

The Miami Valley  
Military History Museum



# ***SCUTTLEBUTT***

*Second Quarter 2014*

# **D - D A Y**

# **70<sup>th</sup>**

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# **ANNIVERSARY**

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## **CURATOR'S CORNER**

The second quarter of 2014 was certainly busy – the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Patriot Freedom Festival in May was very successful, with an estimated attendance of 6,000 visitors; planning will start in August for next years event, and we can always use volunteers to help – come out and join us! June 6<sup>th</sup> marked the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landings in Normandy, and we were privileged to give a presentation at a local senior citizens center with three D-Day veterans and their wives in attendance. Each of them was given a small container of sand from OMAHA and UTAH beaches that I'd obtained during the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary ceremonies in 1994.

Our reference library has grown by huge amounts with the deaccession/donation by the Dayton Metro Library of many of their older military books and manuals – in addition to hundreds of unit histories, regulations, personnel rosters and other materials, we've received just under 2,000 World War II Field and Technical Manuals. We're hopeful that we'll also receive a portion of their furniture and display fixtures when they move to their new building so we can replace the Frankenstein's hodge-podge of furniture we have now.

Nearly every week we receive items from across the country – but we're not as well known locally as we need to be! Please continue to “talk us up” with friends and family! You can help by forwarding this newsletter to people who have an interest in our military heritage, or “Like” us on Facebook and invite your friends to do the same – the more people that know about us the better!

Thanks to our visitors and donors, we continue to expand on the stories of the men and women who bear the burden of preserving our freedom – thanks for *your* support!

Respectfully,

**Mark Conrad, MSgt, USAF, RET**  
**Curator**



**DONATIONS QUARTERLY WRAP UP:**

- We have a number of Purple Hearts dating back to World War I, and in April we received a Purple Heart awarded to Lance Corporal Dan McGill, who was wounded on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2005 while serving with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 25<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment in Hit, Iraq. The 3/25 is headquartered in Brook Park, Ohio with units throughout Ohio, Tennessee, and Pennsylvania, and is nicknamed "Three Deuce Five"; between March and September 2005, the Battalion lost 46 Marines and 2 Navy Corpsmen Killed In Action. Dan donated the medal in their memory - Thanks Dan!



In memory of the 48 men of the  
Marine Forces Reserve  
3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment,  
4th Marine Division  
lost in Al Anbar Province, Iraq in  
2005

Lance Corporal Timothy M. Bell, Jr.  
Lance Corporal Eric J. Bernholtz  
Lance Corporal Dustin V. Birch  
Lance Corporal Nicholas W. B. Bloem  
Lance Corporal Jeffrey Boskovitch  
Lance Corporal Roger D. Castleberry, Jr.  
Sergeant Aaron M. Cepeda Sr.  
Lance Corporal Daniel Chavez  
Lance Corporal Michael J. Cifuentes  
Sergeant David J. Coullard  
Major Ricardo A. Crocker  
Lance Corporal Wesley G. Davids  
Corporal Dustin A. Derga  
Lance Corporal Daniel N. Deyarmin, Jr.  
Private First Class Christopher R. Dixon  
Private First Class Christopher J. Dyer  
Lance Corporal Nicholas B. Erdy  
Lance Corporal Grant B. Fraser  
Sergeant James R. Graham III  
Lance Corporal Lance T. Graham  
Lance Corporal Jonathan W. Grant



