

THE SCUTTLEBUTT

VOL. 2, NO. 1

JULY-SEPTEMBER, 2010

FROM THE CHAIRMAN - -

Well my three plus weeks of “vacation” in Virginia were about as expected. One granddaughter confirmed early on, then her older sister graduating from high school near the end. In between these events, I pressure-washed my daughter’s deck before a graduation party then sealed it before we left for Florida. In between Pauline and I celebrated Memorial Day at a cook-out (at a neighbor’s home) and spent a pleasant two days and one night at a friends cabin in the Shenandoah and a leisurely trek on the northern-most portion of Skyline Drive. Had a good trip, but were glad to get home to our own bed.

I hate to be like a broken record, but must state that we still need a lot of help with the Museum in the form of volunteer Docents - - those folks who you see in any museum who are there to assist visitors. So, we have scheduled another volunteer Docent Training for 10:00 AM on Saturday, July 17th, and are praying that you will show up. It would help for us to have a “head count” a few days before the 17th, so please contact either myself (386-960-5425) or John Masiarczyk (386-789-4155) before 15 July to make a reservation.

Since I am running late getting out this issue of *The Scuttlebutt*, I can advise everyone of the results of our Election of Officers for your Executive Board (Held at our 1 July meeting because of the lack of a quorum at the 3 June meeting.) for Fiscal Year 2010-11. Put in short form, the officers remain the same as last year - - me, John Masiarczyk, Elaine Wilson, Bill Hickey, and Ken Cosgrove; with Peter Behnke still serving as our Computer Guru.

Semper Fi!

Marion L. “Mick” Cotten, MAJ, USMC (Ret’d)
Chairman

VIETNAM WALL OF HONOR PROGRESS - -



Work on our Vietnam Wall of Honor is progressing. The most recent photograph (on your left) shows that the black granite has been affixed to the center section of the wall (That was Step 2, which was accomplished in late May.) and installation of the reproduction of the Vietnam Service Ribbon (Step 3) was done on June 25th.

As this in being written, preparation for the “Bar-B-Cue Dinner” being put on the 4th of July at Dewey Boster Park to raise funds towards the completion of the wall (The “Wings,” the “Pedestals,” and the “Tops” are also to be covered with black granite— at an estimated cost of \$6,000.00 to \$7,000.00.) is well underway - - and we are hopeful that the event will be a great help in reaching our goal of \$7,000.00. Two local men, Michael Kiepert and Bill Tavernier, volunteered (in late April) to run the event, and the VCEP officers agreed that it sounded like a winner. Mayor Dennis Mulder, his father, Waste Pro, Office Depot and the City of Deltona have also contributed a great deal to the effort - - and things are looking good.

THE SCUTTLEBUTT is the newsletter of the Veterans Community Education Partnership For West Volusia, Inc. (VCEP), and is published quarterly: January, April, July, and October. A current issue of **THE SCUTTLEBUTT** can be found at the VCEP Web Site: <http://www.vcepinc.org/>. Opinions expressed by writers are their own, and may not express the official positions of the VCEP.

SCHEDULE OF VCEP & OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST:

JULY- -

1ST, THURSDAY, VCEP BOARD MEETING, 7:00 PM, DELTONA VETERANS MUSEUM.

3RD, SATURDAY, NO WORK DAY AT DVMP.

4TH, SUNDAY, INDEPENDENCE DAY BAR-B-CUE DINNER SALES AT DEWEY BOSTER PARK FROM 4-8:00 PM. PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS COMPLETION OF THE "VIETNAM WALL OF HONOR." CITY OF DELTONA FIRE WORKS AT DUSK.

17TH, SATURDAY, DOCENT TRAINING. 10:00 AM, MUSEUM.

27TH, TUESDAY, 57TH ANNIVERSARY OF KOREAN WAR CEASE FIRE. KWVA CHAPTER 153 WILL HOST A CEREMONY AT 10:00 AM AT DVMP.

