

THE BUGLE

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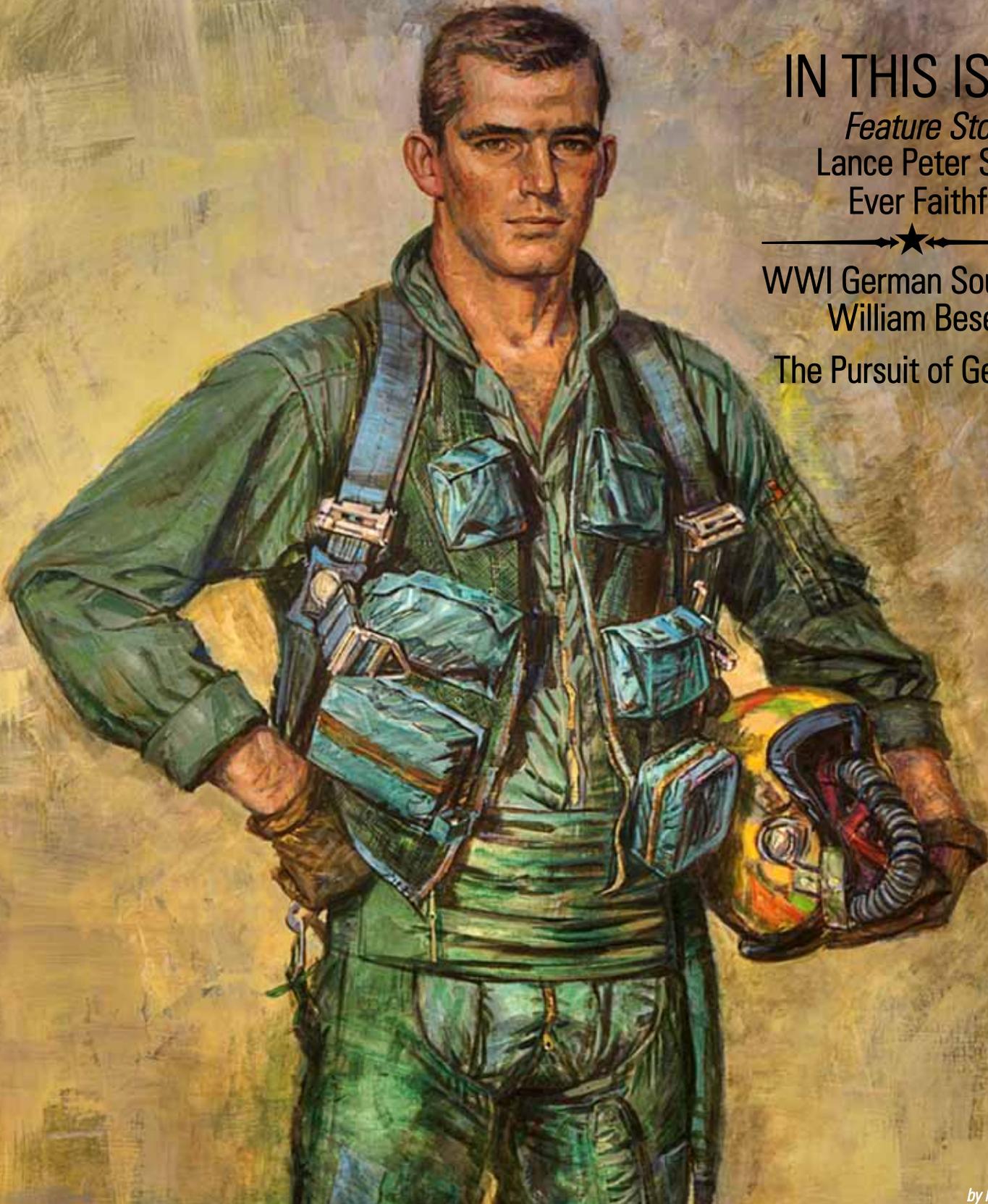
QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM

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Lance Peter Sijan
Ever Faithful

WWI German Souvenir of
William Beseler

The Pursuit of Geronimo



ON THE COVER:
Lance Sijan
by Maxine McCaffrey



FROM THE SECRETARY
WORLD WAR I
100TH ANNIVERSARY



Currently, we are commemorating the 100-year anniversary of World War I. The war began in Europe in 1914, lasting until November 11, 1918. The United States entered the war on April 6, 1917, with many troops remaining overseas into 1919.