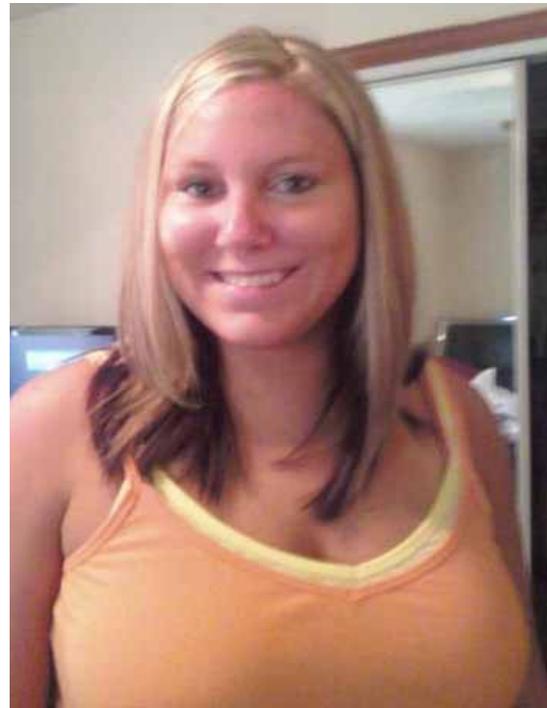
Lance Corporal Jourdan L. Grez  
Staff Sergeant Joseph P. Goodrich  
Staff Sergeant Anthony L. Goodwin  
Sergeant Bradley J. Harper  
Sergeant Justin F. Hoffman  
Staff Sergeant Kendall H. Ivy II

Lance Corporal Thomas O. Keeling  
Lance Corporal Ryan J. Kovacicek  
Sergeant David Kenneth J. Kreuter  
Corporal Michael B. Lindemuth  
Lance Corporal Christopher P. Lyons  
Sergeant Michael A. Marzano  
Lance Corporal Brian P. Montgomery  
Lance Corporal Aaron H. Reed  
Corporal Bryan J. Richardson  
Sergeant Nathaniel S. Rock  
Lance Corporal Edward A. Schroeder II  
Lance Corporal Devon P. Seymour  
Corporal Brad D. Squires  
Corporal David S. Stewart  
Corporal Joseph S. Tremblay  
Lance Corporal Kevin G. Waruinge  
HM2 Jeffrey L. Wiener (Corpsman)  
Lance Corporal William B. Wightman  
Corporal Andre L. Williams  
Sergeant David N. Wimberg  
HM3 Travis L. Youngblood (Corpsman)



The Navy Working Uniform (NWU) is based on the Marine Corps MARPAT Combat Utility Uniform; it is made in three variants: predominately blue, with some gray, for the majority of sailors and shipboard use, a woodland pattern, and a desert pattern. The overall blue color reflects the Navy's heritage and connection to seaborne operations; the pixilated pattern hides wear and stains, and the colors were chosen to match the most commonly used paint colors aboard ship, extending the lifetime of the uniform on long deployments where uniforms often come into contact with freshly painted surfaces. Insignia is gold-colored for officers and CPOs and silver-colored for all lower ranks. The NWU has been nicknamed the "Man Overboard Pattern" by sailors who feel it is only effective in camouflaging someone who has fallen in the water.

We're honored to receive and display the NWU of Hospitalman 2nd Class Heather N. Bacos, generously donated by her husband, HM3 Melson Bacos. A Corpsman with 6 years service in the Navy, Heather passed away in March 2012 at age 26 from cancer.



We received two groupings from World War II; the first belonging to Private First Class Alfred Texeira Sr., who served with the U.S. Army's 14th Armored Division; nicknamed the 'Liberators'. Al spent more than two years fighting in Europe from the invasion of Sicily into Italy to France and finally to the Rhineland and Central Europe. The unit was credited with liberating more than 200,000 prisoners during the final months of the war, including more than 20,000 Americans being held at Stalag VII, the largest prisoner of war camp in Germany. His group consists of several unit histories, German war trophies, and a very nice photo album he compiled while serving in the Civilian Conservation Corps. We appreciate the generosity of his widow, Mary for donating this group, and Ms. Peggy Barrasso for coordinating everything.





