



USNBJA Newsletter

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Beach Jumpers Storm Ocracoke Island, N.C.

October 22, 2009

News Flash

U.S. Navy Beach Jumpers stormed Ocracoke Island in the early morning hours today. BJ's from all war eras, World War II, Korea and Viet Nam overtook the Ocracoke Community Center on Irvin Garrish Highway and set up their headquarters. They immediately began to stock the center with supplies, rations and munitions. Yes munitions, silver bullet cans and the like. After the arrival of the initial landing party, more BJ's began to converge on the center. Their numbers just continued to increase all day long.

"Turbo Vestri Hostilis" was heard all over the island, but the residents were not sure what that meant. We would later find out that the BJ's weren't trying to confuse their enemies, but had come back to the island after 66 years to talk about some of their once classified secret missions during World War II and to dedicate a Memorial Marker to the memory of all Navy

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Ocracoke Community Ctr.



Beach Jumper Headquarters



More BJ reinforcements arriving . . .



Community Center marquee

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Beach Jumpers who had served in units between 1943 and 1972. The official dedication ceremony would take place on Friday October 24, 2009 at the Ocracoke Museum grounds on Water Street, followed by the official marker unveiling at Loop Shack Hill. The residents were so pleased to find out that they weren't under attack and welcomed the BJ's with open arms and Ocracoke Island hospitality.

Everyone was invited back to the Community Center, after the unveiling, for light lunch refreshments. Kudos to Darlene and her team from Fig Tree Deli for a wonderful meal.

OCTOBER 23, 2009 1100 hrs. WE FINALLY DID IT !

When the Beach Jumpers Articles of Association and By-Laws were first drawn and adopted the primary goal and objective of the Association was to perpetuate the recognition and memory of Navy Beach Jumpers.

Well, we finally did it on Ocracoke Island, NC we placed the first Memorial Marker for Beach Jumpers. Tourists and residents will be able to read some of the untold and unrecognized history on the marker as they visit Loop Shack Hill. The marker is located at the base of the hill, where World War II Beach Jumpers trained before being deployed throughout the world on their secret missions.

Loop Shack Hill was recently listed in the Federal Registry of protected lands and is currently maintained by the National Park Service.

More photos and information is listed on our website at www.BeachJumpers.com/Ocracoke

The Association is considering a project to continue to promote the memory of Beach Jumpers, called

Plaques Across America.

If your home state has a military museum the Association Executive Board would like to know about it. We intend to spread the word about Beach Jumpers by the placement of wall plaques in these museums.

Please contact us if your state qualifies, we may even vote to hold a future reunion in your state.



World War II members were honored to unveil the marker



Hwy. 12 south, view seen driving toward Ocracoke village.



Hwy. 12 north, view seen driving toward the Hatteras Ferry

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|----------------------------|--|
| • Welcoming remarks | • Master of Ceremony, Wayne Miller BJU-2, USNBJA |
| • Presentation of Colors | • U.S.C.G. Honor Guard, Station Hatteras |
| • Introduce Honored Guests | • Wayne Miller, MC
Vera S. Fairbanks, Guest speakers, Association Officers and Board |
| • Guest speakers | • Earl O'Neal, author, island historian, USNBJA Associate Member
• Doug Stover, Cultural Resource Specialist, National Park Service
• Bill Jones, President, Ocracoke Preservation Society Inc.
• Captain David Haynes, U.S.C.G. Fifth District
• Norris Fanning, BJU-7 WWII, USNBJA
• Edwin Benjamins, BJU-6 WWII, USNBJA
• Joseph C. Hogan, BJU-6 WWII, USNBJA
• C. Felix Harvey, BJU-2 WWII, USNBJA
• Roy Havekost, BJU-2, Chairman, Board of Directors, USNBJA |
| • Presentations | • Larry Markaverich, BJU-1, President, USNBJA and
Roy Havekost, BJU-2, Chairman USNBJA |
| • Benediction | • Rev. Joyce Reynolds, Pastor, United Methodist Church, Ocracoke |
| • Navy Hymn | • Soloist, Roger Mills, BJU-2, Sgt. At Arms, USNBJA |
| • Marker unveiling | • Guests proceed to Loop Shack Hill, followed by light lunch at the Community Center, (Beach Jumper Headquarters) |

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR BUSINESS FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS OF OCRACOKE

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • The Anchorage Inn | • Ocracoke Preservation Society Inc. |
| • Captain's Landing | • Ocracoke Variety Store |
| • Blackbeard's Lodge | • Pam's Pelican Bed & Breakfast |
| • Fig Tree Deli | • Pony Island Inn |
| • Flying Melon Café | • Pony Island Restaurant |
| • Howard's Pub | • Teeter's Campground |
| • National Park Service | • United Methodist Church |
| • Ocracoke Community Center | • United States Coast Guard |
| • Ocracoke Harbor Inn | |

~ and thank you to all our members and guests for being part of this historical event ~

HELP SUPPORT THE ASSOCIATION

Pay your dues ~ Attend annual reunions

Mailing Address:

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Place
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Here



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