“Remembering Our Fallen” Exhibit in the John W. Cattle, Sr. Exhibit Area. April 25-29, 2016. The exhibit features service members from Nebraska who have been killed since September 11, 2001. The exhibit includes the eleven Nebraska National Guard soldiers who paid the ultimate price. More on the exhibit on page 3.
We are in the midst of a push to the finish line on July 4th. The Museum Society is so pleased with the “Century of Nebraska National Guard Aviation” the Curtiss Pusher exhibit. Dave Claussen and his crew in Durango did an wonderful job. Thank you to Daws Trucking for going and getting the plane for us! Thank you so much to Virginia Cattle and her family and The Cattle National Bank and Trust Company and the families of Erle Smiley for their generous contributions to the exhibit. It is definitely a “wow” exhibit when you first walk in the door. Please plan to attend the many events we have going on over the July 4th holiday. Bob Hope returns to Seward on July 2nd for another great show. July 4th will include the dedication at 9am with the wreath laying at Prairie Trails, Unveiling of Curtiss Pusher, and the dedication of rooms: John W. Cattle, Sr. Exhibit Area, Jones National Bank & Trust Co. Theater and the Concor-

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.
Remembering Our Fallen Exhibit

When Bill Williams heard that the father of Joshua Ford was worried that his son and the others killed while serving would be forgotten, he took on a mission to remember them all. The “Remembering Our Fallen” Exhibit has been on display every week since 2011. It came to the Museum on April 23rd for the Night at the Museum in the John W. Cattle, Sr. Exhibit Area. Bill and Evonne Williams are the driving force behind this exhibit and the Honor Flights from Nebraska. The Remembering Our Fallen exhibit was visited by over 300 people while in the Museum.

Thank you to Bill and Evonne for the opportunity to showcase this powerful exhibit.

Kick Off for July 4th at Museum

The Museum hosted the annual Seward 4th of July Kick Off on June 7th. Governor Pete Ricketts and the Adjutant General, Major General Daryl Bohac were present. Clark Kolterman was the MC and presented volunteer awards and introduced the events for the 4th. Over 160 people attended the event.

Governor Pete Ricketts addresses the crowd at the annual Kick Off.
Remembering Our NENG Fallen Soldiers....

William L. Bailey III
Germaine Debro
Joshua Ford
Jeremy Fischer
Patrick D. Hamburger
Jeffrey Hansen
Tricia L. Jameson
Linda Ann Tarango-Griess
Blake Kelly
Randy Matheny
Jacob S. Schmuecker

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: WWW.NENGM.ORG
Curtiss Pusher Arrives in Seward

The 1913 Curtiss Pusher replica built by David Claussen and crew of Durango, Colorado, arrived in Seward on Thursday, June 23. It was delivered by Daws Trucking of Milford and volunteers showed up to help off-load the parts of the plane. Once the parts were on the main floor of the Museum, Dave and Mike began the 8 hour process of putting it all back together again. The plane was ready to unveil to the donors and sponsors on Friday morning thanks to Dave, Mike, Dale, Cody and Mark. Virginia Cattle was given the honor of christening the aircraft. She got up in the seat and tested the flight controls (which all work). The family of Erle Smiley stopped by to get a family picture (with his painting) in front of the plane. The Museum would like to thank Virginia Cattle and family, The Cattle National Bank and Trust Company and the families of Erle Smiley for the generous contributions to the exhibit.

Virginia Cattle is the only person to have the opportunity to fly the Curtiss Pusher. The Museum is very fortunate to have her as a sponsor. The plane now hangs about the John W. Cattle, Sr. Exhibit Area (named in honor of her husband).
Curtiss Pusher Flies Again!

With the help of Dave Geis and his Scorpion Crane, the Curtiss Pusher was lifted and now hangs suspended above the John W. Cattle, Sr. Exhibit Area. Mark Forster was project manager for the plane and facilitated the safe lift and positioning of the plane. Many volunteers helped with the effort to see the plane lifted into position. Reporters from Omaha and Lincoln were on hand to record the moment. The Museum would like to thank Dave Geis (again as he was responsible for lifting Prairie Trails into position last year) for his help. Mark Forster for the prep work and execution of a perfect placement. Dale, Van, Cody, Will, Dave and Mike for supporting the lift.

