Third Annual “Run to St. Lo Memorial 5K and 1 Mile Run/Walk” on Saturday, June 9, 2018 is in the books. See the pictures and race results in the newsletter. The race is in honor of the 46 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.
“When you needed us...we were there” – NOW –
We need your help to tell our story!

The Nebraska National Guard Museum is a quality educational institution that allows patrons the chance to experience our state’s military heritage. The Museum follows the Nebraska educational curriculum standards that allows teachers and students to fully participate in the learning process.

“Cornrow to Hedgegrow” 4D Experience $900,000
Help tell the story of courage and sacrifice of the Nebraska National Guards’ famed 134th Infantry Regiment in the liberation of St. Lo, France in World War II. The “Cornrow to Hedgegrow” 4D Experience exhibit honors the 44 Nebraska soldiers who gave their lives in this pivotal battle. It will allow patrons to see and feel combat in the Hedgerows of France.

Timeline:
2018 – Pledge/Raise Funds for Capital Campaign
2019 – “Cornrow to Hedgegrow” 4D Experience Dedication – July 4th
2020 – Completion of Main Floor Exhibits and Rooms – July 4th

“Build the Legacy”... Be Part of History!
Frederick Isn't Free
There is a cost to building a high quality museum to honor the men and women of the Nebraska National Guard.

The Museum Society is working toward a $1.4 Million Capital Campaign to finish exhibits and rooms in the facility in 2019 and 2020. The Museum has already received over $3.2 Million in donations since opening in 2015.

Levels of Support
Platinum: $100,000+
Gold: $50,000+
Silver: $20,000+
Bronze: $1,000
Lifetime Memberships: $250/$500

Donor wall and audio-visual monitors will show your generosity around the facility to over 30,000 patrons a year.
Please consider a tour of the facility and discussing a possible donation.
Phone: 402-309-8763 (Museum)

201 N. 8th Street • Seward, NE
402.309.8763 FRONT DESK 402.309.8761 CURATOR
www.nengm.org

Check us out on Facebook

This page is sponsored by:
We are off and running with the Capital Campaign for the Museum. Please consider introducing us to people that can help. Lots of activities this past quarter….we supported Seward County Government Day, NENG Family Support get together, NENG Officers Book Club, School visits from Centennial and Seward, Seward Library Summer Kick Off, Construction of the “Price of Freedom—Telegram Wall”, “1854 Proclamation”, “Lost Battalion” and the “I Am the Guard” Room. Thank you so much to our donors for helping us with the room and displays. They will help us spring into the capital campaign for 2019 and 2020. The 3rd Annual Run to St. Lo was another success this year….new records in both the overall male and female categories. Thank you to the NENG members who bought race shirts and did a shadow run in memory of the 46 Nebraskans killed in the liberation of St. Lo, France in WWII.

So excited to have the 7th Mechanized Brigade soldiers from the Czech Republic visit and enjoy some fine kolaches here in Seward.

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 Historical Society President, Darin Krueger. He served in the National Guard 1986-2013. He currently works for the VA in Lincoln.

Like us on Facebook

“Nebraska National Guard”
Despite a torrential downpour and lighting about an hour before the race, the 3rd Annual “Run to St. Lo Memorial 5K and 1 Mile Run/Walk” saw cool temperatures and record breaking times. The memorial race had 75 runners complete the course in Seward and 106 soldiers of the Nebraska National Guard complete a Shadow Run at another location. The run is in memory of the 46 Nebraska soldiers of the 134th Infantry Regiment that were killed in the liberation of St. Lo, France in World War II.

