

Scuttlebutt



MILITARY SEA SERVICES MUSEUM, INC.



Mar/Apr 2021

A message from the President



John Cecil

Greetings All;

I pray that you are all safe. The Museum ended the year with 408 visitors. While the number was low, the visitors were mostly family with children and younger adolescents.

The Museum was chosen the best float in the Veterans day parade and received a trophy to display for one year. Kudos to Curator Fred Carino and his crew along with Doc Savage, a long time member and benefactor for the Museums projects.

The Museums current project is the replacement of the decking throughout the Museum and a completely new Galley. This is a joint project with Lowes and the Museum members here in Sebring, FL.

The monthly dinners are being well supported and the Museum's finances are good. Thanks for all your support.

Respectfully Yours

John E Cecil President MSSM



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With the addition of several cameras, the museum now enjoys 360-degree security coverage around the outside of our building. Thank you to all members involved in this project.

March is Women's History Month

Women's History Month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society and has been observed annually in the month of March in the United States since 1987. Women's History Month is a dedicated month to reflect on the often-overlooked contributions of women to United States history. Women's history milestones stretch back to the founding of the United States.



Abigail Adams (*née Smith*; November 11, 1744 – October 28, 1818) was the wife and closest advisor of John Adams, as well as the mother of John Quincy Adams. She is sometimes considered to have been a Founder of the United States, and is now designated as the first Second Lady and second First Lady of the United States, although these titles were not used at the time. She and Barbara Bush are the only two women to be the wife of one U.S. president and the mother of another.

Sojourner Truth born Isabella "Belle" Baumfree; c. 1797 – November 26, 1883) was an American abolitionist and women's rights activist. Truth was born into slavery in Swordtail, New York, but escaped with her infant daughter to freedom in 1826. After going to court to recover her son in 1828, she became the first black woman to win such a case against a white man.



Susan B. Anthony (born Susan Anthony; February 15, 1820 – March 13, 1906) was an American social reformer and women's rights activist who played a pivotal role in the women's suffrage movement. Born into a Quaker family committed to social equality, she collected anti-slavery petitions at the age of 17. In 1856, she became the New York state agent for the American Anti-Slavery Society.

Women In The Military: Through The Decades

Women have a larger presence in our military today than ever before.



We've come a long way since a few brave women abandoned traditional roles as seamstresses or cooks and instead served in combat – disguised as men – alongside their husbands during the American Revolution.

Women have a larger presence in our military today than ever before. With more than 200,000 women serving in the active-duty military, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) predicted that by 2020 women veterans will comprise nearly 11 percent of the total veteran population.

Every day, our servicewomen and our military take giant leaps forward that pave the path for our next generation of heroes. Here are some of the major milestones for women in the military:

From 1917 to 1918, women were officially permitted to join the military. In the last two years of WWI, 33,000 joined as nurses and support staff.

From 1941 to 1945, 400,000 women served at home and abroad in non-combat roles during WWII.

In 1948, Congress passed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, which entitled women to veteran benefits and granted them permanent, regular, and reserve status in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force.

In 1975, President Gerald Ford signed Public Law 94-106, permitting women to enter U.S. military academies as students for the first time. And in 1976, 119 women entered West Point, 81 entered the U.S. Naval Academy, and 157 entered the U.S. Air Force Academy.

In 1994, Defense Secretary Les Aspin announced the new policy regarding women in combat that rescinded the 1988 "risk rule." It was replaced with a less restrictive ground combat policy, which resulted in 80 percent of all military positions being open to men and women.

In 2009, the first all-female U.S. Marine Corps team conducted its first mission in Southern Afghanistan.

In 2013, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta announced that all military positions would be opened to women by 2016.

In 2015, 1st Lt. Shaye Haver and Capt. Kristen Griest earned their Ranger tabs, becoming the first two women to successfully complete the U.S. Army's Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

In 2015, Defense Secretary Ash Carter reaffirmed Defense Secretary Leon Panetta's commitment and permitted all women to apply for combat positions beginning January 1, 2016. This shift opened the opportunity for women to fill 220,000 military combat positions.

When I served in the military, all roles were not open to women, but I always felt I was evaluated based on my performance and abilities. I learned many lessons during my time at West Point and in the Army that have guided me throughout my career and life. Now – in 2017 – our military is comprised of men and women who serve in all roles – combat and non-combat. I am proud to say that all branches of the military are creating opportunities for women – from occupational specialists to officers – to succeed within the system based on ability, not gender.

