



NEWSLETTER OF THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM FOUNDATION

Frontline

FORWARD

WISCONSIN'S CIVIL WAR BATTLE FLAG WEBSITE UNFURLED

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is excited to announce a new website to highlight Wisconsin's Civil War Battle Flags. You're invited to visit www.wisconsinbattleflags.com.

relate to Wisconsin's Civil War history. You'll find a description of the flag currently on display in the galleries, as well as a schedule for future rotations.



The website is intended to be interactive and we value public input, so please also visit the "Your Call to Service" section to learn how you can contribute to this project. There are many ways to get involved, such as conducting research or sponsoring a flag. Any funds raised from the website will support the conservation of the Civil War battle flag collection.

Wisconsin Civil War Battle Flags, from the Collections of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum

Starting with a framework of ten important Wisconsin regiments, the website will expand in months and years to come. Visitors can learn the history of each regiment and view color photographs of its conserved battle flags. As the website develops it will include stories of individual soldiers, ongoing research, historical photographs and other related material.

The website also includes information about the history of the flags, the effort to conserve them and upcoming events which

relate to Wisconsin's Civil War history. You'll find a description of the flag currently on display in the galleries, as well as a schedule for future rotations.

By Kris Zickuhr

INSIDE:

Talking Spirits

Returns

Civil War

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New Exhibits in

Madison and

Volk Field

Fall Program

Schedule

and more...

The Bugle

The purpose of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum is to commemorate, acknowledge, and affirm the role of Wisconsin veterans in America's military past by means of instructive exhibits and other educational programs.

The Bugle is a publication of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation which serves to further the museum's mission by providing funds for the acquisition of artifacts, exhibit production, and development of educational programs.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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WISCONSIN
VETERANS
MUSEUM
30 W. Mifflin St.,
Madison, WI 53703
- On the Capitol Square

HOURS
Mon. - Sat.
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday Noon - 4 p.m.
(April-Sept.)

A Note from the Foundation

PRESERVING FREEDOM

As another school year begins, countless Wisconsin students will have the opportunity to study history through the real life experiences of Wisconsin Veterans. Whether they are using the museum's travel trunks, with hands-on lessons and professional curriculum, attending the Talking Spirits Cemetery Tour, or visiting the museum with one of our experienced guides, students will be exposed to important lessons about community service and personal sacrifice.

As president of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation, I am proud of the many ways the museum creatively preserves history, educates the public, and honors veterans. The Foundation plays an integral role in the museum's operations. Donations to the Foundation fund exhibits, provide outreach programs like travel trunks to schools statewide, and bring nationally and internationally known speakers to the museum.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is truly a national treasure. It houses one of the nation's best Civil War Battle Flag collections, and we are proud to make them available online via the new website featured on the cover of this issue. The museum's archives and collections contain a fantastic assortment of letters, diaries, equipment and souvenirs, all preserving

the true stories of Wisconsin veterans.

All of the museum's activities are crucial to the preservation of history for future generations. It cannot be done without generous contributions from patrons and friends.

There are many ways to contribute to the museum. *Toast to Veterans*, an annual family field day and beer tasting, provides a fun way to get acquainted with the museum. The annual *Golf Outing* combines an enjoyable scramble golf tournament with opportunities to support the museum. Of course, the annual *Tribute to Freedom Gala* provides a formal celebration with dinner in the galleries.

I encourage you to attend our fundraising events, or to honor a loved one with a contribution in their name. For more information about a variety donor programs, contact Jennifer Carlson at (608) 264-6086.

WVMF is proud of the men and women who serve our nation, and believes strongly that their legacy of service and sacrifice should be preserved for future generations.

By Bill Hustad, WVMF Board President

WVM Programs

TALKING SPIRITS X ARCHITECTS OF A MORE PERFECT UNION

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is pleased to announce the tenth annual "Talking Spirits," Forest Hill Cemetery Tour will be held on Sunday, October 5th. The award-winning living history program, which highlights the lives of many prominent and lesser known figures in Wisconsin history, will this year focus on the contributions of Wisconsin's Civil War veterans as well as those individuals who supported the war effort both at home and elsewhere. A generation that heeded the call of this nation in its time of need, they were truly architects of a more perfect Union.

