



# STETSER-LAMARTINE POST 281 CHEW'S LANDING, N.J.

Editor Tom Lowe

Cdr. Fran McGovern

## POST 281 EST. 1939

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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Letter From the Rhine</i>	2
<i>Admiral Wilson</i>	3
<i>Horsehide Heaven</i>	4
<i>NJ's Battlefields</i>	5
<i>Admiral Nimitz</i>	6,7
<i>Canteen &amp; Bar Report</i>	7
<i>Schedule of Events</i>	8

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS  
DEDICATED TO THE  
HERO OF  
THE CORAL SEA,  
MIDWAY,  
LEYTE GULF,  
& THE SOLOMONS,  
THE  
COMMANDER-IN-  
CHIEF, US PACIFIC  
FLEET (CINCPAC),  
ADMIRAL  
CHESTER W.  
NIMITZ**



## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

I would like to begin this message with a heartfelt thanks to everyone in the Legion Family who helped make our holiday season a success. The key events were the Children's Christmas Party, the St. John of God's Christmas Party and the Adult Post Christmas Party. A special thanks goes out to **Don Mitchell**, **Tim Stillman** (aka Santa Claus) and Unit 281 for the donation of their precious time in order to bring a smile to a lot of little faces.

Now begins another year. I hope that every member's New Year's resolutions include getting a little more active with the Post and with their fellow veterans.

Membership is the key to our success. If you do not have your 2007 membership card yet, please send in your dues NOW!! If you are in a hardship situation or didn't receive a renewal notice, please contact Senior Vice Commander **Al O'Neil**.

Keep in mind that nominations for Post 281 officers for the 2007-08 year will be 7 March & 4 April at the regular Post meeting. Elections will be 2 May. You must have your membership up-to-date to nominate and vote in the elec-

tion. Please take time out to participate in your Post's election process. It is democracy in action and is the root of everything we and our military predecessors fought for. Once elections are over and the new officers (and some old ones) have been chosen, the installation of these officers will be 19 May, beginning at 5:00 PM at the Post hall.

As always, the Post canteen will have its winter events. Don't miss the Barroom Olympics on 24-25 February.

Keep an eye open for information on our Memorial Day ceremonies. As always, we will be attending the Triton High School memorial service for Triton graduates who gave their lives in Vietnam. As always, our Post Honor Guard, the Auxiliary and the SALs will flag and salute all veterans graves and monuments in Gloucester Twp. over that somber and very important holiday weekend. On Memorial Day itself, our Honor Guard will be involved in Memorial Day festivities at Veterans Park, adjacent to the Gloucester Twp. Municipal Building.

The last event I want to mention is the upcoming Department of New Jersey American Legion Convention, slated for 6-9 June in Wildwood, NJ. Once again, Post 281 will be



staying at the Panoramic Motel in North Wildwood. Please contact **Ed Kehoe** at the Post for additional information. He will provide room rates and help to reserve your room.

Remember, we are a volunteer organization whose members work hard for veterans and our community. Please come out to your Post meetings and events and be more involved.

I am looking forward to meeting you at our monthly meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to stop by the Post and talk to me, or you may e-mail me at [njpost281@comcast.net](mailto:njpost281@comcast.net).

For God and country,

**FRAN MCGOVERN**  
Commander

## A FEW COMMENTS ON “A LETTER FROM THE RHINE.”

(Please Read the Article  
to the Right First).

The letter to the right, according to **Phil Valvardi**, was written by Alfred Spause, a long-time employee of the VA. He evidently survived the crossing of the Rhine and the rest of the war.

Eddie Cross was one of 16 children and his sister still lives in Glendora. “Mamie” was Mamie Moronski, a long-time tavern owner down at the old Dock St. Wholesale Market in Philadelphia.

In previous newsletters, I had urged all veterans who read these pages to preserve your memories by writing them down, dictating them to someone, or audio or videotaping them. The preservation of your old wartime letters is also an excellent way to record your history for your descendants, and also for the overall historical record. Your contribution to the war and to the country as a whole should never be forgotten, no matter how insignificant you may think it is. You served. Be proud of that. It doesn't mean you're bragging. It means you made a difference.

