

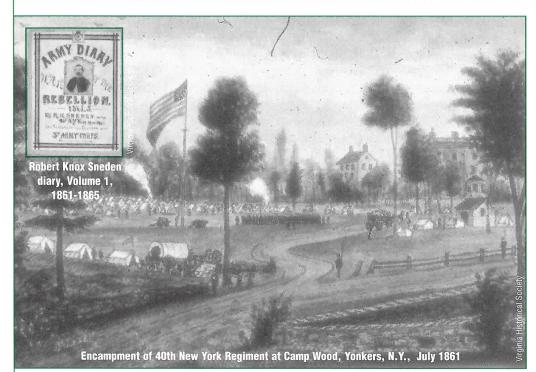
January 2003

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

Volume X:I

FRONTLINE

"Eye of the Storm: The Civil War Drawings of Robert Sneden"



REVEALS RARE CIVIL WAR SOLDIER'S DIARY

E yewitness accounts and images from the Civil War diary of Union soldier and Confederate prisoner of war, Robert Knox Sneden, will be on display at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum from Jan. 14 through Apr. 8, 2003. "Eye of the Storm: The Civil War Drawings of Robert Sneden," organized by the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, Virginia, showcases nearly 100 watercolors, maps, drawings, and excerpts from Sneden's diary that capture in vivid detail the brutality of war and the horrors of imprisonment, including Andersonville. The entire Sneden collection -a 5,000-page memoir and 1,000 watercolors - represents the largest collection of Civil War soldier art ever produced. Many of the images are the only known depictions

Frontline continues on 10

EYE OF THE STORM: A Civil War Odyssey

THURSDAY, JAN. 23 Lecture & book signing, 7 p.m. Dr. Charles F. Bryan, Jr., CEO and director Virginia Historical Society

Editor, Eye of the Storm: A Civil War Odyssey and Images from the Storm

PVT. JOHN GADDIS: Civil War Watercolorist

THURSDAY, JAN. 30 Lecture, 7 p.m. Dr. Dennis K. McDaniel, Retired Curator, State Museum of Pennsylvania

FOUR YEARS WITH THE IRON BRIGADE: The Civil War Journal of William Ray

THURSDAY, FEB. 6 Lecture & book signing, 7 p.m. Lance J. Herdegen, Director, Institute for Civil War Studies at Carroll College

STORM CLOUDS OVER THE CONFEDERACY: The Stigma of Andersonville Prison

THURSDAY, FEB. 13 Lecture, 7 p.m. Alan Marsh, Cultural Resources Program Manager, Andersonville National Historic Site

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

The Bud

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

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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MUSEUM STAFF - MADISON Richard H. Zeitlin, Executive Director – 266-1009 Mary Bade, Curator of Exhibits & Collections – 261-0540 Carolyn Bohman, Reference Archivist – 267-1790 William Brewster, Curator of Collections – 264-6099 George Christensen, Store Manager – 261-0535 Jonnifer Dah, acting Curator of Visiot Services – 261-0534 Katte Leedle, Programs Assistant – 261-054 Gayle Martinson, Archives Librarian – 261-0536 Matthew Piersma, Curator of Programs – 261-0549 Lynette Wolfe, Operations Manager – 266-1680 Bridgitt Zielke, Curator of Programs – 266-1854 Bridgitt Zielke, Curator of Programs – 266-1854 Kristine Zickuhr, Registrar – 261-6802

SEUM STAFF - CAMP DOUGLAS Eric Lent, Museum Manager – 608-427-1280 Matthew Piersma, Curator of Programs – 608-427-1280 Fax Us: (608) 264-7615

To Email Us: first name.last name@dva.state.wi.us **BUGLE EDITORIAL STAFF**

Built Euri Unitet, Starr Editor: Matt Piersma Contibuting Willies & Support Staff: Mary Bade, Carrie Bohman, William Brewster, Russell Horton, Steve Olson, Gayle Martinson, Katie Leedle, Lee Sherman Dreyfus, Richard Zeitlin

Wisconsin Veterans Museum 30 W. Mifflin St., Madison, WI 53703 - On the Capitol Square

Hours Mon.- Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Sunday Noon - 4 p.m. . Apr.-Aug

