



**CARRY-ON
DETACHMENT #1236
JOHNSTON COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA**

**JUNE
2022**

KENNETH R. PARKER SCHOLARSHIP

On Tuesday, May 24th, Past Commandant Robert Long presented two students at South Johnston High School in Four Oaks, NC with the Kenneth R. Parker Scholarships. Hannah Freeman and Adam D. Miller each received \$1000 towards their continuing education. The following is the individual essays each student wrote for their scholarship application.



HANNAH FREEMAN

Growing and investing in my education have been at the core of my beliefs for as long as I can remember. My parents instilled a strong work ethic at home and my teachers invested in me, encouraging me to follow my dreams. I want to use the leadership abilities that I have learned through being an FFA officer to impact my community wherever I go. I plan to major in Animal Science with a minor in Business at North Carolina State University and then continue my education at their College of Veterinary Medicine. My long-term goal is to open my own veterinary clinic/shelter. This will contribute to my community by medically caring for their pets as well as matching shelter dogs with new families. One of my passions is to help those who are typically overlooked and feel forgotten. One of the ways that I feel called to help is by assisting veterans who deal with the epidemic of PTSD. Many veterans lose their battle with PTSD and people are still not reaching out to offer a kind hand and show

these veterans appreciation. I would like to create a program that would pair dogs at my shelter with veterans that need companionship to help improve their mental health. This allows me to not only help dogs in need, but also veterans in need of “fur-ever” friends. This pairing will help heal their trauma sustained while protecting our great nation. Having a grandfather that is a veteran helped me see that there are courageous men and women who stood and fought for our country. So the least I can do is to stand and give back to those

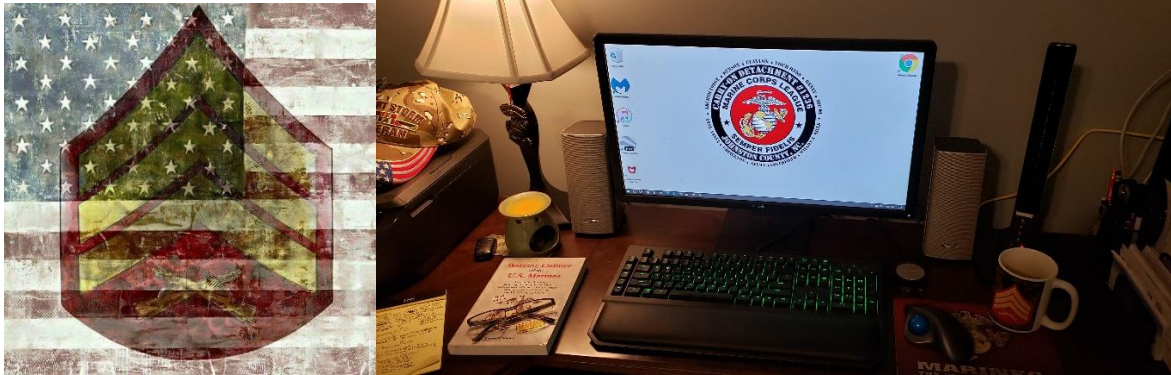
veterans that are in need. One of my proudest accomplishments has been that I was awarded the VFW post scholarship as evidence of my passion for veterans and the freedom they help protect. Being a business owner will allow me to create a 501C3 to assist with the placement of companion animals with veterans and it will also create a platform to advocate for our veterans that suffer from PTSD and mental health disorders. These dreams may seem insurmountable at the moment, but once my journey begins at NC State, I can begin making connections and taking hold of internships and research opportunities. I want to take advantage of everything that is offered by the Animal Science department so that I can succeed in the Veterinary world. This will open doors to open my clinic/shelter, brightening my community. With new doors being opened will come necessary costs, so scholarships such as these will ease the burden that college tuition brings. To better learn independence, I will be funding my college career on my own. This scholarship would help diminish my worries about college tuition and I can focus on accomplishing my goals. Thank you for this opportunity to apply for the Kenneth R. Parker College Scholarship.

