

# ★★ **THE BUGLE** ★★

Volume VII:1      Newsletter of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation      January 2000

## FRONTLINE

# Wisconsin Veterans Museum to operate Guard Museum

by Richard H. Zeitlin



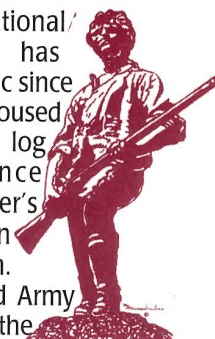
*Ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the partnership between the Wisconsin Veterans Museum and Wisconsin National Guard*

Effective October 1, 1999, state legislators approved a number of important measures affecting the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. Legislators authorized the Wisconsin Veterans Museum to hire an assistant store manager and an additional collection curator. In addition,



and most importantly, the Legislature approved a formal partnership with the Wisconsin National Guard. The Veterans Museum will now operate the Wisconsin National Guard Museum at Camp Douglas, about 100 miles northwest of Madison.

The Wisconsin National Guard Museum has been open to the public since the late 1980s. It is housed in an historic 1896 log building, which once served as the Officer's Club on the Wisconsin Military Reservation. The Wisconsin Air and Army National Guard share the base area that totals more than 60,000 acres. The log museum building is situated in the center of the base near the drill field and the target range.



The Wisconsin Veterans Museum will recruit one and one-half positions to staff the National Guard Museum. Hours of public operation will be extended, especially during the tourism season from May to October. The museum will begin developing plans to make incremental improvements in the existing displays at the National Guard Museum and hopes to sponsor public programs there in the summer.

The photographic, archival and library collection of the Wisconsin National Guard Museum will be consolidated with that of the Veterans Museum. An addi-

FRONTLINE – CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

# THE BUGLE

Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

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 (Apr.-Sept.) Noon - 4 p.m.

### FOR INFORMATION

Call (608) 267-1799

## COMMEMORATE THOSE WHO SERVED



### SUPPORT THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM FOUNDATION

HELP KEEP THE HISTORY OF WISCONSIN'S VETERANS ALIVE BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITS OF THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM.

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PLEASE SEND YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER(S), AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

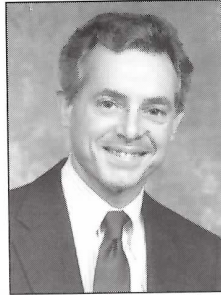
### WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM FOUNDATION

30 W. MIFFLIN ST., STE. 200, MADISON, WI 53703

ENLIST NOW   \$25     \$50     \$100     OTHER  

# Foundation Sponsors Raffle & Banquet

by Richard H. Zeitlin



The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation is sponsoring a statewide raffle to help raise funds for the creation of new exhibits and educational programs.

The winners of the raffle will be announced at the foundation's annual banquet scheduled on Saturday May 6, 2000 from 5 - 8 p.m. at VFW Post #1318 in Madison. The foundation invites all veterans to participate.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum promotes the legacy of Wisconsin's citizen-soldiers by means of instructive exhibits and other educational programs. "It is critical to support the educational activities of the Veterans Museum because the public needs to be aware of the service and sacrifices made by the men and women of Wisconsin as part of the nation's armed forces," explained Raymond G. Boland, secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs. State resources appropriated by the legislature support the museum and provide a solid base, however, the need for additional funds is required to develop new exhibits and public educational activities.

Richard H. Zeitlin, the museum's director, noted, "We are very grateful for state appropriations, and we must work hard to acquire additional resources so the museum can demonstrate its wide base of community support."

In order to move forward quickly, private funding is needed to maintain momentum. The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation plays a key role in raising funds from private sources. "Without the leadership and help of the foundation," Zeitlin noted, "many of our successes would not have been possible." Professional historical organizations have recognized the Wisconsin Veterans Museum for excellence in exhibits and public educational programs by granting two state and three national awards to the institution.

To obtain raffle tickets, contact Matt Piersma at (608) 267-1799 or [matthew.piersma@dva.state.wi.us](mailto:matthew.piersma@dva.state.wi.us). The cost is \$1 per raffle ticket or \$5 per book of six tickets. Prizes include a lone star quilt and cash awards.

