

THE BUGLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM FOUNDATION

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DISPLACED: EUROPE 1945-46

TRAVELING EXHIBIT

March 1 - June 30, 2004



Displaced children are taught in a school established after World War II. Photo courtesy the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota.

axine Rude served as a photographer for the United States Army in World War II and then for the United Nations organization UNRRA (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration). At the end of World War II she was assigned to Germany to photographically record UNRRA operations. The express purpose of this agency was the repatriation and support of refugees or "displaced persons" who came under Allied control at the war's end. Rude witnessed these events in post-war Europe and

her photographs are a first hand account of the general difficulties of the period - the issue of the search for justice against perpetrators of genocide, and the return to life by Nazi victims. The survivors of the Nazi camps returned to their countries of origin or became "displaced persons."

Rude's photographic equipment was on loan from the Air Force and she worked from a makeshift darkroom set up in the former I.G. Farben chemical complex in Hoechst, a

Frontline - Continued on page 02

The Bugle

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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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.
(April-August only)

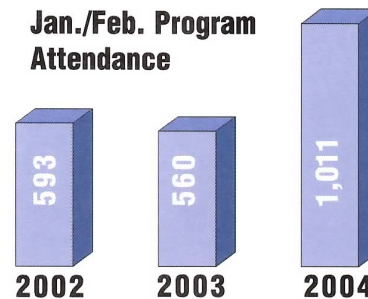
HOLOCAUST PROGRAMS DRAW PARTNERS

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum mounted the temporary exhibit "The Anne Frank Story" in January 2004, and developed a series of educational programs to accompany the display. Using the historical perspective of the Holocaust to examine World War II, the Veterans Museum drew a large audience of new and repeat visitors. Indeed, attendance at the various programs has been nearly at record levels.

Secretary John Scocos, of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, introduced the first program on January 15, where a well attended teacher in-service focused on methods for teaching about the Holocaust. The Madison Concourse Hotel generously assisted with refreshments and other support for the in-service. Subsequent public programs continued attracting sizeable audiences.

It is important to thank the people and organizations who contributed to our effort. John Daly of the Madison Metropolitan School District and Madeline Ura-neck of the Department of Public Instruction assisted with the teacher in-service. The Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission, Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation, and the Pleasant T. Roland Foundation provided some financial support for

Jan./Feb. Program Attendance



the display. Obie Media and Madison Metro Transit helped advertise the programs as did *Isthmus*, *The Capital Times*, *Wisconsin State Journal*, and the *Janesville Gazette Extra*. WTDY, WIBA, WKOW and WISC all broadcast information about the exhibit and programs to wide audiences. Steve Morrison, Michael Rosenblum and the Madison Jewish Community Council publicized the offerings in the *Monthly Reporter*.

Our wide array of partners strengthens the Wisconsin Veterans Museum by cementing its relationship to the community. Future articles will describe additional museum partners.

By Richard H. Zeitlin



Vegetable Garden, Courtesy Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota

German conglomerate of companies that held the total monopoly on chemical production in Nazi Germany. The photographs were created primarily as public information to be used by the print media to create information regarding the scope of the relief efforts. In a time predating television media, the still photo was often used to promote a positive or negative image and sway public opinion accordingly.

This exhibit consists of over 60 framed photographs and several text panels. Although most of the work represented in the exhibit was done in Germany, Maxine Rude traveled to seventeen different countries in Europe for the project. Rude is a native of Viroqua, Wisconsin, and currently lives in Arizona. This traveling exhibit is part of the collection of, and is being circulated by, the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota. It will be on display at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum from March 1 through June 30, 2004.

By Mary J. Bade



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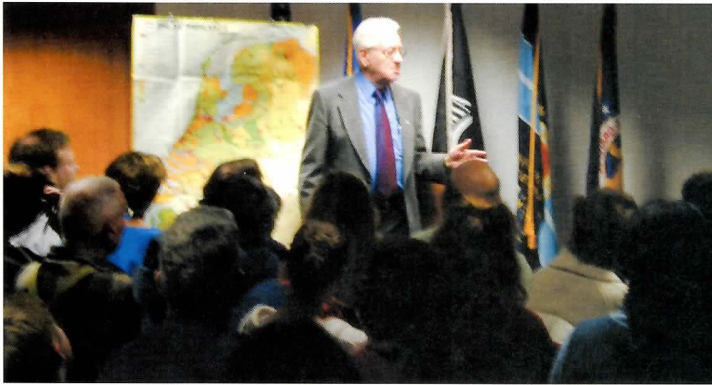
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EXPANDING LEARNING PROGRAMS TO GO STATEWIDE

In December 29, 2003, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum held its first meeting using a new distance learning system. Funding from the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs made it all possible. The new system allows the Museum to connect with schools, museums, and experts from around the state and the nation to broaden educational outreach.