For Information 608.267.1799

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

Support the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation Enlist Now \$25 \$50 __ Other __\$100 Donations can commemorate events, provide a memorial, or acknowledge support of an organization DONATIONS ARE ALSO TAX DEDUCTIBLE! Please send your contributions along with your name, address, phone number(s), to: Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation 30 W. Mifflin St. • Ste. 200 • Madison, WI • 53703

Commemorate Those Who Served



New Employees Join Museum Staff



K ristine Zickuhr, George Christensen, and Katherine Leedle have joined the staff of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. Kris now serves as the museum's registrar. Her job involves maintaining museum collection records and assisting with the entry of collection information on to an electronic database. SNAP electronic collections software will allow rapid searching of the museum's artifact records, some of which go back to the 1960s and before. She has three years of experience gained at several other museums, including the Colorado Historical Society in Denver and the Denver Art Museum. In addition, Kris worked for private archaeological consulting firms doing cataloging work for the Bureau of Land Management in Colorado and in Sauk City, Wisconsin. She is a graduate of the UW and has graduate level training from the University of Colorado. Kris Zickuhr served as a Korean language specialist in the Army. A Wisconsin native. she and her husband live in Madison.

George Christensen became the manager of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum sales program. George has 14 years of experience in managing retail operations. He operated multiple Navy Exchange retail stores in Greece, Italy, and, throughout Europe. George also served aboard

deployed warships in the Atlantic Fleet. Christensen completed his naval career as a Lieutenant Junior Grade before going on to graduate school in business administration. He earned a bachelor's and master's degree from Fresno Pacific University. A native of Los Angeles. George brings a wealth of knowledge of retail activities as well as a trove of great sea stories. Sales at the Veterans Museum rose 18 percent in the six months since September 2001. All hope that the trend will continue.

Katherine Leedle accepted a two-year project position at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. Katie is classified as a program assistant. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin and a history major. Katie plans to attend graduate school in the field of U.S. military history and has a strong interest in the Civil War. Katie carries out historical research such as that required for the cemetery tour program and assists with various Foundation operations. Katie staffs the Veterans Museum Foundation's Planned Giving Committee and the Special Events Committee. Katie will also manage the data entry and mailings of this year's annual appeal fund drive. She has several years of experience in banking and volunteer organizations.

By Richard H. Zeitlin

"A Tribute to Freedom" A Great Success



n November 15, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation hosted a gala event titled: "A Tribute to Freedom, Remembering Those Who Went Before." The event raised more than \$9000 for educational programs and exhibits and provided 100 guests with a unique opportunity to dine in the award-winning galleries of the museum.

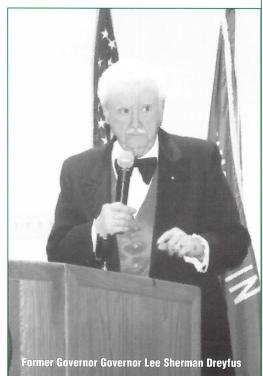
The evening began in the museum's Education Center with a silent auction and cocktail hour featuring music by the Wisconsin National Guard Jazz Band. Auction items included Milwaukee Bucks tickets, a Wittnauer watch, and two roundtrip tickets on Midwest Express Airlines. Former Wisconsin Governor Lee Dreyfus presented remarks to commemorate the museum's newest annual event. The excitement generated by this year's gala suggests that next year's attendance will be even higher, so be prepared to order your tickets early. A few organizations have already booked tables for next year's event.

By Katie L. Leedle

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation would like to take this opportunity to recognize the sponsors for "A Tribute to Freedom"

- Midwest Express Airlines
- Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs
- Middleton VFW Post 821
- USO of Milwauke
- The Other Other Club
- JPC Foundation
- John Petersen, III

Thank you for helping to make our event such a success.



Contact the Wisconsin Veterans Museum at 608.267.179

FEATURED EVENTS

2003 E X H I B I T S C H E D U L E T E M P O R A R Y

EYE OF THE STORM: THE CIVIL WAR Drawings of Robert K. Sneden

Jan. 14 - April 8, 2003

A nationally touring exhibition organized by The Virginia Historical Society, based on the Civil War art of Union soldier Robert Knox Sneden, a mapmaker in the Army of the Potomac. Through the watercolors he painted, Sneden takes us to the front lines of the Civil War. In chilling detail, he illustrates his harrowing experience as a Union soldier, mapmaker, and prisoner of war.