To make reservations for the banquet, please send your check with your name, address and phone number to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation, 30 W. Mifflin St., Ste. 200, Madison, WI 53703. Dinner tickets are \$16 per person. VFW Post 1318 is located at 133 E. Lakeside on the corner of Lake and John Nolan Dr. in Madison.



Lone Star quilt created by foundation board member Reba Eslinger

## TRAVELING EXHIBIT

# Assignment: Rescue

## From the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

by Bridgitt A. Zielke

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum will display "Varian Fry - Assignment: Rescue, 1940-1941," a traveling exhibit from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., from Jan. 1 to March 2, 2000. The exhibit highlights the courage of Varian Fry, a young editor from New York, who was chosen by a private American relief committee to help political and intellectual refugees escape Nazi-occupied France. He saved the lives of thousands of Jews and others suffering under Nazi rule.

In the summer of 1940, Fry was dispatched to Marseilles as the representative of the Emergency Rescue Committee (ERC), a private American relief organization dedicated to helping the intellectual elite of Europe escape the Nazi terror. In the 13 short months before he was deported by the Vichy government, the French-Nazi collaborative government, Fry managed to arrange escape for more than 2,000 political and intellectual refugees, including many of the most prominent European artists of the day. Forging documents and securing black-market cash, Fry found

routes of passage for the refugees, all of whom risked being turned over to the Nazis if they stayed in France. Many had to scramble for their lives by foot over the Pyrenees. Among those saved were Marc Chagall, Marcel Duchamp, Andre Breton, Max Ernst, Andre Masson, and Hannah Arendt.



Varian Fry - Summer 1942 (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

Made up of period photographs and excerpts from Fry's own diary, which chronicles how the unselfish actions of a single person can change the course of many lives, "Varian Fry - Assignment: Rescue, 1940-1941" is a 34-panel exhibition from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. To further enhance the exhibit, the

Veterans Museum will also display works of art by Max Ernst, Marc Chagall and Henri Matisse from the permanent collection of the Elvehjem Museum of Art at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the museum will host several programs. Holocaust consultant Leora Saposnik will conduct a Holocaust teacher in-service from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday,

## Special Programs

Saturday, January 15

### The Holocaust:

#### Varian Fry - Assignment: Rescue

Teacher In-Service, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Leora Saposnik, Holocaust Consultant

Thursday, February 3

### The Holocaust:

#### Ideology of Hate

Lecture & Reception, 7-9 p.m.  
Joseph G. Hatheway, History department,  
Edgewood College

Thursday, February 10

### The Holocaust:

#### A View from Nuremberg

Lecture & Reception, 7-9 p.m.  
Frank Tuerkheimer,  
Law and Jewish Studies departments,  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Thursday, February 17

### Rescuer or Bystander?

#### The Rescue of Jews by Nation States, Communities, and Individuals

Lecture & Reception, 7-9 p.m.  
Stephen C. Feinstein, Center on Holocaust Studies,  
University of Minnesota

Friday, February 25

### Chosen Children:

#### The Identity of Jewish Children during the Holocaust

Lecture & Reception, 5-7 p.m.  
Leora Saposnik, Holocaust Consultant

Friday, March 10

### Citizen Soldier:

#### The Wisconsin Army National Guard in Action

Lecture & Reception, 6-8 p.m.  
Joe Oliva, Photographer

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

# Wisconsin Public TV Organizes Tour to Coincide with Film Broadcast

by Lynn Brockmeyer

How far does war reach? As the 25th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War approaches, American and Vietnamese widows share what's on their mind and in their hearts in the Oscar-nominated film *Regret To Inform*.

Wisconsin Public Television will hold a pre-screening of the film on Monday, February 7 at 7 p.m. at the University of Wisconsin Union Fredric March Play Circle Theatre at 800 Langdon Street, Madison. The pre-screening, open to UW-Madison students, veterans and the general public, will kick off with a tour of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum at 5:30 p.m. After the pre-screening there will be an open discussion on the effects of war facilitated by former Vietnam journalist Doug Bradley. The on-air broadcast of the film is Friday, February 11 at 9 p.m., on Wisconsin Public Television.



