



Jerry Donnellan, Director

(845) 638-5244

e-mail: jerry@rockvets.com

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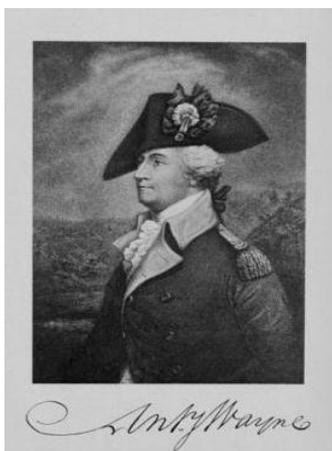
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STONY POINT BATTLEFIELD

State Historic Site

By May 1779, the American Revolution had been raging for four years and both sides were eager for a conclusion.

Sir Henry Clinton, Commander-In-Chief of the British forces in America, attempted to coerce General George Washington into one decisive battle to control the Hudson River. As part of his strategy, Clinton fortified Stony Point. Washington devised a plan for Brigadier General Anthony Wayne to lead an attack on the garrison. Armed with bayonets only, the infantry captured the fort in short order, ending British control of the Hudson River.



On the night of July 15-16, 1779, Brigadier General Anthony Wayne of Pennsylvania led the American Light Infantry in a midnight assault against a British force that had occupied Stony Point. Approximately one hour later, the garrison had been captured by two American columns that had outflanked the front line defenses; the main assault column waded through the shallow

waters of Haverstraw Bay on the south, while a secondary column approached around the north side of the peninsula.



Architect of the Capitol - Fresco by C. Brumidi 1871
"Storming of Stony Point" Room S-128 of US Capitol

The Stony Point Battlefield Historic Site has a museum with exhibits and an audiovisual program telling the story of the battle. Guided and self-guided tours, as well as musket and artillery demonstrations, 18th-century camp-life activities, and numerous special events are scheduled throughout the visitor season. The Museum operates from Mid-April – October, from Wednesday – Saturday 10 - 4:30 and Sunday 12 - 4:30. The Stony Point State Park grounds are open Monday – Saturday from 10 - 4:30 and Sunday from 12 – 5.

For further information call 845.786.2521 or see this site:

www.palisadesparksconservancy.org

The Stony Point Battlefield State Historic Site



This park preserves the site of one of the last major Revolutionary War battles fought in the northeastern colonies. It is also home to the oldest lighthouse on the Hudson River. Celebrate the 233rd Anniversary of the Storming of Stony Point on Saturday, July 14, 2012 and Sunday, July 15, 2012 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For further information, call 845.786.2521 or visit this website: www.palisesparksconservancy.org

Visit the 18th century military encampment as they commemorate American Brigadier General Anthony Wayne's daring nighttime assault on the British fortifications at Stony Point. There will be musket, rifle and artillery demonstrations, talks presented by soldiers and women from the camp on military and domestic topics, cooking demonstrations, blacksmithing, along with colonial games and wooden musket drills for children.

The Stony Point Lighthouse is the Hudson River's oldest Lighthouse, which protected the entrance to the Hudson Highlands from 1826 to 1925. The pyramidal stone structure was restored in 1975, and there is a fine view from the top.



The 33-acre site contains a museum featuring British ordnance captured during the assault and artifacts uncovered during archaeological digs.

Signs along a self-guided walking trail describe the earthworks and their storming. We've included some of the markers and their inscriptions on the next few pages.

The American Strategy

MARKER INSCRIPTION:

In reaction to Sir Henry Clinton's move against Stony Point, the Continental Army marched north from New Jersey, to protect West Point, and a plan was devised to counter the British advance.

Apprised of the formidable British defenses at Stony Point by Captain Allan McLane, an American officer who had gained entrance to the enemy fort, General Washington determined that a frontal attack in daylight would most likely fail. Consequently, a night assault, to be led by Brigadier General Anthony Wayne of Pennsylvania, was planned.

Wayne commanded the Corps of Light Infantry, a select force which probed enemy lines, fought skirmishes, and executed difficult missions. Two columns – a total of 1150 men – would comprise the Continental force. The main assault group of 700 men, commanded personally by General Wayne, would wade through the waters on the southern flank. At the same time, a smaller, secondary column would approach from the north. To eliminate the possibility of accidental gunfire and preserve the key element of surprise, both columns were armed with unloaded muskets and fixed bayonets. In the center of the peninsula, two companies of North Carolina troops, commanded by Major Hardy Murfree, would fire volleys to distract the British and divert the fort's defenders. An additional force of 300 men, under General Peter Muhlenberg of Pennsylvania, would be held in reserve.

