



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



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WORLD WAR II VETERANS DISCUSSION GROUP
HAGAMAN MEMORIAL LIBRARY 203-468-3890
227 MAIN ST. EAST HAVEN, CT 06512

OUR NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18th!

December 2013

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 18th at 2:00 pm in the Hagaman Library UPSTAIRS FRONT SIDE ROOM. (Just ask for elevator assistance if you come in the back door.)

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR MEETING TAKES PLACE A WEEK EARLIER THAN NORMAL DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

This month for our meeting we are having our annual Christmas party! Come and join us for an afternoon of good cheer, music, friends and holiday celebration. Captain Jim Morgia will entertain us once again singing Christmas songs, and we will all then join together and sing more carols. Holiday treats, pies, beverages and the like will be served! Fawn will have an entertainment surprise for us and there will be five holiday raffle baskets to be won! A good time is in store for all!



HOLIDAY GREETINGS!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mrs. Corso 12/5
Dorothy Delaney 12/5
Libby Consolatore 12/13
Jay Miles 12/15
Anthony Leibengood 12/16
John Acampora 12/21
Frank Emley 12/23
Donald Santacroce 12/25
Antoinette Coleman 12/26
Vincent Barone 12/28
Linde Nobile 12/28

"I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. Mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph." — Shirley Temple



'Twas the Night Before Christmas - - New Haven Green, December 24, 1938

GEM OF THE MONTH:

"Live simply, Love generously, Care deeply, Speak kindly...and Leave the rest to God."



ABOVE: An extremely rare 1943 **COPPER** penny: The 1943 copper cent is one of the notable rarities of the Lincoln cent series. Due to war-time needs of copper for use in ammunition and other military equipment during World War II, in 1943 the U.S. Mint replaced the then-standard bronze alloy (copper-tin), so the one-cent coin was minted in zinc-coated steel. This alloy caused the new coins to be magnetic and 13% lighter. Why the copper coins?

An estimated 40 examples of 1943 copper pennies are believed to have been struck, with 12 confirmed to exist. The error occurred when copper planchets were left in the press hopper and press machines during the changeover from copper to steel blanks. Examples were discovered after the War, with the first two in 1947, and another in 1958. An example was first sold in 1958 for \$40,000; one mint condition specimen sold for over \$200,000 in 2004! (Source: wikipedia.org)

LAST MONTH'S MEETING:



Steve Dougherty (above left), nephew of Gordon Stevens, gave a presentation on his grandmother's scrapbook, a WWII time capsule of many local newspaper clippings and photos, as well as several of her personal items (above right.)



Last month: Our own **Vincent Barone**, handed out 1943 zinc-coated steel pennies to each member in attendance, as well as new unstamped blank pennies from the U.S. mint. **Above left:** Vincent Barone holds up a 1943 penny with a magnet, proving its steel content. **Above right:** Mr. Barone presenting blank pennies to the group.



Lucy Van Pelt: What kind of Christmas music is *that*?

Schroeder: Beethoven Christmas music.

Lucy: What has Beethoven got to do with Christmas? Everyone talks about how "great" Beethoven was. Beethoven wasn't so great.

Schroeder: What do you mean Beethoven wasn't so great?

Lucy: He never got his picture on bubble gum cards, did he? Have you ever seen his picture on a bubble gum card? Hmmmm? How can you say someone is great who's never had his picture on bubble gum cards?

Schroeder: Good grief.



Our own WWII Group member Linde Nobile has again made **THE STORE** at the Senior Center lovely and inviting! **THE STORE** is located in the East Haven Senior Center at 91 Taylor Avenue. The phone number is 203-468-3277. **Stop by and pick something up for the holidays!**



THE STORE at the Senior Center



Holiday Items at **THE STORE!**



We note with sadness the passing of WWII Group member **Ken Delaney** on November 3rd. Ken was a US Army veteran of the 1st Infantry Division ("The Big Red One"). Ken was proud of his Army service at D-Day, the Hurtgen Forest, and the Battle of the Bulge, for which he was awarded four Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars, and various unit awards.