

★ AMERICANS IN ★ WARTIME MUSEUM™

Citizens Serving the Cause of Freedom



SITE WORK BEGINS FOR WORLD-CLASS MUSEUM



Site work is underway at the Museum's future location in Prince William County, Virginia.



Initial site work has begun at our future location in Dale City, Virginia. In November, GDC Contractors began work on a 10-acre section of our 70-acre site near Dale Boulevard and Interstate 95. The site work is being funded by the Cecil and Irene Hylton Foundation of Prince William County and will continue for an extended period of time.

This early site work affects a key section of the property where the main building, parking areas and entrance to the Museum will be constructed. The future Museum will ultimately include six full-scale Landscapes of War, multiple interpretive buildings,

a theater, National Veterans Visitor Center, oral history recording studio, restaurant and more.

“This is a major milestone for the Museum and the community,” said Director of Operations Kathy Bentz. “We have now begun site work in earnest and are moving the Museum closer to reality. We have heard from many people in the community who noticed activity at the Museum site and are excited to see this project move to the next step.”

The Hylton Foundation also donated the site for the future Museum.

MUSEUM ACQUIRES 9-11 ARTIFACTS

The Museum will have a permanent display commemorating the War on Terror, with several recently acquired artifacts serving as a backdrop for the events of September 11, 2001. We have acquired several pieces of steel from the World Trade Center, FDNY Squad 252 Engine and an EMS vehicle.

“Future generations will be able to visit the Museum, learn about what happened on 9-11 and why it was so important in our nation’s history,” said Neabsco District Supervisor John D. Jenkins during a ceremony honoring the arrival of the FDNY vehicles. “With these important artifacts, the Museum will make sure that our grandchildren and their grandchildren never forget 9-11.”

The story of the Squad 252 Engine crew exemplifies the sacrifices made by Americans in times of war. The six members of the squad were among 343 FDNY personnel who died in the line of

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Photo courtesy Amy Cors Flinn



From the Chairman Museum Founder and Chairman, Allan D. Cors

We continue to make great progress on our path to opening day through initial site work (*page 1*), continued planning and design, our capital campaign, oral history program (*page 6*) and leadership development efforts.

Planning - The Museum is finalizing an agreement for services—the early stages of site planning, building design and interpretive plans—with our Museum designers and architects. We plan to hire a landscape architect in the next several months; this will be a crucial choice given the significant outdoor elements of our Museum.

Fundraising - We have completed Phase 1 of our fundraising program, which represents \$32 million in assets that include land, site preparation and cash. Currently, we are in Phase 2, a \$50 million campaign that will allow the Museum to construct our main building, three Landscapes of War, plus vehicle restoration and hangar facilities. Our goal is to begin construction when we have raised 60% of Phase 2.

Supporters – As part of our capital campaign, we are connecting with like-minded corporations, foundations and individuals across the country. Given the scope of our mission, we reached out to a national audience. For example, the Museum completed numerous visits with key players in the country music industry in Nashville. During 2012, we also gained several hundred new Museum members and received several large pledges and donations.

Leadership Team - We have expanded our Board of Trustees with five new members who have the capacity to give and get major gifts. We also reorganized our staff this year with a Director of Operations and a Membership Coordinator.

Looking forward, the Museum is in an excellent position:

- The Museum has no debt.
- We have a 3-year contract and a dedicated team from Odell, Simms and Lynch, one of the top fundraising firms for museum and cultural projects (WWII Memorial, Gettysburg Foundation, National Museum of the U.S. Army).
- We will have an operational military vehicle collection valued at \$2 million.
- We have selected highly regarded museum designers, Gallagher & Associates (International Spy Museum, Gettysburg National Park and Visitor Center, National World War II Museum), and Dewberry, a leading engineering firm.
- The Museum is endorsed by major national veterans organizations; business and civic groups; and prominent individuals from the military, government, education and business.
- Partnership agreements are in place with George Mason University and the Prince William County Public Schools.

We appreciate all of you who have supported us in so many ways over the past few years. For example, many of you responded to our call for donations to support the acquisition and preservation of our 9-11 artifacts. We are pleased with our progress but know that we have much work to do before we open the doors to our Museum. Read on to learn more about how you can help!

MUSEUM SHARES OUR MISSION AND VISION

This year, the Museum has hosted a few special events at the “Tank Farm,” where our vehicle restoration facilities are located. During these events, small groups participate in activities and presentations that highlight what our permanent Museum will be like. Often these programs lead to new members, volunteers and donors who join the Museum’s army of supporters.

