These are some of our World War I artifacts on exhibit at the Pennsylvania National Guard Military Museum. Several showcases include items worn by Bugler (Pfc.) Walter L. Halsey from Company D, 112th Infantry Regiment, 28th Division during World War I. Walter Halsey was from Oil City, Pennsylvania. The exhibit includes his uniform, dog tag, some stationary and, of course, the bugle he used during the war. Walter Halsey served overseas for a year and received an honorable discharge after the war. This exhibit is located on the first floor of the Museum building.

To see this and other fascinating exhibits, please come visit the Museum!
DONATIONS
Artifact Information by Mr. Charles B. Oellig
Photos by SGT Damian J. M. Smith

Photograph of Pennsylvania Civilian Conservation Corps Camp #128, Company 386 at English Center, PA. This item was donated by Mr. Leonard Neidig.

Through generous donations, the museum was able to purchase this M1889 officer’s coat that once belonged to 1st Lieutenant John A. Fritchey, Assistant Surgeon of the Governor’s Troop from Harrisburg, who served from 1888 to 1899. Dr. Fritchey also served three terms as mayor of Harrisburg.

Chaplain (COL) Ronald D. Miller (USA, Ret.) donated a collection of his uniforms and insignia. One of his many assignments was with the XXI Corps HQs located at Indiantown Gap.

The museum received a World War II, 229th Field Artillery “Ike” jacket which was transferred from the U.S. Army’s collection at Anniston, Alabama.

Ms. Gwenn Underwood, Executive Director of the 28th Infantry Division Association, presented a $500 check to Mr. Charles B. Oellig on 9 November 2017 to support the collection and care of artifacts at the museum.

MUSEUM WISH LIST

The museum is particularly interested in acquiring items from:
- Pennsylvania Armories
- American Civil War
- EAATS, Army and Air Guard unit patches
- Spanish American War
- Mt. Gretna from the 1880s to 1930s
- Military history books related to the Militia or the National Guard
- Pennsylvania National Guard serving in:
  - Kosovo
  - Bosnia
  - Operation Iraqi Freedom
  - Operation Enduring Freedom
- Unit challenge coins
- All types of period weapons

If you have objects that you wish to donate to the museum, please contact us at (717) 861-2402.
9th ANNUAL FOXHOLE INVITATIONAL

By Col. David J. Smoker (USAF, Ret.)

The success of the museum's golf tournament continues to grow! We held our 9th Annual Major General Frank H. Smoker, Jr. Foxhole Invitational Golf Tournament on Saturday, 9 September 2017, at Blue Mountain Golf Course in Fredericksburg, Pennsylvania. Each year the event gets a little better. This year we raised an astounding $9,991.29, thanks to the sponsorship and hard work of SGT Mike Saphore (USA, Ret.) and his fiancée, Ms Jamie Kersey, and the leadership of Ms. Shannan Zerance, our golf committee chairperson this year.

Many thanks go out to our hardworking board members, especially those who served on the golf tournament committee and were responsible for coordinating this successful event: Col Carl Magagna (USAF, Ret.); MAJ Chuck Holbrook (USA, Ret.) and his wife, Kathy; LTC Dave Sakmar; Brig Gen Jerry Otterbein (USAF, Ret.) and his wife, Nedette; Brig Gen Stan Jaworski (USAF, Ret.) and his wife, Kathy; Mrs. Rita Meneses and her husband, Bob; Ms. Sharon Flaig; and Board Treasurer, Ms. Stephanie Olsen. Countless volunteers also helped on the day of the tournament and their support is sincerely appreciated. Last, but not least, we extend our heartfelt thanks to our sponsors who gave financial contributions, donated gifts and prizes for the raffles, and supplied goods and services... the tournament was successful because of your generous support!

Mark your calendars! Next year's golf tournament will be on Saturday, 8 September 2018, at Blue Mountain Golf Course. We hope to see you there!
MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Special thanks to those who joined the museum as life members this year: Maj Gen Anthony J. Carrelli, Adjutant General of Pennsylvania; Brig Gen (USAF, Ret.) and Mrs. Gerald Otterbein; Mr. Timothy Patches; Mrs. Kelly Fonner; Mr. Wayne Anspach; LTC Richard Shertzer (USA, Ret); Mr. Wallace Morgan; and COL David Spaulding (USA, Ret). We greatly appreciate your support!