HONORING THE HO-CHUNK WARRIOR

Summer, 2003 - Dates to be Announced

This photographic exhibit by Tom Jones portrays Indian warriors. Jones has chosen to focus on the images of Ho-Chunk veterans as the center of a Memorial Day celebration that rounds out a weekend of powwow and homecoming for the Ho-Chunk people of Wisconsin. Tom Jones' photographs of Ho-Chunk veterans show warriors who are connected to their home and to their familiesand reminds us that warriors serve the people and the people honor them.

WARRIORS: THE NAVAJO CODE TALKERS

Sept. 1 - Nov. 30, 2003

"Warriors: The Navajo Code Talkers", from the National Atomic Museum, is a powerful exhibition featuring the men whose language and bravery made defeat of the Japanese possible during World War II. These unique works by photographer Kenji Kawano feature these men and the work they did to develop and implement a form of coded communication that would not be understood by the Japanese. Using the native language of the Navajo, they spoke orders and coded messages, which were never deciphered by the enemy.

ONGOING

UNCOVERING THE ENEMY

Changing Exhibit Gallery

Uncovering the Enemy will focus on military intelligence and surveillance from World War I through Vietnam. The exhibit will include a German Enigma machine, aerial cameras, communications equipment, and interactive displays. Uniforms, equipment and the unique stories of Wisconsin veterans who have participated in information gathering activities will be featured.

A TRIBUTE TO FREEDOM

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is dedicated to the citizensoldiers 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.

2002 Annual Appeal

🔰 eterans Day 2002 has just passed. Around the country there were many celebrations and remembrances that honored the courage, service and sacrifice of our veterans. But for many of our citizens, the record of our veterans' service will go unnoticed for another year, until next Veterans Day. Every day is Veterans Day at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, Since opening in 1993, the museum has become one of the most respected military history museums in the nation. Nearly 100,000 visitors, including adults and school children, tour the museum each year. Our museum preserves the unique record of service and sacrifice that our veterans have carried out and presents it year round

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation is a charitable corporation whose goal is to support exhibits and educational programs that are not covered by an operational budget. This year, we plan to complete a significant renovation of The Wisconsin National Guard Museum at Volk Field, continue to bring in to the museum interesting traveling exhibits, host the Forest Hill Cemetery "Talking Spirits" tour, and substantially upgrade the Museum's web site. Our Annual Appeal goal this year is \$175,000.

You will be receiving an appeal in the mail in a few days. Please review it and send in a gift of support for this fine museum. Your support is essential if we are to continue honoring our veterans in a way befitting their service.

By Lee Sherman Dreyfus

does nut long entrust the care of freedom to the weak or

Dwight D. Eisen

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Front cover of Annual Appeal Guide

26th Wisconsin Regimental Colors On Display

In September of 2002 the Regimental Colors of the 26th Wisconsin was once again proudly unveiled. The story of this flag is more unusual than most and is worth repeating.

In 1998, the descendents of Sergeant Jacob Stauff made a donation of \$4,000 to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum for the conservation of the flag that Jacob carried during the Civil War. The museum has several flags conserved each year, and it is a fairly routine procedure, but there are always exceptions.

Prior to conservation, Wisconsin's Civil War battleflags are stored on their original staffs. They have existed in this state since the late 19th Century. For many flags, their first viewing in more than 100 years occurs during preparation for shipping to a conservator. When the museum team unrolled the flag of the 26th they found far less than imagined. The expected regimental color was nothing more than a few shattered sections of blue silk.

It is often the case that one can judge the nature of service for a Civil War regiment by the condition of its flags. The flags flown by northern units were made of silk, which makes a beautiful flag but is not very durable under extreme conditions. The more arduous the service, the more worn the flag. Many regiments seeing extended and heavy service were issued a new set of flags and their tattered banners were returned to the states. Jacob Stauff carried the second issue regimental color of the 26th Wisconsin, Typically, second issue flags are in better condition than the first issue because of more limited field use. Following the issue of new colors, the 26th participated in one of the more



grueling campaigns in military history. Fighting with General Sherman, the 26th Wisconsin participated in the Atlanta Campaign, the Siege of Atlanta, the March to the Sea and the Carolinas Campaign. Being continuously on the march and in combat for the better part of a year aged the standard beyond its years.

