A new exhibit entitled "Norman Rockwell in the 1940s -- A View of the American Homefront," has been organized by the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts and is now on display in the George H.W. Bush Gallery. It consists of 44 tear sheets from Saturday Evening Post covers. Media sponsorship has been provided by Curtis Licensing, a division of The Saturday Evening Post. There is no charge to view this exhibit.

On Friday, 7 October, Thomas Daly, the Curator of Education of the Norman Rockwell Museum, will be on hand to give background on this unique exhibit. There will be a special tour at 2pm, limited to a small group of 10-15 people (at $10 each). Daly will also take part in the Fredericksburg Friday Night Art Walk. The temporary gallery will be kept open for visitors from 5-7pm. At 7pm, Daly will give a talk about the exhibit and its significance.

To sign up for the special tour or 7pm talk, please contact Stefanie Manee-Lebens at (830) 997-8600, ext. 223, or manee@NimitzFoundation.org
I know a museum has triumphed when I leave a bit stunned, new realizations having just taken hold. Before my recent visit to the National Museum of the Pacific War and Admiral Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, I had considered the site a destination solely for World War II history buffs. And while I was surprised to find the artifacts of war so intriguing, that realization is not the one that left me teary-eyed in the penultimate exhibition room. I was startled by how, in weaving together the complex threads of history, this museum tells the story of a whole generation—and in that telling, there is a story of my family, too.

The awareness hits me right away, in the first exhibition room, when I read one of FDR’s famous quotes emblazoned large upon the wall, “To some generations much is given. Of other generations, much is asked. This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny.” It dawns on me that FDR was talking about my mother’s mom and dad, Joy and Stanley Price, aka Nana and Papa, who played outlandish games with my sister and me in the attic and took us to the dollar store for shopping sprees. But now, standing at the beginning of this labyrinth of exhibition halls, taking in FDR’s dignified pronouncement, I get a whole new perspective on something I had never fully comprehended: that my grandparents had been two young people swept up in a wave of history that changed the world. And it changed them, too.

My grandmother, at age 19, married a fighter pilot named Edward Raymond Woolery; they were stationed in the Philippines when she gave birth to my uncle. A few months before the Pearl Harbor attack, she and her son were sent home to San Antonio. She didn’t find out that her husband had died in combat until months later, when an Air Force officer knocked on the door. A wartime widow with a small child, she then met and fell in love with my grandfather, also an Air Force pilot, who was stationed at San Antonio as a flight instructor. They married and had a daughter, my Mom. But he too was called away and began flying B-29s off the island of Tinian in the Marianas. My grandmother said goodbye again to her husband, not knowing if he would return.

I take in all of the video, audio, photographs, maps and artifacts that the museum uses to explain the war and the global forces that caused it: the U.S. isolationism that followed the Great Depression, the introduction of Japan to the West after the invasion of Commodore Perry in the mid-1800s, and the ensuing Sino-Japanese War. One thing leads to another, and the museum teaches how these seemingly disparate events of history are interwoven.

I stand in the Pearl Harbor room and listen to a recording of FDR announcing war on Japan, imagining my grandparent hearing his voice over the radio 75 years ago. I watch computerized maps showing how U.S. planes steadily took over the island that they needed in the Pacific to gain access to Japan, thinking about my grandfather making the 12-hour roundtrip flight between Tinian and Japan.

It is in the Victory Room where I understand at a gut level how this museum presents a personal story, too. It is in the video of the momentous September 2, 1945, surrender ceremony aboard the USS Missouri that I get to see my grandfather flying in a tiny black plane over the Bay of Tokyo. I can’t really see him specifically; of course -- but I know that he was in one of the B-29s flying in a massive air formation, floating like flocks of geese over the ship where General MacArthur, Admiral Nimitz, the Japanese foreign minister and many Allied heads of state were signing the peace document that would end the war. In watching that video screen, I feel a hint of what that ceremony represented to so many people—the promise of peace. And for us, it meant that my mother and uncle were going to grow up with a father and my grandmother would not be widowed again.

