Phase I of the major renovations planned for the Pacific Combat Zone (PCZ) has begun. Construction began in March and includes a new Visitors’ Center and restrooms, an orientation courtyard where visitors walk the Pacific Ocean map, and new exhibits featuring interactive audio-video programs for the TBM and PT-boat buildings. It is expected to be finished by the end of 2015 or early 2016. Phases II and III will include expanding and improving the Living History Battlefield, building a theater-style 400 seat amphitheater, new barracks for reenacting volunteers and a new military vehicle storage and garage building. The architect for this project is David Richter out of Corpus Christi, and the Construction Manager is Duecker Construction Company which is based in Stonewall, Texas.

(Continued on Page 9)
Supplementing Rations in New Guinea

The following amusing anecdote was taken from the Oral History of Lt. Howard L. “Pat” Patton, U.S. Army, 202 AAA (AW) Battalion

The 202 AAA (AW) Battalion landed at Milne Bay, New Guinea [now known as Papua New Guinea] in December 1943 and remained there for some six months. During its assignment, rations were adequate, although not plentiful, and the men were always on the “look-out” for something different and refreshing to break the predictability of the bland chow line.

The U.S. Army has always been known for individuals gifted as scroungers, wheeler-dealers and arrangers, and “A” Battery was not lacking in these essential personnel. Word came to Lieutenant Howard “Pat” Patton that the U.S. Navy was clearing out a food dump on the opposite side of the Bay, and they might be able to find some canned orange and grapefruit juice, which sounded very appealing in those hot tropics. Minor details were hazy, but whoever brought the word had some cans of the juice as proof. After some discussion, Patton was persuaded to make a scouting trip to the dump. Once there, they were both appalled and delighted to see the scattered cans, broken cases and all-around deplorable state of the food dump.

Wanting to be open and aboveboard, Patton went to the Naval Commander in charge and told him how well his men could police their dump, thus relieving them of onerous dirty hands duty, work that Patton claims the U.S. Navy generally does not fancy. The Navy agreed to the proposition. The Naval Commander stressed that they were only to take loose cans and the worst broken cases. Armed with this permission, Battery A arranged with an Army Engineering outfit to drive a 2½ ton truck across the Bay to the food dump, to be filled up and then returned to Milne Bay aboard the engineering outfit’s LCVP. In return, they were promised a cut of the action.

Arriving again at the dump, they applied themselves and soon cleaned the dump of all the loose cans, worst broken cases, badly broken cases, slightly broken cases and finally any other cases that would still fit into the truck. Patton became nervous and felt a bit guilty about their liberal definition of broken cases, but the men assured him they were within their limits, and he was reluctant to pull rank over such a small matter.

With the setting of the sun, the truck was driven onto the LCVP for the ride back to the other side of the Bay. (A LCVP is the smallest Higgins-type landing craft, the full name being Landing Craft, Vehicle Personnel.) As they pulled off the beach and were swinging around, the coxswain found that the power winch that raised the bow ramp wasn’t working, and the front ramp remained stuck straight out. The coxswain gunned the motor hoping that the bow would then naturally rise, and they could ride back with the front open. But instead of rising, the ramp started to scoop up water and point deeper to scoop up even more. It looked to Patton like a Naval version of an airplane’s outside loop. In an instant, he thought of the price they were about to pay for those orange and grapefruit juices and the retribution they were about to suffer for stretching the definition of “broken” cases. As the Lieutenant in charge, would he have to reimburse the Army for the swamped boat and truck? How many monthly deductions from his salary would it take to pay for them? (Up to then, he had hoped the war would not last that long.)

The coxswain quickly adjusted his thinking and employed the men to crank the ramp up by hand. Each arc of the hand of 60 degrees raised the ramp only about a quarter of an inch. In their own defense, the men took turns manhandling the crank and eventually ratcheted the ramp to a reasonably secure position, and the LCVP crept home.

Howard Patton recalls that the juice tasted especially sweet – literally and figuratively. It might have been considered a scavenging expedition, but Patton said this for the Army: the dump looked a lot better when they finished than it did when the Navy was in charge.

