



# THE BUGLE

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

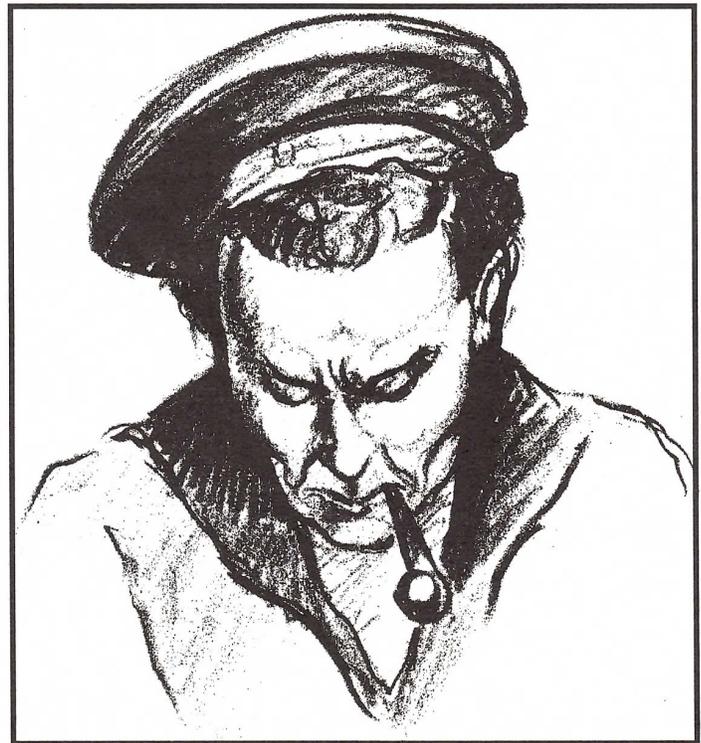
## ZINGALE ART EXHIBIT OPENING

by Karen E. Gulbrandsen

A new exhibit, "Zingale: Artist Turned Sailor, Works on Paper (1944-1945), will open at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum on December 7, 1995. Forty lithographic pen drawings by Santos Zingale will be on display in the museum's lobby through March 1, 1996. The show will encompass sketches done by the artist while he served in the United States Navy during World War II.

Santos Zingale is a Wisconsin native. As a young artist he worked on murals and easel paintings for the Works Progress Administration (WPA), and, in 1953 did a mural for Marquette University. In addition to receiving his graduate degree from the University of Wisconsin, Zingale worked and studied in Italy. In 1978, Zingale retired from his position as a professor of art at the University of Wisconsin - Madison, a post he held for 30 years. He resides in the Madison area with his wife, Joan, who is also an artist.

The public is invited to attend the opening night reception, 6:30 p.m., December 7, at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, 30 W. Mifflin Street, Madison.



One of the drawings by Santos Zingale to be on display at the Museum.

## VETERANS MUSEUM AWARDED MAJOR GRANT

by Richard H. Zeitlin

The U. S. Department of Education's Institute of Museum Services (IMS) awarded the Wisconsin Veterans Museum a \$98,279 General Operating Grant. The grant funds will be available for two years and can be used starting October 1, 1995. The IMS selected 27 museums for funding from a national applicant

pool of nearly 1,100. The grant will support the Museum in its efforts to affirm, commemorate, and acknowledge the role played by Wisconsin veterans in America's military past by means of instructive exhibits and other educational programs.