Although the veterans of the “War to End All Wars” have all passed away, the legacy of their service and sacrifice still live on. Those who fought in World War I were part of a great lineage of Americans who answered their nation’s call. Just as those who served before them, they marched on with a will to win and the personal courage to secure victory - traits still prevalent in those who now serve in our nation’s Armed Forces.

Today, Wisconsin’s National Guard is home to the 32nd Infantry Brigade, which began as the 32nd Infantry Division that fought in World War I. The French named them “Les Terribles” for their fortitude and ability to advance where other units could not. The unit’s insignia became a red

arrow bisected by a line, symbolizing how the Division pierced the German lines, inspiring another nickname - the “Red Arrow Division.”

Over 120,000 men and women from Wisconsin served during World War I, with almost 4,000 giving their lives to the cause. We continue to honor their service and sacrifice by telling their stories through compelling exhibits and programs at our Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs’ 2016 Veterans Day activities will be focused on commemorating the veterans and events of World War I, with emphasis on the contributions of our great state in that World War I.

John A. Scocos
Secretary

WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM SPECIAL PROJECTS

Your membership supports the mission of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.
In 2016, we have a number of special projects you may be interested in supporting:

★ ACQUISITIONS ★

Help the Wisconsin Veterans Museum acquire historic objects and archival materials

★ TRAVELING EXHIBITS ★

Support a series of newly developed traveling exhibits that will increase the presence of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum throughout Wisconsin

★ STEM PROJECT ★

Advance developing educational initiatives that integrates Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math into our school curricula

REMEMBER, YOUR GIFT MAKES *YOUR* MUSEUM STRONGER!





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FROM THE ARCHIVES

Photograph from Robert W. Devaul collection (WVM Mss 1813) featuring a train traveling through the American Southwest during World War II.



FROM THE DIRECTOR
GETTING TO KNOW US

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is like any other business when it comes to name recognition. Your product may be sensational but if no one knows about it you cannot be assured of success – and in the museum business, success is measured by attendance and public interaction. Over the last two and a half years the Wisconsin Veterans Museum has been working with a marketing and public relations firm to increase awareness of our programs beyond Dane County and the surrounding area.

In May 2016, we will be launching a new campaign highlighting our new exhibit – *The Art of Persuasion: Mobilizing the Masses in World War I*. What separates this campaign from our earlier efforts is our use of radio broadcasting throughout

the state. Working with the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum has secured radio air time in virtually every market in the state. Coupled with a billboard campaign in major markets like Fox Valley, Milwaukee and La Crosse, this campaign promises to bring the Wisconsin Veterans Museum its widest marketing exposure ever.

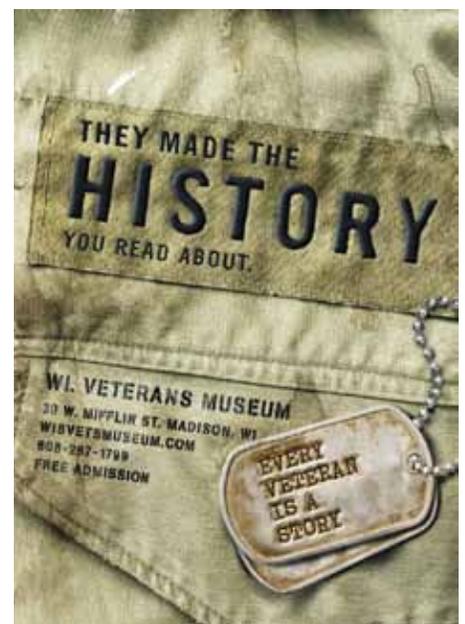
While our marketing team continues to position the Museum for success, our expanded exhibits team is working hard to ensure that the *Art of Persuasion* is more than just a World War I poster exhibit. Erin Hoag, Education Specialist, has introduced some innovative ideas that will engage visitors of all ages in a meaningful dialogue about propaganda and how it is created. The rest of the team has been working on creating an environment that will encourage active participation. Finally, we developed a way in which we can actively involve the visitor in the creation of propaganda posters.