Curtiss Pusher above the John W. Cattle, Sr. Exhibit Area
Run to St. Lo Memorial 5K Run

The annual Run to St. Lo Memorial 5K and 1 Mile Run/Walk was held on Saturday, June 11th. A satellite run was held down at Ft. Riley, Kansas on the same day for members of the NENG. The run had over 200 runners at both locations. Sentinels held 44 memorial signs for the soldiers of the 134th Infantry Regiment that were killed in the Liberation of St. Lo, France in July, 1944. This event will continue to build as we look to the 75th Anniversary of the battle in 2019. Thank you to all the volunteers and runner/walkers who helped make this a success. Special thanks to Berry Law Firm for corporate sponsorship and Seward 4th of July Committee and Kiwanis for providing sponsorship and for race director, Kurt Holliday and his group of volunteers. Race results are posted in this newsletter. Next year’s race is Saturday, June 10, 2017.

Upcoming Engagements at the Museum:
July 4th:
1:00 p.m.: Diane Bartels, Sharpie: The Life Story of Evelyn Sharp
2:00 p.m.: Charlotte Endorf, Bless Your Hearts: The North Platte Canteen

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: WWW.NENGM.ORG
Anniversaries

- April 1, 1951—ANG back to P-51’s from jets during.
- April 7, 1862—Battle of Shiloh during the Civil War.
- April 10, 1879—Adams County Uprising
- May 6-7, 1975—Omaha Tornadoes and NENG response to the disaster.
- May 12, 1865—PVT Lohnes is awarded the Medal of Honor for action in Nebraska.
- May 12, 1944—134th departs on transports to Europe during World War II.
- May 18, 1917—President Wilson calls up National Guard for World War I.
- June 14, 1898—1st NEB boards transports to the Philippines.
- June 15, 1935—Omaha Street Car Riots.
- June 21, 1905—Lawrence Youngman, Omaha World Herald Reporter is born.
- June 29, 1957—First OCS class graduation at Camp Ashland.

The Seward 4th of July Committee and Museum

The Seward 4th of July Committee is excited about the theme of 100 Years of Nebraska Aviation this year. The dedication at the Museum at 9:00am on July 4th will be focused on our tie to aviation since the founding of the Nebraska Aviation Corps in 1915. The dedication will include a wreath laying at the Prairie Trails Air National Guard Memorial in front of the building to honor the 17 aviators killed since 1915. The dedication will also honor the 100 Years of Aviation with the unveiling of the Curtiss Model D Pusher above the John W. Cattle, Sr. Exhibit Area. The ceremony will also feature the unveiling of plaques for the three rooms at the front of the museum: John W. Cattle, Sr. Exhibit Area, Jones National Bank and Trust Company Theater, and the Concordia University Learning Center. Jackson Street between 7th and 8th will be closed off to showcase equipment: UH-1 Huey, Jeeps, Gama Goat, Mini-Phantom, modern NENG equipment.
Run to St. Lo Memorial 5K

Race Results: 2016

Over 200 runners and walkers converged on two locations to celebrate and remember 44 Nebraskans who gave their lives to help liberate a city in World War II. The first Run to St. Lo Memorial 5K and 1 Mile Run/Race was a huge success because of the many volunteers and athletes that came together on Saturday, June 11, 2016 to remember the soldiers of the Nebraska National Guards’ 134th Infantry Regiment who were killed in July, 1944 in the liberation of St. Lo, France during World War II. The runners would follow a path of memorials all along the route held up by Sentinels. The people who served as Sentinels were given Memorial Signs that had the name of the soldier and his hometown and where he was buried (half of the soldiers are still buried in Europe). The race was also completed at Fort Riley, Kansas, where 85 members of the Nebraska National Guard completed a 5K course in memory of the 44 soldiers. The t-shirts the soldiers wore were the same ones given at the race and they included on the back all the names-hometowns-burial places listed. The winner of the Satellite Run was a relative of Floyd Whittaker, one of the names listed on the back from Beatrice.