Distance learning equipment will enable WVM to send popular educational programs statewide to reach even larger audiences.

DVD and VHS players, a slide projector, and a plasma screen television.

In the near future, the Museum will use the system to make its programs and collections available over the Internet as an important educational and research tool for students and teachers.

The new system will also save money. On December 29, a teacher from Keshena attended a meeting from the convenience of her local school, saving valuable time and transportation costs. New cameras in the Education Center allowed face to face interaction not available via audio conference. Other new technologies include computer access,

This, of course, requires funding. New lighting, another camera, and editing software are necessary to increase the quality of our recorded programs and get them into the classroom. Interested readers can learn more about the system and related equipment needs by calling Katie Leedle at 608-261-0541 or emailing her at katherine.leedle@dva.state.wi.us.

By Katie Leedle

HISTORY THROUGH A VETERAN'S EYES

WVM TO TRAIN TEACHERS

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is proud to be a presenter at the Wisconsin Council for Social Studies Conference in March. This is an opportunity for the museum to reach out to Social Studies teachers across Wisconsin and inform them of available primary resources.

The presentation, entitled, "History through a Veteran's Eyes," is an overview of programs and services offered by the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. The goal is to give teachers useful historical information about the educational programs that WVM offers.

These programs include: WVM tour information, using veterans in the classroom, hands on resources and upcoming programs.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum's mission is to affirm, commemorate and acknowledge the achievements and sacrifices of Wisconsin veterans in America's military past. We strive to educate the youth of tomorrow through our service to visitors, educational programs and our research center.

This presentation will take place at the Marriott West in Madison on Monday, March 22, 2004 at 2:45 p.m. If you are interested in attending or would like additional information, please contact Jennifer Dahl at (608)264-6086 or email jennifer.dahl@dva.state.wi.us.

By Jennifer R. Dahl

Manuscript Exhibits

The following manuscript exhibits will be on display in the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center, located on the third floor. The exhibits feature materials made available through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

February-March: Helen Bulovsky, a Madison native, served with the Army Nurse Corps during WWI. She treated wounded soldiers in front-line field hospitals where she coped with harsh conditions



Helen Bulovsky

and occasional artillery attacks. This exhibit features the letters she wrote to her family during the war, the diary she kept while overseas, and photographs of her war experiences.

OPEN FOR RESEARCH

NEW VETERANS PAPERS AT WVM

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center (WVM) recently announced the opening of two collections that are very significant to the history of Wisconsin's veterans, specifically those from the 32nd "Red Arrow" Division. The papers of Edward T. Lauer, historian of the 32nd Division, and the records of the American Legion, Department of Wisconsin are now open to the public; their arrangement was made possible by a two-year processing grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). They should be of interest to anyone researching Wisconsin's own 32nd Division or veterans organizations within the state.

Edward T. Lauer Papers (WVM Mss 32)

Lauer, a sanitary squadman during World War I, was very active and prominent in veterans' organizations throughout his life. The largest portion of the collection relates to Lauer's work with three different groups: the 32nd Division Veterans Association, the National *Tuscania* Survivor's Association, and the Red Arrow Club of Milwaukee. These materials document his role as historian and give an idea of the activities of the organizations. The 32nd Division Veterans Association played a large role in the publication of Harold Blakeley's *32nd Infantry Division in World War II*, the *Tuscania* group corresponded with the German U-boat captain who sank their ship, and the Red Arrow Club successfully lobbied to have State Highway 32 dedicated as the Red Arrow 32nd Division Memorial Highway.



Edward T. Lauer

The collection also contains materials relating to Lauer's work in the war industries during World War II, particularly papers and photographs from the Milwaukee Ordnance Plant. Lauer's role as a historian in veterans' organizations led other veterans to entrust him with their primary documents. This collection has military intelligence

documents from both World Wars, including maps, reports, and photographs. Lauer's numerous writings, autobiographical and unit histories, are included along with some unpublished historical writings of others on the World Wars.

