

Did you know?
August
is national
CATSFISH
Month!



☆☆☆

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



August 2014

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 27th at 2:00 pm in the Hagaman Library DeMayo Community Room.

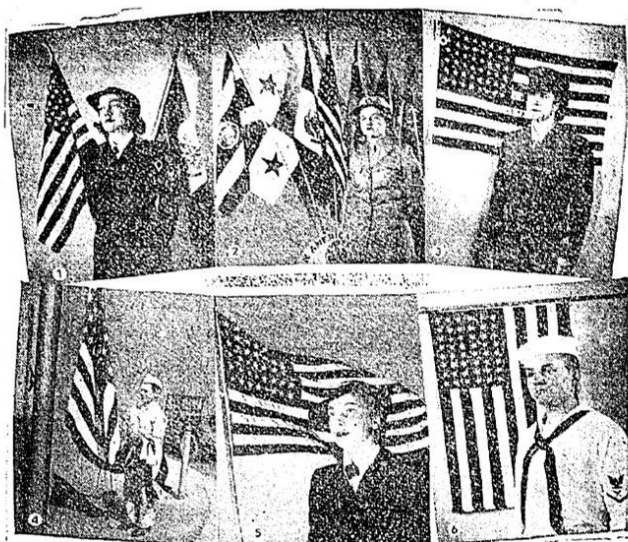
This month we have something really interesting! Marine Corps veteran Ted Aub returns to our group to present the *Forever Wave* program, a fascinating flag history program that ties into the development of our great country. It presents flags since Revolutionary times and also covers flag etiquette and flag folding, as well as the POW/MIA flag with its story. Ted, who has visited us before, is Adjutant of the Marine Corps League Dept. of Connecticut and is a member of the State Coalition on Veteran services and needs. He is also the state coordinator of the National League of POW/MIA Families. Of course, refreshments will be served!



Veteran
Ted Aub



Men And Women Of U. S. Services Show Proper Way To Display Flag



Branford Review and East Haven News June 10th 1943

BELOW PHOTOS: Ted Aub (center of each photo) with two other veterans, showing some of the many flags in the *Forever Wave* flag history program earlier this year.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Sam Girasuolo 8/1
George Firth 8/3
Michael Leibengood 8/17
Nicholas DiMassa 8/21
Edward Misbach 8/30

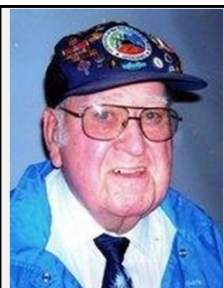
GEM OF THE MONTH:

***"Definiteness of purpose is the starting point of all achievement."* –W. Clement Stone**

DID YOU KNOW?**F.D.R. USED AL CAPONE'S LIMOUSINE!**

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the Secret Service expressed concern in relation to potential assassination attempts against President Roosevelt, as his limousine at that time was not armored and had no protective features. The only bulletproof vehicle they could find was a heavily armored 1928 Cadillac 341A Town Sedan, which had originally belonged to gangster Al Capone. (The Capone limo had been seized by the Treasury Department after he was arrested for tax evasion in 1931.) They cleaned it, made sure it was running fine and had it ready for the president on very short notice. Capone's Cadillac was used to transport FDR until his Presidential 1939 Lincoln "Sunshine Special" was modified to be capable of protecting him, with armor plating for the doors, bullet-proof tires and windows, and storage compartments for pistols and machine guns.

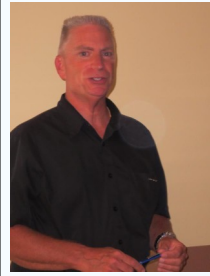
At right: Al Capone's 1928 Cadillac. Regarding his use of it, FDR said, "I hope Mr. Capone won't mind."



Our WWII Group member Joe Minto died Sunday, August 3, 2014. During WWII, Joe was awarded the Bronze Star while serving in the 71st Infantry Regiment of the 44th Division. He was involved in veterans' activities for many years. We extend our sympathies to his wife Muriel and their family.

LAST MONTH'S MEETING:

Adrian Stroud of Waterbury, CT spoke about his book *Prisoner of War Number 2378*, which tells his father's harrowing story of being captured by the Japanese and incarcerated as a POW during WWII.

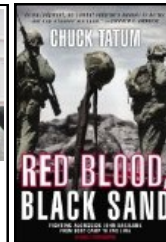
**BOOK RECOMMENDATION**

by WWII Group Member Steve Dougherty

***Red Blood, Black Sand* by Chuck Tatum**



Steve Dougherty



Enraged by the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, a young Chuck Tatum vows to join the Marines and fight for revenge. Unfortunately, he is only 15 at the time.

On his 17th birthday, his mother relents and signs the papers allowing him to enlist. *Red Blood, Black Sand* is Tatum's recollections of his experiences in boot camp, escapades on leave, and finally meeting his idol, Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone, the first enlisted Marine to be decorated with the Congressional Medal of Honor in WWII. Tatum learns valuable lessons and tactics from Basilone during his training. Landing in the first wave at Iwo Jima, Tatum and his squad encounter murderous artillery barrages, but push to Airfield #1. Basilone is killed in action on the first day from mortar wounds. Tatum continues on, telling how each day is a realization of the horrors of war, the inevitable human fallibility, and the mustering of all his resources to survive until the next attack. Returning to civilian life, he becomes a successful stock car designer and driver and opens several auto dealerships. An event at a "Meet the Vets" encounter, when a girl asked him, "What was Iwo Jima and why should I care?" led Tatum to write his memoirs, which became the inspiration for Episode 8 of HBO's multi-part series "The Pacific."