



“In the Footsteps of the Monuments Men” Tour



In 2011, The National World War II Museum’s Five Star Tours will join with Robert M. Edsel, author of the best-selling *The Monuments Men* and Founder and President of the Monuments Men Foundation, to offer a tour in search of a different kind of wartime hero: the Monuments Men – scholar soldiers who raced to save civilization’s treasures from destruction by the Nazis in the chaotic final days of World War II.

This exclusive inaugural trip will be led by Edsel himself. It departs September 16, 2011 from Paris, on a 10-day adventure of discovery – retracing the route the Monuments Men took across a battered, war-torn continent. Along the way are visits to some of the artistic treasures saved from ruin. Stops include the Louvre, the Residenz Palace in Würzburg, the Church of Notre Dame in La Gleize, and other cultural monuments. Additional visits include sites where the Nazis stashed their stolen plunder including the Jeu de Paume Museum in Paris, St. Pietersberg mine in Maastricht, Hitler’s Eagle’s Nest retreat at Berchtesgaden and, the pinna-

From the Desk of Robert M. Edsel



The close of another year brings with it blessings for the progress and events of 2010. No development brings greater long term promise than the ongoing relationship between the Monuments Men Foundation and The National World War II Museum. The museum is a national treasure, with more than a half million visitors annually and growing by leaps and bounds. Nothing affirms the importance of these heroes and their legacy more than the endorsement and support of The National World War II Museum.

With the growth in our activity, we have made the decision to create quarterly newsletters in 2011 to share with our many supporters and friends the latest developments, discoveries, and achievements of the Foundation. Of course, I’m always available to answer any questions. I love hearing from you, please call me any time.

I wish each of you the happiest of holidays and New Year!



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cle of the tour, the salt mines of Altaussee, Austria –the repository uncovered by the Monuments Men that contained thousands of works of art destined for Hitler's Führermuseum.

“It was the greatest treasure hunt of all time,” said The National World War II Museum President Dr. Nick Mueller. “And Robert, working with the Museum’s historians and curators, structured the tour to combine visits to the finest art museums in the world, churches, palaces and historic World War II sites. I couldn’t think of a more interesting way to see Europe than joining ‘In the Footsteps of the Monuments Men.’ Their story is fascinating.” Robert Edsel added, “Retracing the path of the men and women who risked their lives to save civilization's greatest cultural treasures will be an exciting, once in a lifetime experience.”



The Castle Neuschwanstein is one of many stops on the Monuments Men trip.



Hitler's Eagle's Nest at Berchtesgaden.

The tour “In the Footsteps of the Monuments Men” includes travel from Paris to the tour's final destination in Munich, luxury accommodations and meals, as well as the opportunity to experience history in an intimate-sized group with Edsel. Space is extremely limited. Get more information and a detailed itinerary or book your journey at www.nationalww2museum.org/travel or call 1-877-813-3329 ext. 257.

Day 1 - Paris

Welcome Reception and Dinner

Day 2 - Paris

Louvre and Jeu de Paume Museums

Day 3 - Reims & La Gleize

Surrender Museum and Cathedral of Notre Dame

Day 4 - Maastricht

St. Pietersberg mine and Margraten American Cemetery

Day 5 - Aachen & Cologne

Aachen Cathedral and Cologne Cathedral

Day 6 - Würzburg

Residenz Palace

Day 7 - Neuschwanstein & Munich

Neuschwanstein Castle and Nazi Party Headquarters

Day 8 - Berchtesgaden

Eagle's Nest and Tour of Bunker Remains

Day 9 - Altaussee

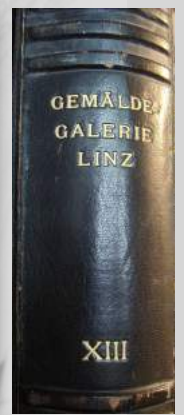
Salt mines at Altaussee



Tour participants will visit the salt mines at Altaussee, where thousands of paintings were stored during World War II.



WHAT'S IN YOUR ATTIC?



Missing Paintings by Raphael and Van Gogh

Missing Cultural Documents

During World War II, Hitler and the Nazis stole millions of cultural items, including paintings, sculpture, entire libraries, stained glass, church bells, Torah scrolls, and documents. After the war many of these items were dispersed by displaced persons and soldiers of all sides. Today, hundreds of thousands of these items are still missing, oftentimes in the possession of soldiers or their heirs, unaware of its origin or that it can't be legally sold.

If you have in your possession such an item, or know of someone who does, please contact the Monuments Men Foundation and allow us to work with you, anonymously or overtly, in returning this item to its rightful owner.

For more information, please visit www.monumentsmenfoundation.org or contact us at (214) 219-1222 ext. 104 or ehudson@monumentsmenfoundation.org

The Monuments Men were museum directors, curators, art historians, and educators who worked to protect monuments and other cultural treasures from the destruction of World War II. In the last year of the war they tracked, located, and ultimately returned more than 5 million works of art and cultural items stolen by Hitler and the Nazis.