To schedule an oral history for a World War II veteran, please contact Reagan Grau, Chief Archivist of the National Museum of the Pacific War. (830) 997-8600 x262 or grau@nimitzfoundation.org.
The exhibit displaying the work of Tom Lea (1907-2001), an artist, illustrator and writer, will open on the 17th of October and close on 10 January 2016. It is entitled “Tom Lea: LIFE and WWII,” and it will be shown in the Temporary Gallery. It will be free to the public. Lea, a native of El Paso, Texas, was the first civilian artist hired by LIFE Magazine as a correspondent during WWII. Previously, he had focused on large mural paintings and illustrating books for other Texas writers, such as J. Frank Dobie. Despite no experience painting combat scenes, he boarded a Navy destroyer and traveled over 100,000 miles recording all types of warfare on many Pacific battlefields.

The Museum is working with the Tom Lea Institute and Brown Foundation. It will display 26 paintings and drawings -- all based on Lea’s eyewitness accounts. Included will be the 1944 painting “Marines Call It That 2,000 Yard Stare,” which many feel is the most famous war painting of all time. All of these works are on loan from the U.S. Center of Military History at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and some have never been displayed before.

Adding to the significance of this exhibit will be a day-long conference for scholars, military historians, veterans, and the general public. In conjunction with our Museum’s exhibit, another exhibit called Tom Lea: Chronicler of 20th Century America will be on display at the Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin.

Artifacts belonging to the collections of The National Museum of the Pacific War are currently on loan and being displayed in an exhibit at the Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio. The exhibit is called Our Part of the Victory: Texans in WWII, about the contributions of Texans to the War Effort. The exhibit opened 2 September 2015 (the 70th anniversary of the end of the WWII) and will be on display until 7 December 2016 (the 75th anniversary of the U.S.’s entry into the war).

Along with a massive civilian effort on the home front, some 750,000 Texans served during the war. This pivotal point in history shaped the direction of future global development and brought great changes to Texas. The exhibit explores the role of Texans during the war and sheds light on the impact the war had on the Lone Star State.

Our Museum loaned the Institute approximately 20 artifacts, all of which have connections with Texans who served in the war. They include: letters from veterans and telegrams from the War Department, photos, uniform components, a Navy Cross, and a Texas flag raised over the USS Pennsylvania at Wake and Okinawa.

(The sailor was threatened with court martial if he did it again.)
Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from 15 September to 15 October to recognize the contributions of Hispanic Americans to the United States and celebrate the group’s heritage and culture. The National Museum of the Pacific War joins the rest of the nation in paying tribute to the Hispanics who fought in the Pacific Theater. Throughout the Museum’s exhibits, Hispanic units and the exploits of individuals are chronicled.

An estimated 250,000 to 500,000 Hispanic Americans served in the military during World War II. (Since the majority of Hispanics were classified as “white” by the standards of the day, no specific records were kept of their individual participation.)

Three units of predominantly Hispanic personnel served in the Pacific Theater: the 200th and 515th Coast Artillery (New Mexico National Guard) and the 158th Infantry Regimental Combat Team (Arizona National Guard).

The 200th and 515th Coast Artilleries were both lost in the Philippines upon the surrender of Bataan in April 1942.

The 158th Regimental Combat Team fought in the Southwest Pacific under General Douglas MacArthur and saw combat on New Guinea and the Philippines, especially on Luzon. It was awarded both the Presidential Unit Citation and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation for its distinguished action.

Hispanic Americans fought in every campaign depicted in the George H.W. Bush Gallery. The following areas highlight specific Hispanic contributions:

One exhibit, Arsenal of Democracy, describes the efforts of Hispanics on the Homefront. For example, there is a photograph and story about Josephine Ledesma who worked on airplanes in Texas. Another story on the Bracero program, which brought Mexican agricultural laborers to the U.S. to help harvest crops, is also described.

Another exhibit, Texans Pitch In, describes the assistance given by Hispanics in Texas during the war. A WWII Facts section tells the story of Felix Longoria, a Mexican American soldier who was killed in the Philippines, and denied a wake in a small town in Texas because he was considered “non-white.” A nationwide controversy erupted, and with the intercession of junior U.S. Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Longoria finally was buried at Arlington Cemetery in Virginia.