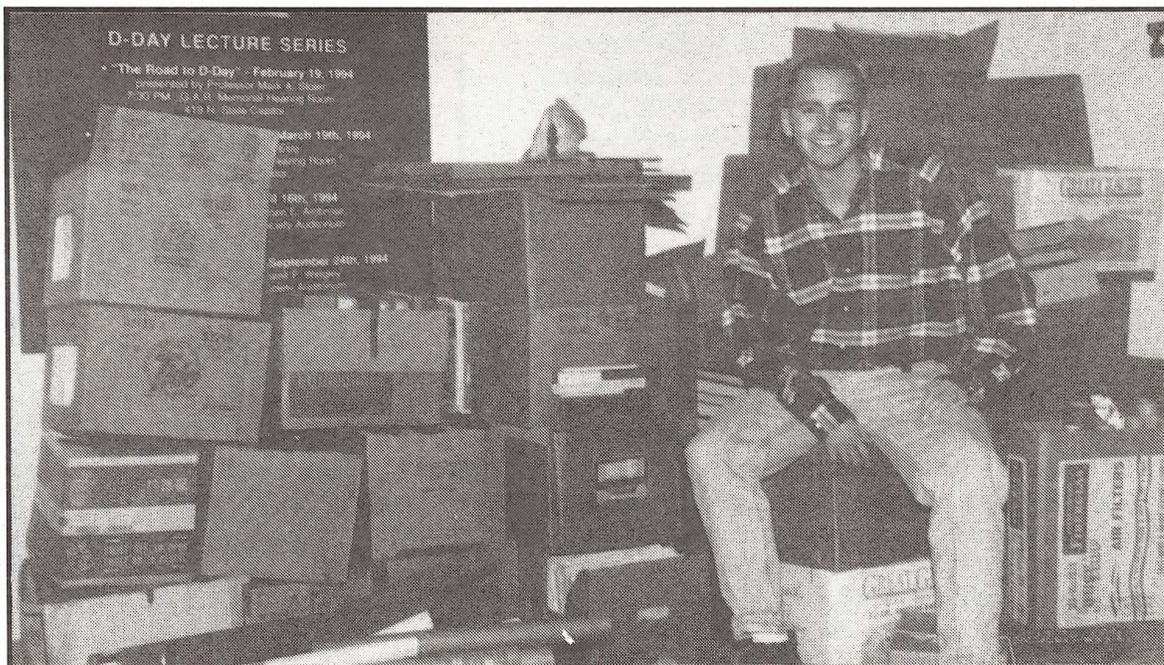
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by  
Mark D.  
Van Ellis

# CORNER

## ARCHIVIST'S

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum's library and archives continue to grow at a rapid rate. Since the last issue of *The Bugle* several noteworthy donations have been deposited at our facility. After the last issue I received numerous requests for the museum's book wants list. As a result many of the listed books have come in, including copies of Dixon Wecter's *When Johnny Comes Marching Home*, Charles Bolte's *The New Veteran*, and the memoirs of Generals Bradley and Eisenhower. For an updated copy of the book list please contact me. If you have any other books that you think might be of interest for the library, please let me know. In particular, we are seeking personal narratives and books about veterans and veterans' affairs.



Museum's Assistant Registrar, Jason Josvai, poses with the Edward T. Lauer papers.

Important manuscript collections have also come in, most significantly the personal papers of Edward T. Lauer. Lauer served as a medic in the 32nd Division during World War I, and later became the historian of the 32nd Division Veterans Association and other organizations. The papers were donated by Mr. Lee Sideras of Wauwatosa. The donation consisted of more than 50 boxes of documents concerning the history of the 32nd Division and other matters, as well as numerous maps, photographs, and other materials. The WVM already had a large collection of Lauer's papers, donated by the Wisconsin American Legion in 1991. Once processed and cataloged, the museum's Lauer collection will become an important resource for those studying the 32nd Division and Wisconsin veterans affairs.

Finally, I would like to thank the County Veterans Service Officers Association for their support of the WVM's archives and library program. I spoke recently to the CVSOs Association at their Fall Conference in Manitowoc. The service officers had many questions, comments, and suggestions, and showed a great interest in the museum's archives and library program, particularly the oral history project.

# FORMER FOUNDATION PRESIDENT DIES

Howard S. VerHagen, former president of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation, died August 20, 1995, at the Wausau Hospital hospice. He was 65 years old.

Mr. VerHagen served with the U.S. Army from February 1945 until February 1950. Following his military service, he was employed at the Pabst Brewery in Milwaukee. He returned to Antigo and drove truck for the Ralph Hilger hatchery and was employed for many years by Walt Leiskau Roofing.

Mr. VerHagen was adjutant and treasurer of the Paul Marmes Chapter 23 Disabled American Veterans in Antigo. He served as the state junior vice commander for the DAV from 1992 to 1993 and as state commander from 1993 to 1994.



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Diane Frankel, director of the IMS, explained that "museums receiving the grant have demonstrated outstanding performance in all areas of operation. The grant provides national recognition for museums that have the highest approval of their peers. It is a stamp of achievement.... Museums will use these awards to do what they do best: educate, fascinate, inspire, inform, and enrich the lives of hundreds of thousands of visitors each year."

The Veterans Museum will use the grant to support public information programs, exhibit planning, as well as an extension of hours. In addition, the Veterans Museum intends to develop a cassette tape-tour program and make it available to visitors. The Acoustiguide Corporation of New York has been contacted and negotiations have begun for the development of a tape-tour program. Visitors will be able to rent a special cassette device for a modest fee which will help guide them through the exhibits and explain the various display themes. The 30-minute tape-tour will improve the interpretive efforts of the museum.

