

CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON ASSOCIATION, INC.

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The AMPHIBIAN Aug 2023

August is Back to School time for the Forgotten Coast of Florida. It was a quiet month with only 329 visitors, and we experienced Hurricane Idalia at the end of the month as well. Our new building is of modern design and quite capable of handling storms like Idalia, but we had to spend time securing the outside panels and safeguarding the flags. We look forward to cooler weather this fall!



Soldier of the Month: George F. Mills of Decatur, AL (May 19, 1921 - Apr 24, 2022) was in Co E, 109th Regiment, 28th Infantry Division. Mills fought at the Battle of the Bulge and was taken prisoner in Dec 1944. He was awarded Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals. Mills spent years as a motivational speaker and teaching younger generations about WWII. Salute!



Artifact of the Month: during this month we had an exhibit that explained the Manhattan project and the atomic bombs that helped bring the war to its end. The Hiroshima (Little Boy) bomb was a gun-barrel design using Uranium, and the scientists were confident it would work. But they tested the Fat Man Design at the Alamagordo Bombing Range in New Mexico on July 16, 1945. The blast melted the sand at the site and combined it with radioactive elements from the bomb, creating a new mineral dubbed "trinitite".

Here is our sample of Trinitite from that test.

This month's Exhibit: Battle of Midway and the Doolittle Raid both of which took place in 1942. Although the Doolittle Raid caused comparatively minor damage, it demonstrated that the Japanese mainland was vulnerable to American air attacks. It served as an initial retaliation for the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and provided an important boost to American morale. The Battle of Midway is widely considered to be a major turning point in the Pacific War.

This exhibit will be open from August 29 to September 30.



Special Event Museum Day September 30: We will be featuring technology of WWII, especially the technology of communication. How was information gathered and shared before satellites and cell phones?

