

I attended the International Conference on World War II from March 18-20, 2010 in New Orleans, LA. The conference was outstanding and included many of the premier historians and authors concerning World War II. A few of the most interesting presentations included an examination of the purpose and methods of the Monuments Men, a look at the ten things every American should know about the army in World War II, and an in depth look at the making of The Pacific. I learned an extensive amount about many different aspects of World War II. I was also allowed to enter the museum itself outside of normal hours which was valuable in taking my time to go through the exhibits. While all of these would have been a great reason to go to the conference, the best part of the conference, in my opinion was the ability to interact with multiple veterans of World War II. I met about a dozen veterans, each with a unique story and found each fascinating. I feel it is a history teacher's obligation to learn as many first hand stories as possible to be able to share them with my students. I will be bringing back my knowledge and experiences at the conference to Clarence High School and will better be able to teach World War II in my classes because I attended this conference. In fact, I have already used some things in my classes. Thanks.

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