American Legion, Dept. of Wisconsin (WVM Mss 16)

State Adjutant Rick Barnett donated over 40 linear feet of materials to WVM in June 1991 on behalf of the Department of Wisconsin. A large portion of the records relate to national and state conventions. On the state level, an almost complete set of proceedings from 1920 to 1948 relate the official activities at the departmental conventions. On the national level, adjutant's letters, bulletins, and programs document the activities that took place. The collection contains the official photographs of the 1941 National Convention in Milwaukee, which largely consist of shots of various posts marching in the parade. Departmental community service projects such as Badger Boys State and American Legion baseball are represented in the records by papers and photographs. The records of local posts are scattered, though the Alonzo Cudworth Post, one of the largest in the nation, and the Jane Delano Post, open only to military nurses, are well represented.

In addition to these materials, the WVM holds the records of many other veterans organizations and the papers and photographs of hundreds of individual veterans, as well as an extensive book, map, and video library. Anyone interested in Wisconsin's military history should visit the Research Center to view our holdings. The Research Center is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and by appointment.

By Russell Horton



Installation of officers at the Alonzo Cudworth Post, Milwaukee

THE BADGE OF CORPORAL CRAVEN

The study of possessions brought home by veterans yields a variety of material, which sometimes includes very unique surprises. Many of the items that survive the ravages of time are small and often go unnoticed. Their diminutive size allows them to be easily lost, even during service, as was the case with the identification tag of William Pease that we examined in the last issue of *The Bugle*. Forgotten in the bottom of a pocket or buried in a drawer or box, these keepsakes, when found, can tell us much about a veteran and their time in service.

When Civil War veterans retired to the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, they were limited in what personal belongings they could bring with them. Living in dormitories, they had little storage and only those precious few mementos that would fit into a limited space could be saved. In time, the veterans passed away, and with them went these few bits of history. Discarded, cleaned out by family and staff, or placed with other such pieces in the basement of the chapel, the survival of these keepsakes was tenuous at best.

In November 1905, William A. Craven, formerly Corporal of the 8th Wisconsin Veteran Volunteer Infantry, began his residence at King. Forty years earlier Craven mustered out of the Old Abe Regiment, having served four years with that famous unit. Renowned for its eagle mascot, the 8th Wisconsin built a distinguished combat record while serving in the Western Theater. When their three-year enlistments ran out in 1864 many of the original members decided to go home, but enough like Craven reenlisted, earning the 8th the right to be called a veteran volunteer regiment. These men earned a distinction beyond that of their brothers who returned to Wisconsin at the end of their initial service.

In early 1865 the 16th Army Corps, of which the 8th Regiment was a part, unofficially adopted a designating badge for the organization. In the stylized form of four bullets with points to the center and named the A.J. Smith cross in honor of the Corps commander, this became the insignia to be worn by all members of the 16th Corps.

Because it was never officially recognized, the badges worn by officers and men were handmade or purchased from commercial sources. Many had their badges personalized, allowing the army badge to also function as an identification tag. Corporal Craven had just such a badge made up and this proud reminder of service accompanied him to King.

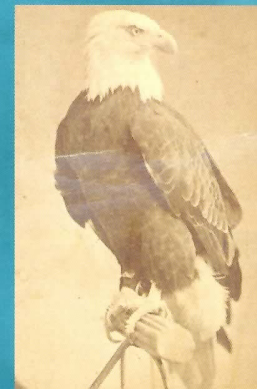
When William Craven died, someone decided to rescue his badge—perhaps intrigued by the delicate design or simply aware of the significance it held for the veteran. Kept in a private residence near the Veterans Home, Corporal Craven's badge went forgotten until its return to King in late 2003. Made of thin sheet silver, the badge stands less than 2 inches in height. The upper portion is in the form of a crescent moon and star, a popular 19th Century motif, with the "A.J. Smith cross" suspended below. Engraved on the moon are the initials W.A.C. and at the middle of the cross, Co.H. 8.R. Almost 140 years after manufacture the badge still serves its purpose. The combination of initials and unit information allowed for easy identification of the original owner. With this information it was a small step to locate William Craven in the enrollment books for King. When Corporal Craven, formerly of Company H 8th Wisconsin Veteran Volunteer Infantry, arrived at the State Veterans Home, the memories of his army days were probably fading. This badge was, and continues to be, a reminder of that service.



16th Army Corps Badge of Corporal William A. Craven, 8th Wisconsin

By William Brewster

Manuscript Exhibits



Old Abe

April-May: Old Abe the war eagle is one of the most popular symbols of the Civil War in Wisconsin. He served with the men of the 8th Wisconsin Infantry during the war, and became a symbol of patriotism afterwards. An exhibit geared toward students will include newspaper articles and photographs, including one that Old Abe signed with a beak print.

