

# READY...SET...RETIRE!

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3

JULY 2008

## It's a Picnic !

...and YOU are invited!

Please plan to join us for a relaxing picnic lunch by the pond at Gracious Meadows, the farm owned by Russ and Marie Reitz at 2549 Lick Run Road, Williamsport.

**DATE: Thursday, August 14, 2008**

**TIME: 11:30 a.m.**

**RSVPs REQUIRED:**

**Call Marie by Friday, August 8th, at 435-2223 or 220-7875.**

Please let her know if you will bring a tossed salad or dessert to share.



**The following will be provided:**

- London Broil
- Corn-on-the-cob
- Baked potato
- Dressing for the tossed salad
- Beverage

**Directions:** From 180, take the Faxon exit (25) onto Northway Road. Travel 5 miles to Lick Run Road (right turn).

Gracious Meadows is the second farm on right. There will be signs directing you to the pond.

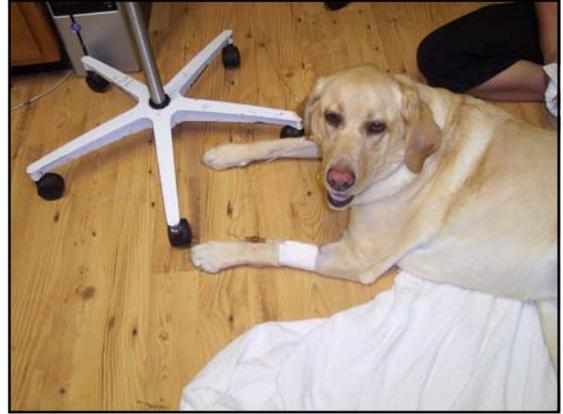
[For your comfort, bring bug spray if desired.]

A short business meeting will take place at the picnic.

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# ABBIE TALES

**O**n June 8<sup>th</sup>, Abbey had several seizures. When she started to recover from one seizure she would go into another seizure. During these idiopathic (meaning no known cause and possibly inherited) status epilepticus seizures she appears to be blind and deaf. She fell to the ground and was unable stand up, she was trembling and panting uncontrollably, violently paddling her legs, champing her jaws and her entire body became rigid. Her pupils were dilated and when I put my hand in front of her eyes and moved it up and down there was no response from her. She was very scared as she did not understand what was happening to her.



Since she could not stand or walk we had to put her in a blanket and carry her to the car to take her to the veterinarian. When we arrived at the vet she was still having seizures so we had to carry her into the examining room. In total she had seizures for approximately 2 ½ hours.

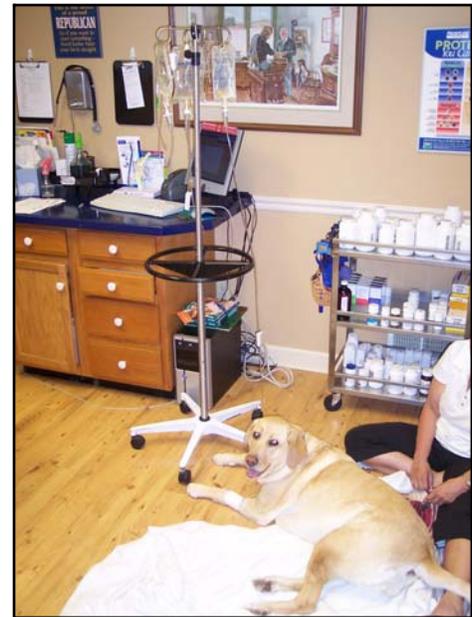
The vet immediately gave her valium and started an intravenous injection of Phenobarbital and took a blood sample to analyze. Her blood pressure was so high that when he put the needle in for the IV the blood spurt out of her leg. Her temperature was 104.9 and he said 107 would put her into a heat stroke.

When her temperature started to come down (which seemed to take forever) he gave her another IV of Phenobarbital. After her second IV she started to perk up, was more responsive and she would wag her tail when someone talked to her.

When the vet started his examination he said she would probably have to stay there overnight. Since she responded so well to the medicine and she was alert and wagging her tail he let her come home. He seems to think that the heat and humidity triggered her seizures.

There are four basic stages to a seizure:

- The Prodrome: may precede the seizure by hours or days. It is characterized by changes in mood or behavior.



*Abby ~ resting after her second IV when she was feeling better*

- The Aura: signals the start of a seizure. Nervousness, whining, trembling, salivation, affection, wandering, restlessness, hiding and apprehension are all signals.
- The Ictus, the actual seizure: A period of intense physical activity usually lasting 45 seconds to 3 minutes. The dog may lose consciousness and fall to the ground. There may be teeth gnashing, frantic thrashing of limbs, excessive drooling, vocalizing, paddling of feet, uncontrollable urination and defecation.
- The Post Ictus/Ictal: after the seizure, the dog may pace endlessly, appear blind and deaf and eat or drink excessively.