This year's tour will introduce many characters that have impacted the course of Wisconsin history, both on the battlefield and off. Visitors will meet soldiers like Colonel Stephen Shipman, John Coleridge Pradt, and Major Frank W. Oakley. Shipman, a prominent architect, enlisted with the

1st Wisconsin Cavalry at the outset of hostilities. Wounded three times in combat, he was shot in the leg and captured at Whitewater Bridge in April 1863 after leading forty of his men in a daring charge against three thousand surrounding Rebels. Exchanged in a prisoner swap later that year, Shipman—despite his wound—rejoined his unit in 1865 and saw action throughout the Deep South. Returning to Madison after the war, he reapplied himself to architecture, designing the rotunda and dome of the second Capitol building among other notable commissions.

Pradt served in the headquarters unit of the 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry. While fighting at Baxter Springs, Kansas in October 1863, he lost an eye after Union forces were surprised by feared Confederate guerillas, Quantrill's Raiders. Pradt, who happened to be getting dispatches out of a trunk when the

WVM Programs- Continued on page 3

Continued - WVM Programs

attack came, was caught in middle, shot, and left for dead. Later, he traveled west to Indian Territory where he died of illness, but not before treating 125 men sickened with malaria. Oakley, a resident of Beloit, served with Company K, 7th Wisconsin Regiment. Losing his right arm at Rappahannock

less, Noland received a quarter of the ballots cast, despite calling on Madisonians to vote for the Republican ticket!

Finally, visitors will be given the opportunity to hear from the other side of the conflict, with the story of Confederate



Kris Zickuhr

Students hear General Theodore Read explain his Civil War service at the 2007 Cemetery Tour

Station in August 1862, he was nursed back to health by his wife, Cynthia, before being appointed quartermaster of U.S. volunteers in 1863. After the conflict, the Oakleys moved to Madison where they played a role in helping to establish the Confederate Rest section of Forest Hill Cemetery, and even housed Alice Whiting Waterman in their home for a time.

“Talking Spirits X” will also illuminate the contributions of civilians whose actions in Wisconsin and elsewhere aided the war effort. Viewers will become acquainted with the work of Emilie C. Quiner and William H. Noland. Working as a school teacher during the first part of the war, Quiner was also involved in various Soldiers’ Aid societies in Madison. Presented in July 1863 with the opportunity to care for wounded Union soldiers in Memphis, she leapt at the chance, leaving family and friends behind to work in the hospital there. Returning home for a brief stint, she was poised to go back before her father talked her out of departing once more—a decision she came to regret bitterly. Noland, the first permanent African-American resident of Madison, was a vocal supporter of the Union cause and overcame racial discrimination to become a popular and successful businessman. Denied appointment to state office because of his race, his offer to raise a company of black Union soldiers was rejected also by the governor. In 1866, following the enfranchisement of African-American voting rights, the Democratic Party in Madison nominated him as its mayoral candidate against his wishes. Perhaps meant as a cruel joke, neverthe-

Corporal George Washington Spears. A resident of Choctaw County, Alabama, Spears served in Company B of the 1st Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi Infantry. Captured at Island No. 10 in early April 1862, G.W. Spears and his two brothers were sent to Camp Randall as prisoners of war. On May 16, 1862, in a dispute with a Union guard, Spears was shot and killed. His story is one of the confusion and familial heartbreak of war.

These intriguing individuals and more will be featured during the 1 ½ hour guided walking tour. Directed for the fourth year by playwright, John Sable, local actors and actresses will don period dress, giving visitors the once-in-a-lifetime experience of meeting these characters on the cemetery grounds. Included along with six vignettes will be informative discussions of the cemetery’s rich history and gravestone art. Once again, this project is supported by the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission with additional funds from the American Girl’s Fund for Children and Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation

Public tours are available at Forest Hill Cemetery (1 Speedway Road, Madison) on Sunday, October 5. Adult admission is \$5, while children are \$2. Tickets are available at the cemetery gate the day of the event. Golf carts are provided for visitors who cannot take the entire tour on foot. Free parking is available along Speedway Road and behind West High School.