In the Liberation of the Philippines, four Hispanic soldiers were Medal of Honor recipients: David Gonzales, Manuel Perez, Cleto Rodriguez, and Ysmael Villegas. There were also two Hispanic Medal of Honor recipients who fought at Okinawa: Harold Gonzales and Alejandro Ruiz. Another Hispanic awarded the Medal of Honor was Joe Martinez, who received the medal for his actions in the Aleutian Islands of Alaska.

Three other Hispanic Americans of note: LT Oscar Perdomo, of El Paso, shot down five Japanese planes over Korea on 13 August 1945 making him the last ace of World War II. Mario Frederic Ramirez de Arellano was the first Hispanic submarine commander. He took command of the USS Balao in April 1944. Pedro del Valle was the first Hispanic to reach the rank of Lieutenant General. He commanded the 1st Marine Division during the battle for Okinawa.

The Mexican flag flies in the lobby of the George H.W. Bush Gallery to honor the 201st Fighter Squadron (The Aztec Eagles) of the Mexican Air Force which fought in the Philippines in 1945. The squadron flew more than 90 combat missions, totaling more than 1,900 hours of flight time as it participated in the Allied effort to bomb Luzon and Formosa. During this fighting, five of the squadron’s pilots were killed.
Memorial Day 2015: Preserving the Hope of a Nation

Memorial Wall Endowment Wreath Presentations were made in the names of the following Ships, Units and Individuals:

**Ships:** USS ARIZONA, USS BALCH/PORTERFIELD, USS BALTIMORE, USS BATAAN, USS BILOXI, USS BUSH, USS CALIENTE, USS CEBU, USS COLORADO, USS DE HAVEN, USS DREXLER, USS ESSEX, USS EURYALE, USS FARENHOLT, USS FULTON, USS GEN MARK L. HERSEY, USS GENERAL A.E. ANDERSON, USS GENERAL R.E. CALLAN, USS GOSHEN, USS HUGHES, USS HULL, USS IDAHO, USS JUNEAU, USS LST 463, USS MARYLAND, USS MISSISSIPPI, USS MISSOURI, USS MONAGHAN, USS NEW MEXICO, USS OKLAHOMA CITY CL-91 & CLG/CG-5, USS PRINCETON, USS RENSHAW, USS SALAMONIE, USS SALT LAKE CITY, USS SHELIAK, USS SMITH, USS SPENCE, USS TABBERER, USS WISCONSIN, USS WM. P. BIDDLE, and USS ZELLARS.

**Units:** 158th Regimental Combat Team (Bushmasters), 16th Combat Cargo Squadron, 302nd Fighter Control Squadron, 41st Bombardment Group (M), 4th Regiment, Sixth Marines, Engineers, American Battleship Association, ARISAN MARU POWs, Civilian Internees of the Japanese, First Air Commando, and USN Base Hospital #15.

**Individuals:** CAPT. Henry L. Page, USN, Dale and George Anderson, Donald D. Hessler, Fletcher Brothers, Jim Bob Phifer, Joe Leslie Ware and John Henry Winn, LCDR Frank J. Longtin, USN, Lester Rotter, LT Charles McCoy, USN, LTJG Henry Gregorio, USN, Marvin H. Raven, Reverend Robert Wilch, Richard L. Bell, Sifredo Salinas, Wayne B. Goodenow and PFC Ballard Pead.

Inclement weather forced the annual commemoration of Memorial Day to be held in the historic Nimitz Ballroom where General USMC (Ret) Michael Hagee welcomed those who had come to pay homage to everyone who had served and died protecting the United States during war.

The Commanding Officer of the USS Nimitz, Capt. John C. Ring, paid tribute by saying “Memorial Day is a day to honor those who both served and made the ultimate sacrifice. Oftentimes, that sacrifice was made so that others of us could live on. It was always made so that all of us could live better, freer lives. To those who died securing our peace and freedom, to those who served in conflict to protect our land, sacrificing their own dreams to preserve the hope of a nation, establishing America as a bright beacon of light in a world with many challenges, we owe those heroes a deep debt of thanks.”