Cluster seizures and status epilepticus seizures are life threatening.

During her seizures I had to make sure she did not hurt herself while she was thrashing around and I rubbed her and talked to her (I don't know if she could hear me) and I put my hand in front of her nose so she smell my scent and know I was there.

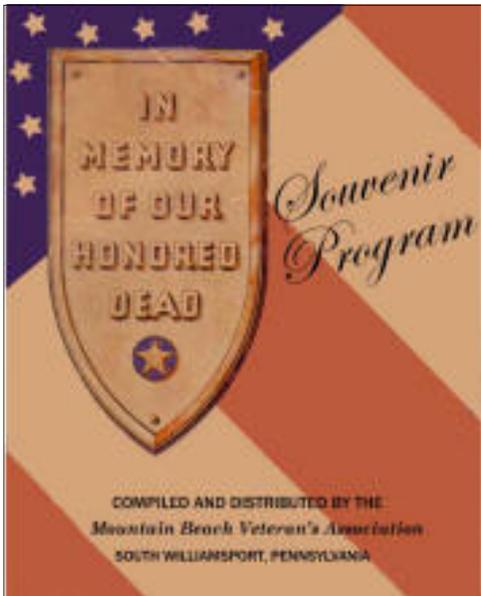
It was such a helpless feeling knowing that she was in distress and there was nothing I could do to help her. The day after her seizures she was exhausted. She slept most of the day.

Today, June 17, she went for her follow-up visit to the vet. She is doing well on her medicine and she has not had anymore seizures. Treatment is never curative. The goal is to decrease the frequency, severity, and duration of the seizures. He said as long as her medicine works as well as it is she can continue her life as usual.

~ Submitted by Nancy Stugart



*Abby ~ the day after her seizures*



## Online Memorial Honors 341 Local WWII Casualties

Sixty years ago, in 1947, the Mountain Beach Veteran's Athletic Association in South Williamsport held a Gold Star Memorial Service at the First Presbyterian Church in Williamsport to commemorate the memories of those Lycoming County residents who died while serving their country in World War II.

Of the more than 9000 Lycoming County residents who fought in the war, 341 who gave that last full measure of devotion...their lives... were saluted on that May 31st morning six decades ago. Next of kin of the fallen soldiers were invited and given Gold Star ribbons to wear at the ceremony.

Producing the commemorative booklet was not easy. "It was a colossal task to gather all the information for this printed program. Information was obtained from official government sources and from the relatives of the men and women involved. Day by day it was sorted and rechecked and filed in a special index."

An even greater job was that of collecting all the photographs used in the program. By telephone and automobile, Mountain Beach veterans contacted families and in all but a few instances photos were obtained. "A remarkable few are missing because in some instances the relatives were too heart-broken to have their loved ones pictures published."

This monumental effort by the Mountain Beach Veterans was led by Harry McCoy, Charles Agostinelli, George Houtz, Roland Arp and Tucker Smith along with H. D. Hulsizer, James Keller, Gene Grambling, David and Robert Livingston, Philip Stine and T. H. Kinkade.

Few copies of the paper program exist today. To insure this piece of our history survives Charles Ormsbee of the library staff has used an original booklet loaned by Harry McCoy, President of the Association in 1947 to create a Virtual Memorial to the men and women who did not return from Germany, New Guinea, Italy, Japan, North Africa, France, China, Iwo Jima, Okinawa or those who fell from the sky or vanished into the sea.

This "translation" creates a permanent online monument that allows relatives, friends and co-workers to search the site by name. The site is interactive to allow friends and family to add comments about the heroes and heroines who never experienced their grateful nation's thanks but earned it above all others. Please visit this Virtual Monument at [www.lycoming.org/heroes](http://www.lycoming.org/heroes).

[Source: October '07 Friends of the Library Newsletter]

### In praise of online memorial:

Bob writes: "My grandfather is pictured in this gallery. I know he would be very pleased you were honoring these fallen heroes. Thanks so much for giving tribute to him and all the others."

Mary Z. writes: "What is remarkable to me is how young many of the soldiers look. Some look like they were still teenagers. Thanks for creating this web site. We should never forget about these people and all that they did for this country."

Congratulations to Lynn Hartley, who retired on May 9th after 8+ years with the county.



**Pictured left to right:**  
Judge Brown,  
Judge Gray,  
Commissioner Burke,  
Commissioner Larson,  
Lynn Hartley,  
Commissioner Wheeland,  
and Judge Anderson.