AUGUST - -

4TH, WEDNESDAY, COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY PARTY, 6:00 PM, DVMP.

5TH, THURSDAY, VCEP BOARD MEETING, 7:00 PM, VETERANS MUSEUM.

7TH, SATURDAY, VETS WORKDAY, 8:30 AM, DVMP.

24TH, TUESDAY, PRIMARY ELECTIONS (City, County, State & Federal Offices)

SEPTEMBER - -

2ND, THURSDAY, 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF "V-J DAY" CEREMONY, 6:00 PM AT DVMP.

VCEP BOARD MEETING, 7:00 PM, VETERANS MUSEUM.

4TH, SATURDAY, VETS WORKDAY, 8:30 AM, DVMP.

6TH, MONDAY, LABOR DAY.

11TH, SATURDAY, PATRIOT DAY, CEREMONY USUALLY AT DELTONA CITY HALL (No details available at this time).

17TH, FRIDAY, POW/MIA RECOGNITION & CONSTITUTION DAY CEREMONY, 6:00 PM, DVMP.

18TH, SATURDAY, AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY PARTY, 10:00 AM (Tentative), DVMP.

EVERY SATURDAY:

MUSEUM IS OPEN FROM
11:00 AM UNTIL 4:00 PM.

EVERY SUNDAY:

MUSEUM IS OPEN FROM
1:00 PM UNTIL 4:00 PM

“SILK” AND MONOPOLY IN WW II - -

Starting in 1941, an increasing number of British airmen found themselves as the involuntary guests of the Third Reich, and the authorities were casting about for ways and means to facilitate their escape. Now obviously, one of the most helpful aids to that end is a useful and accurate map, one showing not only where-stuff-was, but also showing the locations of ‘safe houses’, where a POW on-the-loose could go for food and shelter. Paper maps had some real drawbacks: They make a lot of noise when you open and fold them, they wear-out rapidly, and if they get wet, they turn into mush.

Someone in MI-5 got the idea of printing escape maps on *silk*. It’s durable, can be scrunched-up into tiny wads, and unfolded as many times as needed, and makes no noise what-so-ever. At that time, there was only one manufacturer in Great Britain that had

perfected the technology of printing on silk, and that was John Waddington, Ltd.

When approached by the government, the firm was only too happy to do its bit for the war effort.

By pure coincidence, Waddington was also the U.K. Licensee for the popular American board game, Monopoly. As it happened, ‘games and pastimes’ was a category of item qualified for insertion into ‘CARE packages’, dispatched by the International Red Cross, to prisoners of war.

Under the strictest of secrecy, in a securely guarded and inaccessible old workshop on the grounds of Waddington’s, a group of sworn-to-secrecy employees began mass-producing escape maps, keyed to each region of Germany or Italy where Allied POW camps were located (Red Cross packages were delivered to prisoners in accordance with that same regional system). When processed, these maps could be folded into such tiny dots that they would actually fit inside a Monopoly playing piece.

As long as they were at it, the clever workmen at Waddington’s also managed to add:

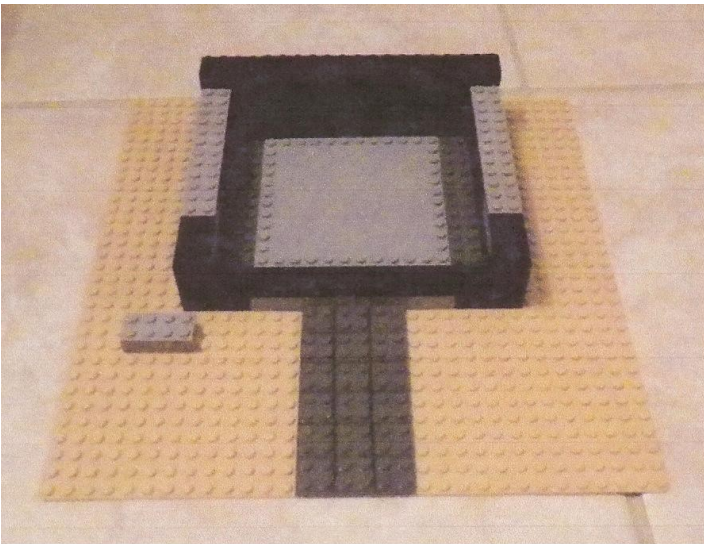
1. A playing token, containing a small magnetic compass,
2. A two-part metal file that could easily be screwed together.
3. Useful amounts of genuine high-denomination German, Italian, and French currency, hidden within the piles of Monopoly money!

