## CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON ASSOCIATION, INC.

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## The AMPHIBIAN May 2023

Summer is beginning here in the Florida Panhandle, and the beaches are full of happy vacationers. We are aware that our day at the beach was made possible by THEIR day at the beach 80 years ago. It was spring and summer 1943 when the Infantry Divisions received their amphibious training here. The Museum was represented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual ShrimpFest on St. George Island and at the Memorial Day Ceremony at the American Legion Post 82. The Museum also opened Sunday and Monday of Memorial Weekend to visitors.



Soldier of the Month: 1SGT William R. Kimbrough Sr. of Nanafalia, AL. Kimbrough was a member of the 818<sup>th</sup> Amphibious Truck Company which landed on Utah Beach on D Day with the 1st Engineers Special Brigade.

Featured artifact: A Japanese WWII Infantry Canteen. The museum has in its collection a wide variety of canteens. These mundane objects were carried by all soldiers from all countries, and they were designed in different ways and with different materials.

Our own US canteens show an evolution of design; we have examples from the Spanish American War to the present day. Canteens make great travel artifacts as they are both sturdy and interesting.



Monthly Exhibit: Our exhibit for Jun and into July will feature Operation Overlord, the invasion of Normandy. This massive invasion of Amphibious operations, Airborne Infantry and Naval Bombardment launched the Allied push to Germany and the defeat of the Third Reich.

The Museum holds a set of secret plans for this Naval part of this invasion, Operation Neptune, dated 10 Apr 1944. The exhibit will run from Jun 6 to Jul 15.



Our Guard Shack is going up! Board member J. Mike Weiksner and volunteer Randv Jones



## Upcoming Events:

Jun 3, 2023: Normandy Reenactment, Zephyrhills, FL Special Opening for Independence Weekend: Sun Jul 2 and Mon Jul 3, 12:00 - 4:00

