

★★ **THE BUGLE** ★★

Volume VIII:1

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

January 2001

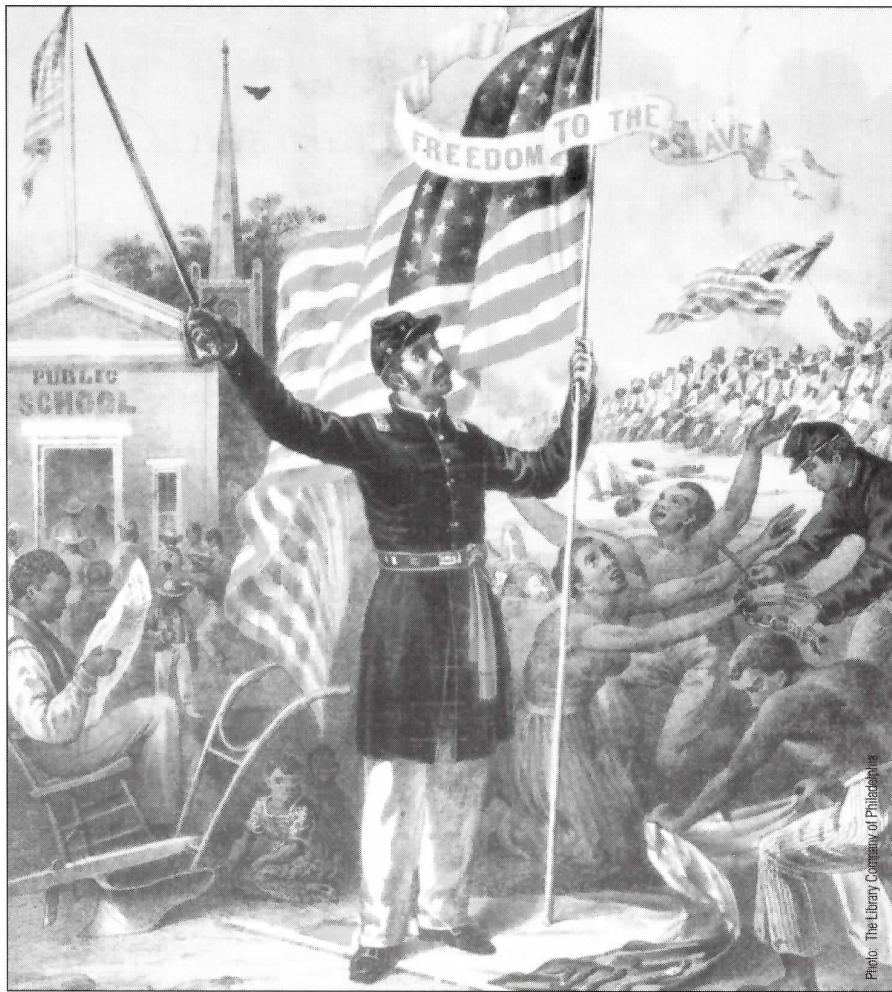
F R O N T L I N E

Museum Sponsors Black History Month Programs

by Richard H. Zeitlin

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is sponsoring "Batting Slavery: African Americans Before Freedom," a series of free public programs coinciding with Black History Month. Beginning on Jan. 25, 2001, four nationally respected scholars will appear at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum to make original presentations on the subject of slavery's downfall. The emergence of political abolitionism, the contribution of the 186,000 African-American soldiers who served with the U.S. Colored Troops, militant slave resistance to the institution of bondage, and the importance of slavery in the memory of the American Civil War will be discussed. The programs represent cutting-edge scholarship and promise to be of great interest to those with an interest in the Civil War era.

The Wisconsin Humanities Commission (WHC) is once again acting as a partner in the implementation of important programs at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. As in the past, the WHC has recognized the high quality of public programs being developed by the museum. The WHC's mission to support public programs that engage the people of Wisconsin in the



"Freedom to the Slave" – a message carried to promote equality and tolerance.



