

THE BUGLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM FOUNDATION

Frontline

REFLECTIONS ON A WAR VIETNAM: 30 YEARS LATER



John C. Roach

One of the many art pieces in "The Vietnam Experience" exhibit open January 17 - May 19.

Throughout 2005, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM) will host a series of programs and events dealing with the longest military conflict in the history of the United States, the Vietnam War. Beginning January 27 with a book signing and lecture by Wisconsin author, Mike O'Connor, "Reflections on a War: The American Experience in Vietnam," will feature lectures by military, political, and cultural historians, as well as first hand accounts of the war from local veterans.

WVM will also host "The Vietnam Experience," a collection of oil paintings from the Naval Historical Center beginning January 17, featuring the work of Navy combat artists. Loaned from the Naval Historical Center in Washington D.C., the exhibit depicts a variety of scenes, from the aircraft carriers on "Yankee Station," to the "brown water" vessels that patrolled Vietnam's inshore waterways and fought alongside the U.S. Army to defeat enemy forces. The exhibit also highlights the non-combat roles of the U.S. Navy in

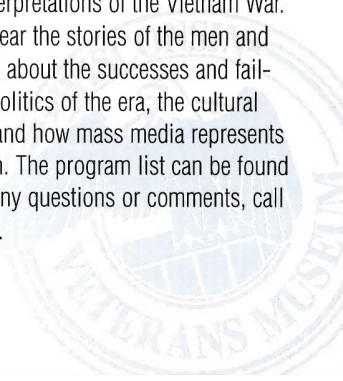
Southeast Asia, including the Seabees' many military engineering projects. The scene depicted in the picture shown above gives a visual sense of the Vietnam War at sea: the colors, the landscape, and adrenaline charged combat actions. This exhibit will be located adjacent to the WVM store until May 2005.

"Reflections on a War" is shaping up to be the most diverse array of programs in the history of WVM, emphasizing a variety of viewpoints and interpretations of the Vietnam War. First and foremost, we will hear the stories of the men and women who served, but also about the successes and failures of military tactics, the politics of the era, the cultural history of the Vietnam War, and how mass media represents the war in film and television. The program list can be found in the margins. If you have any questions or comments, call Jeff Kollath at 608.261.0541.

By Jeff Kollath

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Receives First
Medal of
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Preserving the
Past
and more...



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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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.
(April-September)

Director's Corner

WIMMER-CHURCHILL LECTURE

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum hosted a presentation by Sir Anthony Montague Browne in partnership with the University of Wisconsin Department of History and the Other Other Club as its annual Wimmer-Churchill Lecture program on November 4. Sir Anthony served as Winston Churchill's Private Secretary from 1952 to 1965. His discussion of Churchill's personality and place in history drew a large audience of more than 100 people who attended the program held in the Veterans Museum Education Center, setting a record for a noon time event.



Dr. Richard Zeitlin with Sir Anthony Montague Browne

Charlotte Deleste

Sir Anthony's presentation opened with background information on his own adventuresome life. A pilot in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War, Sir Anthony was shot down during a combat mission in Burma. After the war, he served in the Foreign Office. The capstone of Sir Anthony's career, of course, took place during the thirteen years he worked for Churchill. When Churchill became Prime Minister in 1952, Sir Anthony acted as Private Secretary for matters relating to foreign affairs. A Private Secretary in the British government roughly equates to a chief of staff in the American system. Sir Anthony remained in Churchill's service until his death.

The Madison audience asked many questions about Churchill, both personal and political. Stories of Churchill's relationships with American presidents, including Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, and Kennedy; Soviet dictators like Stalin, and various world leaders provided humor along with keen historical insights. In short, Sir Anthony provided a charming as well as instructive presentation that appealed broadly to the audience's interest in the period of the Second World War and beyond.

By Richard Zeitlin

WVM Outreach

DOLLAR PER MAN

In August 2004, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM) re-kindled the effort to build an endowment fund. To continue preserving the memory of the service and sacrifice of Wisconsin veterans in a period of fiscal constraints and solvency questions, the museum reached out to the veterans' community. WVM requested that individual posts and auxiliaries contribute \$1.00 per member to WVM Foundation.

The donations are allocated towards the building of an endowment (i.e. investment funds) or targeted to support educational programs and exhibits. By building an endowment, the investment income can be used for the operation of the museum and for capital expenditures. To date, more

than \$4,000 has been received. The museum needs the support and assistance of organized veterans if it is to keep moving forward.

For those of you who have contributed to the "Dollar Per Man" fundraising campaign, thank you for your support and service. If you are interested in contributing to this fundraising campaign and WVM, call Jennifer Dahl 608.264.6086.

