

Veteran Program FAQ 2016

What is D-Day Conneaut? – D-Day Conneaut is a free of charge living history reenactment of the events surrounding June 6th, 1944, the airborne and amphibious landings in Normandy France and events occurring on the home fronts in anticipation of that longest day.

How long has D-Day Conneaut event taken place? – Since 1999

Why Conneaut Ohio? – The beach and surrounding grounds of Conneaut Township Park remarkably resemble Omaha Beach and the inland Normandy countryside. The city of Conneaut is only a few hours drive from the larger metropolitan areas of Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Erie, Youngstown and Buffalo and is located only a few miles north of Interstate Route 90 on the shores of Lake Erie.

Who are the reenactors? – Individuals interested in the life and times of those serving during the WWII era. Their personal collections of WWII memorabilia are assembled and displayed in fully equipped encampments and used in battle scenarios depicting both the airborne and amphibious operations of that longest day. There are also reenactors portraying life on the home front as well and those who portray notable celebrities and historical figures.

What are the event highlights? - On Friday the event opens at 9AM. Demonstrations of the weapons, training and tactics used by the allied and axis armies in Europe occur throughout the day and culminate with a crossroads checkpoint battle at 5PM. On Saturday, the 9AM opening precedes the 11AM Bridge Battle, the near noon Veteran Salute Program and Allied Troop Review followed by a veteran recollection program until 2:30 PM. At 3PM the largest amphibious recreation in the country begins, and in the evening, the event wraps up with Spaghetti Dinner followed by a USO Dance featuring a 21 piece big band! Two full days of action and education! Check the schedule available online for complete information.

As a veteran, can I attend? – Absolutely! Any veteran from any area, Atlantic, Pacific or here at home is welcomed to attend. At this time special attention is being extended towards WWII and Korean Era Veterans. All veterans will be recognized with a service ribbon or pin.

Are their specific events for WWII and Korean Era Veterans? - YES! Our Veteran's Hospitality Tent is home to our Friday and Saturday recollections programs. The tent also serves as the assembly point for assistance in traveling to the battle scenarios, the WWII and Korean Era Veteran's Luncheon (Friday) and encampment tour transportation and registration area. Seating & refreshments for you and one guest are provided by New Leaf Church. Veterans from eras beyond WWII & Korea also have a refreshment center compliments of the Conneaut American Legion located within the WWII tent.

How much walking do I have to do to get around? – Very little. We have a small fleet of golf carts and handicapped vans to accommodate your needs. The event is 100% handicapped accessible. Transportation to/from the parking area and within the park itself runs continuously during event hours. Handicapped restrooms will be at the parking lot, veterans' hospitality area and throughout the park.

Who do I need to contact? – Eric Montgomery is our “WWII Veterans Liaison”. He can be reached at 412-726-6665 or via email at stitch@ddayohio.us. Eric has been associated with D-Day Conneaut since 2003 and is one of our allied reenactors. He is the great nephew to twelve great uncles that served during WWII, one of which gave his life for liberty on D-Day. If you are a WWII or Korean Era Veteran and plan on attending it is very important that to contact him to get all the skinny!