The Monuments Men Foundation continues their mission by facilitating the recovery and return of important cultural treasures that were stolen and sometimes "liberated" during and after World War II. We offer research services to people concerned about the legality of an item in their possession and can assist in the return to the rightful owner of such items.

The Monuments Men Foundation is an IRS 501(c)(3) approved not-for-profit organization.



2010: The Year in Review



January 22, 2010

Ceremony at U.S. State Department marking the return of Gemäldegalerie Linz Album XIII. Deputy Secretary of State for Resources Jacob Lew, Baden-Wuerttemberg Minister of the Interior Heribert Rech, Monuments Men Foundation President Robert Edsel, German Ambassador to the United States Dr. Klaus Scharioth, and U.S. Army veteran John Pistone. *(photo courtesy of Life)*



May 18, 2010

Return of Gemäldegalerie Linz Album XIII to the Deutsches Historisches Museum in Berlin. Dr. Hans-Martin Hinz from the DHM, Mr. Florian Scheurle from the BADV/Ministry of Finance, and Robert Edsel. *(photo courtesy of Deutsches Historisches Museum)*



January 29, 2010

Gemäldegalerie Linz Album XIII and ERR Album 6 were on display at The National World War II Museum through May 2010. Gemäldegalerie Linz Album XIII, one of 31 such albums created for Adolf Hitler, of which only 19 were originally thought to have survived the war, is extremely important because it contains photographs of the works of art personally selected by Hitler for the museum he intended on building in his hometown of Linz, Austria, commonly referred to as the Führermuseum. Album XIII is particularly significant because it contains works by German and Austrian 19th century painters, such as Hans Markart and Adolph von Menzel, so beloved by Hitler. Ten other albums from the same series remain missing. The Monuments Men Foundation continues its efforts to locate these important historic documents.



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March 19, 2010

Foundation President Robert Edsel was a keynote speaker at the International World War II Conference. He also led a panel discussion with Pulitzer Prize winning author Rick Atkinson on "Art and War." *(photo courtesy of The National World War II Museum)*



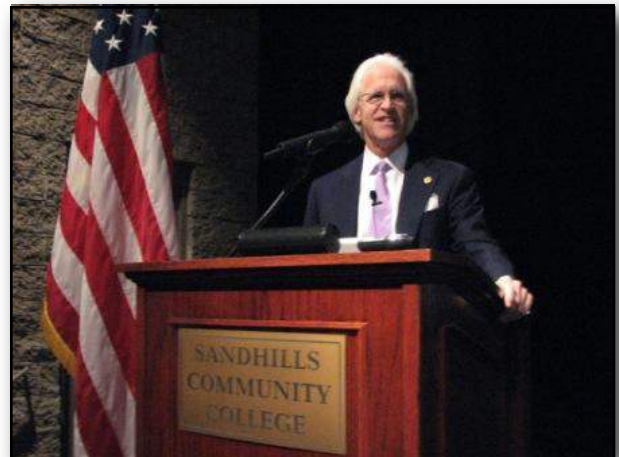
April 26, 2010

The story of the Monuments Men was introduced to almost 300 scholars, attorneys, and other interested parties at a special event hosted by IFAR (International Foundation for Art Research) in New York City. Pictured are Monuments Men Foundation counsel Tom Kline and special guest, Monuments Man Harry Ettlinger.



May 8, 2010

Foundation President Robert Edsel spoke at the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum in Abilene, Kansas on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of V-E Day. Secretary of Defense Dr. Robert Gates spoke the following day. Pictured with Robert are Karl Weissenbach, Director of the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, and Monuments Men Foundation Trustee Allen Cullum.



November 2, 2010

Robert Edsel was a speaker at the Ruth Pauley Lecture Series at Sandhills Community College in North Carolina. The goal of the lectures is to deepen understanding of key issues and encourage public participation in their resolution. More than 500 guests attended the lecture on election day. *(photo courtesy of Sandhills Community College)*



Honoring The Heroes of Civilization



June 5, 2007

Senator Hillary Clinton took time out of her busy schedule to meet with Robert Edsel and Monuments Men Bernie Taper, Harry Ettlinger, and Horace Apgar at her office in Washington, D.C. Senator Clinton was delighted to receive a copy of *Rescuing Da Vinci* on behalf of her husband, former President Bill Clinton.



June 6, 2007

A ceremony at the Senate marked the passage of Congressional Resolutions in both houses honoring the Monuments Men and their work. Pictured from left to right: Monuments Men Bernie Taper, James Reeds, Harry Ettlinger, and Horace Apgar, Representatives Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) and Kay Granger (R-TX), Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), and Robert Edsel.



November 1, 2007

Chief Archivist of the United States, Professor Allen Weinstein, and Robert Edsel stand before one of the two "Hitler Albums" that was donated to the National Archives by the Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art.



November 15, 2007

The Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation of Art received the 2007 National Humanities Medal. President George W. Bush greeted Robert Edsel and Monuments Men James Reeds, Seymour Pomrenze, Harry Ettlinger, and Horace Apgar in the East Room of the White House.

