

**Tom Glynn, USN LST 289  
& Jack Smith, US Army.  
Laying of the 2006  
Memorial Wreath**



## LST 289 After The Battle

**“LST’s, Their Finest Hour”**  
Secretary of the Navy  
John Dalton, 1997



# The Exercise Tiger Foundation *Presents* **THE NATIONAL WREATH TRIBUTE**

April 28th, 1944

April 28th, 2007



**Honoring Veterans, Active Duty  
Forces & Special Recognition  
of the Virginia Tech Students**

**April 28th, 2007**

**United States Coast Guard Station, Barnegat Light, NJ  
The 63rd Anniversary of Exercise Tiger**

Office of the Freeholder Director

# Proclamation

April 28, 2007

**WHEREAS**, the men and women who make up America's military forces are an indispensable part of our Nation's efforts to promote democracy, peace and freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, The Exercise Tiger Association will honor these brave Americans at a special Ceremony on Saturday, April 28, 2007 by laying wreaths honoring the battle of Exercise Tiger during WWII and members of the US Armed Forces serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world; and

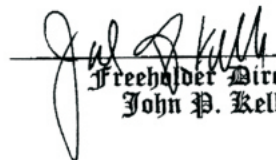
**WHEREAS**, US Coast Guard Petty Officers Anthony Kaminsky BMI, and Michael Bontempo, BMI, have performed in the highest tradition of the Armed Forces by coordinating the 2007 Tribute; and

**WHEREAS**, this ceremony will honor the late Jack Smith, retired US Army and Veteran of The Battle of "Tiger" as well as John Lewis, Tom Glynn and Earl Thatcher, retired US Navy and New Jersey's last survivors of The Battle "Tiger"; and

**WHEREAS**, a separate wreath will also be placed in memory of the 32 students and faculty who were killed in the worst mass shooting in US history at Virginia Tech University.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN P. KELLY, DIRECTOR** of the **BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS** of the **COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**, do hereby support and stand united with the brave men and women of the United States Military, our Veterans, and the memory of those tragically killed on April 16<sup>th</sup> at Virginia Tech at this wreath laying tribute and memorial service conducted in the Atlantic Ocean by the US Coast Guard and The Exercise Tiger Association.



  
Freeholder Director  
John P. Kelly



DIRECTOR OF  
GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
WASHINGTON, DC 20593-0001  
APR 26 2007

## A MESSAGE FOR THE COMMEMORATION OF THE BATTLE OF EXERCISE TIGER

It is my privilege to extend a warm welcome to all who have gathered to commemorate the 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the battle of Exercise Tiger.

The Coast Guard is proud to support such a poignant commemoration. This will mark the 19<sup>th</sup> year that Small Boat Station Barnegat Light will carry out this tribute, and every year, we are honored to be a part of such a noteworthy ceremony.

Observances like the one here at Station Barnegat Light are invaluable because they not only provide an opportunity to remember our Nation's heroes, like the 749 brave service members who lost their lives at Exercise Tiger, but they also remind us that the freedom we enjoy every day comes at a great cost. Our freedom is precious, and the sacrifices of our veterans and of their families should never be forgotten.

So today, we honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation. May we always remember them, their great accomplishments and their great gift to us.

Semper Paratus,



M. E. LANDRY  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard



# 63rd Anniversary of Exercise Tiger

*The Historic National Wreath Laying  
to Honor Veterans, Active Duty Forces  
& Virginia Tech Students*



**COMMEMORATIVE  
PROGRAM**

*April 28th, 2007*



*Coffee On Mess Deck With USCG Crew, Veterans, & VIP's*

## **Presentation Of Tiger Awards & Official Remarks**

Welcome To Station Barnegat Light - CWO W. Parker, Commanding Officer

*Remarks & Recognition By:*

Statement By Secretary Of the Navy

New Jersey State Resolution ~ Assemblyman Jeff Van Drew

USCG HQ Washington DC ~ M.E. Landry, Rear Admiral, USCG

*Proclamations By:*

Gerry P. Little, Freeholder, John Kelly Freeholder Director, Ocean County, NJ

## **Maritime Law Enforcement Awards**

BM2 George Dawes, USCG

## **Logistical Support Award**

SN Kevin Saiyasak, USCG

## **Distinguished Unit Award**

United States Coast Guard Station Barnegat Light

## **WW II Service Awards**

Jack Smith, Sgt. Exercise Tiger Veteran Posthumously Awarded

Tom Glynn, US Navy ret., LST 289, Exercise Tiger Veteran

John McGargal, US Navy ret., LST 507, Exercise Tiger Veteran

John Lewis, Commander USN ret. Exercise Tiger Veteran

Art Becker, SM2C, USN, D-Day Veteran

## **US Submarine Service Awards**

Dan Staruch, US Navy ret., USS Bluegill SS242

Robert Cloupe, US Navy ret., Vice Cmdr. US Submarine Veterans, Jersey Shore Base

Harry Lang, USN, USS Quillback SS424, WW II

S. George Platia, USN, USS Nautilus SS168, WW II

Charlie Gromek, USN, USS Tench SS 417, Cold War Era

The CPO Ron McCready Award For USCG Excellence By NCO's  
BM1 Robert Shay, USCG  
BM2 Anthony Kaminski, USCG



**Board 47' Motor Lifeboat**



**Remarks & Prayer Prior To Wreath Laying**

## **Wreaths Honoring:**

~ Exercise Tiger ~

~ Active Duty Forces Serving In Iraq - Afghanistan ~

~ ALL USCG FORCES ~

~ Maroon & Orange flowered wreath to honor Virginia Tech ~

## **Bell Toll**

## **Taps**

Zoe Krause, USCG Reserve

## **About Today's Event**

Today's tribute and USCG Wreath laying marks the 19th year that the US Coast Guard has performed this honor in the Atlantic Ocean. This mission has always been done by a crew from Station Barnegat Light. Today we also honor those 32 students and staff killed at Virginia Tech University on April 16<sup>th</sup>. This tribute is the only one of its type in the United States and the "Official" tribute to mark the Battle of Exercise Tiger. This also marks the second year that The USS Submarine Veterans Assoc. Has joined us in recognizing ALL who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

## **Special Thanks To:**

BM1 Michael Bontempo USCG, Station Liaison To "Tiger" Assn.

Wes Parker, Commanding Officer, Station Barnegat Light

The Officers and Crew of Station Barnegat Light

CPO "Rusty" Arnsdorf, Executive Petty Officer

Karen Smith, PAO SECNAV

Natalie Granger, PAO, USCG HQ ~ Washington DC

Charlie Kisselman, President, Ship Bottom Republican Club

John Bomengen, Flt. 74 Commander, USCGA

## **Wreaths Donated By**

Floral Expressions of Stafford

The US Submarine Veterans Assoc., Jersey Shore Base, South Toms River

The Exercise Tiger Foundation

## **Coordinated By**

The Exercise Tiger Association National Commemorative Foundation

Walter Domanski, National Director ~ BM2 Anthony Kaminski, USCG

*For more information go to: [www.exercisetiger.org](http://www.exercisetiger.org)*