Trevor Acton was the overall winner of the race in 17:20, shattering the 2017 record of 19:07 by Thomas Hynes. Susan Latshaw was overall 10th and the overall female finish in 22:10 breaking the 2017 record of 22:36 by Dana Meduna. The top ten finishers and times were:

1. Trevor Acton 17:20.89 (Record Time)
2. Tyler Bartolome 19:23.49
3. Nathan Sorenson 19:27.81
4. Ryan Carlson 20:03.72
5. Chris Schaben 21:23.91
6. John Berry 21:52.26
7. Jacob Jurchen 21:54.29
8. Dan Malizzi 21:55.97
9. Collin Malizzi 22:09.69
10. Susan Latshaw 22:10.42 (Record Time – Overall Female Winner)

Top Five Male:
1. Trevor Acton 17:20.89 (Record Time)
2. Tyler Bartolome 19:23.49
3. Nathan Sorenson 19:27.81
4. Ryan Carlson 20:03.72
5. Chris Schaben 21:23.91

Top Five Female:
1. Susan Latshaw 22:10.42 (Record Time)
2. Dana Meduna 22:38.55
3. Ashleigh Baker 24:11.52
4. Anna Stoeger 24:16.45
5. Regina Roebke 24:54.37

The 5K (3.1 mile) course featured 46 sentinels holding memorials to the fallen. Some of the sentinels were Gold Star Families of the 134th Infantry Regiment. The race also features several general officers and sergeants major of the Nebraska National Guard. Several units supported the run with soldiers and airmen. The age categories were from 6 & under to 75 & older with medals to first and second in each group. Prior to the race an opera singer, Jon Sronce, sang the National Anthem and La Marseilles. The race was hosted by the Seward Kiwanis Club and the Nebraska National Guard Museum Society. Sponsors of the race were: Berry Law Firm, K & K Parking Lot Painting, Cattle Bank and Trust, and the Seward 4th of July Committee.
Running in Memory of 46 Nebraska Soldiers

Nebraska National Guard 134th Infantry Regiment – Sentinel Numbers of memorials to soldiers killed during the liberation of St. Lo, France. Names of volunteers who held the memorials:

#1 - Allison D. Babb – Falls City – Meghan Meyer
#2 - Vernon L. Barnard – Cortland – Ellen Chaffin
#3 - Ivan Q. Brown – Nebraska – Jill Perdue
#4 - Raymond J. Brzonkowski – Omaha – Dave Dobbertien (Kiwanis)
#5 - Donald E. Christensen – Omaha – Del Junge (Kiwanis)
#6 - Wayne A. Coxon – Grand Island – James Everts (Kiwanis)
#7 - Lewis E. Dailey – Hastings – Courtney Meyer (Kiwanis)
#8 - Emil Fendrick – Clarkson – Dave Held (Kiwanis)
#9 - William W. Frahm – Sunol – Kelsey Petersen (Kiwanis)
#10 - Robert W. Fulton – Beatrice – Lois Kimsey
#11 - Marvin J. Geiken – Gothenburg – Lloyd Lipska (Kiwanis)
#12 - Charles P. Gentle – Omaha – Lee Schluckebier (Kiwanis)
#13 - Lloyd R. Harvey – Seward Scouts (Mike Nitz)
#14 - Floyd W. Hawkins, Jr. – Seward Scouts (Mike Nitz)
#15 - Dale B. Horne – North Platte – Mary Meyer
#16 - Norris L. Ivey – Raymond – Ken Meyer (Kiwanis)
#17 - Jacob Jacoby – Lincoln – Zac Long (Future Kiwanis Member)
#18 - Howard H. Johnson – Alvo – Seward Scouts (Mike Nitz)
#19 - Harvey B. Langley – Beatrice – Seward Scouts (Mike Nitz)
#20 - Lyle E. Lovelady – Omaha – Seward Scouts (Mike Nitz)
#21 - Louis A. Marino – Omaha – Seward Scouts (Mike Nitz)
#22 - William A. McGinnis – Nebraska City – Bob Ficke (Milford Kiwanis)
#23 - Harold G. McKay – North Platte – Nora Ficke (Milford Kiwanis)
#24 - Ralph D. McManaman – Nebraska – Caryl Bohn
#25 - John H. Meints – Pickrell – Chris Bohn
#26 - Harold A. Meurer – Omaha – Dr. Van Vahle
#27 - Robert R. Miller – Lincoln – Ted Payne (Kiwanis)
#28 - William A. Nydegger – Beatrice – Sandi Rocker (Kiwanis)
#29 - Walter F. Placek – Columbus – Lori Anderson
#30 - Vyrgel H. Putnam – Lincoln – Jamie Axthelm
#31 - Virgil D. Reimers – Dannebrog – Marv Taylor (Kiwanis)
#32 - Harry P. Saali – Nebraska – Clarence Wattier (Kiwanis)
#33 - H.W.J. Schiebinger – Nebraska – Mel Janosek (Kiwanis)
#34 - Frank Schelbitzki – Strang – Ralph Hansen (Kiwanis)
#35 - Jerome G. Sokol – Duncan – Cliff Lowell (Kiwanis)
#36 - Freddi A. Sorenson – Filley – Judy Rojeski
#37 - Charles P. Stevens – Beatrice – CJ Novak
#38 - Joseph G. Swendroski – Omaha – Vickie Novak
#39 - William E. Tombrink – Omaha – Richard Novak
#40 - Horace E. Van Houten – Unknown – Marlin Pozehl (Kiwanis)
#41 - Richard H. Wieser – Beaver Crossing – Jeremy Rouset (from France)
#42 - James W. Wilbur – Big Springs – Jack Swanson (Kiwanis)
#43 - Leslie G. Wilson – Omaha – Dalton Wignall
#44 - Floyd E. Whittaker – Blue Springs – GOLD STAR FAMILY – Barb/Rich Koehlmoos, Linda Ridgway
#45 – Wesley Stahlut – Nebraska City – Jen Wood
#46 – James W. Nichols – Omaha – Kaden Saul