Whatever you do, please do it soon. In the meantime, if you have old wartime letters you want preserved in this newsletter, let me know.

**TOM LOWE**

## A LETTER FROM THE RHINE

Following is a letter, copied verbatim, from the European front during World War II:

“Germany, March 28, 1945

Dear Mom,  
Haven't heard from you lately, but heard from Aunt Jenny the other day and she gave me the latest on the family.

“I am very glad to say that one of my greatest ambitions was taken care of, only I didn't expect it to go over so big. You see, our outfit was picked to cross the Rhine, and if I may say so, we did a wonderful job, although we didn't think it was as tough as some of our previous crossings.

“I'll tell you as much in detail as I possibly can remember. I believe it will pass censorship as everyone is well-pleased nowadays. First of all, we knew that the Rhine job was coming up for some time, but we didn't know where. Then the bridge site was revealed and we were moved to the assembly area.

“The first night there we had a wonderful time for a few of the boys said they were going hunting. Others said they were going after some beer and darn if both squads didn't make out good. They brought back 2 kegs of good beer, complete with taps and also 2 young deer (4-legged). It seems they went out hunting all right, but they didn't say that it was in a zoo. That's the first time I had ever eaten venison steak. It certainly was good, besides having the beer with it. Then one of the boys had some (pop) corn sent from home with good, fresh coffee, which was also a treat.

“I must say that was a swell way to spend the few hours before jumping-off time— venison steak, beer, popcorn and coffee.

“At 2 o'clock in the morning, Eddie Cross and his storm boat section was to shove off, taking the infantry across. They did it perfectly. After the storm boats crossed, the Navy was to follow with their landing craft. Now the Navy was what I was trying to tell you about in my last letter. I believe it to be the first time that the Navy ever worked so close with the Army on inland operations. They really did a bang-up job, handling those sea mules and LCVP's.

“After the Navy hit the far shore of the Rhine, then we were to start construction of the big bridge, which at one time, was classed as impossible to do. Yet it was done.

“The bridge erected about 20 hours sooner than they figured on. When the tanks and more infantry started rolling over, I climbed up on one of the columns of the bridge and placed the small American flag, that the American Legion gave us, on top of it. It sure did look nice waving in the smoke-filled breeze, overlooking the

Rhine River.

“The next day, I was called to the Battalion Headquarters and an officer told me that a correspondent wanted to see me. He found me and asked me if I put the flag on the bridge and who Mamie was. I told him I put the flag up and that Mamie was a very good friend of all the boys in the service. He took my name and address and also Mamie's. Also had to give him an interview about promising Mamie that I would fly the colors over the Rhine just for her.

“He said he liked the story and wanted some pictures of me and the flag. So out to the bridge again we go and I had to re-enact the flag-raising scene again. This was on or about March 26 so there may be a chance that the Philly papers got hold of it. The correspondent said they would.

“There was another guy with us from Eddie Cross's section whose storm boat was riddled with 72 machine-gun bullets and he wasn't hurt a bit. The correspondent wanted a picture of his bullet-riddled boat (but) we couldn't find it as it was sunk. There was nothing more to do but come back to the barracks, until I saw an old boat of ours nearby and pulled it close to the cameraman and started shooting holes in it. I put about 60 holes in it when a captain came up and really gave holy heaven. Then the correspondent stepped up and smoothed things out. The pictures were taken and everyone was happy. I expect to get one of the pictures soon and will send it home. Incidentally, I told the reporter about Mamie having a bar and grille. You know, just for business sake.

“Don't be shocked if you hear of Cross getting a very high decoration for his good work.

“Mom, you would have enjoyed the show if you were here. It was called “D-Day on the Rhine.” I'm sure you would have enjoyed the beautiful flashes the artillery made, especially the anti-aircraft firing at the few German planes that were hovering over our bridge-in-the-making and me with only a hammer in my hands, them with machine guns, strafing the banks, and I, standing on the end of a half-built bridge in the middle of the river.

“I know definitely that you would have stayed for a second show once you saw the first batch of prisoners coming over, all of them with blood coming out of their ears from the terrific artillery pounding they received. It was a 5-star show, in Winchell's language.