IMS funds cannot be used to purchase artifacts; carry out exhibit production or other types of construction; to cover the costs of social activities, ceremonies, and entertainment; or for making contributions to endowment funds. Thus, the important role of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation remains unchanged. The Veterans Museum will be creating plans for a major new changing exhibit this year, partly with the help of IMS funds. The Foundation will be called upon to help fund the construction of the new changing exhibit. .

Edward T. Lauer, medic in the 32nd Division during World War I. His papers comprise a major donation to the WVM's archival collection. (See Archivist's Corner on page 2 for story.)

# WISCONSIN VETERANS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT INTERVIEWS 100th VETERAN

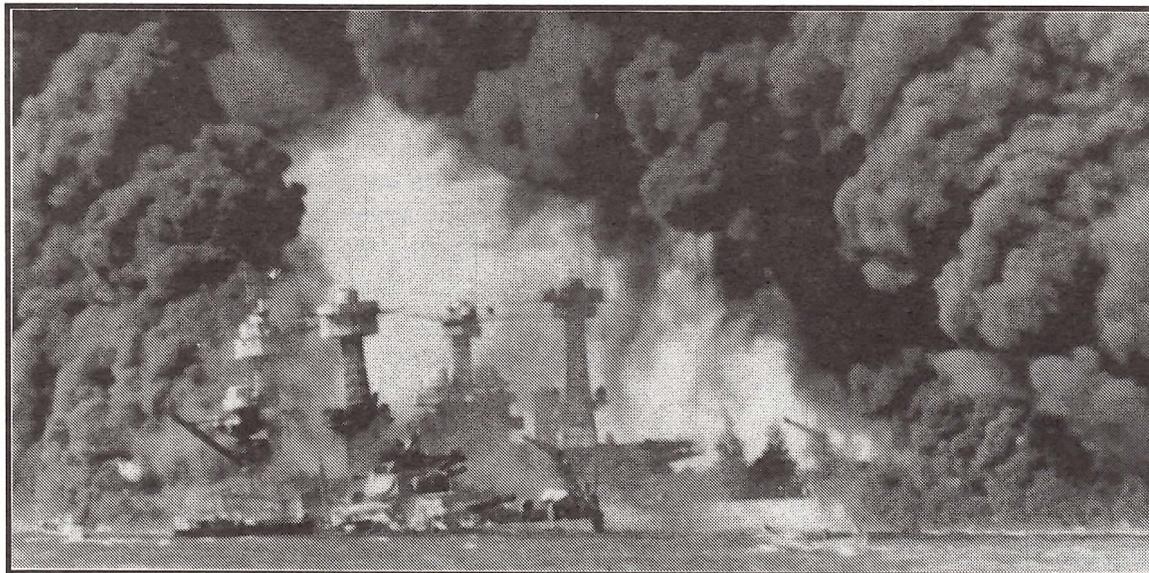
by Mark D. Van Ells

On September 12, 1995, Pearl Harbor survivor Dorwin F. Lamkin became the 100th veteran interviewed for the Wisconsin Veterans Oral History Project (WVOHP) of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. A native of Hudson, Wisconsin, Lamkin currently lives in Mission, Kansas. In the interview, Lamkin described his experiences aboard the U.S.S. *Nevada* on December 7, 1941 at

Two of the interview subjects were civilians, one of whom was a physicist on the Manhattan Project and the other a war correspondent for the *Milwaukee Journal*. Eight interview subjects were women.

The WVOHP began in June 1994. Interview candidates must have been Wisconsin residents at some point in their lives, but do not need to be

lifelong residents of the Badger State. The museum has interviewed both men and women, combat and non-combat veterans from all parts of Wisconsin. Persons who served in military-related organizations, such as the U.S.O. or the Red Cross, are also eligible for interviews. At present, the project continues to focus on World War II and the



In September of this year, Dorwin F. Lamkin, a Pearl Harbor survivor, became the 100th veteran interviewed for the Wisconsin Veterans Oral History Project.

Pearl Harbor, as well as his World War II Navy career as a hospital corpsman, which included service in the Pacific from the Coral Sea to the Aleutians.

Of the first 100 interviews, 89 of the interviewees were veterans of World War II, 12 of the Korean War, and eight from the Vietnam War or subsequent conflicts (many veterans served in more than one conflict, in some cases as many as three). The army led the way with 56 veterans (not including 18 veterans of the Army Air Forces). Navy veterans accounted for 14 interviews, the Marine Corps six, and one each from the Coast Guard and the Merchant Marine.

Korean War, though veterans of all eras are sought for interviews.

