



AMERICAN VETERANS Post 911

P.O. Box 413 SOMERS POINT, N.J. 08244

amvetspost911nl@comcast.net

Newsletter No. 4, 2nd Quarter 2011

SERVING OUR BRAVE TROOPS, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES



"I Pledge Allegiance—"

Commander: Jim Donahue
1st Vice: Rob Cozen
2nd Vice: John Bingenheimer
3rd Vice: Ron Toth
Adjutant: Rod Mutchler
Finance Off: Gene Corcoran
Judge Adv: Tom Donahue
Provost: Ben Featherer
Service Off: Bob Frolov
Chaplain: Jack Glasser
Historian: John Summers
Trustee: Al Matthews
Trustee: Howard Dill
Trustee: Bruce Dinardo

Post meetings are held at VFW Post
2189, 500 Bethel Rd Somers Point;
First Saturday of every month at 1300 hrs.
Come early and stay late, we're all comrades.

POW/MIA: Paul Giunta
Fundraising:
Sick & Welfare: Sandy Hartnet
Newsletter: Rod Mutchler

Comments/suggestions concerning your
newsletter are encouraged and may be given
to any officer or emailed to
amvetspost911nl@comcast.net.



Commander, Jim Donahue

Commander's Corner:

Fellow AMVET members, I am honored to be your commander. I am looking forward to working with all of you as we serve our fellow comrades, active duty military, our community, and our members. I will announce various committee chairpersons at our May 7th meeting. I believe these committees will enable us to achieve our goals. In closing, please remember, minds are like parachutes—they only function when open.

Jim Donahue

Past Commander:

I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your post commander. In the past two years, our members helped serve our veterans, troops and our communities in many exemplary ways. We raised money for flags for the Somers Point parade route, providing savings bonds to most improved students in local schools, raising money for care packages for our troops, providing a touching first Memorial Day service and snacks during the holidays to patients at Meadow View Nursing Home, providing gift cards and complimentary dinners to needy veterans. Our members also supported other veterans' organizations' fundraisers. We had a grand time sailing in our first AMVETS Post 911 Caribbean Cruise, and held four fun bus trips.

Our membership is close to 300 now and our retention rate is very high. My successor, Commander Jim Donahue, will take our post to an even higher level. Once again, thank you for all your support, and remember that our mission is to support our troops, veterans, and our communities.

Fred Vineyard



We Serve America's Best:

AMVETS is veterans helping veterans to secure their entitlements and live productive lives; these include healthcare, retirement benefits, and job training and counseling. A veteran's earned entitlements are important to us. That is why we continue to speak out for veterans and the continuing necessity of meeting veterans' needs.

American Veterans was chartered by congress on July 23, 1947, and subsequently signed into law by President Harry S. Truman, one of America's great decision makers.

Little Known Fact: John F. Kennedy was an AMVETS Post Commander before he became President of the United States.

Credit Where it is Due:

Fellow members, this is a personal note from your newsletter writer. It has only been two years since the founding of Post 911, and already we approach 300 members. With help from other charter members, Fred pursued it with determination without regard to the naysayers.



Harry Truman recognized the need for such an organization, and Fred took the reins and here. I believe our friend Fred, as he turns over the reins to another dedicated and very capable volunteer, Jim Donahue, deserves a great HOORAH!



"Life's tough, pilgrim, and it's even tougher if you're stupid." John Wayne



Post Website:

Sandy Hartnett & son Joseph are constructing a Post 911 Website. We're sure those with just a little computer savvy will find it useful. It will have the ability to keep members up to date on upcoming events and other post projects, as well as other information of use to members. The address is: www.amvetspost911nj.com

Third Vice Ron Toth and bride, Sue, brought goodies to our vets in need of some joy in their lives at the county Meadowview Nursing Home.



The annual meatloaf awards dinner at the VFW was another rousing success and enjoyed deep involvement by Post 911. Many emergency responders and others received awards, far too many to picture here. Above is Mike Kennedy, Jr. with Bob Frolow, VFW Post 2189 Commander Jim Donahue, and 911 Commander Fred Vineyard. Mike does much volunteer work at Post 2189, as well as throughout the community.

We're blessed with our many volunteers. As usual, there are too many too busy to assemble in one group, so most are once again slighted. The theme of the annual meatloaf dinner is to honor the city's dedicated public servants, police, firefighters, emergency responders, etc.