Afterwards, into the sunshine of a perfect blue-sky day, I sit overlooking the Peace Garden. ... I hold in my hands a leather key chain I’d just bought in the gift shop. Fastened to the leather is a silver replica of the Air Force Seal— an eagle clutching a shield flashing with lightening bolts. Sometimes we need an everyday object to remind us of the bigger picture, of the victories and losses that have shaped our world. This keychain is a reminder of what the museum helped me grasp in a more meaningful way—that while Joy and Stanley Price will always be two lovable grandparents, they are also, as FDR put it, part of a generation of whom much was asked, when even surviving to become a grandparent meant that you were one of the lucky ones.

Clayton Maxwell is an Austin-based travel, culture and lifestyle writer. After the war, her grandfather, Stanley Price, returned to Texas and continued to train pilots. He retired with the rank of Lt. Colonel. He then worked in the financial sphere. His son, Gilland Price, is a former Board member of the Nimitz Museum.

(Please note: This article first appeared in the May 2016 issue of Texas Highways Magazine and was reprinted with its permission and that of the author. Some minor deletions have been made because of space constraints.)


New Video Presentation Added to Midget Submarine Exhibit

A new video presentation has been added to the Pearl Harbor Midget Submarine, Ha-19, exhibit for visitors to learn about the sub’s WWII history and complicated journey to end up being displayed in the National Museum of the Pacific War. Following are some of the key points included in the presentation:

The midget submarine, Ha-19, was used by the Japanese during the attack on Pearl Harbor. She was captured, studied by U.S. Naval Intelligence, displayed during War Bond drives and exhibited after the war in various locations until being brought to this Museum.

The attack on Pearl Harbor included the use of five midget submarines operated by two-man crews. The destroyer USS Ward fired the first shot of WWII for the U.S. as it sunk one of these submarines trying to enter Pearl Harbor.

Ha-19 failed entirely in her mission. Ensign Kazuo Sakamaki piloted it; his crew member was Chief Warrant Officer Inagaki. The gyro-compass malfunctioned before the launch so the vessel was impossible to control properly. The vessel ran aground several times and was depth charged which caused the batteries to leak fumes. The two torpedoes could not be fired. Both crew members passed out due to the fumes and an operating temperature of 135 degrees Fahrenheit. The sub finally ran aground on Oahu. While swimming to shore, Inagaki drowned. Sakamaki made it and passed out. He woke up to find U.S. Sergeant David Akui standing guard over him. Sakamaki became America’s first WWII Prisoner of War.

The other four Japanese subs were sunk or scuttled within the Pearl Harbor defensive area. By 2009, all had been found. After being studied, Ha-19 was shipped to the U.S. in January 1942 and served as a fundraising tool and propaganda weapon. It was made into a traveling exhibit to promote the purchase of War Bonds and was viewed by hundreds of thousands of people in 44 states.

In January 1947, the Navy moved Ha-19 to the submarine base at Key West, Florida. The National Park Service wanted to move Ha-19 to Pearl Harbor, but lacked funding.

It was transferred back to the U.S. Navy in 1988 and stored at Key West Naval Air Station. After more than 40 years, surrounded by salt water, the sub was rapidly deteriorating.

Marshall Stieves, then Chairman of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation, learned of Ha-19’s status in 1989. He led a group from Fredericksburg to Key West and found the historic relic in three rusted sections. He went on to lead the process of transferring the submarine to the Admiral Nimitz Museum. Stieves even donated the use of two trucks which hauled Ha-19 to Fredericksburg in February 1991.

The sub was off-loaded in front of the Nimitz Museum where a small ceremony was held. It was stabilized and painted to stop corrosion and exhibited in the Memorial Courtyard. A few months later, Sakamaki was a presenter at the Pearl Harbor Symposium and visited his former sub.

Although the National Park Service continued its efforts to move Ha-19 to Hawaii, support to keep it in Fredericksburg kept growing, including from the Pearl Harbor Survivors’ Association. The Admiral Nimitz Foundation pressed the Department of the Navy, and Congressman Lamar Smith led another effort by writing a letter to President Clinton, which was signed by all members of Congress from Texas. The President approved the request in 1998.