All interviews are tape recorded, transcribed, and made available to qualified historians for research purposes. In the study of military history, the voices of soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines are vital in gaining an understanding of war, its effects, and its costs. The WVOHP seeks to preserve this knowledge for future generations.

For more information, please contact Mark D. Van Ells, Archivist/Historian, Wisconsin Veterans Museum, 30 West Mifflin Street, Madison, WI 53703, (608) 267-1790.

# CURATOR'S CHRONICLES

by William Brewster

Welcome to the Curator's Chronicles. The year 1995 has been very successful for the Veterans Museum with a record number, 1,120, of objects being donated. One might wonder how we can add to a collection of over 12,000 objects without creating duplication. In fact, many times we do maintain duplicate objects. Also, the sheer volume and variety of objects produced for and by personnel in the military guarantees that "new" objects will always be left to collect. Of course there are many objects, such as dress uniforms, that are commonly offered. These donations must be considered on their individual merit before being added to the collection. Listed below are some of the criteria we use when considering an object for the collection.

Our goal is to maintain or acquire two examples of each type of object that we feel is pertinent to the collection. Of course variations in manufacture and/or significant historical information relating to an object may lead us to go beyond this limit. It is also necessary to rotate objects off of exhibit from time to time for conservation purposes. By maintaining two examples of each object this need is met. In addition, stored collections serve the needs of researchers by providing access to objects without disrupting exhibits.

Often, objects that are offered for donation do not fall into the categories that one would expect. It is the unusual items that are needed to tell the complete story. Lighters, wristwatches, jewelry, sunglasses, and souvenir items are all as important as a uniform or weapon when it comes to telling the story of a person's time in service.

And still we need uniforms. Although dress uniforms from World War I through the present are quite common, those showing variations in manufacture and custom work are often one of a kind. We are still actively seeking women's uniforms from all periods. Although this portion of our collection has seen considerable growth over the last year, there are many areas in which we are lacking. I should also mention that field uniforms are always difficult to obtain.

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# BOOK WANTS

by Mark D. Van Ells

Many valuable and important historical works are, sadly, out of print. The following is a list of books sought by the Wisconsin Veterans Museum for its permanent research collection of military and veterans' history:

Dumas, Alexander G. and Grace Keen, *A Psychiatric Primer for the Veteran's Family and Friends*, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1945.

Flipper, Henry O., *The Colored Cadet at West Point*, New York: Homer and Lee, 1878.

Grayling, Christopher, *A Land Fit For Heroes: British Life after the Great War*, London: Buchan & Enright, 1987.

Harris, Theodore D., ed., *Negro Frontiersman: The Western Memoirs of Henry O. Flipper*, El Paso, TX: Texas Western Press, 1963.

Hurd, Charles, *The Veterans' Program: A Complete Guide to Its Benefits, Rights, and Options*, New York: McGraw Hill, 1946.

Levitan, Sar A. and Karen A. Cleary, *Old Wars Remain Unfinished: The Veteran Benefits System*, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1973.

Levitan, Sar A. and Joyce K. Zickler, *Swords into Plowshares: Our GI Bill*, Salt Lake City, UT: Olympos Publishing Co., 1973.

MacPherson, Myra, *Long Time Passing: Vietnam and the Haunted Generation*, New York: Doubleday and Co., 1984.

Mauldin, Bill, *Back Home*, New York: William Sloan Associates, 1947.

Miller, Arthur, *Situation Normal...*, New York: Reynal & Hitchcock, 1944.

Wootton, Graham, *The Politics of Influence: British ex-servicemen, Cabinet decisions and cultural change (1917-57)*, London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1963.

If you have these books, or others you think might be of interest for the library, please contact Mark Van Ells, Archivist/Historian, at 608/267-1790. We are particularly interested in soldiers' and sailors' narratives, and books about veterans and veterans' affairs.

# MUSEUM SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

**T**he museum is looking for volunteers interested in meeting and guiding tour groups through the museum's exhibits. Volunteer tour guides help to bring the museum's mission to commemorate, acknowledge, and affirm the role of Wisconsin's veterans to the many school, veteran, and civic groups touring the museum.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer tour guide, please contact Karen Gulbrandsen, Curator of Programs, at 608/266-1854.

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A consideration with any donation is whether the objects were actually used by the donor. This may seem like a minor point but, the fact is that surplus garments abound. It is not uncommon for someone to purchase or obtain an object as a memento that is "like the one" that was actually used. We are truly more interested in the worn and tattered "original" that saw actual use than the jacket or helmet that spent the war in the warehouse.

I hope that this look at some of the reasons for accepting objects will help you when recommending donors to the museum. Until next time.

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**WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM FOUNDATION**  
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