The question now was how do we proceed? A basic conservation of the flag fragments was conducted. This stabilized the remaining pieces, but did little to restore the flag to its previous glory. Following consultation with the Stauff-Kadlec family, we determined to undertake a more aggressive process. Working with conservator Debra Bede, the flag of the 26th Wisconsin was reconstructed. The WVM staff examined other Wisconsin second issue regimental flags from the same period and photographs of the state seal were provided to Ms. Bede who contracted with an artist to recreate the center portion of the flag. She then mounted the fragments and new seal on a piece of silk approximating the original dimensions of the flag.

The completed flag was unveiled for the family of Jacob Stauff in November 2001. Usually a flag in this advanced state of deterioration would not be salvaged. It was possible because of the availability of similar flags from the same time period and primarily because of the ongoing support and patience of the Stauff-Kadlec family.

By William Brewster

Book Project & Wisconsin Veterans Museum Team Up

The Ozaukee County Veterans Book Project and the Wisconsin Veterans Museum are cooperating in efforts to preserve stories and materials of Ozaukee County veterans. Peggy Potter, wife of Wayland Potter (page 87), first alerted museum archivist Gayle Martinson of the recent publication of *Back from Duty*. Martinson immediately called Laurie Arendt, Ozaukee Project Coordinator, and the two agreed on a cooperative effort to preserve the history of veterans in Ozaukee County.

The taped interviews from *Back from Duty* were donated to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum for preservation in November. The museum is supplying all the blank audio tapes for the second book. "The audio interviews from the second book will also be donated to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum," says Laurie Arendt. "This will ensure that the tapes are preserved and kept in the state, where they will be more available to teachers, school children, and college students."

Another part of the cooperative effort is encouraging Ozaukee County veterans to donate their military service materials to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. The museum is interested in letters (received or sent), diaries or journals, photographs, scrapbooks, military manuals, maps, posters, and military objects and souvenirs, as these fulfill the museum's mission and are important legacies to the service and sacrifice of Wisconsin veterans.

The research center is committed to preserving and encouraging use of historical materials, which provide research potential and insights into the role of Wisconsin citizens in military activities. Its collections include a military history library and an archives that contains manuscript collections, oral history interviews, photographs, maps, and posters pertaining to individual Wisconsin veterans, Wisconsin veterans organizations, and the Wisconsin National Guard. **Ozaukee County's Veterans Share Their Stories**



Veterans' stories as told to Ozaukee County students

Edited by Laurie Arendt

"First" and "next" book veterans may contact Gayle Martinson, Archives Collections Manager of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, to discuss donation of their materials. She will gladly answer any questions and provide information about archival donation. Contact Information: Gayle Martinson, Archives Collections Manager Phone: 608-261-0536 gayle.martinson@dva.state.wi.us

By Gayle Martinson

Contact the Wisconsin Veterans Museum at 608.267.1795

Wisconsin National Guard Materials at Research Center

n December 2001 the Wisconsin Veterans Museum began transferring materials from the Wisconsin National Guard Museum at Volk Field to its facilities in Madison. When completed, the amount of materials transferred to the WVM Research Center will exceed 500 linear feet of papers. photographs, and maps along with over 2,000 books. The transferred materials. which deal almost exclusively with the Wisconsin Army and Air National Guards. represent a significant addition to the current holdings of the WVM Research Center. They also arrived just in time for the grand opening of the Wisconsin National Guard Gallery in the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center, which took place on Veterans Day, November 11, 2002.

In 1996 members of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) and the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs (WDMA) began discussing the possibility of consolidating the museum in Volk Field with the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. Over four years, the WDVA and WDMA hammered out the details of a formal agreement, which was signed in 2000. Part of the agreement stipulated that the WVM Research Center, which had been located in the basement, would be moved to a state-of-the-art facility on the third floor of the building. Included in the new Research Center is an exhibit gallery where artifacts. photographs, and manuscripts documenting the history and development of the Wisconsin National Guard are featured.