“Must close now and get some sleep as I understand we're not finished yet, until Jerry is finished.

“Good-night and don't ever worry about me. It's you that needs the worrying over. Tell Dad to check on the papers as of March 26.

“Best of everything to all the family.

Love,

ALFY (Alfred Spause)

Submitted by **Phil Valvardi**

# ADMIRAL HENRY WILSON

“Good old Mr. Wilson” as Dennis the Menace would sometimes say. Of course he wasn’t referring to Camden’s own Mr. Wilson, but after learning more about this local boy who later commanded the U.S. Atlantic Fleet in World War I, maybe we can now refer to him as “Good Old Admiral Wilson.”

Anybody who hails from the city of Camden- like yours truly- or from any other place in Camden County has their own stories to tell about Admiral Wilson Boulevard which is a stretch of US RT. 30 that links the old Airport Circle with the approaches to the Ben Franklin Bridge. My first impressions of it as a kid in the '60s was a very wide but dangerous thoroughfare that had a whole lot of tall signs, many neon and very well-lit that could be seen from quite a distance. There were car dealerships, gas stations, a fur place, small restaurants and oh yes, go-go joints. Oh yes, oooooohhh yes... Now, how many bachelor parties did I attend at Minnie’s and the French Quarter? Lemme see...

Remember the Oasis Motel? If you do, well I won’t get into it here. But some of us got into it there.

Ron Spriggs and I, along with a good friend, John Marolt, have memories of seeing a picture of Admiral Wilson Blvd. in Mad Magazine about 1965. The picture was shown as a sarcast-



**ADMIRAL WILSON  
OF THE BOULEVARD**

ic portrayal of American culture, the “spacious skies” or something like that, as you looked at all the well-lit signs perched atop 200-ft. high poles along the boulevard. I’d sure like to find a copy of that particular issue again.

By the 1970s, the Boulevard was notorious for prostitution, drug dealing, dilapidated and failed businesses and just about everything else you might see in a bad dream- but it wasn’t a dream. It was real.

Admiral Wilson Boulevard was named after Admiral Henry Braid Wilson who was born on Mt. Vernon St. in Camden on 23 February, 1861, right on the eve of the Civil War. He attended the US Naval Academy at Annapolis, a member of the class of 1881.

During the Spanish-American War, Wilson was commended for bravery while serving on the USS Bancroft, a gunboat. He later became the first commanding officer of the battleship USS Pennsylvania (BB-38) the flagship of the Atlantic Fleet in 1916. On 6 April, 1917, the US entered World War I and Wilson was named commander of US Naval Forces in France. He convoyed troops and war matériel to France (including my Grandfather) without a single

loss. That is truly incredible, considering the havoc the German U-boat fleet was wreaking on British convoys.

For his illustrious and dedicated World War I service, Wilson was awarded both the Navy and War Department’s Distinguished Service Medals. We had a hero on our hands. And he was from good old Camden.

After the war, in 1919, the same year the American Legion was founded, Wilson became Commander-in-Chief of the US Atlantic Fleet. In April of that year, he returned to Camden to see his parents, who still lived there. The city honored him with a shad dinner and motorcades.

In July, 1921, Rear Admiral Wilson became Superintendent of the US Naval Academy where he stayed until he retired from the Navy in 1925. His service in the Navy lasted 44 years. He was certainly an old tar by now.

On 11 November, 1929, Armistice Day, the city of Camden announced that Bridge Boulevard, that led to the new Benjamin Franklin Bridge (completed in 1926), was to be renamed Admiral Wilson Boulevard.

Admiral Henry B. Wilson died 30 January, 1954 in New York City, just 3 weeks short of his 93rd birthday.

Since the year 2000, Admiral Wilson Blvd. has been cleaned up, by order of Governor Whitman who wanted some of the eyesores removed before the 2000 Republican National Convention in Philadelphia. Admiral Wilson can now rest in peace.