By Jennifer Dahl



WVM Outreach

LOCATION, LOCATION LOCATION!

Electoral politics dominated American media during 2004, with the culminating event being the election of the President of the United States. As an activity of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, an agency of state government, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM) does not permit political campaign activities to take place in its space. State statutes and departmental rules specifically prohibit campaigning within agencies. Because pundits identified Wisconsin as a battleground state, the amount of general political activity occurring around the state turned out to be substantial.



John Kerry rallies for support in Madison.

Charlotte Deleste

Not surprisingly, WVM, a high profile site in a high profile state and location, received its share of attention.

Moreover, groups opposed to the candidates voiced their positions adjacent to the WVM as well. Senator McCain, for example, attracted a group of detractors. The giant rally for John Kerry, featuring the candidate as well as singer Bruce Springsteen, also drew a vociferous band of Bush supporters. The results of the campaign are now, as they say, history. However, WVM and its location have once again proven to be ideally situated for attracting people to its door. With downtown Madison certain to become an even more appealing destination because of the opening of the new Overture Center and arts district, there is a great likelihood that WVM will continue to receive large numbers of visitors interested in its uniquely informative presentation of the state history.



Bruce Springsteen at Kerry Rally

Charlotte Deleste



Don Heiliger, WDMA Boardmember; Sec. Scocos, & Sen. John McCain

Charlotte Deleste

While campaigning remained outside of the museum, a steady flow of political leaders passed through WVM. Presidential candidate John Kerry visited during February, Senator John McCain took time to view the displays in September, and Senator Feingold's supporters held a rally outside the museum's doorway also in September.



Sen. Russ Feingold rallies outside WVM.

Charlotte Deleste



Protestors meet outside WVM before rally.

Charlotte Deleste

By Richard Zeitlin

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INFORMATION
608.267.1799

<http://museum.dva.state.wi.us>



WVM Outreach

Upcoming Programs

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE VIETNAM WAR
Friday, January 21
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Teachers and library staff will benefit as four Vietnam experts present new ways to teach the Vietnam War in the classroom. That has long been a struggle for some educators, as the conflict still holds its hot-button status nearly 30 years later. The goal of this program is to help teachers incorporate new and varied perspectives in political, social, cultural, and military history of the Vietnam War into classroom activities.

Registration required. Cost is \$50, and includes lunch, handouts and lesson plans. For more information, contact Jeff Kollath at 261.0541 or Jennifer Dahl at 264.6086.

THE MiG KILLERS OF YANKEE STATION
Thursday, January 27
7 p.m.
Lecture and book signing

Local historian Mike O'Connor highlights vignettes from his latest work, *The MiG Killers of Yankee Station*. His work chronicles the air war over North Vietnam using fighter pilots' personal narratives and recently declassified government documents.

(Continued on facing page)

"SPIRITED TOUR"

For the sixth consecutive year, "Talking Spirits: Forest Hill Cemetery Tour" was a resounding success. The weather on Sunday, October 3 was great, and despite competing against the Green Bay Packers, we experienced a marked increase in visitor attendance. This year's tour fea-



Charlotte Deleste

Tourists learn more about "Mr. Social Security."

tured eight vignettes of World War II era individuals. The audience received all of the performers well and the Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM) received nothing but positive comments. "Talking Spirits" was supported in part by a grant from the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission with additional funds from the Madison



Charlotte Deleste

A tour guide talks about Helen Cassidy Monod.

Community Foundation and Overture Foundation. WVM staff would like to thank our many loyal volunteers who helped carry out the program, and the many local businesses that contributed: Big Mike's Super



Charlotte Deleste

Name here portrays George L. Mosse

Subs, Cress Funeral Homes, Glenway Municipal Golf Course, Greenbush Bakery, The Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club, Resurrection Cemetery, Wal-Mart West, and Woodman's West.

By Jeff Kollath

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

A resounding success! That's how this year's "A Tribute to Freedom" Gala can be described. The third time was certainly the charm for the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation's fundraiser. 118 tickets were sold compared to last year's 94. And this year's friendly bidding during the silent auction was certainly more competitive due in part to the four Green Bay Packers v. Detroit Lions game tickets, and two autographed Packers' footballs. More than \$15,000



Ron Giordan

Some Gala Committee members

was raised from the event, however, donations for the gala are still coming in!



Laura Kocum

Milo Flaten, Keynote Speaker

Milo Flaten, the evening's keynote speaker, shared some incredible stories about his "Invasion of Normandy" experience. Guests were

so captivated you could hear a pin drop. A big thank you to all who attended, those who donated to the silent auction, and those who supported this year's event. We look forward to next year's gala being even more successful.