Memorial wreaths had been placed in the Memorial Courtyard the day before. Gold Star Mothers from Gillespie County made a special wreath presentation. Colors were posted and retired by the Texas Cryptologic Color Guard, and patriotic music was sung by the St. Mary’s School Combined Choir. Cadet Charles Zowie, FBG High School NJROTC, led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Rifle Salute was fired by the Nimitz Living History Detachment, and Bill Smallwood played Taps.
Dear Members,

I hope everyone enjoyed a good summer. We surely did. Although July and August were especially hot, our Museum visitation numbers remained ahead of last year. The number of plaque dedications in the Memorial Court Yard and Plaza of the Presidents also remain high. Our visitors continue to be impressed with our superb facility and the stories we tell.

The staff and our many volunteers and supporters did a terrific job on the Nimitz Golf Classic in June. From a fundraising standpoint, we had our best tournament to date.

As you will read in this issue, we continue to make great progress in Phase 1 of the Pacific Combat Zone Renovation Project. It is exciting to see the new structures rising out of the ground and the plans coming to fruition.

As I mentioned last month, we open a new temporary exhibit on 17 October: Tom Lea, LIFE and World War II. This special exhibit will be well worth a trip to the Museum during the last quarter of the year. The Tom Lea Institute will also conduct a day-long seminar on Tom Lea and his work in the Nimitz Ballroom on 17 October. Please check our website for details.

Best Wishes, Mike Hagee

The Admiral Nimitz Foundation and The National Museum of the Pacific War are grateful for a substantial bequest received recently from the estate of Truman and Claudia Gill of Tuleta, Texas.

Truman Gill was very proud to have served as a seagoing Marine in World War II aboard the USS Mississippi. His ship fought extensively in the Pacific, including in the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, at the Battle of Suriago Strait, Leyte Gulf and Okinawa, earning eight battle stars. The ship was also among the vessels anchored in Tokyo Bay witnessing the signing of the surrender documents in September, 1945.

Mr. and Mrs. Gill were long-time supporters of the Museum. In 2003, they led fundraising efforts to finance exhibits memorializing the Marine Corps’ contributions to victory in the Pacific, a topic ever dear to their hearts. They also were responsible for sponsoring a Memorial Wall plaque honoring the Seagoing Marine Detachments in World War II. The plaque may be found on the eastern wall of the Plaza of Presidents.

Their generous bequest will help guarantee the future of the National Museum of the Pacific War, and the preservation of stories of bravery and sacrifice from the Pacific in World War II.

The Fleet Admiral Nimitz Legacy Society is a circle of individuals who have included the Foundation and Museum in their estate plans and have notified the Foundation of their intentions. If you would also like to benefit the Museum through a bequest in your will or through one of the many planned-giving vehicles available, please contact Marty Kaderli for more information at (830) 997-8600 x204 or Kaderli@NimitzFoundation.org.
Afternoon Shadows Shed New Light on “VJ Day” Kiss - 70 Years Later

It is, perhaps, the most iconic kiss in American history—a U.S. sailor and a woman in white impulsively locking lips in New York's Times Square to celebrate Japan's surrender and the end of WWII, August 14, 1945. Famed Life Magazine photographer Alfred Eisenstaedt captured that moment as he covered the celebration. Since its publication, though, the VJ Day Kiss has generated its share of controversy: Who is the sailor? Who is the woman in white? Establishing the identities is difficult, because their faces are largely obscured. When was the photo actually taken? Establishing a precise time for the photo has a significant impact on which candidates could be in the photo—and which couldn't.

For the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, a team of astronomers from Texas State University has applied its unique brand of celestial sleuthing to that famous kiss. Their results shed new light on the timing of the photo, showing the kiss happened at precisely 5:51 p.m. Texas State physics faculty members Donald Olson and Russell Doescher, along with Iowa State University astrophysicist Steven Kawaler, published their findings in the August 2015 issue of Sky & Telescope.

Dance of the Hours: Over the years, dozens of men and women have come forward claiming to be the persons in the photograph. All have different stories, but the one thing they share in common is kissing a stranger in Times Square that day. "All those people have said they were there and identify themselves in the photograph," Olson said. "Who's telling the truth? They all could be telling the truth about kissing someone. I can tell you some things about the picture, and I can rule out some people based on the time of day. We can show that some of the accounts are entirely inconsistent with the astronomical evidence."