WISCONSIN
HUMANITIES
COUNCIL

BLACK HISTORY – CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Museum Director to Teach U.S. Military History Course

by Richard H. Zeitlin



capacity of 144 students. This is the first offering of the course since Professor Edward M. "Mac" Coffman's retirement from the UW. Coffman's class was among the most popular offered by the History Department. The class begins on January 22 and will be held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:55 a.m. in the Humanities Building.

Zeitlin will continue his duties at the WVM, however, the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs has granted Zeitlin leave time to teach at the University. Department Secretary Raymond G. Boland explained to Associate Chair of the History Department Diane Lindstrom, "I am extremely happy about this development. To say that I am pleased would be an understatement."

Wisconsin Veterans Museum Director Richard Zeitlin will teach the U.S. Military History survey course at the University of Wisconsin-Madison during the spring 2001 semester. The upper level survey of American military history course, History 396, quickly filled to its enrollment



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

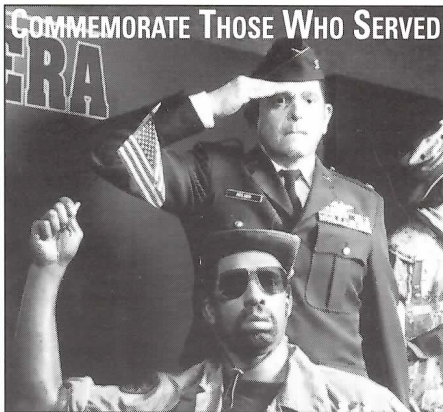
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HOURS:

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

FOR INFORMATION

Call (608) 267-1799



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 CONTRIBUTING TO THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITS
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ENLIST NOW \$25 \$50 \$100 OTHER

NEW STAFF

Museum Names New Assistant Store Manager

by Erin Landa

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is pleased to welcome new assistant store manager, Amy Norlin. The Minnesota native has garnered academic

credits to include a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Merchandise Management from UW-Stout, a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from Colorado

I N T H E S C H O O L S

School Celebrates Veterans Day

by Julie Bryan



John Icke visits Yahara Elementary School and talks to students

In celebration of Veterans Day 2000, teachers Jane McGuine and Lennie Kramer of Yahara Elementary School in De Forest hosted a program to teach their students about veterans. John Icke, a docent of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, was invited to share his knowledge and insight with 250 grade school students on 13 November.

During the program, which opened with recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and singing of the Star Spangled Banner, John talked to the students about what it means to be a veteran. He brought helmets from World War I, World War II, Korea and the Persian Gulf to illustrate the different wars that people fought in and how their experiences contributed greatly to our country.

three V's: Veterans, Volunteerism, and Voting. First, veterans volunteer to serve their country in times of peace and peril and should be honored and remembered for their sacrifices. Second, volunteers say "yes" and take action to make changes in their communities, and third, voting allows all adults to make an impact on our country.

After the program, John was presented with a thank-you letter and a school mug from the Yahara Elementary School Student Council. The entire fourth grade class was so impressed with John's presentation, that their teachers scheduled a visit to the museum.

John also conveyed the importance of being a responsible citizen and doing what was good for the community. He stressed the importance of



TEMPORARY

BATTLE FLAG EXHIBIT

Wisconsin Civil War Regiments

JAN - MAR IRON BRIGADE PRESENTATION BANNER

30 YEARS IN THE COCKPIT: FIGHTER PILOT COLONEL CHARLES W. KING

January 26 - May 25 2001 Reception Area

"30 Years in the Cockpit," a traveling exhibit from the Neville Public Museum of Brown County, highlights the 30-year Air Force career of Green Bay resident Charles W. King, Colonel USAF, (Ret.). King, a World War II combat ace, shot down five Japanese aircraft over the Pacific. In Korea, he was wing commander of the most successful U.S. fighter squadron. The exhibit consists of materials spanning his 30-year career including uniforms, headgear, photographs, and aircraft equipment.

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.