**TOM LOWE**



**ADMIRAL  
HENRY  
BRAID  
WILSON  
(1861-1954)**

**Wilson’s father, Henry B. Wilson, was a teacher, postmaster, school board member and legislator in Camden, NJ. A school is named after the father, which is located at 9th & Florence Sts. in Camden. It opened in 1908.**

**Wilson’s bride was Ada Chapman (1871-1963).**

**Both Wilson and his wife are buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Sec. 5, Site 7012.**

**The guided-missile destroyer USS Henry B. Wilson (DDG-7) was named after our hero. It was in service from 1960-1989.**

# GET MORE INVOLVED IN YOUR LOCAL AMERICAN LEGION POST. POST 281 NEEDS YOU!

## SAL's ANNUAL ST. PATTY'S DAY SOCIAL

### FUN ALERT

Come one, come all to the SAL's annual St. Patty's Day Party. A good time is promised to all with door prizes, beer, set-ups, outstanding food and of course music, Irish and otherwise. The music will be supplied by our very own Hibernian, **Danny Sullivan**. The beer starts flowing at 8 PM and continues 'til Midnight. BYOB and a lad or a lass. Tickets are still \$15 per person, available at the canteen after March 1. Hope to see you all.

**SKIP LOWE**  
SAL Commander

# HORSEHIDE HEAVEN

As we shake the snow off our boots and warm ourselves with hot chocolate (or a stiff shot of brandy) in these cold wintry times, many of us, the ones who are truly American, know damned well that winter, like all things, is fleeting. Even on the coldest and most miserable of winter days, those of us who love the feel of leather, horsehide and wood in our hands, hold onto the holiest of hopes—the realization that on the heels of winter comes spring, that time of year when baseball—the most sacred of all games—must and will be played.

The Romans aptly named the month of April after the word *aperire*—“to open,” as in the buds of flowers. But to us baseball fans, we couldn't care less about opening flowers—we want opening day! Yahoo, it's baseball time!!!

The origins of baseball are varied and controversial. Some say a form of it was played in ancient Egypt, and it's quiet obvious that baseball is at least loosely based on English cricket. But the way the game is played today is purely American. It's so purely American that it's the sport the American Legion decided to sponsor decades ago in 1925, just 6 years after the founding of the American Legion.

One sure way to measure up a man is to determine whether or not he likes baseball. If he doesn't, he isn't fit to be taken to his girlfriend's home to meet her parents. Dump him now, I say!

Though baseball is sometimes criticized for being too slow, it's just the nature of

the game. Usually, a lot of things are going on at once. The pitcher and catcher must agree on what type of pitch to throw and where. The other players in the field have to determine if the batter is a pull hitter or not and the batter, if he has done his homework, anticipates what type of pitch he is likely to see, depending on the count and if anybody is on base. Should he bunt, take a half swing and just put the ball in play, or should he swing for the fences? Then, if others are on base, the infielders and outfielders should determine ahead of time what they should do if the ball is hit to them on the fly or on the



**Jimmie Foxx of the A's**

ground. Should they try for a force out, a double play, even a triple play? All these things and more are going on and a true baseball fan is aware of these things too. That's why we're not bored, even during a “slow” game.

We baseball fans love the game, pure and simple, and by that we also mean that that stupid designated hitter rule used in the American League should be repealed, once and for all. Pitchers should hit, it's the way the game should be played. When people start to mess with the basic rules of baseball, where will it all

end? Don't mess with the game. Yep, keep it pure and simple, you baseball front office idiots!

Every boy should play baseball, at least once in his lifetime. Most fans will tell you today that when they were kids, there was just something special about the sport. When you're “at bat” it's you against the pitcher, one-on-one. Yeah sure, it's a team sport, but when you have that bat in your hands, it's you against “the enemy.” It's war! You can be at bat for just one pitch or 25 or more, if you foul a lot. Ted Williams said many times that the feel of a bat in his hands was the greatest thing he ever felt. He loved that battle between himself and the pitcher. Well, Ted won his share of battles, let me tell ya.

Yes, the opening of the baseball season in early April is a time of hope. All the teams are 0-0, they're all tied for first. When the ump cries “play ball” on opening day, well as far as I'm concerned, it's a million times better than Christmas. The baseball gods have decreed that baseball will be played through thick and thin and it shall. It has survived all-purpose concrete and steel stadiums of the 1970s with their hated astroturf and it will survive the occasional strike. Baseball will endure and baseball must go on. Baseball is truly America's game. It should always be that way.