For decades, it was assumed the photo was taken after, perhaps just seconds after, President Truman announced Japan's surrender. That announcement appeared on the electric sign in Times Square at 7:03 p.m. In 2010, however, Gloria Bullard, who identified herself in the background of the photo, gave an account of witnessing the kiss that placed the time closer to 6 p.m. The 2012 book, The Kissing Sailor by Lawrence Verria and George Galdorisi, place the time near 2 p.m.

The Late Lunch: The 2 p.m. time cited is part of a timeline based on the accounts of George Mendonsa and Greta Zimmer, who are identified in the book as the kissing pair. According to the book, Mendonsa attended Radio City Music Hall for a 1:05 p.m. movie, which was interrupted when theater employees announced the rumor of the impending Japanese surrender. Mendonsa rushed outside to Times Square, where he encountered Zimmer for the kiss around 2 p.m. Zimmer, a dental assistant, was on a late lunch break. Later, she canceled all other dental appointments in anticipation of the celebration.

Clocks and Shadows: Overlooked in the background of the photo is the Bond Clothes clock. The minute hand of this clock is clear, but the oblique angle of view and the clock's unusually short hour hand makes a definitive reading of the time difficult. The clock might show a time near 4:50, 5:50, or 6:50 p.m. A prominent shadow falls across the Loew's Building just beyond the clock, however, and this shadow could potentially give just as accurate a time reading as the clock. Every tall building in Manhattan acts as a sundial, its shadow moving predictably as the sun traverses the sky. In this case, the Texas State team studied hundreds of photographs and maps from the 1940s to identify the source of the shadow, considering the Paramount Building, Hotel Lincoln and Times Building. The breakthrough came when a photograph of the Astor Hotel revealed a large sign shaped like an inverted L that advertised the Astor Roof garden. Calculations showed that only the Astor Roof sign could have cast the shadow, but to be certain, Olson and Doescher built a scale model of the Times Square buildings with a mirror to project the sun's rays. The location, size and shape of the shadow on the model exactly matched the shadow in Eisenstaedt's kiss photographs.

Mistaken Identity? So who is the sailor? Who is the woman in white? Despite the new understanding of the photograph, those questions remain up for debate. "The widely-accepted scenario of The Kissing Sailor book, with Mendonsa kissing Zimmer near 2 p.m., is ruled out by the astronomical analysis," Olson said. "Zimmer’s account states that she was on her late lunch hour, starting at 1 p.m., and after the kiss the dentists told her to cancel all appointments. That's not going to happen after 6 p.m. Those details of her account are entirely inconsistent with the sunlight and shadows which show that the kiss happened at 5:51 p.m. If Mendonsa is the kissing sailor, he didn't go to the 1:05 p.m. movie—he went to the 4:07 p.m. show.

"Astronomy alone can't identify the participants, but we know the precise moment of the photograph," Olson said. “Some of the accounts are inconsistent with the astronomical evidence, and we can rule out people based on the position of the sun. The shadows were key to unlocking some of the secrets, and we know when the kiss happened and that gives us clues as to whom may or may not have been in the photo.

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To help protect the flank of their Port Moresby operation, the Japanese occupied the island of Tulagi in the southern Solomon Islands on 3 May 1942. Tulagi was the capital of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate. They quickly established a naval refueling station, a communications station, and a seaplane base on Tulagi and the nearby islets of Gavutu-Tanambogo. In July 1942, the Japanese began construction of an airfield across the sound on the island of Guadalcanal.

The failure of the Japanese to take Port Moresby and their defeat at Midway had the effect of leaving their base at Tulagi without effective protection from other Japanese bases. Tulagi was four hours flying time from Rabaul, the nearest large Japanese base. On 7 August 1942, 11,000 U.S. Marines landed on Guadalcanal and 3,000 U.S. Marines landed on Tulagi and nearby islands. This was the beginning of the six month long campaign for Guadalcanal.

