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ZMMH NEWS

President's Comments by Cliff Moffett

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This continues to be an outstanding year for your Zephyrhills Museum of Military History. We are most proud to be selected by the Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce to receive their Diamond Award for excellence at their annual awards banquet. The award recognizes the best non-profit for the year. We are humbled though as the competition are some of the best in the community.

They consisted of Academy of Spectrum Diversity, Habitat for Humanity East & Central Pasco, Metropolitan Ministries Restored Hope, and Zephyrhills /WC Ministerial Association. They all deserve everyone's support.



Your museum is active in supporting community functions. While volunteers kept the Museum open, I was in downtown Zephyrhills handing out packets of Jelly Belly jellybeans to excited children celebrating Halloween. A huge "THANK YOU" to Jelly Belly, our Community Partner for supplying the jellybeans.

We also need to recognize the Fraternal Order of Eagles as our newest Community Partner. The Eagles provided a very generous check from donations collected during the annual Veterans Day parade.

The Museum provided support to the Military Vehicles Preservation Association (MVPA)in November. This fine organization provided Zephyrhills visitors with an up close and personal view of armored WWII vehicles, operational tanks, hardware, living history, and exhibits. Live firings of the armor shook the surrounding community, but the event was wildly accepted by all. It is hoped this huge, organized occasion will become an annual event.



ZMMH NEWS

Donations & Exhibits

Our president has acquired a Navy Motor Whale boat that will periodically be on display at the museum. Built in 1971, this 26ft double ended boat is powered by a lightweight, 3 cylinder Westerbeke Marine Diesel engine. It is a multipurpose boat used as a captain's gig with a cover over the front. It carried up to twenty two people as a Lifeboat. It could also be used as a tugboat.



It wasn't a fast boat, but it could carry a lot and purportedly, it could not sink.

A new addition to our outdoor display soon will be a Grumman OV-1B Mohawk on loan from the Ken Foote Foundation. The OV-1B Mohawk was developed by the Army as an armed military observation and attack aircraft that was designed for battlefield surveillance and light strike capabilities. It has a twin turboprop configuration and carries two crew members in side-by-side seating.

The Mohawk was intended to operate from short, unimproved runways in support of United States Army maneuver forces. Only 101 of the "B" models were built and equipped with the Side Looking Aerial Radar (SLAR) pod .



Museum Calendar

December 2021

Dec 2 — Board Meeting — 11:00 AM

Dec 4 — Open 10:00 AM to 4 :00 PM

Dec 11 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Dec 18 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Dec 25 — Closed

January 2022

Jan 1 — Closed

Jan 6 — Board Meeting—11:00 AM

Jan 8 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Jan 15 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Jan 22 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Jan 29 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

February 2022

Feb 3 — Board Meeting—11:00 AM

Feb 5 — Open 10:00 AM to 4 :00 PM

Feb 12 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Feb 19 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Feb 26 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

The 80th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor will be remembered at the Museum Saturday, December 4th. This a free event. Re-enactors, multiple WWII military displays with a myriad of military vehicles will be on display. Hours are from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

ZMMH NEWS

Board Members



Vice President Ted Johnson

Ted attended Florida College in Temple Terrace and has proudly served his community for over 47 years in various capacities. He served as a volunteer with the Tri-Community Fire Department, attended the Pasco Police Academy, served as a police officer for Dade City, and the Pasco County Sherriff's Offices. Ted received an award for Valor and Life Saving. His innate historical knowledge has served the museum well since its inception.

We are continuing our synopsis of those folks that run your museum. To repeat, it has often been noted that the museum operates solely by volunteers. The City of Zephyrhills owns the building and pays for utilities, repairs and grounds keeping. Everything else is done by volunteers including personal purchases for displays and exhibit construction. Funds raised through donations go directly to exhibit production. We owe the City of Zephyrhills and the Chamber of Commerce a huge "THANKS" for their support.



Director Greg Benton

A large portion of the exhibits in the museum are on loan or donated by Greg. Over the years he has accumulated an abundance of military memorabilia and we were fortunate that he decided to share it with the public. His inherent knowledge of uniforms and weaponry adds immensely to his value as a docent and director. Greg worked for Tampa Electric for 23 years as an environmental technician.

Legacy Brick Program

The museum has initiated a very successful Legacy Brick Program as a fundraiser. This is an ideal way to permanently memorialize parents, relatives, or friends. Your personalized brick will be featured at the museum flagpole.

Cliff Moffett
U.S. Navy
1983—1992

One does not have to be a military veteran or spouse to obtain an engraved brick. Presently, purchased bricks are on display in the museum and will be placed at the flagpole soon. Applications are available at the museum or may be downloaded from our website at www.zmmh.org.

ZMMH NEWS

Other News



Sgt. Harold Urban

Over the years we have been fortunate to meet individuals that have lived through unimaginable life-threatening situations. Not having experienced that one cannot fully comprehend the feelings of knowing physical harm or death is imminent. Such was the case for Harold Urban, Sgt, US Army (Ret). A WWII veteran, Harold recently visited the museum and told of his Army experiences during WWII.

After training in Texas and several other stops, he was sent by LST to France and became part of the 11th Armored Division of Patton's 3rd Army. He participated in the Battle of the Bulge and was wounded in action for which he received a Purple Heart. He helped liberate a POW camp in Mauthausen, Austria. Harold separated from the Army on December 31, 1945.

Check out our new website! Created and managed by Carson Murray, there is a plethora of information, and exhibit and contact information. You can sign up to volunteer at the museum and sign up to receive this newsletter via email. Stop by www.zmmh.org and let us know your thoughts.

We would like to thank Mr. Wolfe Fite for his very generous donation to the museum and a special "THANK YOU" for the repairs he did on our C-53D. The C-53 needs more tender-loving-care so contact the museum if you would like to help.

Many of you may have seen the comic books that one can get at the museum for a small donation. These are published by Monroe Publications. We recently had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Jay Wertz, Author & Creative Director and Producer of content for all existing media platforms, from feature films for theater audiences to award winning hard-cover books. Mr. Wertz researched and wrote all the content for the comics. For more information about the comics and other literature, swing by their website at monroepublications.com.

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Community Partners

Community Partners are partnership businesses that want to assist the Zephyrhills Museum of Military History by becoming involved in community affairs. Ihaving them on the team with their in-kind support of our functions are effective and is deeply appreciated. We urge our visitors and friends to support them.