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**VALET SRVICES**  
Russ Neiger  
610-930-3077

ANN'S CHOICE RESIDENTS AND GUESTS ARE INVITED TO THIS FREE PROGRAM -  
*(Club membership is not required)*

**NEXT MEETING:**

**Friday, November 10, 2017  
at 11:00 am, Ann's Choice PAC**

The Veterans Group will hold its annual Veterans Day observance on Friday, November 10 at 11:00 am in the Ann's Choice PAC. This special service of remembrance is open to all residents. Col. David Whaling (ret), 1984 graduate of West Point, will speak on changes in the military since the 1980's. The service will include patriotic songs by the Ann's Choice Chorus.

Please wear your Veterans Group shirt to this special event.

**Valet Service Volunteer Opportunity**

The Valet Services group assists residents with seating at events in the PAC and at the Chapel. With the next term of ACLLA underway and the RAC and Executive Town Hall meeting additional volunteers are welcome to assist with this service. Contact Russ Neiger at (610) 930-3077 for more information.

**New Member**

A big welcome to Jack Zebin (US Army, WW II ETO), Henry Flynn (US Navy, 1960s), Richard Moraghan (US Army, 1967 - 1969, Viet Nam), and Sy Glazman (US Army, 1951 - 1953, Korea) who recently joined the Ann's Choice Veterans Group.

**Veterans Plaques**

One Veterans Group project is maintaining and updating the memorial plaques in the bar of each clubhouse.

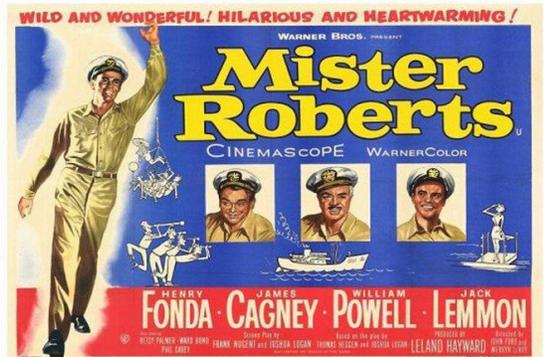


**Next Regular Meeting**

The next regular Tuesday evening meeting will be held on January 15 at 7:30 in the PAC. More information about the meeting will be in the January 2018 issue of *The Bugle Call*.

**Special Event in December**

On Tuesday, December 19, at 6:45 pm, the Veterans Group will present the classic World War II movie, *Mister Roberts*. It was nominated for three Academy Awards in 1955, Jack Lemmon won for Best Supporting Actor as Ensign Pulver. The movie was also nominated for Best Picture and for Best Sound, Recording. See William Powell is his final film appearance as "Doc".



In the waning days of WW II, the United States Navy cargo ship USS *Reluctant* and her crew are stationed in the "backwater" areas of the Pacific Ocean. Trouble ensues when the crewmembers are granted liberty.

A voluntary \$3 donation is requested to help support service projects of the Veterans Group.

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**Plaques, continued** - There are over 400 names on these plaques. The three plaques on the left of the windows are in Acorn Pub.

Tell your friends about the plaques!

## Department of Defense Extends Online Military Exchange Shopping Privileges to Veterans

Release No: NR-010-17, January 13, 2017

The Department of Defense announced a policy change that will extend limited online military exchange shopping privileges to all honorably discharged veterans of the military.

The veterans online shopping benefit will be effective this Veterans Day, November 11, 2017.

While shopping privileges exclude the purchase of uniforms, alcohol and tobacco products, it includes the Exchange Services' dynamic online retail environment known so well to service members and their families. This policy change follows



TAKE THE FIRST STEP >

careful analysis, coordination and strong public support.

"We are excited to provide these benefits to honorably discharged veterans to recognize their service and welcome them home to their

military family," said Peter Levine, performing the duties for the under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness. As a nation, we are grateful for the contributions of our service members."

To register for this on-line benefit, go to Exchange Service website at [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com). Click on the link for "Veterans Online Shopping Benefit" (shown above) to take the first step in utilizing this new benefit for all honorably discharged veterans.

(Article based on a suggestion from Rick Boyle.)

### November Concert

On Wednesday evening, November 8, at 7:30, AC Community Resources will sponsor the Veterans Association of Military Musicians in the Ann's Choice Chapel. Tickets are required for admission to this concert. The Ann's Choice Veterans Group will be assisting with valets. This program will also be broadcast on AC Chapel TV, Comcast channels 980 (HD) and 976 (standard definition).