Thus, this amazing WWII artifact was moved into the Bush Gallery as a centerpiece for Pearl Harbor exhibits. Ha-19 is now officially listed as a U.S. National Landmark. The Museum is honored to have it as a key piece of history to dramatize how the war in the Pacific began.

*The Ha-19 Midget Submarine on Display in the George H.W. Bush Gallery*
Memorial Day fell this year on a rainy day, and the Museum’s commemoration was moved inside to the historic Nimitz Ballroom. Thunderous applause was given to the WWII veterans who occupied the first rows. Attendees were welcomed by General Mike Hagee, USMC (Ret), who is CEO of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation. Colors were posted and retired by the Fredericksburg High School NJROTC. The invocation was given by Captain Roger Spencer, USN (Ret). Patriotic music was provided by St. Mary’s Combined School Band and Bill Smallwood. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cadet Juan Loredo. Mayor Linda Langerhans and Cadet Kira Bloodgood were in charge of the Gillespie County Veterans Wreath Presentation, and the Nimitz Living History Detachment gave the final rifle salute.

The keynote speaker was Dennis Blocker who spoke of his grandfather, Clifford Lemke’s, personal struggles with the memories of the carnage on LCI 449 and the trauma Lemke’s suicide caused Blocker’s mother and family. That tragedy spurred Blocker to research what his grandfather had experienced during the battle off of Iwo Jima. This led to the publishing of the book, *Heart of Hell*, which chronicles that battle and highlights personal stories of other crewmen who served with Lemke. Blocker made a plea that oral histories and stories of veterans be saved so their sacrifices are not forgotten or in vain. His poignant remarks produced tears in many eyes, and the veterans present led a standing ovation.

At the end of the ceremony, Memorial Wall Endowment Wreaths were presented:

**Ships:** USS Arizona, USS Balch/Porterfield, USS Baltimore, USS Bataan, USS Biloxi, USS Bush, USS Caliente, USS Cebu, USS Colorado, USS DeHaven, 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 Kankakee, USS LST-463, USS Maryland, USS Mississippi, USS Missouri, USS Monaghan, USS New Mexico, USS Oklahoma City- CL91 & CLG/CG-5, USS Princeton, USS Renshaw, USS Salamonia, 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 Command, 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, Sijfredo Salinas, Wayne B. Goodenow, PFC Ballard Pead.

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Even war has its lighter moments, many due to the efforts of the USO. A new panel highlighting a group of USO performers who traveled the South Pacific as part of the production of “A Mexican Hayride” has been created as a permanent exhibit in the Bush Gallery.

Betsy Robinson (left in wheelchair), the only living performer from this group, came from San Antonio to see the exhibit. Several years ago, she also donated her scrapbook of memories from the time as a USO performer.
**Trailblazer Ralphal Johnson Honored in Plaque Ceremony**

A highlight of Memorial Day was a plaque ceremony honoring Ralphal Johnson, a gunner on LCI 449 who performed magnificently during the war. Among those attending the ceremony were family members of LCI 449 crewmates who served with Johnson, his brother and sister-in-law and other family friends.

Ralphal L. Johnson, an African American from Decatur, Texas, was assigned to the LCI (G) 449 gunboat as a Steward's Mate, which is naval parlance for "butler." His job aboard the 449 was to care for the needs of the seven officers aboard the ship. The commanding officer in September 1944 was Rufus G. Herring of Roseboro, North Carolina, and the Executive Officer was Byron C. Yarbrough of Auburn, Alabama. The 70 crewmen were all white.

If, however, you assume that Johnson's time aboard the ship was "Hell on Earth" you would be wrong. Not only was Johnson acknowledged as an equal member of the crew, but he was also promoted above other shipmates. Johnson was discovered to be a crack shot with a 20mm gun and was promoted to be trigger man during General Quarters. This was critical because the Japanese were skilled pilots, and the trigger man had the life of the ship and crew in his hands.

There were plenty of other men who could have been chosen to be trigger men on the four 20mm gun mounts. The fact Johnson was chosen speaks highly of his abilities and bearing; but it also must be recognized that at a time when the military branches were highly segregated, the officers of the 449 ignored such bias and chose the best man for the position.

