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LOCAL VETERANS SHARE THEIR STORIES IN BEAVER COUNTY

PITTSBURGH, PA – Beaver County veterans now have a friendly place to meet up with other veterans, friends, family, and the public to share their stories of military service over a warm cup of coffee and a delicious breakfast. No, it's not a new restaurant—it's *The Veterans Breakfast Club*.

The Veterans Breakfast Club is a local nonprofit organization whose mission is to create communities of listening around veterans and their stories. The organization does this through public storytelling programs where veterans of all eras can share their memories and build camaraderie.

Several times each month, The Veterans Breakfast Club hosts veteran gatherings throughout the Greater Pittsburgh area. Locations include Wexford, Bridgeville, Penn Hills, and other locations in the North and South Hills. Each location offers a slightly different experience and entertaining historical program. Every location is open to the public and the storytelling program is free. There is a nominal cost for the optional buffet-style breakfast.

Beaver County veterans currently meet at the Sewell Center on the campus of Robert Morris University in Moon Township. The Moon breakfasts are typically attended by 60-70 veterans, friends, and family members.

April 2013 Veterans Breakfast Club Schedule

April 10, 8:30am, Breakfast at Grazie! Restaurant, Oxford Athletic Club in Wexford.

April 16, 8:30am, Breakfast in South Hills at Peter's Place, 1199 Washington Pike, Bridgeville.

April 26, 8:30am, Breakfast in Penn Hills, Comfort Inn, 699 Rodi Road.

April 30, 8:30am, Breakfast at the Sewall Center, University Drive, Robert Morris University, Coraopolis, PA.

"We believe that telling and listening to stories can nourish us and help build a more compassionate nation," said Todd DePastino, historian, author, and executive director of The Veterans Breakfast Club. "Veterans stories—whether they be entertaining, inspirational, instructive, commemorative, or healing—remind us that history is built one story at a time."

To safeguard veterans' stories for future generations, The Veterans Breakfast Club works in association with the acclaimed *Veteran Voices of Pittsburgh Oral History Initiative*—the only regional oral history project dedicated to preserving the experiences of local veterans of all branches of service and eras, including peace and war-time service.

"All veterans have remarkable stories of patriotism, sacrifice, and bravery," said Kevin Farkas, a Navy veteran from Beaver County and co-founder of Veteran Voices. "The Veterans Breakfast Club reminds veterans—and all of us—that their stories matter. We're listening."

For more information, contact Todd DePastino, <http://VeteransBreakfastClub.com>

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