

NEWSLETTER OF THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM FOUNDATION

Frontline

EVOLVING STYLES

ART INFLUENCES IN REGIMENTAL HISTORIES

he WVM Research Center has a large collection of regimental histories that document America's involvement in war. The pages of these texts record names, dates, and places. Perhaps unnoticed by the typical military history buff, the pages of these books document another type of specialized history—art. Popular art trends decorate the pages of these texts. Not only are war chronologies documented, but a sequential presentation of art periods are well represented in the pages of the regimental histories in the WVM archives

The Arts and Crafts movement, peaking between 1880 and 1910, was shaped by the ideas of art critic and writer John Ruskin and artist William Morris. These men rejected the machine and industrial capitalism as they felt it alienated the artist's ability to naturally create. This period is characterized by naturalistic designs of repeating geometric and floral patterns. In *The Price of Our Heritage*, the pages are headed by illustrations of simplistic lifestyles that mirror the

values central to the Arts and Crafts movement. The rest of the page is bordered by a pattern of leaves; these are interrupted by geometric squares. This book, published in 1919, memorializes deceased members of the 168th Infantry Regiment, but also reflects the valued artistic movement of Arts and Crafts in its decoration.

In the midst of the Arts and Crafts movement, Art Nouveau emerged. This design movement reached its height between 1890 and 1915, fading at the start of World War I. Art Nouveau developed out of the Arts and Crafts movement. Artists attempted to synthesize all arts to create works based on natural forms, these largely organic and feminine inspired, which could be mass produced for a large audience. The cover page of the History of the 90th Division (shown on page 3), published in 1920, is covered in winding organic designs, clearly Art Nouveau-inspired. This book represents Art Nouveau at the close of the movement.

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Toasting to

Veterans

INSIDE:

Honoring a

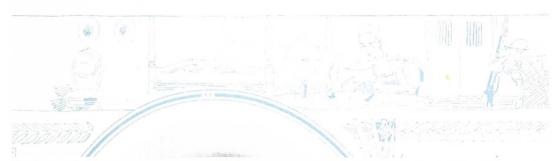
Fallen Hero

3rd Annual Golf Outing

New Collection at Volk Field

Historical Mystery Uncovered

and more...



The Price of Our Heritage provides a perfect example of the Arts and Crafts movement. The sketches of home and the addition of the floral pattern on the bottom emphasize the preferred lifestyles of artists at the time. This and many other artistic works are available at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center.

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**

HONORING OUR MILITARY

IN MEMORY OF CPT. SCHILLER

aptain Rhett W. Schiller of Waterford, age 26, died of wounds received in combat in Balad Ruz, Iraq, as his unit engaged enemy forces with small arms fire. One of seventy-eight Wisconsinites to die in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan as of the end of April, Captain Schiller will be memorialized on the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's League of Honor Wall, with his name on a bronze plaque on the Wall in the entry of the Museum.

Captain Schiller, a graduate of West Point, earned the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, the Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, and graduated from the Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leadership Course as the honor graduate.

He served as the Executive Officer of Troop C, 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, United States Army.

His parents, William and Karla Schiller of Waterford, Wisconsin, received a joint resolution from the Wisconsin Legislature expressing sympathy and sorrow for their loss and honoring Captain Schiller for his dedication and courage.

They visited the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, and chose to

The state of the s

Captain Rhett W. Schiller

make a donation to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation in honor of their son. Not only will Captain Schiller's name be

added to the
League of Honor
Wall, but the
donation made in
his name will be
used to support
programs and
exhibits which
affirm, honor

and commemorate the service and sacrifice of Wisconsin's men and women.

Captain Schiller is the first Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran whose name appears on the League of Honor Wall. The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is proud to recognize Captain Schiller's service by this memorial, and expresses its appreciation for the service and sacrifices of Captain Schiller.