**TOM LOWE**

# NJ'S BATTLEFIELDS

As much as I hate New Jersey for its extremely high taxes, insurance rates and incompetent politicians, I love it for its history. And there's a lot of history here, believe it or not.

Whenever someone says they're a history buff, I can almost guarantee that what to mean to say is that they are really Civil War history buffs. There are a lot of Civil War re-enactors out there, but not many for the American Revolution. That's a shame. New Jersey, both north and south, saw a lot of action during the American Revolution, so much in fact that it's sometimes referred to at the "Crossroads of the Revolution" or "Cockpit of the Revolution." Remember back in 1976 when the Bicentennial was celebrated, and all the states had license plates that referred to our 200th birthday? New Jersey's plate said "Crossroads of the Revolution." It really is true— a lot of really historic stuff happened here 230 years ago.

As a kid growing up in East Camden, no one ever bothered to tell me about a skirmish that took place in downtown Cooper's Ferry (Camden's original name) where 7 patriots were killed in 1777 and buried nearby. All were unknown and their graves were later paved over. Finally, someone did the right thing and had the remains of those heroes sent to Beverly National Cemetery in Burlington Co. They are now buried in a single grave. I have seen it, but it sure isn't advertised anywhere.

As a kid, I was also never aware of the Battle of Red Bank in what is now National Park in Gloucester Co. On 22 October, 1777, over 300 Hessians were killed when they

tried to overwhelm Ft. Mercer. They failed, and on their retreat back to Haddonfield, more than 50 mortally wounded Hessians expired and were buried in a mass grave in Glendora.

Did you know that New Jersey had its own version of the Boston Tea Party? It happened in the Cumberland Co. town of Greenwich on 22 December, 1774, a full year after the Boston Tea Party. This time the tea was burned, not dumped, and this happened in the Greenwich town square. There is even a tea burners monument there. Check that out.

How about the more famous events? Everyone knows about Washington's crossing of the Delaware River on Christmas night, 1776, and his defeat of the Hessians at Trenton the following morning. There isn't much left of the original battlefield, but there is one Hessian barracks still standing which is now a museum, and the area where the American artillery under General Knox fired its cannon is now the site of a Battle of Trenton monument.

On 3 January, 1777, Washington beat up on the British at the Battle of Princeton. This battlefield is still well-preserved (I've seen it twice) and Washington's headquarters during the battle is still standing. I always got eerie vibes at this sacred ground.

Then there's the Battle of Monmouth, which took place outside of what is now Freehold in Monmouth Co. on 28 June, 1778, in 100° temperatures. Sometimes called an American victory, sometimes a draw, it was one of the biggest battles of the Revolution. When I was there about 7 years ago, the visitor's center wasn't much to write home

about, but I understand that it has since been renovated. The battlefield itself is mostly intact, but it lacked decent outside maps and signs that would have explained the battle much better. At least that was the situation 7 years ago.

Washington spent many a winter with his troops in North Jersey, especially Morristown. He spent only one winter at Valley Forge, but of course that became more famous. His headquarters at Morristown in Morris Co. is still standing and the area is still well-preserved.

There was a battle at Fort Lee on the Hudson River in Bergen Co. on 20 November, 1776, but unfortunately, not much is left of the original battle site, thanks to urban sprawl.

There were skirmishes and massacres at Chestnut Creek in Atlantic Co., Little Egg Harbor in Ocean Co., Hancock's Bridge and Quinton's Bridge in Salem Co., Baylor in Bergen Co. and many other sites.

Though Philadelphia, PA can rightfully claim that our country was born there, at least politically, New Jersey can rightfully claim that it played an enormous role in the military birth of our nation. If it wasn't for George Washington and our military, those politicians at Independence Hall couldn't rightfully claim much at all. With all due respect to our political founding fathers, it was the other founding fathers and mothers who did the really hard work—toughing it out at Trenton, Princeton, Monmouth and Red Bank to really make our nation possible. Yep, "George Washington slept here" in New Jersey, literally hundreds of times.

