



**ARMY SERVICE FORCES**



*Training Center*

# AMPHIBIAN

*Camp Gordon Johnston, Fla.*

Special Edition

AMPHIBIAN

January, 2016

## Historic Marker Dedication

On Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Camp Gordon Johnston Association formally dedicated its historic marker to the WWII veterans who trained on the beaches across from the property where the new building to house the Museum will be constructed.

A gathering of approximately 30 people attended the dedication. Afterwards light refreshments were served at the museum and actual WWII Camp Gordon Johnston U.S. Army training films were shown to the visitors.



**Left to right:** Mr. Kent Watson, Economic Development Liaison from Congresswoman Gwen Graham's office. Carrabelle Mayor Brenda LaPaz, Mary Louis Hester, Representing U.S. Senator Bill Nelson, Franklin County Commissioners Cheryl Sanders and William Massey and Carrabelle City Commissioner Cal Allen.

## *The students said "Thank You"*



The recent visit from the Apalachicola Bay Charter School's 4th grade classes warmed our hearts when the Museum received a bundle of handmade thank you cards from individual students like the one shown here from Hannah Grace.

The students learned that America had fought a war that many of them were unaware had happened. They also learned many of their family participated. The Museum received and displayed over twenty individually handmade "thank you" cards



*While traveling along the "Florida Military Heritage Trail" be sure to visit the Camp Gordon Johnston World War Two Museum...*

*We Want You in Our Parade!*

# 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Camp Gordon Johnston Days

## ★ MARCH 11 & 12 2016



We invite all who wish to show their support for our veterans to participate in the Camp Gordon Johnston Days parade in Carrabelle, Florida. The parade will take place on Saturday, March 12, 2016. The parade line-up begins on 10th Street West at 9:30 a.m. EST with the parade starting at 10:45 a.m. EST.

Our event kicks off this year on Friday, March 11, with a veterans social at the Camp Gordon Johnston American Legion Post 82 in Lanark Village. The social is open to all veterans with one guest or widows of WWII veterans.

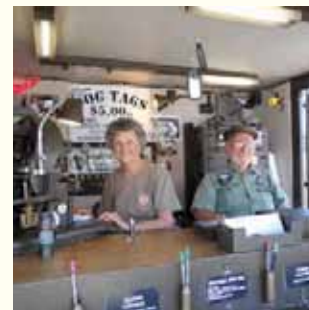
On Saturday evening March 12th, we are planning a dinner/dance.

The parade will include the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA), 1st Florida Chapter's extensive lineup of military vehicles. They will join other local community groups and associations—the parade is open to all groups, military or civilian, who want to participate in the true spirit of American freedom. At the end of the parade the MVPA vehicles will be placed on display on Hwy 98 at the old Gulf State Bank. There will be plenty of parking available and the "meet and swap" groups will be able to set up shop at that location. For all MVPA members, meal tickets will be provided for a \$15.00 discount to approved area restaurants to be used during CGJ Days. These will be included in a packet you will receive when you register. There is a \$20.00 fee for all vendors.

The Camp Gordon Johnston WWII museum will be open both days from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. showing documentary films through-out the day. Entry fee is by donation and appreciated. Please allow at least 1 - 2 hours for a tour as there are extensive artifact, photographs, displays, and films to see. Light refreshments will be provided with live music.

Carrabelle is 100 miles east of Panama City on Hwy 98, and about 60 miles south of Tallahassee.

Both vendors and parade participants can register for the event online at: [www.campgordonjohnston.com](http://www.campgordonjohnston.com) by clicking on the "Events" tab, or by calling (850) 697-8575.



[www.campgordonjohnston.com](http://www.campgordonjohnston.com)

The Camp Gordon Johnston Association • P.O. Box 1334 • Carrabelle, FL 32322 • (850) 697-8575

(A 501 c (3) non-profit corporation operating the CGJ WWII Museum)



## PARADE ENTRY FORM

**NOTE: The date has been moved back to March.**

Yes, we will be able to attend the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual "Camp Gordon Johnston Day" Reunion Parade on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ 10:45 A. M. in Carrabelle, Florida.

NAME OF ORGANIZATION\* \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS\* \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PERSON\* \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS & *Phone*\* \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE INDICATE THE FOLLOWING:

MILITARY/MVPA: Number of members \_\_\_\_\_ VEHICLES: type and number \_\_\_\_\_

BAND: Members in Band \_\_\_\_\_

SHRINERS: Number of members \_\_\_ cars \_\_\_ specialty type \_\_\_\_\_

WALKING UNITS: Name \_\_\_\_\_ type \_\_\_\_\_

Please identify type, i.e. baton twirlers, Honor Guard, etc.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS \_\_\_\_\_

FLOAT: type \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY DEADLINE IS: February 26<sup>th</sup> 2016

PARADE LINEUP: 9:30 PARADE STARTS: 10:45

A member of the Parade Committee can be contacted during the months ahead to answer any questions and offer assistance if needed. We are looking forward to seeing your organization on Saturday, March 12 2016 in Carrabelle, Florida.