**PFC Texeira is shown somewhere in Germany near war's end; among his trophies was a German Fire Police helmet, a near mint Nazi Party flag, a Nazi Party membership badge, and a cased Cross of Honor of the German Mother in Gold, awarded for bearing 8 or more children.**



Our other WWII grouping came from Indiana – the uniform, papers and photos of Corporal Wallace ("Wally") L. Cheesman of Winchester, IN, who served in the 247<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer Battalion. His unit landed in Normandy on 22 June 1944, and fought with XIX Corps and the 30th Infantry Division through the Battle of the Bulge; at one point they fought as infantry attacking the Siegfried Line. During the Bulge, they were in the Hurtgenwald preparing roads, bridges, and bunkers for demolition - where he was wounded. After the war he was very active in the American Legion, serving as a Post Commander and District 10 Commander. *(Donated by Mildred Smith)*



**Corporal Cheesman embellished his 7<sup>th</sup> Army patch with the Engineer piping from an overseas hat – an unauthorized, but tolerated, practice.**



We rarely receive Civil War artifacts, but thanks to Richard Snyder of the Ohio Valley Civil War Association, we now have three large pieces of ordnance – a IX-inch Dahlgren Naval Shell, a ten inch solid shot shell, and a ten inch mortar shell!



IX-inch Dahlgren Gun shell: The 9-inch Dahlgren shell was used on Union Ironclads. Note the remains of the fuse holder for a “water cap” fuse to allow over water firing; the fuse would actually burn underwater. Using a 13-pound powder charge at an elevation of 15 degrees, a IX-inch gun (which itself weighed 9,200 pounds) fired a shell out to 3,450 yards.



Solid shot cannon ball: This 10-inch Solid shot cannon ball was fired from the Columbiad cannon. The shell weighs approximately 124 pounds; with the gun elevated above 30 degrees, it could fire the shell over 5,600 yards.

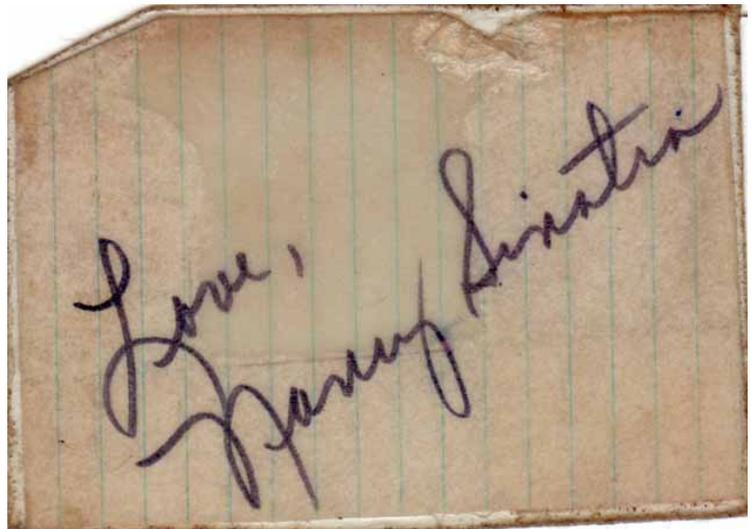
10-inch Mortar shell: This is 10-inch mortar shell, which appears never to have been used/ issued, was used in the Model 1861 Mortar, which had a range of 2,235 yards. The "slots" in the shell were used to lift it into the mortar using tongs to ensure the fuse was pointed the right way. This shell weighs roughly 84 pounds.



John Hazelton is a retired Army Specialist 6<sup>th</sup> Class who served as a combat medic with two tours in Vietnam with the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division – he is a recipient of two Bronze Star Medals and the Air Medal. John stopped in to donate one of the more unusual uniforms worn by Army medical personnel - a set of medical whites, nicknamed a "Ben Casey" uniform after the TV show doctor. He also donated a set of dress greens, and some photos and other items.

John was present at a USO tour that included Dale Evans and Roy Rogers, as well as Nancy Sinatra – his grouping includes pictures of him with Roy Rogers and a scrap of notebook paper with Nancy Sinatra's autograph – thanks John!