By Charlotte Deleste

WVM Outreach

FOUNDATION GOES ONLINE

www.wvmfoundation.com

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation (WVMF) created its own web-site. WVMF can now solicit and accept online credit card transactions, including donations. The new web-site also provides information on a variety of charitable gift options.

The new web-site is linked to the Veterans Museum's existing state site, but is also independent of the Department of Veterans Affairs. As a private 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable corporation, the Foundation is obligated to make fiscal reports to the Internal Revenue Service as well as the Department of Regulation and Licensing. WVMF is also subject to audit requirements. Therefore, the Foundation must be able to demonstrate that it is a distinct organization and not an



appendage of the agency that governs the operation of the Veterans Museum.

The need for a Foundation web-site has been obvious for some time. Research and legal advice led to the identification of cost effective service providers just in time for the Museum's third annual fund raising Gala. Gala attendees and those seeking to bid on silent auction items were thus able to use credit cards to make donations.

Please take the time to visit WVMF web-site. The address is www.wvmfoundation.com. Readers are encouraged to make donations by using this new service.

By Richard Zeitlin

THE SEASON OF GIVING

The calendar once again reminds us that we are in the season of giving. As many of us enjoy the comforts of home and family, it is appropriate to think of others who may have less. Indeed, some of us have greater material advantages than significant numbers of people around the world, and substantially more than most Americans had in past eras. As a result, Americans typically contribute generously to charitable organizations.

Donations provide assistance to less fortunate people, organizations deemed to be worthwhile, or institutions that provide services. Volunteerism is the dynamic characteristic of charitable giving. Receiving voluntary contributions reflects the value the public places on the people, organizations, or institutions they donate to.

Museums and libraries exemplify educational institutions that are frequently under-funded even during times of prosperity. They survive, and even thrive, by making effective use of limited resources typically derived from govern-

ment appropriations. At this point in time, however, units of government are enmeshed in serious fiscal problems and appropriations are being reduced. Private contributions are avidly being sought to help sustain the activities of these heavily used public institutions.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation raises funds to support the educational programs and exhibits of the Veterans Museum. The Foundation seeks to raise \$175,000 to support public programs and changing exhibits. It is a challenging goal. Please consider making the Wisconsin Veterans Museum a beneficiary of one of your charitable donations. All gifts are tax exempt to the full extent allowed by law, and, more importantly, appreciated to the highest degree.

By Richard Zeitlin



Upcoming Programs (cont'd)

WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE: VETERANS' PERSPECTIVES ON THE MUSIC OF VIETNAM
Thursday, February 17
Noon
Lecture

Drawing on interviews with veterans and the musicians who made the music, Vietnam vet Doug Bradley and UW Professor and music writer Craig Werner will look at the role music played in the lives of Vietnam veterans during and after the war. They will address issues including the differing meanings songs took on in Vietnam and in the U.S.; the interaction of rock, soul and country; and the place of music in veterans' experience after the war.

THE RELUCTANT LIEUTENANT
Thursday, February 24
7 p.m.
Lecture and book signing

Learn what it was like to go through Officer Candidate School (OCS) during the Vietnam era with Dr. Jerry Morton as he recounts tales from his latest work, *The Reluctant Lieutenant*.

(Continued on page 06)

From the Registrar

Upcoming Programs (cont'd)

**PHANTOM FLIGHTS,
BANGKOK NIGHTS**
Thursday, March 3
7 p.m.
Lecture and book
signing

Discover the story of Ed Rasimus, who flew F-105 Thunderchiefs and F-4 Phantoms during the Vietnam War. A veteran of over 250 combat missions and recipient of the Silver Star, five Distinguished Flying Crosses, and the Air Medal with 19 oak leaf clusters, Rasimus recently published his second set of memoirs, *Phantom Flights, Bangkok Nights*, a critical examination at the Linebacker I/II bombing campaigns of 1972.

**MORAL FICTION: THE
IMAGE OF THE
VETERAN IN
SELECTED AMERICAN
FEATURE FILMS –
WORLD WAR II AND
VIETNAM**
Thursday, March 10
7 p.m.
Lecture

Discover the impact of Hollywood's interpretation of the Vietnam War with Dr. Frank Wetta, author of *The Celluloid Wars: A Guide to Film and the American Experience of War*, using film clips and still images from various movies.

DONATING HOW-TO'S

Considering a donation to the Collection of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM)?

Here is a list of commonly asked questions we often encounter regarding artifact donations to WVM. These questions and answers pertain primarily to the donation of objects, such as uniforms, weapons, souvenirs and insignia. Archival donations, generally consisting of papers, photographs and documents are handled slightly differently and any questions regarding those should be addressed to Gayle Martinson at 608.261.0536.