School and group tours will be held on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 1, 2 and 3 from 10am to 4pm. The cost per group is \$40 and maximum group size is 30 people. To book a tour, contact Jennifer Carlson at 608.264.6086. For more information on the tour, see the WVM Foundation website, www.wvmfoundation.com.

By Peter Kraemer

Museum Staff

Director
Dr. Richard H. Zeitlin
608.266.1009

Curator of Collections
William Brewster
608.264.6099

Curator of Visitor
& Foundation Services
Jennifer Carlson
608.264.6086

Reference Archivist
Russ Horton
608.267.1790

Curatorial Assistant
Jennifer Kaye
608-261-0540

Marketing Specialist
Laura Kocum
608.264.7663

Curator of Programs
Jeff Kollath
608.261.0541

Curatorial Assistant
Peter Kraemer
608.266.1854

Archives Collection Manager
Gayle Martinson
608.261.0536

Acting Store Manager
Crystal Pierce
608.261.0535

Operations Manager
Lynnette Wolfe
608.266.1680

Registrar
Kristine Zickuhr
608.261.6802

Wisconsin National Guard
Museum Site Curator
Eric Lent
608.427.1280

INFORMATION
608.267.1799
www.museum.dva.state.wi.us

From the Archives

REVISITING BATTLES: VETERANS AT GETTYSBURG AND VICKSBURG REUNIONS

Try to imagine, if you will, thousands of seventy and eighty year old men sleeping eight in a tent and eating out of mess kits for five hot and humid summer days in Pennsylvania. While you might think it sounds like some sort of cruel punishment unwillingly endured by these aged men, some recently opened records at the WVM Archives paint a very different picture. These men were veterans of the Civil War celebrating the 50th anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg and they were having the time of their lives.

Records from the Wisconsin Adjutant General tell the tale of two reunions: the 50th Anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg (1913) and the National Memorial Reunion and Peace Jubilee at Vicksburg (1917). These records reveal the reverential treatment accorded to Civil War veterans by the nation and the state in the early twentieth century as well as the enthusiasm with which these elderly men sought to meet and reminisce about their experiences on the battlefields.

Leading up to the Gettysburg reunion, the State of Pennsylvania and the federal government

National Memorial Reunion and Peace Jubilee
at
Vicksburg National Military Park
October 16 to 19, 1917

The Adjutant General,
Madison, Wisconsin.

Dear Sir:—

Pursuant to your circular letter of Sept. 26th and in compliance with Chapter 558, Laws of 1917, I herewith apply for transportation from _____ (Name of home town) to Vicksburg, Mississippi, and return.

I was a member of Company E 12th Regiment Wisconsin Infantry-Cavalry-Artillery-Volunteers, enlisted October 6, 1861 _____ (State which) 186____, and was honorably discharged from the service July 16, _____, 1865____.

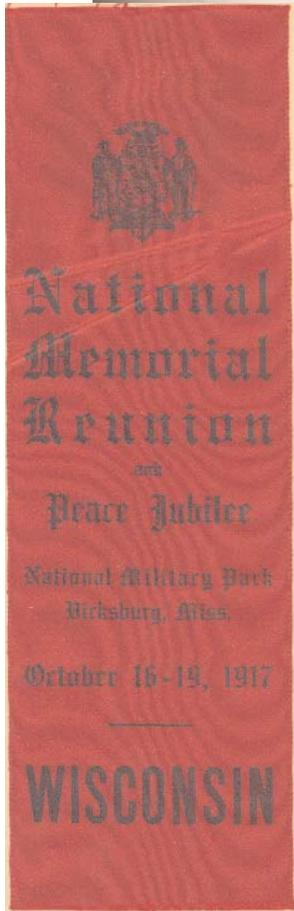
Very respectfully,

Hosea M. Rood
(full name)

Capitol
(post-office address)

Madison
(city)

WISCONSIN.