**John with Roy Rogers and Nancy Sinatra's autograph.**

Without the generosity of people interested in preserving our military heritage, museums like ours couldn't exist – space doesn't permit an individual listing of all the donations we've received, but we want to thank the following groups and/or individuals for helping us tell the stories of the defenders our great nation. *(an asterisk indicates multiple donations)*:

Voluntary Services, Dayton VAMC (Ohio)  
 Dan McGill (Ohio)  
 Lincoln Society of Dayton (Ohio)  
 \*Dayton Metro Library (Ohio)  
 \*Wayne Pittman, Colonel, USAF, Ret. (Ohio)  
 \*Vince Dec (Ohio)  
 Bryan Greaves (Tennessee)  
 Mildred Smith (Indiana)  
 Sue Gossett (Ohio)  
 \*John Hazelton, Specialist 6th Class, USA, Ret. (Ohio)

Jerry Clutter, MSgt, USAF, Ret. (Ohio)  
 \*Janice Wagner (Ohio)  
 \*Carolyn Burns (Ohio)  
 \*Melson Bacos (Ohio)  
 Ramey Air Force Base Historical Society (National)  
 Montgomery County Genealogical Society (Ohio)  
 Lee R. Hayes II (Ohio)  
 101st Airborne WWII Reenacting Association (Ohio)  
 \* Multiple Anonymous Donors  
 Regina Mandery Payne (Ohio)

Mary Teixeira in memory of PFC Alfred Teixeira, via Peggy Barrasso (Massachusetts)  
 City of Fort Wright (KY) James A. Ramage Museum / Civil War Museum (Kentucky)

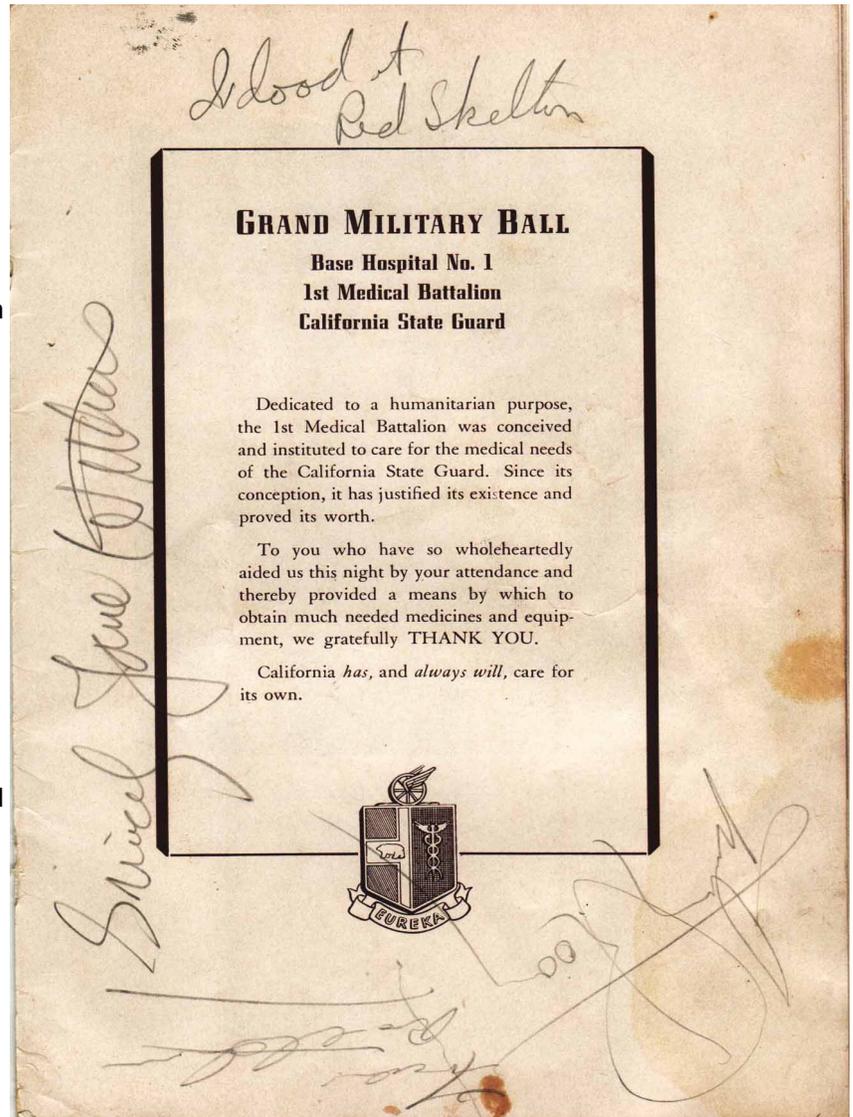


## FEATURED ARTIFACT(S): *Hollywood Goes To War!*

When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hollywood mobilized to become a full-time war industry. Stars like Clark Gable, Jimmy Stewart and Victor Mature quickly enlisted and patriotic fare dominated the silver screen.