**TOM LOWE**

## TAPS



**Henry H. Eden  
Harry A. Iles  
Harry "The Hat"  
Righter**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### DUE NOTICE

### POST 281 OFFICERS NOMINA- TIONS & ELECTIONS:

**1ST NOMI-  
NATIONS:  
MARCH 7**

**2ND NOMI-  
NATIONS:  
APRIL 4**

**ELECTIONS:  
MAY 2**



**Chester W. Nimitz**

**Born— 24 February,  
1885 in  
Fredericksburg, Texas.  
Died— 20 February,  
1966 on  
Yerba Buena Island,  
San Francisco,  
California.  
Nickname: The Island  
Hopper.**

**Commands:**

**USS Decatur (DD-5)  
USS Plunger (A-1)  
USS Snapper (C-5)  
USS Narwhal (D-1)  
USS Skipjack (E-1)  
USS Chicago (CA-14)  
USS Rigel (AR-11)  
USS Augusta (CA-31)  
Submarine Division 14  
Submarine Division 20  
Bureau of Navigation  
Cruiser Division 2  
Battleship Division 1  
US Pacific Fleet  
(CINCPAC)  
Chief of Naval Operations (CNO)**

**5 October, 1945 was  
proclaimed “Nimitz  
Day” in Washington  
DC by President Harry  
S Truman.**

# CHESTER NIMITZ

Chester William Nimitz was born in 1885 in Fredericksburg, Texas and was of German stock. His father died before he was born, so significantly, he was influenced by his Grandfather, Chester H. Nimitz, a former seaman in the German Merchant Marine. It is from his grandfather that young Chester learned of the spirit and the power of the sea.

Even so, young Chester’s first inclination was to attend the US Military Academy at West Point, but when there were no appointments available, he accepted an appointment at the US Naval Academy at Annapolis. A member of the graduating class of 1905, he graduated 7th in a class of 144.

After first serving on board battleships, cruisers and some smaller craft, Nimitz in 1909 was given command of the First Submarine Flotilla. He commanded and served in subs until 1913 when he began his study of diesel engines in Groton, CT and in Germany and Belgium. In 1916 he became the Executive Officer (XO) and Chief Engineer of the USS Maumee (AO-2), an oiler that was the first diesel-powered surface ship in the US Navy, serving in those capacities until 1917. He was then appointed as aide and later Chief of Staff to Admiral Samuel S. Robinson, Commander Submarine Force, US Atlantic Fleet. The following year he reported to the Chief of Naval Operations and in 1918 was given additional duty as Senior Member, Board of Submarine Design.

Nimitz was a busy man and well-traveled. From 1919-20 he served as XO on the USS South Carolina (BB-26) then commanded USS Chicago (CA-14). He attended the Naval War College in Newport, RI in 1922-23 and in June, 1923 became Aide and Assistant Chief of Staff to Commander Battle Fleet and later to the Commander-in-Chief, US Fleet.

In 1926 Nimitz attended the University of California, Berkeley to establish the US Navy’s first Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Unit. This guy was all over the place, doing everything. He evidently made a name for himself and his leadership qualities were apparent to all those he

worked for, worked with, and encountered.

In 1929 Nimitz went back to his beloved subs and took command of Submarine Division 20 but 2 years later he was in command of the USS Rigel (AR-11), a destroyer tender. In 1933 he took command of the cruiser USS Augusta (CA-31) serving with her until 1935 when he became the Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, then becoming Commander, Cruiser Division 2. In 1938 he assumed command of Battleship Division 1. The following year, with war looming in Europe, Nimitz was appointed Chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

By this time in his career, Nimitz had his hand in battleships, cruisers, destroyers, submarines and auxiliaries. About the only type of ship he didn’t have experience with was the aircraft carrier.

Just 10 days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December, 1941, Nimitz was named Commander-in-Chief, US Pacific Fleet. He was now Admiral Chester W. Nimitz.

So far, though he had served his country well, in so many different capacities, in so many venues, it doesn’t appear that our man Chester was a hero yet, the kind of hero one writes about in biographies and newsletters and has (ironically) aircraft carriers named after him. But we were now in the Big One— World War II— and here is where Admiral Nimitz showed what he was made of.

