

# WWII Memorial Dedication

On December 7, the nation marked the 70th anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day. Approximately 50 to 60 Locust Valley residents showed up despite the bad weather to honor the WWII Veterans of our community for the rededication of the WWII Monument. The event was sponsored by Operation Democracy.

As the crowd stood under two tents, hoping to shield themselves from the rain, there was silence for the program which included: Mr. Larry Ward and Mr. Ed Heintz (WWII Veterans & members of the Locust Valley American Legion) who hoisted the American Flag and the POW Flag and stood at attention for the Gun Salute. Mr. Arnold Ceglia, WWII, laid a wreath for remembrance and honor for all soldiers of WWII. Ernest Schieferstein, a local student of Locust Valley, sang the National Anthem. Kaye Weninger was thanked for taking on this project. Adrien Bogart spoke briefly to the crowd about the war, and a prayer was said by Rev. Paul Quevedo of the Locust Valley Reformed Church. The monument was unveiled and Ernest Schieferstein sang "God Bless American" and everyone joined him with pride, remembering the soldiers of WWII. Kaye Weninger of Operation Democracy, thanked everyone for coming. She extended a special thank you to Randy Carr for co-chairing this project with her, together with businesses in town who helped make this happen. She concluded



*Adrien Bogart, Navy Pacific Theatre WWII, the Speaker, had the honor of unveiling the monument.*



*Larry Ward, WWII Veteran, raised the POW Flag.*

by saying, "Freedom is never free" and, as we remember the soldiers of WWII today, please take a moment to remember all soldiers, of all wars. We must, "Never Forget." The ceremony ended and many of the people walked up and found their parents and grandparents names and stood in the pouring rain talking about WWII and the history and how happy they were to see this beautiful monument restored. The Cattier grandchildren in attendance were, Avery-5, Pierce-7, and Trevor, 8. honored their grandfather. Jean Cattier by dedicating a bench in his memory.



*Ed Heintz, WWII Veteran, raised the American Flag.*



*Arnold Ceglia, Army Pacific Theatre WWII, laid the Wreath in Honor of Pearl Harbor and all Veterans.*