Annual Membership Meeting
The museum’s Annual Membership Meeting will be held at 5:00 PM on May 3, 2010 at the Camp Van Dorn Museum. By means this newsletter, you are invited to attend.

Fund Raisers
Ginny Randall holds a plant sale each spring and donates the proceeds to this museum. Jenny McKey organizes a fall yard sale, also to benefit the museum. This year they are combining their efforts and hosting the plant sale and yard sale together on Saturday the tenth of April in front of the museum. This is an opportunity to find bedding plants and other bargains and to benefit your local museum at the same time. We are especially grateful to these two dedicated volunteers. They contribute a significant amount of their personal time and effort into these projects. Ginny Randall collects pots and roots plants herself for months ahead of the plant sale. Lorene Reid assists her in finding other people and businesses to donate plants for the sale. Jenny McKey locates a holding facility for yard sale items and spends her daily lunch hours pricing those items donated for the yard sale. The generous support we receive from the Centreville community and donors across the country is vital to the longevity of the museum, and we deeply appreciate that support.

Visitors
During the first three months of this year, the museum entertained visitors from eight states in addition to Mississippi. We have also seen an increase in local interest. Three veterans of Camp Van Dorn came from Baton Rouge, Wisconsin, and Indiana to see the museum. Another World War II veteran, who served with the 7th Army but was not at Van Dorn, visited from Pensacola, Florida. Additional visitors were from Arizona, Illinois, South Carolina and Missouri. The son of one veteran brought a copy of his father’s scrapbook, and the sons of two other veterans came seeking information about their fathers. We also enjoyed a visit by Cub Scout Pack 296 of Centreville.

Funding
As a non-profit museum, we receive no government funding and are totally dependent upon contributions and fund-raisers to cover expenses, such as an electricity bill that has, so far this year, been between seven hundred and nine hundred dollars each month. How blessed we are to have the support of individuals who care enough about Camp Van Dorn, the local area, and the history of this country to provide for utilities, insurance, office and preservation supplies, web site support, and one paid employee. We deeply appreciate each and every one who helps, whether it is with time, funds, or artifacts. We have upgraded the museum gift shop with, among other things, a new line of caps and T-shirts, coloring books and sticker books for children, and many new non-fiction books for adults.

Memorials received January 1, 2010 through March 31, 2010:

“Them All”
G. M. Borskey

Harry E. Anderson
Ward & Helen Marianos

Kermit Boykin
Emma Zell Knighton
Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Ulmer

Rev. Howard Brister
Emma Zell Knighton
Emmette, Russell & Hollis

Anna Louise Campbell
Marie Knighton

Grandpa & Grandma
Herschel & Lora Cavin
Mike & Joy Cavin

Jacquelyn Hope Chapman
Janie & John Nelson

Howard Conner
Emma Zell Knighton

Emile Garrett
Emma Zell Knighton
Adam & Jenny McKey

Sarah Warren Hudnall
Jo Anne (Jan) Warren

Ida Elma
(Judi Causey's mother)
Emma Zell Knighton

Scotty James
Sandra Freeman
Emma Zell Knighton
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Reid

Patricia Rogers
E. M. “Sonny” Kee, Jr.
Emma Zell Knighton
Mr. & Mrs. O. L. Kirby
Ward & Helen Marianos
Lt. Col. Louis J. Manus
Louis Manus, Jr.
Robbie Payne
Emma Zell Knighton
Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Ulmer
Conrad Reynolds
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Reid
Edward W. Smith
Emma Zell Knighton
Mrs. Earl Reed
Unidentified object

Thanks to all who helped us identify last month’s unknown object as a laundry pin. One reader also recognized it as a pin used to hold the corners of a blanket together. Now we are asking for your help again. The item pictured on the left was reportedly picked up in Berlin during the war. We have no idea what it is. It is made of aluminum, and the hinged bottom opens. The circumference is pierced with a network of holes, as in a tea ball. At the top is a curved fork shape with three tines. This object is approximately five inches tall and one and one-half inches in diameter across the bottom.