

PRESS RELEASE

Date: June 4, 2013

From: Denise Etter, Project Coordinator - Retire Your Unserviceable Old Glory
Retire Your Old Glory, LLC

Summary: Retire Your Unserviceable Old Glory

All American flags, respectfully known as Old Glory, should be retired in a dignified and respectful manner when they are no longer a fitting emblem for display and replaced with a new flag as described in detail in the [US Code Title 4 Chapter 1-The Flag](#).

Retire Your Unserviceable Old Glory is a campaign that has been introduced into communities to provide patriotic collection bins in prime locations for tattered, faded and torn American flags to be deposited. The old American flags that are collected are retired ceremoniously in a dignified and respectful manner by members from the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, The Boy Scouts of America and Girl Scouts.

Project wide more than 3,000 faded, torn and tattered unserviceable American flags have been collected since the start of the campaign in May of 2011. The flags range in size from small stick flags, outdoor house flags, large flags from local businesses, military burial flags and to our surprise there have been some 48 star flags placed in the bins for retirement. The 48 star flags are very faded and discolored, pretty old and ready to be retired.

Collecting old flags is not a new idea but the Retire Your Unserviceable Old Glory is a new campaign that places patriotic bins in common, convenient locations for citizens to retire their old tattered/faded flags. The bins are placed in high traffic areas with daily access. The success of the project takes the cooperation of many different people, the sponsor, the location and the different service organizations who retire the flags. Each Retire Your Old Glory bin location chooses and works with their own group for the retirement ceremonies.

The idea for the bin came from simply recognizing that there was a need for a convenient location to retire old flags. My husband, a proud Army veteran, follows the American flag code at our home and has on many occasions visited local businesses and neighbors to tell them it was time to retire their old flag and replace it with a new one. With each visit it became apparent that people did not know how or where to properly dispose of their old flags. As we collected some of those flags we realized that there should be a convenient local place where residents could deposit their old flags. So, the patriotic bin was designed for the public to properly retire each unserviceable Old Glory.

Cranberry Township was the first municipality to welcome the new project. Next to follow was the Erie Maritime Museum and Fairview Twp. in Erie, Pa, Upper St. Clair Twp., The Greentree Women's Civic Club sponsored a bin located at Greentree Boro Bldg. and The Crafton Memorial Committee sponsored a bin located at the Crafton Boro Library.

The official start date was May 2011 in the Pittsburgh and Erie, PA areas. The project has been well received. The results are posted at the website – www.retireyouroldglory.com

Individuals, companies, special events or municipalities interested in participating in the campaign can make contact through the website www.retireyouroldglory.com and/or the email address: retireyouroldglory@gmail.com.

Renew the American spirit, Fly a new flag!

###