June-July: The sometimes overlooked consequences of war are the loved ones left behind. This exhibit focuses on the spouses of those killed while in service. It will coincide with the National Convention of the Gold Star Wives of America, which will be held in Madison, July 6-10. Letters, photographs, and other materials will explore the spouses' experiences.

Upcoming Programs

Thursday, March 18
7 p.m.

**Lala Fishman, Author of
Lala's Story
Defying the Nazi Designs –
Lecture and Book Signing**

Experience the first-hand story of a brave woman's ability to survive. Lala Weintraub was born into a middle-class Jewish family in a religiously and ethnically mixed neighborhood in Poland. When the Nazis came, Lala – who had blond hair and blue eyes – survived by convincing them she was a Christian. Lala's path eventually led to a Displaced Persons camp, where she found a surprising new life.

**Following Lala's Lecture
7:45 p.m.
Rabbi Morris Fishman
Life Reborn**

Discover the determination of Holocaust survivors working to rebuild their lives. Rabbi Morris Fishman served as Field Representative in the Displaced Persons Camps in Germany, organizing cultural and religious programs and schools for the adults and children in his care.

**Thursday, March 25
7 p.m.
Jack DeWitt,
Wisconsin Veteran**

Encounter the concentration camps through the eyes of a liberator. Wisconsin veteran Jack DeWitt will describe his experiences with SS prisoners of war and conditions within Dachau, one of the Nazis' most infamous camps.

FIRST-HAND STORIES PAPERS OPENED FOR RESEARCH

It is often said that absence makes the heart grow fonder.

This can be seen in the correspondence between both married and dating couples when one person is performing military service. This correspondence offers a personal look at the concerns facing couples when one partner is absent, offering a rare glimpse at personal relationships and the

concerns and questions facing couples separated by war. Couples employ a variety of techniques in these writings including pleas, expressions of longing, and humor. Through these methods, couples reassure one another.



Winifred Rubenzer Glass Papers

This type of correspondence is valued by the users of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center. It is shared with academic researchers and school groups who visit the facility and almost always evokes strong emotion. Veterans contemplating donating their letters, photographs, diaries, and other personal papers to the WVM Research Center often remark that these types of letters are too personal to donate and of interest to no one outside the immediate family. However, these materials are some of the most used at the WVM Research Center and writings about relationships during war is a growing research trend. Future generations of family members are also delighted to see these letters preserved and, through the reading, feel connection with their ancestors and take comfort in knowing of the love shared by their family members.

The following collections are just a sample of the types of materials available at the WVM Research Center. Their rich content was recently made available for public use through the funding of a two-year National Historic Publications and Records Commission grant. The grant was received in July of 2003 and, with its help, many invaluable collections are being readied for public access.

Winifred Rubenzer Glass Papers (WVM Mss 437)

"Watch yourself because I don't want to wake up one of these days and have nothing but a fond memory! Just you hang on to those grenades good and tight!" This is the advice from George Glass, a member of the Army Air Corps, to Winifred Glass (nee Rubenzer) who worked at ordnance



plants in Eau Claire (Wis.) and Dixon (Illinois) as a grenade maker. George's letters express his concern for her safety, encouragement for her to go to dances because he has been a poor date, and information about his flight training. There are also hints on their impending

marriage, including George's reassurances that his mother will like Winifred. Winifred was chosen as Miss Victory for an ad campaign and pictures of the ad accompany the collection.

Marjorie Johnson Stewart Papers (Mss 2002.64)

"Darling, I love you more and more each day. I miss you terrible. Darling, nothing will keep us apart after this war is over" writes Mondell Stewart to Marjorie Stewart (nee Johnson). The Stewarts met and were married while both were serving at Freeman Field (Indiana), Marjorie with the Women's Army Corps (WACs) and Mondell was with the



Marjorie Johnson Stewart Papers

Army Air Corps. After Marjorie was discharged due to pregnancy, Mondell was sent to Maxwell Field (Alabama). He wrote daily letters to Marjorie with information about his

military service and expressing his desire for the two of them to be together. Marjorie, who returned to Wisconsin, also wrote daily letters to Mondell. Her letters discuss her loneliness for him, but also express concerns about their baby. She says "I didn't sleep very well last night. I lay here thinking of you and tears kept coming into my eyes whenever I thought of you missing the baby." The correspondence between these two newlyweds illustrates the challenges of beginning a family when one parent is in the military.