Above: Hosea Rood's application to attend the Vicksburg reunion. Left: Ribbon worn by Wisconsin veterans at the Vicksburg reunion

agreed to pay for the food, shelter, and entertainment of veterans of that battle in attendance. The State of Wisconsin followed suit, agreeing to pay for the transportation of said veterans to the battlefield. The Badger State offered the same deal to veterans of the Vicksburg campaign who wanted to attend that reunion.

Two bound volumes of records, one for each reunion, contain all of the state-issued announcements, application forms, and a lists of the veterans who attended by city of residence. Also included are blank identification cards, unused meal tickets, badges identifying veterans, and correspondence with railroad companies regarding the transportation of veterans to and from the reunions. All of these materials serve to provide a very clear picture of the logis-

From the Archives-Continued on page 5

Pictured items from Gettysburg and Vicksburg Reunion Records, WVM Mss 1057



**Stay informed
on WVM
programs and
exhibits**

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Ste. 200
Madison, WI
53703

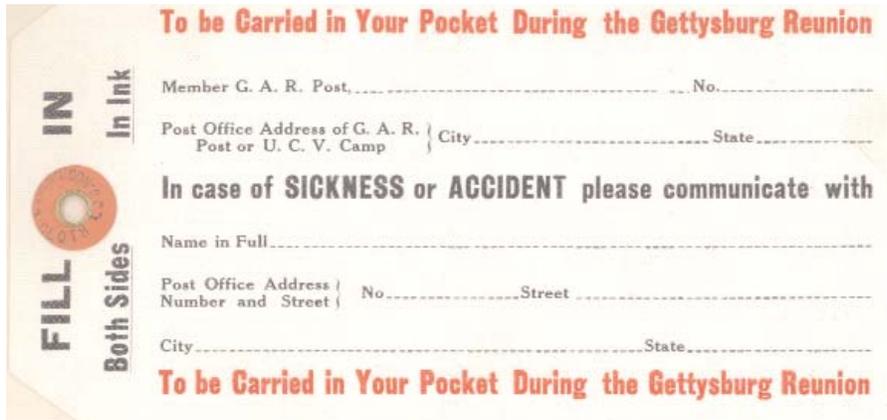
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____
E-Mail: _____

Continued- From the Archives

tics behind these reunions and an idea of the happenings at the reunions.

A short narrative recap of the Gettysburg reunion fills in any holes that the other documents might leave. Response to Wisconsin's offer to pay for transportation exceeded expectations, requiring an act of the state legislature to appropriate additional funds. Over three hundred veterans from Wisconsin alone took the train to Gettysburg, where they slept on cots in eight-man tents. After three days of speeches, music, and camaraderie, on July 4, 1863, President Woodrow Wilson addressed the veterans and laid the cornerstone for a peace memorial on the battlefield, after which a fireworks show concluded the festivities. The Wisconsin veterans began their trip home the following day. Sadly, one of their number, Edgar Bigsby, died in his tent during the reunion.