Gold Star Family of Floyd Whittaker of Blue Springs.

NENG soldiers ready for a shadow run in Lincoln. Thank you to Colonel Craig Strong for making this happen!

Official 3rd annual Run to St. Lo t-shirts.
Acklie Family Visits Museum

The Nebraska National Guard Museum received the lead gift from the Duane and Phyllis Acklie family to build the “I Am the Guard” Room and Exhibit. The intent of the room is to “honor the courage and legacy of the men and women of the Nebraska National Guard who have served the state and nation since its founding in 1854” said Holly Oster-gard, daughter of Phyllis Acklie and the late Duane Acklie.

She went on to say “We are so proud to sponsor the exhibit. The Duane and Phyllis Acklie family and Crete Carrier Corporation are committed to supporting our military and honoring the service of all veterans. The family is proud to help preserve the stories of the brave men and women of the Nebraska National Guard for future generations. This room will be a unique interactive experience that is one of a kind in the National Guard Museum system. We look forward to seeing it in operation.”

The “I Am the Guard” Room was designed to give the patron an experience of joining the Nebraska National Guard and attending training and seeing artifacts and images from service members’ experiences over the years.” The room is being built and tested currently and will be unveiled at the annual July 4th dedication at the Museum at 9:00am.

The first thing patrons will see upon entering the room is a 84” vertical screen with a movie of a Nebraska National Guard drill instructor telling them to get out of the theater and assemble in an orderly fashion in the room. The front of the room is designed to tell the story of how our recruiters bring in members, how they go through physicals, to taking the “oath of enlistment” to attending initial “basic” training for the Army and Air Force. The whole room is wrapped in images supplied by the Nebraska National Guard and installed by Revolution Wraps in Lincoln. The artifacts and displays around the room were designed by Hartman Historical Services in Omaha. The interactive screen technology was designed by Nano-Nation in Lincoln.

Once a patron is “in” the military, they can make a choice of Army or Air Force to see what each branch has to offer. Screens in the center of the room highlight the many different skill sets that are performed in each branch. This also allows the recruiters to show what skills are needed today. On each side of the screens are rank and badges that are unique to the branches. Just beyond these screens is a monitor that is called the “20 Year Project”. This display features service members that are currently in the Nebraska National Guard and have been tracked over the years and will show patrons what its’ like to serve today.

