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Stay in Touch

- Visit our website at www.nmaw.org. Our enhanced website includes video clips, image galleries and frequent blog updates.
- Subscribe to our RSS feed so you receive our latest news.
- Friend the "American Wartime Museum" on Facebook.
- Share your story of wartime experience in uniform or on the home front. Email info@nmaw.org.

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Volume 1, Issue 3
Fall 2010

AMERICAN WARTIME MUSEUM™

Citizens Serving the Cause of Freedom



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OPEN HOUSE PROVIDES GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE MUSEUM



It takes a very special occasion to draw 5,000 people to an open field in Nokesville, Virginia, over the course of an August weekend. The American Wartime Museum's 2010 Open House attracted people of all ages to Allan Cors' "Tank Farm" to get a glimpse of the programs, activities and exhibits planned for the future Museum.

This event offered unique opportunities for visitors — from sitting at the controls of a Black Hawk helicopter to watching tanks and vintage military vehicles maneuver, experiencing a tactical re-enactment by the United States Marine Corps Historical Company and learning about the sacrifices of American veterans. A number of lucky participants had the chance to drive or ride in one of the fully restored military vehicles that will become part of the American Wartime Museum's permanent collection.

As Museum Board Chairman Allan Cors told The News & Messenger, "This is just a small part of what the museum is about. It's not about tanks, not about helicopters and guns. It's about men and women. It's about values, and it's to honor those who served by telling their stories ... to educate [visitors] ... and hopefully, to inspire them to do something that helps them contribute back to the community and country."

Hundreds of those who attended the Open House became members of the Museum, wanting to be a part of the Museum's mission to honor America's military and home front heroes. You can join the Museum at our website, www.nmaw.org, and receive invitations to special events like our annual open house.

You can also click on the "Events" tab at our website to watch a video of the 2010 open house.



Museum President and CEO Craig Stewart

From the President

In September, I was honored to serve as keynote speaker at the Annual Convention of the Association of Former Prisoners of War in Romania, men who served in the Army Air Corps in World War II and were shot down during bombing raids on that German ally. The current president of the Association, Judge Maurice Braswell of Fayetteville, North Carolina, invited me to participate. Even though I have known him for over 50 years, he was always “just” the father of one of my boyhood friends, Edwin Braswell. I knew nothing of his real story and here is what I have learned:

At age 19, Maurice Braswell became a tail gunner in a B-17 “Flying Fortress” and flew in 41 combat missions. He was wounded in action and saw one crew member and many comrades in nearby planes die in action. Clearly he stared death in the face every time he flew — from attacking German fighters or German flak — but said he never lost his faith in the Good Lord. He was listed as MIA three times and parachuted from a burning plane on his last mission, a bombing raid on the Ploesti oil fields of Romania. During his imprisonment and time of release, he experienced being bombed by British, German and even American planes. He received an honorable discharge along with

numerous awards from the Army, married his sweetheart, Ruth, and started his family and a successful legal career. Judge Braswell is a veteran, a former POW and an American hero.

I am especially excited that we have begun our own Wartime Oral History Project to preserve and share stories like Judge Braswell’s. Please visit our website where you can click on “Veterans” or read our blog at www.nmaw.org/blog for other wartime stories.

Now that we have secured the land for the Museum’s permanent location, we have restarted our \$50 million capital campaign in earnest. We anticipate that over 80 percent of our donations will come from private donors — individuals and companies — and our Board and I have begun making contacts with potential major donors. Of course, every type of support — annual giving through membership dues, capital giving, planned or deferred giving, major gifts, foundation and corporate gifts, and government and sponsored gifts — is important. If you have not yet made a commitment to the Museum, please go to www.nmaw.org and click on “Get Involved.”



Judge E. Maurice Braswell greets Museum President and CEO Craig Stewart.

*With your help,
we will build this
great Museum!*

Museum Timeline

2014

2010/2011

2012

GRAND OPENING Veterans Day

November 11, 2014

Initial Site Work

Formal Groundbreaking

Museum Site Gets Green Light

The Prince William Board of County Supervisors recently voted 8-0 to approve a zoning action that will allow the Museum to move forward with plans for our I-95 site in Prince William County, Virginia. The land was originally zoned for high-density residential and high-density retail, and the Board of County Supervisors agreed that the Museum would be a more beneficial use of the site and create less traffic during future rush hours.