The final result of all of these actions will be the greatly increased ability of the WVM Research Center to educate the public about the citizen-soldiers of the Wisconsin National Guard. Reference archivist Carrie Bohman, commenting upon the value of the materials being transferred from Volk



National Guard

Field, stated, "This will prove to be an extremely beneficial archival collection regarding the history of the Wisconsin National Guard from its beginnings through the present." She pointed out that she will be able to use the Volk Field materials to better answer the many reference requests she receives regarding the 32nd (Red Arrow) Division and the Wisconsin National Guard, and that patrons visiting the Research Center will be able to access the wealth of information contained therein.

Among the highlights of the Volk Field materials are the papers of General Robert B. McCoy. McCoy served in the Wisconsin National Guard (WNG) during the Spanish-American War and, upon returning to Wisconsin, worked diligently to improve both the marksmanship and organization of the WNG. He served again during the Mexican Border War, and fought in Europe as an officer in the 32nd Division during World War I. McCoy received the Distinguished Service Medal and the French Croix de Guerre for his service. In 1919, he was commissioned a brigadier general, and he spent the rest of his life involved with the Wisconsin National Guard and 32nd Division. He died in January 1926, and less than ten months later the military reservation near Sparta, Wisconsin was renamed Camp McCoy in his honor. McCov's papers include correspondence, strategic orders issued in Europe during World War I, photographs, and other military papers.

The Robert B. McCoy Papers, along with the papers of many other prominent individuals and organizations within the Wisconsin National Guard, are available to researchers at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center. Its open hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. In addition, the Research Center is always seeking to add to the depth of its collections through donations. If you or someone you know has letters, diaries, photographs, or other papers relating to the Wisconsin National Guard, the Red Arrow Division, service in any American war, or involvement in any veterans organization, and would like to consider donating them, please contact archives collection manager Gayle Martinson at 608.261.0536 or mail to: gayle.martinson@dva.state.wi.us

by Russell Horton

RESEARCH CENTER

Opportunities at the Museum Research Center

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for individuals interested in military history and preserving the history of Wisconsin Veterans. Library / Archives Assistant to work with Archives staff on several ongoing projects:

Transcription of oral history interviews:

Skills: Prefer volunteer with related work experience; medical transcriptionist, court reporter or secretarial background. Ease with computer word processing.

Develop databases for photograph collections: Skills: Ease with computers and keyboarding with attention to accuracy and detail.

Work with library collection:

Skills: Attention to detail and interest in books.

Database entry and photo scanning:

Skills: Assist in data entry for two ongoing projects, the Wisconsín Veterans Memorial database and the Veterans in the Classroom database. Both require attention to detail and computer skills; previous experience scanning photos a plus.

To volunteer or for more information contact: Carrie Bohman at 608.267.1790 or e-mail: Carrie.Bohman@dva.state.wi.us

Thank you very much for your interest in the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center.



Students from Darien-Delavan High School read through individual veteran collections in the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center.

he Wisconsin Veterans Museum's mission is to affirm, commemorate, and acknowledge the achievements and sacrifices of Wisconsin veterans in America's military past. With that same mission, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center, located on the third floor of the museum is working to extend those objectives through various educational programs for Wisconsin teachers and their students. Educational outreach to Wisconsin's academic community is accomplished through the museum's participation at both the annual conferences for the Wisconsin Educational Association Council and the Wisconsin Council for the Social Studies. At both venues, teachers can learn about the rich primary and secondary resources available in the Research Center. Moreover. there are formal programs available through the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and the Curator of Visitor Services at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

A formal program includes the Veterans in the Classroom project that was part of

Wisconsin's State Budget Act 16 enacted September 2001. This legislative measure charges both the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and more specifically the Department of Public Instruction to "encourage school boards to invite armed forces veterans to school to discuss their experiences.