Q. Does the Museum accept everything that is offered?

A. We usually cannot accept objects that are of unidentified origin or are not related to a Wisconsin service person or veteran. In addition, space and financial issues dictate that we carefully consider the physical shape of the object and similarity to items already in our collection. Being selective about donations helps us give each object in our collection the very best care possible.

Q. Can I just drop off my donation?

A. We ask that you call first to discuss your donation and make an appointment. The Curator will discuss your potential donation and make an initial determination whether your donation may be appropriate for our collections. Items that are dropped off without an appointment can't receive the careful consideration that they deserve and often come to us without the proper contact information.

Q. Where do I start?

A. The best way to inquire about a potential donation is by phone or email. To discuss specific items for potential donation please contact Bill Brewster at 608.264.6099 or bill.brewster@dva.state.wi.us. For general questions regarding the donation process please contact Kris Zickuhr at 608.261.6802 or kristine.zickuhr@dva.state.wi.us. If an initial conversation suggests that your donation might be appropriate for the collections, the items will be accepted on a temporary basis and you will be issued a "Temporary Receipt." At that time, you will be asked to indicate if you would like the materials returned if they are not accepted

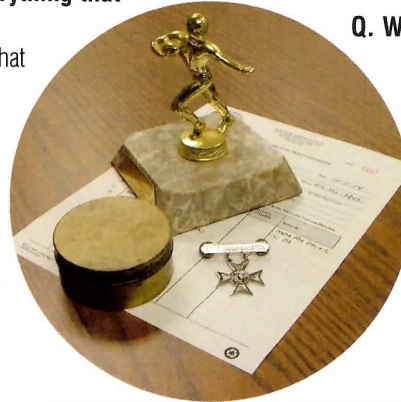
into the permanent collection. The donation will then be reviewed and a decision will be made regarding the suitability of the material for the permanent collection. This process usually takes less than a month, although for larger donations or those that require more extensive research, it can take longer.

Q. What if my donation is not accepted for the permanent collection?

A. If you chose not to have your item(s) returned at the time of donation, your material may be used for the educational collection, possible transfer to other museums or other purposes which benefit the museum.

Q. What is the difference between the permanent collection and the educational collection?

A. Items accepted into the permanent collection are designated for preservation, generally in good physical shape, have a strong connection to a Wisconsin service person or veteran and are fairly unique. These items are handled and processed by trained professionals according to the highest museum standards and are stored and exhibited under secure, controlled conditions.



Kris Zickuhr

Every donation is carefully inventoried on a "Temporary Receipt" form.

The education collection contains objects designated for programs. They're used for tour groups, student classes and tactile learning experiences. Materials in this collection serve an important purpose. However, the fact that they are for hands-on use means they will deteriorate faster and not be permanently preserved.

Q. What will the Museum do with my donation once it is accepted for the permanent collection?

A. We will contact you to obtain your signature on a legally binding "Certificate of Gift." Once it's signed and returned, your material becomes a permanent part of the collection. At that point, your donation will be numbered, cataloged and additionally researched. Eventually it will be given a home in our permanent storage facility, which is carefully secured, monitored and environmentally controlled.

Q. Will my donation be on exhibit?

A. That depends on several factors. A very small percentage of the Museum's collection is on exhibit at any given

Thank You Donors!

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 Myhra, Norm - DAV Chapter 30
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 Sewell, Richard H.
 Shalowitz, Morton
 Sheen, Sharyn L.
 Sheskey, John - Sheskey, Twila Trust
 Sheski, John
 Shively, Neil & Jacqueline
 Sklba, William
 Slane, Dolores E.
 Sloan, Fred & Nancy
 Southwestern Middle School
 Spacesaver Corp.
 Spranger, Myron & Helen
 St. James Congregation
 St. John Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
 St. Mary Parish School
 St. Matthew's Evan. Lutheran Church
 Stein, Leonard & Karen
 Stelzel, Caroline C.
 Stenavich, Walter & Ann
 Stevenson, John W.
 Stone, Robert & Betty
 Taggart, Charles O.
 Tendrup, Lynn & Debra
 Tiedemann, Arthur & Ruth
 Townsend, John & Maria
 Tragni, Frank & Adele
 Traveler's Choice by LCS Coaches
 Trefz, Barbara W.
 Triff, Maxine
 Trinity Lutheran School
 Twin County Chapter No. 34 D.A.V.
 Twin Disc Incorporated
 UAW Local 95
 Udell, Jon G.
 Underkofler, James R.
 United Woman Veterans
 Upper Iowa University
 US Submarine Veterans of WW2
 Van Gorden, Heron
 Vande Zande, Lauren
 Vela, Victor R.
 Veridian Homes, LLC
 Veterans Club Inc.
 VFW Cleary-Krech Post No. 1707
 VFW Greendale Post 10519
 VFW Lake Geneva Post 2373
 VFW McKinney-Tyler-Portwine Post 1945
 VFW Post 11244 - Waunakee Memorial
 VFW Post 5274 - Ladies Auxiliary
 VFW Post 6279 Adams Friendship
 VFW Post 7345
 VFW Ritchie-Bowers-Kohout Post No. 9298
 Vietnam Veterans of America
 Vietnam Veterans of America Lakeshore Ch.
 Vietnam Veterans of America No. 737
 Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.-Chpt. 236
 Wagner, Dennis
 Walther, Robert
 Walworth Co. Genealogical Society
 Warzyn, Willard W.
 Waves National Badger Unit No. 39
 Weber, Nicholas & Susan
 Webster Elementary School
 Webster, PH.D., Stephen & Susan
 Wessel, Richard & Geraldine
 Westlake, David & Sybil
 WI Air Force Academy Parents Assn.
 WI National Guard - 426th Regiment
 Leadership
 WI Vietnam Veterans, Chapter 3
 Wilinski, James & Christine
 Wilkening, Albert & Patricia
 Williams, Wendell G.
 Wimmer & Company
 Wimmer, Betty J.
 Winkel, Mark S.
 Wolfe, Lynne & Perry
 Woodman's Markets
 Wortley, C. Allen & Ardala
 Zeitlin, Richard H.
 Zimmerman, Carl A.

