



**ARMY SERVICE FORCES**

*Training Center*



# AMPHIBIAN

*Camp Gordon Johnston, Fla.*

SPECIAL EDITION

The Camp Gordon Johnston Association

Sept-Oct, 2015

Smithsonian magazine  
**museum day** THE CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON ASSOCIATION  
*invite you to...* **WORLD WAR II MUSEUM**

**Museum Day 2015**  
**Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**



*Come celebrate with us!*

This marks the ninth consecutive year that the Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum has been asked to participate in the Smithsonian Magazine's **Annual National Museum Day**. The museum is located in the Carrabelle Municipal Complex, at 1001 Gray Ave., Carrabelle, Florida. We will be welcoming visitors from 10 A.M. until 4 P.M. Come view our ever-growing exhibits. Our gift shop will be open all day. Hear live music and enjoy free refreshments!

As always, admission is by donation. You can learn more about the Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum and download directions at [www.campgordonjohnston.com](http://www.campgordonjohnston.com). You may contact us by e-mail at [campgordonjohnston@fairpoint.net](mailto:campgordonjohnston@fairpoint.net) or call (850) 697-8575. For further information on National Museum Day, please visit [Smithsonianmagazine.com/museumday](http://Smithsonianmagazine.com/museumday).



The Camp Gordon Johnston Association is a 501 c (3) not for profit corporation dedicated to preserving the history of the Amphibious Soldiers of WWII who trained in Franklin County, Florida and is funded, in part, by the Franklin County Tourist Development Council.



**Participate in the CGJA Raffle—Win a WWII Rifle!**



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Serial # C3710543

**Tickets are available from:**

**The Talon Range**, (850) 528-5129, 20 Ram Blvd, Ste-2, Midway, FL 32343  
**Masters of Rod and Gun**, (850) 574-3010, 1515-2 Capital Circle NW, Tallahassee, FL 32303  
**Tony Minichiello**, Tallahassee/Carrabelle, [tony@supernet.net](mailto:tony@supernet.net) (850)-528-2125  
**Michael Horvath**, Carrabelle, [mhorvath@fairpoint.net](mailto:mhorvath@fairpoint.net) (850) 251-3928.  
**Hog Wild Bar-B-Que**, Carrabelle, FL. Kenneth LaPaz. [khogwild@mchsi.com](mailto:khogwild@mchsi.com) (850) 697-2776  
**The Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum**, 1001 Gray Ave., Carrabelle, FL (850) 697-8575  
**Martins House of Coins**, Eastpoint, FL. [martinshouseofcoins@msn.com](mailto:martinshouseofcoins@msn.com) (850) 728-6487  
**American Legion Post 13**, Tallahassee, FL. [h.frailey67@comcast.net](mailto:h.frailey67@comcast.net) (850) 222-3382  
**American Legion Post 82**, Lanark Village, FL. [post82adjutant@gmail.com](mailto:post82adjutant@gmail.com) (850) 697-9998  
**Wayne McDaniel**, McDanials Consulting, LLC, Tallahassee, FL (850) 251-9389

*Rifle can be inspected at The Talon Range*

## Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum to receive long-term loan of Helicopter Display



The Military Machines of American Freedom Association is loaning the museum a Viet Nam veteran OH-6A two seat Hughes Helicopter currently being refurbished as a static display for the Museum. The helicopter was damaged while in Viet Nam.

Kevin Vislocky, a rated rotary-wing pilot and member of the organization is leading up the project. When completed, the aircraft will be displayed at the entrance of the museum and, later, moved to new building location.

The CGJ Association has been blessed with wide-spread support from our Viet Nam veterans and we are pleased to have this display in their honor.

Kevin will give us periodic updates on the progress of restoration.



## Proposed Site Plan for TDC

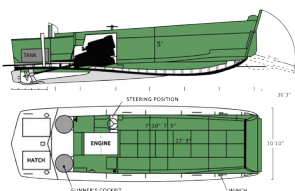
In a meeting with Jim Waddell of Inovia on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, final site plans and building design of phases 1, 2 and 3 were hammered out and prepared to be given to the Franklin County Tourist Development Council for approval prior to being awarded construction funds.

The site plan was requested by Curt Blair, Financial Advisor for the Council.

Temporary power pole and wiring to the existing on-site well is completed. Also a request for a power pole has been approved by Duke Energy.

We anticipate construction to begin in the next few months.

The Higgins Boat Display will have the following 36" x 20" Kiosk mounted alongside.



**The Higgins Boat** was a landing craft used extensively in amphibious landings in World War II. The craft was designed by Andrew Higgins based on boats made for operating in swamps and marshes. More than 20,000 were built, by Higgins Industries and licensees. The boats were 36 ft. 3 in long by 10 ft. 10 in wide and had a displacement of 18,000 pounds. The load capacity was 6,000 pounds. They were powered by single 225 hp diesel engine giving the boat a top speed of 12 knots. The replica displayed here is 1/2 scale.