## Battle of Gallipoli

By Joshua Hammer, *Smithsonian*

Thirty-two cutters filled with British troops advanced steadily across the sea at dawn on April 25, 1915. Men clutched their rifles and peered at a crescent of sand a few hundred yards away, fortified by barbed wire strung across wooden posts. Just beyond the beach rose rugged limestone cliffs covered in heavy brush. The 1st Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers was preparing to land on W Beach on the southern end of Gallipoli Peninsula. "It might have been a deserted land we were nearing in our little boats," remembered Capt. Willis, commander of C Company. "Then, crack! The stroke oar of my boat fell forward to the angry astonishment of his mates." Chaos broke out as soldiers tried desperately to escape a hail of bullets raking across the beach and the boats. "Men leapt out of the boats into deep water, encumbered with their rifles and their 70 pounds of kit," recalled Willis, "and some of them died right there, while others reached the land only to be cut down on the barbed wire."



A few yards away, the commander of B Company waded through three feet of water onto the beach. "The sea behind was absolutely crimson, and

you could hear the groans through the rattle of musketry ... I shouted to the soldier behind me to signal, but he shouted back, 'I am shot through the chest.' I then perceived they were all hit." The survivors of the Lancashire battalion pushed on, eventually forcing the three platoons of Turkish defenders, about 200 men, to flee. By 7:15 that morning they had secured the landing place, but at a terrible cost. Out of 1,029 men who landed on W Beach, only 410 survived.

The attack that morning on W Beach and five other beaches was the first amphibious assault in modern history, involving British and French troops as well as divisions of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (Anzac). It had been preceded in February 1915 by a naval attack on the Dardanelles, the strait dividing Gallipoli from mainland Turkey – the opening of a campaign that would be regarded as one of the great Allied failures of World War I.

(continued on page 3)

## Battle of Gallipoli, continued

The name quickly became a metaphor for hubris – as well as bravery and sacrifice.

The invasion of Gallipoli was conceived by Allied commanders as a lightning strike against the Ottoman Empire to bring about a quick end to the Great War. Allied generals and politicians expected their operation in Gallipoli to be over in a matter of days. "A good army of 50,000 men and sea power – that is the end of the Turkish menace," declared First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill.

Instead, by the time Allied forces withdrew in defeat in January 1916, close to half a million soldiers – nearly 180,000 Allied troops, 253,000 Turks – had been killed or wounded.

2015 also marked the completion of an extraordinary effort by scholars to study the battlefield itself, especially the elaborate trench system. Since its initial forays in 2010, a team of Turkish, Australian and New Zealand archaeologists and historians has spent between three and four weeks in the field each fall, hacking through dense brush, identifying depressions in the earth, marking their GPS coordinates and overlaying the new data on a highly detailed 1916 map compiled by Ottoman cartographers immediately after the withdrawal.

Unlike the trenches of the Western Front, plowed under by farmers soon after the war, Gallipoli's trench system remained largely intact after the battle. Erosion caused by wind and rain, as well as the increasing popularity of the battlefield among both Turkish and foreign tourists, now threaten to destroy these last remaining traces.

Researchers have marked nine miles of trenches and tunnels burrowed by the antagonists several dozen feet beneath each other's positions in an effort to blow them up from below. They have also discovered more than 1,000 artifacts – bullets, barbed wire, rusting tin cans of corned beef, bayonets, human bones – that provide a compelling picture of life and death in one of history's bloodiest battlegrounds.

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Historians spent much of September 2013 delineating this former front line, which ran roughly along both sides of a modern-day fire road. Ian McGibbon, a New Zealand military historian points out a crater just off the road, which he identifies as a "slump," a depression above an underground corridor. Ottomans and Allies burrowed tunnels beneath their foes' trenches and packed them with explosives, often causing enormous casualties; each side also constructed defensive tunnels to intercept enemy diggers. Battles some-

times erupted underground where the two digging teams confronted each other.

He picked up a fist-size chunk of shrapnel, one of countless fragments of materiel that still litter the battlefield. Most important relics were carted off long ago by secondhand dealers, relatives of veterans and private museum curators.

Modest relics shed light on what happened. In the Australian trenches, the piles of tin cans containing corned beef testify to the monotony of their diet. The Ottomans, by contrast, received deliveries of meat and vegetables from nearby villages and cooked in brick ovens inside the trenches.

Historians have recovered bricks from these ovens.

As trench warfare bogged down, the architecture of the trenches became more elaborate. The Anzac forces brought in engineers who had learned their trade in gold mines: They constructed zigzagging frontline corridors with steps leading up to firing recesses – some can still be seen today. A maze of communications and supply trenches ran up to the front line, becoming so complex that men couldn't find their way back, and had to be rescued.



In lower sections of the battlefield, the enemies faced each other from 200 or 300 yards away; on the narrow ridges near Chunuk Bair, one of the highest points on the peninsula and a principal objective of the Allies, the opposing forces

were separated by a few yards – close enough to lob grenades and bombs into each other's trenches.