Consequently, the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs has asked those Wisconsin veterans willing to speak in their local schools to formally submit their names and military experience information by filling out a form. The Wisconsin veterans name and pertinent information is organized by county in a database. This information can then be consulted when teachers and other educational institutions request to have veteran in their classroom or educational setting to share his or her experiences. More information and the form for submission can be found on the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs website at

http://dva.state.wi.us/Misc_veteransintheclassroom.asp From the Archives continues on ll

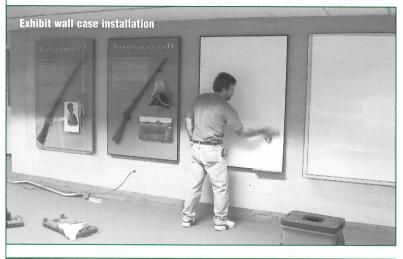
Contact the Wisconsin Veterans Museum at 608.267.1799

Cooperation & Collaboration in Exhibit Development

T hrough a cooperative agreement between the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum has achieved greater visibility by assuming management of the National Guard Museum at Volk Field / Camp Williams. A significant outcome of this cooperation will be the redevelopment of the exhibits at Volk Field. More immediately, the partnership led to the acquisition 5,000 square feet of space on the third floor of the museum's Madison headquarters. Exhibit and space designers transformed the third floor into the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center. The Research Center contains a library, archives, and the Wisconsin National Guard exhibit gallery devoted solely to the history of the Wisconsin National Guard.



The development of the Wisconsin National Guard gallery was truly one of





cooperation and collaboration among the staff of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. Department of Military Affairs, and contracted exhibit designers. There was clear collaboration in terms of exhibit content, exhibit text, and acquiring objects for the display. The exhibit is arranged chronologically with cases highlighting the establishment of Wisconsin's first militia unit in 1837 through the role of the Wisconsin National Guard in more recent operations such as Desert Storm and the response to the

attack on the United States on September 11. As well, there are several cases accentuating important individuals who played prominent roles in the formation of the Wisconsin National Guard, such as Charles King and Maj. Gen. William Haan.

As with all exhibit installations, this one experienced its share of minor crises. The most interesting of these involved the incorrect third floor doorway measurements. It was soon discovered that the display cases were too large to fit in any doorway. After some quick thinking arrangements were made to remove one of the third floor windows and the cases were hoisted up and through by truck and crane, a very interesting sight to see at 7:30am After this, exhibit installation proceeded on schedule. Each installation is a learning experience, and it is always rewarding for all involved to watch years of planning take shape before your eyes. The Wisconsin National Guard gallery opened to the public on November 11, and will an integral part of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center.

by Mary J. Bade

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Thursday, Jan 23 Eye of the Storm: A Civil War Odyssey

Lecture & Book Signing, 7 p.m. Dr. Charles F. Bryan, Jr., CEO & Director Virginia Historical Society Editor, Eye of the Storm: A Civil War Odyssey & Images from the Storm

Bryan will discuss the Virginia Historical Society's unrivaled collection of art and memoir of Private Robert Knox Sneden, Union soldier and Confederate prisoner of war. The collection is the basis for the exhibit "Eye of the Storm", as well as the basis for two books, *Eye of the Storm: A Civil War Odyssey* and *Images from the Storm*. During his presentation, Bryan will describe eyewithess accounts and images from the Civil War diary of Private Sneden. These accounts include Sneden's experiences as a Union mapmaker; capture by men under the command of John Singleton Mosby; and imprisonment in infamous Confederate prisons, including Andersonville.

Thursday, January 30 Pvt. John Gaddis: Civil War Watercolorist

Lecture, 7 p.m. Dr. Dennis K. McDaniel, Retired Curator State Museum of Pennsylvania

McDaniel will discuss the sixteen known Civil War watercolors of Pvt. John Gaddis (12th Wisconsin Infantry), made in 1861, 1862, and 1863. McDaniel will use slides to illustrate fourteen of the artworks. One was made at Camp Randall in Madison, and the others en route with the regiment in Missouri, Kansas, Tennessee and Mississippi. Gaddis was an Irish-born farmer who joined the regiment from his home at Lake Delton, Wisconsin.

Thursday, February L Four Years with the Iron Brigade: The Civil War Journal of William Ray

Lecture & Book signing, 7 p.m. Lance Herdegen, Director, Institute for Civil War Studies at Carroll College

Herdegen will discuss his recently released book, Four Years with the Iron Brigade: The Civil War Journal of William Ray, Company F, Seventh Wisconsin Volunteers. The book is based on 17 journals found in a paper bag in the closet of an Idaho home. The collection of journals is one of the most important primary sources on soldier life in the Union's most famous brigade. Ray, who was wounded at Brawner's Farm, Gettysburg and the Wilderness, recorded everything from the boredom of camp life and long marches to the horrors of battle and sudden death on a distant field. This is the Civil War as seen from the front ranks of a legendary fighting unit.