Barbara Sonneborn, Producer, Director, and Writer of *Regret to Inform*

In 1968, producer/director Barbara Sonneborn, a former UW-Madison student who will attend the pre-screening event, received word that her husband, Jeff, had been killed in Vietnam. "We regret to inform," the telegram began. Twenty years later, Sonneborn, a photographer and visual artist, embarked on a journey in search of the war's legacy, which is eloquently chronicled in her debut documentary.

Propelled by a desire to find other women who had experienced the same loss, and

to understand what could be learned about war through their stories, Sonneborn put together a production team in 1990 and began talking to widows in the United States. In 1992, she traveled to Vietnam accompanied by a Vietnamese woman whose first husband was killed fighting for South Vietnam. On their journey, they encountered numerous Vietnamese women who wanted to be interviewed.

In *Regret To Inform*, the stories of widows from both sides are woven together with scenes of the serene Vietnamese countryside and archival footage of the war years.

*Regret To Inform* is a powerful meditation on the loss and devastation of all war on a personal level as well as a love story and a deeply moving exploration of the healing power of compassion.



Vietnam War display, Wisconsin Veterans Museum

# 1999: An Exceptional Year

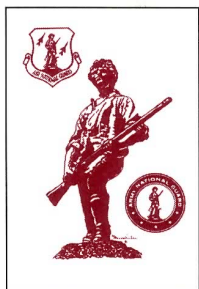
by Lynnette Wolfe

**1** 1999 was another successful year for the Wisconsin Veterans Museum and its expanding operations. Several major initiatives were launched during the year bringing the museum closer to fulfilling its strategic business plan. Among this year's top six projects were:

**1** The creation and opening in November of 1999 of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Education Center. This Center is equipped with a state-of-the-art rear projection audio-visual sound system and will be used for both on-site and distance learning programs.

**2** The state budget was passed in November, officially transferring the Wisconsin National Guard Museum from the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs to the control of Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs. Five and one-half positions were authorized by the Legislature in this budgetary process. These positions are as follows: an assistant store manager, an archivist, and 3.5 curators.

**3** The Wisconsin Veterans Oral History Program is moving full-speed ahead once again. Museum volunteer, Dr. James McIntosh has performed almost 70 interviews since June of this year. Dr. and Mrs. McIntosh, have made a tremendous contribution in recording Wisconsin's veterans living history.



Actors portrayed Civil War era individuals at the cemetery tour.

**4** The enhancement of the museum's outreach to schools and community via educational programming such as the "Travel Trunk Program"; Forest Hill Cemetery Tour; World War II, 32nd Division Infantry History Symposium; Camp Randall Civil War Re-enactment; and "Hmong in America" cultural exhibit.

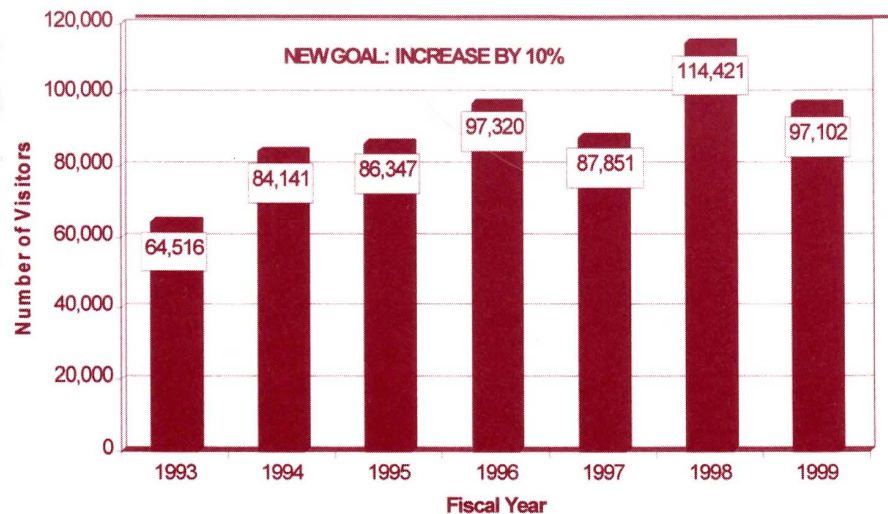
**5** Museum Records Computerization Project reached its halfway mark. Almost 29,000 records have been entered onto the SNAP Collections Management System and / or WISCAT Reference Library System. Collections inventories will be completed in early 2000.

