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Continuing the Tradition ~ Preserving Our History

bvhsri.org ♦ 1873 Old Louisquisset Pike (Rte 246) ♦ PO Box 125, Lincoln RI, 02865

Author Reveals Secrets of the Ghost Army of WWII

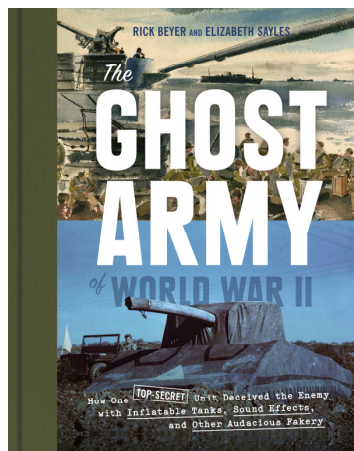


Rick Beyer

In the summer of 1944, a handpicked group of young GIs landed in France to conduct a secret mission. Armed with rubber tanks, sound effects records, and their imagination, their job was to create a traveling road show of deception on the battlefields of Europe. From Normandy to the Rhine, they conjured up phony convoys, phantom divisions, and make-believe headquarters to fool the enemy. What they did was kept secret for more than fifty years after the war. Their official name was the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops, but they are better known today as The Ghost Army.

Writer and filmmaker Rick Beyer will detail the manner in which this unusual unit came into being and how they carried out their amazing deceptions. He'll also explore the Blackstone Valley's unique connection to the Ghost Army, and the efforts underway to award the men in this unit long delayed recognition for their accomplishments.

Beyer, a Rhode Island native who now lives in Salem, MA, is a New York Times best-selling author and an award-winning documentary filmmaker. He produced the PBS



"The Ghost Army" was published in 2015. The unit's work was classified information for more than 50 years.

documentary *The Ghost Army* and co-authored the bestselling book *The Ghost*

Army of World War II with Elizabeth Sayles that is being developed as a Hollywood movie. He is the president of The Ghost Army Legacy Project, a non-profit dedicated to preserving and honoring the legacy of the deception troops.

Beyer has made documentary films for The History Channel, A&E, National Geographic, and others. He is the author of the popular *Greatest Stories Never Told* series of history books, as well as *Rivals Unto Death*, a dual biography of Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr, published earlier this year. He has written for numerous publications, and shared his unique take on history in interviews on CBS, FoxNews, MSNBC, NPR, VOA and CNN.



Top secret Inflatable tanks like this one were made in Woonsocket.

**Lecture by Rick Beyer
"The Ghost Army"
Refreshments after
the talk.**

**2-4 pm, Sunday
April 22, 2018
Free Event**

Upcoming Events at North Gate

**Most events are free.
Everyone is welcome.
Donations are gratefully accepted.**

8:30 am, April 14, Cemetery Cleanup Day: Spring cleaning and new signs to be put on five cemeteries, starting at 8:30 am at the Saylesville Friends Meeting House cemetery on Great Road, and ending at the graveyards off Angell Rd. If you are interested in helping, text Ken at 401-524-4166 or email postle6@cox.net for more details. Drop by for an hour, two hours, whatever you can give. Thank you!

2:00-4:00 pm, Sunday, April 22: Talk by Rick Beyer. See page 1.

1:30-3:30 pm, Sunday May 20. The BVHS Annual Business meeting takes place at 1:30 pm. At 2:00 pm, the Annual Memorial Christine Nowak Lecture will begin: Ranger Kevin Klyberg from the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park will give a talk entitled *The War of 1812 and the Development of the Blackstone Valley*. Free event. Refreshments.

Looking forward to BVHS's summer tour of Cogswell Tower led by Bob Ferri, Central Falls City Councilman. Date and Time TBA.



2016 Cogswell Tower Tour. Bob is about to open the door to the tower.

Historian Robert Chiles talks about his new book, *The Revolution of '28*

On Sunday, April 15 at 1:30 pm the Museum of Work & Culture will welcome historian Robert Chiles, from the University of Maryland, for a free talk on his new book, *The Revolution of '28: Al Smith, American Progressivism, and the Coming of the New Deal*.

In his book, Chiles ex-

plores the career of New York governor and 1928 Democratic presidential nominee Alfred E. Smith, and traces how Smith's progressivism paved the way for Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal.

Museum of Work and Culture, 42 South Main Street, Woonsocket, RI. For more information, see www.rihs.org/mowc-programs/



Exhibit at North Gate

About the Lime Kilns of Lime Rock

Kiln Hidden in thicket on CCRI Campus
Photo by William McManus

Protecting Historic Cemeteries: Close call!

On his way to work last week, Ken Postle noticed excavation on the lot right next to Lincoln 24 on Sprague Avenue in Lonsdale. After Ken informed the Planning Department, Lincoln issued a cease and desist order, and informed the state archaeologist. Building is suspended pending a survey. Great rescue, Ken! In fact, it is suspected that a former owner of that lot covered over a missing row of graves.



Cemetery on March 26. Cleared area is (easily) within 25' of the headstones and must be reviewed before building per state regulations. Photo by Ken Postle. See full story on his Facebook page

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401-862-4202

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