Most of the fighting took place from deep inside these bunkers, but soldiers sometimes emerged in waves – only to be cut down by fixed machine guns. The Allies had insufficient medical personnel in the field and few hospital ships, and thousands of injured were left for days in the sun, pleading for water until they perished.

The Turkish soldiers fought with a tenacity that the British – ingrained with colonial attitudes of racial superiority – had never anticipated. "The soldiers from the Anatolian villages were fatalists raised on

(continued on page 4)

## Battle of Gallipoli, continued

hardship," the historian L.A. Carlyon wrote in his acclaimed 2001 study *Gallipoli*. "They knew how to hang on, to endure, to swallow bad food and go barefoot, to baffle and frustrate the enemy with their serenity in the face of pain and death."

By August, after a three-month stalemate, the Allied commanders were desperate to turn the tide. On the evening of August 6, Allied troops launched a major offensive. The attack started on a plateau called Lone Pine, where Australians launched a charge at Turkish positions 100 yards away. They captured their objective but suffered more than 2,000 casualties. Three regiments from the New Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigade meanwhile advanced from north of Anzac Cove up a trail just to the west of a rugged outcropping called Table Top. Columns of other allied troops followed them – taking different routes toward the 889-foot summit of Chunuk Bair. They moved through a confusing terrain of outcroppings, gorges and razorback ridges overgrown with brush. Their nicknames – Baby 700, Shrapnel Valley, the Sphinx, Russell's Top, Razor's Edge, the Nek – suggested the intimacy with which the soldiers had come to regard them. "There was a feeling of panic and doubt in the air as to where we were and where we were going," recalled Maj. Cecil Allanson, commander of a 6th Gurkhas battalion.

The Ottoman troops had just a single artillery platoon, 20 men, dug in atop the mountain, hardly enough to withstand an invading force of 20,000. But in difficult and unfamiliar territory, and enveloped by darkness, the Allied soldiers struggled to find their way. The assault got nowhere.

The Nek, a small plateau just below Chunuk Bair, came to epitomize the folly – and would later be immortalized in the powerful final scene of Peter Weir's *Gallipoli*.

At the same time as the offensive, the British launched a major amphibious landing at Suvla Bay, a few miles north of Anzac Cove. But they never made a serious attempt to break out of that beachhead. In December, with blizzards and frigid temperatures sapping morale, and Ottoman forces moving artillery into position to begin bombarding the trenches, Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, ordered a nighttime withdrawal of the remaining 80,000 troops from Gallipoli. Using self-firing guns and other diversions, the Allied forces managed to board ships and sail away from the peninsula with almost no casualties. It was a rare logistical success in the eight-month debacle.

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A hundred years later, historians, politicians and others continue to debate the larger meaning of the Gallipoli battle. For the Allies, it came to symbolize senseless loss, and would have a devastating effect on the careers of the men who conceived it. Doubts had already been raised within the British government about Winston Churchill, following a failed attempt by British naval troops to relieve besieged Belgian soldiers at Antwerp in October 1914. "Winston is becoming a great danger," declared Prime Minister Lloyd George. "Winston is like a torpedo. The first you hear of his doings is when you hear the swish of the torpedo dashing through the water."

Although Churchill bore only part of the blame for the Gallipoli debacle, George and other British leaders now challenged his judgment in matters of military operations and strategy, and he was forced to resign his post. He served in minor cabinet positions, and lost his seat in the House of Commons, finally winning back a seat in 1924. That same year, he became Chancellor of the Exchequer and his political redemption began.

Lord Kitchener saw his own reputation for military brilliance shattered; he was saved from disgrace a year later when his battleship sank after striking a mine.

Military historian Peter Hart faults the British leadership for "a lack of realistic goals, no coherent plan, the use of inexperienced troops ... negligible artillery support, totally inadequate logistical and medical arrangements [and] a gross under-estimation of the enemy." Gallipoli, he concludes, "was damned before it started."

By contrast the German general who commanded the Turks, Otto Liman von Sanders, brilliantly deployed the Ottoman 5th Army, 84,000 well-equipped soldiers in six divisions.

The view that the battle's outcome was decided by military leadership was codified by none other than U.S. Army Lt. Col. George Patton, who concluded in a 1936 report, "Had the two sets of commanders changed sides, the landing would have been as great a success as it was a dismal failure."

The Ottoman victory at Gallipoli, however, proved to be the empire's last gasp. It suffered punishing defeats in the Middle East at the hands of British and Arab forces, and collapsed in 1918. Territories were parceled out to the victorious Allies. In November of that year, British and French warships sailed unopposed through the Dardanelles and occupied Constantinople.

Adapted from *Smithsonian* magazine, February, 2015