**6** Grant and Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation Support to the museum dramatically increased between 1998-1999. Since 1980 the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has contributed more than \$271,136 to WVM operations. These funds will continue to be used for educational programs, marketing, data entry services



MUSEUM TODAY - CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## Wisconsin Veterans Museum Attendance Figures

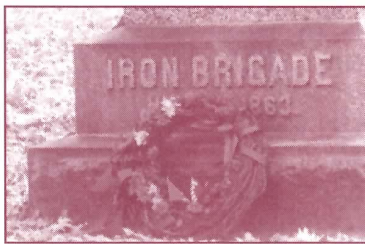


# Remembrance Day at Gettysburg

by William Brewster

Welcome to another edition of the Curator's Chronicles. This past November, members of the Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association participated in Remembrance Day ceremonies at Gettysburg National Battlefield Park. The Remembrance Day activities commemorate the 1863 Gettysburg National Cemetery dedication. The cemetery holds a great number of the Union dead from the three-day battle. It also is the first cemetery to be located on a battlefield. A large number of spectators and dignitaries would attend the dedication including President Lincoln whose Gettysburg Address is the most enduring reminder of the event. The National Park Service decided to revive the Remembrance Day celebration in 1998. To understand why Wisconsin re-enactors would travel to Gettysburg on November 1 has to understand the involvement of the regiment they portray.

In July 1863, the Second Wisconsin was one of five regiments in the famous Iron Brigade. A battle-hardened unit, the all-Western Iron Brigade bore a reputation as tough fighters. This well earned reputation came with a high cost. The battles of South Mountain, Brawner Farm, and Antietam fought in the late summer of 1862 decimated the Western regiments. Greatly reduced in fighting strength, the brigade was re-enforced by the addition of the 24th Michigan in the winter of 1862-63. The 1,000 new soldiers of the 24th more than doubled the size of the brigade.



Iron Brigade Monument at Gettysburg.

The rejuvenated Iron Brigade entered the fighting at Gettysburg as part of the Union First Army Corps. Crashing headlong into Confederate troops just



Re-enactors place Wisconsin and U.S. flags at every Wisconsin grave at the Gettysburg National Cemetery.

beyond Seminary Ridge, the Westerners halted the Southern advance. On this first day of fighting, the First Corps suffered heavy casualties while stabilizing the Federal Army's left flank. By halting the Confederates on July 1, a Federal disaster was averted. This allowed the Army of the Potomac to concentrate its forces during the evening and ultimately win the three-day fight. The actions of the First Army Corps may have saved the Federal Army, but in doing so led to its destruction as a fighting force. The First Corps would not fight again. The old brigades and regiments were distributed among the surviving corps in the Army of the Potomac.

This is why men and women from Wisconsin travel to Gettysburg in November - to pay tribute to those brave Westerners who fought and died on Pennsylvania farms in July 1863. Their sacrifice is representative of the sacrifice

made by Americans throughout our history in the defense of freedom. The Wisconsin Veterans Museum played a special part in this year's ceremony. The members of the Second Wisconsin wanted to honor all of the Wisconsin dead buried at Gettysburg. The idea was to place Wisconsin and U.S. flags at every Wisconsin grave.

Members of the Second approached the museum to see if any funds were available to support their idea. This form of tribute fits well with the mission of the WVM, which is to honor and pay tribute to Wisconsin's veterans. Following discussion, the museum staff made the decision to provide the flags for the ceremony. The Museum Gift Store procured the flags, and the funding was provided through the Veterans Museum Foundation. The museum is proud to support these efforts and extends its thanks to the members of the Second Wisconsin Infantry Association for their enthusiasm and dedication to the cause of Wisconsin history.