Marjorie Johnson Stewart Papers

James Gilbert Papers (WVM Mss 306)

"How I long to be with [sic] you and tell you all the love I have for you. It makes me so happy to be with Mary and so lonesome when I am not." Gilbert, who served with Company I of the 35th Wisconsin Infantry during the Civil War, wrote touching letters to Mary Gilbert (nee Lynch). Two letters were written from James to Mary expressing his desire to see Mary again and his desire for them to be married. The two were married prior to James' Civil War service. He enlisted in February of 1864 and died while at camp in Milwaukee in April of 1864. The letter from Chaplain J.W. Bowen informing Mary of her husband's death is included in the collection.

Aaron C. Krebs Papers (WVM Mss 132)

"I miss you so much. I love you lots! I wish I was with you!" writes Krebs to his then girlfriend Lynn Krebs (nee Oosterhous). Aaron was a weather observer for the Air Force from 1996 to 2001 serving in Europe and during the NATO involvement in Kosovo. This collection contains the couple's correspondence during his service, beginning while they were dating continuing through their engagement and marriage. Letters illustrate the difficulties of long separations, attempts at sharing exciting life events through the mail, and excitement over visits home. Letters also show of the uncertainty of military life, such as Aaron's surprise assignment to Germany about which he says "I know we hadn't planned on this happening, but sometimes life

throws you a curveball. You just have to deal with it as best you can." As his discharge approaches, each letter includes the number of days of separation left.

Annie Henry Haw Papers (WVM Mss 357)

"I can not bear the idea of your going... I do not like to think of this." Annie Henry and George Haw were married in late 1863, the correspondence between them in Annie's collection dates from 1861-1867 documenting their courtship and subsequent married life. George enlisted in the Army despite Annie's protests, she begs him "George dear, do not go, it will not do for all to go, the Indians will come and kill us all." After his enlistment, Annie writes of her longing for a visit: "it seems to me, tonight, almost impossible to wait five or six weeks for a visit... this week has seemed like an age." She describes the worry caused by slow mail delivery, constant prayers for his safety, and how slowly time moves while she waits for his return. George's letters do not match Annie's romantic overtones as he writes of the march from Vicksburg (Mississippi) to Memphis (Tennessee) and his service experience.

Gerald Paul Papers (TR1126 and TR1168)

"I would like to meet you and take you out if you wouldn't mind going out with a crazy Marine," writes Jerry Paul to Pat Paul (nee Schaller). Jerry and Pat began corresponding while Jerry was serving in Vietnam with the Marines, the two became pen pals prior to meeting in person and wrote throughout Jerry's service. They married after his discharge.



Gerald Paul Papers

The letters document nearly their entire courtship and the progression of the relationship can be traced through the tone of the letters. Early letters tell of Jerry's desire to meet Pat and confess his fear he may "develope [sic] foot in mouth disease" upon seeing her. After they meet and Jerry returns to Vietnam, the letters show the change in the relationship. He now writes of his desire to see her again and letters close with "love" rather than "sincerely." The outsides of many envelopes count down the number of days he has left in Vietnam.

These are just a few of the collections at the WVM Research Center that illustrate the communication between couples during military service. The collections mentioned above and many others like them are available for public use from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays, and by appointment.

By Abigail Miller

Upcoming Programs

Thursday, April 1

7 p.m.

Professor Stanley G. Payne
"A Continent on the Move: Displaced Persons & Refugees in Europe after WWII"

Discover the plight of refugees and displaced persons in Europe after WWII. Hundreds of thousands of people were left homeless following the war. Payne will discuss the steps countries took to accommodate the mass movement of people across and out of the continent.

Thursday, April 22

Noon and 4 p.m.

The Long Way Home
Film Showing

See the Academy Award-winning documentary on post-war Europe. Hear the stories of refugees who survived the Holocaust and made often-illegal attempts to get to the Jewish homeland. The film explores how many turned their backs on these people and the events that led to the creation of the State of Israel.

Thursday, April 29

7 p.m.

Felicia Anchor
"In Another Time and Place: A New Life After the Holocaust"

Trace a family's journey from a Displaced Persons camp to America. Felicia Anchor was born within the walls of the infamous concentration camp Bergen Belsen, then a Displaced Persons camp. Anchor will describe life in the camp and her family's hope of a new life far from the horrors of war-torn Europe.

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TALES FROM WWII

COLLECTION FROM WISCONSIN

VETERAN REVEALS OPTIMISM

Often the most interesting aspect of donations that come into the museum is the personal stories behind the materials. Many of the stories illustrate the sacrifices of our men and women in uniform. But, maybe surprisingly, some of the stories bring a smile to your face as well.