At midnight, July 15, 1779, the attack would begin.



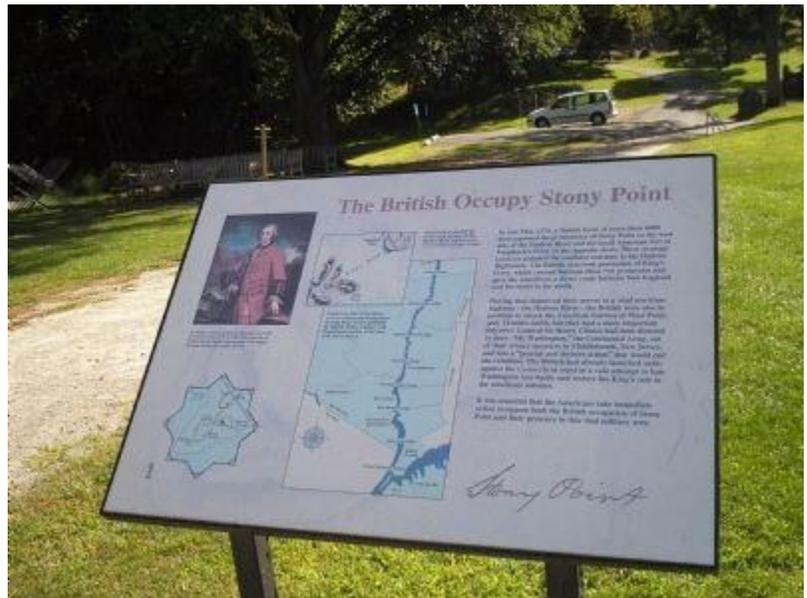
Marker and inscription photos courtesy of www.hmdb.org by Bill Coughlin, 9/20/2008

The American Strategy Marker

The British Occupy Stony Point

MARKER INSCRIPTION: In late May 1779, a British force of more than 6000 men captured the Hudson River and the small American fort at Verplanck's Point on the opposite shore. These strategic locations guarded the southern entrance to the Hudson Highlands. The British also took possession of King's Ferry, which crossed between these two peninsulas and gave the Americans a direct route between New England and the states to the south.

Having thus improved their access to a vital maritime highway – the Hudson River – the British were also in position to attack the American fortress at West Point, only 12 miles north, but they had a more important objective. General Sir Henry Clinton had been directed to draw “Mr. Washington,” the Continental Army, out of their winter quarters in Middlebrook, New Jersey, and into a “general and decisive action” that would end the rebellion. The British had already launched raids against the Connecticut coast in a vain attempt to lure Washington into battle and restore the King's rule to the rebellious colonies. It was essential that the Americans take immediate action to oppose both the British occupation of Stony Point and their presence in this vital military area.



Courtesy of www.hmdb.org by Bill Coughlin, September 20, 2008

IBEW LOCAL UNION 363

Free picnic and ballgame tickets offered to veterans – July 26th, 2012

IBEW Local Union 363 is hosting an all-you-can-eat picnic followed by the Boulders vs. Bears baseball game on Thursday, July 26th at 7:00 p.m. at Boulders Stadium in Pomona, NY. Local 363 is donating 40 tickets to local veterans and their families. If you are a local veteran and interested in this, contact Carmela Marino at email: cmarino@ibewlu363.org or call IBEW Local Union 363 at 845-783-3500.

BARBEQUE FOR VETERANS

Edward-Kearsing American Legion Post – September 8th, 2012

On September 8, 2012, the Marine Corps League and the American Legion Edward-Kearsing Post in Pomona, are hosting a free barbeque for veterans. Even if you're not a member of the Marine Corps League or the American Legion Post, you're invited to attend....just bring a copy of your DD214 with you and enjoy the company of other veterans and some great food. For further information or to sign up for the cook-out, contact Gene Erickson at 845-356-7429.

SUPREME COURT RULING

The Supreme Court shoots down "Stolen Valor" Act

In a ruling written by Justice Anthony Kennedy, the court determined that the act was too broad for seeking to "control and suppress all false statements on this one subject in almost limitless times and settings without regard to whether the lie was made for the purpose of material gain."



VA SUPPORTS FAMILY AND FRIENDS SEEKING TO ENCOURAGE VETS TO GET MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Media Campaign Promotes “Coaching Into Care” Program



The Department of Veterans Affairs recently completed a media campaign for its call center “Coaching Into Care,” a telephone service which provides assistance to family members and friends trying to encourage their Veteran to seek health care for possible readjustment and mental health issues.