The Seward race would feature some great running talent. Thomas Hynes would blaze to a first place record time of 19:41. The first place female finisher was Lisa Ostwinkle (who would place 10th overall) in a record time of 24:16. The race would feature military of the Nebraska National Guard carrying unit guidons on the run (623rd Engineer and 402nd Military Police). The race would also include many high ranking military members to include Major General Daryl Bohac (Adjutant General of Nebraska), and Major General Mike Navrkal (former 35th Division Commander) and Colonel Eric Teegerstrom (92nd Troop Command Commander). The race featured 7 age groups (male/female) and awards for 1st and 2nd in each group. Winners were:

7-12 (Male) 1st: Graham Peterson
2nd: Asher Peterson
7-12 (Female) 1st: Kathryn Naber
2nd: Ashley Martin
13-19 (Male) 1st: Thomas Hynes
2nd: Tyler Welch
13-19 (Female) 1st: Macie Sponsanski
2nd: Abby Baack
20-29 (Male) 1st: Gregory Salinsky
2nd: Travis Morrison
20-29 (Female) 1st: Jordan Miller
2nd: KyAnn Sheets
30-39 (Male) 1st: Stephen Dorsey
2nd: Matthew Rouse
30-39 (Female) 1st: Lisa Ostwinkle
2nd: Bernadette McCrory
40-49 (Male) 1st: Mark Rolfsmeyer
2nd: Josh Fields
40-49 (Female) 1st: Jamie Fields
2nd: Julie Palm
50 – over (Male): 1st: Carl Edwards
2nd: Steve Loftis
50 – over (Female): 1st: Carla Labenz
2nd: Peggy Brown

The Top 10 Overall:
Thomas Hynes (19:14)
Tyler Welch (19:59)
Tom Gremel (20:31)
Stephen Dorsey (20:46)
Justin Zoucha (20:53)
Patrick Hynes (22:53)
Mark Rolfsmeyer (22:58)
Carl Edwards (23:39)
Steve Loftis (23:57)
Lisa Ostwinkle (24:16)

The run was sponsored by Berry Law Firm of Lincoln, Seward Kiwanis, Seward Fourth of July Committee, Seward Kiwanis and the Nebraska National Guard Museum Historical Society. John Berry of Berry Law Firm greeted the runners before the race and reminded the runners of the reason for remembering the Nebraskans who gave their lives. Mayor Josh Eickmeier gave the Pledge of Allegiance. Kurt Holliiday, teacher and coach in Seward, was the race director for the event. The 115 runners and walkers were lined up near the new Nebraska National Guard Museum in Seward. The course would loop around the park and fairgrounds before coming back into Seward and finishing on the south side of the Museum. Along the route, the runners would see the many Sentinels holding the Memorial signs. Some of the signs were signed by loved ones of those who paid the ultimate price. The race is an annual event to raise awareness of the sacrifice of the Nebraska National Guard soldiers during the liberation of St. Lo in 1944. The race for next year is scheduled for Saturday, June 10, 2017.
David Claussen—Builder of the Curtiss Pusher

The search for a builder of the Curtiss Pusher was an easy pick….we had to look at the replica hanging in the Durango Train Museum to find the person. Dave Claussen built a 1913 Curtiss Pusher for the Museum in honor of Ralph McMillens’ 1913 flight at the state fair in Durango. The Museum hired Dave and his crew to build another one for the 100 Years of NENG Aviation Exhibit. The Curtiss that now hangs from the ceiling is considered to be the best reproduction outside of the original that hangs in the Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C..

SAVE THE DATE:

**Saturday, July 2, 2016:** Bob Hope USO Show at the Seward Band Shell at 7:00 pm. (Rain location—Seward High School Auditorium). Features Craig Strong (Bob Hope) and the 43rd Army Band (Les Browns’ Band) and many great acts from 1946. Come out and join the fun!

**Monday, July 4, 2016:**
8:00am to 6:00pm—OPEN HOUSE at Museum (single day attendance record is 3,873…..let’s break it)
9:00am—DEDICATION. Wreath laying at Prairie Trails, Dedicating the Curtiss Pusher, and unveiling the three rooms: John W. Cattle, Sr. Exhibit Area, Jones National Bank & Trust Co. Theater, and the Concordia University Learning Center.
8:00am-3:00pm—STATIC DISPLAYS on Jackson Street (7th and 8th St.)
8:00am—UH-60 Blackhawk static display on west lot of Museum.

**Tuesday, August 16, 2016:** National Airborne Day, dedication of “Airborne” exhibit above the Concordia University Learning Center, 7pm.
Lawrence Youngman Exhibit Arrives at Museum

An exhibit to World War II Omaha World-Herald reporter Lawrence Youngman was installed at the Museum on June 27. The display was built by Doug Hartman of Hartman Historical Services of Omaha (he also built the exhibit on Seward). Youngman covered Nebraska soldiers in Europe during World War II. Many of his photographs are on display in the Museum. His uniform and equipment are also on display in the new exhibit. The Museum would like to thank Doug for the wonderful exhibit and Judy Wigton and Judge Stephan for their generous donations.

