

MUSEUM ARTIFACTS

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NEW CIVIL WAR RESEARCH AVAILABLE FOR NEW JERSEY

Assistant Curator, Joseph Bilby, has donated *Our Brothers Gone Before* (Longstreet House, 2006), by Robert F. MacAvoy and Charles Eckhardt to the NGMMNJ library. The product of many years of field and archival research, Eckhardt and MacAvoy's two volume work details, for the first time ever, the names and burial places of over 40,000 Civil War soldiers and veterans (Union and Confederate) as well as civilian contributors to the war effort, including nurses, buried in New Jersey. It provides much more than just a list, however, and includes additional information on the lives and service of its subjects when-

ever possible.

One such fascinating historical tidbit is the fact that Union navy veteran, Anton Basting, buried in Jersey City's Holy Name Cemetery in 1915, was the last surviving crewman of the famous ironclad *Monitor*. At the time of his death in 1946, African American veteran George Ashby, who served in the 45th U.S. Colored Infantry and is interred in Allentown, was the state's last living Civil War veteran.

Our Brothers Gone Before provides an invaluable source of information for both scholars and genealogists interested in New Jersey's military in the Civil War era.



Pvt. Timothy E. Shaw, C 43rd U.S. Colored Troops. Buried in Methodist-Episcopal Church Cemetery, Blackwood, NJ.

Museum staff members have already used the information available in its pages to answer queries by visitors and researchers. Volunteer, Bill Paynton has found four of his family members who served in the Civil War listed in volume two.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Annual Governor's Review. Saturday, October 14th.*
- *Annual Museum Board of Trustees meeting. Sunday, October 22.*
- *Essex Troop exhibit at War Memorial.*
- *Intelligent Whale on a sea cruise?*
- *State Archives additions.*
- *Lawrenceville projects.*
- *Ernie Pyle*

IMPORTANT

MESSAGE:

"We need to talk to our peers and make sure they know, understand and are members of this great institution. We need growth in our membership and only you can help make that happen." Please mark your calendar for our annual members meeting on Sunday 22 October at 1000 hours in Lawrenceville.

BG(Ret) William Marshall III

WHO IS WHO? NATIONAL GUARD TRANSFORMATION

The New Jersey National Guard is in the process of transformation, with units being deactivated, moving and changing names. The process is expected to be completed during 2007.

42nd DISCOM is now the 42nd RSG (Regional Sup-

port Group). The DISCOM will be deactivated formally at the Military Review on 14 October. Some new units under the RSG are a water and chemical company and the 350th Finance Detachment.

New units to the 57th

Troop Command are the 218th Law & Order, 328th MP Guard, 508th MP Combat Support and C(-) 1/224th S&S Battalion.

Under the 50th BCT (Brigade Combat Team) some new units are the 50th

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**National Guard Militia
Museum
of New Jersey**

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CW5 Judith E. McCabe
Editor-in-Chief

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT BG (RET) WILLIAM J. MARSHALL III

I want to take this opportunity to offer a welcome home to Colonel Len Luzky and CW5 Judith McCabe. They have just come off active duty and are back working hard in support of the NGMMNJ and the foundation.

In CW5 McCabe's absence there are a number of regulatory issues that need to be addressed and she is working hard on cleaning up that backlog. We've had a prohibition on acquiring artifacts until we

meet the strict accountability required for receiving property. However, we are always interested in memorabilia that has a direct link to New Jersey, the New Jersey National Guard and the Militia. Having made that statement, I want to personally thank Chief McCabe for efforts with reconnecting the Essex Troop with a piece of the unit history. She was contacted by a party from Washington State who had

recovered an Essex Troop saber. The saber was issued to Lt. Charles Heath, a founding member of the troop and one of its first officers. Because of her efforts, we are recovering the saber.

Carol Fowler, Joe Bilby and volunteer staff have done a great job manning museum activities in CW5 McCabe's absence. Now all are busy getting back to normal and catching up on overdue issues. Keep up the good work!

ROLLING ALONG.....THE LAWRENCEVILLE ANNEX

In the words of the song, the Field Artillery Annex in Lawrenceville keeps "...rolling along, over hill and over dale." A World War II Sherman tank pulled into the cannon shop for restoration this summer, along with two 1/4 trucks, a M-114 and two M-37 World War II weapons carriers. The M-7 in front of the armory is 99% refurbished as Bill Hutch still chips away at the bogie wheels. It should be done before the frost sets in. The Nike Ajax missile, on the floor of the cannon shop is to be refurbished by COL(Ret) Larry

Stroud and a crew from the old 7th Battalion.

The Civil War group moved into a new room off the riding rink that will be turned into a showcase area and a site for research and storage. Also, a portion of the museum has moved out of the old rifle range on the second floor and turned it over to the 50th Brigade Headquarters for their use.

As a final salute, the museum lost a great individual this summer, 1SGT David C. Horner who was a World War II veteran and retired

National Guardsman. Dave was a great support of the museum, a soldier and a dear friend. The museum meant a great deal to him and he dedicated many hours to help build the complex. He was proud of his accomplishments. He especially enjoyed taking visitors through the museum, in particular young students where he could tell the history of the various conflicts of our nation. We will miss Dave and always remember him and his dedication to the National Guard and the museum.