January 911 Cruise:

The post sponsored a Caribbean cruise this January, which turned out extremely well for all

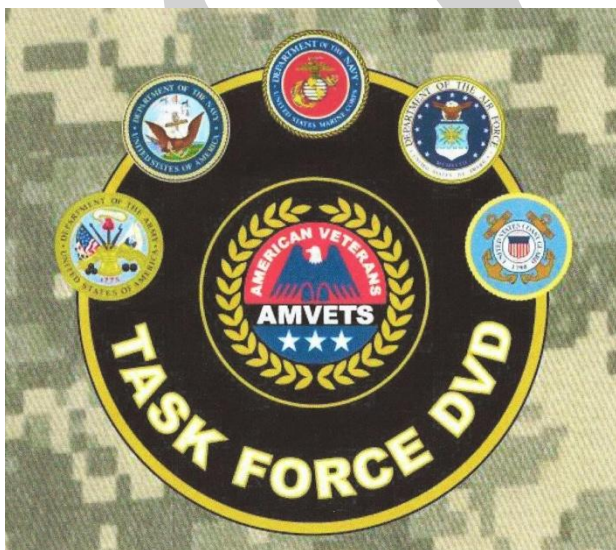
involved. Fred, Jim, and their volunteer helpers organize several types of outings each year for our members and friends. If you can't make one, think about the next. Come out to the meetings for details, as you cannot always rely on the newsletter for timely information.



Our members and friends somehow managed a group photo aboard ship. A great time was had and we can thank Fred and Jim (pictured on the right) for putting it all together.

The next outing is the Yeungling Brewery in PA, but it will be over before this paper hits the mail.

Another Way to Help Our Brave Men & Women:



AMVETS Task Force DVD is an appeal to **Patriotic Americans** to donate their new and used DVDs which will then be shipped to our fighting men and women overseas. **Please deposit them in the box at Post 2189, Bayshore Restaurant, Sandi Point**

Restaurant, Chester Bakery, or VFW Post 8098, Cardiff, EHT.

Homecoming:



The post helped arrange a heartfelt homecoming ceremony for Navy Lt. Ray Tinucci at Sandi Point.

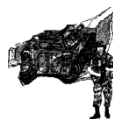
Lt. Tinucci is pictured here between Rob Cozen and Mayor Glasser. The police and fire companies headed up a small parade on Shore Rd welcoming the Lt. home from Afghanistan. There was a large turnout of family, friends, and veterans. Lt. Tinucci is a Navy dentist. Imagine being in a foxhole in the hot sand, and then imagine being in that foxhole with a toothache—whoa...!

Adopt-A-Road:

The post has adopted the Mays Landing – Somers Point Road from Route-9 to the Patcong Bridge. We will have a clean-up schedule with dates and times in the near future.

Raffle:

We will soon request each member to sell our raffle tickets. This is our largest fundraiser, and is very important to the post. The top seller will receive a life membership or equal cash value.



Submarine EHT Squadron:

Some of us attended the squadron's annual dinner show at the Tuckahoe Inn. They presented a cloak

& dagger show during which the audience members had to identify the culprit—loads of fun for all.



Commander Fred and his wife, Sandy, seated with my lovely bride, Sheri.

The submariners had a great turnout and raised funds for their many projects. All of the submariners have joined Post 911.



Upcoming Events:

We hope everyone who wanted to do the Yeungling Brewery bus trip was able to make it and had a great time.

*Fundraiser—Boulevard Liquors, May 28, 2011, 1000-1800 hrs

*Memorial Day Parade, May 30, 2011

*Brutus Flounder Tournament, June 18, 2011

*Annual AMVETS picnic at VFW Post 8098, Cardiff, July 9, 2011; don't miss this one

*Remembrance Service at VFW Post 2189, Sept 11, 2011

*POW/MIA Recognition Day at VFW Post 2189, Sept 16, 2011

*Veterans Day at Post 2189, Nov 11, 2011

*Thanksgiving Day dinner for the Coast Guard Cadets (always a very worthwhile event requiring a few volunteers)

*Pearl Harbor Remembrance Service at the beach in Somers Point, Dec 4, 2011

The events that occur in the public eye are so important to veterans everywhere. Demonstrating our togetherness and determination to honor all who serve encourages public and political support for veterans causes.

Windrose Quilts:

Windrose Quilts is a NJ organization of women who make beautiful quilts for needy veterans. Ron Toth's wife, Sue, represents Windrose locally. They recently donated seventeen quilts to the vets residing at the Gate Apartments.

Thank-You, Ladies

A sincere congratulation is due to Jim Donahue on his election as our new commander. Jim has amply demonstrated his devotion to veterans' causes.

Likewise, we congratulate Bob Frolov on his election as commander of VFW Post 2189.

Somers Point area veterans are more fortunate than most to have these posts, including American Legion Post 352, VVA Chapter 289, the Purple Hearts, Korean Vets, Legion Riders, and the submariners all working together for us and those less fortunate vets. I can speak with some authority on this, as I've been in other posts that do much less than ours do here. Our respective memberships can speak with pride of their cooperation and accomplishments.

Another Great Homecoming:

We can debate the political decisions that got us into these Middle East wars all day long, but if anyone chooses to criticize our brave men and women who answered the call, they will have to

fight me first, and then I'm sure all of our members will leap into the fray.



Marine Lt. Brad Mohr is welcomed home from Afghanistan at the Sandi Point Bistro by Post 911 and many other friends of our troops.