On the development side of things, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation said goodbye to longtime President Alan Hembel and Vice President Mary Kolar. Alan was instrumental in securing support for the Camp Randall Monument and led the Foundation for almost five years. Mary brought with her a disciplined approach and strong desire to see the Museum succeed. We honor and thank them for their

service and wish them the best in their new endeavors. In the wake of their departure, the board elected John Hall to President and Andrew Thomas to Vice President.

Also, I'd like to thank Michelle Vetterkind, President and CEO of the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association for her help in making our radio campaign happen. With Ms. Vetterkind at the helm, the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association has built a strong record of support for veterans' causes. And as always, thank you for your continued support of our mission to acknowledge, commemorate and affirm the contributions of our Wisconsin veterans.

Michael Telzrow
Director



GERMAN SHOULDER STRAP HANGING



ANDREA HOFFMAN
COLLECTIONS MANAGER



In the waning days of World War I, intelligence officer William F. Beseler witnessed thousands of captured Germans stream through the prison cage where he was stationed at Stenay-Souilly, France. The Marshfield, Wisconsin resident was ordered to collect the shoulder straps off of their uniforms and keep them for training other intelligence officers. Every time Beseler saw a new style of strap, he cut both from the prisoner's uniform, sending one on and keeping the other for himself. The straps were then carefully arranged and sewn together. Most of the 104 seen here come from German field infantry regiments. Some of the more colorful ones originate from German field and foot artillery battalions, as well as Austrian and Hungarian troops.

To donate to our collections, contact:
Russell.Horton@dva.wisconsin.gov
or Kevin.Hampton@dva.wisconsin.gov
To give an oral history, contact:
Ellen.Brooks@dva.wisconsin.gov



Image from the William F. Beseler collection, K1972.17

b

RUSS HORTON
REFERENCE ARCHIVIST



THE PURSUIT OF GERONIMO

William N. Bamforth, a veteran of the 4th US Cavalry, who settled in Oshkosh after his service, was present at Skeleton Canyon in September 1886 when the famous Apache leader Geronimo surrendered to General Nelson Miles. The Wisconsin Veterans Museum recently acquired Bamforth's handwritten reminiscence of his participation in the events leading up to this historic moment.

"In July 1886-Lieut Gatewood and two Indian scouts left Fort Bowie Arizona to locate-if possible-the mountain retreat of Geronimo and his band...."

The narrative begins with a retelling of Lieutenant Charles Gatewood's daring mission to find Geronimo's hidden camp to request that he meet with Miles.

"It requires strong nerves to enter a hostile Chiricahua Apache stronghold and the question was, how it was to be done with out drawing their fire before they could recognize him as their old friend and thus lose his life."

"Lieut Gatewood knew their rules of war and decided to abide by them. ... He therefore dis-robbed-and leaving his weapons with his clothes, proceeded with his hands above his head, clothed only with a 'Gee-string.'"

Lieutenant Gatewood's meeting resulted in an agreement for two Apache women to meet with General Miles in rural northwestern Mexico

who would then explain the location of where Miles could meet Geronimo for surrender. Bamforth was in Troop G, which was sent on the mission to meet the women in Fronteras, Mexico. In the midst of this military reminiscence, Bamforth provides a fascinating description of the buildings and residents of Fronteras, Mexico.