PLEASE RETURN TO: CGJA Parade Committee  
P.O. Box 1334  
Carrabelle, Florida 32322

Mike Horvath, Executive Secretary [mhorvath@fairpoint.net](mailto:mhorvath@fairpoint.net) Cell – 850-251-3928

Greg Kristofferson, Board of Directors member [post82adjutant@gmail.com](mailto:post82adjutant@gmail.com)

## CGJA Member interned in the Tallahassee National Cemetery

Louis "Buddy" Staff was interned, with honors, in the new Tallahassee National Cemetery on December 23, 2015. A small service was held at the request of Buddy's widow, Lanark resident Mary Staff. Their two children were in attendance. A WWII Marine, Buddy was also a life long member of the American Legion. CGJA president Tony Minichiello represented the CGJA and the American Legion at the service. We believe Buddy is the first CGJA member to be interned in the Tallahassee National Cemetery.



## Just how bad was your 2015?

I was asked to write an "*End of the Year Review*" for the Camp Gordon Johnston Association newsletter. This was going to be a long drawn out chore, which was I was sure not going to enjoy writing. The first things that came to mine was "This ain't going to be pretty".

I soon realized our only disappointment was the Governor's veto for funding, and the loss of one of the founding members of the Museum, Mr. Sidney Winchester, who lost his battle with cancer.

Then the positive events started to come to mind. Our BOD increased by 3 very qualified members, donations are still coming in, our Camp Gordon Johnston Days Reunion was a success, we were asked to participate in the "Victory in Florida" event held at St. George Island State Park (Yes I know that was rough duty, but we survived), and we found new organizations to partner with. Our Veterans Day Golf Tournament and Silent Auction went off without any problems, the Veterans Day display at Wakulla Springs State Park was well received (another tough assignment),

As for funding, we have sent a budget request to Representative Halsey Beshears and Senator Bill Montford, we received a Historical Marker, with a grant from the Department of State, The Franklin County Tourist Development Consul awarded us funding to start our new complex, our half scale Higgins Boat was finished and is on display at the museum, a member of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association is having a Hughes OH-6 Cayuse (Loach) Light Observation/Attack Helicopter rebuilt and will give it to the museum on a long term loan, our visitor numbers were up from last year to a tad over 4,000 visitors and we are still open for business.

2015 was a pretty good year.

Come see us.

Mike Horvath

Executive Secretary, Camp Gordon Johnston Association.

## Camp Gordon Johnston Association welcomes two new Board member

Ms. Jane Kirk recently relocated to Florida from East Tennessee where she worked as the Marketing Director of the Museum of Appalachia, a Smithsonian Affiliate Museum. The Museum includes 30+ log structures and over 250,000 artifacts and stories of the Appalachian people. Her background also includes event planning, curating exhibits, and documenting artifacts, managing facility rentals and Interior Design. She has a bachelor's degree from Bowling Green State University and is a member of the Daughters of American Revolution.

Already Jane has begun volunteering at the museum and has become involved in the re-design of our web page, social media input and has also become part of the new facility team. She brings a wealth of talent and experience to the museum.

The Camp Gordon Johnston Association and WWII Museum is fortunate to have a person of Jane's qualifications join our organization and looks forward to her involvement in supporting the Museum.



## Ms. Register Borneman Joins Camp Gordon Johnston Board of Directors

The CGJA BOD recently approved Ms. Janet Register Borneman to the board. Ms. Borneman will be a valued member of the board because of her knowledge and experience in the field of grant writing. Janet is employed by the Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare Foundation as the Director of Planned Giving and Grants; her other duties include being responsible for initiating, cultivating and soliciting new donors. Planned Giving and Grants are two of the most important areas for the foundation.

Janet, who lives in Tallahassee with her family, is a graduate of Florida State University, with a BA Degree in Creative Writing and English.



## Would this be legal?

We wonder if the Scenic Byway board would let us paint our address and Museum title on our wall. We would still have a 4' x 8' sign on the property. It would be really eye catching if we could.....



## Vocalist to perform at Camp Gordon Johnston Days in March 2016

Jennifer Duncan, a vocalist from Columbus, Georgia who specializes in nostalgic music will be singing and entertaining with WWII era music. Mrs. Duncan is the daughter of a musical mother and a father who was a WWII and Korean War veteran. Come enjoy such songs as Les Brown's "Sentimental Journey", Johnny Mercer's "Dream", Cole Porter's "I've Got You Under My Skin" and many more selections.

## Tallahassee Man wins the WWII Springfield Rifle

Mr. Ed Pridgeon, of Tallahassee, Florida was the winner of the drawing for the Springfield WWII Rifle. The drawing was held at 1100 hours on November 11<sup>th</sup> at the Talon Range in Midway Florida.

## Membership Reminder

Annual dues are due during the month of June. The annual amount is now \$20.00 per year and we need your membership to help operate the Museum. Dues go a long way in helping keep the history of WWII alive. Without supporters, like yourself, I think you would agree we would chance losing the historic knowledge of America's Greatest Generation along with their story; and we feel that would hold tragic consequences for America as a nation.

You can now contribute to our Endowment through the Community Foundation of North Florida. Go to our the web page and click on: [Findlearngive.org](http://Findlearngive.org)