One group of visitors was the Leadership Prince William Class of 2012. Leadership Prince William prepares current and emerging community leaders for leadership positions in local business, government and community affairs. During their visit, members of Leadership Prince William learned about the mission and scope of the Museum. They also had the chance to ride in an armored vehicle and learn the stories behind some of our military vehicles. Hopefully, these community leaders better understand and support the goals of the Museum.

Another group of guests hailed from the Porsche Club of America, Potomac Region, which has members throughout the Washington Metro Area. At this event, Museum Board of Trustees Member Cindy Andreotti spoke about the Museum’s mission and her personal connection to the Museum through her father’s World War II service.

Porsche Club members also heard about our Wartime Oral History Project from Dennis Gill, a project volunteer. Dennis shared a story about his grandfather,

who was a waist gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress and ultimately became a prisoner of war in Romania. Another prisoner was able to escape and assist in the massive and successful rescue effort dubbed “Operation Reunion.” Coincidentally, a member of the Porsche Club was a relative of the man who escaped the prison camp and helped save Dennis’ grandfather. The connection was an amazing one!

Members of Madison Rising, a rock

band that plays “pro-American music,” also visited the Tank Farm. Band members and their manager were fascinated by a rainy-day tour of the Museum’s military vehicle collection. The band’s shared values with the Museum were obvious during this enthusiastic meeting. You can learn more about the band and their heart-pumping rendition of The Star Spangled Banner at www.MadisonRising.com.



Members of the Porsche Club of America, above, and Leadership Prince William, below, enjoy a visit to our vehicle restoration facilities.



*Photo courtesy
Kathy Strauss/ImageWerks*

GREG PASS: Veteran, Volunteer & Community Leader

Greg Pass is passionate about preserving veterans' personal stories. He leads our Wartime Oral History Project, which will ensure that amazing stories of courage, heroism, sacrifice and love of country will live on for generations to come.

Pass, a veteran himself, and a team of volunteers are recording the wartime experiences of America's veterans, spouses and all those affected by our country's conflicts.

"Fast forward 50 years and think about how important it will be to the families of the men and women we are interviewing to be able to go to the Wartime Museum and watch a video of their grandfather who fought in the War on Terror 'way back when in 2012.' Priceless," he said.

Pass, a first sergeant with the Prince William County Police Department, recently penned "Scrapbook of Heroes: A Police Department's Collective Family Tree during the Second World War." He wrote about 117 WWII veterans related to his co-workers on the force. In doing his research, he realized the current generation knew very little about their family members' service.

"Unfortunately, the details of their service went to the grave with these great men," Pass said.

He did have an opportunity to interview a few WWII veterans, including Jim Sawicki, who made a

lasting impression on him and became a passionate friend of the Museum.

Moved by the veterans' stories, Pass found a way to connect with many more by getting our Wartime Oral History Program up and running.

"As you can imagine, we are limited in the amount of videos we can produce each year due to the fact that we do not have a brick-and-mortar film studio and we are currently staffed by all volunteers," Pass said.

Once the Museum is open and the Veterans Recording Studio is operating, Pass believes we will produce hundreds of oral history videos a year.

"I think I can speak for all of the volunteers when I say that we very much enjoy spending time with the veterans as we sit down and discuss their stories of wartime service," he

said. "Many times, the veterans have shared things that they have never mentioned to any of their family members."

Museum Director of Operations Kathy Bentz described Pass' efforts: "Somehow, he balances his work and family life with his contributions as a volunteer," she said. "Without Greg—and the team of volunteers he has recruited—we would not have a Wartime Oral History Program. He is making a huge difference to the Museum and to his fellow veterans."

Pass enlisted in the U.S. Army and served with the 24th Infantry Division in the Gulf War. He has been with the county police department for 16 years, with specialties in narcotics and gang enforcement. Currently, he serves as the supervisor of the K-9 Unit, alongside his loyal canine partner, Audie, named in honor of WWII hero Audie Murphy.



From left to right are Bill Moberly, Greg Pass, Bob Patrick (Veterans History Project, Library of Congress) and Jim Esson as our Wartime Oral History Project team presents videos for the Veterans History Project.

2012 OPEN HOUSE LINKING KIDS & VETERANS

Every year—as many of you know—the Museum hosts an open house at our vehicle restoration facility in Nokesville, Virginia. This two-day event, during which we host several thousand visitors, is a preview of the future Museum.

Along with the usual activities, such as vehicle displays and living history demonstrations, new programs for 2012 connected veterans with our youngest visitors. For example, kids could participate in a “Scavenger Hunt,” getting signatures from veterans who attended the open house. Kids who collected several signatures earned a small, patriotic gift from the Museum. The children also got a chance to meet real-life heroes from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. Many veterans said they were proud to tell the kids about their military service.

