Second Annual “Run to St. Lo Memorial 5K and 1 Mile Run/Walk” on Saturday, June 10, 2017 is in the books. See the pictures and race results in the newsletter. The race is in honor of the 44 Nebraska National Guard soldiers who were killed in the liberation of St. Lo, France in July, 1944 during World War II. The capital campaign for the coming years will include the “Cornrow to Hedgerows 4D Experience” to be unveiled in 2019 on the 75th anniversary of the liberation.
From the Society President....

What a busy past three months at the Museum! We held our annual “Night at the Museum” in April that was well attended, lots of school tours, and bus tours. Our numbers are up 2,216 compared to this period last year (2016)! We again hosted with Seward Kiwanis the Second Annual “Run to St. Lo Memorial 5K and 1 Mile Run/Walk” in June. Speaking of busy, check out the Chautauqua stories in the newsletter. We had General John Pershing (actor Dave Shuey) attend the Pre-Chautauqua events at the museum and around the community. We had Tom Martin fly up in a replica Nieuport 23 WWI aircraft to the delight of the crowds. We had WWI re-enactors and presenters on topics related to the theme “World War I: Legacy of a Forgotten War”. We are so pleased that donors stepped up to sponsor these events! We also hosted many educational events over the summer with groups like St. John’s Summer Enrichment Program spending a week in the museum. We hope you can make the July 4th celebration this year!

NNGHS Mission Statement:

To collect, access, preserve, store, account for, de-militarize, and value historical artifacts and records for training, development, and interpretation of the Nebraska Army and Air National Guard and the State of Nebraska military history and heritage of its citizen-soldiers and airmen. To educate and “tell the story” to the members of the Army and Air Guard and the general public about the heritage of the Nebraska National Guard in both peace and war.

Nebraska National Guard Historica l Society President, Darin Krueger. He served in the National Guard 1986-2013. He currently works for the VA in Lincoln.
Chautauqua—Aviation Day

The weather had a vote on the arrival of the UH-60 Blackhawk from Lincoln (they weren’t able to fly in) but the pilots and crew made it here for a great day of discussions on aviation since the Great War. Tom Martin flew in his replica Nieuport 23 aircraft and did several “Pilot Talks” with other aviators current and past of the NENG (PJ Eddy, Zach Hartmann, Derek Whisler, Ron Schroeder, etc…). Ted Huscher did a presentation on Orville Ralston, Nebraska’s only WWI Ace. People got a chance to go out to the Seward Airport to view and listen to Tom talk about flying his Nieuport aircraft. The day was sponsored by Duncan Aviation of Lincoln. Thank you Duncan Aviation for the great day!

Chautauqua—Medical Day

Dr. Van Vahle led an all star cast on Medical Day. We had a WWI mock trench created by Steffan Baker of Ord as his classroom. We also had Jack Hoppe, make-up artist, configure two young men into wounded soldiers. Dr. Vahle did several “Doctor Talks” about medicine of World War I and we were lucky to have First Sergeant Ron Schroeder come over and talk about modern trauma techniques. Ken Stephan did a presentation on “Sanitary Trains of WWI”. The day was sponsored by Memorial Health Care Systems in Seward. We are so thankful to Mallory and the group at MHCS for sponsoring the day!
General Pershing Makes a Grand Entrance at Chautauqua!