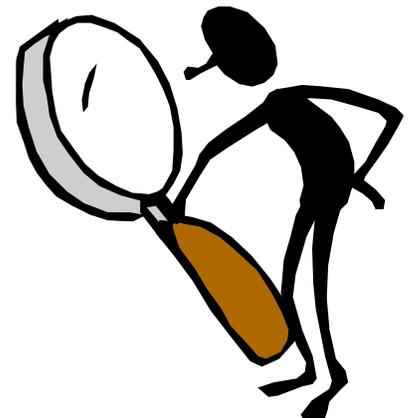
An October bus trip to Inner Harbor is being planned. Please watch for a postcard in the mail for details.

## In Search Of...

Do you know a fellow retiree with an interesting hobby or story to tell? If so, let us know! We are planning a new feature for future newsletters.

Please contact either:

- Alice Bair at 322-6052 or [arbair@chilitech.net](mailto:arbair@chilitech.net)
- Joan Blank at 320-8157 or [jblank@lyco.org](mailto:jblank@lyco.org)



# Carney Announces Town Hall Meeting



Congressman Christopher P. Carney has announced his next Listening Tour Town Hall Meeting at 10:00AM on Tuesday July 29 at the Middle Creek Community Center on Mary Welch Honors Hall at 334 Basin Street in Williamsport. He will be available to discuss issues affecting our community, including actions Congress is taking to protect working families, support our veterans and stimulate our economy. In addition, Congressman Carney will have staff on hand to help with casework issues, including veterans' benefits, Social Security, Medicare payments and passport delays.

"I came to Congress with the goal of listening to the people of Pennsylvania's 10th District. Last year we accomplished our goal of holding a town hall meeting in every county in the District. People appreciated the opportunity to talk with their Member of Congress, so we are continuing our Listening Tours of town halls. I look forward to taking questions and responding to concerns from the people of northeast and central Pennsylvania," said Congressman Carney.

Following success with the county meetings in 2007, Congressman Carney is holding a Listening Tour meeting in each of the 14 counties in Pennsylvania's 10th District in 2008.

All are invited to attend.

**WHAT: Congressman Carney Listening Tour Town Hall Meeting**

**WHERE: Mary Welch Honors Hall at 334 Basin Street in Williamsport**

**WHEN: Tuesday, July 29, 2008 at 10:00 AM**

# WE WISH A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR FRIENDS WHO ARE CELEBRATING IN JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER:

July 1	Gary Little
July 7	Joann Bixler
July 11	Ralph Lukens
July 16	Florence Burns
July 16	Glenn Shaw
July 17	Elizabeth Gipe
July 20	Allen Kaplan
July 21	Esther Reese
July 21	Bob Coolidge
July 21	Jim Reed
July 25	Chrystie Engle
July 30	Dudley Anderson
July 31	Frank Metzger
July 31	William Kelly
July 31	Ev Kreger

August 1	Terry Featherbay
August 2	Ernestine Beach
August 4	Marie McGee
August 8	Carol Knight
August 9	Carol Steck
August 11	William Fessler
August 11	Curtis Guyette
August 15	John Gererdi Jr.
August 19	Francis Hoffman
August 24	Althea Minier
August 27	Nancy Toles
August 29	Ralph Embick
August 29	Jane Beck
August 31	Allan Bennett

September 1	Gloria Gray
September 1	Marilyn Stiffler
September 2 & 10	Jim & Ruth Wentzel
September 4	Marian Springman
September 10	Margaret Jobes
September 13	John Burns
September 13	Eleanor Hill
September 19	Nancy Borgess
September 20	Betty Miller
September 25	Helen Lorson
September 26	Betty Uskurait
September 29	Joe Neyhart



LYCOMING COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS

REBECCA A. BURKE  
ERNEST P. LARSON  
JEFF C. WHEELAND

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**Retiree Group Officers**

CHAIR Alice Bair  
322-6052

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CO-CHAIR Ralph Lukens  
323-4006

---

SECRETARY Nancy Stugart  
435-0923

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TREASURER Ann Kilburn  
435-2769

**UPCOMING MEETINGS  
& EVENTS**

**MEETING**

Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 ~ 11:30 a.m.  
Location will be announced at the picnic on  
August 14 and in the October Newsletter.



**HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

Date: Tuesday, December 9, 2008 ~ 11:30 a.m.  
Location: Valley Inn, Duboistown  
Cost: \$10 per person



***Ready...Set...Retire!***

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**Editor/layout & design:**

Joan Blank  
HR Admin. Specialist  
Phone: 320-8157  
Fax: 320-2152

Email: [jblank@lyco.org](mailto:jblank@lyco.org)

Suite 104  
Executive Plaza Building  
330 Pine Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

**2008 membership dues** of \$10  
may be mailed directly to:

Anne Kilburn  
79 Quail Lane  
Cogan Station, PA 17728

Please make your check out to *Lycoming County Retirees*.

**Planning Committee**

Alice Bair	Ann Kilburn
Ralph Lukens	Nancy Stugart
Patty Fawber	Nancy Storms
Margie Thompson	Maggie Emery