On 7 August 1942, the Japanese had approximately 2570 construction troops from the 11th and 13th Construction Units on Guadalcanal working on the airfield and support facilities along with 247 troops of the 81st Guard Unit and 3rd Kure Special Naval Landing Force (SNLF). On Tulagi, there were 350 troops of the 3rd Kure SNLF and personnel from the Yokohama Air Group with 7 Mavis Flying Boats and 8 Rufe Float Planes. On Gavutu-Tanambogo, there were 342 men from the Yokohama Air Group, 144 from the 14th Construction Unit, and 50 from the 3rd Kure SNLF.

The first Japanese ground force sent to Guadalcanal to recapture the airfield was the Ichiki Detachment which arrived on 16 August. This was a battalion-sized force built around the 2nd Battalion of the 28th Infantry Regiment. They were destroyed a week later in the battles along the Tenaru River. Eventually, 33,600 Japanese troops of the 17th Army and 3,100 SNLF troops would see action on Guadalcanal. The Japanese Army troops were mostly from the 2nd, 18th, and 38th Infantry Divisions. By the end of 1942, the Japanese were extremely low on supplies. Troops were on one third rations and were being pushed up the coast toward Cape Esperance. After deciding to withdraw, they fought a rearguard action and managed to evacuate 13,000 men. The Japanese had lost approximately 14,000 killed or missing in action, 9000 dead from disease, and 1,000 captured by U.S. forces.

Japanese naval forces were commanded by the 8th Fleet at Rabaul and the 4th Fleet at Truk. The Japanese Combined Fleet (aircraft carriers and battleships) was based at Truk and provided ships for various actions. In two carrier battles and five major surface engagements during the campaign for Guadalcanal, the Japanese lost fewer ships than the Allies, but were still defeated. Among the Japanese losses were two battleships and a light aircraft carrier. The Japanese, knowing the importance of Henderson Field, also used their battleships and heavy cruisers to bombard that airfield. The other important contribution of the Imperial Japanese Navy in the campaign was the use of fast destroyers to move men and supplies to, and eventually evacuate survivors, from Guadalcanal. This force was known as the Tokyo Express.

The Japanese Naval Air Service contributed most of the aircraft to the fight for Guadalcanal. On the day the Marines landed, the Japanese Navy’s 25th Air Flotilla of the 11th Air Fleet had 39 fighters, 32 medium bombers, 16 dive bombers, and 2 seaplanes at Rabaul and 15 seaplanes at Tulagi. Most of these aircraft were shot down in the first few weeks of the campaign. They were reinforced by additional squadrons as the campaign progressed. Air units from the Combined Fleet’s aircraft carriers Shokaku, Junyo, Shikaku, and Ryujo also fought in the campaign from both their carriers and land bases.

Make a difference ... volunteer
pacificwarmuseum.org or call
Stefanie Manee-Lebens, (830) 997-8600, ext.223
With the changing of the seasons, the Museum’s gift shops have some new items which will carry you into spring. Among them are adult thermal shirts, adult zip jackets, and adult hoodies. All are in assorted colors and priced at $19.50 (member’s price) or $22.95 (retail). All come in sizes Small - 2X Large. Add $2 for 2XL.

**Long Sleeve Thermal Shirt:**
- Cardinal, Heather Denim
- or Heather Plum

**Adult Zip Jacket:**
- Cardinal, Heather Black
- or Heather Charcoal

**Adult Zip Hoodie:**
- Heather Denim,
- Heather Green
- or Heather Plum

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**To Order Apparel and the Books featured in this issue:**
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**PACIFIC COMBAT ZONE**

**Continuation from Page 1:**

The last Living History re-enactments in the present facility will be 10-11 October 2015. They are expected to resume in March 2017. Please watch future issues of the newsletter or website for updates on renovations and the dates for the resumption of the re-enactments.

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**End of WWII Continuation from Page 1:**

General Michael Hagee (Ret), USMC, welcomed everyone by saying that “this is a special day in a special place.” He pointed out that the U.S. military has a proud legacy going back to Bunker Hill. It should also be remembered that Generals and Admirals do not win wars – they are won by the lower ranks who, when situations change, figure out what to do. The keynote speaker was Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush, grandson of President George H.W. Bush for whom the Museum’s main gallery is named. The younger Bush said that while the gallery carries his grandfather’s name, it tells the story of how much all parts of American society did in fighting for victory. He stressed that although his grandfather was shot down and rescued, it should not be forgotten that the two who were flying with him were never found. They, too, along with thousands of others should be honored for standing united in a common cause to combat tyranny.

