



American Legion Post 1758 Newsletter

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American Legion Post 1758,
Junction, NY 12533

PO Box 92,

Hopewell

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Try not to become a man of
success but a man of value.
Albert Einstein

**The Dutchess County American
Legion has a new web site.
You might want to take a look
around the County's site at:**

<http://aldutchesscounty.org/index.html>

You'll find a calendar of upcoming
events, County Officers and other

Our next meeting will be September
11, **2012** at 7:00 PM at the
Whortlekill Rod and Gun Club.

Semper Fi Parents of Hudson Valley

- a non-profit parental support
organization for those in the military,
located here in the Hudson Valley, is holding
their 2nd Annual "**Hero Softball
Tournament**". Held on the weekend
following 9-11, on September 15th, 2012 at
Dutchess Stadium we welcome teams from
the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines.

This family day event, will also have a static
display, an area to "Get Dressed For Combat"
and a chance to taste test some MRE's.

We hope that you will also review our web
site to see how you can help at
www.semperfiparentshv.org

Please feel free to share this with your
family, your neighbors, your coworkers and
others to help spread the word.

Further questions can be directed to 914-
474-2295.

Regional Employers To Turn Out En Masse to Support Veterans

Over 40 Register to Participate in a “Hire A Hero”

Veterans Only Job Fair Organized by Empire City Casino

Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway will host a “Hire A Hero” job fair for area employers and service men and women returning from overseas looking to re-enter the workforce.

The veterans-only job fair will take place on **Thursday, August 23, 2012** from **11am - 3pm** in the casino’s third floor Good Time Room.

“We owe these young men and women a debt we’ll never be able to repay,” said **Tim Rooney, Sr.**, owner and operator of Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway. “This is our way of saying thank you and our way of giving other employers in the area a way to show their gratitude as well.”

The Rooney Family, owners of Empire City Casino, have taken the lead in an effort to ensure that veterans returning from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars get direct access to area employers who have positions to fill.

The casino is undergoing a \$50 million expansion and plans to hire returning veterans for some of the new jobs that will be created. They are urging other area employers to join them in the “Hire a Hero” initiative to make sure there are jobs waiting for our service men and women when they return.

More than forty employers from the region have stepped up to participate in the job fair, representing a wide variety of employment opportunities. Empire City will underwrite the entire cost of the event to encourage businesses of all sizes to participate.

Rooney has called on members of the media, elected representatives, and area residents to help spread the word about the event so that veterans looking for



Special Notice: If you are a veteran in emotional crisis and need help RIGHT NOW, call this toll-free number 1-800-273-8255, available 24/7, and tell them you are a veteran. All calls are confidential.

Living space available for Veteran in need. Do you know a homeless

Veteran? Neil Klock has room in his home and is willing to take in a Veteran.

Contact Neil at 945-227-6001



Good Of The Legion:

Joe Ryan's name was pulled for the Pot Of Gold Drawing. As luck would have it, this was one of the rare times that Joe wasn't in attendance. The money was added to the POT.

Gulf War Vets Sought for Study

Dr. William Meggs, an East Carolina University medical toxicologist and professor of emergency medicine, is leading a team of biomedical scientists in a study of new medicines to treat Gulf War Illness. Dr. Meggs hopes to recruit 60 veterans who developed Gulf War Illness to participate in the study, which will research of generic drugs that control inflammation in the brain that may have been triggered by neurotoxin exposures. Gulf War veterans interested in the study can contact Dr. Meggs at (252) 744-5568.



Castle Point is always looking for volunteers in a variety of positions. Call (845) 831-2000

'Stolen Valor' Website Debuts

The Department of Defense has launched a new website to try to reduce the number of Americans fraudulently claiming to have been awarded medals by the military. The Department of Defense's new [U.S. Military Awards for Valor--Top 3 website](#) is a response to the June ruling by the Supreme Court that the "Stolen Valor" law was unconstitutional. The new website compiles information about those who have received the military's two highest awards for valor -- Medals of Honor and Service Crosses -- since Sept. 11, 2001. The Defense Department is also trying to compile information on Silver Star recipients, but no timetable has been given on when that might be completed.

The VA offers a wide array of special programs and initiatives specifically designed to help homeless veterans live as self-sufficiently and independently as possible. Call 877-424-3838

Remembering the Korean War



The Korean War began June 25, 1950, with the North Korean army's invasion of South Korea, and officially ended July 27, 1953, a day now officially recognized as Armistice Day. The signing marked the end of the longest negotiated armistice in history: 158 meetings spread over two years and 17 days. At 10 a.m. that day, in Panmunjom, 18 official copies of the tri-language Korean Armistice Agreement were signed.

An American Forces Press Service special report looks back at the Korean War.

http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2010/0610_koreanwar/

SGT Vincent Hancock wins 2nd Olympic Gold

Ignoring a touch of rain and a ton of pressure, the USA's Vincent Hancock hit 'em with his best shots. His record accuracy Tuesday with a double-barreled shotgun gave him his second gold medal in as many Olympics in skeet shooting. Ignoring a touch of rain and a ton of pressure, the USA's Vincent Hancock hit 'em with his best shots.

His record accuracy Tuesday with a double-barreled shotgun gave him his second gold medal in as many Olympics in skeet shooting. After hitting an Olympic skeet record 148 of 150 targets over two days — including 25-25 in the final — the 23-year-old stood atop the podium for the playing of the U.S. national anthem.

He held his hand over his heart and stood ramrod straight like the Army sergeant he is.