General John Pershing (played by actor Dave Shuey) was the guest of the Museum for Pre-Chautauqua events here and around the community. He gave three tremendous presentations to groups in the Museum, toured the city and did meet/greets on horse-back, met the Chautauquans at the kick-off at the Band Shell, stopped in to say “hi” to Virginia Cattle. The general was sponsored by Cattle National Bank and Trust Company, Van and Becky Vahle, Zabka Funeral Home, Greg and Dixie Zabka, Brad and Jill Perdue. The general was able to ride around and do photo ops in front of the bank and funeral home. Thank you to the business and individuals for making his visit possible. Many people came up to the general with pictures of their loved ones that served in the war (see pic of Ralph below) and many told stories of General Pershing from family histories. The general stayed at Bachelor Officers Quarters (BOQ) Number 1 (Liberty House BB) for the duration of his visit. He was escorted by several WWI re-enactors on horse-back. He got to meet President Wilson and other Chautauquans at the Kick-Off at the Band Shell. Jane Addams and him did a little “fighting” prior to the show to the delight of the crowd. Dave Shuey is from Pennsylvania and is nationally renowned in his portrayal of the general.
Saturday, June 10 was a beautiful day for a run here in Seward, the temperature at race time was the same as in St. Lo, France (72 degrees). Sixty-eight runners were signed up for the race in Seward and over 250 runners did a Shadow Run at Fort Riley. Kansas with the Nebraska National Guard. Over 100 volunteers make this run a success. Along the 5K route are 44 sentinels holding memorial signs to the Nebraska National Guardsmen killed in the liberation of St. Lo, France during World War II. We were honored to have the family of Allison Babb hold his sign this year. Scouts held US and French Flags in the park area (thanks to Kelby and Mike Nitz). SFC Vega and the recruiters helped out with Gatorade and snacks and the Retiree Council donated bottle water and fruit. Bottle Rocket Brewery did the finish line again this year. Ambulance at the water stop and finish lines. Kurt Holliday was race director and coordinated the start/finish activities of the race. Jon Sronce sang the National Anthems of the US and France to start off the event. Chaplain Thomlison gave the blessing. John Berry (Berry Law Firm was the official corporate sponsor of the race) greeted the runners. BG Dahlman of the NENG and Mayor Eickmeier also greeted the runners and fans. Black Squirrel Timing (sponsored by Cattle National Bank and Trust Co.) was a new addition to this year (chip timing) and was well received. Both overall winners set race records Thomas Hynes (besting his record of last year) in 19:07 and Dana Meduna (running for Team Berry Law Firm) blazed to a new record of 22:36. The race is hosted by Seward Kiwanis, the Museum Society, Seward July 4th and Visitors Committee’s.
The Second Annual “Night at the Museum” was held on April 21st and the building hosted over 125 patrons for a wonderful evening of entertainment and food. We had Sally Jost and Alex Sommerfeld playing the piano (a gift from Charlie) during the evening. Major General Bohac spoke to the group and thanked donors and patrons for the great support the Museum has been given. The food and drink was catered by Nate on the Nines and was awesome! Thank you to Becky and Van Vahle for assisting with the decorating of the tables and facility. Great evening of celebrating the accomplishments of the museum and showing the future additions.
“Men of Bronze: Black Units in WWI” presented by Charles Everett Pace. Charles portrays W.E.B Du Bois in the “WWI” Chautauqua. Mr. Pace has portrayed a number of characters, including Frederick Douglass and Langston Hughes, at Chautauqua-style programs throughout the country, including many summers as part of the Great Plains Chautauqua. Discussed during this workshop will be the role of African-American soldiers in the War as well as the 369th Infantry Regiment, “The Harlem Hellfighters.” He also did a workshop in “Winning the Hearts and Minds”.

“Picketing the President” presented by Helen Lewis. Helen portrays Jane Addams in the “WWI” Chautauqua. Helen is an instructor in English and the Humanities at Western Iowa Tech Community College in Sioux City, IA. She has presented in a number of Chautauqua programs, including the Nebraska Chautauqua in 2007. In today’s workshop, she will take a look at the women’s suffrage movement during the time of World War I. She also did a workshop on “Post War Relief Efforts”. She brought high energy to the Jones National Bank and Trust Co. Theater!

“WWI Weapons” led by Paul Vickery. Vickery portrays Woodrow Wilson and serves as moderator for the “WWI” Chautauqua. He has traveled extensively portraying a number of Chautauqua-style characters. Paul received his Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University and is currently a Professor of History at Oral Roberts University. Today, he’ll discuss the basics of trench warfare as well as the new weapons introduced during the war. He also did a workshop on “German-Americans in World War I”.

“Literature of the WWI Era” presented by Karen Vuranch. Karen portrays Edith Wharton in the “WWI” Chautauqua. Karen is an instructor at Concord University in West Virginia and presents a number of characters in the Chautauqua-style throughout the country, including Laura Ingalls Wilder in the Nebraska Chautauqua from 2012-2015. She holds a master’s degree in humanities from Marshall University, with a major in American studies. The workshop focused on the many great works that came out of the World War I era and their long-term implications.