"The houses, made of adobe, are but one story and we observed that many of them had neither

doors or windows. During the day the families were mostly out of the house, and meals were prepared [with] cooking being done on a small fire of wood upon the ground. At night, the tenants climbed a ladder to the roof, pulled the ladder up and dropped it through a trap door. By this route they gained their sleeping apartment inside upon the dirt floor."

There was some difficulty in finding the women at Fronteras.

observed that one rider dismounted - the other taking his mount back over the foothill leaving alone - standing in the glare of the afternoon sun - the one man we now recognized as that wily Apache Chief - Geronimo. As we approached he seemed more like a statue than a living being - and the stage he had chosen seemed very appropriate upon which to play the final act - in that Indian war - fare, that only the Chiricahua Apaches know how to wage. Standing motionless until General Miles dismounted, Geronimo advanced and shook hands, the General remarking, "I am very pleased to know that you have decided to surrender." An interpreter, who, if my memory serves me right - was an officer of General Miles staff - repeated what the General said, and Geronimo, speaking in his native ^{language} replied - "I have not surrendered." General Miles then said, "but we have you." Geronimo said, "yes you have me, I am an old man and my life is behind me. But think well before you decide to take me - because with one wave of my hand I can kill every man, woman and child in this valley." It was well known that for a month the ranchmen were returning to their homes with their families who, from reports believed the war to be at an end - and at that very hour there were two hundred and fifty people in the valley. After Geronimo had declared himself there was silence. We all - who were in the little group - looked at each other wondering what the answer would be. General Miles' face seemed to brighten, and he said - Geronimo, "I have orders from the Great White Father - which means the President of the United States - to take you with out conditions." The Chief replied, "I will surrender only on my own conditions."



After a day and a night with no luck, the commanding lieutenant sent a Spanish speaking sergeant back into the town to wait for the women.

“While looking over the stock in one of their small stores, he over heard one Mexican ask another, ‘What are these Gringos doing here?’ who replied- ‘they are looking for those two squaws that we have in jail here, but they will never get them.’”

The sergeant reported what he had overheard and the lieutenant made demands of the headman in the town to have the women released by 1 o’clock or they would march on the town. The women appeared just before one and were able to share their information.

Troop G returned to US soil and became General Miles’ escort for his fateful meeting with Geronimo.

“When they reached the center of a small plain, we observed that one rider dismounted... [who] we now recognized as that wily Apache Chief Geronimo. As we approached he seemed more like a statue than a living being.”

General Miles’ conversation with Geronimo showed the Apache’s defiance to the end.

“...Geronimo, speaking in his native tongue replied, ‘I have not surrendered.’ General Miles then said, ‘but we have you.’ Geronimo said, ‘yes you have me, I am an old man and my life is behind me. But think well before you decide to take me because with one wave of my hand I can kill every man, woman and child in this valley.’”

Thus Bamforth was present and saw in-person a man so fearless and impressive that World War II paratroopers began shouting his name as they jumped out of airplanes. His account of Geronimo’s dealings with Miles show a proud and intelligent man trying to make the best of his situation.

The Bamforth manuscript is a great addition to the WVM collection and should provide researchers in several different fields with new and interesting material. This, and other Research Center collections spanning the Civil War to the present, are can be found in the catalog on the WVM website.

*Nineteenth century term for Native American breechcloth.

Reminiscence from the William N. Bamforth collection, WVM Mss 2118

“Geronimo (Guiyatle)-Apache” photographed by Frank A. Rinehart, ca. 1898. Image from the Library of Congress, LOT USZ62-116987



TRAVELING EXHIBITS

WVM TRAVELING EXHIBIT PROGRAM:

Beginning last fall, with the support of a grant from the Wisconsin Humanities Council, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum launched a traveling exhibit program. As a part of this program, the museum sends free pop-up exhibits to diverse venues across the state. We are excited to send the exhibits to the following locations this year. If you happen to be in the area, be sure to stop by!

Fur, Feathers, and Fidelity: Military Mascots

Greenfield Public Library

Greenfield, Wisconsin
May 9– May 31

Lester Public Library

Arpin, Wisconsin
June 17 – July 13

Wisconsin Brewing Co.