Chester Budish of Bayview, Wisconsin, served with the 62nd Field Artillery in Europe during World War II. He took part in the Invasion of Normandy, landing on Omaha Beach on the first day, June 6, 1944.



Eating a donut and coffee France 1943- Chester H. Budish Papers (WVM MSS 545)

He saw some tough things during the war, but some of the items recently donated to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum tell of his upbeat spirit, even in difficult times.

While in Holland in 1944, Chet looked everywhere for a pair of the famous wooden shoes to send home. He was frustrated because he couldn't find a place to buy them. After spotting a passing bicyclist wearing a pair, Chet stopped him to ask where he might buy them. The bicyclist was so eager to help that he gave Chet the pair off his own feet! Chet thanked him while the bicyclist rode away barefoot!



Wooden shoes purchased in Holland

On November 11, 1944, Chet was seriously wounded by friendly fire and was evacuated to France. He soon found himself hanging out of the back of an overcrowded ambu-

lance, stuck in traffic at the foot of the Eiffel tower. Some men might have feared for their life or limbs at that moment, but Chet had something else on his mind. He was an avid collector and never missed an opportunity, so what he really wanted was a souvenir of Paris.



Chet's Eiffel Tower statue

Since they weren't moving anywhere for a while, he asked the ambulance driver to get out and buy him an Eiffel tower statue from a nearby vendor. It wasn't how most people hope to see Paris, but he certainly made the most of it!

Chet's recovery was slow and he was hospitalized for a year and a half. He spent 3 months with his legs joined together for a skin graft, only to learn that it didn't work and would have to be done again. At one point he was told that his leg might have to be amputated because there was no feeling in it. On the morning of the decision the doctor put his hand on Chet's foot and said "If you ever tried to move those toes move them now". He tried with everything he had and, although Chet didn't feel anything, the doctor said "You did it, I felt something, you can keep your leg....".

Chet was given an honorable discharge due to disability in 1946. He became a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8482 in Oak Creek, Wisconsin.

Chet passed away three years ago on February 14, 2001. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn, and many other close friends and family members. We are grateful for the donation made to the museum in his memory and for the wonderful stories that his wife was able to tell us about his military service. The donation is truly a special addition to the museum's collection.

By Kristine Zickuhr

WVVA Partnership

FINAL AIR DATES SET

WISCONSIN WWII STORIES

They're telling the stories of their lives. From the home front to the battle grounds, and from Europe to the Pacific, Wisconsin veterans gave their youth, and even their lives to serve the United States during World War II. Wisconsin World War II Stories has captured the first-hand stories of life during a turbulent time in world history. The project is a partnership with Wisconsin Public Television (WPT), the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA). The Wisconsin Veterans Museum, as part of WDVA, has actively participated in the project by sharing oral histories and other documents to enhance the interviews.

Final Madison area air dates for the program are:

Monday May 3rd: WWII Home Front Stories

Tuesday May 4th: Wisconsin WWII Stories: The Pacific
Both will air at 8 p.m. on Wisconsin Public Television.

By Laura Kocum



Photo by Jim Gill, WPT

Akira Toki is one of several veterans featured in WWII Stories. His papers are available in the WVM Research Center.

GARAND REMEMBERED

The U.S. Rifle Caliber .30 M1, nicknamed the "Garand," after its inventor, John C. Garand, has been referred to by General George S. Patton as "the greatest battle implement ever devised." Garands are on display both in WVM's main galleries and in the National Guard Gallery located in the 3rd floor Research Center.

As early as 1900, the U.S. Army considered the possibility of equipping soldiers with a semi-automatic rifle. Work was slow until 1919, when John Garand was assigned to the project at Springfield Armory. The U.S. Army accepted his rifle design nearly 18 years later, on January 9, 1936. The M1 became the first semi-automatic rifle to be adopted as standard issue by a major military power. This meant that throughout World War II, U.S. infantrymen would be armed with



The Garand on display in WVM's 3rd floor Research Center

the most advanced rifle in the world; giving them a considerable advantage over their opponents who were still armed with older and slower-firing bolt-action designs. This considerable firepower advantage played a key role in the superiority of American armies in all theaters of World War II and Korea, and even into Vietnam.

Total production by Springfield Armory and Winchester in World War II totaled an astounding 4.04 million M1 Rifles, and post-war production by Springfield Armory, International Harvester Co., and Harrington and Richardson added another 1.42 million rifles to the total, making this weapon one of the most-produced small arm designs in history.

Ultimately, the soldiers who utilized the M1's firepower would likely agree with General Patton that the Garand was one of "the greatest battle implements ever devised."