"Having the opportunity to come out here and represent my country, that's what it's really all about," said Hancock, who won by two targets over silver medalist Anders Goding (146 score). "God has given me the greatest opportunity in the world to represent my country on a stage this grand and especially to have this medal hanging around my neck again."

WW II B17 Survival Story

A mid-air collision on February 1, 1943, between a B-17 and a German fighter over the Tunis dock area, became the subject of one of the most famous photographs of World War II. An enemy fighter attacking a 97th Bomb Group formation went out of control, probably with a wounded pilot then continued its crashing descent into the rear of the fuselage of a Fortress named All American, piloted by Lt. Kendrick R. Bragg, of the 414th Bomb Squadron. When it struck, the fighter broke apart, but left some pieces in the B-17. The left horizontal stabilizer of the Fortress and left elevator were completely torn away. The two right engines were out and one on the left had a serious oil pump leak. The vertical fin and the rudder had been damaged, the fuselage had been cut almost completely through connected only at two small parts of the frame and the radios, electrical and oxygen systems were damaged. There was also a hole in the top that was over 16 feet long and 4 feet wide at its widest and the split in the fuselage went all the way to the top gunner's turret.

Although the tail actually bounced and swayed in the wind and twisted when the plane turned and all the control cables were severed, except one single elevator cable still worked, and the aircraft still flew miraculously. The tail gunner was trapped because there was no floor. When the bomb bay doors were opened, the wind turbulence was so great that it blew one of the waist gunners into the broken tail section. It took several minutes and four crew members to pass him ropes from parachutes and haul him back into the forward part of the plane. When they tried to do the same for the tail gunner, the tail began flapping so hard that it began to break off. The weight of the gunner was adding some stability to the tail section, so he went back to his position.

The turn back toward England had to be very slow to keep the tail from twisting off. They actually covered almost 70 miles to make the turn home. The bomber was so badly damaged that it was losing altitude and speed and was soon alone in the sky. For a brief time, two more Me-109 German fighters attacked the All American. Despite the extensive damage, all of the machine gunners were able to respond to these attacks and soon drove off the fighters. The two waist gunners stood up with their heads sticking out through the hole in the top of the fuselage to aim and fire their machine guns. The tail gunner had to shoot in short bursts because the recoil was actually causing the plane to turn.

Allied P-51 fighters intercepted the All American as it crossed over the Channel and took one of the pictures shown. They also radioed to the base describing that the empennage was waving like a fish tail and that the plane would not make it and to send out boats to rescue the crew when they bailed out. The fighters stayed with the Fortress taking hand signals from Lt. Bragg and relaying them to the base. Lt. Bragg signaled that 5 parachutes and the spare had been "used" so five of the crew could not bail out. He made the decision that if they could not bail out safely, then he would stay with the plane and land it.

Two and a half hours after being hit, the aircraft made its final turn to line up with the runway while it was still over 40 miles away. It descended into an emergency landing and a normal roll-out on its landing gear.

When the ambulance pulled alongside, it was waved off because not a single member of the crew had been injured. No one could believe that the aircraft could still fly in such a condition. The Fortress sat placidly until the crew all exited through the door in the fuselage and the tail gunner had climbed down a ladder, at which time the entire rear section of the aircraft collapsed onto the ground. The rugged old bird had done its job.



Congratulations Team! After one month into the campaign we have had 45 members renew their membership for 2013. It would be great to see the rest of the renewals arrive shortly. Remember you can also renew on line at <http://www.legion.org/renew>
Renewing on line is simple and quick.

New law counters Westboro protests

Congress took action where the Supreme Court didn't to curb Westboro Baptist Church's followers from protesting the funerals of fallen troops and veterans.

President Obama signed into law Monday the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act that includes language aimed at protecting service members funerals. The church based in Kansas is best known for staging protests at service members funerals to protest the service of homosexuals in the military.

In 2011, the Supreme Court ruled the First Amendment protected Westboro's right to protest the funerals. Chief Justice John Roberts wrote in the majority opinion that "as a nation we have chosen ... to protect even hurtful speech on public issues to ensure that we do not stifle public debate."

Sen. Olympia Snow, R-Maine, introduced legislation three months following the Court's ruling that gives the government the right to further protect the funerals. The act argues that ensuring fallen troops have respectful burials is important to maintaining a strong military and protecting national security.

The new law extends bans on picketing funeral services of troops and veterans from 150 feet to 300 feet, and prohibits protests from being conducted up to two hours before and after a funeral. Previously the ban was for an hour before and after.

Violations are punishable by a fine and up to a year in jail.

Bikers for America's Bravest Golf Outing

Friday, August 24, 2012

Hosted by Rolling Thunder® Chapter 3 NY

Mill-Creek Golf Course, 900 Route 9W, Marlboro, NY 12542

Please join us for 18 holes of golf, cart included, breakfast, lunch & dinner

Yes, I/we want to make a reservation or contribution, as follows:

	Qty.	Amt.
18 holes of golf (meals and cart included) \$100 X	_____	_____
Dinner Only \$20 X	_____	_____
Donation Only	_____	_____

All proceeds are going to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation to build Sgt. Tech Joe Wilkinson a Smart Home.

To learn more visit www.tunneltotowers.org

RSVP by August 15, 2012 to Joe Dallvechia at 845-489-6409

Make checks payable to Rolling Thunder®, Chapter 3, NY

Rolling Thunder® Chapter 3— PO Box 10991, Newburgh, NY 12553-0991

www.rtnych3.com