



Newsletter

January 2004 Manny Bacon Post 1758

There will be chicken as well as sausage and peppers served at the next meeting so come have a bite with your fellow members. Meeting will start at normal time.

MIDWINTER AWARDS

Well the good news is Danny Oberhuaser, Dan Briscoe and myself survived the mid winter conference. The bad news is the post membership award wasn't there. I was told that the person who was supposed to bring them got sick and couldn't make it . I was told they would be coming down through district at a later date.

Pot of Gold

The pot is up to \$159 .00 Name drawn last meeting was Claude Wuytack. Its starting to get really potentially profitable to go to the meetings.

Sign In Book

Starting next meeting we have a sign in book that all members who are in attendance at the monthly meeting will need to sign. It will be by the Pot of Gold Bucket at each meeting.

D A V Award

The post received an award from Disabled American Veterans Castle Point Chapter for serving the dinner at the knights of Columbus . Again thanks to all who helped out .

Certificate of Achievement

I was awarded a certificate of achievement for Area D being at 100% percent of membership at the last county meeting. That piece of paper may have my name on it but you guys did it. This post is carrying my area. Thanks to everyone.

New Members

It is with great pride I announce our latest new members . Please welcome Moe Baxter and Jack King.

Moe brings 10 years of legion experience and has been heavily involved with various veterans issues and organizations as well as working for several years with the veterans of castle point. Moe is a Vietnam era Marine.

Jack is a member of Disabled America Veterans And he to works extensively with the Veterans at Castle Point. Jack served in Vietnam as a Navy corman. Welcome aboard guys. Proud to have you.

P.U.F.L

Paid up for life memberships have gone up. If your thinking of doing it the sooner you do the cheaper in the long run it will be. The average cost increase was about \$90.00 . Contact the Adjutant for your exact cost for PUFL Membership.

Candlelight Vigil in Washington DC

My wife and I attended a candle light vigil for Capt. Speicher who was shot down on the opening night of the first Gulf War. We were proud to represent the post and county. We met and talked with many people who served with and grew up with Capt. Speicher. The common thread was not one of them has given up on him and neither should we. More info on the web site.

U.S. hunts for missing Gulf War pilot

WASHINGTON (CNN) -- U.S. military officials said Thursday a desert nomad in Iraq might be the last hope to learn what happened to Navy pilot Scott Speicher, shot down the first night of the Persian Gulf War 13 years ago.

The Iraq Survey Group, which in addition to searching for unconventional weapons is charged with hunting for Speicher, plans to send experts in the next day or so to the area where Speicher crashed to search for the Bedouin tribesman.

It is believed this is the time of year the tribe regularly moves through the area.

Several U.S. military officials confirmed the essential details of this latest search to CNN.

Sources said the hope is the tribesman will be able to provide details about intelligence gathered since Speicher's F/A-18 was shot down January 17, 1991.

The information indicates a Bedouin might have recovered and buried the body of an American, and has a pistol that might have belonged to Speicher.

The sources emphasized this information has been circulating for several years but they have not been able to get into the region to look for the man until now.

Intelligence officials are split, however, on whether the man will have details that could actually lead to Speicher's body.

At least one senior intelligence official told his staff he is "hopeful" because the Bedouin are not likely to lie, even to Americans. But others are more skeptical, according to sources.

In January 2003, a report from the Navy was made public indicating reasons Speicher might be alive. The report focused on these factors:

- Analysis of the wreckage concluded Speicher survived the initial damage to the aircraft and ejection.
- The flight suit found near the wreckage and turned over by the Iraqis showed no signs of a crash impact, as it would have if the pilot had been in the plane when it hit.
 - The Red Cross team that investigated the wreckage reported the cockpit had been expertly dismantled.
- Cumulative information received since Speicher was shot down continues to suggest strongly that the Iraqi government could account for him.

There have been numerous reports about the fate of the pilot, but there has been no solid evidence to indicate what happened to him.

Initially the Navy declared Speicher the Gulf War's first combat death and his status was listed as "killed in action." Eventually his status was changed to "missing in action."

In October 2002, Navy Secretary Gordon England signed an order to change Speicher's status a third time from "missing in action" to "missing-captured."

Speicher was promoted to captain that same year.

See you at the Febuary meeting.