By Dr. Richard H. Zeitlin



Captain Rhett W. Schiller, while serving in Iraq

Courtesy Schiller Fam

Frontline-Continued

The famous Art Deco movement was popular from 1920 to 1940. Unlike many art movements, Art Deco had no politi-

to the close

the close ties between culture and war.

cal or philosophical basis, but was purely decorative. This movement celebrated living in the modern world. Art Deco is visually characterized by geometric designs in the forms of straight parallel lines, zigzags, and chevrons. Several regimental histories from the

covers.

zags, and chevrons.
Several regimental histories from the World War II-era have Art Deco inspired

Above- The 90th Division cover reveals artwork associated with the Art Nouveau movement. Right- Art Deco, as seen in the 102nd Infantry

Division through Germany.

These can be found on [The 85th Infantry Division in WWII,] [With the 102nd Infantry Division through Germany,] and [The Deadeyes: the Story of the 96th Infantry Division.] Art Deco is seen in the bold colors, straight lines, and geometric shapes.

These are just a few examples that track art periods through textual design. The WVM Research Center has many other regimental histories that trace artistic evolution with designs reminiscent of Ancient, Gothic, Baroque, and Pop Art.

It is not surprising that these texts reflect art movements. All periods of art discussed began in Europe. Soldiers on occupation duty were exposed to these trends. Many books were printed in occupied territory as troops waited to be sent home. It is likely that this art had an influence on soldiers who were a part of the publishing process of regimental histories. The representation of art in these books shows

The WVM Research Center encourages those interested in observing the relationship between art and text to visit and view regimental histories. A selection of these books will be on display until the end of August. The entire regimental history collection can be found through the WisCat library catalog. The Research Center is open to the public Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. and by appointment.

By Stephanie Schmale



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www.museum.dva.state.wi.us



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

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

Please send your contributions along with your name and address to:

Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

P.O. Box 2657 Madison, WI 53701-2657

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Address

State:

Zip:

Donation Am

In Honor of

Preserving History

A TOAST TO VETERANS

JUNE SPECIAL EVENT

hat do I have to do for a chance to win two FREE Midwest Airline tickets?

Join us and the Channel 3 Morning News Team as we "Toast to Veterans" at Capital Brewery on Saturday, June 23rd. The event is open to the public and starts at 4:00 p.m.



Enjoy good food and great music as well as meet Channel 3's very own Charlotte Deleste, Rob Starbuck, and Jeff Smith. A film showing of Two Days in October will follow the event at dusk. With a \$20 suggested donation, you will receive an event mug, and have a chance to win two free Midwest Airline tickets, a NEW video iPOD, among other exciting prizes. Winners will be announced at 7 p.m.

Sponsors for the event include Capital Brewery, Greenway Station, Madison Mallards and the Madison Concourse Hotel.

For more information, visit www.wvmfoundation.com under fundraising events or call (608)261-0541. Make a "Toast to Veterans"!

By Jennifer Carlson

TEE TIME AT THE OAKS

3RD ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Register Using the Center Insert

ho's up for some golf? Have some fun and help ensure the continued success of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum by joining us for a four-person scramble at one of golf's choice destinations, *The Oaks Golf Course* on Tuesday, July 17, 2007. Winning best layout and design in 2003, the Oaks features an 18-hole par course with number 18 named "Best Hole" by the Wisconsin State Journal. There will be prizes for the winning teams, opportunities for hole-in-one prizes, a chance to win \$1,500 in a putting contest and a prize drawing. The cost to play is \$125 per individual or \$500 per foursome and includes a golf cart, tee gifts, lunch and dinner.

Those of you who attended last year's golf outing, we are really looking for your support again this year. For those of you who did not get the chance to join us last year...get involved and be a part of this year's success, and have fun doing it!

Sign-up now! Fill out the registration form attached and send it in. Or if you want to pay by credit card, sign-up online at www.wvmfoundation.com. Space is limited. If you

have questions, please contact Jennifer Carlson at (608)264-6086 or email Jennifer.carlson@dva.state.wi.us.

By Jennifer Carlson



Wisconsin National Guard Museum

WWII HOMEFRONT

THE WISCONSIN STATE GUARD

ne of the benefits of working with history is the chance to share with others objects and information that is often overlooked or forgotten. Recently, the Wisconsin National Guard Museum received a donation that opened a door into a little known piece of Wisconsin World War II home front history, the Wisconsin State Guard.