30 Years in the Cockpit

by William Brewster

Welcome to another addition of the Curator's Chronicles. On January 26, 2001 the Veterans Museum

will open a new exhibit entitled, **30 Years in the Cockpit: Colonel Charles W. King, United States Air Force.** This exhibit includes photographs and objects spanning the career of Colonel King. The exhibit is coming to WVM courtesy of the Neville Public Museum of Brown County. Neville Curator of History Michael Telzrow worked with King to record an interview and collect the various items found in the display.

King's story is of a life dedicated to serving his country. Enlisting in 1940, Charles King spent the next thirty years as a member of the Army

Air Corps and Air Force. In the



Fighter Ace - Charles King in the 50's

Pacific during World War II, King flew 200 combat missions

with the 39th Fighter Squadron. The 39th was the first Air Corps squadron to fly the P-38 Lightening. While piloting one of the twin engine fighters, King became an ace shooting down five Japanese aircraft. King ended the war as a test pilot flying the new P-80 jet fighter. Fellow Wisconsinite, P-38 pilot, and "Ace of Aces" Richard Bong was killed testing the same type of aircraft.

The outbreak of the Korean War found jet fighters dominating air combat. Pilots who fought the last war in propeller-driven planes were now riding rockets. In 1951, King was promoted to colonel and named deputy commander

of the 4th Fighter-Interceptor Wing. The 4th Wing flew the F-86 Sabre Jet out of Kimpo Air Base near Seoul, South Korea. Colonel King logged 67

KING EXHIBIT - CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

FROM THE ARCHIVES

SPECIAL REQUEST

by WVM Research Center Staff

WANTED:

PAPERS AND ORAL INTERVIEWS OF MINORITY AND WOMAN VETERANS

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center is making a special plea for donation of papers and photographs of Wisconsin women and minorities who served in the armed forces. Manuscripts and photographs serve as the lifeblood for researchers striving to understand and interpret historic events and situations. It is important that the information contained in the research center provides a broader picture that includes the military contributions and experiences of women and minorities.

Desired are letters to and from home, photographs, papers and military documents retained during military service, paper memorabilia, maps, posters, military instruction manuals, and materials pertaining to participation in any formal or informal veteran-based organizations. Not to be forgotten are papers and photographs that might document home front activities and experiences.

WVM Research Center collections also include oral history interviews. An active oral history program ably staffed by museum volunteer, Dr. James McIntosh, records the experi-

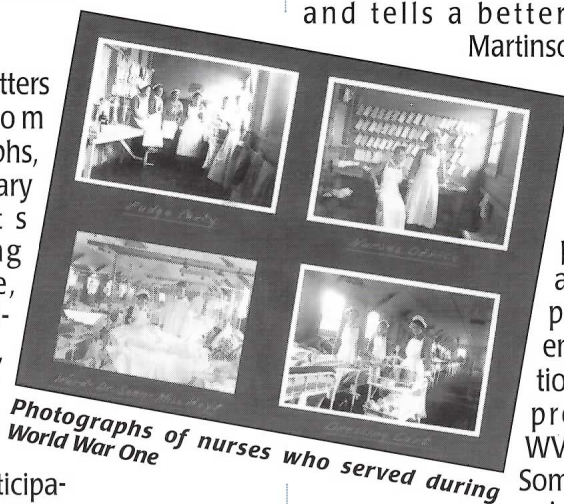
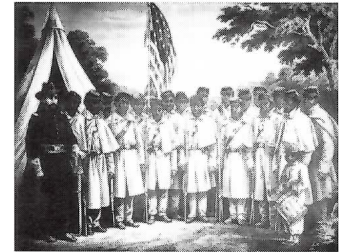
ences of Wisconsin veterans. There is considerable research interest in the military experiences of women and minorities and often oral history interviews are the best sources available.

