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- Veteran's Day and other Museum Events

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January, February and March 2025



## **LOOK WHAT IS HAPPENING AT THE MUSEUM**

The Museum will be **Closed** the following Holidays

- January 1st, 2025 News Year's Day
- January 20th, 2025 Martin Luther King Jr.

## **EVENTS**

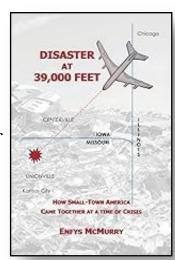
- Iwo Jima Anniversary Saturday February 25th, 2025 11:00 am 3:00 pm
- Iowa Public Broadcasting "Service Dogs" Premier -Saturday, February 22nd, 2025, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

## **SPRING EVENTS** (all events see page 9)

March 1st, 2025 at 11:00 am - Guest Speaker Enfys
 McMurry will present and discuss her book, "Disaster at 39,000 Ft. How a Small Town Came Together at a Time of Crisis (Centerville, Iowa)."



Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Saturday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Sunday - Monday Closed



## Volunteer Spotlight - Allen Lambertz & Dave Grant



Raymond (Ray) Wilson

Dave Grant and Allen Lambertz are two of our dynamic duos who volunteer their time at the museum the first Friday of each month. Dave has been a volunteer since 2017 and Allen since 2021. The two make each visitor feel important and enlighten and wanting to learn more about Iowa military history.

Dave is a Vietnam
Veteran who provides
great insight about the
conflict and adds his
personal account/
experiences that draws
the visitor in. Visitors
stay a little longer
because Dave provides a
fantastic tour.

Allen is a civilian who has a love for military history and honoring our veterans. Allen is fully trained on the flight simulator, so if you

want to try out your aviation skills, Allen will show you how to navigate the museum's flight simulator. The great talent both Dave and Allen share is their love for cars. Both are super talented and have built /restored several vehicles from the ground up. This is the common interest that brought the two together and that is why they make a great duo.

When I think about the dedication of Dave and Allen I remember the quote from Oscar Wilde: "The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention."

Fridays are truly fun days at the museum because of Dave and Allen. Plan to spend a Friday at the museum!!



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Every year, thousands of people visit the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum to learn about Iowa's heroes. The first person they see when they come through the door is a volunteer stationed at the front desk. This person will make sure each visitor leaves the museum with a greater understanding of military history and an appreciation for Iowa veterans. This is just one way our volunteers help us achieve our mission.

There are over seventy volunteers active at the Gold Star Museum, helping with everything we do. Besides manning the front desk, they work on exhibits, give tours, help run events, and maintain our collections behind the scenes. No matter where you look in the Gold Star Museum, you'll see a volunteer's impact.

If any of this interests you we encourage you to join us! Volunteering is a great and fulfilling way to give back to your community and meet new people. You can scan the QR code below to fill out a short application and get the ball rolling. You can also email Ben Elliott at benjamin.elliott@iowa.gov to express interest and learn more.

## MOVIE NIGHTS AT THE MUSEUM

## Come Out and watch a movie at the MUSEUM.

## **Movie Line Up for 2025:**

**JANUARY 13– FLIGHT OF THE INTRUDER (1991)** 

FEBRUARY 10 - LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA (2006)

MARCH 10- TV EPISODES: COMBAT (1962-1967) AND RAT PATROL (1966-1968)

APRIL 14—GO FOR BROKE (1951)

**MAY 12—THE HUNTERS (1958)** 

**JUNE 9—HAMBURGER HILL (1987)** 

**JULY 14—STALINGARD (1993)** 

AUGUST—NO MOVIE

**SEPTEMBER 8—BAT 21 (1988)** 

OCTOBER 13—TAE GOK GOI (2004)

**NOVEMBER 10—M\*A\*S\*H (1970)** 

**DECEMBER 8—CROSS OF IRON (1977)** 

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM.

FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR OWN SNACKS ( YOU MUST CLEAN UP YOUR AREA!)
\*SPACE IS LIMITED

## MARCH IS WOMEN'S MONTH!



On March 1st at 11 am author, college professor, Enfys McMurry will be presenting her book: Disaster at 39,00 Feet: How Small-Town American Came Together at a Time of Crisis.