As the War progressed, Hollywood became a close-knit community. Soldiers swelled the local population (outnumbering civilians 10 to 1 downtown) and Hollywood pulled together to feed, shelter and entertain them. Sheer overcrowding meant many soldiers had no choice but to sleep in parks and theater lobbies. But it wasn't long before 'Mom' Lehr's Hollywood Guild and Canteen began offering them beds and 'three squares' a day. On average, 800 servicemen stayed with 'Mom' on weekdays and 1200 on week-ends; the Hollywood Canteen catered to 2,000 servicemen nightly, offering free food and drinks as well as the era's top big bands and an endless parade of Hollywood's biggest stars – an estimated 6,000 radio and screen entertainers volunteered to serve and entertain the troops at the Canteen during the war.

This program was for the Grand Military Ball to benefit Base Hospital No. 1 of the California State Guard, an event promoted by Marion Davies, movie star companion of William Randolph Hearst. Held at the Hollywood Palladium, entertainment featured the Glenn Miller and Sonny Dunham Orchestras and the Andrews Sisters. This star-studded benefit was attended by Hearst, Rita Hayworth, Hedy Lamarr, Lou Costello, Ronald Reagan, Jane Wyman and many others.



**This program was autographed by Red Skelton, Mickey Rooney, and Jane Withers (a fourth autograph is illegible).**





William Randolph Hearst is seen at a Military Ball in Hollywood, Ca. on April 15, 1942. Seated at the table in his row from left to right are: Marion Davies, in uniform, first medical battallion of California State Guard; actor George Montgomery; Hedy Lamarr; Hearst; Rita Hayworth.

Jane Withers at 17, about a year after she signed the program; she was already a child star when the war began. Beginning a prolific career as a child actress at the age of three, Withers is a best known for being one of the most popular child film stars of the 1930s and early 1940s, as well as "Josephine the Plumber" in a series of TV commercials for Comet cleanser in the 1960s and early 1970s

"Speakin' as a lady plumber,  
New extra strength Comet bleaches out  
tough food stains better than any other  
leading cleanser! Look!"

1. Rubbing you know - Comet cleanser is the only one that bleaches out tough food stains better than any other leading cleanser! Look!
2. Now - Rubbing another leading cleanser, you'll notice the stain is still there. Try it with Comet - the stain is gone!
3. Now - Rubbing Comet - the stain is gone! The extra strength Comet bleaches out tough food stains better than any other leading cleanser! Look!

"And just between us girls  
I couldn't keep house  
without it!"





Beginning as a child actor, Mickey Rooney's career extended over 90 years, making him one of the most enduring performers in show business history. He appeared in more than 300 films and was one of the last surviving stars of the silent film era, having one of the longest careers in the medium's history. He played the role of Andy Hardy in a series of fifteen films in the 1930s and 1940s that epitomized American family values. A prolific talent, he became a noted character actor later in his career, and could sing, dance, clown and play various musical instruments. Laurence Olivier once said he considered Rooney "the greatest actor of them all".

In 1944, Rooney enlisted in the Army. During (and after) the war he entertained troops in America and Europe, and spent part of the time as a radio personality on the American Forces Network; he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his efforts. He was an outspoken advocate for veterans.

Red Skelton was best known for his national radio and television acts between 1937 and 1971 and as host of the television program The Red Skelton Show. One of his characters, the "Mean Widdle Kid", or "Junior", was a young boy full of mischief, who typically did things he was told not to do. "Junior" would say "If I dood it, I gets a whipping.", followed moments later by the statement, "I dood it!". The phrase was such a part of national culture at the time that after General Doolittle bombed Tokyo, many newspapers used the phrase "Doolittle Dood It!" as a headliner.