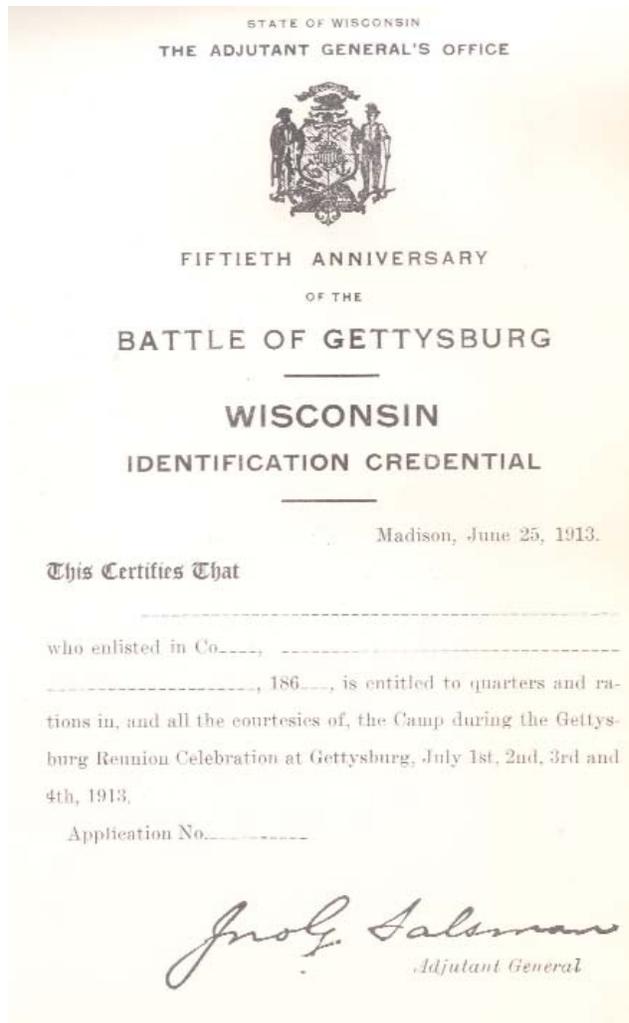
There is no similar narrative for the Vicksburg reunion, but a program from the WVM library reveals a similar schedule of orations by veterans, patriotic songs, the dedication of monuments, and time for reminiscing. The Wisconsin veterans thanked the state government for its help, stating that "we... enjoyed among our own old comrades and those in gray... a most delightful reunion." These materials will be featured in a manuscript exhibit beginning in November. Come visit the Research Center



Emergency contact card carried by Wisconsin veterans at the Gettysburg reunion

on the 3rd floor to see the exhibit, along with thousands of other collections preserving the stories of Wisconsin's veterans. While the exhibit will only be on display for several months, the materials used to create it are available to the public in the Research Center daily, Monday – Friday from 9:00 – 3:30.

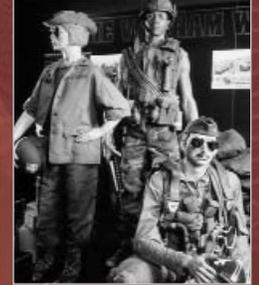
By Russ Horton



Pass to receive free lodging and food at the Gettysburg reunion



Meal tickets for the train ride to the Gettysburg reunion



Commemorate Those Who Served

Help keep the history of Wisconsin's veterans alive by contributing to the educational programs and exhibits of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

SUPPORT THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM FOUNDATION

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

Please send your contributions along with your name and address to:

Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation
P.O. Box 2657
Madison, WI
53701-2657

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

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Donation Amt.: _____

In Honor of: _____

Pictured items from Gettysburg and Vicksburg Reunion Records, WVM Mss 1057

Fall 2008 Programs

THE PERILS OF INTIMACY: HARRY HOPKINS AS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT'S NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER

Frank Costigliola, Professor of History, University of Connecticut
Thursday, Sept. 25, 2008 – 7pm
Lecture and discussion

FRANCO AND HITLER: GIBRALTAR AND THE DILEMMA OF SPAIN'S ENTRY INTO WORLD WAR II

Stanley Payne, Professor Emeritus of History, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Friday, Oct. 10, 2008 – Noon
Lecture and discussion

2008 WISCONSIN BOOK FESTIVAL EVENTS

AMERICAN SOLDIER PROUD AND FREE – for the entire family
Kimberly Jo Simac, children's author
Saturday, Oct. 18, 2008 – 10am
Lecture and book signing

THE WINTER WAR – for the entire family
William Durbin, author
Saturday, Oct. 18, 2008 – 11:30am
Lecture and book signing

WVM Programs

THREE NEW EXHIBITS!

Three new temporary exhibits are set to open at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum this fall highlighting the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, the legacy of Wisconsin's Latino veterans, and Wisconsin's role at the 1863 Battles of Gettysburg and Vicksburg, both turning points in the Civil War.