Thursday, February 13 Storm Clouds Over the Confederacy The Stigma of Andersonville Prison

Lecture & Book signing, 7 p.m. Alan Marsh, Cultural Resources Program Manager, Andersonville National Historic Site

The Wisconsin National Guard & Veterans Resource Center on the museum's third floor at 30 W. Mifflin St. will officially open to the public on Veterans Day. The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is designing an exhibit about the Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard that will be an integral part of the center. In addition, the archival records including publications and photographs of the Wisconsin National Guard have been transferred to the museum's resource center.

continued - from frontline

of Civil War places and events, especially those of Confederate prison camps. "This collection of Civil War soldier art is unrivaled in every respect," remarks Dr. Charles F. Bryan, Jr., CEO and director of the Virginia Historical Society. "Never before have we been invited into the heart and soul of such an important historical event. "As Sneden does through his personal memoir." The collection is also the basis for the best-selling book, *Eye of the Storm: A Civil War Odyssey* (The Free Press, 2000) and *Images from the Storm* (The Free Press, 2001).

ABOUT ROBERT KNOX SNEDEN

Robert Knox Sneden (1832-1918) enlisted in the Army of the Potomac in 1861 and was recruited as a mapmaker. In the dark of the night in 1863, with the cold barrel of a Confederate pistol at his temple. Sneden was captured by men under the command of John Singleton Mosby, "The Gray Ghost." Pistol-whipped and wounded, Sneden was led to prison in Richmond, Virginia. Held in some of the worst and most infamous Confederate prisons, including Andersonville, Sneden continued to document his experience. He hid his dramatic pencil sketches in his shoes or sewed them in his coat so that they would not be stolen by prison guards. His depictions of captivity are disturbing and uncomfortably detailed, showing scenes of starvation, fear, and loss of hope.

Sneden returned to Brooklyn in 1864 to find that he had been declared missing or dead. Permanently disabled by his 13 months in prison, he used his time to turn his pencil sketches into watercolors. Although Sneden drew many of his drawings while he was at the battle, numerous drawings were done after the war was over.

DISCOVERING THE COLLECTION

One afternoon in the fall of 1993, art dealer Robert M. Hicklin, Jr., and a client came to the Virginia Historical Society with something to show James C. Kelly, assistant director for

museums. The visitors opened a suitcase and it took little time for Kelly to realize the contents were extraordinary. He went across the hall to bring in the Historical Society's director, Charles Bryan. They watched as one of the men began turning the leaves of the albums. They were stunned to see page after page of detailed watercolor sketches and intricate, hand-drawn maps. In all, the four albums contained a remarkable collection of more than 400 images, most of which portrayed Civil War battles and Confederate prison camps. Thanks to the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd D. Gottwald, Jr., of Richmond, the Sneden images were purchased and are now one of the premier treasures in the Virginia Historical Society's collections.

Kelly began searching for information about Sneden. He discovered that a few of the watercolors had been engraved for the monumental series, Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, published by the Century Company in the 1880s. Sneden had contributed three dozen images to the series: then he and his collection dropped from sight. The Virginia Historical Society thought it had found all the missing Sneden collection, but the real surprise came three years later, when Kelly's research led him to a Sneden descendant who owned another collection consisting of the 5,000 page diary and approximately 500 additional watercolors and maps. A second gift from the Gottwald's allowed the Historical Society to acquire this collection as well, which is the basis for the current exhibition.



continued - from reseach center

or by contacting; Carrie Bohman, Reference Archivist at 608.267.1790.

As the Reference Archivist at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, I receive many phone calls and inquiries from teachers throughout the state looking for veterans who can come into their classrooms. I recently assisted a middle school teacher from the Milwaukee County area into getting several veterans in her classroom for Veterans Day. The next day, I received a report back from the teacher that having the veterans visit with her students was a huge success. There was a definite exchange between both the students and veterans: as the students learned about the contributions of these individual veterans and honored them for their sacrifices.