In 1944, he joined the Army, serving in the entertainment corps and performing as many as ten to twelve shows per day for troops in both the United States and in Europe. Discharged in September 1945, he went on to a successful television career in the 1960's and 70's.



## **SERVICES WE PROVIDE:**

We now offer an on-line Veterans Roll of Honor, which can be found at: <http://www.mvmhm.com/vroh.htm>

To submit a veteran for the Roll of Honor, email their full name, rank, branch of service, service history and awards and decorations (these are optional), to our Curator at [curator@mvmhm.com](mailto:curator@mvmhm.com). You may submit only a name, or you can also include a picture; if no picture is available, the appropriate service emblem will be used. Note that we reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, grammar and spelling.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- Tuesday, July 01, 2014, 11:00AM: Presentation for the Dayton Women's Club, 225 N. Ludlow St, Dayton.
- Saturday, July 19, 2014, 6:30PM: Presentation for the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).
- Wednesday, August 13, 2014, 8:00AM: Presentation for the New Carlisle Optimist Club.
- Tuesday, November 11, 2014, 9:00AM to 4:00PM: Open house in conjunction with the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center Veterans Day observance.
- Tuesday, November 18, 2014, 7:00PM: Presentation for the Centerville-Washington Township Historical Society at the Hithergreen Center, 5900 Hithergreen Drive, Dayton.
- December (TBD) 2014, 11:00AM: Presentation for the Norwood Optimist Club.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

**Our "Wish List":** We're looking for some specific items to fill gaps in our displays/collection – if you have any of these items, please consider donating them!

**Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican-American War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, Mexican Border Expedition:** *Anything!*

**Cavalry items:** *Anything!*

**World War I:** U.S. Air Service uniforms; U.S. Navy uniforms, any style; Model 1911 .45 pistol; Model 1903 Springfield rifle and parts; Model 1917 Enfield rifle and parts; Model 1914 Hotchkiss Machine Gun ammunition box; U.S. trench boots; German or Austrian uniform tunic; German "Kratchen" soft hat with insignia; German enlisted or officer's pickelhaube ("Spike helmet", Infantry or Artillery); German, Austrian, or Hungarian medals and insignia; German Model 98n/a ("Butcher") sawback bayonet with teeth intact; German Mauser Model 98 rifle; German P08 "Luger" pistol; German steel helmets; Imperial German or Prussian flags

**World War II:** German uniforms and headgear; German medals and insignia; German M24 stick grenade (inert only); German P08 (Luger) pistol; German P38 pistol; Italian uniforms and headgear of any type; Italian medals and insignia; Italian Carcano rifle; Italian Berretta pistol; Japanese uniforms and headgear; Japanese Imperial Navy helmet; Japanese "last ditch" bayonet and scabbard; Japanese medals and insignia; Japanese "Rising Sun" (rayed) flag; Japanese Nambu or Type 94 pistols; Japanese swords; US Marine herringbone twill uniform; US Marine M1 helmet with cover; Army Air Forces A14 oxygen mask; Army Air Forces leather flight gear; Any Pearl Harbor Purple Heart; US field gear; US medals and insignia; M-1 carbine; M-1 Garand; Model 1911 .45 pistol; 500 pound practice bombs

## **How YOU can help preserve our veterans history**

Each day, more and more of our veterans are passing away - the last veteran from World War I passed away in February 2011, and our World War II veterans are dying at the rate of approximately 1,000 a day. Unfortunately, many times when a veteran dies all of his or her history dies with them, and the mementos they kept end up in yard sales, or worse, the garbage. We've witnessed this first hand: We were able to acquire a WWII Army Captains' footlocker with some of his souvenirs and other paperwork from his service time, along with literally hundreds of V-mails sent between him and his family. The entire lot was going to be thrown away after his widow moved into a nursing home. On another occasion, a neighbor gave us several hundred photographs and some insignia that had belonged to her neighbor's father. Again, they were going to be thrown out because no one wanted "that junk".