Archives Collection Manager, Gayle Martinson, works with potential donors who may identify a few items that they are interested in donating. "Many times, I find that the donor has a wealth of other materials that makes the collection so much richer in information and tells a better story," states Martinson. "I like to meet

with potential donors in their homes to both view the materials and explain our program. There are so many compelling experiences and contributions waiting to be preserved in the WVM Research Center.

Some of the manuscript collections we have bring a lump in your throat and a tear to your eye."

Martinson, can be contacted at 608.267.1790 or by e-mail gayle.martinson@dva.state.wi.us Should you have or know of Wisconsin women and minorities who may have papers or be willing to participate in an oral history interview.

WVM
Special
Programs

Come and Join Us Brothers.

Photo: U.S. Army Military History Institute

Black History Month
Battling Slavery:
African-Americans Before Freedom

Thursday, January 25

Anti-Slavery Politics
and the Coming of Civil War

Lecture and book signing, 7 to 9 p.m.

Michael J. McManus,
University of Wisconsin - Madison

Thursday, February 1

Revolts, Runaways,
and the Politics of
American Slaves

Lecture and book signing, 7 to 9 p.m.

Steven Kantowitz,
University of Wisconsin - Madison

Thursday, February 8

Black Soldiers in
the Union Army

Lecture and book signing, 7 to 9 p.m.

Joseph T. Glatthaar,
University of Houston

Thursday, February 22

The Civil War:
The Memory of Slavery

Lecture and book signing, 7 to 9 p.m.

David W. Blight
Amherst CollegeAll programs will be held in the Education
Center unless otherwise noted.