# History Symposium to Highlight the Midwest in the American Civil War

by Richard H. Zeitlin

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum will co-sponsor the symposium "From the Mississippi to the Potomac: The Midwest in the American Civil War," scheduled for Friday and Saturday, June 23-24, 2000, in partnership with Carroll College and

the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. The symposium will highlight the activities of Midwestern troops, Western campaigns and Midwestern politics. The Civil War Institute

of Carroll College will host

the event at its Waukesha campus. Carroll College is providing the modern meeting space, as well as making available discounted residence hall rooms for those who wish to take advantage of their generosity.

Nationally prominent authors and scholars will provide presentations during "From the Mississippi to the Potomac". As many of the Civil War enthusiast community know, the Midwest played an important role in the conflict. The attention that historians and others have devoted to Western matters, however, is not reflected in the output of writings on the war. Rather, the



Carroll  
College

struggle between the Army of the Potomac and Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia tends to dominate the war of words, books and journals. The June 23-24 symposium in Waukesha expects to present a more balanced—and more broadly national—perspective.

New interpretations based on recent and original research should appeal strongly to those interested in the Civil War and the West.

In addition, the gathering will provide the occasion to host a reunion of the Iron Brigade Association. The Iron Brigade Association is a membership organization open to anyone interested in the famous Iron Brigade of the West. The Iron Brigade Association operates under the auspices of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee and the Institute for Civil War Studies of Carroll College.

Professor Albert Castle, of Western Michigan University, will deliver the opening presentation on Friday evening, June 23. Dr. Castle is one of the leading authorities on the Civil War in the West. The author of more than 100 articles and nine books, Castle's writings have received such recognition as the Albert J. Beveridge Award, Harold L. Peterson Award, Lincoln Prize and others. Castle's *Decision in the West: the Atlanta Campaign of 1864*, for instance, ranks among the great works on the subject. Castle completed a biography of "Bloody Bill" Anderson that Stackpole Books published in 1998. Castle will describe the general importance of the war in the West and the Atlanta Campaign in particular during his remarks.



Corpl. T. P. Peckham  
Company "F," 13th Wis. Inf.

Thomas P. Peckham, Co. F, 13th Wisconsin Infantry, Janesville

SYMPOSIUM – CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## 2000 EXHIBIT SCHEDULE



Wisconsin National Guard in Action

### TEMPORARY

#### BATTLE FLAG EXHIBIT

##### Wisconsin Civil War Cavalry Regiments

JAN - MAR	1ST	WISCONSIN CAVALRY
APR - JUNE	2ND	WISCONSIN CAVALRY
JULY - SEPT	3RD	WISCONSIN CAVALRY
OCT - DEC	4TH	WISCONSIN CAVALRY

#### VARIAN FRY, ASSIGNMENT: RESCUE - 1940-1941

January 1 - March 2, 2000 Reception Area

This exhibit highlights the courage of Varian Fry, a young editor from New York, who was chosen by a private American relief committee to help political and intellectual refugees escape Nazi-occupied France. Among those saved were Max Ernst, Marcel Duchamp, Hannah Arendt, and Andre Breton.

#### CITIZEN SOLDIER: THE WISCONSIN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD IN ACTION

March 10 - July 7, 2000 Reception Area

A photographic exhibit providing a behind the scenes look at the mission and people of the Wisconsin Army National Guard (WIANG), including infantry, artillery, armor, combat engineers and aviation.

### ONGOING

#### A TRIBUTE TO FREEDOM

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is dedicated to the citizen-soldiers of our state. Employing exhibits, displays, and presentations, the museum's main galleries tell the story of Wisconsin men and women who served in America's conflicts from the Civil War to the Persian Gulf War.

#### THEY ALSO SERVED

An exhibit portraying the role of civilians who performed vital services for the military and the nation during wartime.

# Success Brings New Challenges to Museum

by Lisa M. Black

Created in 1901 as a memorial to the "men and women of Wisconsin, who served in the United States armed forces," the Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM) has served as an extraordinarily rich educational resource for educators, legislators, civic groups and students alike. Since opening its new facility in 1993, the WVM has evolved into a state-of-the-art institution and is one of the premier tour sites in Madison.



