September 1, 2021
Volume 1, Issue 2

ZMMH NEWS

President's Comments by Cliff Moffett

Welcome to our second newsletter!! It is our desire to provide you with the latest happenings at the enhanced Zephyrhills Museum of Military History. I'm proud to say we continue to grow. Metrics show we have had visitors from 62 cities throughout Florida! This is incredible since we're only open Saturdays. Certainly, our local events have a bearing on this number but it's obvious the word is out about this fine museum as even the out-of-state visitors continue to grow.

Great news, we have a website!! It's zmmh.org. It can't be much easier than that.

A huge THANK YOU to Carson Murray for making this happen.

The website provides all kinds of information for the Museum. One can sign up to receive this newsletter via email, sign up to volunteer, view brief overviews of the displays, obtain contact information, etc. . One can email each Board officer or director privately. Give the website a try and let us know your recommendations and opinions whether positive or negative.

Security is always an issue with a museum. We have obtained and installed cameras within the Museum which provides a sense of comfort to management. The system allows 24-hour coverage and key individuals can observe activity from home during off-duty hours.

In closing I want to thank our small cadre of dedicated volunteers that give generously of their valuable time to keep your museum open. We couldn't do it without them.

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Announcement

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.

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Donations & Exhibits

A new edition to our displays is an original portable wood distribution desk used during WWII. Our thanks to Mr. Joe Mazzuchelli for this donation.



We continue to change our displays by adding items of interest. We are in the midst of procuring new mannequins to replace the uniform display stands starting in the WWII section. These life-like mannequins are extremely expensive and are paid for though generous donations from our visitors.

The 10th Fighter Squadron display is being reworked and updated with memorabilia coming out of storage. The history of this "local" WWII unit is fascinating as it transitions through various training exercises in Zephyrhills to aerial combat operations flying P-47's in the European Theater supporting the Fiftieth Fighter Bomber group.

Museum Calendar

September 2021

Sept 2 — Board Meeting — 11:00 AM

Sept 4 — Open 10:00 AM to 4 :00 PM

Sept 11 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sept 18 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sept 25 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

October 2021

Oct 2 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Oct 7 — Board Meeting—11:00 AM

Oct 9 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Oct 16 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Oct 23 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Oct 30 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

November 2021

Nov 4— Board Meeting—11:00 AM

Nov 6 — Open 10:00 AM to 4 :00 PM

Nov 12 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Nov 13 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Nov 14— Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Nov 20 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Nov 27 — Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Legacy Brick Program

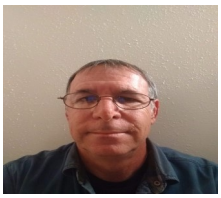
The Museum has initiated a very successful Legacy Brick Program as a Museum fundraiser. This is an ideal way to permanently memorialize parents, relatives, or friends. Your personalized brick will be featured at the Museum flagpole.

Cliff Moffett
U.S. Navy
1983—1992

One also has the opportunity to secure a duplicate brick to display proudly at home or office. One does not have to be a military veteran or spouse to obtain an engraved brick. Applications are available at the Museum or may be downloaded from our website at www.zmmh.org.

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Board Members



President Cliff Moffett

A U.S. Navy veteran, Cliff served from 1983 to 1992 attaining the rank of Petty Officer 3rd Class. His specialty was electronics as he served aboard the USS Dubuque, an LPD and the destroyer USS Edison. After the Navy, Cliff worked for Ball Metal as a machine mechanic/operator. A good portion of the artifacts on display are from Cliff's personal collection.

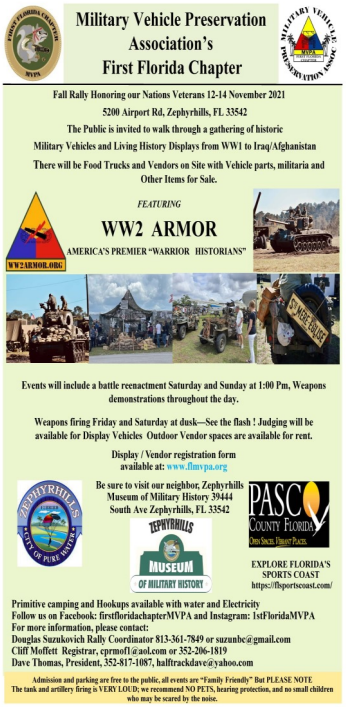
Visitors often ask, "Who's in charge?" Well, in the next several issues, we're going to provide a brief synopsis of who runs this outfit. It's often been noted that the Museum operates solely by volunteers. The City of Zephyrhills owns the building and pays for utilities, repairs and grounds keeping. Everything else is done by volunteers including personal purchases for displays and exhibit construction. Funds raised through donations go directly to exhibit production.



Director Wayne Gibbs

Wayne is a US Navy three tour Vietnam veteran serving from 1965 to1970 attaining the rank of Petty Officer 2nd Class. His Specialty was engine mechanics on river gunboats. He also served aboard the USS Enterprise, USS Gurke and USS King. After the Navy, Wayne worked 30 years as a combustion turbine mechanic for Tampa Electric. Wayne also serves as a docent for the Museum

MVPA Fall Rally



As an indirect supporter of the Zephyrhills Museum of Military History, we are pleased to announce the dates of the annual rally of the First Florida Chapter of Military Vehicle Preservation Association. The rally is being held in November starting on the 12th and running through the 14th. This huge event will have living history re-enactors, scores of military vehicles and equipment on display with live firings of various weapons including 5 tanks. Also on display will be of all types of military arms as well as a treasure trove of military memorabilia for sale or trade by private owners. There will be a WWII re-enactment both Saturday and Sunday at 1:00 PM. The rally will be held in the fields across from the Museum. Admission is free! During this event, the Museum will be open for visitors both Saturday and Sunday. Plan ahead to participate in this very exciting event.



ZMMH NEWS

YANK

The Army Weekly 1944

Over the years we often hear comments concerning American servicemen. So we decided to look back in history and at least try to get a "good" picture of our troops in those days.

Its February 1944 and these Italian girls were asked: "How do you like American soldiers?"

Maria Troyse, 19: "Some are too fresh, others not so bad. Bad ones are bad because they pester girls too much but all of them look good to me."

Yole Sperra, 16: "They are the most wonderful boys I ever see. I love 'em all but one in particular I love the most. I'm going to marry him."

Lili Crovato, 18: "Mama mia, they are excellent soldiers but they do guzzle cognac! Papa smells their breath and only lets me go out with the ones that are sober."

Maria Gemita, 19: Ameicano okey-dokey. They are lovely and perfect gentlemen. My best boy friend has promised me jeep after the war."

Diana Bressy, 22: "Like Americans very, very much because they do not act superior. One boy will send me ticket to America after the war. I think I marry him."

OK, we tried the Italians so now let's try the French girls in Noumea, Caledonia. Its May 1944 and the girls are also asked: "How do you like American Soldiers?"

Raymonde Hill: "Most of them are swell people. Some try a fast job now and then, but I pay no attention. I'll miss them when they leave."

Raymonde Hill: "Most of them are swell people. Some try a fast job now and then, but I pay no attention. I'll miss them when they leave."

Simone Lenaistre: "They are very nice and I am very fond of them."

Loulette Hill: "Some are nice, some are not so nice. They don't even know you but they call you sweetheart."

Andre Courtot: "They are a lot of fun but will cause a lot of heartaches for those local girls who are dumb enough to believe them."

Yvette Hannquin: Most of them are good boys. They're all good if they don't drink too much. I would say they're OK."

Community Partners

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