

*"I feel it an honor and a privilege to write a recommendation on one of the best World War II displays I have ever seen. Being from a military area (Newport News, Va.) I have seen lots of memorabilia of war time relics. This is a rare collection of genuine artifacts used throughout the war. Peter has done lots of extensive research on these pieces and they are in some cases one of a kind. You will benefit greatly from having visited this display and any history or WW II buffs will be fascinated with these pieces. Thank you, Professor Johnson, for your continued effort to keep us mindful of the cost of freedom".*

**RON TIMBERLAKE**

CPL. USMC 1969-1975 Vietnam Combat Veteran  
Semper Fidelis



*"Peter Johnson was a guest presenter at our Sons of Norway Vennligfolk Lodge meeting recently. His collection of WWII artifacts filled the room. Professor Johnson is a WWII historian who has not only studied WWII, but he has collected stories from people who were in that war. When Professor Johnson presented his program to our lodge, he amazed the membership with his knowledge and stories while showing his vast collection of WWII artifacts. I highly recommend Peter Johnson and his presentation of WWII stories and memorabilia."*

**SUSAN MORTON**

Sons of Norway, Vennligfolk Lodge President  
Stevens Point, WI



*What an exciting and meaningful experience it was to see Professor Johnson's WWII display. As a student, it helps to see history in living color. This is what the display does; it helps students visually connect with the subject they are studying. I think the most effective part of the display is the arm bands from the concentration camps. To see them, really draws students to realize there were actual persecuted people wearing them, they were not just a number in a history book. I would highly recommend seeing this display.*

**JENNIFER WOODEN**

Student – Volunteer State Community College  
Gallatin, TN

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## **WORLD WAR II – MEMORABILIA AND MEMORIES**

*Presentations by*  
**PETE JOHNSON**



# WORLD WAR II – MEMORABILIA AND MEMORIES



On December 7, 1941, the United States was abruptly brought into a world war that many citizens wanted to avoid. The aerial assault by forces of the Imperial Japanese military on Pearl Harbor ushered America into a global conflict that would last for almost four years and cost over 400,000 American lives. Men and women who had lived through the Great Depression now answered the nation's call to arms to defeat the Axis Powers of Japan, Germany and Italy and defend liberty and freedom loving people across the seas. Soon Americans would receive a world geography lesson peering at names of places their sons were fighting: Normandy, Anzio, Corregidor, Okinawa, Iwo Jima, Hurtgen Forest and many others. U.S. fighting forces flew in the skies over enemy territory, sailed oceans infested with German submarines in the Atlantic and Japanese military ships and planes in the Pacific. There were far too many telegrams delivered met with tearful eyes telling of loved ones killed, missing or captured.

When these men and women came home after the last bomb was dropped and the last shell fired, they shaped America's destiny. They married, had babies, built homes, attended colleges, and worked industrial jobs putting the war behind them to build a better future for the nation. Now this generation is passing away before us.



As a tribute to this great generation, Peter Johnson presents “World War II – Memorabilia and Memories”.

The son of a World War II veteran, Peter has collected WWII memorabilia since a child. His collection includes American, German, and Japanese military plus U.S. home front items. A recently retired Associate Professor of American History, Peter used his collection in his college classroom as well as presenting it at other schools, churches and social gatherings. His presentation not only includes display of these materials but stories from veterans he has interviewed. When you come to see this display, you will be immersed in the WWII era and will remember to honor those who fought for liberty at that tumultuous time.

*“One of the best privately owned collections I have viewed. Peter’s expertise on the material culture of WWII is remarkable.”*

**DR. GEORGE PIMENTEL**

Vice President of Academic Affairs –  
Volunteer State Community College