Exhibit featuring Hmong needlework, toys, and musical instruments.

Additionally, in 1999 the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Education Center opened its doors to host a myriad of educational programs ranging from lecture series to teacher in-services. This new space will also host groups of school children attending special guided tours of traveling exhibits. For instance, in October 1999 museum staff conducted special guided tours of the exhibit, "Hmong in America: Refugees from A Secret War". More than 300 students participated in those tours. As a result of increased educational public programming in the museum and the high quality of traveling exhibits that the museum has acquired, those numbers are expected to increase.

Despite the growing number of educational programs and the evolution of museum space, the volunteer staff has not grown significantly over the past few years. The volunteers are the heart and soul of the group tours program as well as major contributors to the archives and collections departments. They have consistently and passionately met and exceeded the challenges of educating increased numbers of WVM visitors from throughout the state. In order to continue providing a quality educational experience, more volunteers are needed to assist with expanded public programs such as the special guided exhibit tours as well as the traditional group tours program.

Historically, spring has been the busiest time of the year and the forecast for the spring of 2000 is no different. However, during the fall of 1999 the museum experienced an increase of more than 900 students on group tours compared with the previous fall season. Furthermore, the total tour group attendance has doubled over the last five years with over 33,500 students and adults visiting in 1999 as compared to 16,000 in 1994.



Madison students touring the Hmong exhibit.

total tour group attendance has doubled over the last five years with over 33,500 students and adults visiting in 1999 as compared to 16,000 in 1994.

VOLUNTEER - CONTINUED ON PAGE 10





*Max Ernst - ca. 1909 - Max Ernst Kabinett, Bruhl, Germany*

Jan. 15, 2000. Saposnik will provide an overview of the history of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust. She will highlight the history of Jews, assistance extended to Jewish refugees, and resources available to teachers. The presentation will also feature the testimony of a Holocaust survivor. Participants will receive equivalency credit of five clock hours from the Department of Public Instruction. Reservations are required. Admission is \$45.00 per person.

Professor Joseph G. Hatheway, Edgewood College, will present a lecture titled "The Holocaust: Ideology of Hate" on Thursday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m. Hatheway will focus on the development of Nazi ideology. He will discuss the rise of Nazism and the selection of victims.

Professor Frank Tuerkheimer, UW-Madison, will present "The Holocaust: A View of Nuremberg"

on Thursday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. Tuerkheimer will focus on moral issues and the factual record that the Nuremberg hearings brought to public attention. He will discuss the development of such legal concepts as "crimes against humanity" which were among the consequences of the Holocaust.

Stephen C. Feinstein, Center on Holocaust Studies, University of Minnesota, will present "Rescuer or Bystander? The Rescue of Jews by Nation States, Communities, and Individuals" on Thursday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. Feinstein will discuss several rescue projects that took place during the Holocaust. Varian Fry's activities will be placed in an historical context and compared to other rescue projects.

Leora Saposnik, Holocaust consultant, will present "Chosen Children: The Identity of Jewish Children during the Holocaust" on Friday, Feb. 25 at 5 p.m. Saposnik

will describe her efforts to gather oral histories from Wisconsin survivors of the Holocaust. A local Holocaust survivor will accompany her and share his/her experiences.

All programs will be held in the Museum education center. Admission is free unless otherwise noted.

The exhibit and related programming are funded in part by the Wisconsin Humanities Council, National Endowment for the Humanities, Madison Jewish Community Council, Institute for Museum and Library Services and Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is located at 30 W. Mifflin St., across the street from the State Capitol. Admission is free. It is open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

For more information, call the museum at (608) 267-1799, or you can meet us online: <http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dva/museum/wvmmmain.html>



*Nuremberg Trials*



Schoolchildren pose during a visit to the museum.

These numbers exemplify the public's interest in learning more about the contributions made by Wisconsin veterans as well as the need for more volunteer support.