According to the most recent U.S. News Best Colleges Rankings, there are 996 women enrolled at the United States Air Force Academy, 826 women enrolled at the United States Military Academy at West Point, and 1,135 women enrolled at the United States Naval Academy. In 2015, I attended the Ranger School graduation that included the first two female Ranger School graduates, which made me reflect on how far we've come as a military and as a country. I'm amazed by the many women who have bravely pushed boundaries to allow women to serve to their fullest capacity. And today's servicewomen and veterans – who continue to thrive and push for female-oriented benefits through VA – give me hope for our future.

[Jennifer Silva](#), Contributor
Veterans Advocate
Huffington Post



Dr. Ruth Trained as a "Sniper" in Israel as a teenager.



Queen Elisabeth II WWII Truck Driver



Bea Arthur (Maude), USMC Typist 1943 - 1945

HISTORICAL APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 4th Japanese Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto (1884-1943) was born in Nagaoko, Honshu. He was the main strategist behind the failed Japanese attack on Midway Island in June of 1942, which turned the course of the war against Japan. He was killed on April 18, 1943, after Americans intercepted radio reports of his whereabouts and shot down his plane.

April 13th Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) was born in Albermarle County, Virginia. He was an author, inventor, lawyer, politician, architect, and one of the finest minds of the 1700's. He authored the American Declaration of Independence and later served as the 3rd U.S. President from 1801 to 1809. He died on July 4, 1826, the same day as his old friend and one-time political rival John Adams.

April 20th Adolf Hitler (1889-1945) was born in Braunau am Inn, Austria. As leader of Nazi Germany from 1933 to 1945, he waged a war of expansion in Europe, precipitating the deaths of an estimated 50 million persons through military conflict and through the Holocaust in which the Nazis attempted to exterminate the entire Jewish population of Europe.

April 22nd Vladimir Lenin (1870-1924) was born in Simbirsk, Russia. He led the Russian Revolution of October 1917 which toppled Czar Nicholas and paved the way for a harsh Communist regime. Following his death in 1924, his body was embalmed and placed on display in Moscow's Red Square, becoming a shrine that was visited by millions during the years of the Soviet Union.

April 23rd James Buchanan (1791-1868) the 15th U.S. President was born in Cove Gap, Pennsylvania. He was the only life-long bachelor to occupy the White House, serving just one term from 1857 to 1861.

April 26th Nazi Rudolf Hess (1894-1987) was born in Alexandria, Egypt. He was Deputy Führer of Nazi Germany and a member of Hitler's inner circle. On May 10, 1941, he made a surprise solo flight and parachuted into Scotland intending to negotiate peace with the British. However, the British promptly arrested him and confined him for the duration. Following the war, he was taken to Nuremberg and put on trial with other top Nazis. He died in captivity in 1987, the last of the major Nuremberg war criminals.

April 28th James Monroe (1758-1831) the 5th U.S. President was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia. He served two terms from 1817 to 1825 and is best known for the Monroe Doctrine which declared the U.S. would not permit any European nation to extend its holdings or use armed force in North or South America.

April 29th Japan's Emperor Hirohito (1901-1989) was born in Tokyo. In 1926, he became the 124th in a long line of monarchs and then presided over wartime Japan which was led by militarist Prime Minister Hideki Tojo.

HISTORICAL APRIL EVENTS

April 2, 1513 - Spanish explorer Ponce De Leon sighted Florida and claimed it for the Spanish Crown after landing at the site of present day St. Augustine, now the oldest city in the continental U.S.

April 3, 1995 - Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor became the first woman to preside over the Court, sitting in for Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist who was out of town.

April 10, 1942 - During World War II in the Pacific, the Bataan Death March began as American and Filipino prisoners were forced on a six-day march from an airfield on Bataan to a camp near Cabanatuan. Some 76,000 Allied POWs including 12,000 Americans were forced to walk 60 miles under a blazing sun without food or water to the POW camp, resulting in over 5,000 American deaths.

April 14, 1865 - President Abraham Lincoln was shot and mortally wounded while watching a performance of Our American Cousin at Ford's Theater in Washington. He was taken to a nearby house and died the following morning at 7:22 a.m.

April 17, 1989 - The Polish labor union Solidarity was granted legal status after nearly a decade of struggle, paving the way for the downfall of the Polish Communist Party. In the elections that followed, Solidarity candidates won 99 out of 100 parliamentary seats and eventually forced the acceptance of a Solidarity government led by Lech Walesa.

