

Did you know?
 July
 is national
 Make A Difference
 To Children
 Month.



☆☆☆

WORLD WAR II VETERANS DISCUSSION GROUP
HAGAMAN MEMORIAL LIBRARY 203-468-3890
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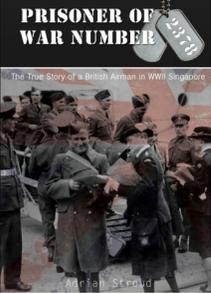
July 2014

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 30th at 2:00 pm in the Hagaman Library DeMayo Community Room.

This month, **Adrian Stroud** of Waterbury, CT will speak about his book *Prisoner of War Number 2378*, which tells his father's harrowing story of being captured by the Japanese and subsequently incarcerated as a POW during World War II. Part of the book is composed of his father's diary writings. A belief that all should understand the ordeals suffered by World War II POWs in Japanese prison camps led Adrian Stroud to tell his father's story.



Photo: Carol Kaliff



Far left: Kenneth and Adrian Stroud viewing a map of Singapore where Kenneth was held as a POW in WWII.

Near Left: Cover of Adrian's book.

THEATER MAGIC—By Faux Poe

Fables are told, books are read
 But for realization, real enjoyment instead
 Let's bring our stories and truly comprise
 Actors, characters, scenes to dramatize

Casting the actor to each various part
 To form an impression right at the start
 This gives them the chance to achieve
 Realism the feeling, they now believe,
 Be it wonderful or tragic,
 We all will enjoy—Theater Magic!



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- Dan Garitta 7/9
- Nick Avallone 7/10
- Ralph Palumbo 7/10
- Sandy Pandora 7/20

*Now Jackson had his acorns
 And Grant his precious rye;
 Teddy had his poisoned beef —
 Worse you couldn't buy.
 The doughboy had his hardtack
 Without the navy's jam,
 But armies on their stomachs move
 And this one moves on Spam!*

—Anonymous World War II poem

FROM 1943 YEARBOOK—EAST HAVEN STUDENTS WHO ENLISTED IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES

We Salute You!

- William MacArthur, U. S. Navy
- Richard Powell, U. S. Navy
- John Mustakos, U. S. Marines
- Richard Brache, U. S. Navy
- Irvine Reynolds, U. S. Navy
- Rolland Butler, U. S. Navy
- Walter Gibbs, U. S. Army Air Corps
- Keith Randall, U. S. Army Air Corps
- Louis Marino, U. S. Army
- Emilio Papale, U. S. Army
- James Saville, U. S. Navy
- Robert Rowley, U. S. Navy

- Edmund Jeanfaivre, U. S. Navy
- Philip Flaggge, U. S. Army
- Norman Woods, U. S. Army
- Robert Shoemaker, U. S. Navy
- Richard De Fabio, U. S. Navy
- Frederick McManus, U. S. Navy
- John Melillo, U. S. Navy
- Robert Wetmore, U. S. Navy
- Charles Blanchard, U. S. Navy
- David Cunningham, U. S. Navy
- Roy Sandagata, U. S. Army
- Richard Miller, U. S. Army
- John Dufourny, U. S. Army

SPAM AND WORLD WAR II

By Kevin McKernon and Steve Dougherty

We all know Spam is a precooked meat product in a can. First introduced in 1937, it is made up of pork shoulder, ham and spices.



In March 1941, via Lend-Lease, shipments of Spam were included in the aid transported to Great Britain and the Soviet Union. It was gratefully accepted by both the military and civilian populations. Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev later wrote, "Without Spam, we wouldn't have been able to feed our army."

When America entered the war, Spam became both the boon and bane of troops. Because it was so easy to transport in large quantities and had a long shelf life, more than 150 million pounds of it accompanied them. It wasn't long before the troops, seemingly served Spam three times a day, seven days a week for the duration, got thoroughly sick of the stuff. Inevitably, it became the butt of jokes. Among them were:

"Spam is a ham that didn't pass its physical."