Other educational opportunities available through the Research Center include scheduling a visit by individual teachers and their students to the Research Center to use primary source documents, the military history research library, and the oral history collection. Experience using primary source documents such as original letters and diaries, photographs, maps, and oral history interviews is usually not made available to students until they are in the later part of high school. As a former social studies teacher and archivist, I want to assist teachers and their students in having the experience of using primary source materials long before that point in time.

This past May, 50 students from an advanced history class at Darien-Delavan High School came to the Research Center and utilized individual veteran collections from the Civil War through the Persian Gulf War. The students had completed their academic study of the dates, facts and history. However, students reading individual veteran's of either letters, military orders, and any other documentation of their military service, were able to understand more about each specific war through the eyes of particular veterans. This experience with primary source documents was a first for the vast majority of the students. At the end of their personal review of the materials, I had the students share what was included in their collection and the students were able to compare and contrast what was found in each collection. The discussion ran the gamut from the difference in communications, to cursive hand writing and e-mail, how much detail was written about, who was being written to, and how future veterans and their military service would be documented.

The students filled out response sheets while reading through their collection. Several comments regarding the veteran's letters or documentation included the following, "These letters demonstrate the relationships that occurred between the common soldiers..it is almost a different part of the war - the human perspective". Another student responded, "I understand how the war affected family and friends of this soldier..shows the war from back home." Overall, the students found this experience with primary sources beneficial to their understanding of each war. Trina Portugal, instructor of the history class states, "This exercise enhanced their knowledge of military history - it illuminated the concept of 'conflict' as explored in the advanced placement curriculum and provided a human element to our study." Along with utilizing the Research Center, the students were given guided tours through the Wisconsin Veterans Museum galleries with veteran docents

I am open to future visits from other teachers along with their students. I will gladly coordinate such visits and primary source exercises with teachers. Future plans also include preparing primary source curriculum packets that will accompany the traveling trunks already being used by teachers for the Civil War, World War I, and World War II. The traveling trunks contain artifacts from the specific wars and simulated primary sources from that war augment the artifacts and expand the students' understanding. Moreover, these primary source curriculum packets would be available to teacher and their students who are unable to travel to Madison and use the collections at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center.

I am very eager and willing to assist any teacher in planning a visit or preparing simulated primary source materials to be used in a lesson. Please contact me at least three weeks in advance to schedule either a visit or a primary source packet to be mailed to your class.

My phone number is 608.267.1790 and e-mail is Carrie.Bohman@dva.state.wi.us.

Such formal projects as the Veterans in the Classroom, class visits to the Research Center, and primary source packets are just a few ways the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center can serve as a resource for Wisconsin teachers and their students. I look forward to working with the teachers and students of Wisconsin in exploring the rich history of our veterans.

by Carrie Bohman



WWII Web site Wisconsinstories.org *launching in March*

Recollections of state World War II veterans will hit the Internet in March and Wisconsin Public Television in May.

A Web site at wisconsinstories.org will start with some veterans' stories and in time will have video and more.

It compliments the upcoming TV project "Wisconsin World War II Stories"

A production of the Wisconsin Historical Society and Wisconsin Public Television in association with the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs.



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tors affecting military success and failure: indus-

trial strength, fighting ability, the quality of leadership, and the moral dimensions of the war.

diagrams in Images from the Storm, his artistic legacy can be appreciated on its own terms an achievement equal in magnitude to his writings, and unsurpassed by any other Civil War soldierartist. Both Eve of the Storm and Images of the

Storm are available at the Museum Store.

best-selling Eye of the Storm in the fall of 2000 first brought his memoir to light, accompanied by a sample of his artwork. With over 300 watercol-

The publication of the

The Civil War legacy of Robert Knox Sneden is an

unparalleled treasure trove of words and pictures.

Edited by Charles F. Bryan, Jr., James C. Kelly,

FROM THE GIFTSHOP

Images from the Storm

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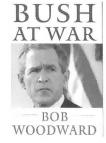
By 1942, Germany controlled almost the entire resources of continental Europe and was poised to move into the Middle East. The Soviet Union had lost the heart of its industry, and the United States

> was not yet armed. In Richard Overy's incisive work, we see exactly how the Allies regained military superiority and why

Overy offers a brilliant analysis of the decisive campaigns. He also

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Bush at War

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Bush at War an unprecedented chronicle of a

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