April 20, 1999 - The deadliest school shooting in U.S. history occurred in Littleton, Colorado, as two students armed with guns and explosives stormed into Columbine High School at lunch time then killed 12 classmates and a teacher and wounded more than 20 other persons before killing themselves.

April 27, 1865 - On the Mississippi River, the worst steamship disaster in U.S. history occurred as an explosion aboard the Sultana killed nearly 2,000 passengers, mostly Union soldiers who had been prisoners of war and were returning home.

April 28, 1789 - On board the British ship Bounty, Fletcher Christian led a mutiny against Captain William Bligh, setting him and 18 loyal crew members adrift in a 23-foot open boat. Bligh survived a 47-day voyage sailing over 3,600 miles before landing on a small island. Christian sailed the Bounty back to Tahiti, eventually settling on Pitcairn Island and burning the ship.

April 30, 1948 - Palestinian Jews declared their independence from British rule and established the new state of Israel. The country soon became a destination for tens of thousands of Nazi Holocaust survivors and a strong U.S. ally.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

“Touching the Stars”

Here is a sentimental custom which seems to have started when Annapolis midshipmen were making their annual voyages to Europe.

The French and Scandinavian girls would touch the stars on the Midshipman’s dress uniforms, in the hope that it would bring them (the girls) good luck. Nowadays the underlying thought has undergone a change. When an American woman (be she wife, mother, sister or sweetheart) is bidding farewell to her departing sailor, she quietly lays a finger on the stars ornamenting his uniform. This is done as a silent wish for his safe keeping and a happy return. It is a simple custom, and like most things whose keynote is simplicity, it evidences faith and sincerity. The passing of time will transform this modern custom into one of the tender traditions prized by all men and women who go down to the sea.

“Sick Bay”

Ships hospitals were originally known as “Sick Berths”, but as they were generally located in the rounded sterns of old battle-wagons, their contours suggested a bay and the later name was given. Sick Bay is still used in today’s modern Navy and continues to refer to a dispensary, medical area, or hospital in sailors parlance.


“Foul Anchor”

It seems strange the navies of the world would use an insignia that would be the abomination of all good sailormen. Somewhere back in the early days, a draftsman with more artistic ability than technical knowledge, produced the well-known design which shows an anchor with its cable hopelessly fouled around the shank and arms. How such a design could win the approval of the Admiralty Board is beyond comprehension, but the fact remains that the sign of the fouled anchor has become an international emblem.

March 2021

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1	2	3 	4	5 	6
7	8	9	10 MSSM Board Meeting 1630	11	12	13
	15	16	17 	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 	26	27 Passover Begins
28 MSSM Dinner 1300	29 Viet Vets  Day	30	31			
	<p>American band leader Glenn Miller (1904-1944) was born in Carilinda, Iowa. His music gained enormous popularity during the 1940's through recordings such as Moonlight Serenade and String of Pearls. On December 15, 1944, his plane disappeared over the English Channel while en route to Paris where he was scheduled to perform.</p>					

April 2021

<i>SUN</i>	<i>MON</i>	<i>TUE</i>	<i>WED</i>	<i>THUR</i>	<i>FRI</i>	<i>SAT</i>
				1 	2	3
4 	5	6	7	8	9 	10
11	12 Ramadan Starts	13	14 MSSM Board Meeting 1630	15 PURPLE UP DAY	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 	23	24
25 MSSM Dinner 1300	26	27	28	29	30 	
	<p>Held on April 15th of each year, <u><i>"Purple Up! For Military Kids"</i></u> is a day for Department of Defense Education Activity communities to wear purple to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices.</p>					

Quotable Quotes

“We sleep peaceably in our beds at night only because rough men stand ready to do violence on our behalf.”- **George Orwell**

“Word to the Nation: Guard zealously your right to serve in the Armed Forces, for without them, there will be no other rights to guard.” –
John F. Kennedy

“We must never forget why we have, and why we need our military. Our armed forces exist solely to ensure our nation is safe, so that each and every one of us can sleep soundly at night, knowing we have ‘guardians at the gate.’”- **Allen West**

Wanted!

The Military Sea Services Museum needs to fill 2 positions on its board of directors.

1. Treasurer. Member applicants should know basic bookkeeping & accounting principles and be attentive to details.
2. Special events coordinator. Member applicants would be responsible for setting up special events, notifying the local media and coordinating all aspects of an event.

Mailed Copies

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Hours of Operation
Wednesday through Saturday
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