After a sterling performance in the line of duty, Johnson was badly injured and spent months in the hospital after the carnage he suffered at Iwo Jima aboard the 449. He always, even in the blistering heat, wore long-sleeved shirts to hide the scars and was never able to fulfill his dream of playing baseball in the Negro Leagues. He married in 1948 and had a son and daughter. He worked where he could to support his family. The scars of war, both physical and mental, took a huge toll on his life and marriage. While folks celebrated holidays with fireworks, he would get in his old truck and drive far off into the country so he would not hear the exploding fireworks -- too many bad memories. Bouncing his nephews on his knees would cause his pants to become blood speckled as old shrapnel from Iwo Jima surfaced with the weight on his thighs. He died of lung cancer and heart failure in 1970 at the age of 46 years.

Johnson was a true, unheralded trailblazer, and the National Museum of the Pacific War is proud to be home to a Memorial Wall plaque in his honor.

**Thanking the Members of the Fleet Admiral Nimitz Legacy Society**

The Admiral Nimitz Foundation is proud to announce the following members of the Fleet Admiral Nimitz Legacy Society:

Malcolm and Marge McDougall  
Mr. and Mrs. Truman Gill  
Joseph Seuro, Jr.  
Carl I. Duncan  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Phelps  
Melinda Godfrey  
Ray Harrison  
Lawrence Nothdurft  
Clascola Trust  
Thomas A. Sullivan  
Conway Taylor  
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Woellhof  
George J. Grimm  
Monahans American Legion Post #473  
Scholarship Trust  
Don Yockey  
Donald Ashton Sumner  
Robert E. Allender  
John Ray Peppler  
Jackie Hollis Henderson  
Robert Grinslade Jr.  
Dorothy L. and Fred Lucas  
Carol Ann Shepherd

To join this Legacy Society which helps ensure the future of the National Museum of the Pacific War, please contact Marty Kaderli  
830-997-8600, x204  
or  
kaderli@NimitzFoundation.org.
**From the Desk of the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation:**

**Dear Members,**

Another productive and hot summer is behind us. Thanks to our staff and our many volunteers and supporters, we had a superb Annual Nimitz Dinner in July with Admiral Mike Mullen, USN (Ret), former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, as the guest speaker. His presentation was enthusiastically received by all in attendance.

We are presently in the final stages of the renovation of the Pacific Combat Zone. The new WWII Vehicle Storage and Maintenance Building is going up, and we are putting the finishing touches on the new reenactment area. With normal fall weather, we should finish the project by the end of the year. We are on schedule to conduct the first redesigned Living History show in March 2017.

As you will read in this issue, we opened the exhibit, "Norman Rockwell in the 1940's: A View of the American Homefront," in the temporary gallery on 16 September. This special exhibit will be well worth a trip to the Museum during the last quarter of the year. Please note the special presentation by the Curator of Education from the Rockwell Museum on Friday, 7 October.

You will also read information about the upcoming Veterans’ Day and Pearl Harbor Day programs. These events are always well attended. If you are in the area, I invite you to participate.

As always, I thank you for your continued and dedicated support. Your generosity makes it possible to honor our veterans, improve our educational offerings and maintain a truly world-class facility.

**Best wishes,**

**Mike Hagee**

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**Planning for the Upcoming Resumption of the Island Assault Reenactments**

**by Marvin Schroeder and Bryan Degler**

As construction of the new Living History amphitheater and battlefield continues, plans are being made to resume the “Island Assault” Living History reenactments when the renovated Pacific Combat Zone reopens to the public in March 2017. Recently, the Living History department and several senior volunteers met to develop an outline for the new presentation to best utilize the larger battlefield and recruit more reenactors to continue the mission of honoring WWII heroes and educating the public.

D.G. McWilliams, a WWII veteran who served with the Marine Corps 5th Regiment, 1st Division, joined the group as an invaluable advisor. McWilliams is a veteran of the invasions of Peleliu and Okinawa. His firsthand knowledge and military background proved very helpful in creating the choreography and script for the “Island Assault” portrayed during the Living History programs. McWilliams will be a special guest during the first weekend’s programs when the Museum’s Living History reenactments resume. He is the author of *Never Too Old to Cry*, the memoirs of his time in the Marine Corps.