ADAM D. MILLER

I believe I should receive this scholarship because I am exemplary in the fields of academics, service, and leadership. Throughout my high school career, I have pushed myself with a rigorous course load, having taken numerous college courses. I will be graduating with approximately two years of college behind me. Within these and other classes, I strive to do as well as possible, as I firmly believe that what you get out of something is dependent on the effort you put in. I currently have a 4.71 GPA and am first in my class. Part of my passion for education comes from my love of learning, as I have interests in several subjects. One of these subjects is agriculture, which has led me to become a member of the FFA. I currently serve as president of the South Johnston High School FFA Chapter and sentinel of the Johnston FFA Federation. As president, I am responsible for directing the work of the chapter, leading meetings, and managing the officer team. During my time in the organization, I have participated on over a dozen competitive events in order to explore the many areas of the vast agriculture industry. As a part of teams, I have also qualified for four national-level competitions, with my highest achievement being Second Place highest Individual Scorer in the National FFA Food Science and Technology Career Development Event. I have also started a new club at my school, the South Johnston Upland Wildlife Federation, through which I have begun a project to utilize the wooded acreage on South Johnston High School's campus. It will serve as a multi-purpose, educational, natural space that has trails, an outdoor classroom, and an arboretum. I greatly enjoy helping my community in various ways and am part of Key Club International, Save a Live Club, Trojan Ambassadors, the National Honor Society, and my church's youth group. With these organizations, I have participated in many activities, including Rise Against Hunger, Backpack Buddies, Toys for Tots, Meals on Wheels, Operation Christmas Child, NC Hunters for the Hungry, and the Benson Food Bank. This year I will be receiving my second President's Volunteer Service Award, this time at the gold level, meaning I have completed over 250 service hours in the past year.

Furthering my education is important to me because of my thirst for knowledge and because of my career choice. I plan on getting a dual major in biological sciences and either soil science or agroecology to become a researcher and professor at a university in the field of forensic anthropology. To do this, I will need to eventually obtain my doctorate degree. I have always known that I would go into the sciences and that college was my next step. If it were possible for me to stay in school for as long as I wanted, I don't know how long I would be there, getting degrees and taking classes in my various fields of interest. I hope that this statement has given you insight into my devotion to education, service, and leadership, and why I would be deserving of this scholarship. I would like to express my appreciation to you for allowing me and many others this great opportunity of support to pursue higher education. Thank you.

FROM THE COMMANDANT'S DESK



This may seem a bit of a repeat of an older "Commandant's Desk" that I did a couple years ago, but I feel that our history is worthy of repeating. This past Sunday I was scrolling through the movie offerings on Amazon Prime and came across Memorial Day. Pretty fitting since it was the eve of Memorial Day. This movie stars Jonathan Bennett, James Cromwell and Jon Cromwell and was released 2012. Here is a brief synopsis of what the movie is about:



"Memorial Day, 1993. When 13-year-old Kyle Vogel discovers the World War II footlocker belonging to his grandfather, Bud, everyone tells Kyle to put it back. Luckily, he ignores them. Although Bud has never talked about the war, he finds himself striking a deal with his grandson: Kyle can pick any three souvenirs, and Bud will tell the stories behind each one. Memorial Day not only takes us on a journey into Bud's complicated wartime past, but also into Kyle's wartime future. As the two men share parallel experiences in combat, they come to realize how that magical day on the porch shaped both of their lives."

In the movie, there is one question that the grandson asks that is very important. With the footlocker at Grandpa's feet, Kyle says that it is Memorial Day. Grandpa responds with "Damn right it is!". Then Kyle asks, "What am I supposed to remember?"

How would you respond to that question? Pull out your footlocker.