We would also like to thank the following people who joined or renewed membership since our last newsletter: Mr. George Hornberg; Mr. Jacob Notovitz; Mr. Jay Field; Ms. Janet Oellig; Mr. Joseph Czelatko; CCM Scott Keener (USAF, Ret.); Mr. Jack Mosholder; LTC Angela King-Sweigart; Brig Gen Donald McAuliffe (USAF, Ret.); Mr. William Bull; LTC Edward Fry (USA, Ret.); LTC Albert Rutherford (USA, Ret.); Mr. Craig Correll; Mr. James Shed-Iaukas; LTC David Palmer (USAF, Ret.); Mr. Thomas McCabe; Mr. Frederick Panza; Mr. James Shotzberger; Mr. George Duell, Jr.; Mr. Harold Myers; Mr. Mark Thomas; Brig Gen Peter Phillippy (USAF, Ret.); Mr. Stanley Ayers; Mr. Rudolf Kerl; Mr. Lloyd Bortzfield; Mr. David Demmy, Sr.; Mr. Sam Ieronimo; Mr. Joseph Keir; Mr. Robert DeSousa; Mr. Robert Devine, Jr.; Mr. John Scheffstall; Mr. Robert Leicht; and Mr. Richard Armagost.

Further thanks to those who made additional financial donations recently, including: Mr. Robert DeSousa; Mr. Jay Field; Mr. Stanley Ayers; Mr. William Bull; Brig Gen Donald McAuliffe (USAF, Ret.); Mr. Thomas McCabe; and Mr. John Scheffstall.

Finally, many thanks to three recent “corporate” sponsors: the Indiantown Gap Post Chapel congregation, Ms. Gwenn Underwood of the 28th Infantry Division Association, and Mr. Milan Lipensky of Lebanon Building Supply.

We are grateful for your support!

MEMBERSHIP DATABASE

Whether you are a servicemember or a civilian, we want our records to accurately reflect our members.

Please include your title, name, rank, branch of service, and if you are currently serving in the military or retired.

Please provide that information when you pay your dues or simply call us to correct our membership information. Thank you!

UPCOMING 2018 MUSEUM EVENTS

3 Feb PNGMM PATCH SHOW (ASMIC)
7 April PNGMM PATCH SHOW (ASMIC)
May ANNUAL MUSEUM PICNIC (Date Pending)
14 July PNGMM PATCH SHOW (ASMIC)
8 Sept ANNUAL MUSEUM GOLF TOURNAMENT

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS

During the Holiday Season more than ever, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible. And in this spirit we sincerely say Thank You and Best Wishes for the holiday season and a Happy New Year!
THE BOARD BULLETIN
by Col. David J. Smoker (USAF, Ret.)

Thanks to you, our valued members, the Pennsylvania National Guard Military Museum (PNGMM) has celebrated a productive 30th year as a museum! We have received many notable donations of artifacts highlighted in this newsletter and throughout previous newsletters this year. We encourage you to visit and spend some time with our Museum Curator, Charlie Oellig, allowing him to show you the breadth of our collection.

A big highlight this year is that the PNGMM received a major and much needed facelift as is demonstrated quite vividly by the starkly contrasting before and after pictures on this page. Both the main museum building and the annex were brought back to the luster of their original construction. This was rather an amazing feat for 75-year old buildings that were designed as temporary barracks anticipated to last five or ten years. Both buildings now have new green shingle roofs, white siding mimicking the original slab boards, new insulation, new windows, new fire escape ladders, and new steps and ramps. Our sincere thanks go to LTC McDevitt and State Reservation Maintenance for the superb renovations. We also thank our RED HORSE alumni volunteers who stained and painted the decks and ramps and who continue to make interior improvements to our buildings.