If you want to learn more about the Nimitz Living History Detachment and our popular “Island Assault” Living History programs, visit PacificWarMuseum.org, under “Get Involved,” “Volunteers,” or contact Marvin Schroeder at mschroeder@nimitzfoundation.org.

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**Strategists at Work:**

*Living History Director Marvin Schroeder and Marine Veterans D.G. Williams and Bill Sultenfuss*
In conjunction with the complete reconstruction of the Pacific Combat Zone, a team of four volunteers, under the direction of Marvin Schroeder, is reconstructing an LCVP (Landing Craft, Vehicle and Personnel) which will be used in the Island Assault reenactment programs resuming in March 2017. This vessel, often called a “Higgins boat,” was donated to the Museum for our use; however, it was not in suitable condition to be utilized. Many parts of the vessel had seriously deteriorated or were completely missing. A major rebuilding is in progress utilizing a full set of original construction plans from the Higgins Shipyard in New Orleans, old photos, and lots of guesswork.

To lighten the boat for future use, all major metal components were first removed, such as the complete rudder assembly, the long bronze shaft and propeller, and also the 25 foot long keel. In addition, this version had heavy steel splinter shields, used later in the war, which had to be removed. Most of the components will be refurbished in the future, and although not reinstalled, will be retained on display adjacent to the boat.

In general, the reconstruction begins from the stern toward the bow. The transom area has been essentially completed, including access hatches and even the compass dome, except for final painting. A new ramp will ultimately be constructed of lighter material. The boat will be painted in original Navy grey, with many small metal accoutrements reinstalled. The idea is to present a boat with a suitable appearance for use in the combat reenactment program, not one fully functional and as originally built.

When completed, the boat will be mounted on a purpose built dolly, which will generally be hidden from view. In the assault, the boat will approach a simulated beach, lower its ramp and discharge the troops for an island attack. This should add a high degree of action and authenticity to the program.

Future updates will keep readers informed on the progress of this reconstruction.
John Finn, Medal of Honor Recipient on Pearl Harbor

by Kent Knudson

This is a first in a series of articles on Pacific Medal of Honor recipients as the Museum and Foundation commemorate the 75th anniversary of World War II. Captain Knudson is a retired naval officer and a World War II historian, as well as a member of the Tarrant County Historical Commission.

Paradise! After 15 years in the Navy and a variety of fleet and shore assignments, Chief Aviation Ordnanceman John William Finn, U. S. Navy, and his bride of eight years, Alice, found themselves in the Territory of Hawaii, enjoying a lazy Sunday morning. The Los Angeles, CA, native was stationed with VP-14, one of three squadrons of PBY Catalina flying boats aboard Naval Air Station Kaneohe Bay on Oahu’s east windward side, 20 miles from Battleship Row at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

The first wave of Japanese Zeros had already been launched from the Pearl Harbor Strike Force and a squadron specifically briefed for Kaneohe was leading the attack on the air station at 7:55 a.m. on 7 December 1941. When Chief Finn first heard the slower-than-usual machine gun fire and low-flying aircraft roaring by his home, he wondered if it was “war games” or training he should have been made aware of. In a moment, he realized it was Sunday and something was wrong. Hopping out of bed, he heard knocks on the door from a shipmate’s wife who passed word to report to the hangar a mile away.

While driving to the squadron, a Zero fighter roared from behind his 1938 Ford sedan, its pilot making a wing-over. AOC Finn told oral historian Larry Smith in “Beyond Glory” that he “saw that big old red meatball, the rising sun insignia, on the underside of the wing....Well, I threw it into second, and it was a wonder I didn’t run over every sailor in the air station.” Turning to a shipmate in the car, he said “It’s the real McCoy!”