Verona, Wisconsin
July 19 – August 31

Working Warriors: Military Life Beyond Combat

The Wisconsin Humanities Council is honored to include this exhibit as part of its Working Lives Project. Go to wisconsinhumanities.org for more details.

Markesan Public Library

Markesan, Wisconsin
May 1 – June 15

Seymour Community Historical Society

Seymour, Wisconsin
May 16 – June 15

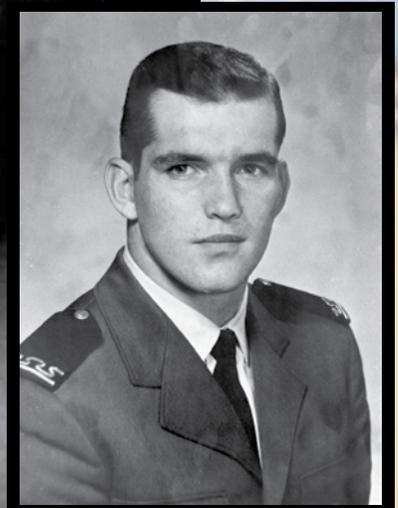
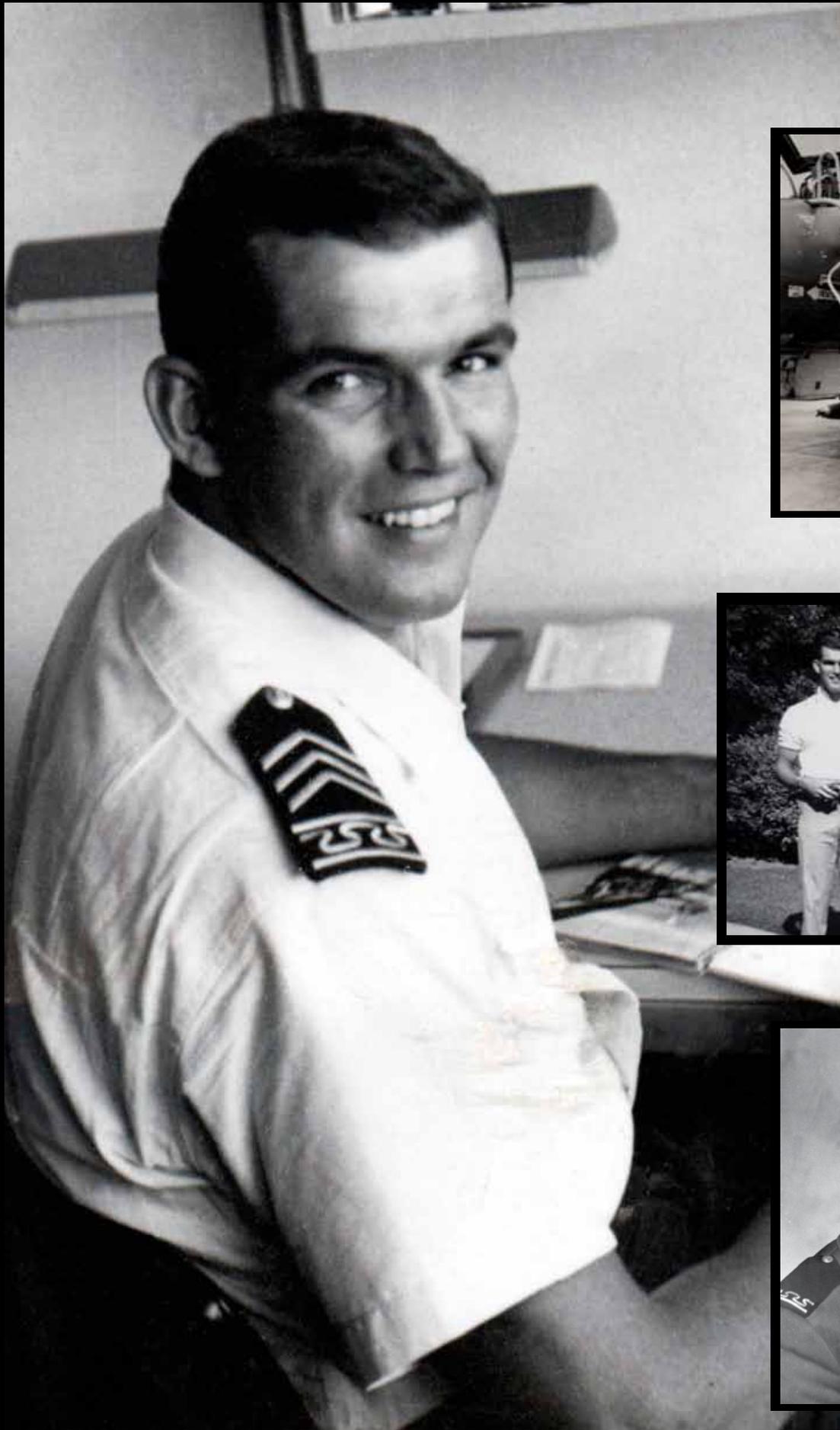
Jane Morgan Memorial Library