The “Coaching Into Care” service offers free coaching to callers, with no limit to the number of calls they can make. The goal of these sessions is to connect a Veteran with VA care in his or her community with the help and encouragement of family members or friends. Callers will be coached on solving specific logistical problems and ways to encourage the Veteran to seek care while respecting his or her right to make personal decisions.

The service is available toll-free at 1-888-823-7458, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, and online at <http://www.mirecc.va.gov/coaching/>. If a Veteran is experiencing an acute crisis, callers should contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 for immediate help. “Coaching Into Care” works directly with the Veterans Crisis Line and the Caregiver Support Line to provide guidance and referrals.

ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT FOR PTSD

Complimentary Initial Consultation Is Offered

There are many different ways to help people deal with the symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress. Some of you may be interested in the following information about sound therapy as an alternative treatment for PTSD. It just might help. If you have questions or would like further information, please call Rose Marie Raccioppi at 845-359-9056. A free initial consultation is offered.

PTSD ~ A spectrum of pain... A Responsive Paradigm

What is not in this moment, seen or heard, can yet be known and deeply felt. What is felt is the aftermath of an impression, a reference point, a memory. And so as we encounter each moment, we come to live the ongoing effect of our experiences, be they of joy or pain. We live within a spectrum of PTSD - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Deep within the consciousness lies the sounding call, the vibration that draws to itself the original experience. This vibratory connection within the memory of each cell must be fully understood. This is the paradigm of APOGEE Acu-Tone™ fully applied. To restructure the associated consciousness, to reeducate/rehabilitate the cell signaling, to bring forward a commanding awareness, to reduce the associated stress, to align energies for responsive well-being, this the intent and documented benefits of the vibrational/sound therapy program, APOGEE Acu-Tone™. Your inquiries are welcomed. Your questions will be answered. A free initial consultation is offered. E-mail: rmr@apogeelearning.com or Visit: <http://www.2LearnNow.info> or Call: Toll Free: 1- 866-ACU-TONE (1-866-228-8663) Local: 845-359-9056.

Rose Marie Raccioppi, MS FABI, Founder/Director APOGEE Acu-Tone™ Tappan, New York

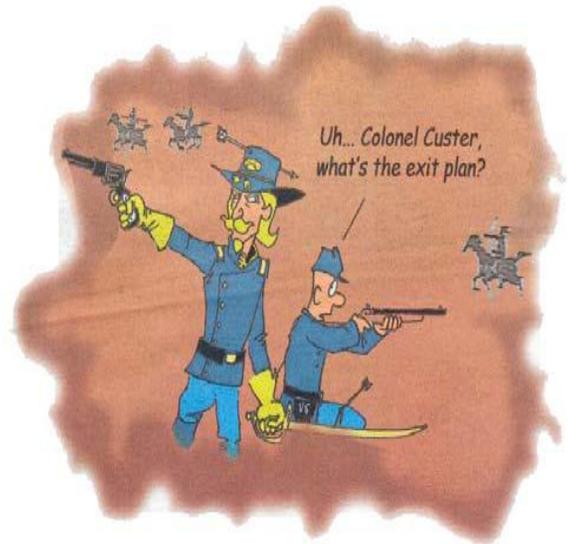
DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICES SCAM

The IRS and Maryland's comptroller are warning of a new scam that targets military personnel and retirees as well as civilian workers. Emails, which seem to come from the Defense Finance and Accounting Services, claim that recipients of disability compensation from the VA may be entitled to more money from the IRS. Not true. The email, which has a ".mil" domain, instructs recipients to send copies of their income tax returns, 1099-Rs, Retiree Account Statements, VA award letter to a colonel in Florida, officials say. With that kind of information, a con artist can steal an identity and wreak all sorts of havoc on a victim's finances. The IRS says beware of any emails out of the blue promising benefits. Also, if you think it may be legit, contact the agency on your own — don't respond to the email. And any email or phone solicitation asking for your Social Security number should send you running.