Numerous citizens spoke on behalf of the Museum at the Board’s public hearing. Many talked about their personal connection to the American military — either their own service or the service of a loved one — and their belief that the Museum will fulfill a significant mission. Others praised the positive economic benefits of attracting tourists to the Museum and other nearby businesses and amenities, like the National

Museum of the Marine Corps and Potomac Mills Mall. Those who spoke in support of the Museum indicated that the I-95 site is the perfect location for the American Wartime Museum, with its proximity to a major interstate, the nation’s capital and other attractions along the “Corridor of Military History.”

“Everyone associated with the Museum is thrilled that we will be able to move forward on this site,” said Museum President and CEO Craig Stewart. “The Museum will continue work with the communities near the Museum site and with the residents of Prince William County to ensure that we are a good neighbor. We thank all of the Supervisors and

especially Chairman Corey Stewart and Supervisor John Jenkins for their steadfast support and leadership throughout the zoning process. We also appreciate the courteous and professional guidance provided by county staff.”



In a brilliant performance, the M41 Walker Bulldog light tank maneuvers the streets of Weirton, West Virginia, during production of “Super 8.”

The Museum’s Movie Stars

Military vehicles from the extensive collection that will be featured at the American Wartime Museum might have a starring role in a new Steven Spielberg and J.J. Abrams movie, “Super 8,” due for release in summer 2011.

In October, a dozen vehicles were transported to Weirton, West Virginia, to participate in production of the new science fiction movie.

Marc Sehring, who manages the military vehicle restoration facility, said the movie production was a great experience. “We filmed for

about two weeks. The crew was great, and J.J. Abrams is a very nice and enthusiastic director. We filmed many battle scenes with tanks and machine guns firing while rumbling down streets and through neighborhoods. The people of Weirton were very gracious hosts.”

Staff and volunteers from the military vehicle restoration facility stayed on-scene to coordinate the use of three Jeeps, four cargo trucks, one M113 Armored Personnel Carrier, two Abbot self-propelled guns, one Walker Bulldog Tank and one Pz 68 Tank. The vehicle collection, which is owned by Museum Board Chairman Allan Cors, is currently maintained on private property in Nokesville, Virginia. The vehicles will ultimately become a core part of the Museum’s collection and displays.

Profile: Colonel Barnum Lives His Passion for Corps and Country

Colonel Harvey C. "Barney" Barnum, Jr., a member of the American Wartime Museum Board of Trustees, truly personifies the Museum's mission. A retired United States Marine Corps officer, Colonel Barnum has dedicated his life to serving his country, both in uniform and in public service.

Two weeks into his first tour of combat duty, on December 18, 1965, (then) Lieutenant Barnum proved his courage and leadership abilities in a moment of great crisis, becoming the fourth Marine to receive the Medal of Honor for valor in the Vietnam War. During his distinguished career, Colonel Barnum served two combat tours in Vietnam, the second after he had already been awarded the Medal of Honor. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1989 after more than 27 years of service.

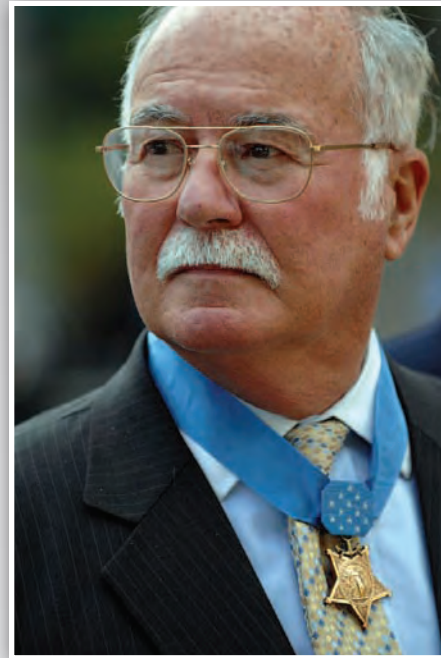
Continuing his commitment to the public good after his military career, Colonel Barnum served as Principal Director, Drug Enforcement Policy, Office of the Secretary of Defense; as Corporate and Community Affairs Advisor for ARLTEC, Inc.; as Deputy

Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Reserve Affairs from 2001 to 2008; and as the Assistant Secretary of the Navy until 2009.