Meanwhile, I sincerely thank the Board of Directors for their very hard work tackling a number of pressing issues. In addition to doing a splendid job with the annual picnic and the golf tournament (please see golf article on Page 3), the board is venturing into many behind the scenes projects to improve the overall function of the museum and to better accommodate you, our members. On the forefront will soon be a PayPal system linked to the museum’s website, through which dues can be paid and donations can be easily made. Committee members are meeting regularly and coming up with improvements to the museum’s website, to include new ways to better market our services and activities through social media and Facebook. Additionally, we are striving to implement an enhanced membership acknowledgment program such that recognition can better be given to all contributors and members upon receipt of dues and donations.

With regard to brick-and-mortar projects, we are working with post engineers to obtain two pre-manufactured forward operating base (FOB) buildings. These buildings will allow us to house a much needed workshop, storage area, and display space for several historic Jeeps. Our gratitude goes out Tom Small, who spends a lot of volunteer time restoring the Jeeps and helping Charlie Oellig with many museum projects.

We could not continue our progress without you and thank all of the museum’s contributors. Your contributions are significant in the preservation and enrichment of the legacy of Pennsylvania National Guard men and women.

Thank you again to everyone on the Board of Directors who truly do a lot of outstanding volunteer work; to Charlie Oellig, our dedicated curator who spends at least four days a week at the museum; to the volunteers who help us all year; and especially you, the faithful members, who keep the museum vision alive and well. All the best for the holidays and Happy New Year to each of you!
CURATOR’S CORNER
by Mr. Charles B. Oellig

Sergeant William Jackson Dillon, of Company C, Eighteenth Regiment, Second Brigade, NGP was born in Fayette County on May 26, 1826. He enlisted in the Fayette Guards of Uniontown in 1848 and served until 1855, when he moved to Pittsburgh. Soon after, he enlisted in the Birmingham Blues, serving for four years. He then enlisted in the 204th Pennsylvania Regiment (Fifth Artillery) on August 27, 1864, during the American Civil War, and was appointed Sergeant and served until June 30, 1865, when he was mustered out with his company.

On May 1, 1871, Dillon enlisted in Company C, Eighteenth Regiment, NGP, the Duquesne Greys. He was appointed Color Sergeant of the regiment on September 10, 1872. In November of 1878, he reverted to the rank of Corporal at his own request, but on June 17, 1880, he was again promoted to Sergeant. He was on duty during the railroad riots of 1877, the Mt. Pleasant riot of 1891 and, from 1871 to 1897, he never missed a company inspection or a summer encampment until later that year. From 1871 to 1895, he reported for every parade of the command; on July 4, 1895, when the regiment paraded as an escort for Governor Hastings, he was suffering with an injured leg and was unable to walk. He made all regimental trips; his last being to Philadelphia for the dedication of the Washington Monument. Known throughout the Second Brigade as “Pop” Dillon, he passed away at his home in Pittsburgh on February 22, 1898. In recognition of his years of meritorious service, a battalion consisting of companies A, B, C, and G, under the command of Major William H. Davis, was detailed as the funeral escort. Services were held on February 24, 1898, at the South Side Presbyterian Church.

Photo courtesy of Mr. Charles B. Oellig, (Museum Curator) Museum Collection

This is the 50th in a series of historical photographs of Pennsylvania National Guardsmen of the past, submitted by Charles Oellig, curator of the Pennsylvania National Guard Military Museum at Fort Indiantown Gap. The Museum is open Mondays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or other days by appointment. Call (717) 861-2402, or visit www.pngmilitarymuseum.org for more information or to schedule an appointment. The Museum is closed on major holidays.
WORLD WAR I
SOLDIER OF THE QUARTER
MG CHARLES HENRY MUIR
by SGT Damian J. M. Smith

Born in Erie, Michigan, July 18, 1860, Charles H. Muir received an appointment to the United States Military Academy in 1881, and received his commission as a Second Lieutenant four years later, graduating eighth in his class. This led him to active frontier duty in Dakota Territory and at Fort D.A. Russell.