Cambria, Wisconsin
August 1 – August 18

Marshfield Public Library

Marshfield, Wisconsin
August 10 - August 26





TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LANCE'S STORY, VISIT WWW.LANCESIJAN.COM



LANCE PETER SIJAN EVER FAITHFUL



MICHAEL TELZROW
MUSEUM DIRECTOR



Wisconsin boasts 63 Congressional Medal of Honor recipients. From the Civil War through the Vietnam War, Wisconsinites have earned the nation's highest honor for heroism in action. Each recipient demonstrated the highest ideals of the American military tradition and each one has a story of unimaginable strength under the most difficult situations. All are heroes in the truest sense because through their individual acts of courage they sought to preserve the lives of their comrades.

None exemplify this trait more than Captain Lance P. Sijan, United States Air Force. Born in the south side of Milwaukee, Sijan was by all accounts a model son, brother and classmate. Endowed with matinee idol good looks and a personality to match, Sijan was well-liked at Bay View High School where he excelled in sports and other school activities. After graduating, he attended the Naval Academy Preparatory School in Bainbridge, Maryland in hopes of securing an appointment to the U. S. Air Force Academy. Sijan got his wish and was admitted to the Academy. There he found the academic load so challenging that he voluntarily quit the football team his senior year to devote more time to his studies. Sijan graduated in 1965, and after pilot training was attached to the 480th

Tactical Fighter Squadron at Da Nang Air Force Base, South Vietnam.

On November 9, 1967, having flown 52 missions, and 48 shy of qualifying for rotation back home, Sijan departed Da Nang aboard an F-4 Phantom with pilot Lieutenant Colonel John Armstrong. Their target was the Ban Laboy ford in Laos. Just after arriving on site and while delivering their bombs, their aircraft was suddenly engulfed in flames. A malfunctioning fuse had caused an early detonation. Sijan immediately ejected and took a hard landing on a rocky ridge, breaking his leg and fracturing his skull. He lay unconscious for at least one day, but on November 11 was able to make radio contact with an F-100F Super Saber aircraft. Multiple attempts to rescue Sijan failed – mostly because he insisted that a hovering HH-3E Helicopter not drop its para jumper to rescue him, but rather deploy a jungle penetrator so that he might extract himself without danger to anyone else. Unfortunately, Sijan's injuries prevented him from reaching the penetrator, and intense fire from the North Vietnamese forced the rescue attempt to cease.

In a remarkable feat of strength and endurance, Sijan was able to survive in the jungle and avoid capture for 46 days. His bid for freedom ended on

December 25, 1967 when he was captured and interned at a North Vietnamese Army camp. Despite his debilitating wounds he was able to overpower a guard and escape for several hours before being recaptured. From there he was sent to Vinh, North Vietnam where he met two other downed pilots – Major Robert Craner and Captain Guy Gruters. Despite his wounds and emaciated condition, Sijan refused to give his captors any information beyond his name, rank and service number. Near death, he was transferred to the infamous Hanoi Hilton Prisoner of War facility where he succumbed to his wounds and disease on January 22, 1968.