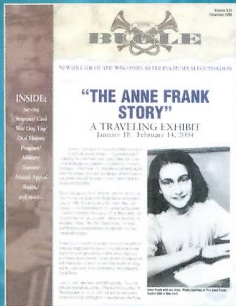
By Jake Hubbard

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THE BERLIN CRISIS

32ND DIVISION REMEMBERED AT NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM



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RESEARCH FOR THE
2004 CEMETERY
TOUR!

The following people will be featured in "Talking Spirits VI: Forest Hill Cemetery Tour." If you have information that will assist researchers at WVM, please call 608-261-0541.

Arthur J. Altmeyer
Helene Monod Cassidy
Elmer & Harold Haugen
Villiers Meloche
Maude & William Middleton
George Mosse
Angel Richardson
Gordon Snykin
Robert Standish Smith
Ifumi Yamamoto

or many years a significant event in the history of the Wisconsin National Guard has been generally overlooked: the 1961 federalization of the 32nd Division in response to "the Berlin Crisis." In August of 1961 the Soviets began construction of the Berlin Wall, dividing the city in Germany and sparking a dramatic rise in tensions between the East and West. As a direct result of the tensions, the 32nd Division was ordered to report to Fort Lewis in Washington State on October 15, 1961. The mission of the 32nd was to begin training to replace the 4th Infantry Division, should they be called into service in Germany.

For Wisconsin, the mobilization meant almost 10,000 men from the 72 units of the Wisconsin National Guard were activated in short order. Many had fewer than 40 days to settle their personal business at home before facing at least one year of federal service, and perhaps war. The Division was reminded of 21 years before, when they were deployed to Louisiana for a year of training that led to a three year role in the war in the Pacific. As then, every corner of Wisconsin felt the impact of this federal call. For nearly a year the Division prepared for a war that thankfully never came.

"The Berlin Crisis," as it came to be known, was quickly overshadowed a few years later by Vietnam and became a relatively unknown sidebar in the history of the Cold War.

The Berlin Crisis will play an important role in the exhibit re-development at the Wisconsin National Guard Museum (Volk Field), not only because it was the last deployment of the 32nd as a Division, but also because of the impact that it had on the lives of many ordinary Wisconsin residents.

The difficult aspect of this display has been the apparent lack of artifacts from this time. Though several thousand members of the Guard participated in this deployment, few artifacts appear to have survived. The early 1960's was a period of change for the National Guard. Old WWII vintage equipment was slowly being

replaced with more modern equipment and uniforms. Tighter budgets for the National Guard throughout the 1960's meant that many of these items were used until worn out. Even so, we have been very fortunate in the past few months to receive two collections that cover the Wisconsin National Guard during this dramatic time of change. The collection of Colonel Russell Sesto, 132nd Signal Battalion commander during the Berlin Crisis, is an amazing time capsule of this event. For the first time we have an almost complete collection of uniforms and equipment from this time period as well as numerous other artifacts from his time at Fort Lewis. The collection of Carl Birk is another remarkable assortment of materials representing the career of an enlisted member of the Division. The majority of items in the collection were actually used in the field



Carl Birk's field jacket is part of an extensive collection donated to WVM

Photo by Matt Piersma

and represent the day to day experience of the average National Guard soldier.

Through these collections, along with period photographs, we will be able to more fully explain this significant event in the history of the Wisconsin National Guard. Few people fully understand the sacrifice of the "Citizen Soldier" during this era, but thanks to the generosity of our donors, we will be able to help educate a new generation that you don't have to fight in a war in order to serve your nation.

By Eric Lent

WVM GIVEN \$28,803

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation is pleased to announce that it has received a generous \$28,803 planned gift from the estate of Nathaniel and Violet Marans. Violet, who passed away in California recently, was a Wisconsin native. Her first husband, Ensign Robert Webster, was also a Wisconsin native. He died while in service to his country in WWII. We are grateful to Violet for honoring her first husband and remembering the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in her will.



WVM Archives

Ensign Robert and Violet Webster

By including the Museum in their estate plans, donors realize tax advantages while helping ensure that the Museum continues to

carry out its important mission of remembering and honoring our courageous veterans.

In addition to simple bequests, there are several other types of planned gifts, each with its own advantages. If you would like more information about the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Honor Society, please request more information from Program Administrators Laura Kocum at (608) 264-7663 or Katie Leedle (608) 261-0541.

By David Malone

Violet and Nathaniel will be recognized posthumously in the Museum's new Honor Society. All friends who notify us they have remembered the Museum with a bequest or other type of planned gift are eligible for membership in the Honor Society (unless they prefer that their gift remain anonymous).