Re-enactors Commemorate Soldiers of the Korean War

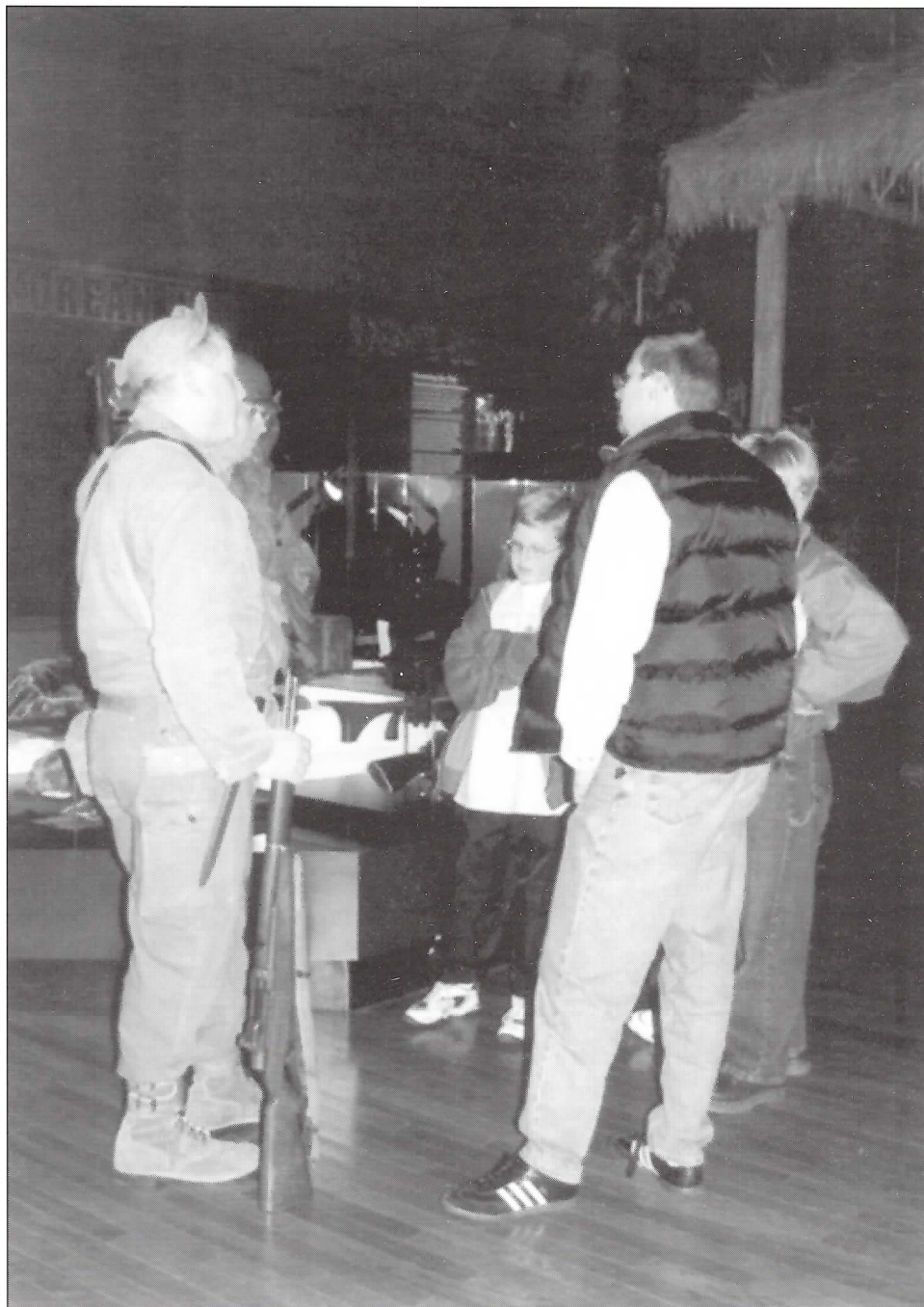
by Rachel Putnam

In commemoration of Veterans Day 2000, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum sponsored a living history program featuring Korean War re-enactors. The re-enactors, who portrayed members of the 2nd Infantry Division, appeared in period uniforms and demonstrated details of military life common to Korean War era soldiers.

Visitors were able to tour a company headquarters complete with communications equipment and field desks. For instance, some items displayed included a field telephone and radio, Army folding field furniture, and a Browning .30cal machine gun. A number of rifles used by American soldiers during the Korean War were also on display.

Visitors were also encouraged to ask questions of the re-enactors as well as handle the equipment. A big hit with the younger visitors was the opportunity to try on a steel helmet and field pack carried by the re-enactors.

The re-enactors in attendance previously had been involved in the opening of the D-Day Museum in New Orleans, and were able to talk about and answer questions about other conflicts as well. A number of the re-enactors were veterans them



Korean War re-enactors portraying soldiers "of the day" talk with visitors regarding a soldier's life.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Goes International

by Jason Josvai

This past fall, the WVM Registrar was invited to participate in a collection management seminar at the International Panama Canal Museum. This event was conducted through the cultural affairs branch of the American Embassy in Panama and involved the exchange of professional museum theories and practices. The physical exchange of museum staff members is a vital form of communication to promote standardized policies and procedures within the field. Josvai was honored to have been asked to be a part of such an excellent program and would strongly encourage other institutions to participate in similar outreach venues.

The museum itself is housed in the original French administration building and is located in the same plaza as the National Church and the first university in Panama. The building has since undergone extensive renovation including an impressive climate control system, a highly effective security system and a new roof. The staff is extremely well trained and sets the example for the other museums in the country. The weeklong program consisted of topics ranging



Jason Josvai - Registrar with museum staff from the Panama Canal Museum

from conservation and security to staff management with the primary focus of the seminar on the care of the temporary and permanent collections.

During the time Josvai was assigned to the museum, he interacted with staff members as they prepared to open a new permanent exhibition regarding the economic impact of the Panama Canal throughout its extensive history. In addition to this permanent exhibit, the museum was also mounting a traveling Goya exhibit from the royal family of Spain's private collection, which we reviewed in order to ensure that the museum would meet the necessary requirements stipulated for the loan of the art work.

The specific purpose of Josvai's participation in this seminar was to demonstrate the computerized collection management software, SNAP, that the Wisconsin Veterans Museum utilizes. After a successful presentation of the SNAP system, the museum director decided to purchase a license for the museum's use and has since requested that Josvai return this spring to help further train the staff on the program. As part of international outreach, Josvai sincerely hopes that he will be able to accommodate the museum.