Ever faithful to the end, Sijan never violated his obligation to the Military Code of Conduct. In 1976, he became the only Air Force Academy graduate to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. His citation reads in part:

“During interrogation, he was severely tortured; however, he did not divulge any information to his captors. Captain Sijan lapsed into delirium and was placed in the care of another prisoner. During his intermittent periods of consciousness until his death, he never complained of his physical condition and, on several occasions, spoke of future escape attempts.”

All images are courtesy of Jeanine Sijan Rozina.

THIS SEASON AT THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM

PROGRAM LOCATION IS THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM, 30 WEST MIFFLIN STREET, MADISON, WI UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.



MESS NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

Join us as we transform this historical naval tradition into our own quarterly Mess Night.
Thursday, May 5, 2016 — 5:30pm-8:00pm

MESS NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: The Enemy at Home

Scholar Cora Lee Kluge, Co-Director of the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies, will explore both the illiberalism and intolerance experienced by German Americans in the World War I era (especially in Wisconsin) and their thoughts about and reactions to the hostile environment in which they found themselves.

DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

Thursday, April 28, 2016 — 7:00pm

On Terrorism: Learning from the History of the Unthinkable

John Lynn, Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Professor Lynn will explore the history of terrorism and the impact of terrorism on society.

The distinguished lecture series will have two events each spring and fall.



WAR:RAW HEALING MILITARY TRAUMA THROUGH EXPRESSIVE ART

CLOSING May 8, 2016

Be sure to stop in and see our temporary exhibit **WAR:RAW Healing Military Trauma Through Expressive Art** before it closes on May 8, 2016.

WAR:RAW is being featured for Madison's Gallery Night on May 6, from 5 PM to 9 PM and will remain on exhibit through the weekend. Don't miss out on this powerful exhibit!

12TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

July 11, 2016 — 9:00am- 5:30pm

The **12th Annual Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation Golf Outing** will take place at the beautiful Oaks Golf Course in Cottage Grove. Proceeds from the event support educational programs and exhibits at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. Sponsorships are available.

Thank you sponsors! Edgewood College, Military & Veterans Services, Wisconsin Broadcasters Association, KwikTrip, Inc., Wegner CPAs, Bo and Kelly Ryan, Ho-Chunk Nation, The Madison Concourse Hotel, Wal-Mart Distribution Center, The Legend at Brandybrook, The Boldt Company, J.H. Findorff & Son, Inc., IBEW Local Union 159, Holiday Inn Madison at the American Center, and Wilde East Towne Honda



★ VISIT WWW.WISVETSMUSEUM.COM/EVENTS FOR 2016 MUSEUM PROGRAMS ★



THE ART OF PERSUASION MOBILIZING THE MASSES IN WWI



DUTY

PATRIOTISM

FEAR

NEW EXHIBIT OPENS MAY 26, 2016

THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM

ON EXHIBIT THROUGH MARCH 2017 | WISVETSMUSEUM.COM

On Capitol Square | The Wisconsin Veterans Museum | 30 W. Mifflin St. Madison, WI 53703 | (608) 267-1799



SAVE THE DATES

JULY 7
THURSDAY

PEACE PAPER PROJECT WORKSHOP

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM – *Registration is required*

Peace Paper Project is an international community-arts initiative that utilizes paper making as a form of trauma therapy, social engagement and community activism. Guest artist Drew Matott uses the ancient tradition of papermaking by hand as a vehicle for personal expression and cultural change.

OCT. 7
FRIDAY

GALLERY NIGHT

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

We are participating in the Madison Gallery Night presented by the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art. Explore the museum and make sure to visit our new temporary exhibit *The Art of Persuasion: Mobilizing the Masses in World War I*.