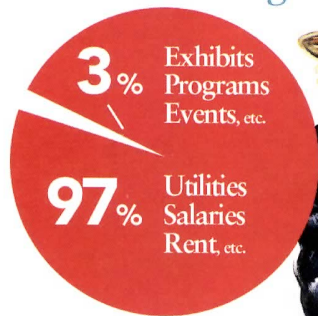
The most common planned gift is a simple bequest. This is placed in a will like the example shown below:

"I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to [charity name and address] the sum of \$_____ for its exempt purposes."

ANNUAL APPEAL REPORT

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation, with the help of Melvin Laird, began the 2003 Annual Appeal last November. Since that time, the Foundation has raised \$12,635.00 to support the museum's educational programs and exhibits. Our goal is \$15,000.00.

Wisconsin Veterans Museum's State Allocated Budget



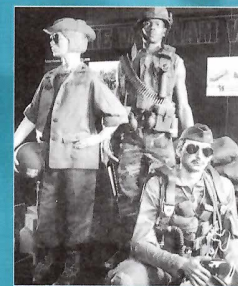
The State Budget covers WVM's overhead expenses, but the WVM Foundation provides the bulk of WVM's budget for changing exhibits and programs.

Exhibits like "The Anne Frank Story" and "Displaced: Europe 1945-46" are made possible through the generosity of WVM Foundation supporters. The accompanying programs are also funded by the Foundation, and have created record-breaking attendance for January and February. The combination of corporate sponsors and individual donors is crucial to the museum's ultimate success as an active and ongoing educational institution.

WVM Foundation thanks all who gave to the 2003 Annual Appeal. A special recognition goes to the new additions to our League of Honor: Phil Brumder (in honor of Dr. Richard H. Zeitlin), and Rosemary Sedlacek (in honor of Allen Goecke). Their names, along with other generous contributors are displayed on the museum's League of Honor Wall in the main galleries.

It's not too late to support the WVM Foundation. Simply clip the side bar on the right and mail your contribution today.

By Laura Kocum



Commemorate Those Who Served

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

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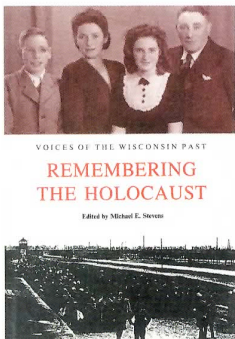
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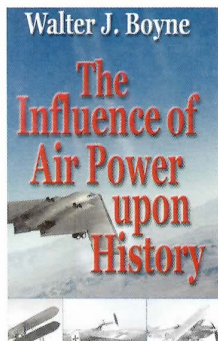
From the Gift Shop



Remembering the Holocaust

Michael E. Stevens
\$12.95
Item: 2102

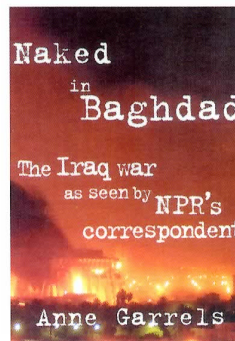
Stevens, Michael E. (ed), *Remembering the Holocaust*, Madison, WI, State Historical Society (1997). This book contains interviews of Holocaust survivors who settled in Wisconsin. They describe the richness and variety of pre-war Jewish life in Europe, the advent of proscriptive laws, arrests and deportation, the unspeakable horrors of the Nazi camps and ultimately the liberation and postwar experiences of the survivors.



The Influence of Air Power on History

Walter J. Boyne
\$29.95
Item: 4024

Boyne, Walter J., *The Influence of Air Power Upon History*, Gretna, LA, Pelican Publishing (2003). Taking Alfred Thayer Mahan's classic work, *The Influence of Sea Power upon History*, as a starting point, the author analyzes how the ability to conduct military, commercial, or humanitarian operation from the air has had far-reaching implications for politics, technology, and mass culture.



Naked in Baghdad

Anne Garrels
\$22.00
Item: 4006

Garrels Anne, *Naked in Baghdad: The Iraq war as seen by NPR's correspondent*, New York, NY, Farrar, Straus and Giroux (2003). Anne Garrels was one of only sixteen American journalists who stayed in Baghdad's now-legendary Palestine Hotel through the invasion of Iraq. Her book gives us a first hand account of recent events with unparalleled vividness and immediacy. *Naked in Baghdad* is an utterly authentic on-the-ground picture of the beginning of the war in Iraq.

The Bugle

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