



WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM – MADISON
WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM – KING
WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM – CAMP DOUGLAS

WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUMS
30 WEST MIFFLIN STREET
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703
TELEPHONE: (608) 267-1799
FAX: (608) 264-7615

Attention Newsroom—Media Advisory

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Contact: Laura Kocum 608-264-7663

Rare Civil War Medal to Stop at Wisconsin Veterans Museum

MADISON—A rare Civil War Medal of Honor will be available for viewing from 2 to 3 p.m. on Friday, August 8, at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. The medal belonged to James Pond, a Wisconsin soldier who helped defeat Quantrill's Raiders in a Kansas Battle. Pond was a staunch abolitionist, assisting the Underground Railroad and later working as the booking agent for several famous Americans, including Frederick Douglass and Mark Twain. Pond's great-grandson, James B. Pond will be available to discuss the medal and his family's involvement in the Civil War and anti-slavery activities.

The Pond family carries a long list of accomplishments dating back to the Civil War. Four brothers, James, George, Homer and Philip fought for the Union. Philip was part of the regiment that captured Confederate President Jefferson Davis. James and George both received medals of honor for their involvement in the defeat of Quantrill's Raiders. A legislative citation to honor the brothers' accomplishments will be presented during the 2 p.m. viewing.

The Veterans Museum is a free public educational activity of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and is located at 30 W. Mifflin St., across the street from the State Capitol. The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (year round) and Sundays (April through September) from noon to 4 p.m. The museum's research center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and by appointment. For more information about the Civil War Medal of Honor, contact Laura Kocum, at 608-264-7663, or go to <http://museum.dva.state.wi.us>.

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