Once he got to the hangar, Finn, according to his citation, “promptly secured and manned a .50-caliber machine gun mounted on an instruction stand in a completely exposed section of the [seaplane] parking ramp, which was under heavy machine gun strafing fire.” There were no anti-aircraft guns or mounts on the new base; Finn used a tripod of three pipes to stabilize his weapon and constantly fired it at the incoming fighters for two-and one half hours. Attack after attack came: at 8:20 a.m., a second flight hit the base; at 9:30, bombers arrived; a final strafing occurred at 10:00 a.m. Finn was credited for shooting down one plane, in addition to making it difficult for the Zeros to complete their attack runs.

The Zeros would complete one run, circle, and then come in for another one. Between these runs, Finn directed sailors’ efforts in the fight around him. Ignoring his personal safety, he continued to man his gun “and to return the enemy’s fire vigorously and with telling effect throughout the enemy strafing and bombing attacks.”

Finn only stopped when he was specifically ordered to tend to the wounds he suffered in the fight. He noted in a Navy interview that the doctors at sick bay said he had “19 holes in me—mostly small fragment[s] of 20mm shells” which contributed to his chest and stomach wounds. He said he was first wounded in the right thumb and left forearm. [I] remember I had to reach over with my right arm because my left wouldn’t work.” Other injuries included a broken left foot and a scalp laceration due to a bomb blast. After first aid treatment, Finn went back to his squadron area, and with “much pain and moving with great difficulty...actively supervised the rearming of returning planes.” In the midst of all the destruction at the base, there was a need to bring some order and preparedness to the personnel and the site that day in case the Japanese were to attack again.

Finn spent from the next afternoon to Christmas Eve, 1941, in the hospital recovering from his wounds. At a ceremony on 15 September 1942, aboard aircraft carrier USS Enterprise at Pearl Harbor, Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz presented him with the Medal of Honor, one of 15 awarded for the “Day of Infamy” and the only one for direct action against the enemy. The Honolulu Advertiser quoted Admiral Nimitz saying that “Finn’s magnificent courage in the face of almost certain death...is the kind of American fighting spirit necessary to victory.” With the timing of the Kaneohe attack, some historians are of the opinion that Finn was arguably the first Medal of Honor recipient of World War II.

John W. Finn died in 2010 at the age of 100. The Navy christened its upcoming 63rd Arleigh Burke-class destroyer as USS John Finn (DDG-113) in March 2015.

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www.pacificwarmuseum.org/get-involved/create-a-memorial
or contact Stephanie Hagee at shagee@nimitzfoundation.org or 830-997-8600 ext. 215

2015 Volunteer of the Year

Bob LeClerq, a longtime volunteer at the Museum, has been named the Volunteer of the Year for 2015. Bob started volunteering in 1994 while working with reunions for veterans of the USS Samuel B. Roberts. Bob lost his brother on the Roberts during the battle of Leyte Gulf. He went on to donate and raise funds for what became the Samuel B. Roberts gazebo in the Memorial Courtyard. In recent years, he has been driving up from San Antonio to volunteer two or three days a week in various capacities. Bob is one of the loyal volunteers who help to ensure the continued success of the Museum and its facilities.
2017 Temporary Exhibits:

THE WARTIME SILHOUETTE:
Patriotic Fashions of the 1940s
10 February 2017 through 7 May 2017
From DIY fashion to Hollywood glamour, the Wartime Silhouette looks at how fashion thrived despite war shortages. This exhibition explores how Americans wore functional, yet stylish clothes, as an expression of duty and sacrifice.

As a member of the War Production Board declared, “Style has done much to help the war effort.” Fashions of the 1940s, as a statement of American distinctiveness and freedom, embodied one of the reasons “why we fight.”

PROPAGANDA ART IN WWII
26 May 2017 – 14 August 2017
During WWII, propaganda was a major weapon on and off the battlefield. Propaganda in art became common and was widely distributed. This exhibit features works from the Gregg and Michelle Philipson Collection and Archive, and includes works from artists Arthur Szyk, Dr. Seuss, and others.

WWII VETERANS PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT
1 September 2017 – 14 January 2018
This exhibit features a comparative photographic study of WWII veterans then and now. Each participating veteran was photographed and interviewed in their home by photographer, D. Clarke Evans. The exhibit consists of an image of the veteran in recent years, a bio sheet featuring the highlights from the interview and a small photo from their active duty days.