British and American air-crews were advised, before taking off on their first mission, how to identify a ‘rigged’ Monopoly set — by means of a tiny red dot, one cleverly rigged to look like an ordinary printing glitch, located in the corner of the Free Parking square! Of the estimated 35,000 Allied POWS who successfully escaped, an estimated one-third were aided in their flight by the rigged Monopoly sets. Everyone who did so was sworn to secrecy indefinitely, since the British Government might want to use this highly successful ruse in still another, future war.

The story wasn’t de-classified until 2007, when the surviving craftsmen from Waddington’s, as well as the firm itself, were finally honored in a public ceremony. Anyway, it’s always nice when you can play that ‘Get Out of Jail Free’ card.

Eagle Scout Projects In Process - -

As mentioned in our last issue, we have two young Boy Scouts working on projects to earn their Eagle Scout Honors. One project is to be in Veterans Memorial Park (DVMP) and the other is to be in our Veterans Museum (DVM).

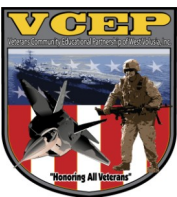
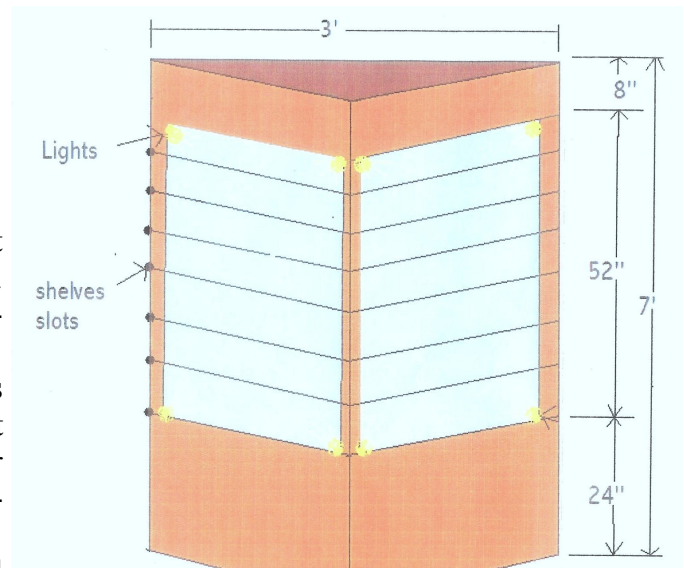


The DVMP project is to be a "Flag Retirement Fire Pit" - - to be constructed by Boy Scout "Nick" just off of Khe Sanh Trail between the Mess Hall (The Pavilion) and the path leading down to the lake. The project is to include a short sidewalk between the Fire Pit pad and the existing sidewalk, with the Fire Pit being built out of either brick or concrete block and designed for us to use a metal container for the fire - - and the metal container will be placed storage when not in use. A

picture of a model (Made out of Legos) of the project is at the left and our VCEP Executive Board has approved it. Next, the project will need City of Deltona approval before he can proceed.

The Boy Scout project in the museum (His name is Luciano) is to be the construction of a free-standing unit to hold our "Humor In Uniform" display. His plans for the unit, which have also been approved by the VCEP Executive Board, are pictured at the right.

We are excited by what the completed projects will add to the DVMP and the DVM.



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