



## Let's Visit Point Pleasant Beach's Veteran's Memorial Park

Most of us frequently pass by the intersection of Arnold and Baltimore Avenues without realizing the vast history found within the small tract of land along Little Silver Lake. Veteran's Memorial Park boasts a bandshell and several monuments as well as benches for visitors to take a load off while reflecting upon the events forever memorialized within its peaceful confines. The bandshell is a frequent location for summer concerts in non-pandemic times as well as other festivities. Let's take a closer look at what makes up Veteran's Memorial Park in addition to the bandshell, which hosts festivities and summer concerts in non-pandemic times.

### The World War I War Cannon and Memorial

In 1925, the citizens of the Point Pleasant area erected and dedicated the World War I Memorial, a six-ton cannon with a plaque containing the names of 137 area men who fought in World War I. The historical landmark was placed at the intersection of River and Richmond Avenues as a friendly welcome to Point Pleasant Beach. Over the years, its concrete base deteriorated, and after it began to crumble around the same time Route 35 was reconfigured, it was relocated and buried near the Point Pleasant Beach pumping station, according to a 1977 Asbury Park Press article. Members of the Joseph J. Clifton Post of the American Legion in Point Pleasant Beach dug up the cannon and restored it in 1974. Three years later, in 1977, the World War I Memorial and cannon found a new home and was rededicated where it presently stands to honor and remember local World War I servicemen. When Route 35 was reconfigured, the Memorial needed a new location. In 1977, it was rededicated by the American Legion Post 196 and friends at its current location in Memorial Park. (continued on right)



Above: The Cannon at the intersection of River and Richmond Avenues (PPHSM file photo). Below: The Cannon Today (Photo: Jill Ocone)



Our June meeting will be held virtually on **Monday, June 14, 2021** starting at **7:00 PM**. The meeting will feature a presentation about Leonard "Bud" Lomell and D-Day. Please see the Virtual Meeting Link and Protocols below for meeting expectations and details.

## Virtual Meeting Link and Protocols:

Zoom Meeting Link:  
<http://bit.ly/PPHSJUNE2021>

Type the link exactly as it is written above in your browser to join the meeting.

- Please use your first and last name (if possible) so we know who you are.
- Please keep your microphone on MUTE in order to reduce noise feedback during the meeting and presentation.
- Only the first 100 guests will be admitted to the meeting due to account restrictions.
- The meeting will last 40 minutes, also due to account restrictions. Because of the short duration, PPHS is unable to provide technical assistance to users during the meeting. If you are unsure how to use ZOOM, there are plenty of tutorials available on the Internet.
- Please keep all chat messages and commentary professional.
- Anyone posting or saying anything inappropriate and/or causing a disruption to the presentation will be removed from the meeting.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding and look forward to seeing you at 7:00 PM on Monday, June 14, 2021!

### The Leonard "Bud" Lomell Monument

In 1999, D-Day hero and Point Pleasant Beach Leonard "Bud" Lomell added another achievement to his already impressive list of accomplishments: the dedication of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Leonard G. Lomell Second Ranger Monument. The monument features a bronze dedication plaque on a brick foundation and a replica grappling hook Lomell used to scale the 200-foot cliffs of Pointe du Hoc, Omaha Beach, Normandy, where he infiltrated two enemy lines of defense then destroyed five large coastal guns. Lomell's actions saved the lives of thousands, and according to writer and historian Stephen Ambrose, Lomell is the single individual, other than Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, who is most responsible for the success of D-Day. Lomell will be the subject of this month's monthly meeting presentation. (continued on back)

Photos of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Leonard G. Lomell Second Ranger Monument by Jill Ocone





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## Point Pleasant Historical Society *Serving Point Pleasant and Point Pleasant Beach*

### *Veteran's Memorial Park (con't)*

#### Memorial Stone: Sgt. Alan D. Sherman USMCR

Sgt. Alan D. Sherman (1967-2004) made the ultimate sacrifice during Operation Iraqi Freedom on June 29, 2004. He was Past Commandant of The Ocean County Detachment Marine Corps League.



#### Dedication Stone: General Alfred M. Gray

Dedicated in 1988, the stone is Dedicated to Gen. Alfred M. Gray, Commandant of The United States Marine Corps, to recognize his career of distinguished service to his country by his hometown of Point Pleasant Beach.



Other monuments found in Veteran's Memorial Park include a dedication stone from the American Legion, a memorial honoring Vietnam Veterans (pictured below), and a monument for The Korean War (pictured below), in addition to plaques in front of the various trees. Benches in front of the bandshell at the southern end of the park allow visitors to take a rest and enjoy the atmosphere.

The next time you are out and about, take a stroll through Veteran's Memorial Park with gratitude to those who serve(d) the United States of America.



**Monthly meetings will resume in September as there are no meetings for July or August. Look for details in the September newsletter!**

### *Museum Now Open By Appointment*

The PPHS is pleased to announce that the Point Pleasant Historical Museum is now open for appointments ONLY on Thursdays between 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Please email your appointment request and include as much information as possible about what you are interested in researching/seeing to [ppbhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:ppbhistoricalsociety@gmail.com) and someone will get back to you.

## Patrolling Barnegat

by Walt Whitman

*Wild, wild the storm, and the sea high running,  
 Steady the roar of the gale, with incessant  
 undertone muttering,  
 Shouts of demoniac laughter fitfully piercing and  
 pealing,  
 Waves, air, midnight, their savagest trinity lashing,  
 Out in the shadows there milk-white combs  
 careering,  
 On beachy slush and sand spirts of snow fierce  
 slanting,  
 Where through the murk the easterly death-wind  
 breasting,  
 Through cutting swirl and spray watchful and firm  
 advancing,  
 (That in the distance! is that a wreck? is the red  
 signal flaring?)  
 Slush and sand of the beach tireless till daylight  
 wending,  
 Steadily, slowly, through hoarse roar never  
 remitting,  
 Along the midnight edge by those milk-white combs  
 careering,  
 A group of dim, weird forms, struggling, the night  
 confronting,  
 That savage trinity warily watching.*