Winter 2012

In Service to the Nation: Military Arts and Crafts

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Recommended Citation
Tappert, Tara Leigh PhD, "In Service to the Nation: Military Arts and Crafts" (2012). Special Events. 4.
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In Service to the Nation: Arts and Crafts and the Military

La Salle University Art Museum Lecture
Tara Leigh Tappert, Ph.D.
13 March 2012
An Introduction

Vietnam P.O.W. and Military Widow

and
Deborah (Gitenstein) Brudno (1944-2010)
Remembering Alan and Debby Brudno

Alan and Debby Brudno’s wedding

Air Force Captain Edward Alan Brudno
Being chained to a spot – being tied in a knot –
So bent, so crushed, so twisted…
In such terrible pain that could drive one insane,
Few mortals could long have resisted.
Against horrors so chilling, the spirit was willing –
But the flesh was too weak to withstand.
Was it really a sin for a man to give in?
Could I better resist each demand?

P.O.W. Alan Brudno returned to the U.S. on February 12, 1973
Robert Brudno has been a tireless advocate for his brother.

Alan’s letters to Debby are included in this book and video.

When teacher Michelle Paquet was in high school she wore a P.O.W. bracelet for Alan Brudno.
Remembering Alan and Debby Brudno

Debby Brudno at the Vietnam Memorial in 2004 when her husband’s name was added to the Wall

Alan Brudno is now Burial in Arlington Cemetery

Joe McCain looks at plaque for Alan Brudno in the North Quincy H.S. where he graduated in 1958

Debby and Bob at a Quincy, MA Veterans Day ceremony remembering Alan
The Research Project

Arts and Crafts and the Military for Rehabilitation and Recreation

WWI to the Present
Historical Perspective for Rehabilitation

♦ Arts & Crafts Movement & Occupational Therapy
♦ World War I
♦ Red Cross
♦ World War II
♦ Vietnam Conflict and Beyond
♦ Current Day
Rehabilitation
Marblehead Pottery
Ariquipa Pottery
WWI – Occupational Therapy Training
WWI—Trench Art for Rehabilitation & Recreation
WWI Tea Set—Table Cover and Detail of Embroidery
WWI – Tea Set – Napkins with Insignias
WWI – Tea Set – Glass Coasters with Pennants
Marion Abbott – WWI Era Actress and Singer
WWI - Ft. McHenry – U.S. Army General Hospital No. 2
WWI – Ft. McHenry – U.S. Army General Hospital No. 2
WWI – Walter Reed General Hospital
WWI – Walter Reed General Hospital
WWI – Greenwich House Pottery
WWI - William Waldo Dodge, Jr.
WWI – Horace Pippin
WWI – American Red Cross

Our Boys Need Sox
Knit Your Bit

Carry On
Magazine on the Reconstruction of Disabled Soldiers and Sailors
Vol. 1 No. 1 June 1918

A Message from General Gorgas
The High Road to Self-Support
Not Charity—But a Chance
The Sluggard and the Ant
How Can a Woman Best Help?

The Red Cross Institute for Crippled and Disabled Men
311 Fourth Avenue New York City

Employment Opportunities for Handicapped Men in the Optical Goods Industry
By Bert J. Morris

Publications of the Red Cross Institute for Crippled and Disabled Men
Edited by Douglas C. McMurry
Series II March 10, 1919 Number 6

The army of the disabled keeps growing

In Hospitals under Government care

The Red Cross is spending Ten Million Dollars a Year to help the ex-service man and his family —
Occupational Therapy Between the Wars
**WWII- Occupational Therapy Training**

- **OT Crafts Class – Washington University**
- **OT shop at the 120th Station Hospital**
- **Glen Lukens promoted ceramics**
- **Miniature Model Making**
WWII—U.S. Army Hospital Ship Emily H. M. Weder

OT Arts and Crafts Exhibition
WWII -- Red Cross Arts and Skills – A Triple Alliance

Red Cross

Museums

Artists and Craftsmen
Dorothy Wright Liebes and Jane Canfield

Dorothy Wright Liebes

Jane Canfield
Dorothy Wright Liebes Promotes Arts and Skills

Arts and Crafts Report for War Duty

Red Cross Launches Army-Navy Program

By MARY ANDERSON.

A call for skilled artists and craftsmen to aid in the rehabilitation of injured soldiers and sailors is being issued by the National Red Cross, in an interview yesterday at the Museum of Modern Art. "To get people who are skilled in particular fields to volunteer for this important work.