OCT. 8
SATURDAY

TALKING SPIRITS CEMETERY TOUR CANDLELIGHT

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM *Location: Forest Hill Cemetery*

For the first time ever, join us for guided candlelight tours through the Forest Hill Cemetery. There will be four tours leaving every half an hour between 6 and 7:30 PM. Pre-registration will be available online.

OCT. 9
SUNDAY

TALKING SPIRITS CEMETERY TOUR

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM *Location: Forest Hill Cemetery*

On this 90-minute tour, local actors portray the contributions of Wisconsin Civil War soldiers and citizens buried at Forest Hill Cemetery. Tours leave every 20-minutes between 12 and 4 PM. Online registration will be available.

PROGRAM LOCATION IS THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED
FOR DETAILED EVENT INFORMATION VISIT:

WWW.WISVETSMUSEUM.COM/EVENTS



We note with sadness the passing of Col. Donald Heiliger, a well-known Wisconsin veteran. A Madison native, Col. Heiliger served as an F-105 pilot in Vietnam and was shot down in May 1967. He spent six years as a prisoner of war, including some time at the infamous Hanoi Hilton. Upon his release, he remained in the Air Force and served as an air attaché to Uruguay, Chile, and Israel before retiring with the rank of Colonel in 1985. He returned to Wisconsin and was very active in veterans' activities.

In 1999, Col. Heiliger participated in WVM's oral history program and ten years later, he donated uniforms, letters, papers, and photographs from his service to the museum. Because of this forward thinking, future generations of his descendants, as well as scholars and researchers, will be able to hear him talk about his service through the recorded interview, see what he looked like through the photographs, and get a better feel for his service through the objects and other papers. We are proud to preserve the legacy and story of Col. Donald Heiliger, and so many other Wisconsin men and women, and the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

IN MEMORIAM COLONEL DONALD HEILIGER

LIZ ORELLA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



EILEEN NEWCOMER
MEMBERSHIP & ANNUAL GIFTS
DIRECTOR

THANK YOU!

As we dive into 2016, we at the Foundation want to recognize and thank all of our members and donors in 2015. Our award-winning exhibits and programming would not be possible without your support.

While the Wisconsin Veterans Museum receives state funding to cover basic operational expenses, contributions from supporters, like you, allow us to introduce exciting new programs like MESS NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM and Home for the Holidays, and to produce exemplary exhibits such as WAR:RAW: Healing Military Trauma Through Expressive Art. You allow us to constantly improve our ability to keep the memories and stories of our veterans alive. Thank you!

In January, the Foundation said goodbye to Board Members John E. Busby, Daniel E. Schwandt, and Board President Alan Hembel. In recognition of his service on the Foundation's Board of Directors, WDVA Secretary Scocos presented Hembel with a certificate of appreciation signed by Governor Walker. We thank them for all of their hard work and dedication, and wish them the best of luck in the future!

The Foundation Board also welcomes six new Directors: Kyle Edwards, Tim Flayley, Lynn Fyhrlund, Kathy Marschman, Don Nelson, and Phil Prange. Each of our new Directors has their own extensive network in previously untapped regions of Wisconsin, and will be instrumental as we strive to further engage Wisconsin as a whole with the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. We are very happy to have them, and look forward to utilizing their talents on the Board.

★★ **CANCELLED: DINNER ENGAGEMENT WITH LIEUTENANT GENERAL DANIEL P. BOLGER** ★★



THANK YOU COLLECTION DONORS!

A most sincere thank you to all who donated to our collections from December 2015 through February 2016. Thank you for your generosity and support of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

BRUCE J. CISLER
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Fun Fact:

Only 4% of the Museum's collections are on display at any time.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

We are deeply grateful to the following donors who supported the Museum in 2015 through annual donations, memberships, sponsorships and event ticket purchases. The Museum's dynamic programming and award-winning exhibits would not be possible without your generous support! (continued on page 16)

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THE BUGLE

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