



CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON ASSOCIATION, INC.

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The AMPHIBIAN Apr 2023

Hello! It is fully Spring on the Forgotten Coast, and the Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum has been busy! The construction on our entrance MP Guard Shack is about to commence, headed up by Board member Mike Weiksner! We are so excited about this new addition to our campus. Visitor numbers continue to be good, even as spring break ends and snowbirds begin their treks back north. We had a great time at our booth at both the Sopchoppy Worm Grunting Festival and the Carrabelle Riverfront Festival.

Soldier of the month:

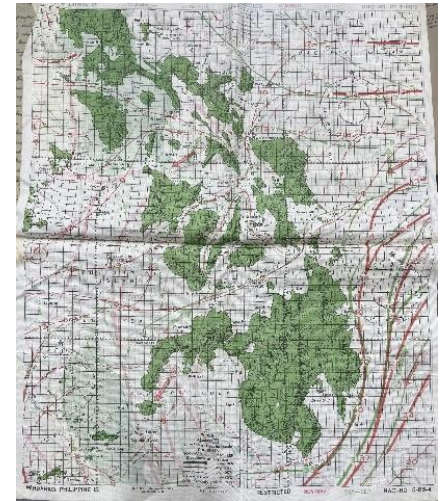
PVT Benjamin Godleski 8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division
Apr 25, 1916 - Jun 15 (est) 1944

Benjamin Godleski of Edgewater NJ trained at Camp Gordon Johnston with the 4th Infantry Division in 1943. He landed on Utah Beach with the 4th on June 6, 1944. He was KIA in the French village of Montebourg. Benjamin's great nephew Joseph Puchalik III donated his story and photos to the museum this month. As we approach the 79th anniversary of the Normandy Invasion we are proud to honor his service and memory.



Godleski (L) and an unknown comrade.

Featured artifact: This is a cloth survival map showing the currents and prevailing winds in and around the Philippines and Formosa. Issued by the Navy to both sailors and marines, this map was part of a survival kit. This artifact belonged to Capt. William John Lytle, USMC, who served on Guam and Saipan with the 4th Marine Air Wing. Donated by his daughter Mel Kelly, resident of Carrabelle and former mayor. The map is on display in our Marine Corps Exhibit.



Upcoming Events:

May 13, 2023: Shrimpfest, St. George Island
Jun 3, 2023: Normandy Reenactment, Zephyrhills

Monthly Exhibit: Our exhibit for May will feature **Operation Husky**, the invasion of Sicily. Planned in Tunisia during the waning days of Torch, the invasion of Sicily was the jump off to invading the European Continent. The Museum holds a set of secret plans for this invasion, dated just 20 days before it commenced. The exhibit will run from May 2 to Jun 3.

Looking ahead: The June exhibit commemorates the **Normandy Invasion**. Opens June 6.

