



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

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## Happenings - December 11, 2011

December 7, 2011

### Pearl Harbor revisited for Rotary by Muskingum history professor

by **Judie Perkowski**  
THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN

Presenting a prologue to a program about the aerial attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941, at the Cambridge Rotary Club's Wednesday meeting, President-elect Jim Coffey read a poignant description of the battleship USS Pennsylvania, which won eight battle stars, and the battleship USS Franklin, an aircraft carrier known as "the ship that wouldn't die," before introducing one of 8,000 living World War II veterans, Bill Shepard.

Shepard, who was stationed on the Pennsylvania and the Franklin during World War II, was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroic actions when the Franklin was bombed by the Japanese. When the order was given to evacuate the ship, Warrant Officer Shepard volunteered to stay behind and help put out the fires. The Franklin's crew was the most decorated in the U.S. Navy.

Rotarians gave 96-year-old Shepard a standing ovation.

Continuing the club's salute to The Greatest Generation, guest speaker Dr. Tom McGrath, associate professor of history at Muskingum University, began his PowerPoint presentation with several diagrams of battleships docked at Pearl Harbor and copies of authentic photos taken by the Japanese pilots during the attack.

"At 7:58 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, an air raid siren was broadcast on Pearl Harbor. A voice succinctly stated, 'This is not a drill,'" said McGrath.

"The attack was well executed by the Japanese, and they had a little luck on their side. The weather was perfect and the planes that showed up on the radar were mistaken for a group of B-17s that were due to land at Pearl Harbor momentarily.

"It was a tactical victory that came in two waves," he said. "The first attack was a complete surprise. A fleet of Japanese aircraft carriers launched about 350 aircraft almost simultaneously to bomb Battleship Row, NAS Ford Island and Hickam Air Field. The Japanese developed armor-piercing shells which did extensive external damage to several ships, but sank only four. The prize they sought and their main target was the American fleet of air craft carriers, but none were docked at Pearl, they were all out to sea.

"The second wave of attack followed approximately 30 minutes later, when the USS Arizona was shattered by the modified shells, six other ships were sunk and most of the planes were destroyed.

#### Mark Your Calendar

District 6690 Monthly Newsletter [Click HERE!](#)

#### Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for December 21st at 5:00pm at Edgetech.

#### December Programs

- December 14th - Pound Dog Partners
- December 21st - Cambridge City Parks

December 28th - TBA

#### Happenings Archive

- [Current Archive](#)
- [2010 Archive](#)
- [2009 Archive](#)

#### Print Friendly File

[Rotary Happenings 12-11-11](#)

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#### Special Notes

Please don't forget to pay your membership dues!

Join our Facebook group!

[Click here](#) - if this link does not work - log into Facebook (you may need to create an account) and search for "The Cambridge Rotary Club"

#### New Rotarians!

If you need help or more information regarding the "Red Badge Program" please see [Andy Warhola](#).

Download a copy of the Red Badge Program:

- [Cover](#)
- [Interior](#)

The membership list is being updated. Any changes should be given to [Steve Donahue](#).

Search

"The Japanese Admiral Yamamoto, who ordered the strike on Pearl, showed his cultural arrogance that would prove to be his country's downfall. He believed the Americans lacked the commitment to sacrifice, and didn't have the stomach for a war. And, that the Japanese would prevail in approximately six months allowing them to continue their dominance in South Asia.

"The attack resulted in 2,400 dead and 1,100 wounded," said McGrath.

Rotary Club of Cambridge  
Foundation Giving Checklist

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## Student Guest

The student guest was introduced Cambridge City Schools Superintendent Dennis Dettra. Nicole Enochs, a senior at CHs said she is a member of several clubs, including, National Honor Society, Drama Club, Key Club and Spanish Club.

"Maintaining all As is what drives me to academic and personal success. A lot of credit goes to our teachers, they are always available to help you," she said.

Nicole plans on attending Otterbein to major in zoology and veterinarian science, then on to Ohio State University to major in veterinarian medicine.

## President Lynn Thompkins made the following announcements:

President Lynn Tompkins said she hoped to see everyone at the club's Christmas party tonight (Dec. 7).

## Other Club Notes:

Shanea Creighton reminded Rotarians to turn in their 12 Days of Christmas tickets before they left the meeting. The drawing begins Thursday, Dec. 8.

Clyde Mayne said he could accept flower orders until Saturday. Email him if you have another order.

Questions or problems with the web site? You can contact us at [Cambridge Ohio Rotary Club Webmaster](#) with your comments.

Cambridge Ohio Rotary web site created 2005.