Lt. Mohr and parents, Joe and Donna



Lt. Brad Mohr on Station

Somers Point Parade Route Flags:

Rob Cozen, Post 911 1st Vice Commander, Somers Point Emergency Management Coordinator, and President of the Somers Point Business Association reports that the initial project to raise funds for the purchase of flags for the Memorial Day parade route was a grand success. Through the generosity of local businesses and citizens, we raised over twice as much as we had originally anticipated. Therefore, we purchased a sufficient number of brackets and banners to hang throughout the entire town. Somers Point Public Works will soon begin to permanently install the brackets on the utility poles along the parade route and hang the banners for this year. The American Flag banners will fly from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. We will continue to accept donations that will go into a flag replacement fund.

Thanks to everyone who donated. Because of you, our veterans will proudly march on Memorial Day along a flag-draped route.

Rob Cozen



One example in front of Patriot Park, they won't all be doubled like this, but they are all well worth the effort and expense. Note the expensive hangers of a type required by the electric company.

Our post has been very busy this past winter season, so we're only hitting some highlights here. But as always, it is about us, we try not to reprint

items you can read in other publications.

Yuengling Bus Trip:

Commander Fred out-did himself again with a member/friend bus trip to the Yuengling Brewery in Pottsville, PA. Following the tour we were treated to a very fine dinner at AMVETS Post 180 in Pottsville. It was a fun and educational day for our members and friends.



Some of our gang in the Yuengling Beer sampling bar during the tour

AMVETS Post 180 high atop a hill in Pottsville. They prepared a real nice dinner for us, and all were very cordial. It was a very good visit with our PA comrades.



Our members were never bashful about food—get in line, folks.



And belly up to the bar after dinner—a very friendly post.



The Missing Man Table at Post 180, a Very Thoughtful Arrangement

Is It Possible?

In previous issues, I was advised to avoid the subject of a 911 post home, although we knew it would sooner or later have to be addressed. Now I am recently informed that it is not impossible, and with ramrods Fred and Jim at the reigns, it does indeed seem inevitable. Let us all be prepared to jump in and help out—what a great accomplishment it will be for us to build our own home for our members, families, and friends. But we don't merely want some simple cinder block ole-boys meeting hall. It must be fit for our members and our hopes for the anticipated influx of honored Mideast veterans.

Building Fund:

Help us help Our Veterans; each day, sixteen soldiers/sailors/airmen, and other veterans commit suicide. We are raising money (building fund) to build our own facility to help our membership and other returning veterans in Atlantic County. We will provide volunteer veteran mentors to these veterans in need to help prevent this terrible tragedy. Also, our building will provide education programs to veterans such as interview job skills, resume writing, computer training, etc. Our building will also be available for community events. Our goal is to raise \$100,000.

Each contributor's name will be listed on a plaque and he/she will be invited to the grand opening. AMVETS is chartered by congress, and is the only military organization open to all veterans who served our country honorably, including WWII Merchant Marines.

Your Donation Will be Appreciated

And

IT IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Our New Jersey Charities Registration Number is Ch #3134500

We Are a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization

Make checks payable to: AMVETS Post 911 NJ

Mail to:

American Veterans Post 911 NJ
P.O. Box 413
Somers Point, NJ 08244

I am pleased to support the AMVETS Post 911 building fund.

Please Accept My Donation of:

\$100 _____

\$250 _____

\$500 _____

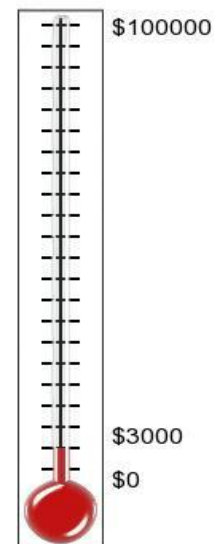
\$1,000 _____

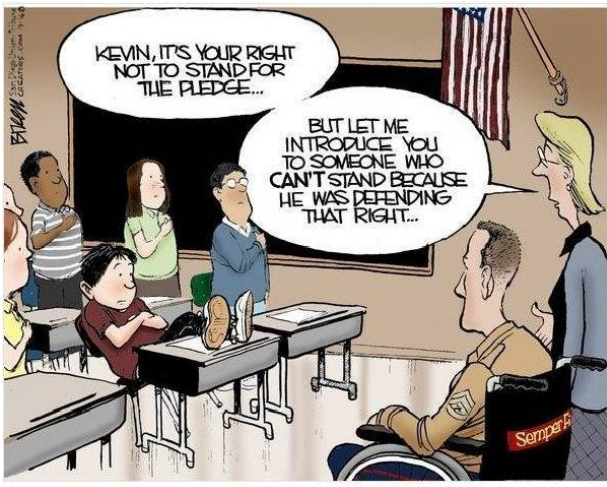
\$5,000 _____

Other \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____





What happened to our National Day of Prayer? Muslims are allowed to block off Madison Ave., in N.Y.C., and pray in the middle of the street, and it's a monthly ritual!

If Muslims can stop traffic and pray on Madison Ave on a monthly basis, why are Christians banned from praying in public buildings and erecting religious displays on their holy days?

If it's true that 86% of Americans believe in GOD, what's the problem with "GOD" in our Pledge of Allegiance?

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