



Spring's Fashion Essential — a VHRC Mask!

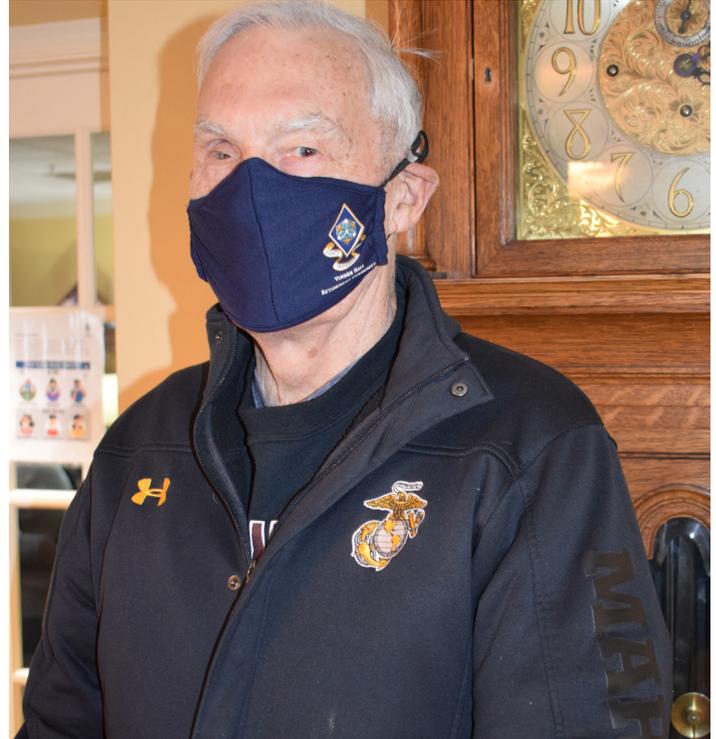
Throughout our COVID journey, masks have been the most visible indicator of the changes caused by the virus. At VHRC we were blessed to have several residents, family members, and other community members make cloth masks for our residents and staff. These masks kept us covered for months.

Then, a few months ago – as it became easier to purchase cloth masks, Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation had the idea to have custom masks made with the VHRC logo. Creating the masks was a collaborative effort. Lisa Desmond, Director of Clinical Operations, weighed in about what features a good mask should have. These discussions led to a three-ply mask design with sliding ear loops and nose wire.

Haider Mahmood, Director of Dining, provided production help by connecting us with a mass mask maker (say that three times fast!) who produced the masks at a very competitive price. "I was happy to help in this process. I was happy that I was able to use my connections to get the masks at a reduced cost," said Haider.

Earlier this week we distributed the mask to all residents and staff – and we have to say they look pretty good!

"We are delighted to offer these masks to



Mike Cluff models a VHRC mask, created by the Foundation team.

VHRC residents and staff," said Michelle Crone, Director of Philanthropy. "Masks are a part of our life for the time being, and now we have one that reflects our community!"

We do recommend that you wash the mask in hot water and dry it in the dryer – even though the directions say to wash it in cold and lie flat to dry. We also have a few masks in our office – The Foundation Office in Vinson Hall – that have been modified for smaller faces. So please stop by if you have any issues with your mask or would like another one. And like the message says: Wear it in good health!

Navy Bound

George Zeberlein set his sights on the Naval Academy as a five-year-old. "Every summer we'd visit the Naval Academy on our way from Baltimore to Ocean City – I loved the uniform!" says George. After spending high school summers in the Naval Reserve and two years at University of Maryland, he got his appointment and joined the Class of 1954. "My time at the Naval Academy was some of the best years of my life!"

For many reasons. As a plebe, he met his wife, Joan, through friends. "The next day, I called my Mom and said, 'I met the girl I'm going to marry,'" says George, who did – the day after graduation. He also met Ted Walker, a fellow plebe and now VHRC neighbor. "We just hit it off – I guess I've only known Ted now for 71 years!" And he discovered his career direction. "As a little kid, all I wanted to do was fly airplanes but my eyes were too bad, so I went into the Supply Corps. And that turned out to be the best choice the Navy could have made for me."

George's Navy career as a supply officer with a focus on finance encompassed three tours of duty at sea, including on a destroyer and helicopter carrier, and three tours at the Pentagon. But his favorite tours were the overseas posts. In Panama, he served as comptroller of the Rodman Naval Station. "I had a great time, and got to see almost all of South and Central America." There, his path crossed with Ted Walker's again. "Our five kids grew up with



From the age of five, George Zeberlein knew he wanted to join the Navy. He did and served for 32 years.

his kids. We're almost like one family." Guam was another favorite post, where he had command of the Naval Supply Depot and traveled all over Asia. "I had a lot of good people working for me, and I was the boss. It was the best job in the world!" he says. His last tour took him full circle, back to the Naval Academy as supply officer, before retiring in 1982 and ultimately joining his friend Ted again in 2017 at VHRC.

"It's been a lot of fun," says George of his boyhood dream of a Navy career. "I've enjoyed every minute of it."

The Campus Voice

This publication is created for Vinson Hall Retirement Community in an effort to inform and delight. This publication is produced by the Office of Philanthropy and Engagement, but attempts to reflect the work and efforts of all VHRC residents and staff. Please direct inquiries, corrections, suggestions, or brief submissions to Amiee Freeman, Communications and Public Relations Specialist, amieef@vinsonhall.org or 703-538-3069.