As you know, both of my grandfathers served in the Army in WWII. G'pa Dunn was killed in Anzio, Italy. G'pa Huggins survived the Battle of the Bulge. The 'footlocker' I have from them is a briefcase and a couple small boxes. There used to be a lot more, but things have gone missing over time and being passed from family to family. What I do have is priceless. Ribbons, awards, dog tags, letters, enlistment papers, a lot of pictures...there is also a German belt buckle.

I will never know the stories about these items, but I can answer the question if asked. "What am I supposed to remember?" The men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces who gave the ultimate sacrifice. From all corners of the world where we have fought, individuals have lost their lives fighting for the freedoms that we, all too often, take for granted.

From the Memorial Day Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, 1982, President Ronald Reagan gave the following speech:

"In America's cities and towns today, flags will be placed on graves in cemeteries: public officials will speak of the sacrifice and the valor of those whose memory we honor.

I have no illusions about what little I can add now to the silent testimony of those who gave their lives willingly for their country. Words are even more feeble on this [Memorial Day](#), for the sight before us is that of a strong and good nation that stands in silence and remembers those who were loved and who, in return, loved their countrymen enough to die for them.

Yet, we must try to honor them -- not for their sakes alone, but for our own.

And if words cannot repay the debt we owe these men, surely with our actions we must strive to keep faith with them and with the vision that led them to battle and to final sacrifice.

Our first obligation to them and ourselves is plain enough: the United States and the freedom for which it stands, the freedom for which they died, must endure and prosper.

Their lives remind us that freedom is not bought cheaply. It has a cost. It imposes a burden.

And just as they whom we commemorate were willing to sacrifice, so too must we, in a less final, less heroic way, be willing to give of ourselves.

Each died for a cause he considered more important than his own life. Well they didn't volunteer to die: they volunteered to defend values for which men have always been willing to die if need be, the values which make up what we call civilization.

And how they must have wished, in all the ugliness that war brings, that no other generation of young men to follow would have to undergo that same experience.

As we honor their memory today, let us pledge that their lives, their sacrifices, their valor shall be justified and remembered for as long as God gives life to this nation.

And let us also pledge to do our utmost to carry out what must have been their wish: that no other generation of young men will ever have to share their experiences and repeat their sacrifice.

Earlier today with the music that we have heard, and that of [our National Anthem](#) -- I can't claim to know the words of [all the national anthems in the world](#), but I don't know of any other that ends with a question and a challenge as our does: Does that flag still *wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave*?

That is what we must all ask, too. Thank you"

I couldn't have said it any better.

Respectfully submitted,

Commandant William Dunn

SEMPER FI!



OUR FUTURE

Saturday, June 4th: 12th MCL Mud Run. Pinnacle, NC. For information and registration, check out www.usmcmudrunnc.com.

Tuesday, June 14th, 1900 hrs.: The Carry-On Detachment 1236 Business Meeting.

Friday, June 24th-Sunday, June 26th: Mid East Division Conference hosted by the LCpl. Alan D. Lam #1209 Detachment at the Doubletree by Hilton Raleigh-Durham Airport Hotel. 4810 Page Creek Lane, Durham, NC. 27703

OUR PAST

2 June 1918: At dawn on this date, the crack German 28th Division attacked along the axis of the Paris-Metz road hitting the American 2d Division, including the 4th Marine Brigade. The Marines opened with deadly rifle fire and helped hand the German troops a setback which set the stage for Marine victory at Belleau Wood which would soon follow, although at great cost.

10 June 1898: The First Marine Battalion, commanded by LtCol Robert W. Huntington, landed on the eastern side of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The next day, Lt Herbert L. Draper hoisted the American flag on a flag pole at Camp McCalla where it flew during the next eleven days. LtCol Huntington later sent the flag with an accompanying letter to Colonel Commandant Charles Heywood noting that "when bullets were flying, ...the sight of the flag upon the midnight sky has thrilled our hearts."