A native of Wales and now citizen of the United States for over 35 years, writes about the tragic story of Continental Airlines Flight 11 and how Centerville, IA and Unionville, MO came together. Enfys McMurry teaches English, Aesthetics and Civilization, World Literature and related subjects at Indian Hills Community College. She is a long-term member of the Appanoose County Historical Society, Wayne County Historical Society and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



## **Veterans Day 2024**





## **Around the Community**

The Museum at Windsor Heights Veterans Day Event



November 11, 2024



Museum volunteer Larry Wright represented the museum at the Windsor Heights Community Events Center on Veterans Day. Brochures, newsletters, and information were shared with over 80 veterans and guests about the Museum's facility, displays, and mission.

Local veterans were honored with a luncheon and program which included a Scout flag ceremony, music by the Young Patriots, remarks by the mayor, MIA reading, a keynote speaker, raffle tickets, and the event was closed with the viewing of the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum aerial drone tour which was enthusiastically received!

## Daughters of the American Revolution

## **Honoring Those Who Served**

Written by Kathy Sells Regent, Camp Dodge Chapter

On December 5, 2024 Mike Rowley of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and Sharleen Newton, of the Camp Dodge Chapter, DAR, placed a new VA-issued headstone for a Civil War Veteran in the Polk City Cemetery. 2D Lieutenant William P. Meekins was recognized for his service in the 10th Iowa Infantry during the Civil War.









### Service with a Smile



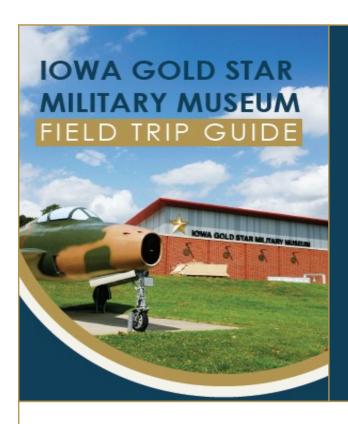
The Camp Dodge Chapter, DAR, was happy to help at the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge Observance and Holiday Open House on December 7th at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum.

Members Karla Wright, Karla Kasper, Pam Wall and Susan Ohnysty served delicious food to a large and appreciative crowd.

The DAR organization was founded in 1890 with the mission of promoting historic preservation education and patriotism. The Camp Dodge Chapter is Iowa's newest chapter, organized in 2023. We proudly sponsor the newly organized Children of the Revolution (C.A.R.) society, "The Captain Peter Ankeny Society." Children's activities focus on patriotism, service, and education about our American heritage.

To learn more about DAR go to DAR.org. To learn more about the Camp Dodge Chapter, contact us at CampDodgeDAR@gmail.com





## Schedule your visit today!

Iowa Gold Star Military Museum 7105 NW 70th Ave, Johnston, IA 50131

#### Hours

Sun - Mon: Closed

9:00 am - 3:00 pm Tues - Fri: Saturday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

#### Admission

Admission and Educational Programming are always free.

#### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING**

#### **Docent-Led Tour**



Get the most out of your tour with an experienced guide. Our docents will lead your group through lowa's military past from the frontier to the present, telling the stories of Iowans who helped shape history along the

#### **Veteran Stories**



Learn about Iowa's military history from someone who was there. We pair classes with Iowa veterans for presentations on their experiences in the military and interviews with



**Living History Lecture** Step back in time with a historian dressed in period clothing and watch history come to life with our living history program. We present on a range of topics and conflicts, and can cater to your lesson plan.

#### **Object Observer**



This hands-on, small group activity guides participants through a critical examination of artifacts and teaches analytical historical thinking. Students use these skills to answer questions about individual objects.

#### Artifact Search



This is an engaging way to experience our gallery. Students learn about history by tracking down answers for our provided search sheet

#### Mobile Museum



Can't make it to the museum? Let us come to you! We can take many of our programs on the road and present them right in your classroom. We make our visits just as engaging with your students through knowledgeable staff and real artifacts.

#### **MUSEUM RESOURCES**

#### **Voices of Valor**



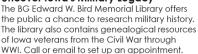
#### **Firsthand Accounts**

Exhibits include video interviews with Iowa veterans from WWI to the present sharing their unique stories.

#### Take the Controls!

The museum contains an F-16 flight simulator, replicating what it's like to pilot this impressive aircraft.

#### Uncover Iowa's Military Legacy



#### **Bus Grants available**

To learn more about our bus program, email the museum at: goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov



## **SCHEDULE YOUR VISIT** TODAY.

#### MUSEUM CONTACT

goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov 515-252-4531

Interested in a Tour? Scan the QR code to the right for a virtual video tour.