“Religion in American Politics: From Bryan to Bush” presented by Ted Kachel. Ted portrays William Jennings Bryan in the “WWI” Chautauqua. Ted served as the head of the Theatre Program at Tulsa Community College and still teaches part-time in religious studies and humanities there. He is also a seasoned Chautauquan portraying characters throughout the country. Ted holds a Ph.D. in Religion and Society from Columbia University. In the workshop, he discussed the role of religion in America’s politics, specifically looking at Bryan’s “The Prince of Peace.”
The Seward 4th of July Committee and Museum

The committee has laid out the 2017 events and the Museum plays a big role in the overall success of the annual July 4th event. We kick off the holiday on Sunday, July 2nd at 7pm at the Seward High School Auditorium for the “Vaudeville 1917—Sousa Comes to Seward” show hosted by the two committee’s. It will include the Seward Municipal Band playing all the Sousa hits from the early 1900’s. Between the music will be acts and entertainment of 1917. Free and open to the public. The Fourth of July follows a similar schedule of previous years: 8:00am-7:00pm OPEN HOUSE (goal is 10,000+ thru the doors), 8:00am-10:30am—UH-60 Blackhawk Static Display on west property. 8:00am-3:00pm STATIC DISPLAYS (Jackson Street and west lot), 9:00am DEDICATION of roomsDisplays, 4:00pm GRAND PARADE. The Society would like to thank Clark “Mr. Fourth of July” Kolterman for his tremendous help in making the Museum a part of the wonderful July 4th they put on here in Seward. Make plans to be in Seward for the Dedication at the Museum at 9:00am of the “Berry Law Firm Conference Room and Library” and the “Chaplains” Shroud by Seward Cross Makers. Buffalo Bill is also scheduled to make an appearance at the dedication. Also….a special tourism award is being considered for the museum...come check it out!
St. John’s Summer Horizons Program

Students learn about World War I and II

Lots of students from Seward, Cedar Bluff, Crete, etc… have taken advantage of the Concordia Learning Center and other rooms and displays in the Museum. St. John’s Summer Horizon Program is a week long class on topics related to World War I and II. The students had a chance to study aviation, types of conflict, heroes of the wars, and living history related to the Nebraska National Guard.

“Buffalo Bill” is Coming to Museum!

William “Buffalo Bill” Cody will be a guest of the Museum on Tuesday, July 4th to do meet/greets and ride in the Grand Parade. He will also speak at the dedication at 9:00am. Please come out to see Buffalo Bill and be part of the living history program at the Museum!
Omaha Corvette Club Visits

The Corvettes were coming to the Museum after the “Run to St. Lo” on Saturday, June 10th. About 25 of these premier sports cars made the trip over from eastern Nebraska and they were headed up to the Bottle Rocket Brewery and on to Chances R’ in York for a meal. The cruise stopped over at the museum to park and do a tour of the facility. Some of the group were here in 2016 for a repeat visit. Thank you for coming to the museum in 2017!

Chamber Membership Lunch at Museum

The Museum hosted the annual Seward Chamber Membership lunch in the Jones National Bank and Trust Company Theater on June 1st. The meal was catered by the R Bar and was excellent! The Museum had a chance to do a presentation on the facility and gave tours following the meal. The Museum would like to thank Suzanne and Jonathan for allowing us to host this event!
Revolution Wraps and the Graphics Shop at JFHQ (Amy and Kevin) did it again! Great wraps on the shrouds on the main floor and above the Concordia Learning Center. The “Chaplains” Shroud and display was a donation from Seward Cross Makers. The “Price of Freedom” is part of a donation from the Nebraska Funeral Directors Association. The unique combination of shroud and display is featured in the “All Hell Can’t Stop Us” rappel tower with soldier and the “Always Ready, Always There” list of 109 towns/cities and the Prairie Soldier. The other shrouds were: Early Guard, Coming of Age, Cold War, and Operational Guard.
Pictures of the Museum....
Thank you Dr. Van Vahle!

