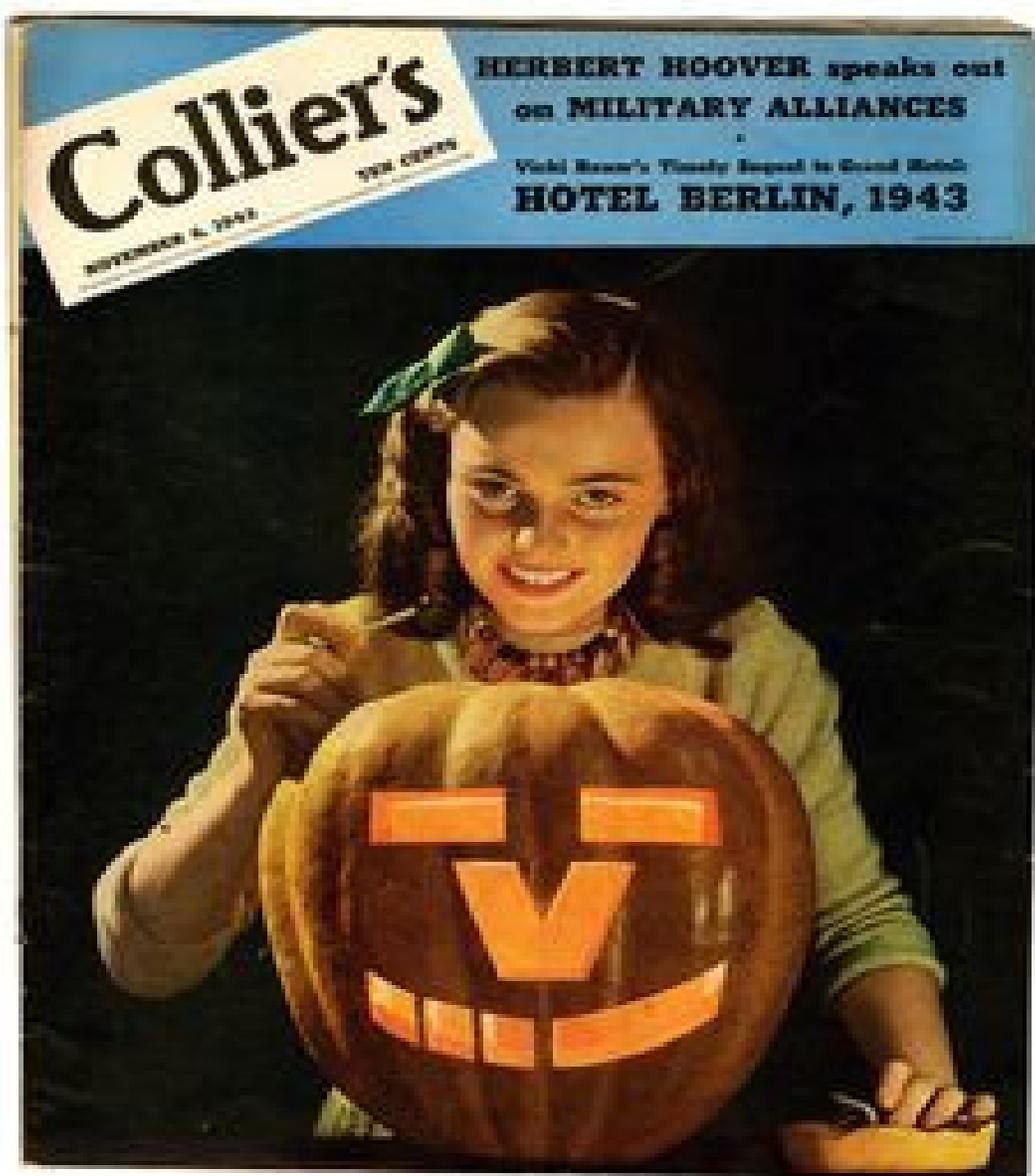


The Miami Valley
Military History Museum



SCUTTLEBUTT

Third Quarter 2014



CURATOR'S CORNER

This quarter the museum has been a “hubbub of activity” - after an article appeared in the local paper about the restoration of the Grotto and gardens, we've seen a significant increase in tour requests as well as donations of artifacts. Our goal is to have a minimum of one “event” per month...a tour, presentation, activity, etc. The past few years we've averaged about 25 to 30 events. With three months left in the calendar year, we've already reached 30, with another 11 scheduled, and a couple of pending requests for January 2015. Please help us “spread the word” - we've got a lot of great history here!