## **CURATOR CORNER**

## **Trench Periscope**

Object# 1994.61.1

Michael W. Vogt Museum Curator

During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries military weapons technology achieved greater lethality. Following the start of the Great War in July 1914, opposing armies clashed armed with magazine rifles, machine guns, smokeless powder and rapid-fire breech-loading artillery delivering high explosive shells. Murderous battlefield conditions wrought by these weapons caused soldiers to seek refuge by digging trenches along hundreds of miles of front lines.

Among the museum's collections is an example of a well-crafted trench periscope allowing the observation of enemy activity from a concealed location in a trench or forward observation post. The rectangular periscope is dark green with a lighter, irregular camouflage pattern applied to the surface and measures  $2 \times 2 \frac{3}{4} \times 18$  inches (with handle extended). Two interior mirrors are positioned at opposite ends. A pivoting side handle is secured with a wig nut. A hinged metal hook allowed a user to carry the periscope on a belt. Seven copper wires are placed equidistant along the length of the periscope to add stability and durability under outdoor field conditions.



## WHO WE ARE

## **OUR MISSION**

The lowa Gold Star Military Museum's mission is to honor and depict the military experience of lowa citizens in all wars, homeland defense, and lowa service. The Museum's purpose is to collect, preserve, and exhibit materials that illustrate the story of lowa's military past from statehood to the present. The lowa Gold Star Military Museum honors the heroic service of all lowa veterans.

## RESEARCH YOUR ANCESTORY

If you want to know more about your family's military history? The museum has information from the Civil War to World War I.

We have the enlistment and induction cards for Iowans from World War I and have the muster rolls and payroll records for Civil War veterans.

If you want to know more or schedule a time to meet with the curator, call 515-252-4531 or email us at:

www.goldstarmuseum.iowa.gov.

## BOOK REVIEW!

## A Day in September The Battle of Antietam and the World It Left Behind

## By Stephen Budiansky



By William Fanter

This is one more book about the bloodiest day in the Civil War but I could not resist the read as one reviewer admired the novel manner of presentation and I had to see for myself. The book is really a collection of short stories rather

than a novel with logical flow but I still found some good substance in the epilogue. A good dessert can make for a memorable meal.

Budiansky is a prolific writer, and a military writer at that, but not a Civil War historian. He has written about code breakers and espionage and a biography of his favorite personage from the 19th century who happened to be a wounded veteran of Antietam, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Holmes went on to a notable legal career ultimately serving as a Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court for thirty years well into his nineties. He was wounded three times in Antietam, shot through the neck and left for dead. He is regarded as one of the strongest writers ever on the Supreme Court but his purpose in this book is to provide the point of view of a Union battlefield Captain, a line officer among the casualties of Antietam on September 17, 1862.

Budiansky presents the stories of nine individuals connected to this epic battle to provide a panorama of the impact of this historic event seen through nine different lenses. He profiles people from war photographer Mathew Brady, to Generals McClellan and Lee, to Lincoln, Holmes, Clara Barton, and a battlefield doctor overwhelmed by having to treat 64 victims in a single day. Brady takes a carriage from Washington D.C. to the battlefield in nearby Maryland and poses and photographs casualties to illustrate the exact manner of death. This may have been the first attempt to memorialize war for the horror it is through the medium of a camera lens rather than an artist's brush. For the first time the gore of combat subjugates the glory and heroism of warfare to the candor of a camera. This is not the sanitized European method of romanticizing the service for Napoleon or a Russian Czar.

Clara Barton is exposed more for her tendency to seek favorable publicity rather than for nursing wounded soldiers on the battlefield. McClellan is shown to be worthy of being relieved by Lincoln for his passive conduct in failing to pursue a retreating Confederate Army clearly on the run. Finally, General Lee's bold decision to take the war to the Union Capitol in Washington D C receives much criticism from Commanding Generals from WWI and WWII.

While the battle was a tactical stalemate it was a Union strategic victory. Lincoln was so encouraged to have held against Lee that he declared a new reason for the war. We would fight not just to preserve the union but to free the slaves of the South. The battle caused England and France to cease considering joining the Confederacy in the cause. Indeed, Lee would try to again attack Washington in less than a year in 1863 at Gettysburg and fail.