The former Administration building used during French occupation of Panama - now housing the Panama Canal Museum

National Security Agency Museum

by Matthew Piersma

The United States has collected information by intercepting and decoding messages of its opponents dating back to the Revolutionary War. Allied cryptologists during World War II were successful enough to be rated by Navy Admiral

Chester W. Nimitz as equivalent to an entire fleet. General George C. Marshall credited code breakers as having contributed "greatly to the victories and tremendously to the savings of American lives." In 1952, the separate military efforts at communications intel-

ligence were consolidated into the National Security Agency (NSA).

About seven years ago the NSA opened a museum focusing on the history of cryptology. William Brewster and Matthew Piersma of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum visited the site recently to pick-up an Enigma machine that will be featured in the Wisconsin Veterans Museum exhibit, "Code Breaking: The Secret War." Near Ft. Meade, M.D., the National Cryptologic Museum features exhibits of U.S. wars as well as Cold War incidents of which the general public is unaware. World War II is especially well documented given the importance of code-breaking activities throughout that war. One World War II Allied success in particular, ULTRA, or the reading of German messages encoded on the Enigma machine, is featured in the galleries of the museum. Piersma commented, "there are several versions of the Enigma on display in the NSA museum including one still in working condition." Five different components inside the machine have variable settings, giving a huge number of possible combinations. For example, a three rotor Enigma has 3 times 10 to the 114th power possible settings compared to the observable universe, which has an estimated 10 to the 80th power atoms. Having a coding system that could be configured in more ways than there are atoms in the visible universe gave German cryptographers great confi-



"Enigma" – the name of the coding machine used during World War II to encrypt secret messages.

King Exhibit

missions while serving with the 4th. Though he registered no kills, 4th Wing pilots received credit for downing 502 enemy aircraft, 54% of the allied total for the war. King ended his Korean War service as the air liaison officer for the Navy's 7th Fleet.

During the 1950s King served as a wing commander with the Air Defense Command and led several rocketry teams in the first William Tell missile competition. For the balance of his career King worked in different staff assignments. He spent three years as air operations officer for the Military Advisory Group in Spain and two years in Madison at the SAGE Air Division Headquarters, a part of NORAD. Finally, King served five years as a member of the operations staff for the North American Defense Command in Colorado Springs, Colorado before retiring

in 1970. Colonel Charles W. King passed away this fall after losing his only battle to cancer.



Fighter Ace - Charles King at the beginning of his career.

Photo: Neville Public Museum

New Staff Hired



Amy Norlin - Assistant Store Manager

State University and a master's degree in Anthropology and Museum Studies from UW-Milwaukee.

With ten years of retail experience along with six years of museum experience, Amy's skills and experience will be put to use immediately. She will assist with the daily operations of the store to include overseeing the store's e-commerce as well as assuming responsibility for maintenance of the exhibit lighting throughout the museum galleries. The entire museum staff looks forward to working with Amy.

Security Museum

dence in the security of their coded communications.

Until the early 1990's, the NSA was not well known among the general public. Opening a museum and maintaining a web site are two ways the NSA has improved public knowledge of its history and mission. In spite of these efforts, the agency's image as a secretive, omniscient cabal of spies persists. With that image in mind, collectors have purchased items such as mouse pads and coffee mugs from the NSA museum gift shop for much more than their original prices. Even the free pamphlets just inside the entrance have been auctioned. The pamphlet describing the mathematics behind the Enigma machine once sold for \$400!

Black History Month

exploration of human cultures, ideas, and values," will certainly be furthered by the "Battling Slavery" programs. As may be recalled, the WHC has consistently supported museum programs such as the recent lecture series on the Korean War and previous offerings as well.

The public presentations will take place on Thursday's from 7 to 9 p.m. in the museum's second floor Education Center. Studies and audience evaluations have indicated that Thursday evening is an optimal time for programs and that it seems to be convenient for many people. Program announcements will be sent out and advertising will help promote the series.