A traveling exhibit from the National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum, *A Concrete of Images: Paintings and Photographs from Iraq to Afghanistan*, features the work of recently returned and currently serving servicemen. The majority of the exhibit highlights the photography of Eric Edmundson, a Stryker driver with the 4-14 Cavalry Regiment who suffered a traumatic brain injury (TBI) in October 2005. Edmundson survived his injuries, but his road to recovery has been very



George Banda, while serving in Vietnam

slow and difficult. Edmundson's images are very personal, featuring close-ups of his fellow soldiers, underscoring the emotion and strain of war. The exhibit also showcases the photography of Marine Reservist Steve Danyluk and Naval Reservist Andres Zavvas, Jr. focus heavily on the native populations of Iraq and Afghanistan, respectively, while the still-life paintings of Indiana National Guardsman Bill Smock evoke the serenity of the calm before the battle. The exhibit runs from September 15 through November 30 in the Changing Exhibits Gallery.

Since late 2007, the Veterans Museum has been working with the American G.I. Forum, a veterans group from Milwaukee on a project to honor the legacy and sacrifice of Wisconsin's Latino veterans. The fruit of this labor manifests itself in the new photography exhibit, *Nuestros Veteranos*

from Wisconsin: Latino Veterans – Stories of Honor, Valor, and Duty to Country. While Latino veterans have fought in all major wars since the United States won its independence, it is only since World War II that Wisconsin Latino veterans have sacrificed their lives to preserve our freedoms. The exhibit features photographs of nearly two dozen Wisconsin's brave Latino veterans, including Silver Star recipients Frank Gomez and George Banda (Vietnam), Marcos "Jesse" Martinez, who spent nearly three years in a POW camp during the Korean War, and Milwaukee County CVSO Domingo Leguizamon, who recently returned from active duty in Iraq. The exhibit opens on September 15, the first day of Hispanic Heritage Month (through October 15), and will remain in the Museum Welcome Center until November 15. Join us on Saturday, September 27 at 2pm for a special exhibit opening event with veterans from the American GI Forum and John M. Garcia, Secretary, New Mexico Department of Veterans Service, a decorated Vietnam veteran. The event is free and open to the public and will highlight the experiences of Wisconsin's Latino veterans.

The final exhibit of 2008 heavily utilizes the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's vast archival collection of Civil War images and maps. *Fishhook and Siege Line: Gettysburg and Vicksburg in Photographs and Battle Maps* uses reproduction cartes de visite (CDV) of Union and Confederate officers from the Museum archives and private collector Robert Drane of Madison. The CDVs will be placed on large format reproductions of battle maps, helping patrons visualize the battle lines and become familiar with the personalities that led thousands of men into battle during these two important clashes. The Vicksburg Campaign map highlights over a half dozen individuals battles and skirmishes and was hand drawn by Hosea Rood, a veteran of the 12th Wisconsin Infantry who oversaw the GAR Memorial Hall in the State Capitol. This one-of-a-kind map is in the permanent collection of the Museum. The Gettysburg map is reprinted from an 1877 pamphlet titled *The Rebel Invasion of Maryland and Pennsylvania*, and highlights both the names of Union and Confederate generals and the battle lines as they stood at the end of each day of battle. This unique exhibit will open on November 19 and will run through July 2009 in honor of the 200th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's birth. The Museum will host a number of programs in conjunction with this exhibit on Lincoln and his legacy, as well as other Civil War-themed events. Please check the Museum's website – <http://museum.dva.state.wi.us> – and your mailbox for further updates!

By Jeff Kollath

WVM Programs

VIETNAM GRAFFITI HEADS TO VOLK FIELD



Marking Time: Voyage to Vietnam

On September 15, 2008, *Marking Time: Voyage to Vietnam* will open at the Wisconsin National Guard Museum at Volk Field. The exhibit, which has been on display at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum since July 1, features drawings and messages written on the bottom of canvas bunks by soldiers on their way to Vietnam. Scavenged from the troop carrier *General Nelson M. Walker*, these canvases are a fascinating window into the hopes and fears of

young men bound for battle. The exhibit will remain on display until November 15, 2008. The Wisconsin National Guard Museum is located in Camp Douglas, Exit 55, I-90/94. The Museum is open year round, Wednesday through Saturday, 9-4, and Sunday, 10-2.