The final count of military manuals, regulations, rosters etc. we received from the deaccession/donation by the Dayton Metro Library totaled in excess of 4,000 volumes; with the other general military history books on hand, we have more than 5,000 books available for research. If your kids need help with history projects we can help!

We continue to expand our outreach to local communities and other historic groups. We recently joined the World War One Centenary celebration sponsored by the Imperial War Museum in London, England, and we're also now members of the Small Museums Association. An important group we now work with is the Missing In America Project (MIAP); MIAP works to locate unclaimed Veteran's cremains and ensure they get a proper burial with the military honors they deserve. For local services, any flags that are unclaimed after the service will be brought here and put on display with the veteran's information so that their story continues to be told. There were 14 veterans honored here last month, with service from both World Wars, Korea and Vietnam. I accepted one flag as the "NoK", and Major General Metcalf (former US Air Force Museum Director), donated the flag he accepted. Those flags are now displayed along with two others donated by veteran's families. Work is also underway to build a Vietnam dufflebag educational program to compliment our WWII “Operation FOOTLOCKER” program. Finally, on an individual level to date we've assisted more than 150 individuals and families in obtaining military records, awards and decorations, and Veterans medical and pension benefits.

As I wrote last quarter, nearly every week we receive items from across the country – a trend that continues unabated. However, we still need your help to let our local communities know we're here. Again, please continue to “talk us up” with friends and family! You can help by forwarding this newsletter to people who have an interest in 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 for your support!

Respectfully,

Mark Conrad, MSgt, USAF, RET
Curator



DONATIONS QUARTERLY WRAP UP:

- We started receiving some items from the family of Brigadier General William H. Price Jr, who graduated from the Citadel in 1937 and later went on to serve in WWII, Korea and Vietnam, eventually ending up in the Army Security Agency. These items were donated by his daughter – thanks Martha!

During his time at the Citadel, he became good friends with a German named Jurgen Billich, who (it's thought) went on to become a U-boat officer. Kadet Billich sent a postcard from Berlin, letters and his photo postcard, as well as a breast eagle from his dress uniform..



General Price was the first Flag Officer to be assigned to the ASA-Europe, and while stationed in Germany he became good friends with Karl Willi Lumpp, a Knight's Cross holder (the equivalent of our Medal of Honor)...here's a signed photo from him. The back has his handwritten details (rank, date he earned the RK, etc.). Lumpp received the Knight's Cross for leading his men out of the Stalingrad pocket before the 6th Army surrendered in 1943.



In addition to two German daggers, Martha included this medal produced by the city of Charleston, South Carolina and awarded to the men who served on the Mexican Border during General Pershing's Punitive Expedition. General Price's father, William H. Price, was a doctor - which is what the Army wanted him to do, but he was adamant about serving in the Cavalry as an ordinary Trooper, which apparently he did during the Mexican Border Expedition. He later became a Captain and retired in 1954.



For our Vietnam section, we've added an M72 Light Anti-tank Weapon (LAW), donated by Lee R. Hayes II. The LAW is a lightweight (5.5 pounds), self-contained, anti-armor weapon consisting of a rocket packed in a launcher. It is man-portable, may be fired from either shoulder, and is issued as a round of ammunition. The M72 was designed in the early 1960's as a replacement for the anti-tank rifle grenade and M20 rocket launcher (the "Super Bazooka") for use against light tanks of that era. Although designed as an anti-armor weapon, it can be used with limited success against secondary targets such as gun emplacements, pillboxes, buildings, or light vehicles. It's maximum range is 3,300 yards, with an effective range of about 250 yards – although beyond 250 yards the odds of hitting the target are less than 50%. The LAW was to have been replaced by the M136 AT4 rocket, but continues in service today. This example is dated 1969 and is complete with flip up sights (usually broken off) and the end caps with sling (normally missing) – thanks Lee!