Former Senator Charles Robb, also a member of the Museum's Board of Trustees, is a longtime friend. "I first met Barney on the day he received the highest honor that our nation can bestow. As the Adjutant at the Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., where the ceremony was held, I had the privilege of publicly reading the citation, citing his conspicuous gallantry above and beyond the call of duty, immediately preceding the formal presentation by the Secretary of the Navy. We've been friends ever since and he remains a great inspiration."

Colonel Barnum remains devoted to causes that stir his passion for duty and country. For example, he says his service on the American Wartime Museum Board of Trustees "was the right thing to do at the right time for the right reasons."

He is particularly enthusiastic about the Museum's mission to honor those who served in uniform as well



as those who support the cause on the home front. "The bottom line is it takes everybody working toward a goal to make things happen. In wartime, people have to come together. They have to give to get, even the civilians. Everyone has to work together and do what needs to be done. That's part of the story the Museum will tell."

Today Colonel Barnum and his wife Martha live in Reston, Virginia, and spend weekends at a second home along the Little Wicomico River in Reedville, Virginia, enjoying the company of their family, including two children and four grandchildren.

You can read Colonel Barnum's official Medal of Honor Citation, at <http://www.history.army.mil/html/moh/vietnam-a-1.html>. It tells a more detailed account of his acts of heroism.



Colonel Barnum, center, poses with a group of children and adults during an American Wartime Museum Open House.

National Veterans Organizations Support Our Museum

So far, four prominent veterans organizations have endorsed the American Wartime Museum. In addition, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) distributed Museum brochures to all participants at its annual convention in August. The connection between the Museum and these organizations is forged through the Museum's mission to honor the millions of American men and women who have served their country in uniform since World War I. In addition, Business Executives for National Security (BENS) has also endorsed the Museum. BENS is a nationwide, non-partisan organization, which is the primary channel through which senior business executives can help enhance the nation's security.

These four organizations have endorsed the Museum:

- **The American Legion**, which focuses on service to veterans, service members and communities, currently has about 2.6 million members in 14,000 posts worldwide.
- **AMVETS** is open to anyone who is currently serving, or has honorably served, in the U.S. Armed Forces from World War II to the present, including in the National Guard and Reserves.
- The 1.2 million-member **Disabled American Veterans (DAV)** is a non-profit charity dedicated to building better lives for America's disabled veterans and their families.
- **The Military Officers Association of America** is the nation's largest association of military officers, with about 370,000 members from every branch of service — including active duty, National Guard, Reserve, retired, former officers and their families.



Museum Anticipates 300,000 Visitors per Year

George Mason University's Center for Regional Analysis recently completed a Visitor Study for the American Wartime Museum that predicts an average of 300,000 visitors per year after the Museum opens in 2014.

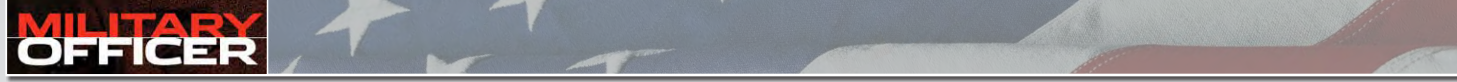
According to the study:

- The Museum's programming will attract a wide and diverse audience and ensure many return visits.
- The Museum will attract visitors from local, state, national and international markets.
- Targeted marketing will attract visitors with special affiliations, such as veterans groups and military reunions.
- The Washington, D.C., region — the Museum's immediate market — is home to 6.2 million people.
- The D.C. region is also the fastest growing suburban area in the United States.

The Center for Regional Analysis conducts research and analytical studies on economic, fiscal, demographic, housing, and social and policy issues related to the current and future growth of Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C. The Museum visitor study, which was led by Dr. Stephen Fuller of George Mason University and Agnes Artemel of Artemel & Associates, confirms a previous economic analysis of the Museum.

A copy of the full Visitor Study is available at our website, www.nmaw.org, under "About Us."

American Wartime Museum in the News



Museum to Honor Veterans

The American Wartime Museum, a new national museum in the Washington, D.C. area, has announced its future location on a 67-acre site off I-95 in Prince William County, Va. This museum will focus on the stories of American men and women who have served our country in uniform and on the home front from World War I forward.