On January 1, 1941 the Wisconsin State Guard was organized. It consisted of three infantry regiments of twelve companies each. It was recognized that while the Wisconsin National Guard was deployed to Louisiana for Federal service there was a need within the state for a temporary military force to fill the void of internal security left by their departure. The State Guard was an all volunteer force. Most members were deferred from active military service due to their occupation, family status or age. By the end of 1941 there were over 2,400 men in the uniform of the Wisconsin State Guard.

Harvey Radey's State Guard uniform reveals unique buttons, patches and other details. The uniform is part of the donation Radey's family made to the Wisconsin National Guard Museum.

One of these men was Harvey Radey of Green Bay Wisconsin. Radey joined the Wisconsin State Guard early and served with Company H, 1st Infantry Brigade based out of his home town. He rose in rank to Sergeant, attended weekly drills and summer camps and quietly performed many of the tasks these "home front warriors" were asked to do to ensure the safety and security of their fellow citizens. By 1947 with the return of the Wisconsin National Guard to the state, Sergeant Radey and his fellow State Guardsmen put away their uniforms and quietly left this aspect of State service behind. Overshadowed by greater events, their service was mostly forgotten.

Fortunately his service wasn't forgotten. In 2006 Harvey Radey's wife and son donated his uniforms and several pictures to us. This donation has proven to be one of the most complete and unique collections of the typical uniforms worn by the average Wisconsin State

Guardsmen during World War II. The collections

II. The collection includes both the summer and winter service uniforms and accessories showing the mix of both old and new items often received by the men of these small units. Though military in nature, the State Guard was to remain distinct from the Army. Subtle differences throughout items in this collection bring this to light, differences such as the buttons with the

Wisconsin State Seal, the unique Wisconsin State Guard Badger patch, Wisconsin State Guard service ribbon, and even the manufacturer's tag show the uniqueness of this organization.

All donations open a door to the past, many times with surprises. The Wisconsin State Guard did play a minor part in one of the greatest events in modern history but it should not be overlooked. Thanks to this and other donations, the contributions of our citizens like Harvey Radey will not be forgotten.

By Eric Lent



The Bugle 30 W. Mifflin St., Ste. 200 Madison, WI 53703

Name:

Address:

City:

Program Schedule

SUMMER 2007

FRIENDS DON'T QUIT: A TRUE STORY OF LOVE AND LOYALTY IN WARTIME GERMANY

Friday, June 8, 2007 – Noon

Arthur Rathburn discusses his latest book, and explores life in Germany during WWII. A book signing will follow his presentation.

FLING-WING SOLDIERS: THE ARMY AVIATOR IN VIETNAM

Friday, June 15, 2007 -Noon

Vietnam veteran and author Wayne Mutza will discuss aviation during the Vietnam War. A book signing will follow his presentation.

ARCHIVISTS' FAVORITE PICKS

WVM Archivists will show some their personal favorites from the archives and library.

Tuesday, July 10, 2007 – 11 a.m. (Posters, Maps & Photos)

Tuesday, July 24, 2007 – 11 a.m. (Letters, Diaries & Photos)

All programs are free and open to the public. For more information go to www.wvmfoundation.com.

Curator's Corner

CORPORAL MOUL'S BRASS PLATE

CROSS-CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

ne of the most interesting and rewarding aspects of working in the Collections Department at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum is researching the objects it receives from donors. Considerable time and effort is made connecting the objects to the people, places, and events of the past. Yet, often times, gaps appear in the historical

record for any number of reasons, such as the object is foreign, or no

informa-



The brass plate Corporal Moul found contains inscriptions in at least four, maybe five distinct languages. A language expert helped WVM learn more about the plate's origin.

tion was provided by the donor. When mysteries like these arise, it is up to the Museum cataloger to truly become a detective of history.

One such mystery recently cropped up with an object donated to the WVM by the family of Corporal David J. Moul, a United States Marine Corps pilot who fought in the Pacific Theater during World War II. While serving in the Solomon Islands in 1943, Cpl. Moul discovered a small, strange rectangular brass plate with four to five distinct languages stamped into it among the wreckage of a downed Japanese Zero.