We received a very significant donation of war trophies sent home by Colonel Frank F. Miter. Colonel Miter, a West Point graduate, was initially assigned to the Coastal Artillery Corps, stationed in Panama. When WWII broke out, he was reassigned to Iceland, and then to the headquarters of British General Montgomery as anti-aircraft adviser and liaison for the D-Day invasion. Shortly after the German surrender in May 1945, he became the head of a team based in the Rhineland, and attached to the XX Corps with the mission of collecting and reporting captured and surrendered German war material.



Colonel Miter also served a tour of duty as a Military Attache to Portugal from 1949 to 1952. He was singularly honored with the Portuguese Medal of Military Merit, First Class—the highest medal awarded to foreign military personnel.

During the war, his son wrote to complain that his school friends were all getting war souvenirs from their fathers – why wasn't he? Among the trophies Colonel Miter sent back were several pieces of German headgear, Nazi insignia, ammo pouches, a Hitler Youth Knife, etc.

Shown here is a 1915-dated World War I Prussian enlisted man's Picklehaube; the helmet also came with its grey-green camouflage cover – a rare accessory.



The Hitler Youth Fahrtenmesser ("Hiking Knife") was awarded to boys aged 14 to 18, and was meant to be worn both as a dress weapon and as a practical tool – consequently these are often found in poor shape from being used for cutting, whittling, and as a cordless hammer!

This knife is an earlier model with the Hitler Youth motto "Blut and Ehre" ("Blood and Honor") on the blade, and shows extensive sharpening.



The children of Thomas Encell Luster (1921-1996) generously donated their father's World War II Coast Guard uniform, consisting of his Dress Blues jumper, pants and neckerchief, as well as a number of photos, ID cards, ship's books, etc. Thomas served as a Ship's Cook 2nd Class aboard ships patrolling the western coast of the United States in anticipation of a Japanese invasion; during the war, Coast Guard units sank 12 German and two Japanese submarines and captured two German surface vessels. SC2c Luster is shown wearing this uniform after his honorable discharge in May 1946.



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)*:

Dan Barford (Ohio)
 *Bruce Neff (Ohio)
 Georchia Higgins (Ohio)
 Tina Daniel (Ohio)
 Deborah and Lawrence Sampsel, SMSgt, USAF (Ret) (Ohio)
 *Lee R. Hayes II (Ohio)

Honour Horne-Jaruk (Ohio)
 Tom and Melissa Dorner (Ohio)
 A. Michelle Henry (Ohio)
 * The Luster children (Ohio)
 * The Luster children (Ohio)

Joseph A. Caldarulo (Ohio)
 Martha Gregg Price (Virginia)
 Barry Goforth (Ohio)
 Lenore (Lyn) Kramer (Ohio)
 Brad Miter (Ohio)

...and several anonymous donors.



FEATURED ARTIFACT(S): The Major League and the Ruptured Duck

In 1945, several Chicago Cubs who served in WWII began wearing a facsimile of the Honorable Discharge emblem - the "Ruptured Duck" on their jersey sleeve. In July, the President of the American League sent samples to other teams for their review, but noted "There are two sides to it, of course. It may attract too much attention to players who, through no fault of their own, did not enter the service.". The idea never really caught on, and by 1946, the Ruptured Duck had disappeared from baseball.

It's thought that emblems with a white base were meant to be worn on "Away" uniforms, but no photographic evidence has been found of this style being worn. The patches are approximately 5 inches wide.



(Left) Three Cubs wearing the "Home" version of the Ruptured Duck.

(Below) There are three players wearing the Ruptured Duck in this 1945 photo of the Milwaukee Brewers: Johnny Price (1st row left), Arky Biggs (2nd row right), and Mike Ullisney (3rd row right).