Unique features of the American Wartime Museum will include authentic replicas of wartime scenes called "Landscapes of War," operational tanks and aircraft, live-action demonstrations, and interactive exhibits for the entire family. The museum also will house the National Veterans Visitor Center – a place where veterans can hold reunions, connect with other veterans, and record their wartime stories.

Visitors will learn about their heritage, freedom, and the sacrifices of millions of Americans — from veterans of all military branches to POW/MIAs to those who supported the cause at home.

The grand opening is planned for Veterans Day 2014. To learn more, visit www.nmaw.org or email your story of service to info@nmaw.org.

Reprinted from *Military Officer*, September 2010, page 25 (<http://www.moaa.org>).

New Museum to Showcase Soldiers' Personal Wartime Experiences

By PETER ROFF

Posted: September 2, 2010

America's wartime past is about to come alive, just outside the Washington Beltway — 22 miles from the nation's Capital.

In an area once rich in farm land, organizers of the new American Wartime Museum plan to develop a 70-acre facility alongside Interstate 95 in Virginia's Prince William County where the stories of those who served in all branches of the U.S. Military and on the American home front can finally be told.

Spanning the period from World War I to the present, the museum's centerpiece is an extraordinary collection of more than 100 working, vintage military vehicles presently in private hands — some of which were recently put on display during a late August "open house" during which people were given the opportunity to ride in some vintage armored vehicles and to see others in action.

Organizers say the museum's purpose is to provide visitors with the opportunity to learn about the "personal wartime experiences" of those who have worn the nation's uniforms and to give all those who come there a sense of "the realities of war and the sacrifices made by Americans in order to preserve our nation's freedoms."

Read the entire article at <http://politics.usnews.com/opinion/blogs/peter-roff/2010/09/02/new-museum-to-showcase-soldiers-personal-wartime-experiences.html>.

Oral History Project Will Preserve Wartime Stories

The Museum's Oral History Project will connect a team of volunteers with American veterans who want to record the stories of their wartime experience. These interviews with veterans will be edited into concise videos and available for viewing on the Museum website and other outlets such as YouTube. The raw video will be retained by the Museum as well as the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project and made accessible to researchers and the general public.

"Veterans from World War II to the present will have a chance to talk about their wartime experience," says Greg Pass, manager of the Wartime Oral History Project. Pass, a Gulf War veteran and a First Sergeant with the Prince William County Police Department, is volunteering his time with the Oral History Project because he believes passionately in the need to preserve veterans' unique experiences. "They will have the chance to tell their story so it can be shared with future generations."

Pass is reaching out to potential partners, conducting research about similar programs and recruiting volunteers. The project should begin in earnest in early 2011. During the first year, the Museum will schedule at least six Wartime Oral History Events when volunteers will conduct a daylong series of interviews with veterans. The program will expand as the Museum nears its Veterans Day 2014 opening day.

We Need You!

The Museum is looking for volunteers in the Washington, D.C., region to assist with the Wartime Oral History Project. Volunteers will be asked to contribute about 40 hours of service each year to interview men and women about their wartime experiences. Those with interviewing skills and/or a background in the military are especially encouraged to volunteer. General guidelines and training will be provided. Interested volunteers should contact Greg Pass at gpass@nmaw.org.

JOIN THE CAUSE!

Help us make the American Wartime Museum a reality. You can support our cause by becoming a member, donating or renewing your membership today! Join or make a tax-deductible gift online at www.nmaw.org or mail your membership application to the address below. Make checks payable to "NMAW."

American Wartime Museum™
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Your annual membership benefits include invitations to members-only events, the Museum newsletter by mail or email, discounts, and the knowledge that your gift will help the Museum achieve its mission. Each level of membership includes additional benefits. See our website for more information.

Craig Stewart
 Museum President and CEO

Membership Application

I wish to join at the following level	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$2,500
<input type="checkbox"/> Founder's Circle	\$5,000

Pledge for:

One Year Two Years Three Years Four Years Five Years

Name _____

Billing Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Method of Payment

Check American Express
 Visa Discover
 MasterCard

Credit Card # _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____ Date _____