The audience attending the museum's "Battling Slavery," series will learn about the variety of ways that African-Americans participated in the struggle for freedom. Nearly 20 percent of the population of the United States was enslaved in 1860. The enslaved popula-

tion exceeded the number of free citizens in some of the Southern states. The existence of human bondage in a nation whose self-image and official ideology whose self-image and official ideology focused on freedom brought about internal strains, and, eventually, strong opposition to the institution of slavery. Ultimately, slavery was destroyed by the Civil War.

Each of the presenters will offer their own new interpretations on key issues. Michael J. McManus, a University of Wisconsin historian, will begin the series on Jan. 25 with, "Anti-Slavery Politics and the Causes of the Civil War." McManus is the author of the prize winning *Political Abolitionism in Wisconsin, 1840-1861* (1998). Steven Kantrowitz, also of the University of Wisconsin, will speak about *Revolts, Runaways, and the Politics of American Slaves*, on Feb. 1st. Kantrowitz is the author of the new book, *Ben Tillman and the Reconstruction of White Supremacy*, published by the University of North Carolina Press in

2000. On Feb. 8, Joseph T. Glatthaar of the University of Houston will present "Black Soldiers in the Union Army." Glatthaar is the author of three major works in Civil War military history, including the acclaimed *Forged in Battle: The Civil War Alliance of Black Soldiers and White Officers*. David W. Blight presents "The Civil War and the Memory of Slavery," on Feb. 22. Blight's most recent book, *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory*, is being published by Harvard University Press and is likely to be available by the time he speaks here in Madison. Each of the historians will be happy to autograph copies of their books.

The programs are designed to appeal to a broad audience. There will be time for questions and discussions after the presentations and at the receptions that follow. Questions and informational requests should be directed to Lisa Black at 608-264-6086.

Korean War from page 6



Korean War re-enactors help remember the citizen soldiers who served their country in times of need.

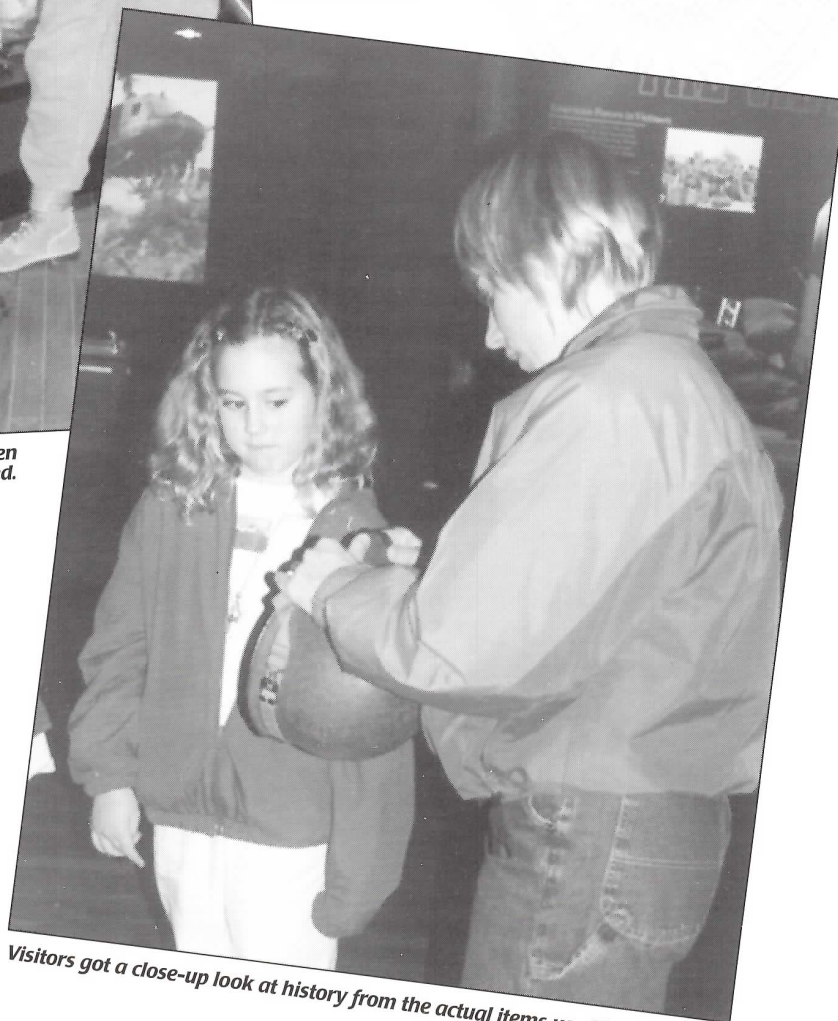
selves, having served in conflicts ranging from Vietnam to the Persian Gulf War.