12 June 1961: President John F. Kennedy signed a Presidential Proclamation calling for the American flag to be flown at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, "at all times during the day and night." Discussions between the Attorney General's office and Marine Corps officials earlier in 1961 on improving the visibility and appearance of the monument led to the proposal to fly the Flag continuously, which by law could only be done by Congressional legislation or by Presidential proclamation.

25 June 1950: Shortly before dawn, eight divisions of the North Korean People's Army crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded the Republic of Korea. Within three days, the South Korean capital city of Seoul had been captured. On 30 June, President Harry S. Truman ordered a naval blockade of the Korean coast and authorized the sending of U.S. ground troops to Korea. Two days later, General Douglas MacArthur, the Commander in Chief Far East, formally requested that a Marine regimental combat team be deployed to the Far East.

25 June 1966: In Vietnam, Operation Jay began about 30 kilometers northwest of Hue, and lasted nine days. The 2d Battalion, 4th Marines landed north of the North Vietnamese 812th Main Force Battalion, and the 2d Battalion, 1st Marines landed south of the enemy's position. Caught in between the two Marine units, the enemy suffered over 80 dead in nine days of fighting.

26 June 1918: BGen James G. Harbord, the Commanding General of the 4th Marine Brigade, notified American Expeditionary Force Headquarters that Belleau Wood was "now U.S. Marine Corps entirely." After 20 days of combat, and at a cost of over 4,000 casualties, the 4th Brigade of Marines had proven its fighting heart. The grateful Commander of the French Sixth Army would soon decree that in all official correspondence, Belleau Wood would henceforth bear the name, "Bois de la Brigade de Marine."

OUR FALLEN

Tom Barrie. John Bullock. George Gillespie. Robert Moore. Willard Pleasants. Gordon Young. Mark Wayne Williams. Linwood Johnson. George Hartley. Patrick Goodrow. Kenneth R. Parker.



DID YOU KNOW?

In Flanders Fields

BY JOHN MCCRAE

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



Continued story on next page...

In Flanders Fields was first published in England's *Punch* magazine in December 1915. Within months, this poem came to symbolize the sacrifices of all who were fighting in the First World War. Today, the poem continues to be a part of Remembrance Day ceremonies in Canada and other countries throughout the world.

The poem was written by a Canadian—John McCrae, a doctor and teacher, who served in both the South African War and the First World War.

On August 4, 1914, Britain declared war on Germany. Canada, as a member of the British Empire, was automatically at war, and its citizens from all across the land responded quickly. Within three weeks, 45,000 Canadians had rushed to join up. John McCrae was among them. He was appointed a medical officer with the First Brigade of the Canadian Field Artillery with the rank of Major and second-in-command.

Just before his departure, he wrote to a friend:

It is a terrible state of affairs, and I am going because I think every bachelor, especially if he has experience of war, ought to go. I am really rather afraid, but more afraid to stay at home with my conscience.

He took with him a horse named Bonfire, a gift from a friend. Later, John McCrae sent his young nieces and nephews letters supposedly written by Bonfire and signed with a hoof print.

In April 1915, John McCrae was in the trenches near Ypres, Belgium, in the area traditionally called Flanders. Some of the heaviest fighting of the First World War took place there during what was known as the Second Battle of Ypres.

On April 22, the Germans used deadly chlorine gas against Allied troops in a desperate attempt to break the stalemate. Despite the debilitating effects of the gas, Canadian soldiers fought relentlessly and held the line for another 16 days.

In the trenches, John McCrae tended hundreds of wounded soldiers every day. He was surrounded by the dead and the dying. In a letter to his mother, he wrote of the Battle of Ypres.

The general impression in my mind is of a nightmare. We have been in the most bitter of fights. For seventeen days and seventeen nights none of us have had our clothes off, nor our boots even, except occasionally. In all that time while I was awake, gunfire and rifle fire never ceased for sixty seconds And behind it all was the constant background of the sights of the dead, the wounded, the maimed, and a terrible anxiety lest the line should give way.

