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ZMMH NEWS

President's Comments by Cliff Moffett

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As the new year dawned, your museum's staff was already preparing for the Zephyrhills Battle for Veterans event, set to take place on November 10th, 11th, and 12th of 2023. The event is promised to be even grander than last year's, which unfortunately had to be canceled due to Hurricane Ian. Make sure to mark these dates on your calendar as you won't want to miss this spectacular event consisting of a parade, displays and battle re-enactments with actual tanks and weapons firing. Meet the professional, World War 2 Armor team that keeps these war machines operational. Further details will be released soon, so keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages for registration and updates.

Your museum has seen significant growth in recent years, with a continuous expansion of exhibits and unique artifacts carefully curated to provide a comprehensive look at military history. Your staff concentrates on accepting artifacts not generally seen at other similar museums. For instance, we recently acquired a hand-made 14' wood model of the HMS Convolvulus, pennant 45. The model, once restored, will be put on temporary display in Zephyrhills City Hall.





It is with a heavy heart that we mourn the passing of Vance Rimes, a dedicated and passionate volunteer at our museum. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran and a former Assistant Supply Officer for the Civil Air Patrol. But he followed his true calling as a Preacher of The Gospel. He Pastored at the North Gate Pentecostal Church of God in Tampa. Vance's unwavering dedication to our mission and his selflessness in giving his time and energy to the museum will be remembered as a shining example of what it means to be a true patriot and hero.

Slow salute.

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ZMMH NEWS

Events

Vietnam Veteran Recognition

An extraordinary "Thanks" to the Daughters of the American Revolution for enacting the DoD recognition ceremony for Vietnam Veterans. The ceremony for Vietnam veterans is an important event to honor and acknowledge the service and sacrifice of these brave men and women who served during the Vietnam War. This ceremony is an opportunity to thank them for their service and to provide them with the recognition and respect they deserve.

The ceremony's highlight is the presentation of a Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin to each veteran in attendance. This pin symbolizes the nation's appreciation and gratitude for their service. The pin features an eagle, a ribbon, and the words "Vietnam War Veteran" inscribed. It is a small but meaningful token of appreciation for the sacrifices made by these brave men and women.



Vietnam Veterans from the James A. Haley VA Hospital

Our **D-Day Remembrance** was held on June 3rd, with various military vehicles and personal artifacts on display.



Opening ceremonies were led off with the Star Spangled Banner sung by retired Marine Sergeant Rod Rehrig as an original 48-star flag was raised. A detailed description of various weapons was provided by Chris Heesh followed by live firings.

Lecture Series

A new venture to increase our educational value begins July 15th with a lecture on Tanks in Ukraine led by our esteemed volunteer Ray Pawlicki. Ray's background and qualifications stem from a career in ordnance and tank design and development. Future series include American WWII Weapons by Greg Benton, Army Air Services by Ted Johnson, and WWII Vehicles by Cliff Moffett. You don't want to miss these lectures from these aficionados.

Museum Calendar

July 2023	August 2023	September 2023
Jul 1 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Aug 3 — Board Meeting — 11:00 AM	Sep 2 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Jul 6 — Board Meeting —11:00 AM	Aug 5 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Sep 6 — Board Meeting — 11:00 AM
Jul 8 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Aug 12 —Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Sep 9 — 9/11 Remembrance Event
Jul 15 — Lecture Series — 12:30 PM	Aug 19 — Lecture Series — 12:30 PM	Sep 16 — Lecture Series — 12:30 PM
Jul 22 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Aug 26 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Sep 23 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Jul 29 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	***CHECK ZMMH.ORG FOR LECTURE SERIES INFORMATION***	Sep 30 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM



ZMMH NEWS

Patton Takes Over, 6 Shooter and all

(By the United Press, 1943)

An advanced American base in Central Tunisia, March 18th--- With a pearl handled six-shooter strapped to his waist and with impartial curses for Hitler and any American soldier he thinks is shirking, Old Blood and Guts is up to his neck today in his favorite occupation, fighting. Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., has taken over command in this sector. His men just pitched the Germans our of Gafsa and "Old Blood and Guts" – everybody in the army below the rank of lieutenant calls him that-has ordered them to take out after the enemy. Our patrols are in pursuit now. He is wearing his usual uniform for the show. It consists of a steel helmet, a brown leather jacket, an ordinary pair of government issue pants and tank boots. A cowboy model six-shooter swings at his hip and sometimes he wears two of them. He prefers to direct a battle standing up in a light tank so he can get up and down the line quickly.