The grand finale to the room is three large screens that are entitled “Honoring Our Past to Inspire the Future” and it features some of our prominent veterans of the Nebraska National Guard. Patrons can stand before images and press the screen to hear interviews and learn about citizens who have served in the National Guard. One of the highlights will be the story of Omaha’s Warren Buffett who served as a finance clerk in a headquarters unit from 1951-1956 and he relates some great stories of serving. Another image will be of Andrew Jackson Higgins of Columbus who served in the Millard Rifles. He went on to fame building landing craft in New Orleans and Eisenhower credited him with playing a major role in defeating the Axis in World War II. Another image will be of General John Campbell one of the founding members of the Nebraska Air National Guard in 1946 and the first member of the organization to make flag officer rank. There are many more images and stories on the wall for patrons to learn about in addition to “Did you know…” questions that offer an interactive experience.

The “I Am the Guard” Room experience is the only one of its kind in the National Guard Museum system.
“I Am the Guard” Room Construction

For a three week period in June, the construction crews were hard at work putting the “I Am the Guard” room together. The Museum would like to thank Mr. Dale Wallman (CFMO Project Manager) for the outstanding work on the room. Ross Finley was the general contractor for the room. He was able to bring in great sub-contractors (electrical, carpeting, glass, lights, etc.). The room was wrapped by Revolution Wraps of Lincoln (they did our theater and main floor walls and shrouds). Hartman Historical Services did the displays and storyboards. Nano-nation was the technology piece of the room. The Museum would like to thank all that were involved in getting the room from ideas on paper to the high tech room that it is today. This will be the centerpiece of the museum’s efforts to teach the future generations about service to the NENG.
Soldiers of the 7th Mechanized Brigade, Czech Republic, visited the NENG Museum and were treated to Kolaches from Wilber and Dwight. Thank you to Sharon and Steve for running to Wilber to get them and Dr. Vahle for getting some from Dwight. The soldiers enjoyed the Kolaches and tour!
The Seward 4th of July Committee and Museum

The Museum and the 4th of July Committee are working together to make this July 4th memorable. The plans include several pre-4th activities to build up excitement for the holiday. The Museum will host special guests: General Pershing, General Patton and President Roosevelt. The theme of the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI and the 25th anniversary of the state partnership with the Czech Republic. This will be the 150th celebration of the July 4th holiday in Seward. The Museum is a proud participant in the July 4th celebration.
St. John’s Summer Horizon Program

Students learn about World War I and II

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. The class was treated to some great medical soldiers of the NENG that taught them some historical and modern ways of treating soldiers in combat. Thank you Liz and the group at Seward St. Johns for such great students!

Matt and Trevor’s Walk Across the US

Matt and Trevor are walking across the US to raise awareness for wounded warriors. They were guests of the Liberty House in Seward and came over to the Museum for a nice meal and a tour. Thanks to Dr. Vahle and his daughter for bringing over food for them. They started on the east coast and have been doing about 20-30 miles a day and expect to be at the Pacific Ocean in the fall. Good luck Matt and Trevor. You can follow them on Facebook.
“Price of Freedom—Telegram Wall

The “Price of Freedom-Telegram Wall” was completed in June. The wall represents Nebraska National Guard soldiers killed in WWII. It was designed and built by Hartman Historical Services of Omaha, with help on the telegrams by Erik Hart (CUNE intern) and CPT Cody Cade.

“1854 Proclamation” Alcove

The “1854 Proclamation” Alcove is complete. Designed and built by Hartman Historical Services. The alcove display features a reproduction of our founding document of December 23, 1854.
“Lost Battalion” Alcove is Complete

The “Lost Battalion” Alcove is a tribute to our Nebraska National Guard soldiers who were separated from the 134th Infantry Regiment while in California and sent up the Aleutian Islands to fight the Japanese in WWII. The unit was renamed and never returned to regimental control (thus the “Lost Battalion”). The display was created by Hartman Historical Services in Omaha. Thank you to our donors for helping us tell this story about our soldiers in World War II.