Wraps Cover the Shrouds and Theater

Revolution Wraps of Lincoln hit a major home run with their products at the Museum. Kevin Hynes worked the images for the theater which show photos from the past. The Jones National Bank & Trust Co. Theater was the first to be wrapped. The images really set off the great theater that the Museum now has. The Shroud covers were next. They started with “The World’s Greatest Aviator—Ralph McMillen” poster from the era, followed by….General Miltonberger, All Hell Can’t Stop Us, and the 1913 State Arsenal (our old home from 1979-2014)
Testing out the movie in the Jones National Bank & Trust Co. Theater

Dave G., Dave C., and Pee Wee telling stories

Kelby and Ava finishing the 1 mile

Lisa winning the overall female

Meghan finishing strong

Satellite Run at Fort Riley, KS

Becky, Virginia and Van in front of Curtiss Pusher

Marilyn and Pee Wee Schulz with portrait of Captain Erle Smiley. CPT Smiley was Marilyns’ father.

National Airborne Day dedication of “Airborne!” Display above the Concordia Learning Center. August 16, 2016 at 7pm. Thank you to Berry Law Firm and Nitz Family for their generous support!
Thank You to Our Sponsors

Thank You Volunteers and Sponsors

Virginia Cattle taking the Curtiss Pusher on a test flight. Thank you Virginia for the great support!

Dave Geis working his magic with the Scorpion Crane lifting the Pusher into place. Thanks Dave!

The family of Erle Smiley (first Company M commander in Seward and WWI aviator) pose in front of the Curtiss Pusher. Thank you so much to the family for their great support of the plane!

The Pusher got royal treatment from Chuck and the crew at Daws Trucking. Thank you to Dave Daws for the assistance on getting the plane from Durango to Seward. Your help is much appreciated!
We have made significant progress in the unpacking, cataloging, and storing of the 11,000+ (and growing daily) artifacts, documents, and pictures that make up the historical collection at the Nebraska National Guard Museum. However, we still have much to do in preparing the collection for long-term digital archival, weapons and vehicle maintenance, building and grounds maintenance, exhibit design/construction, and strategic planning for the future. With these projects still needing human resources to complete, we have created a volunteer schedule for the remainder of 2016 to ensure the Society stays on schedule with completing these goals.

Below are listed the “Volunteer Saturday’s” scheduled for the remainder of the year. Some Saturday’s have specific projects or events scheduled and others will be used as opportunity scheduling to complete key tasks as the museum and society prepare for the grand opening of the museum. Please review the below dates and send an email or contact Peggy Brown – NNGHS Volunteer Coordinator at 402-525-1697 or bkvball@gmail.com to lock in your spot on the volunteer days that you would be able to assist.

In the case of the armored vehicle repainting, wheeled vehicle maintenance, or weapons cleaning – if you have tools or supplies that would be of benefit to help support these efforts, please coordinate this with the museum curator – Cody Cade at 402-309-8731 or cody.r.cade.mil@mail.mil.

“Volunteer Saturday” Dates:
March 19: General volunteer work, weapons cleaning, cataloging work on the “Fairbury” tank, and Library setup
April 16: General volunteer work, cleaning, and set up for Night at the Museum event
        April 23: Night at the Museum
May 16-17: General volunteer work, weapons cleaning, cataloging on Saturday. Armored vehicle painting on both days.
        May 23: Lincoln Air Show assist with displays, raise awareness about the Museum/Society
June 25-26: Preparation of temporary displays and artifacts for museum ribbon cutting on Saturday, July 4th.
        July 4: Dedication of displays, Museum is open last year we had almost 4,000 visitors.
“Volunteer Saturday” Dates (Continued):
        July 16: Prep for the Offutt Air Show, vehicle maintenance
        July 30-31: Offutt Air Show, set up displays, raise awareness about the Museum/Society
August 20: Cataloging, cleaning, general work
September 17-18: Cataloging, general work on Saturday, Armored Vehicle painting on both days.
October 8: General volunteer work, cataloging, weapons cleaning.
November 12: Cataloging, displays, general work
December 3: Preparing for “State of the Museum” and general volunteer work.

Thanks in advance to each and every one of you that will be volunteering your time, treasure, or equipment in support of the society and museum. Every little bit is deeply appreciated.

Darin Kruger
President, NNGHS
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.
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.

State Arsenal picture taken in 1981. The M-4 Tank is now in front of the current facility.