Today, many armchair historians believe that the US victory over the Japanese in the Pacific war was a foregone conclusion, but in reality, the Japanese Navy was a formidable force to be reckoned with. After Pearl Harbor, its Navy had the clear advantage, at least initially. But US code breakers had broken Japanese military codes and knew their plans beforehand, enabling US manufacturers and shipyards at home a chance to catch up with the Japanese numbers.

Nimitz quickly put the US Navy on the offensive, winning against the Japanese at Coral Sea in May, 1942, then again at Midway in June. He was responsible for coordinating the US victory in the Solomon Islands campaign (1942-45), effectively saving Australia and New Zealand from invasion, destroying an enormous amount of Japanese war matériel and setting the stage for the successful US invasion of the Philippines under (see next page)

## CANTEEN & BAR

For all of you who haven't been to the Post bar recently, we are now smoke-free, but if smoking is still your thing, we have a canopy and chairs outside so you can legally smoke in comfort. It might still be cold out there this time of year, but at least you can puff away, if you like.

Our bartenders, Dottie, Wendy, Jeannie, CC and Mary are very professional, have a lot of experience and we really struck gold with these ladies. They're the best! They are experts at mixing drinks or serving up your favorite beer or wine.

We now have a new hot dog grille and dem doogies are only a buck!! Top that! We also have hot pizza, crackers and cheese and plenty of other typical bar snacks to please you, and of course plenty of good music. If you haven't been to the canteen recently, what are you waiting for! We'd love to see you.

**RON SPRIGGS & TOM LOWE**

## GOT A DIGITAL CAMERA? THEN HELP US OUT A BIT

Our website could sure use your help and input. As many of you know, Post 281 is a very active Post. We have a lot of events, from various Christmas parties, socials, Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies, officer installations, etc. Not only that, but we also have a very active Auxiliary unit and SAL squadron. We would love to show others in our Post family pictures of these events but we sometimes don't get any or sometimes not enough.

If you have your own digital camera and don't mind taking a few shots of any Post event you attend, please submit them to our website coordinator, **Carolyn Bausinger**. She can put some of them on our award-winning website. So you want to contribute? This is a fast and easy way to help, especially if you can take a good picture. If you already have some pics of past events, please let us know. **TOM LOWE**

## NIMITZ

(from previous page)

General Douglas MacArthur.

In December, 1944, Nimitz was made a Fleet Admiral of the United States, the highest grade in the US Navy by act of Congress. As far as the Navy was concerned, he was where the buck stopped—before you got to the President.

Nimitz and his staff coordinated the US attacks on the Marianas, The Philippine Sea, Saipan, Guam, Tinian, the Carolines, Ulithi and Anguar Island. They successfully defended against the Japanese offensive at the Battle of Leyte Gulf (Oct. 1944), the largest naval battle of all time.

In 1945, Nimitz's strategy again proved its worth at Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Nimitz was both a strate-

gic and tactical thinker and planner. Nimitz was able to persuade the US Army Air Forces to mine Japanese ports and waterways by air, choking off both Japanese trade and military logistics.

Nimitz and other Allied commanders had formulated plans to attack the Japanese homeland by early 1946, but the 2 atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on 6 and 9 August, 1945, cancelled the need for those plans to be carried out. When the Japanese surrendered on board the USS Missouri (BB-63) on 2 September, 1945, Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz was aboard to sign the surrender agreement with the Japanese, representing the victors, the United States and its Allies. It was an

honorable deed for an honorable man. Congress made the right choice by selecting him as the unique "Fleet Admiral of the United States."

In May, 1975, the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN-68) was commissioned. I saw the ship at sea twice and I was awed by its immensity. When I later researched his career, I was awed by its namesake. The Navy did right by naming a carrier after one of the best American tacticians of World War II. FDR must have seen something special in him to have Congress create a special rank for a very special and talented old tar: "Fleet Admiral of the United States Navy." Here's a toast to you, Fleet Admiral Nimitz!!!

