



# CAMP GORDON JOHNSTON ASSOCIATION, INC.

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## The AMPHIBIAN Mar 2024

March is our annual Camp Gordon Johnston Days Celebration! This year we enjoyed a good turnout for the Veteran's Parade, including an amazing "artifact" we chose to feature below. (No, it isn't "ours" but it deserves notice!) Considering the weather, we also had a great turnout for our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Dice Run, this year run jointly by the museum and our associated American Legion Post 82! If that wasn't exciting enough, the Masonic Lodge hosted a classic car show right next door, and several military trophies went to museum vehicles. We had 607 visitors in March.

**Serviceman of the Month:** George R. Cook, born on Dec 5, 1918, in Gallipolis Ohio. George lived in Covington VA and served in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), then in the 13<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery before the war. He trained as part of the 455<sup>th</sup> Amphibious Truck Company at CGJ before being deployed to the Pacific. Many items of George's extensive collection are on display at the museum.



**Artifact of the Month** Willys MT Tug, 1943 This spectacular vehicle was tested at Camp Gordon Johnston during the war. The proud owner of this 6-wheel jeep prototype is Dana Smith of Vicksburg MS, who brought the Tug to Carrabelle and drove it in the parade!



**This month's Exhibit:** (Mar 2-30): Cartoonists and Canines in Wartime.

April 2-27: The Holocaust: learn more about this dark period in human history. This exhibit includes recently acquired artifacts not displayed before.

Looking forward to May: The Battle of Okinawa



Did you know? Carrabelle's railroad spur was one of the reasons why the area was ideal for an US ARMY training camp. Traces of the railroad, which was removed in 1948, are still visible in the area, including the remains of the bridge trestle over the Ochlockonee River at McIntyre.