Bush further commented that as Chairman of the Texas Land Board he is aware of the importance of preserving the stories of veterans. He urged all veterans to contact the Veterans Land Board, VOICESOFVETERANS.ORG or 800-252-VETS to share their experiences.

pacificwarmuseum.org
Have you ever seen museum artifacts and wanted to touch them? Well, here’s your chance! Objects buried deep within the Museum’s collection storage rooms are ready to break free and strut their stuff.

On 8 October, from 1-3pm, the Curatorial Staff will bring out a few artifacts and documents for visitors to take a closer look. Stop by the Curator’s Cart in the Bush Gallery, put on some white gloves and get hands-on with history. You might even discover a new story or two.

**Future Exhibits:**

Alert Today, Alive Tomorrow
Living with the Atomic Bomb, 1945 - 1965
29 April - 11 August 2016
**********
Norman Rockwell in the 1940s:
A View of the American Homefront
16 September 2016 - 13 January 2017

More information on these two exhibits will be available in future newsletters and on the website.

**Inspiring Our Youth:**

The Museum’s Educational Department, under the leadership of Richard Koone, helps to educate students in a variety of ways, including assisting them with their National History Day projects.

Connor Brown (shown “in uniform”) of Thornton, Texas, visited the Museum with his parents in August 2014. He was so inspired by what he learned that he requested additional material from the Education Department and focused his history project on Admiral Nimitz.

**Next Nimitz Jr. Corps Program:**

On 12 December, the Nimitz Jr. Corps program will focus on wartime Christmas. Students, between the ages of six and thirteen, are invited to join the Museum staff in making traditional WWII Christmas decorations and learning about how Christmas was celebrated with wartime rationing in effect.

The time is set for 11am. Space is limited, and reservations are encouraged. The cost is $5 per student. To participate, please contact Stefanie Manee-Lebens at (830) 997-8600, ext. 223, or manee@NimitzFoundation.org.

**Join Our Growing Genealogical Society:**

Sons & Daughters of WWII Veterans™

Website: sons&daughtersofww2veterans.org

**NEXT NEWSLETTER:**

Reporting on Annual Symposium
“In Stealth We Trust: Special Forces and their Origins in WWII-Part Two”

with Summaries of Participants’ Presentations
Our Partnership with the Texas Historical Commission:

Working together by agreement as a state agency and a non-profit organization, the THC and Admiral Nimitz Foundation formed a new public/private partnership created to preserve the historic resources of the National Museum of the Pacific War and guide the expansion of the Museum. It is the only institution in the continental United States dedicated exclusively to telling the story of the Pacific Theater battles of World War II.
The Admiral Nimitz Foundation is a 501(c) 3 non-profit foundation eligible for corporate matching grants. Foundation members may forward any forms for matching gift programs with their membership contributions.

The Admiral Nimitz Foundation
328 E. Main St. • Fredericksburg, TX 78624

The first Battle Buddies Sporting Clay Shoot was a great success raising funds and awareness for the Admiral Nimitz Foundation and the Veterans Assistance Dogs of Texas, a non-profit which rescues dogs with the capacity to become companion dogs, and after training, assigns them to veterans with physical and/or emotional injuries. Held August 22 at the National Shooting Complex in San Antonio, the event’s major sponsors were Remington Outdoors, Elks USA, Conceptual MindWorks, Valero, Hometown Hero, Toyota and Dogologie. The winning team was Y Bar Ranch of Tilden, Texas, and the top individuals were Jay Brown from the Y Bar team and Keith Banks from the Swaim Ranch team, who both shot 96 clays out of 100. Wounded warriors and representatives of Combat Marine Outdoors, Operation Military Embrace, and Patriot Warrior Foundation were part of the field, along with Naval Intelligence personnel from Good Fellow Air Force Base. The next annual Battle Buddies will be held August 27, 2016.

Sign up at Kaderli@nimitzfoundation.org.