By Jeff Kollath

THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS REEXAMINED

As one of the watershed moments of the Cold War, the October 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis has been a popular topic for both authors and history buffs alike. Yet, as once-classified CIA and Russian documents and photographs have become available, scholars have begun to uncover the real story behind the standoff between the US, USSR, and Cuba. Author Michael Dobbs dispels many of the myths surrounding the Crisis, revealing new informa-



Author Michael Dobbs

tion about the Russian arsenal on Cuba, the "eyeball-to-eyeball" confrontation on the high seas between American battleships and Soviet freighters, and a blundering U-2 pilot that flew into Russian airspace at the height of the Crisis. This thrilling narrative will bring chills to those who lived through the event and open the eyes of those who know it solely through the history books. Join us for a special reading and signing with Michael Dobbs on Saturday, October 18, 2008 at 2pm. This event is part of the 2008 Wisconsin Book Festival, and is co-sponsored by the UW-Madison Center for Russian, Eastern European, and Central Asian Studies (GREECA), the Department of History, Center for the World Affairs and the Global Economy (WAGE), and the Global Security Program, Division of International Studies. The event is free and open to the public.

By Jeff Kollath

Fall 2008 Programs *Continued*

ONE MINUTE TO MID-NIGHT: KENNEDY, KHRUSHCHEV, & CASTRO, ON THE BRINK OF NUCLEAR WAR

Michael Dobbs, author and journalist
Saturday, Oct. 18, 2008 – 2pm
Lecture and book signing

RIGHTING IRAQ: THE PERSONALITIES AND PRACTICES BEHIND THE 'SURGE'

Conrad Crane, Director, U.S. Army Military History Institute
Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2008 – 7pm
Lecture and discussion

THE 2008 WIMMER-CHURCHILL LECTURE

Winston S. Churchill, journalist and former member of British Parliament
Friday, Oct. 24, 2008 – Noon
Lecture and discussion

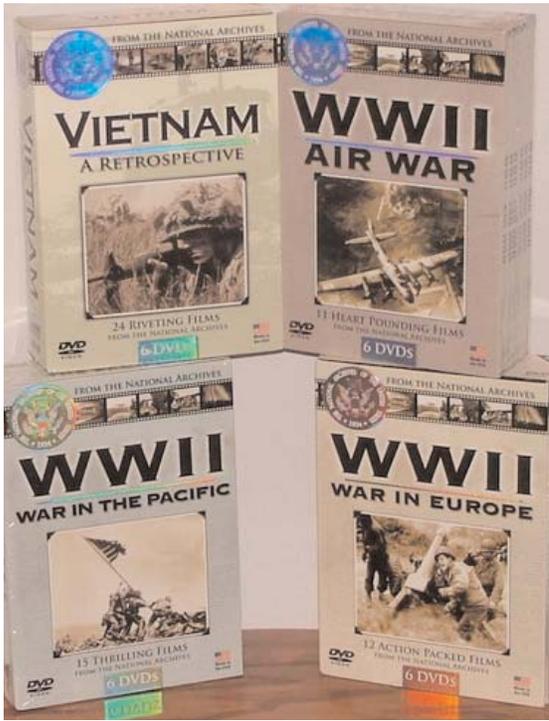
Lincoln Bicentennial Event

THE AGE OF LINCOLN
Vernon Burton, historian, University of Illinois
Thursday, Nov. 20, 2008 – 7pm
Lecture and book signing

All programs are free, open to the public, and hosted in the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's 2nd floor education center.

From the Gift Shop

NATIONAL ARCHIVES DVD SETS



Since 1935, the National Archives has been responsible for the acquisition, preservation and public dissemination of the permanent records of the United States government. Each DVD set features selected video and other materials designed to tell the stories of World War II and Vietnam. Each 6-disc set is available for \$29.99. To order, clip form and mail payment to: **Wisconsin Veterans Museum Gift Shop, 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 200, Madison, WI 53703**

Payment: Check Money Order Visa MC AmEx

Card # _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____

Name: _____

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DVD set desired(29.99 each): _____

_____ sets @ \$29.99 + 5.5% WI tax _____ + \$4 shipping = _____

The Bugle

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