Cpl. Moul included a brief description of how he found the brass plate; however, with nothing else to go on, it proved baffling to Museum staff. The languages all appeared to consist of Asiatic characters, with one almost certain to be Japanese given the plate's origin. Yet, why would there be multiple languages on an object potentially carried by a Japanese aircraft pilot? It did not make sense that the object would have been a standard part or label within the plane. Theories about the plate circulated throughout the department. Could it be a religious artifact? Perhaps the plate was a phrase or sign to be used in case of emergency. Maybe it was some kind of instruction. In any case, the difficulty lay in our inability to read the miniature foreign script

stamped into the brass.

In an effort to decipher the characters, the Collections
Department made the decision to forward a photograph of
Cpl. Moul's plate to the estimable Steven Ridgely, Associate
Professor of Japanese at the University of Wisconsin.

Returning the Museum's request within days, Dr. Ridgely provided the crucial link to solving our mystery, turning up a bizarre story

about the plate's origins. The text was indeed written in Japanese, as well as Chinese, Thai, and possibly even Malaysian. Moreover, Ridgley determined that the object was in fact a label, which, when translated, stated, "This is a genuine Primus made by B.A. Hjorth & Co. of Stockholm, Sweden." An internet search of the phrase provided the information the Museum was seeking.

Founded in 1889, B.A. Hjorth & Co. manufactured, among other products, portable stoves. The Primus was its best selling model. An export-oriented business, B.A. Hjorth marketed their merchandise worldwide, with the Primus becoming a household name in many regions of the globe throughout the 1920s and 30s. Given their high level of distribution across Asia, the company tended to label the Primus unit with numerous languages so as to make standardization, production, and sale easier within a diverse market. Hence the brass plate.

With the mystery of the plate's purpose and origin finally put to rest, all that was left was tying it to Cpl. Moul's original discovery. In all likelihood, the Japanese pilot of the downed Zero had purchased one of B.A. Hjorth's popular Primus stoves and, for whatever reason, had carried it with him onto the aircraft. When the plane crashed, the label came loose, ultimately providing an American Marine with

Continued-Curator's Corner

an unusual, albeit intriguing object.

The WVM is committed to discovering historical and cultural connections made by items in the museum's collections and archives. Mysteries like Cpl. David J. Moul's plate reveal how a singular object can at once be so insignificant and yet connect people, places, and events across time and even the globe.

By Peter Kraemer





The original label for the Primus unit was located by searching the spiritburner.com website, a site which documents the history of camp stoves. It is reprinted here with permission. This label was on the box of each Primus sold during the time Corporal Moul found the plate.

Program Schedule

RE-ENACTORS IN THE MUSEUM GALLERY

Friday, July 13, 2007 Civil War AND Friday, August 3, 2007 WWII 10 a.m. - Children's craft activity

11 a.m. - Meet re-enactors and learn how their work preserves history

7 WEEKS, 7 WARS, 7 OBJECTS: TREASURES FROM THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM'S COLLECTION

Thursdays in June & July

11 a.m. - ages 10 to adult

From the Civil War through both Iraq Wars, view previously unseen treasures from our collection. This is as close to a behind the scenes tour as you can get! Younger visitors will be able to try on items from our study collection. For a detailed schedule, please see our websites.

June 7 – Civil War June 14 – Span.-Amer. Wa June 21 – World War I June 28 – World War II July 12 – Korean War July 19 – Vietnam War July 26 – Irag Wars

All programs are free and open to the public. For more information go to www.wvmfoundation.com.

Courtesy of www.spiritburner.com

From the Gift Shop



SHOW YOUR PRIDE WITH "ROSIE THE RIVETER"

Over time, "Rosie the Riveter" has become an icon symbolizing women's strength, determination and ability to do any job. These 100% cotton shirts celebrate this heritage. Choose adult t-shirts, tanks or baby onesies.

To order, clip form and mail payment to: Wisconsin Veterans Museum Gift Shop 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 200 Madison, WI 53703

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The Bugle

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