Continued - From the Registrar

time. Due to budget concerns, we are limited in our ability to frequently change out our exhibits. In addition, many objects are not considered for exhibit because they may be damaged by exposure to light and the environment. We cannot guarantee when or if your donation will be exhibited; however, it will receive the best care, ensuring it will be available for the use of future generations. Exhibits are just one way we use our items. The Museum is a public institution, and collections are also available for study by scholars and the interested public.

Q. Will my donation ever be loaned to someone else?

A. Permanent collection objects may be loaned to other museums or institutions, but only for a specified time and only those adhering to high standards of professional museum practice.

Q. Do you take long-term loans?

A. Unless the Museum has a specific need for an exhibit, we are unable to accept long-term loans. As a public agency, we exist to serve the public, not to act as caretakers for an individual's property. In order to properly care for our collections and use them for maximum public benefit, all items must be owned outright by the Museum without restrictions. If you're considering a donation to the Museum's collection, please understand that transfer of ownership is a requirement for donation.

Q. I made a donation to the Museum, but now a family member has shown interest in having the materials. Can I get my donation back?

A. A donation should always be considered permanent and the decision should be made carefully. If a "Certificate of Gift" was signed, the material is considered state property and cannot be transferred back to you. Materials donated with only a "Temporary Receipt" may or may not be eligible for return, depending on the specific written permission that you gave at the time of donation. We will do our best to work with you in any case, but we are bound to follow strict guidelines regarding State property.

Q. Can I take a tax deduction on my donation?

A. Yes, however, we are prohibited from appraising donations. We recommend that you obtain an independent

appraisal. We will work with the appraiser you select and make your donation available for that process.

Q. How will the Museum acknowledge my donation?

A. We will contact you in writing to thank you for your donation and let you know the decision made regarding your materials.

Q. What sort of materials is the Museum currently looking for?

A. While we are grateful to consider all donations to the Museum, right now we are interested in Vietnam and Korean War material, field (as opposed to dress) uniforms, souvenirs, and handsewn insignia. This is not a complete list, so please contact us to discuss your items.

Q. A family member donated material to the Museum. Can I come see the donation?

A. We are always happy to accommodate requests from friends or family members. Just call ahead so we can get details on the donation and make arrangements to have it available. Contact Kris Zickuhr at 608.261.6802 or kristine.zickuhr@dva.state.wi.us.

Q. Why not leave the materials for family members to donate after I'm gone?

A. If you leave the materials for your children or relatives to donate, we may lose the priceless stories and memories that go along with the objects. We urge you to make the donation yourself so the full history of the object can be captured for future generations.

Q. Are materials in the permanent collection maintained in perpetuity?

A. As the name implies, the permanent collection is designed to be permanent. However, consistent with professional museum standards, from time to time materials may need to be removed from the permanent collection. This is usually due to excessive deterioration that cannot be reversed or stabilized. However, the decision is a serious one and objects are not removed from the permanent collection without proper justification and oversight.

We are grateful for the generosity of all of our donors, who have helped make our outstanding collection what it is today!

By Kristine Zickuhr



Every item has a corresponding donor file.