"Spam is a meatball without basic training."

Special in Hawaii: Following Pearl Harbor, the civilian population of Hawaii was issued a monthly allotment of food from the military commissary which included Spam. Hawaiians learned to prepare Spam with their own regional variations. Veterans who chose to settle in the islands brought their taste for Spam with them. Still quite a popular food, Spam enjoys its highest consumption rate in Hawaii.

GEM OF THE MONTH:**"Well done is better than well said." – Benjamin Franklin****Last Month:
Open House at Connecticut Iwo Jima Memorial**

Our own Dan Garitta and Kevin McKernon brought a military memorabilia display to the Connecticut Iwo Jima Memorial in New Britain for their Open House on June 21st. At the Open House, the Marine Corps League of Connecticut gave an entire presentation covering flag etiquette. There were also reenactors and open mic segments allowing veterans to share their stories. Of the 6,821 who died during the battle of Iwo Jima, about 100 of them were from Connecticut.



Above: Our own Dan Garitta with his WWII memorabilia display at the Connecticut Iwo Jima Memorial in New Britain on June 21st.



Above Left: The Connecticut Iwo Jima Memorial in New Britain.

Above Right: Reminiscent of our May meeting's featured speaker Janet Barrett, who talked to us about the Korean War Marine Corps horse named Reckless, Vietnam Marine Corps veteran Rick Kowalker brought his horse named Melody to the Iwo Jima Memorial Open House. Kowalker and Melody have attended many events including more than 600 veterans' funerals as part of the riderless horse tribute program. A very young 29 years, Melody is a friendly horse who loves to give kisses. By the way, she is a sergeant major.

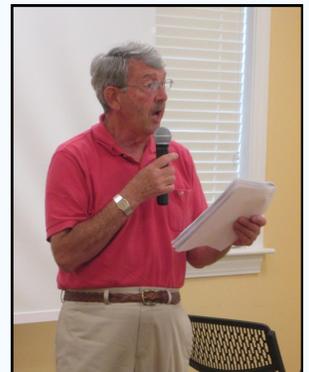
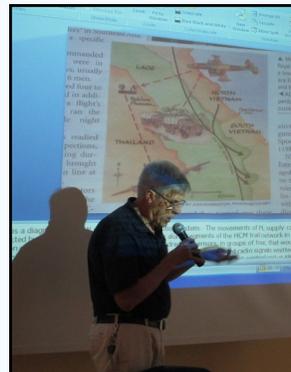
The East Haven News

Combined With The Branford Review

Thursday, August 14, 1947**Just Prior to East Haven's
WWII Memorial Dedication****East Haven Boys Who Gave Their
Lives While Serving In The Armed
Forces In World War II**

SISTO A. ALDIERI
 FREDERIC N. BURDETTE
 JOHN E. COX
 THOMAS N. FENNEY
 JOSEPH FERRAILO
 RICHARD J. COX
 KENNETH H. HALL
 FRANCIS J. HAMILTON
 THOMAS B. HANLEY
 PETER R. HUSSMAN
 MATTHEW G. LIMONCELLI
 DOMENICK H. MELLILO, JR.
 JAMES F. MINAHAN, JR.
 FRANK P. MORRONE
 BURDETT M. PAGE
 EMIL J. PAPALE
 ROMAN PASINSKI
 ARTHUR J. PECHAR
 WINSTON S. POWELL
 JOHN W. SHEPARD
 IZEK L. SLEP
 FRANK A. SQUAGLIA
 DOMENIC YADARESTO

The names of the above are contained on the World War II Memorial to be dedicated Sunday at 3 P.M. on the Town Green

LAST MONTH'S MEETING:

Left: Bob Russell shared photos and gave a talk about his experiences during the Vietnam war.

Right: John Henningson shared his Vietnam experiences detailed in his memoir *A Reluctant Warrior*. He also read a moving piece from his own poetry about the war. John stressed the importance of veterans writing down their memories for others and for themselves.