In addition, we hosted two veterans’ roundtables at the open house. On Saturday, a panel of veterans from several eras talked about their wartime experiences—their uniforms and weapons, the food they ate, how they communicated with loved ones back home. On Sunday, the subject was Wounded Warriors. The roundtables were so popular that guests overflowed a tent where the events were held on both days.

Photo courtesy Don Flory



The annual open house furthers our mission to educate young Americans about the value of service to our nation during wartime.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

duty after responding to the World Trade Center on 9-11.

“We will not forget the supreme sacrifice made by so many to carry out their honorable mission of protecting the lives and property of others,” said Chief Kevin J. McGee, Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, during the commemoration ceremony.

The pieces of steel which the Museum has acquired are twisted and distorted from the massive collapse of the Twin Towers. A solid block of steel was sheared from one of the buildings. What was once a section of floor is now a twisted mass of metal strands. Deformed I-beams from one of the buildings are also part of the collection.

“The distortions are so dramatic that it is hard to imagine what their original appearance must have been,” Museum Board Chairman Allan Cors said. “Just as Pearl Harbor was the beginning of America’s involvement in World War II, the events of 9-11 were a catalyst for the War on Terror. Our Museum will commemorate the events of 9-11 and the men and women who served and sacrificed for our nation on that day.”

All of the artifacts were acquired through an agreement with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. They will be prominently displayed at the Museum when we open our permanent facility in Dale City.

Photo courtesy Bill Paisley



Fire and Rescue Chief Kevin McGee speaks during a ceremony to commemorate the arrival of Squad 252 Engine and other 9-11 artifacts.

PRESERVING PERSONAL STORIES OF WARTIME EXPERIENCE

Bill Moberly was with the 2nd Armored Division as part of the Occupation Forces in Germany after World War II. He describes his visit to the concentration camp at Dachau several years after the war when there were still survivors living at the camp and being fed twice a day. "A lot of them didn't have any family to go to. They figured it was better to stay there and get fed than to go home. Most of them were pretty old," Moberly remembers.

Moberly is just one of many veterans, spouses and others sharing their personal and often poignant experiences of war with the Museum's Wartime Oral History Project. A team of volunteers, led by Greg Pass, is preserving their memories and making them available to the public and researchers. These heroic stories of valor, sacrifice and loss – from World War II to the present – will remain alive for generations to come.

Forty interviews have been conducted to date. "We interview veterans from all wars, although World War II veterans take priority for obvious reasons," Pass said.

Short, edited versions are available on the Museum's website and other outlets, including our YouTube channel. The raw video will be retained by our



**SHARE
YOUR
STORY!**

Museum and given to the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project. Ten videos were donated to the Library of Congress earlier this year.

The Museum also hosted two veterans' roundtables during our annual Open House. Many of the veterans who participated in these roundtables had previously been interviewed for the Wartime Oral History Project. "The event was very

well received and I anticipate we will host more in the future," Pass said.

The volunteers also worked with Prince William County Schools on two in-service teacher training/presentations about bringing oral history into the classroom.

In early December, in conjunction with the Sgt. Mac Foundation's wreath laying at the Quantico National Cemetery, Pass conducted interviews with Foundation members and posted a short video on our Facebook page and YouTube Channel.

To continue and expand the Wartime Oral History Program, the Museum needs more volunteers with video and/or editing experience. For more information, contact Greg Pass at gpass@nmaw.org.

If you would like to view samples of the oral history interviews, visit the Museum's YouTube channel at

www.youtube.com/WartimeMuseum

CONSIDER THE MUSEUM ON YOUR YEAR-END GIFT LIST

To complete our world-class Museum, we need the support of our generous friends, partners and Museum members! If you are thinking about a year-end donation or looking for a unique holiday gift, we hope you will consider the Americans in Wartime Museum. Here's how:

- 1. Join or Renew Your Membership** - Complete the information below, or visit our website at www.nmaw.org and click on the "Become a Member" button. Our members are an important part of the team!
- 2. Donate to the Museum** in your own name at any level or make a Tribute Gift in honor of a loved one. Visit our website at www.nmaw.org and click on "Make a Donation."

Together, we will build an incredible cultural and education facility for all Americans to enjoy. In the meantime, we wish you the best during this holiday season and the New Year!

JOIN THE CAUSE!

Help us make the Americans in 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."

National Museum of Americans in Wartime™
P.O. Box 30
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Phone: 703-662-5774

Your annual membership benefits include invitations to special events, the Museum newsletter, and the knowledge that your gift will help the Museum achieve its mission. See our website for more information.

Membership Application

1) I Wish to Join or Renew:	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$75
<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

2) I wish to donate \$_____ to the Museum.

Name _____

Billing Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Method of Payment

- Check American Express
 Visa Discover
 MasterCard

Credit Card # _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____ Date _____