Kris Zickuhr

Exhibit Schedule

WINTER 2005

THE VIETNAM EXPERIENCE January 17 – May 19 First Floor Gallery

The U.S. Navy participated in a wide variety of roles and missions during the Vietnam War. Navy ships provided artillery, aviation, logistic, medical and other support, while fast patrol boats sought to interdict enemy supplies and troop movements. In addition, the Navy Mobile Construction Battalions (Seabees) provided military engineering in support of combat troops while also engaging in civil action projects to improve the lives of Vietnamese civilians. Navy combat artists recorded many of these activities, typically sharing the same dangers as the sailors and Marines they accompanied. This exhibit consists of a mixture of oil, acrylic, and watercolor artwork.

Curator's Chronicle

PRICELESS DONATION

WVM RECEIVES FIRST MEDAL OF HONOR

Support Our Troops
Car Magnet

Now Available at WVM Gift Shop

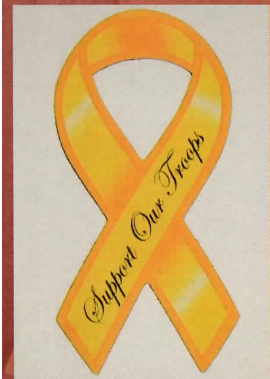
Show your support with this yellow ribbon car magnet.

Other varieties are also available at the gift shop.

Cost is \$5.95 each plus 5.5% tax and \$2.00 shipping. To order, mail payment and request to:

Wisconsin Veterans Museum
Gift Shop
30 West Mifflin Street
Madison, WI 53703

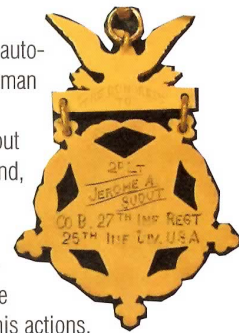
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The Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM) is pleased and honored to announce that on November 8, 2004 it received its first donation of a Medal of Honor. In early October, Marathon County CVSO Scott Berger contacted the Museum on behalf of the family of Lieutenant Jerome A. Sudut, 25th Infantry Division. Lieutenant Sudut's medal, along with other materials relating to his service had been on display in the Marathon County Courthouse. Remodeling resulted in the removal of the exhibit with no plans to have it reinstalled. Following discussions between CVSO Berger and Sudut's sister, Mrs. Diana Heath of Bristol, Tennessee, it was decided that the medal and belongings could best be preserved at WVM.

Sudut re-enlisted and transferred to the Military Police. The beginning of the Korean War found now Sergeant Sudut once again serving in Japan. He volunteered for combat duty and was assigned to the 25th Infantry Division. In July 1951, Sudut received a field commission to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. Two months later, while leading his troops in action in the Iron Triangle, Lieutenant Sudut was mortally wounded. The following is the citation describing the events under which Jerome Sudut received the Medal of Honor.

In September 1951, while assaulting North Korean fortifications, 2nd Lt. Sudut's platoon was pinned down by heavy fire. Proceeding alone, Sudut attacked and silenced the main enemy bunker. Though wounded, he led his platoon in a renewed assault. Again, fire from the re-occupied bunker halted the advance. This time Sudut attacked, accompanied by an automatic rifleman. When the rifleman was killed, Lieutenant Sudut charged the position wiping out the remainder of the enemy and, in the process, receiving a mortal wound. His troops were so inspired they continued the attack overrunning the North Korean positions. For his actions, 2nd Lieutenant Jerome A. Sudut was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.



Wisconsin Veterans Museum Archives

Jerome Sudut was born in Wausau in 1929. He enlisted in 1946, at the age of 16, and became a paratrooper with the 11th Airborne Division. Following service with the Army of Occupation in Japan,

Last known photo of 2nd Lt. Sudut taken at the time of his promotion.

By William Brewster

From the Archives

PRESERVING THE PAST

Conservation Lab Ensures Long Life for Archive Materials

Located on the third floor of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM), the Conservation Lab of WVM Research Center plays an important role in protecting and preserving books, documents, and photographs in the archive collection. Since the Fall of 2003, the Lab has worked in cooperation with Research Center staff to identify "sad" items and develop effective treatments to ensure that these valuable materials will be available to Research Center users for years to come.

Many archive materials have already lived a full life by the time they come to the Research Center; they may have been carried along on travels and military assignments of their original owners, or handed down through the generations of a family. Damage caused by handling, wear and tear, undesirable storage conditions, and just plain old age is common. At the Conservation Lab, the focus is on gently repairing any damage and stabilizing materials to prevent further deterioration, while attempting to retain the original character of the materials and, not least of all, making sure they are still functional and accessible.