"We can't attempt to train people," said Mrs. Canfield, "but we know there are thousands of people who, either by vocation or avocation, are already equipped to help. As our participation in the war grows more intense there will be increased need for these volunteers."

Fields for Volunteers.

Woodworking, weaving, bookbinding, painting, drawing, sculpture, metalwork, rugmaking, woodworking, rug weaving, paper construction work, decoupage, bookmaking, for tying and block printing are some of the fields from which Mrs. Canfield hopes to enlist trained men and women willing to donate their services.

"Any skill in arts and crafts which can be applied to bed or wheelchair patients is desirable," Mrs. Canfield explained.

It was at the request of the army and navy that the recruiting of volunteers has been started. Civilian hospitals have demonstrated that the use of arts and crafts has a major therapeutic effect in the treatment of both physical and mental cases.

Start Next Week.

Next week the first group of Red Cross volunteers will start a program at Halloran General Hospital, Staten Island, the new army hospital which opened this week.

Occupational therapy is used for rehabilitation of disabled soldiers and sailors. Here a therapist, with the help of a skilled artist, interests a bed patient in painting. Such activities begin next week at Halloran General Hospital, the new army hospital on Staten Island. Skilled artists and craftsmen, as Red Cross volunteers, will assist in the project.

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Arts and Skills Corps Newsletters
Arts and Skills Demonstration

Demonstration in Portland, Oregon
Arts and Skills Leather Craft Exhibit

Circulated on the west coast in 1945
Arts and Skills Metalsmithing Exhibits

Craft work by instructors and patients at Ashburn General Hospital

Necklace made by a bed patient at Halloran General Hospital
Art for the Soldiers’ Sake

U.S. Naval Hospital at Great Lakes, Chicago, IL

O’Reilly General Hospital, Springfield, MO

U.S. Naval Hospital Oakland, CA
The Wounded Respond to Craft Making

- (Top) A patient begins making a billfold with help of Red Cross.
- Skillful direction (center) helps disabled soldiers in using hands.
- The merchant seaman (right) is staining a belt job he has done.
Alexander Calder – Jeweler and Sculptor
Margret Craver
Silversmith

Major General
Norman T. Kirk

WWII - Handy & Harman Hospital Arts Program
WWII - Handy & Harman Hospital Arts Program

Margret Craver craft work

Cigarette Lighter

Brooch

Silversmithing Supplies
Bronze and Brass Bowls ca. 1949 and 1950

Sterling Silver Cufflinks ca. 1970s

Alfred, NY 1949-51

Hallmark
WWII – Otto Heino -- Ceramist
Vietnam Era - Help Hospitalized Veterans – Arts and Crafts Program

Craft Kits

Craft Care Specialist and VA Hospital patients
Vietnam Era and Beyond

Vietnam Era -- Kick pottery wheel to help rehabilitate injured veterans – ca. 1970

Craft project for blind veteran at the Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital -- 2009
Current Day – Art Therapy for Veterans

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center

Art Therapy at the Pikes Peak Behavioral Health Group

Army veteran Maria Pratt of Buffalo paints for the Roycroft exhibit

Conflict/Resolution – Wounded Warriors Exhibition, 2010

Historic Roycroft Veterans Exhibition May, 2010
Historical Perspective for Recreation

- World War II – Arts and Crafts
- Arts and the Military Today
Recreation

Canteen' for Artists

The Clay Club, located in New York's Greenwich Village, has formed special sculpture classes for members of the armed forces. There the boys on leave, far from the upheaval overseas, are getting expert instruction in the fine arts.

The Clay Club, Greenwich Village, New York, 1943
Building Morale Through Arts and Crafts

A soldier weaving on a hand loom

Examining the 1st place sculpture during Army Arts and Crafts Week -- Fort Knox, 1969
An Emerging Modern Craft Movement

Aileen Osborn Webb
Bringing Arts & Crafts to Soldiers and Their Families

Aileen Osborn Webb

Brigadier General Frederick Henry Osborn

Major Nathaniel Saltonstall

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Army Arts & Crafts Directors

Army Arts and Crafts Instructors, 1949

Finger Painting, Radio City Service Club, 1954
The Basic Seven Program

Fort Dix Arts and Crafts Center, 1961

Fort Bragg Crafts Facility, 1990s

Drawing Class for WACS, 1950s
Arts Contests for the Military
Arts and Crafts and the Military Today

Kelley Woodshop – USAG Stuttgart, Germany

Weaving at a Military Crafts Facility

Fort Bragg Kiln Shop
Military-Focused Museum Exhibitions and Programs

National Gallery of Art

Metropolitan Museum of Art

Museum of Modern Art
"It won't be much fun for us to be civilians again—we aren't supposed to have battle fatigue or neuroses."
Arts and Crafts and the Military