The day before he wrote his famous poem, one of McCrae's closest friends was killed in the fighting and buried in a makeshift grave with a simple wooden cross. Wild poppies were already beginning to bloom between the crosses marking the many graves. Unable to help his friend or any of the others who had died, John McCrae gave them a voice through his poem. It was the second last poem he was to write.

Soon after it was written, he was transferred to No. 3 (McGill) Canadian General Hospital in France where he was Chief of Medical Services. The hospital was housed in huge tents at Dannes-Cammiers until cold wet weather forced a move to the site of the ruins of the Jesuit College at Boulogne.

When the hospital opened its doors in February 1916, it was a 1,560-bed facility covering 26 acres. Here the wounded were brought from the Battle of the Somme, the Battle of Vimy Ridge, the third Battle of Ypres and from Arras and Passchendaele.

John McCrae was deeply affected by the fighting and losses in France. He became bitter and disillusioned.

He felt he should have made greater sacrifices and insisted on living in a tent through the year, like his comrades at the front, rather than in the officers' huts. When this affected his health in mid-winter he had to be ordered into warmer surroundings. To many he gave the impression that he felt he should still be with his old artillery brigade. After the battle of Ypres, he was never again the optimistic man with the infectious smile.

For respite, he took long rides on Bonfire through the French countryside. Another animal companion was a casualty of the war, the dog Bonneau, who adopted John McCrae as his special friend.

Writing letters and poetry also allowed John McCrae to escape temporarily from the pressures of his administrative duties at the hospital. His last poem, "The Anxious Dead", echoed the theme of "In Flanders Fields" but was never as popular as the earlier poem.

During the summer of 1917, John McCrae was troubled by severe asthma attacks and occasional bouts of bronchitis. He became very ill in January 1918 and diagnosed his condition as pneumonia. He was moved to Number 14 British General Hospital for Officers where he continued to grow weak.

On January 28, after an illness of five days, he died of pneumonia and meningitis. The day he fell ill, he learned he had been appointed consulting physician to the First British Army, the first Canadian so honoured.

John McCrae was buried with full military honours in Wimereux Cemetery, just north of Boulogne, not far from the fields of Flanders. Bonfire led the procession, McCrae's riding boots reversed in the stirrups. His death was met with great grief among his friends and contemporaries. A friend wrote of the funeral:

The day of the funeral was a beautiful spring day; none of us wore overcoats. You know the haze that comes over the hills at Wimereux. I felt so thankful that the poet of 'In Flanders Fields' was lying out there in the bright sunshine in the open space he loved so well....

Before he died, John McCrae had the satisfaction of knowing that his poem had been a success. Soon after its publication, it became the most popular poem on the First World War. It was translated into many languages and used on billboards advertising the sale of the first Victory Loan Bonds in Canada in 1917. Designed to raise \$150,000,000, the campaign raised \$400,000,000.

In part because of the poem's popularity, the poppy was adopted as the Flower of Remembrance for the war dead of Britain, France, the United States, Canada and other Commonwealth countries.

Today, people continue to pay tribute to the poet of In Flanders Fields by visiting McCrae House, the limestone cottage in Guelph, Ontario where he was born. The house has been preserved as a museum. Beside it are a memorial cenotaph and a garden of remembrance.

The symbolic poppy and John McCrae's poems are still linked and the voices of those who have died in war continue to be heard each Remembrance Day.

MEMORIAL DAY 2022



Saturday, May 28th, our Marines and family gathered for intel prior to carrying out the mission of American Flag distribution on Veterans' graves through out Wilders Township in Johnston County. As you can see, some are very easy to find, and some need a bit of recon and tactical maneuvers to get to. It was nice to meet afterwards at our former Adj/ Paymaster Ken Parker's final resting place and see that his widow, Carolyn was there to greet us.





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Please remember, Marines! Let us help our building host, American Legion Pou-Parrish Post 332, with collecting pop/beer tabs for the Durham/Wake Ronald McDonald house!



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