1945 BREWERS

Elmer Burkart	Gene Edwards	Ewald Pyle	Peaches Davis	Carl Lindquist	Larry Rosenthal	Bill Davis	Owen Scheetz	Ben Cardoni	Mike Ullisney
Rudy Schaffer, General Manager	Robert Feron, trainer	Joe Rullo	Tom Padden	Tony Mazurek	Bill Burgo	Otto Denning	Lew Flick	Arky Biggs	Chuck Carroll
Johnny Price	Julio Acosta	Joe Stephenson	Nick Cullop, Mgr.	Bill Veeck, President	Jack McGillen	Floyd Speer	Gene Nance	Mickey Heath, Vice President	
			"McGee" Liedtke	Nick Cullop, Jr.					



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. 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, October 14, 10:00AM: Mount Pleasant Retirement Village presentation/tour.
- Saturday, October 18, 2014: 1st Combat Communications Squadron annual reunion presentation/tour/lunch.
- Saturday, October 18, 2014: Tri-State Studebaker Drivers Club presentation/tour/lunch.
- Tuesday, October 24, 10:00AM: (Tentative) Presentation/tour for the Commander, Department of Ohio American Legion.
- Saturday, November 1, 2014, 10:30AM: Daughters of the Union quarterly meeting.
- Saturday, November 1, 2014, 5:30PM: Presentation for the Germantown Historical Society.
- Sunday, November 9, 2014, 2:30PM: Veterans Day Walk/Run and/or Roll 5K - registration is from 1:00 - 2:00PM.
- 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.
- Sunday, December 7, 2014: Pearl Harbor Day.

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") saw back 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; 100 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:

July 1, 1863: Battle of Gettysburg begins.

July 1, 1971: Viet Cong proposed the return of all American and Allied prisoners held in North and South Vietnam by the end of 1971 if all US troops were withdrawn within that same period.

July 3, 1898: The Spanish fleet is destroyed off Santiago, Cuba.

July 9, 1943: Allied forces land in Sicily.

July 15, 1918: Second Battle of the Marne.

July 16, 1779: Battle of Stoney Point.

July 18, 1950: US Cavalry lands at Pohangdong

July 22, 2003: Uday and Qusay Hussein are killed by American forces.

August 1, 1914: Germany, an ally of Austria-Hungary, declares war on Russia and demands the neutrality of Russia's ally France, beginning World War I.

August 2, 1990: Iraq invades Kuwait.

August 2, 1964: US Navy destroyers "Maddox" and "C. Turner Joy" are reported attacked by North Vietnamese torpedo boats in the Gulf of Tonkin

August 4, 1950: Pusan perimeter established in southeastern Korea.

August 7, 1942: US forces begin landing on Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands.

August 16, 1780: Battle of Camden, South Carolina.

August 17, 1961: East Germany begins construction of the Berlin Wall.

August 29, 1862: Second Battle of Bull Run.

September 1, 1939: Germany invades Poland, starting WWII.

September 3, 1969: Ho Chi Minh dies.

September 5, 1917: Riga captured by the Germans, using new tactics based on lightning assault.

September 8, 1781: Battle of Eutaw Springs, South Carolina.

September 11, 2001: Terrorists launch attacks against the United States.



TRIVIA

Last quarter's trivia question was:

How did Marines get the nickname "Leathernecks"?

The term originated from the wide and stiff leather neck-piece that was part of the Marine Corps uniform from 1798 until 1872. This leather collar, called "the stock", was roughly four inches high and had two purposes - in combat, it protected the neck and jugular vein from cutlasses slashes, and on parade, it kept a Marine's head erect.

This quarter's question is: ***What is the purpose of the notch on a dog tag?***



SAVE THE DATE!

11th Annual

Patriot Freedom Festival

MAY 23-24, 2015

FREE ENTRY - FREE PARKING!

- Freedom 5K Run/Walk/Roll
- Live Music & Entertainment
- Historical Military Reenactors
- 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

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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