Another time, a group of documents from a man killed in action during the Battle of the Bulge were being sold off piece by piece. Fortunately, we were able to convince the seller not to break up the group so that we could keep it together. Our veterans' history deserves a better fate than the trash heap or the auction block!

Your donation will ensure the museum's continued growth, preservation of our veteran's memories, and support exhibiting traveling displays. For many younger people, even conflicts as recent as Vietnam seem just to be "old war movies". We want to bring to life the stories of those people who served in America's wars and provide a tangible link to our veterans. All donors will be credited on the museum's web site.

What types of things can you donate? We're always seeking new and unique items to add to the museum or for use in traveling displays and educational trunks. We're also expanding the coverage of Pre-WWI conflicts. We always need items such as uniforms, insignias, medals, photographs, newspapers, captured trophies, etc. - anything that will help tell our veteran's stories, especially those from Ohio. **Nothing is too small or insignificant.** We can also use items that you may feel are too damaged or worn out, to restore other pieces.

### ***THIS QUARTER IN MILITARY HISTORY:***

April 6, 1991: Iraq officially accepts cease-fire terms.

April 11, 1951: General MacArthur recalled - General Matthew Ridgway given command in Korea.

April 15, 1972: Renewed US bombing of North Vietnam above the 20th parallel.

April 19, 1775: Battles at Lexington and Concord.

April 22, 1915: Poison gas first used on the Western Front in German attack on Canadian troops at Ypres.

April 24, 1898: Spain declares war on the United States.

April 30, 1945: Adolf Hitler commits suicide as Soviet forces overrun Berlin.

May 1, 1898: Commodore George Dewey wins seven-hour battle of Manila Bay.

May 2, 1863: Confederate General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson is accidentally shot by his own men during the Battle of Chancellorsville, and dies on May 10th.

May 8, 1945: Victory in Europe Day.

May 10, 1775: Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys capture Fort Ticonderoga.

May 17, 1951: Communist Chinese Forces launch their 2nd Spring Offensive.

May 20, 1965: Hanoi restates its peace proposal which has already been rejected.

May 28, 1918: US forces open their first offensive at Catigny

June 2, 1969: Dayton native Specialist 4th Class Joseph G. LaPointe, Jr. is killed in action trying to save two wounded comrades.

June 6, 1944: Allied forces land on the beaches of Normandy, France.

June 9, 1863: Battle of Brandy Station, largest cavalry battle of the Civil War.

June 15, 1775: His Excellency General George Washington is elected as Commander In Chief of the Continental Army.

### ***TRIVIA***

Last quarter's trivia question was:

*Some of the grievances listed in the Declaration of Independence against King George III were refusing his assent to "wholesome" laws, making judges dependent on "his will alone," and bringing in foreign mercenaries to wage war on the colonies in a way "totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation". How many (total) grievances did the Declaration list?*

Thomas Jefferson listed 27 grievances against the King to prove his supposition that the King has lost his right to rule by consent.

This quarter's question is: ***How did Marines get the nickname "Leathernecks"?***



SAVE THE DATE!

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual**

# **Patriot Freedom Festival**

**MAY 23-24, 2015**

## **FREE ENTRY - FREE PARKING!**

- Freedom 5K Run/Walk/Roll
- Live Music & Entertainment
- Historical Military Renactors
- Food, Vendors, Non-profits
- Honoring Ceremonies
- Free Guided Historical Tours
- Miami Valley Military History Museum

**YOUR PERFECT MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!**

At the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center Campus

[www.americanveteransheritage.org](http://www.americanveteransheritage.org)

937-267-7628

The Miami Valley Military History Museum is co-located with the American Veterans Heritage Center (a 501c3 organization), located in Building 120, the historic Putnam Library, in the Historic District of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio.

***Please note that although we are located on federal property, we receive NO funding from the Veterans Administration - we operate entirely "out of our own pockets" and with the help of unpaid volunteers.***

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**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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Curator phone: (937) 902-8001

E-mail: [curator@mvmhm.com](mailto:curator@mvmhm.com)

Website: <http://www.mvmhm.com>

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*Website*



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