[Source: The Baltimore Sun Eileen Ambrose article 6 Jun 2012 ++]

REVERSE BOOT CAMP

Defense and Veterans Affairs officials are finalizing plans for a "reverse boot camp" for troops leaving the military, part of a series of efforts to better prepare soon-to-be veterans for the challenges of civilian life. The idea, announced by the White House last summer, is designed to be a dramatic improvement to the services' Transition Assistance Program, which critics have said doesn't fully prepare troops for challenges like navigating civilian job interviews, attending college classes and understanding veterans benefits. No specifics of the transition program have been released. Plans have included the formation of the Military Credentialing and Licensing Task Force, charged with finding ways to create more employment opportunities for separating service-members. The group has announced its first partnership, establishing opportunities for 126,000 troops to receive "industry-recognized, nationally-portable certifications for high-demand manufacturing jobs." The program includes accreditation through the American Welding Society and National Institute for Metalworking Skills for soldiers with certain machinist and welding skills. Another agreement with the Society of Manufacturing Engineers will expand certification opportunities for troops in technical engineering fields, giving them a chance to seamlessly carry their military skills to a civilian job. [Source: Stars & Stripes Leo Shane article 5 Jun 2012 ++]



VA HEALTHCARE

If you would like information on VA Healthcare, give me a call (Jerry) at 845-638-5244 or send an e-mail to: jerry@rockvets.com. It's best to file an application through our office so we can track its progress, rather than to do so online, but perhaps this guide will be of help to you.

You probably qualify for VA Health Care if any of the below statements are true:

You served in the active military, naval, or air service and were honorably discharged or released; or

You were/are a Reservist or National Guard member and you were called to active duty by a Federal Order (for other than training purposes) and you completed the full call-up period.

AND

You were discharged or separated for medical reasons, early out, or hardship

You served in theater of combat operations within the past 5 years

You were discharged from the military because of a disability (not preexisting)

You are a former Prisoner of War

You received a Purple Heart Medal

You receive VA pension or disability benefits

You receive state Medicaid benefits

Your eligibility for VA health care benefits may be based on special factors such as service in Vietnam, other military history factors or even household income. All veterans are encouraged to apply now for VA health care benefits before they encounter a medical issue that requires medical attention and compensation. Submitting an application is the best way to find out if you qualify. Plus, if in the future new regulations take effect, VA will automatically reassess your application to determine if you qualify. With an application on file, VA will be able to notify you if new rules make you qualified for health benefits in the future. The fastest and easiest way to apply or update your information is online at <https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/>

Other ways to apply or UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION are:

By Phone - You can apply for enrollment of your benefits or update your information by phone by calling 1-877-222-VETS (8387), Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM (Eastern Time). A VA representative will have your completed form sent to you for verification and signature.

By Mail - Print the 10-10EZ form <https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/Form/1010EZ-fillable.pdf>

or 10-10EZR form

<https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/Form/1010EZR-fillable.pdf>

or call to have the form mailed to you.

Complete and sign the application, then mail it to your local VA Medical Center or clinic whose address can be found at <http://www2.va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp?isflash=1>.

In Person - Visit a VA Medical Center or clinic nearest you to apply for enrollment or if you are already enrolled, to update your information in person.

If you do not have an ID card, another way you can get logged into the VA system would be by requesting to be screened for Agent Orange affects or getting an annual physical. There is no charge for the screening but dependent on your annual income and status you may have to pay a small copay for the physical. Then, to stay within the active VA database, continue to get the annual checkup. The backlog can be 6 to 8 months long for case reviews so position yourself for faster processing, should you need it.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Natalie Hernandez is our local Department of Labor Veteran's Employment Representative. Natalie served 8 years in the Army Reserve with some active time overseas for Operation Iraqi Freedom - she too, is a vet like you. Natalie invites you to schedule an initial or follow-up appointment today for additional support during your job search or while reaching your re-employment goals. With a very open door policy, she is always willing and able to help you and guide you as needed. For more information, questions or comments on the services that are offered at Tomorrow's Workplace for Veterans/Department of Labor, feel free to contact Natalie Hernandez at 845.356.5429 or email her at Natalie.Hernandez@Labor.NY.Gov.

- United Hospice of Rockland has two nursing leadership positions available that do not become available very often. They are Director of Nursing and Administrator of the newly opened Joe Raso Hospice Residence. The job descriptions are posted on their website at: www.hospiceofrockland.org or are available by emailing their HR Manager, kdamiani@hospiceofrockland.org.

