



NEWSLETTER

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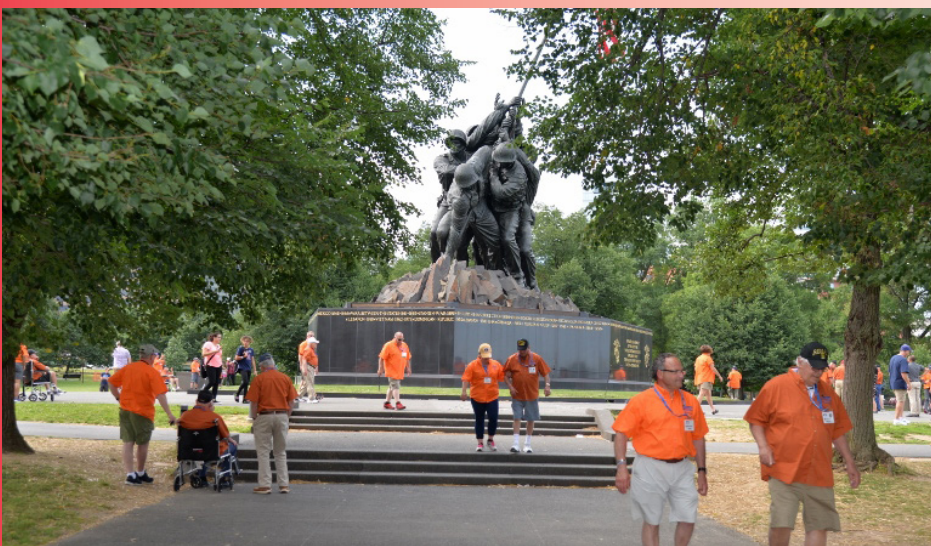
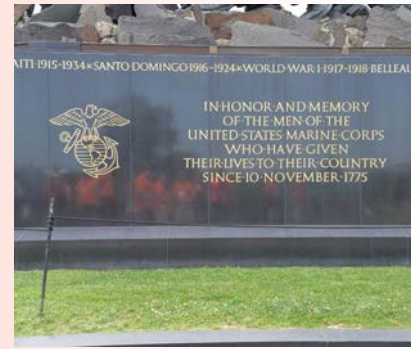
MISSION 66

JUNE 15 – 16, 2019



**WE LEAVE NO
VETERAN BEHIND**





GENESEO AIR SHOW

JULY 12 – 14, 2019



SUMMER EVENTS



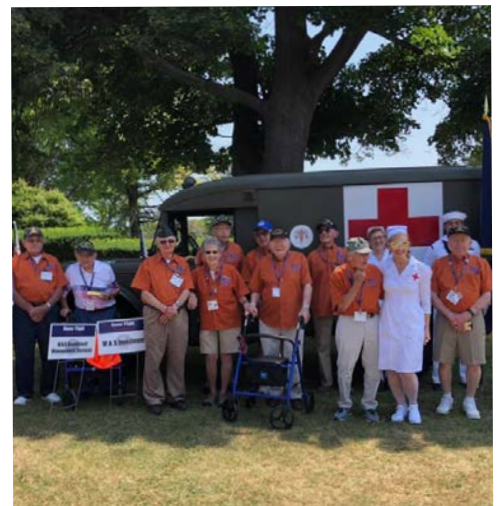
Brasstacular 2019



Avon Corn Festival



Phelps Sauerkraut Festival



**Lakeshore Country Club
Golf Tournament**



Harris Beach Law Firm in Pittsford

BOB FERGASON (M28)

SHARES INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE MARSHAL'S DUTIES ON WITH PRESIDENT RICH STEWART

This past summer President Rich Stewart visited with M28 flown veteran Robert "Bob" Fergason at his Penfield home that he built in 1953. Bob agreed to share the Parade Marshal's duties at Penfield's Independence Day Celebration.

Bob's WWII service was from 1943 to 45 in the India-China-Burma theater with the 758th Railway Shop Battalion. His outfit was sponsored by the Santa Fe Railway. His rail road shop was in Dibrugarh, Assam province inland and north of Calcutta. The surrounding rail lines moved large amounts of guns, ammo, food and supplies. Most everything came in from Australia into the port of Calcutta then by rail 250 miles north. The trains ferried across rivers and the route even had different gauge track sizes, all contributing to very challenging levels of difficulty. From Assam province those critical war supplies were loaded into planes to fly over the hump.

The Railway Operating Battalions of the U.S. Army Transportation Corp were necessary to keep the trains running. They made parts for the locomotives at Bob's shop. He designed and machined both engine and train parts on lathes. His pre-war design courses at RIT were perfect background.

During Bob's first year in India supplies were meager and he was allotted one can of beer for that year. The second year was a bit better and he had two cans of beer. Bob does recall a USO show featuring Hollywood stars Pat O'Brien and Jinx Falconburg. In those early USO shows Hollywood was highly patriotic.

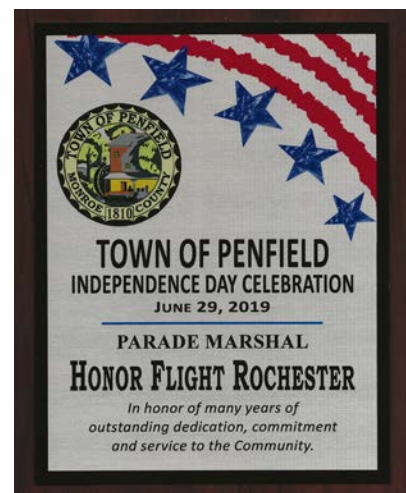
Bob continues to be highly self-sufficient a trait inherited from his father. Bob came of age during the Depression just before WWII. Bob is a member of the "Greatest Generation."