***This replica example was built and paid for by the Camp Gordon Johnston Association in honor of the soldiers and sailors who trained here at Carrabelle Beach before leaving for the invasions in North Africa, Italy, France, Germany and the Pacific. Across the highway from here, practice landings were held and training in amphibious warfare conducted on this very ground where you now stand. We honor their valor by remembering their sacrifices.***



### **World War Two Brought a New Concept to Warfare The Birth of the Amphibious Soldiers: "The Amphibs"**

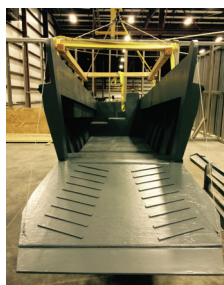


An Army Ground Forces training directive dated 24 October 1942, altered in some respects the mission and objective of the Amphibious Training Center. This directive was interpreted in a training program effective 15 November 1942, published by General Keating on 10 November. As outlined in this program, the mission of Center at Carrabelle was to teach, by academic and practical means, all phases of amphibious operations involving a shore-to-shore movement, and to outline the basic principles of ship-to-shore movements by lectures and conferences. The objective to be attained by each student division was the formation of a highly efficient, well-coordinated, hard-hitting, and fast-moving amphibious force, thoroughly qualified to act independently or in conjunction with other army troops and naval forces in a combined operation. The objective also included the mental and physical hardening of all officers and enlisted men for arduous field service and battle.

The instruction prescribed by the new training program was to emphasize loading and unloading landing craft quickly and quietly by day and night; boat discipline; boat formations and control of landing craft; organization and control of troops during loading and unloading operations; organization, tactical operation, and supply of combat teams, including the seizure of the beachhead and the advance inland to the division objective; crossing beach obstacles and defensive works; clearing the beach of obstacles, demolitions, etc., and the subsequent beach organization to support the operation; resupply; night operations; development of an effective intelligence system applicable to amphibious operations, including the employment of intelligence agencies and scouts of all units; development of an effective signal communication system peculiar to amphibious operations; the use of smoke for screening; the use of chemicals for contamination purposes; methods of decontamination; air-ground support; antiaircraft defense; swimming; camouflage; knife and bayonet fighting; judo; infiltration; battle firing, firing automatic weapons from landing craft; and combat in cities.



The above photo is a work of a sailor or employee of the U.S. Navy, taken or made as part of that person's official duties. As a work of the U.S. federal government, the image is in the public domain.



### ***They answered the call.....***



This year The Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum would like to dedicate Museum Day to Robert (Bob) Franklin, a true American hero. Bob died on September 4, 2015. A World War II veteran who was at Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge, Bob always put his fellow soldiers first. A medic who volunteered to help his buddy retrieve a wounded soldier. Bob lost the use of an eye when the jeep ran over a land mine.

Franklin is what I hope we all aspire to be, a truly good person that believed he was his brother's keeper. He always volunteered to help those less fortunate. It was his way of giving back. Bob told me once how lucky he was because he came back from that terrible war and he had only lost an eye. All those brave young soldiers who never got a chance to live their lives, those were the heroes.

Bob refused the Purple Heart he should have received because he felt undeserving after seeing the terrible wounds of other soldiers in the hospital. Those honors belonged to all the young men he saw on the battlefield, many who never returned.

With the help of the CGJ WWII Museum, Post 13 American Legion, his family and the Freedom Flight Foundation, Bob was fortunate to visit the WWII Memorial in Washington D.C. with his son Kenneth. While there he had the privilege of meeting fellow WWII veteran Bob Dole.

Bob and his wife Pauline volunteered at the Senior center in Carrabelle, as well as, the Food Bank for many years; also, for the last 18 years Bob played bass with the "Not Quite Ready" band that played for many Museum functions. Bob was the linchpin due to the band's makeup, band members who served during WWII, Korea and Vietnam.

I was taught that we should leave this world a better place than we found it. Bob Franklin did just that, and we who loved him will miss him.

Linda Minichiello, CGJ Museum Curator

### ***Bulletin Board.....***

**There will be no Movie for September due to Museum Day being held on the last Saturday of the Month.**

**Sept 18th:** Friday Volunteer George Cochran celebrates his 88th Birthday this month. Michael Horvath will make him a birthday cake. All are welcome to come by Friday the 18th from 1 P.M. until 4 P.M. to help celebrate George's birthday.

**Sept. 19th** We will be at the Talon Range in Midway, Florida to raffle tickets for the 03' Springfield.

We need items for the "Silent Auction" which will be held at the Annual Golf Tournament, next month. Contact Mike or Tony at the Museum for details

You can still donate for the Higgins Boat on-line. All donations, no matter the amount, are welcome!