**TOM LOWE**

## 500 CLUB

Please support the next round of the 500 Club. It is one of our main fundraisers and it helps fund Post improvements. It's never too early or late to join.

**DICK MAYLAND**



## LET'S WELCOME POST 281's NEW MEMBERS

**Jerry Abernathy  
Michael A. Brennan  
Charles D. Cathcart  
Nick DiMattia  
Nicholas Donges  
Shawn Hannah  
William Hoover  
John P. Lang  
Frederick Mechler  
Ronald C. Pancoast  
Edward Perez  
Victor Tumolo  
Mark Van Art  
Rudolph Von Fisher**



Stetser-Lamartine Post 281  
PO Box 94  
Glendora, NJ 08029

American Legion Established  
1919.  
Post 281 Established 1939

Post 281 Phone:  
856-228-9869

Reach Editor **Tom Lowe** at:  
**owllookingback@comcast.**  
**net** or call 856-261-3151.

**RENEW YOUR DUES  
FOR 2007! SEND THEM  
IN ASAP AND REMAIN A  
MEMBER OF THE BEST  
POST IN SOUTH JERSEY**

**REMINDER:**

*Articles and reports for  
the Spring Edition of  
the newsletter must be  
in by the deadline of  
March 20*

Visit our Post canteen:  
the food is great and the  
camaraderie is too. And  
the jukebox is awesome!  
We have rock and roll,  
easy listening, and some  
good old country! But  
sorry, we don't have  
Donny and Marie. If  
you want to hear them  
sing, this ain't quite the  
place. You just might  
get beaten up— and de-  
servedly so, too.

US Flags are for sale at  
the Post. Order some  
new flags for the front  
porch, after they have  
taken a beating all Sum-  
mer. Fly a new flag, not  
an old one.

**Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Glendora, N.J. 08029  
Permit No. 2**

## POST 281 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Functions Are at the Post, Unless Otherwise Notated.

<b>FEBRUARY 21</b>	Honor Guard Meeting 7:30 PM
<b>FEBRUARY 24-25</b>	Barroom Olympics 11:00 AM (24th), 12 Noon (25th)
<b>FEBRUARY 25</b>	District Oratorical Contest 10:00 AM
<b>FEBRUARY 28</b>	Executive Board Meeting 7:30 PM
<b>MARCH 6</b>	SAL Meeting 7:30 PM
<b>MARCH 7</b>	Regular American Legion Meeting 7:30 PM. 1st Post Officer Nominations.
<b>MARCH 14</b>	Auxiliary Unit Meeting 7:30 PM
<b>MARCH 17</b>	SAL St. Patrick's Day Social 8:00 PM
<b>MARCH 20</b>	First Day of Spring. Spring Newsletter Deadline.
<b>MARCH 21</b>	Auxiliary Penny Party 7:00 PM
<b>MARCH 25</b>	Auxiliary Ham Shoot 1:00 PM
<b>MARCH 28</b>	Executive Board Meeting 7:30 PM
<b>MARCH 31</b>	Lakeland Easter Lunch 11:00 AM
<b>APRIL 1</b>	SAL Easter Egg Hunt 1:00 PM
<b>APRIL 2</b>	Phillies Opening Game, Philadelphia 1:05 PM Go Phils!!!
<b>APRIL 3</b>	SAL Meeting 7:30 PM
<b>APRIL 4</b>	Regular American Legion Meeting 7:30 PM. 2nd Post Officer Nominations.
<b>APRIL 11</b>	Auxiliary Unit Meeting 7:30 PM
<b>APRIL 15</b>	Junior Oratorical Contest 10:00 AM
<b>APRIL 17</b>	Girls State Interviews 7:00 PM
<b>APRIL 18</b>	Honor Guard Meeting 7:30 PM
<b>APRIL 19</b>	Camden County Meeting at Post 281 7:00 PM
<b>APRIL 25</b>	Executive Board Meeting 7:30 PM
<b>APRIL 26</b>	Boys State Interviews 7:00 PM
<b>APRIL 27</b>	Awards Night 7:00 PM
<b>MAY 1</b>	SAL Meeting 7:30 PM
<b>MAY 2</b>	Regular American Legion Meeting 7:30 PM. Elections.