Bob Fergason and President Rich Stewart in a mint condition 1950 Chrysler Windsor Convertible.



(Left to right) Penfield Councilwoman Linda Kohl, M28 Veteran Bob Fergason, Penfield Town Supervisor Tony LaFountain, and President Rich Stewart



Parade Marshal's plaque

MAIL BAG

Thank you for making Honor Flight one of the highlights of my mom's life. My family will be forever grateful.
– Jean

Dear Honor Flight Rochester,
I sincerely appreciate the opportunity of going to Washington on the Honor Flight. It was beyond my expectations. I would like to thank everyone for their hard work, including all volunteers. My daughter enjoyed it as much as I did.

Thank you again,
Glenn – Air Force Veteran

To Peter, Jerry and all the wonderful loyal volunteers,

From my very first call I was impressed with the way this organization functioned. Every veteran should make this trip their priority. I will start out with a thank you to all volunteers and salute the founder of this fine effort. This trip exceeded all my expectations by far. Honorable, caring and yes loving people. They all gave up the major portion of their Father's Day weekend for us. The trip, meals, treats and surprises were great. Blessed with great weather and my loyal guardian Megan, we bonded and she took care of me. So many wonderful plans and all perfected. Thank you for the welcome home and a chance for me to honor all the veterans at their various memorial. The precision, dedication and professionalism at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was impressive and remains impressive.

My twin brother Terry and best friend Vin were delighted to make this trip together. All made possible by you. Thank you for all you do. We loved it.

Immensely thankful,
Gary – M66



TALKS & EVENTS – SEPTEMBER

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---|----------|--------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 BOMA Golf Tournament @ Ravenwood Golf Club | 10 St. John's Home Speaking Engagement | 11 Retired Professionals Society @ Oak Hill Country Club Speaking Engagement | 12 | 13 | 14 Field of Honor Remembrance Ceremony @ Mercy High School Speaking Engagement Garlic Festival Naked Dove Brewing Company |
| 15 Garlic Festival | 16 | 17 Finger Lakes Chapter of Buick Club of America Speaking Engagement | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 Purple Painted Lady 9 th Annual Art Festival |
| 22 Purple Painted Lady 9 th Annual Art Festival | 23 | 24 MIT/JCC Group Speaking Engagement | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Elvis Night Bernard Restaurant & Party House |
| 29 Rochester Elks Lodge #24 Chicken BBQ | 30 | FLIGHT SCHEDULE Mission 67 September 7 – 8 Mission 68 September 28 – 29 Mission 69 October TBA | | | | |

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

HFR is entering our fall flying season in full swing. The selection of veterans, guardians and flight crew is currently the highest priority, but this is only a fraction of all the activities underway. Numerous volunteers provide the superb supporting casts for a variety of jobs, some highly visible and some behind the scenes. Each job is important. Your volunteer participation is organized through four dozen functional areas each with a Functional Leader. Honor Flight Rochester's 850 volunteers in military terms is battalion-size. Our reputation as a "Well-oiled machine" is a fitting aspirational descriptor for seasoned volunteers and those more recently signed up alike. Since our first mission in October 2008 your enthusiasm has spread widely throughout the greater Rochester area.

With 66 missions completed, we have proven to be in this for the long haul. More volunteer opportunities will continue to arise for your participation. As volunteers your TIME and TALENT are the two crucial components you bring. Additionally, there is a third component provided from the community which is TREASURE. HFR missions are funded by the greater Rochester community. There is no government funding. The events you staff generate funding that pays for a portion of our costs. Events are scheduled through Jerry Butterbrodt, Events Coordinator. Honor Flight Rochester's viability is because you. Your TIME and TALENT is foundational and when combined with TREASURE from throughout the greater Rochester community great things happen. We are in our eleventh year of taking veterans on their "Trips of a lifetime" to their memorials in DC. Our tagline is "We Leave No Veteran Behind." HFR's future is bright because of the generous TIME, TALENT and TREASURE given by you and the Rochester community.

Our outreach extends half way to Buffalo and half way to Syracuse and even down to Watkins Glen. Since late April events that help fund our missions were the: Irondequoit Rotary Club Dinner at Remington's, Rochester Lilac Festival, Town of Victor Week, Ontario County Women's Republican Club Breakfast, Bright Stars of Spring Benefit Concert at Webster Schroeder High School, Armed Forces Day Luncheon, Kiwanis Club of Greece Pancake Breakfast, 2nd Annual Dingle Ball (Ladder Golf) at Mickey's Bar & Restaurant in Palmyra, Marlock Electric Social Media Fundraiser, Fairport Canal Days, Greece Historical Society Strawberry Festival, Finger Lakes Region Sports Car Club of America Super Tour, Wayne County Nursing Home Raffle Baskets, Walmart Victor Store Grand Re-opening, Geneseo Air Show, Landing at Brighton's 2nd Annual Benefit Car Show, Conesus Arts & Crafts Show, Legacy at Clover Blossom Patriotic Songfest, Lima Legion Riders Pulled Pork & Poker Run, Ultimate Brasstacular, Deer Run Winery Concert, Lake Shore County Club's 7th Annual Golf Tournament to Benefit Honor Flight, Phelps Sauerkraut Festival, Avon Corn Festival, Harris Beach Luncheon, and the Greater Rochester Air Show. And as always HFR appreciates the generosity of private sponsors, community organizations, corporations, individual donors.

Volunteers thank you for your participation. You are important and make Honor Flight Rochester such a special organization!

Rich Stewart
President & CEO