Upcoming Programs:

James Hornfischer to Speak on Veterans Day Book Signing to Follow
James Hornfischer, one of the current day’s most celebrated naval historians, will be this year’s speaker on Veterans’ Day. He is the author of several naval best sellers. His latest book, The Fleet at Flood Tide, has just been published and was described by military historian Davis Hanson as “a masterful account of the barbaric last year of the Pacific War, combining original scholarship, engaging prose, excellent historical judgment and empathy for the soldier in explaining why defeating the Japanese proved so costly...” There will be a book signing by Hornfischer after the ceremony.

The Veterans Day ceremony will begin at 11am, 11 November, in the Memorial Courtyard. More details will be available on our website closer to the event.

Pearl Harbor Speaker: Tom Gillette
Tom Gillette will speak of his experiences during the bombing of Pearl Harbor. He was the ten year old son of a Navy Captain assigned to Pearl Harbor. On 7 December 1941, he had been playing with a neighbor when they heard roars of airplane engines flying overhead. They ran outside to see 20 torpedo planes flying low and in single file above Gillette’s home. The planes were part of the 300 the Japanese sent that day to bomb the island’s extensive military facilities, prompting the U.S. into the war. The ceremony will start at 12:35pm, 7 December, in the Memorial Courtyard.

Attack on Pearl Harbor As It Would Have Played Out On Twitter
This December 7th will mark 75 years since the attack on Pearl Harbor. Today, we all know the story and have seen the photos of that "date which will live in infamy." But in 1941, many people did not hear about the attack until hours after it was over - even the next day or later.

What if social media and our 24 hour news outlets would have existed in 1941? How would the events of that day played out? With the help of Project C, a digital communication company, the Museum will create a "Real Time" Twitter feed to bring followers the events of Pearl Harbor as they “happen” - 75 years ago! The National Museum of the Pacific War (Nimitz Museum) will present a content rich, highly interactive Twitter experience that portrays in "Real Time" the true events as they unfolded that fateful day.

Our "Real Time" adventure takes off the morning of December 7th, 2016. Set up your Twitter account and follow the National Museum of the Pacific War by searching @nimitzmuseum on Twitter - and get ready for a visceral and emotional December 7th journey that will not be soon forgotten!
Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events in 2016:
Living History Reenactments Canceled Due to Renovations to Pacific Combat Zone. They are Expected to Resume in March 2017.

16 September - 13 January:
Norman Rockwell Exhibit
7 October: Rockwell Exhibit on Art Walk with Visiting Curator Tom Daly on Site
Special Tour at 2:00pm & Talk at 7:00pm
11 November: Veterans Day & Booksigning Speaker: James Hornfischer
Memorial Courtyard - 11am
7 December: Pearl Harbor Program
Speaker: Tom Gillette
Memorial Courtyard - 12:35pm
7 December: Twitter Pearl Harbor Feed
March 2017: Reopening of the Pacific Combat Zone with Island Assault Reenactment Program

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Texas Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr.
Woodrow F. (Woody) McCasland
Helen McDonald
Nancy Brown Negley
John P. Schneider, M.D.
George E. Seay, III

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

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The Admiral Nimitz Foundation was recently rated Four Star by Charity Navigator -- the leading independent evaluator of non-profit charities in the U.S. A Four Star rating shows exceptional managerial efficiency exceeding industry standard.

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Admiral Mike Mullen, USN (Ret)
Headlines 2016 Nimitz Dinner

Admiral Mike Mullen, USN (Ret), who served as the 17th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was the keynote speaker at the 2016 Nimitz Dinner held in July. He stands above with General Hagee and students from Fredericksburg and Harper High Schools, and Texas A&M, San Angelo State, Baylor, Howard Payne and Texas Tech Universities.

“The highlight of my career would have to be the night we killed (Osama) bin Laden. But the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. Ten weeks later, I was in Arlington burying 13 Navy Seals who were killed when a helicopter got shot down. I am mindful of both the highs and lows.”

--- Adm. Mike Mullen