WHO IS WHO: GUARD TRANSFORMATION....CONT'

BSTB (Bde Special Troops Bn), 102nd Cavalry Squadron, 250th BSB (Bde Support Bn.) and 112th FIRES. FIRES is a unit that has the

capability to deliver indirect fire of multiple types from tube artillery to precision guided missiles, such as those launched from aircraft.

The transformation is Army wide with the emphasis on training relevant and ready soldiers for the Joint Force to ensure our national security.

INTELLIGENT WHALE TO FLOAT ??????????????????????

The *Intelligent Whale*, the Civil War era submarine on display at the museum, soon may be taking a sea cruise! A US Navy survey team has completed an assessment of the *IW* to determine whether or not she is seaworthy and can be propelled in her present condition. The project is being underwritten by the Discovery Channel with personnel support from the Department of the Navy and the Navy Historical Center. The purpose of the project is to

preserve history by demonstrating the technology of the era with submarine design and the role they came to play in modern warfare. The survey team consisted of a Naval architect, engineer and dive analyst, Mark Regan, historian for the *U.S.S. Hunley* and Doug Aumack, *Intelligent Whale* historian. Norris Brock of the Discovery Channel filmed part of the survey and interviewed the survey team.

If the survey is given final

approval, the *IW* may be removed from the museum in the late fall, for about eight months and taken to the Navy testing center at Caderock, Maryland. There repairs to hatches, portholes and the conning tower, along with adjustments to air, ballast, propulsion, rudder and diving systems will be made. The *IW* then will be lowered into the testing tank for her seaworthy demonstration. She will be then returned to the museum to preserve history.



The *Intelligent Whale* upon arrival at the museum in April 1999.

ORAL HISTORIES ONLINE

Summaries of some of the oral histories from veterans are now available to be read online. As volunteers complete the summaries they are edited and some posted to the museum website. All summaries are sent from the museum's Center for US War Veterans' Oral History Program to the Library of Congress along with the video of the oral history. Currently

summaries on the museum website range from the Mexican Border Campaign in 1916 to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Yes, the Mexican Border Campaign! Back in 1983 the New Jersey National Guard started an oral history program, but only eleven histories were taken. Fortunately, they are on tape and very fortunately someone had the

ability to transcribe them. One in particular is from COL Edward Towers who joined the New Jersey National Guard in 1916, served in the Mexican Border Campaign, World War I and II. At the time of the interview, in 1983, COL Towers was the oldest living National Guardsman in the United States and the only surviving participant of the 1911 Indianapolis 500.

"THERE WAS NO HAIR ON THE TAILS. WE PUT THEM ON THE PICKET LINE AND HERE WERE ALL THESE HORSES ALONG THERE WITH A STUMP ABOUT A FOOT AND A HALF LONG, ABSOLUTELY RAW MEAT"

COL TOWERS

ESSEX TROOP EXHIBIT AT WAR MEMORIAL

An exhibit of the Essex Troop, 102nd Cavalry is on display at the museum's War Memorial Annex in Trenton. It will remain through the winter and spring season of the War Memorial events.

The exhibit covers the history of the Essex Troop, along with uniforms, china, a saddle and significant events of the

Troop.

The story of the Rhino Plow is part of the exhibit. SGT Curtis Culin of Cranford was one of the developers of the Rhino Plow used to cut through the hedgerows of Normandy after the invasion. A diorama of the Rhino Plow, made by 2Lt Jarrett Feldman of the 250th BSB depicts a

model one at a hedgerow.

Museum archives house the actual After Action Reports of the 102nd Armor and 38th Reconnaissance Squadron for 1944 and one is on display, referencing the armored car from the 38th as the first to enter Paris on 22 August 1944 in the Liberation of Paris.



A well know photo of the 38th Recon Squadron as the first to enter Paris in the Liberation of Paris.



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AN ARTIFACT.....

One night I met Lieutenant Colonel William Clark, a great, tall gaunt man from Princeton, New Jersey. Since the start of the war he had been in Australia, Africa and twice in England. He had been in France in the last war, and personally I thought he was having the time of his life in World War II. Colonel Clark was a big shot back home. He was the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia. He was the guy who declared the Prohibition Amendment unconstitutional. It was beyond his powers, however, to create much "drinkin' liquor" on the continent of Africa.

Judge Clark was liaison officer with the British Army in Tunisia, right up where everything was the hottest. He asked me if I'd mention his name in one of my reports so his family would know he was all right. I said sure, and asked him what he wanted me to say about him. "Oh," he said, "just say you met the damned old fool."

The average American soldier went without eggs for a long time, and I for one can testify that we missed them very much. The problem was alleviated somewhat when we got to the desert. We knew the Arabs had

eggs, so we went around and bought them up. I went on two egg orgies within a week. One night Major Berry bought twenty-nine eggs from an Arab. We took the eggs to the army kitchen and had them scrambled. Then we ate all twenty-nine eggs in one sitting. That's an average of better than seven eggs apiece. True, I woke up at two in the morning with a historic stomach-ache, but what of it?

Undeterred, I tried it again three days later. Two of my Flying Fortress friends came past about eleven in the morning, and we went to

village market and scoured around sort of speakeasy like until we found a guy with some eggs. We bought two dozen.

That time my fellow gourmands, a bomber pilot and a bombardier had the cook hard boil them and then we went to my quarters and gorged ourselves. The three of us ate twenty-four eggs and twenty tangerines in half an hour flat.

Here Is Your War

Story of G.I. Joe

Ernie Pyle