGSgt (Ret) is the Chapter Vice-President of the Montford Point Marine Association – Camp Lejeune Chapter 10. During the past twelve months, Vice-President Jones has taken a very active leadership role within the chapter. His perfect attendance at the Chapter sponsored bi-monthly Robert's Rules of Order training workshops has added structure and value to this program. He has been a key factor in other members choosing to take advantage of this valuable training. On a weekly basis, Vice-President Jones is responsible for managing inventory control, re-supply and records accountability at the Chapter's building. His attention in these areas is critical to the overall financial stability of the Chapter and the community services provided by the Chapter.

## **Renea Lewis**

### **Montford Point Marine Association, Inc. Auxiliary – Camp Lejeune Chapter 10**

Renea Lewis is a multitasked individual with a "can do" attitude. She is a lifetime member of the Montford Point Marine Association Ladies Auxiliary. She presently serves as the Auxiliary's Public Relations Officer. Renea is a member of the Black and White Ball committee and has been the mistress of ceremony for that event and several others. Renea displays her community orientation by working with the Womens Shelter and donating needed items for patrons at the shelter. Renea is a very dedicated worker in the ladies auxiliary along with giving time to other organizations that she is affiliated with. She is a member of the Concerned Citizens Association which assists cancer patients. Renea works for the government and with her busy schedule, still finds the time to work with our military troops and their families.







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## **Anna Cotter** **Non Commissioned Officer Association** **Crystal Coast Auxiliary #0275**

Anna Cotter joined the NCOA Auxiliary in July of 1997 and is a Charter Member. She has volunteered with the "Knight Wagon", Veterans Day Parade, and auxiliary projects such as "Toys for Tots." She also volunteers her time helping the Soup Kitchen, donating canned goods and has also helped to get donations of stuffed animals for children who are victims of fire. Miss Cotter attends Coastal Community College for the GED course while working at McDonalds and works as the staff support at Sucoree Mental Health. Miss Cotter is a very energetic and caring person and an asset to the Crystal Coast Auxiliary.



## **MSgt. Scott E. Vanderwerf** **Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9960**

MSgt. Scott Vanderwerf is currently serving as the Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9960. During this past year, Scott's contributions to the Post's home in Swansboro and the morale of its members can only be described as remarkable. Through his leadership, the Post building has gone through a major renovation to include an expansion of the canteen and the decoration of the Post that honors the service of our veterans and welcomes members and guests. Not only has he led the physical renovation of the building, but he has led the overhaul of the Post's operations and morale of the membership. Through his personal example and sacrifice, he has inspired the Post's members.



## **Cpl. Joshua Shakeshaft** **Heroes on the Water**

Cpl. Shakeshaft joined the Crystal Coast/ Camp Lejeune Chapter of Heroes on the Water as a participant during this past year. He was quickly hooked on the therapeutic properties of kayak fishing and quickly became the most active member of the chapter, participating in public events, representing the Chapter at public presentations and veterans meetings, and most importantly, encouraging other Marines and family members to attend outings. Cpl. Shakeshaft has made a valuable contribution to Heroes on the Water by assuming responsibilities to plan, coordinate and promote events that help the Chapter accomplish its mission to provide the opportunity for wounded and disabled veterans and their families of our community to experience the healing powers of fishing from a kayak in our beautiful coastal waters.



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## **James Ross** **North Carolina Department of Commerce** **Division of Workforce Solutions** **Veterans Unit**

Mr. Ross performs the duties of a Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist for the Jacksonville Local office of the NC Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Solutions, currently assigned to the Wounded Warrior Battalion – East, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. In this role, he provides services to wounded warriors assisting in employment related areas, awareness and capacity to serve veterans seeking employment or training opportunities. Mr. Ross provides intensive case management to the ill while recovering and trying to start their transition into the civilian workforce and lifestyle. In addition, during the past year he registered 88 new veterans in our state database, completed 12 job development contacts with employers, succeeding in placing 8 veterans in new jobs and referred 13 veterans seeking employment with 10 placements. He currently manages a load of 22 intensive cases. James co-chaired a homeless veteran stand down that served 107 individuals. He has volunteered time during his off duty hours to beautifying the Georgetown Cemetery and for the Salvation Army.



## **Fernando Schiefelbein** **City of Jacksonville, Veteran Liaison**

Fernando Schiefelbein is the City's appointed Veteran Liaison. As the City's Veteran Liaison, he is responsible for ensuring that the City of Jacksonville is aware of what is happening in the Veteran community. Fernando has done an outstanding job as our Liaison. He always makes sure that we know what is happening in the veteran community and has taken time to attend all of our council meetings so that he can keep our veterans groups apprise of what we are working on in the City. It has been a pleasure working with him and we look forward to working with Fernando in the coming years.