At the outbreak of the Spanish-American War he served with the Army in Cuba and received the Distinguished Service Cross for gallantry in action at Santiago de Cuba. On July 2, 1898, he had voluntarily exposed himself to heavy artillery and infantry fire in a successful attempt as a sharpshooter to silence a piece of Spanish artillery. He was advanced to the rank of Captain March 2, 1899, and, the same year, was sent as a Major to the Philippines to aid in putting down the insurrection. With only ten companions, he attacked Rosario on January 19, 1900, and broke up General Malvar's headquarters, releasing 300 Spanish prisoners, and taking possession of 25,000 pesos in his treasury.

As a Major, he participated in the American expedition sent to China against the Boxers. Having reached the rank of Colonel on July 1, 1916, he was made Brigadier General, National Army, on August 5, 1917. On December 12 of the same year, he was given command of the 28th Division of the American Expeditionary Force, a position that he held until October 22, 1918. Under his command, this division participated in the actions at Chateau-Thierry, Champagne-Marne defensive, and in the Thiacoourt sector. He received a number of awards such as the Distinguished Service Medal.

Muir was advanced to the rank of Major General on November 28, 1917, and when the American Army advanced across the Rhine into Germany, he led the IV Corps and served with the Army of Occupation from November 17, 1918, to April 13, 1919. From July 1919 to August 1920, he served as the Commandant of the United States Command and General Staff College. His final duty was as commander of the III Corps Area, with Baltimore as his headquarters. It was there on July 18, 1924, that he, as a Major General in the regular Army, was retired for age.

He was nominated for the Medal of Honor twice, but never received it. On December 8, 1933, he died and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Muir Army Airfield at Fort Indiantown Gap is named after him.

Distinguished Service Cross

Major General, United States Army, the First Lieutenant, Second infantry, United States Army. For extraordinary heroism in action at Santiago, Cuba, July 2, 1898. At the risk of his life he voluntarily exposed himself to heavy hostile artillery and infantry fire in a successful attempt as a sharpshooter to silence a piece of Spanish artillery at the battle of Santiago.

Distinguished Service Medal

Major General, United States Army. General Orders No. 12, War Department, dated January 17, 1919. For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished services as division and corps commander. Commanding the 28th Division during the Argonne-Meuse Offensive, and especially in the difficult operations which resulted in the clearing of the Argonne Forest, he proved himself to be an energetic leader of the highest professional attainments. As a corps commander he displayed the same fine qualities that characterized his services with a division.

British Order

Major General, 28th Division. British Order of St. Michael and St. George (Knight Commander), List No. 40, dated July 18, 1919, British War Office.

French Order

Major General, 28th Division. French Legion d’Honneur (Commander), by Presidential Decree of May 5, 1919, and French Croix de Guerre with palm, under Order No. 16.797 “D”, dated April 25, 1919, General Headquarters, French Armies of the East, with the following citation: “As commander of the 28th Division during the counter offensive between the Marne and the Vesle and then in the Argonne-Meuse Offensive, he always displayed the greatest energy and high professional skill which enabled his division to participate very brilliantly in the capture of the Argonne forest.”

Additional palm awarded under Order No. 13.911 “D”, dated February 28, 1919, General Headquarters, French Armies of the East, with the following citation: “A division commander of the high intellectual attainments and spirited bravery. He remarkably commanded his division during the operations of July and August, 1918, between the Marne and the Vesle, and, thanks to his military qualities and personal influence, obtained the most brilliant results.”

Silver Star Citation

Major General, United States Army, then Major, 38th United States Volunteer Infantry. For gallantry in action against the Insurgents at Taal, Philippine Islands, January 19, 1900.

Sources:

Arlington National Cemetery


PA National Guard Military Museum
LEARN MORE
www.pngmilitarymuseum.org
www.facebook.com/PNGMilitaryMuseum

HOURS
Mondays & Fridays.................10:00-4:30
Open other days by appointment.
Closed on major holidays.

CONTACT US
Mr. Charlie B. Oellig.......................717-861-2402
Museum Curator

SGT Damian J. M. Smith....................717-861-2464
Command Historian

Ms. Stephanie L. Olsen......................717-861-6793
Cultural Resources Manager

Museum Email................RA-MVPNG-Museum@pa.gov