Veterans Day had its origin as Armistice Day, which was to commemorate the end of World War I on Nov. 11, 1918. Armistice Day was officially enacted with a resolution from Congress on June 4, 1926. However, with the advent of WWII and the Korean War, the day was renamed 'Veterans Day' by President Dwight Eisenhower

on June 1, 1954, in order to recognize the sacrifices made by men and women from conflicts after World War I. One minute of silence is to be observed

at 11AM on November 11th of every year.

The observance of Veterans Day is intended to honor American veterans' willingness to sacrifice and serve their country for the common good. It is also an opportunity to express American patriotism and love of country. Today, we enjoy the blessings of peace that have been earned with the sacrifices of the veterans who have served this country.



Visitors got a close-up look at history from the actual items used in battle.

FROM THE GIFT SHOP

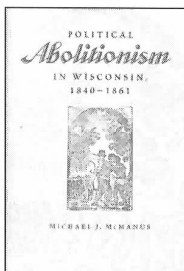
**Political Abolitionism
in Wisconsin, 1840-1861**

By *Michael McManus*

Kent, OH: Kent State University Press, 1998

\$39.00

Michael McManus' engrossing study of political abolitionism in Wisconsin demonstrates the overriding importance of slavery-related issues in bringing on the political crisis of the American Civil War. McManus discusses how Wisconsin was more radical on slavery than most other states, and that slavery was of greatest significance to the state's voters in the prewar years.



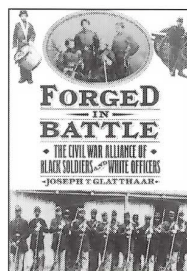
**Forged in Battle-
The Civil War Alliance of
Black Soldiers and
White Officers**

By *Joseph T. Glatthaar*

New York, NY: The Free Press, 1990

\$27.95

An intriguing look at the United States Colored Troops during the Civil War. In *Forged in Battle*, Joseph T. Glatthaar brings to life the struggle of the black Union troops, and the racial tension between the troops and the white officers. *Forged in Battle* demonstrates the uneasy alliance they formed during the trials of war.



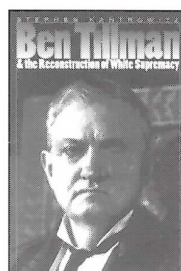
**Ben Tillman and the
Reconstruction of
White Supremacy**

By *Stephen Kantrowitz*

Chapel Hill, NC: North Carolina Press, 2000

\$19.95

Stephen Kantrowitz has provided us with the best study we have on Benjamin Tillman. He has also given us a way to understand how racism took hold in the post-Civil War South and gradually spread its tentacles to the rest of the country.



**Race and Reunion: The Civil
War in American Memory**

By *David W. Blight*

Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2000

\$29.95

David Blight explores the perilous path of remembering and forgetting the Civil War's aftermath, and reveals its tragic costs to race relations and America's nation reunion. Blight delves deeply into the shifting meanings of death and sacrifice, Reconstruction, the romanticized South of literature, soldiers' reminiscences of battle, the idea of the Lost Cause and the ritual of Memorial Day.

**Available
Soon**

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