(Eric Draper, White House)



Monuments Man Captain Mark Ritter Sponenburgh



On October 11, I spent the day with Monuments Man Mark Sponenburgh, our second visit in the last four years. In excellent health, with his dry wit ever sharp, Mark hosted me and Salem's Hallie Ford Museum of Art Director, John Olbrantz, for lunch at his home in Seal Rock overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

A sculptor, historian, and educator, Mark Sponenburgh began his service with the MFAA in late 1945. He was previously enlisted in the Corps of Engineers as part of the 9th Engineers Command. Sponenburgh worked with the cartography section dictating and reproducing maps as the command prepared for D-Day and then crossed France, Holland, Belgium, and the Rhineland. After joining the MFAA, he was initially stationed at the Wiesbaden Collecting Point where he saw the famed *Bust of Nefertiti*, among other treasures, and was then assigned to the Altaussee mine. While at Altaussee, Sponenburgh supervised the transportation and packing of

artworks and led the first armed convoy to the Munich Collecting Point, driven through the snowy, narrow roads of the Alps.

As a sculptor, Sponenburgh focuses the subjects of his works on the relationships of nature to art, in particular those of animals, the sea, and natural phenomena. Found objects and natural materials of the northwest also repeatedly appear in his sculptures. Sponenburgh also had a remarkable career as an educator. From 1946 to 1956 he was a professor at the University of Oregon, and in 1961 he embarked on a lengthy career at Oregon State University, where he was named Professor Emeritus in 1984. A colleague at OSU referred to him as a "superb lecturer and teacher, and most highly respected by undergraduate and graduate students alike."

The day after our visit I presented the story of the Monuments Men to almost 500 people at Willamette University. Earlier in the day I had the opportunity to visit the Hallie Ford Museum. Mark and his late wife Janeth donated their art collection, consisting of more than 250 works of European, Asian, and American art, to Willamette University in 1990, and his important and generous gift provided the impetus for the creation of the Hallie Ford Museum of Art in 1998. Mark's collection is housed in the Mark and Janeth Sponenburgh Gallery on the second floor of the museum building, which features the study collection of Western and Eastern art. It was a great trip visiting again with one of our heroes and having the chance to share his story and others with such an enthusiastic audience.



Mark Sponenburgh, Robert Edsel, and John Olbrantz.

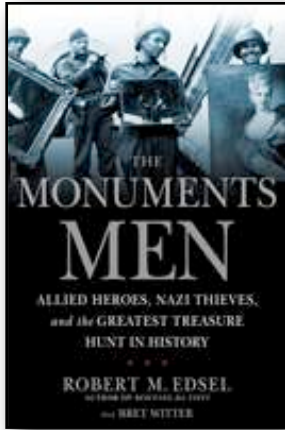


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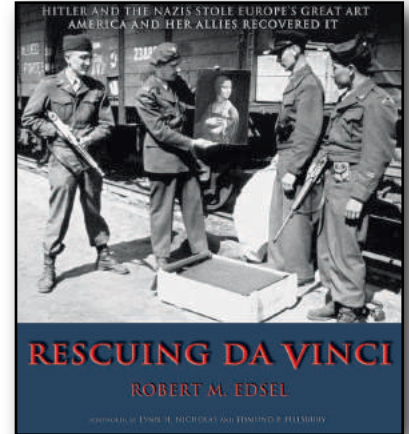
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The Monuments Men Released in Paperback



The Monuments Men is now available in paperback at bookstores nationwide and through all online vendors. *The Monuments Men* is also available as an audio book for those of you who prefer that format. It has been published in five languages around the world with translations underway in another twelve languages. In fact, *The Monuments Men* will soon be translated into Chinese! Don't forget - *The Monuments Men* and *Rescuing Da Vinci* make excellent holiday gifts.



Recent Lectures



Robert Edsel with LTC Elise Kirby of the Army Navy Club.

In addition to speaking at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, Robert Edsel spoke at both the Army and Navy Club and the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and the following week at Sandhills Community College in North Carolina. In all, more than 1,300 people attended these four lectures. Opportunities such as this are an incredibly effective way to discuss the work of the Monuments Men Foundation and frequently lead to introductions that result in new information about the Monuments Men or leads concerning missing cultural objects.

During the past four years Mr. Edsel has delivered more than seventy presentations on the Monuments Men and spoken directly to about 15,000 people.

Visit our Websites

www.monumentsmenfoundation.org

www.monumentsmen.com



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Robert-Edsel/130960233032>



<http://twitter.com/RobertEdsel>

ROBERT M. EDSSEL SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AND BOOK SIGNINGS

Barnes & Noble, Southern Methodist University	Dallas, TX	December 7, 2010
Barnes & Noble, Texas Christian University	Fort Worth, TX	December 8, 2010
Auburn University	Auburn, AL	January 21, 2011
Virginia Historical Society	Richmond, VA	May 5, 2011

To subscribe to the *Monuments Men Newsletter*, or to provide us with comments, please contact Elizabeth Ivy Hudson: ehudson@monumentsmenfoundation.org

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