What makes the volunteer staff members extraordinarily special is their dedication to honoring the mission of the WVM, "to commemorate, acknowledge, and affirm the role of Wisconsin veterans in America's military

past by means of instructive exhibits and other educational programs." These individuals commit their time and knowledge to educating the public. I implore veteran's group members, teachers and family members of veterans to take on the challenge of carrying out the mission of educating our children and adults alike. For those interested in joining the cadre of WVM volunteers, please contact Lisa Black at (608) 264-6086 or [lisa.black@dva.state.wi.us](mailto:lisa.black@dva.state.wi.us).

A powerful array of speakers will appear on Saturday, June 24. Jeffrey D. Wert, author of the new book *Brotherhood of Valor* will compare the parallel careers of the Iron Brigade and the Stonewall Brigade in his presentation on Saturday evening. Wert is the author of book-length studies of George Custer, Mosby's Rangers and Gen. James Longstreet. His previous books have been well regarded.

David J. Eicher, editor of *Astronomy* magazine, is also scheduled to speak on Saturday. An excellent speaker, Eicher is the author of *Civil War Battlefields: A Touring Guide*; *The Civil War in Books: An Analytical Bibliography*; and *Robert E. Lee: a Life Portrait*. Eicher is completing a major new book on Civil War military affairs.

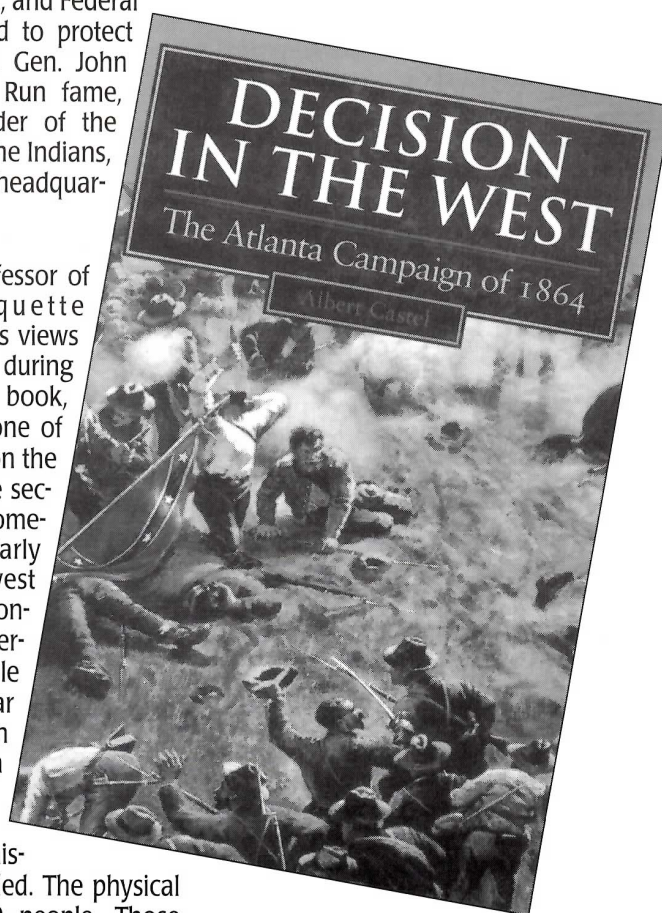
Michael J. McManus will discuss his new and highly original study of abolitionism in Wisconsin. McManus, a University of Wisconsin professor of history, shows that Wisconsin was more radical on anti-slavery related issues than most other northern states, and that the status of slavery was of the greatest significance to Wisconsin voters in the prewar years. Some historians have portrayed abolitionism as a movement with little broad-based appeal. Dr. McManus's book, *Political Abolitionism in Wisconsin 1840-1861*, published by Kent State University Press in 1998, offers a different perspective.

Steven J. Wright, of Philadelphia's Civil War Library and Museum, will present a discussion on the Sioux Uprising in Minnesota. The 1862 Sioux outbreak spread fear and panic throughout the upper Midwest. The hostile Indians had a much greater affect than their mere numbers would suggest, and Federal troops were dispatched to protect the Northwest frontier. Gen. John Pope, of Second Bull Run fame, became the commander of the troops sent to subdue the Indians, and he established his headquarters in Milwaukee.

