

# U-Boats, Saboteurs, and Orange Groves: Florida in World War II

**Date/Time:** Saturday, May 13, 2023 @ 10:00 am

**Place:** Anderson-Price Building, 42 North Beach Street, Ormond Beach, FL 32174

**Presented By:** Ryan Lowery

**Event Type:** In-Person

**Free Admission: (Open to the Public)**



Florida's role in World War II was far more consequential to the safety of the United States than people realize. Once the War broke out, Germany was probing America's doorstep with submarines and saboteurs. At the time, Florida was the largest state surrounded by water and America increased its defense by creating airbases and naval bases to combat enemy intrusion. Pensacola grew to be a major military base for training men for the conflict overseas and pilots would learn how to operate aircraft for service in the Pacific and Europe. The state also became a haven

for German prisoners of war from North Africa and a scene for sinking merchant vessels bound for England. Learn how Florida was necessary in the defense of the mainland United States against Nazi tyranny and how it would help win the largest war in history.

Ryan Lowry graduated from the University of Florida in 2015 with a BA in Mandarin Chinese Language and Literature and a Masters in History in 2020 from American Military University. He runs a company called Patriot Preservation LLC which specializes in traveling World War II exhibits based on a variety of themes. Ryan is the caretaker of roughly 10,000 objects from the Second World War which he is looking to create a permanent site to house the museum for all to enjoy. He is currently writing a book on the Pacific War.

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