Edward Jones Investments
Brady Johnson
John Owens
Adam Greenquist

Medal of Honor Workshop to Museum

The Museum is pleased to announce the Medal of Honor Foundation will be hosting a seminar for teachers at the facility in September. Seward High School teachers will attend the seminar at no cost to the district or the museum. NENG Historian and Dr. Van Vahle attended a seminar in Bellevue in April and got to meet Colonel Roger Donlon (MOH Vietnam). The seminar in Seward might have a MOH veteran attend the event. More details to follow. Thank you to Dr. Josh Fields, superintendent of Seward Public Schools, for helping us with the seminar.

NENG Historian with COL Roger Donlon (MOH Vietnam) at a seminar in Bellevue.
Visitors to the Museum......
More Groups Visit the Museum.....

Thank you to all that visited the Museum!

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: WWW.NENGM.ORG
More Pictures from the Museum……

75mm Salute Howitzer is now at the Museum. Thank you to CSMS for restoring! Looks great!

Ron working the yard…..looking at “Best Lawn in Seward” for the 4th year in a row!

Kaden is spending time helping out at the Museum…..he’s loading swag bags for the run.

Paul and Dale talking installation of monitors…..

Retired teachers coming to visit……

Summer Horizons at the Museum……
Check out the Touch Screen Technology in the “I Am the Guard” Room at the Museum. Powered by Nano-Nation.

Thank you to Paul and the gang from Nano-Nation for the wonderful technology!

Gold Star Family Visits Museum.....

In November 1948, Atkinson, Nebraska, paid a fitting tribute to one of its sons who was killed in World War II. The body of Second Lieutenant Joseph A. Mack was brought from a temporary cemetery in Belgium to a final resting place in the Saint Joseph Cemetery in Atkinson. The young officer was awarded the United States’ third highest award for valor, the Silver Star, posthumously for combat actions during the Battle of the Bulge. The Nebraska National Guards’ 134th Infantry had just captured the city of Habkirchen on Dec. 16, 1944, when the Germans launched a major counter attack across the Ardennes front, which would be known as the Battle of the Bulge. The 35th Division, which the 134th Infantry regiment was part of, would be inserted into the battle on Christmas Day 1944. The mission of the division was to keep open the Arlon-Bastogne Highway to supply the 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne. The 134th Infantry would run into major resistance around the city of Lutrebois, about two miles south of Bastogne.

Second Lieutenant Joseph Mack was part of Anti-Tank Company, Second Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment. On December 30, 1944, the Second Battalion was ordered to secure the right flank of the regiment along the Arlon-Bastogne Highway near the village of Sainlez. The Anti-Tank Company had been formed in Hartington and was equipped with 57mm guns. At around 1400 hours (2:00pm), Lieutenant Mack spotted a German column of infantry and armored vehicles moving down the road. Ordering his unit to fire, Mack’s men fired off three quick shots, killing 12 Germans. His position then fell under intense counter-battery fire from the Germans, forcing Mack to execute a limited withdraw to a safer position. On New Years’ Eve night, the Germans attacked and infiltrated into the American lines and surrounded an element of Lieutenant Mack’s unit. He organized a group of men to move forward to relieve the surrounded element under heavy German fire. He was advancing to rescue the squad at about 50 yards from their position when he was raked with machine gun fire and fell mortally wounded. He had so inspired the remaining members of the group to fight on until they rescued the squad that was surrounded. The final sentence to his Silver Star narrative states: “Lieutenant Mack’s heroic self-sacrifice reflects credit upon his character as an officer and leader of men.”

Mack was put in for the Silver Star on January 15, 1945. His mother, Ella, would get confirmation of his death later in January 1945. The 25 year old officer would be laid to rest in a temporary military cemetery in Belgium until arrangements could be made to ship his body back to Atkinson in 1948.