General Patton is taking this war so seriously that he has given up smoking and drinking until Tunis and Bizerte are captured. He enjoys both a smoke and a drink and is looking forward to both. "I hope that when I enter Tunis somebody meets me with a cigar and a bottle of whisky," he said. (General Patton has been quoted, according to the Associated Press, as saying of his expressed desire to meet German Field Marshall Rommel in individual tank combat: ("The two armies could watch. I'd be in one tank, Rommel in another. I'd shoot at him, he'd shoot at me. If I killed him I'd be champ. If he killed me—well he won't.") General Patton is 57 and the hair fringing his bald spot is turning grey. But he has a fresh complexion and alert eyes of steel blue. Twenty five years ago he was an aid to General Pershing in France and since then he has specialized in mobile warfare, particularly in desolate terrain, until now is recognized as the army's foremost expert on tank fighting.

His favorite fighting man is the private. "The private who is out there getting shot at does most of the work in this war," he says. "He gets damned little credit out of it too. A man can be as ferocious as hell back home on three hot meals a day, but it takes guts to live in a foxhole in the rain eating rations." His attitude toward the common soldier is one of fatherly interest, but he has the most caustic tongue in the army when he is "eating out" an officer who has made a mistake. General Patton's fluent cursing is known throughout the army, and a typical example of it occurred early in the North African campaign. He commanded the task force that occupied Casablanca and ran into the stiffest fighting of any unit. A few days later he went to Allied headquarters and was persuaded to hold a press conference to tell about conditions in his sector. His report consisted of one sentence:

"Everything is God-damned quiet in Casablanca."



ZMMH NEWS

ODDS AND ENDS

AWOL

AWOL officially means absent without leave. To the soldier it means a wolf is on the loose, or after women or liquor. Nobody but a rookie would go AWOL where there are a lot of MPs, for an AWOL is the MP's favorite catch. A soldier never says "A.W.O.L."; it is properly pronounced, in army vernacular, "aywall." If you hear two G.I.s say that a comrade is aywall, it means he is absent without leave, not that he has become feebleminded or "blown his top."

Bar Maid

BAR MAIDS are local girls who date none but officers. They bar men with no bars--- hence their name. The enlisted men has no use for them and vice versa, which makes it lovely for the officers. BAR MAIDS are common in large cities and usually have their cap set for a first lieutenant or a captain. Many of them however, wind up married to a buck private---and love it.

Big Dog

BIG DOG is the name hung on any person who has a lot of rank. To a private a first sergeant is a pretty BIG DOG. To every soldier the Colonel undoubtedly is a BIG DOG. It is rare to find a BIG DOG in a pup tent. A whispered "Here comes the BIG DOG is the signal for every GI in sight to become a model soldier at once.

Bamboo Fleet

Nickname given to what remained of the Philippine Army Air Force after the initial Japanese attacks in December 1941. The Bamboo fleet consisted of four old commercial aircraft that attempted to fly supplies to besieged Batann. The first flight was made by Lieutenant David L. Obert.

Arisan Maru

Japanese transport with 1,790 Filipino and American prisoners-of war on board that was sunk of the coast of China on October 29, 1944. Only five POWs' survived.

Operation Lusty

U.S. Army Air Force effort in June 1945 to capture German scientists who would contribute to the development of U.S. aviation.

July 4, 1944

Date of national salute of 1,100 shells fired at exactly noon by the U.S. Armed forces in Europe. It was the largest national salute in U.S. Army history.

Myrtle

Name of a pet chicken of Lieutenant Glover that jumped with him at Arnhem in September 1944. Myrtle was later killed during the battle.

Community Partners