Dr. Van Vahle has been busy this past two months with the Museum. He is the volunteer coordinator for the Museum Society. He also is a fabulous cook and brings up food for the staff on occasions. We all enjoy the great meals he has cooked up. He did the “Doctor Talks” on World War I medicine and assisted in teaching a segment on trench medicine for the Summer Horizons students when they were here for the week. He also brought out his mother-in-law, Virginia Cattle, to speak to the students about the late Major John W. Cattle, Sr.. Van and Becky Cattle have been great sponsors of the museum activities. Thank you Van and Becky for the great help you provide to the museum!
NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your interest in applying for membership in the Nebraska National Guard Historical Society, Inc.

We further provide the following information in order to qualify this document as a true attestation that the donations received will be used for purely non-profit purpose(s), in our capacity as a 501(c)(3) charitable or non-profit organization.

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: ______________________________________________________
E-Mail: _____________________________________________________________

Applicant’s Signature: ___________ Today’s Date: ________________

☐ Individual Lifetime $250.00  ☐ Organizational Lifetime $250.00
☐ Individual Annual $30.00  ☐ Annual Family $60.00
☐ Family Lifetime $500.00
☐ Cash  ☐ Check

This section to be filled out by the applicant and retained by the NNG Historical Society for their records

This section to be filled out by a NNG Historical Society Officer and returned to the applicant for their tax records

Name of Applicant___________________________________________________________
Type of Membership: ☐ Individual Lifetime ☐ Organizational Lifetime
☐ Individual Annual ☐ Annual Family ☐ Family Lifetime

NNG HISTORICAL SOCIETY WITNESSING OFFICER ____________________________
SIGNATURE ___________________________ Date ________________________

This document is a true attestation that the donations received for purely non-profit purpose(s), of a 501(c)(3) charitable or non-profit organization.

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: WWW.NENGM.ORG
The Nebraska National Guard Historical Society, Inc. expresses its heartfelt gratitude to you for donations to our “Square Foot Program”. Be one of the first to own a piece of the Nebraska National Guard Museum. Your donation of $500 per square foot will help establish a magnificent learning environment for many future generations to come.

We further provide the following information in order to qualify this document as a true attestation that the donations received will be used for purely non-profit purpose(s), in our capacity as a 501(c)(3) charitable or non-profit organization.

Number of Square Foot Requested _____ x $500 = Total___________

☐ Cash Amount
☐ Check Amount_________________________ Check Date_________________________
Check No.________________________________ Bank Branch________________________

Signed__________________________________________________________
NENG Historical Society Treasurer

This section to be filled out by the applicant and retained by the NNG Historical Society for their records

This section to be filled out by a NNG Historical Society Officer and returned to the applicant for their tax records

Name of Applicant___________________________________________________________
Type of Membership:  ☐  “Square Foot Program”.

NNG HISTORICAL SOCIETY WITNESSING OFFICER _______________________________________
SIGNATURE __________________________________ Date____________________

This document is a true attestation that the donations received for purely non-profit purpose(s), of a 501(c)(3) charitable or non-profit organization.

Family and Friends of the late CW4 Ed Miller stopped in to the Museum to present a memorial check in his memory. Thank you for thinking of the museum and honoring his service with this memorial. Chuck Matzke represented the Society at the presentation.
The Museum would like to thank Julie and Chuck Wisehart of the historic Rivoli Theater here in Seward. We did an event that featured the free showing of the 1941 war classic “Sergeant York” starring Gary Cooper. It was attended by over 200 people on June 13th. A special treat…the crowd got to meet General Pershing! The York family was scheduled to attend but had to cancel plans due to an illness. Thank you all to helped make this a success!

More Pictures…..
World War I Re-enactors at Museum

We really appreciate the great support from our WWI re-enactors Erik and Dave. Both of them brought very nice horses to the event and we really enjoyed having them for the programs.

One More Picture…..

Tom Martin waving as he flies over the Museum heading south to an air show…..
Museum to be Featured on “Our Town—Seward”

Thank you so much to Ch. 10/11’s Lance Schwartz for coming out and filming segments for “Our Town—Seward” that will air right before the annual 4th of July festivities. He spent several days getting all the shots he needed for the news and the special program. We really appreciate all that Lance has done to promote the Museum. Bonus…Ch. 10/11 is the project lead on the creation of the new intro movie in the Jones National Bank and Trust Co. Theater….movie is due out this summer!

National WWI Commission Members Visit During Chautauqua!

Thank you to Susan, Mike and Jeanne for stopping in and visiting during Chautauqua!