James T. Marten, professor of History at Marquette University, will share his views about the homefront during the Civil War. Marten's book, *The Children's War*, is one of the few recent studies on the topic. The effects of the sectional conflict on the homefront were particularly severe in the Midwest because the region contributed such a high percentage of its adult male population to the war effort. Professor Marten used many Wisconsin sources in his account.

The conference promises to be well attended. The physical plant can handle 300 people. Those

interested in attending should mark their calendars. Costs will be kept modest through effective management and the generosity of Carroll College. More information will be circulated as soon as it becomes available, including registration materials and reservation forms.



## I N M E M O R I A M

# Burkel Remembered

by Richard H. Zeitlin

It is with great sorrow that the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation announces the untimely death of Gerald L. Burkel. Burkel worked hard to manage the Foundation accounts and his steady hand will be sorely missed.

Burkel, treasurer of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation, died November 5, 1999, at age 68. Burkel served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation since its establishment. He represented the Veterans of Foreign Wars on the board.

He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, attaining the rank of ser-

geant. He had been an employee of Ozaukee County and worked for the Highway Department for 35 years. Burkel became commander of the Belgium VFW post in 1975, district commander in 1980, and state commander in 1989. After his term as state commander, Burkel remained committed to supporting VFW service activities. He was also active in various other community organizations.

Burkel and his wife, Helen (also an active participant in VFW programs and a past state president), lived in Port Washington. His wife, three children, and one grandchild survive him. Burkel provided support, dedication, and selfless service to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation.



Gerald Burkel

## F R O N T L I N E - CONT. FROM FRONT PAGE

tional archivist position will be recruited. By carrying out this development, public access to the historical materials will be increased.



The changes will take some time to accomplish. But, the future of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum is on an upward trajectory.



Wisconsin National Guard Museum at Camp Douglas

## M U S E U M T O D A Y - CONT. FROM PAGE 5

and extension of hours. Since its establishment in 1994, the WVM Foundation has provided over \$262,607 to the museum for educational programming. The Wisconsin Humanities Committee has awarded the museum over \$15,820 in funds for exhibits and scholarly programs.

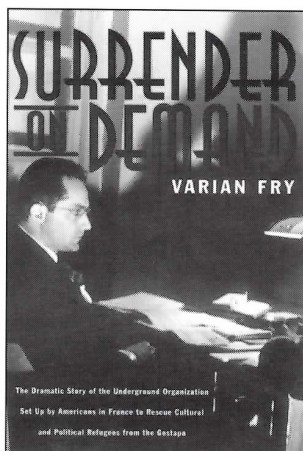
We are happy to report that over 631,689 visitors have visited the new Wisconsin Veterans Museum since it opened in 1993, making it the second most toured museum in Madison. A total of 147,732 individuals visited the museum as a member of a school and/or adult tour group.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the magnificent staff and volunteers of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum for another excellent year of service!

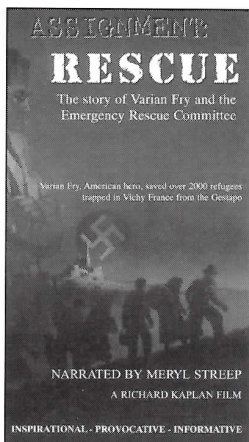
# Compelling Stories found in the Museum Store

by Joe Wiersgalla

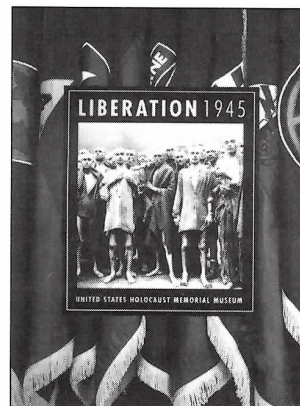
Find the whole story behind Varian Fry's daring Holocaust rescues in his autobiography, *Surrender on Demand*. (Johnson Books, \$15)



Or for more on his works see "Assignment: Rescue- The Story of Varian Fry & the Emergency Rescue Committee" on video. (Richard Kaplan Productions, \$24.95)



Also from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, *Liberation 1945* features the history of the Allies liberation of the Nazi camps at the end of World War II. (USHMM, \$19.95)



Wisconsin Veterans Museum  
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 Madison, WI 53703  
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