For information on the following positions, please call Natalie Hernandez at 845.356.5429 or e-mail her at: Natalie.Hernandez@Labor.NY.Gov

- FedEx is currently hiring part-time package handlers. There is room for advancement with this job. You can fill out an application on any Saturday or Sunday at the Fed-Ex facility in Blauvelt, New York. The position offers benefits and possible career advancement.
- Psychiatrist 1 Vacancy ID: 2225
Salary Range: \$123,651 to \$148,421
Full time/permanent
Location: Brooklyn, NY
- Nurse Practitioner Psychiatry
Vacancy ID: 3263
Salary Range: \$69,911 to \$88,256
Full time/permanent
Location: Goshen, NY
- Labor Service Rep Trainee 1 & 2 (DVOP)
Salary : Hourly 17.62– Trainee 1, Hourly 18.65– Trainee 2
Location: Poughkeepsie, NY
You do not have to be a current Department of Labor employee to apply.
Please e-mail a cover letter indicating the title and location of the position you are applying for, a copy of your resume, proof of your bachelor's degree, if applicable, a copy of your DD214 and proof of service-connected disability, if applicable, to the following e-mail address: personnel.hourlyjva@labor.ny.gov

VETS SEEKING JOBS

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki have unveiled a new portal on their departments' websites designed to help military veterans find jobs in the transportation industry. The portal on the U.S. Department of Transportation and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs websites will link to the Veterans Transportation Career Center, where former members of the Armed Forces can enter their specific military work experience and see how it translates to jobs in the civilian working world. The site will guide veterans to jobs in five categories: aviation pilot, aviation maintenance technician, air traffic controller, commercial motor vehicle driver and emergency medical services. Job seekers can determine the training and certification

needed for civilian jobs; discern what career best fits with their background; and search for available jobs in their field. The portals are available at www.dot.gov and www.va.gov.

VA EXTENDS VERIFICATION TERM FOR VETERAN ENTREPRENEURS

Extended for Two Years to Help Efficiency, Accountability

WASHINGTON (June 29, 2012)-- The Department of Veterans Affairs is doubling the amount of time before the owners of service-disabled, Veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSB) and Veteran-owned small businesses (VOSB) must re-verify with VA that they are, in fact, owned and operated by qualified Veterans and other legal requirements.

The interim final rule, which took effect June 27, will benefit thousands of small businesses by reducing the uncertainty and administrative burden associated with a yearly verification cycle. By increasing the verification period to two years, SDVOSBs and VOSBs will be able to plan and operate their companies more efficiently and effectively instead of working within the current 12-month business cycle. Under this interim final rule, businesses at the end of their two-year verification period would be required to be re-verified through VA's Center for Veterans Enterprise (CVE).

In 2011, VA awarded \$3.2 billion in contracts to VOSBs and SDVOSBs. To participate in VA's Veterans First program, a Veteran-owned and controlled small business must be verified as an eligible firm by initiating and completing the application process with CVE through the web-based Vendor Information Pages database. Information about the process for verification can be found on the VA website at <http://www.vetbiz.gov/>



ABOUT ROCKVETS

A project of NY Vets ©



WWW.ROCKVETS.COM

We would like to keep you up-to-date on events and matters of interest to veterans and will be sending these newsletters regularly. If at any time you no longer wish to receive them, please reply to our e-mail address and write "remove" on the subject line. We will immediately remove your e-mail address from our newsletter mailing list.

If you find any of this information newsworthy, feel free to pass it along to your friends who have an interest in veterans, military service members, and their families. If your friends would like to be added to our mailing list, they can send us their e-mail address or call the office.

We are here to help you and all who have worn the uniform of our nation. Thank you.

ROCKVETS ON THE INTERNET AND AIRWAVES

We are on the web! You can find information, useful links, and view our webpage at www.rockvets.com. You can interact with us on our facebook page: www.facebook.com/rockvets. E-mail: jerry@rockvets.com

We are also on the radio! On the first Friday of each month, between 10 and 11 a.m., Rock Vets has a live call-in talk show on Rockland County's local radio station – WRCR 1300 AM. The calls and discussions center around veterans, military service members, and their families. You can call-in and ask questions, but it is also a good opportunity to promote any upcoming events for your organization that would be of interest to the veteran/military community. The show is also live on www.wrcr.com. So please listen in, and call if you have questions or information to share.

Here are the details: WRCR's call-in phone number is (845) 362-0013. The next show is Friday, August 3, 2012 from 10 – 11 a.m. on radio 1300 AM. Please pass along this information to anyone you think may be interested.

R.C. Veterans Service Agency – if you plan to come to the office, please call to make an appointment.

Jerry Donnellan, Director
R.C. Veterans Service Agency
20 Squadron Blvd., Suite 480
New City, New York 10956
Phone: 845-638-5244