But I think the lessons of this book, like a good meal, lay in the dessert...in this case the epilogue. Budiansky lays bare how unprepared either side really was to wage war on the scale proposed. The criticism derives from the lectures of teachers at West Point and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. Even now field grade officers are taught about the mistakes of Antietam and the Civil War tactics improvidently employed. Generals are shown to be wrong, arrogant, and stupid and hard learned lessons are now used to teach successors new methods to reach battlefield objectives.

West Point was first established by Thomas Jefferson to train officers for Army service in 1802. But the concept of operating at scale was minimized in favor of providing officers trained in engineering. Teaching the manual of arms and close order drill was the preparation for the major clash of thousands of troops.

The epilogue helps a reader grasp the big picture and inventory the lessons Antietam taught future military officers and field commanders. It has become a valued teaching tool used in preparing for global wars in 1917 and 1941. Antietam occurred in September of 1862. Neither side had much experience and the naivety of the participants was revealed at enormous cost. Modern day officers tear the tactics apart. Field hospitals are exposed for their horrible conditions and lack of scale to treat casualties. The nursing provided to soldiers was minimal and primitive.

A final point is worth mentioning. When efforts were made to honor the soldiers who died by erecting memorials after the war the union survivors would not countenance the use of union cemeteries as an honored resting place for confederate soldiers. They were traitors plain and simple. The Union had the wealth and power to support the creation of such war memorials while the Confederacy did not. The Rebels were allowed by General Grant to keep their weapons and horses for they would need to plow come Spring. Yet these attitudes mellowed over time and some parades twenty years after Gettysburg showed battlefield enemies marching arm in arm and shaking hands with a smile. There were many lessons learned at great sacrifice.

# \*

## DID YOU KNOW?

# Sticky Notes Were Invented by Accident

In 1968, Spencer Silver, a scientist at 3M, was tasked with developing a super-strong adhesive. Instead, he accidentally created a very weak adhesive with one interesting property: It could be attached to a surface, peeled off, and then reattached without damaging the surface or losing stickiness. A col-

without damaging the s

league later used Silver's unintended invention to create the original Post-it notes.



Why did the architect dip her finger in the ink?

SHE NEEDED BLUE PRINTS!

Do you know what being vegan is?

A BIG MISSED—STEAK!

Why do bakers share their recipes with some bakers and not others?

IT'S ON A KNEAD TO KNOW BASIS!

## SAVE THE DATE

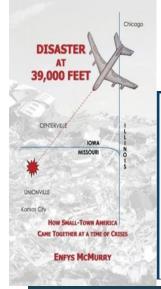
**GUEST SPEAKER:** 

**AUTHOR:** 

**ENYS MCMURRY** 

**MARCH 1, 2025** 

SATURDAY, AT 11 AM.



## **Memorial Day 2025**

Monday, May 26th

Open 5am—1 pm

- Free Military Style Breakfast
- Live Music
- Re-Enactors
- Vendors and Much, Much More!

## **Vietnam Living History Event**

Saturday and Sunday June 7th and 8th

Discover what life was like for an American Serviceman during the Vietnam War.





Iowa Gold Star Military Museum 7105 Northwest 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue Johnston, Iowa 50131 Phone: (515) 252-4531

#### MUSEUM STAFF

State Quartermaster Colonel Michael Harris	
Museum Director	Sherrie Colbert
Museum Curator	Michael W. Vogt
Volunteer Coordinator	Ben Elliott

## USA

## **Mexican-American War Trivia**

- 1. The war was fought during what years?
- 2. Who was president during the Mexican-American War?
- 3. What three lowa counties are named for battles in this war?
- 4. What doctrine drove the U.S. expansion from sea to sea?
- 5. Which of the following county names commemorate officers who served in the war? Options: Page, Ringgold, Kossuth, Worth, Clinton, Fremont, Bremer
- 6. Which of the state had already separated from Mexico declaring itself independent?
- 7. Which general in the Mexican-American War later became a U.S. president?
- 8. What border became the new boundary between Mexico and the U.S.?

\*Thank you William Dyche for this quarters Trivia Questions!

. 1846—1848; 2. James K. Polk—11th US President; 3. Buena Vista, Palo Alto, Cerro Gordo; 4. Manifest Destiny; 5. Page, Ringgold, Worth, Fremont; 6. Texas (Republic of Texas—1836); 7. Zachary Taylor—12th President; 8. Rio Grande

MERICA