The Research Center's collection of Civil War-era books requires the greatest range of conservation treatments. Due to the high acidity of paper produced after 1850, many books from this time are brittle and falling apart. Treatments for these books may be as simple as reattaching a loose page, but more often a combination of procedures is used. It may be necessary to clean pages of dust or mold, for instance, then completely remove the original cover, clean the binding, and create a new cover that incorporates salvaged elements of the old one, such as a title from the spine or an embossed design.

Sometimes a book is so badly deteriorated or unusually shaped that it is beyond treatment. For such books, the best course of action is to create protective enclosures to minimize movement and reduce exposure to the elements. This was the case with a pair of large, bulky After-Action Reports from World War II; the books were in good shape, but their

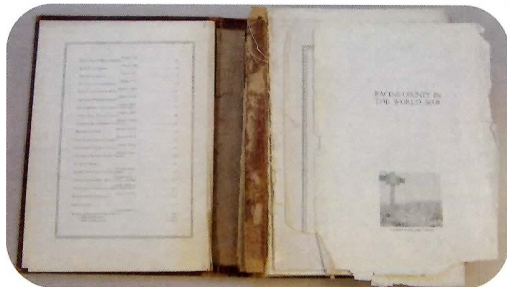
simple bindings were too weak to support the weight of the unwieldy pages. A set of extra-strong clamshell boxes was custom-made to house the books snugly and take the weight off of the thin posts holding them together, making the books much easier to handle.

Documents and photographs also sometimes need special enclosures, and for these the Conservation Lab provides individually tailored clear Mylar sleeves that protect the items while still allowing for full examination. As with books, some flat items undergo a series of treatments. The long, narrow panoramic photographs that were so popular in the military often come to the lab rolled up and must be flattened for a week or longer before they can be stored in a

Mylar sleeve. One small pamphlet, *Reminiscences of the 50th New York Volunteer Engineers*, was a stack of ragged separate pages. The delicate papers were carefully smoothed out, placed in individual Mylar sleeves, and finally housed all together in a rigid cloth-covered folder.

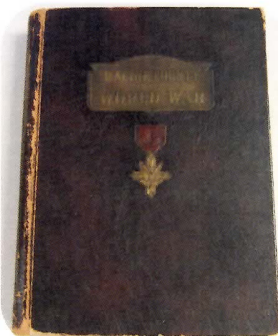
The ultimate goal of the Conservation Lab is the preservation of WVM's unique archive materials. Even a very simple treatment can add many years of life to the special items that have been generously entrusted to the care of the Research Center. Special effort is made to preserve every cracked photograph, autographed endpaper and dog-eared paperback, to assure they will be available to all who wish to use them, and to safeguard the precious legacies they represent. The Conservation Lab proudly works with WVM Research Center to preserve the history contained in these materials, so that they will be around to tell their stories far into the future.

By Angela Andres



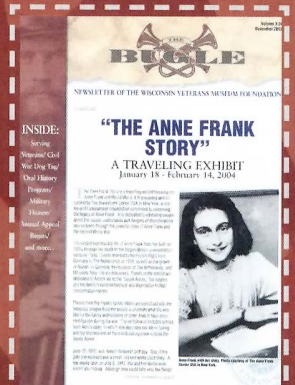
The 1920 book *Racine County in the World War before treatment.*

Angela Andres



After treatment

Angela Andres



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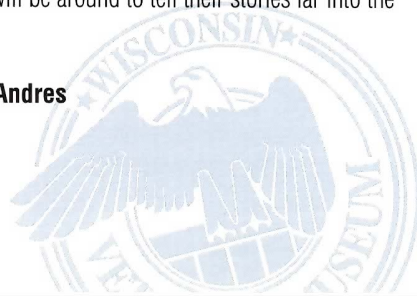
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From the Archives

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BATTLE OF CASINO

PHOTOS SHOW BOMBING OF CITY, RUINED MONASTERY

One of the most pivotal, and controversial, battles in the European Theater during World War II was captured in photographs and on film by Madison-native Lowell Messerschmidt. The battle of Monte Cassino, which lasted more than five months, resulted in a costly Allied victory and the destruction of a 1400-year-old Benedictine

monastery. The photographs and film are part of the Lowell J. Messerschmidt papers, which were arranged through a two-year processing grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Allied forces, seeking to clear the way to Rome, first attacked the Germans entrenched at the city of Cassino in January 1944, but were unable to dislodge them. In February, amid accusations that the Germans had placed artillery observers and weapons in the ancient monastery atop nearby Monte Cassino, Allied bombers were ordered to destroy the building. The decision to bomb the monastery was, and continues to be, very controversial. Two subsequent offensives also failed to rout the Nazi soldiers. Finally, Polish troops broke through and pushed the Germans from their positions in May. All told, the Allied forces suffered more than 25,000 casualties during the five months of fighting.