REORIENTATION
and
SOCIAL ACTION

Vietnam to the Present Day
Reorientation

Sky David Presuzkiwanie

Ehren Tool

Combat Paper Project

Joe Bonham Project
Sky David Presuzkiwanie – Vietnam War Veteran

Fort Hood, Killeen, TX, 1965

Just after taking Hill 875 in Vietnam, 1968
Sky David’s Friend John

John Andrew Sickles – KIA
June 16, 1967

John – 2005

Ghost Soldiers -- 2011
John Sickles page

Poem Honoring John

The Vision of a Young Soldier
The Dream of Growing into Manhood.
Like all Young Men, He must face the "Initiation into Manhood".
He faces this Initiation in a Land far from Boyhood.
The smack!
No home to go.
The Hot Blood of the Young Warrior.
No Home.
The boy gets his "cherry busted".
Gets his first "Confirmed Kill" May, 1967, two months in country.
The boy has "crossed the line“ and entered the Realm of Manhood.
June 16: John crosses the "Thin Red Line".
I can always touch John.
And I can touch Him at the National Memorial in Washington D. C.
The Wall.
Touch John on PANEL 21 EAST, LINE 116.
Warrior Artist – Self Portraits

Re-Insertion Self Portrait: Taking Hill 875 After Close Contact Hand-to-Hand with the 17th N.V.A. Regiment -- 2005

Self Portrait of a Man Split Apart -- 2005

Re-Insertion Self Portrait: Into the Jungle with John -- 2005
From Jarhead to Ceramist

Ehren Tool makes cups and then gives them away.
The Joe Bonham Project – Still in the Fight

Arts and Stripes Exhibition – Workhouse Arts Center – July, 2011
Robert Bates, Michael D. Fay, Victor Charles Juhasz
Sketching Wounded Warriors at Military Hospitals

Lance Corporal Tyler Huffman
By Michael D. Fay

Corporal Matthew Bowman
By Robert William Bates

Corporal Stephen Farrell
By Victor Charles Juhasz
Michael D. Fay and Kyle Carpenter

Opening Reception
Arts and Stripes
Workhouse Arts Center
July, 2011

Sketching LCpl. Kyle Carpenter at Walter Reed Medical Center
Victor Charles Juhasz and Sgt. Jason Ross

Sketching Sgt. Ross at Walter Reed Medical Center June 2011

Victor and Jason at the opening
Ten Years After 9/11
Pepco Edison Place Gallery
Combat Paper Project
Workshops for Veterans at the Green Door Studio
Launching Combat Paper Project
Writing on the Wall - Noepe Series -- 2007
You Are Not My Enemy – Poem and Artwork – 2007

You are not my enemy
we shall stay true
you are not my enemy
we will change this with you

You are not my enemy
my brother my sister
but I kept doing something wrong
and got myself in trouble
just asking questions
and talked about children.

You are not my enemy
my relatives my dear
who would you take the window
my extended family
and get on a winter

No you are not my enemy
my friend my friend
we were brothers
You are not my enemy
my name and self
our bond is that same

You are not my enemy
my mother my father
in the war you know
we will change this with you

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Breaking Rank -- 2008
The Combat Paper Making Process
Residencies, Workshops, and Exhibitions
C.P.P. Residencies for Artists – West Tisbury Grange Hall, Martha’s Vineyard, July, 2008
Art Therapy Workshop – Seton Hill – November, 2009
Residency-Southwest School of Arts & Crafts-2009
Firehouse Gallery Exhibit -- 2009

COMBAT PAPER 02/20 - 04/11

ARTISTS: JON TURNER, DREW CAMERON, ELI WRIGHT
AND THE COMBAT PAPER PROJECT
Robyn Murray

Robyn and her mother

In Iraq

Army Poster Girls
Robynn’s Combat Paper Experience – Martha’s Vineyard

Indoctrination

Baghdad

Healing
Robynn Murray and Sara Nesson – Poster Girl – 2010
Academy Awards Ceremony -- 2011

Sara, Robynn, and Mitchell Block

Combat Paper corsages made by Donna Perdue
Donna Perdue – Amani My Culture

Studios of Key West
Key West, Florida
2009
Eli Wright with his C.P.P. Artwork

These Colors Run Everywhere

Broken Toy Soldiers

Open Wound
Eli Wright & Combat Paper NJ

HAND PAPERMAKING
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