Messerschmidt, an ambulance driver with the American Field Service (AFS), served in North Africa and Italy from 1943 to 1944.

He arrived at Cassino in time to witness the final stages of the battle, taking pictures and film footage of a bombing run

over the city in the unsuccessful Allied offensive in March. After the German retreat, Messerschmidt visited the site of the ruined monastery, capturing the utter devastation on film. Following the battle of Monte Cassino, he traveled with Allied forces into Rome and Florence before being hospitalized with an illness.

The Lowell Messerschmidt collection contains more than thirty minutes of 16-mm film taken during his time overseas. In addition to the coverage of Cassino and the monastery, there is footage from Rome, Pisa, and many historic places



Ruins of monastery chapel

Lowell Messerschmidt Papers (WVM Mss 675)



Allied bombers descend upon Cassino, March 1944

Lowell Messerschmidt Papers (WVM Mss 675)

throughout Italy and the Middle East. Pope Pius XII can be seen blessing American soldiers who visited the Vatican. The photographs largely mirror the film, but include shots of AFS personnel and equipment. Messerschmidt's diary, passport, discharge papers, and memoirs can also be found in the collection.

In addition to the Messerschmidt materials, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum holds 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 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and by appointment. For more information, please contact Processing Archivist Russ Horton at russell.horton@dva.state.wi.us or 608.266.2320.

By Russ Horton



Lowell J. Messerschmidt, 1944

Lowell Messerschmidt Papers (WVM Mss 675)



From the Gift Shop

CIVIL WAR TINWARE

A soldier's mess gear was an essential part of his equipment. This gear was perhaps the most critical part of a soldier's kit except for his rifle. Tin cups, plates, and various other utensils were made by dipping stamped iron sheets into hot tin. This method created a cheap product which was rust-proof, unbreakable and a good conductor of heat. Since the individual soldier generally bought his own tinware, the styles of tinware could vary from unit to unit, depending on which source they were purchased from. Cup designs, for example, show much variation, ranging from one to two pints in size with many different types of handles.



Tinware Collection

Jake Hubbard

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM) has in its collection many examples of authentic Civil War tinware. Several of these items have been reproduced for reenactors, and are

exact replicas of original pieces used in the Civil War. The original manufacturing method of hot-dipping is used to create the distinctive look that make these reproductions the most authentic tinware replicas available. Reproduced items include a cup used by Lt. Willis P. Clark of Co. K, 13th Wisconsin, a cup from Pvt. Osmore R. Smith, of Co. A, 52nd Massachusetts, a coffee cooler from Cpl. William Small of Co. G, 11th Wisconsin, a Coffee Pot

used by Cpt. Lemuel B. Norton of the U.S. Signal Corps, a boiler and plate carried by Pvt. Edward P. Bridgman of Co. G, 37th Massachusetts, and the famous Confederate issue

Traditional hot-dip tinplating is a six-step process. First, the raw iron plate is purified through heating, scaling, and pickling before the tinplating itself begins. Then, the iron goes through a series of five heated pots. The first pot holds grease, which serves as a flux. The second pot holds the

heated tin, in which the iron is immersed for about an hour. Then the iron plate moves to the wash pot, which contains refined tin and is used to reheat the plate and remove excess tin. The

iron is then scrubbed and momentarily submerged again in hot tin. At this point, a dip into another grease pot ensures an even finish. Finally, the list, which is the area where the iron plate is held during the procedure, is dipped into the list pot to complete the tinplating process.



Boiler

Jake Hubbard

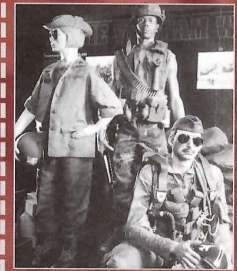


Coffee Pot

Jake Hubbard

drum canteen. WVM is proud to offer these reproductions for sale again through its Museum Store. Anyone who wishes to place an order or request a price list may do so by calling the store at 608.267.1799 or by emailing Giftshop.Manager@dva.state.wi.us.

By Jake Hubbard



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.

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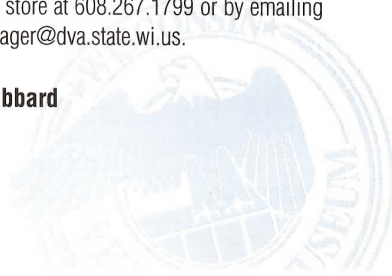
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From the Gift Shop



The Wisconsin Veteran Shirt

This long sleeve denim shirt is designed with the Wisconsin Veteran logo directly above the left breast pocket. It signifies respect for all Wisconsin veterans. **Send form & payment to: WVM Gift Shop, 30 W. Mifflin St., Suite 200, Madison, WI 53703**

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