Colonel Theodore Roosevelt (Josef Otmar), General George Patton (Gib Buckbee), Major George C. Marshall (Dave Gordy), and General John Pershing (Dave Shuey) in front of Bachelor Officer Quarters Number 1 (Liberty House B&B) in Seward. They were sponsored by Cattle Bank and Trust, Berry Law Firm and Van and Becky Vahle to participate in July activities at the Museum. Read more about the characters and the great July 4th events at the Museum in this newsletter!
Nebraska National Guard Museum Capital Campaign is Helping to “Build the Legacy”

“A Nation Reveals Itself Not Only by the Men it Produces but also by the Men It Honors, the Men it Remembers” - John F. Kennedy

Freedom 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 received over $3.2 Million in donations since opening in 2015.

Help us Honor Our WWII Legacy in the “Cornrow to Hedgerow” 4D Experience

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 $900,000 “Cornrow to Hedgerow” 4D Experience honors the 46 Nebraska soldiers who gave their lives in this pivotal battle. It allows patrons to see and feel combat in the Hedgerows of France. At the end of the war over 16 million Americans served …of those … only around 500,000 are left today to tell the story of World War II. The 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of St. Lo, is July, 2019. The Museum will dedicate the exhibit on July 4, 2019 to remember and honor the anniversary.

Please consider giving a donation to the Museum Society to make this display possible in 2019. Thank You!

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 to over 30,000 visitors a year to the facility.

Please consider a tour of the facility and discussing a possible donation. 402-309-8763 (Museum)

Display based upon “Cornrow to Hedgerow” painting by Keith Rocco

The Nebraska National Guard Museum Society is a 501(c)3 organization

The Nebraska National Guard….Serving the State and Nation Since 1854..."When you Needed Us...We Were There"

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

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 standards that allows teachers and students to fully participate in the learning process.

Chuck Matzke—Fundraising Chairman—NENG Museum Society
For further information, please call me at (402) 641-1119 (cell) for an appointment to meet at the Museum. Colonel Jerry Meyer, Historian, is extremely helpful and would be available to be contacted.
From the Society President....

What a great July we had at the Museum! Over 8,500 patrons visited on July 4th (just short of the 2017 record). So impressed with the “I Am the Guard” Room! Thank you to the Acklie Family and our CFMO folks for making that happen. We also dedicated: “Price of Freedom-Telegram Wall”, “Lost Battalion” Alcove, “1854 Proclamation” Alcove displays. Thank you to all the donors that made that happen. We brought in three great historical figures to promote our activities this July: General John Pershing, Colonel Teddy Roosevelt and General Patton. What a great group of men! The crowds really loved them. We were also honored to have the Director of the Army National Guard—Lieutenant General Tim Kadavy spend several days and present at a Leadership Seminar during his stay here in Seward. We celebrated National Airborne Day in style with a jump at the Seward Airport and reception here at the Museum. What an honor to host the Medal of Honor Character Workshop for educators. Sammy Davis is a true American Hero! We are starting our Capital Campaign for 2019 and 2020….let’s keep moving forward!

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.
The “Big Three” (Pershing, Patton and Roosevelt) were a smash hit at the Museum and in the community of Seward. They participated in a Seward Municipal Band concert at the band shell when they arrived in town (July 1st). They participated in two Leadership Seminars (one for NENG personnel and the other for civilians), gave meet/greet presentations on the main floor, gave performances for the “Vaudeville 1918: Welcome Home” show, attended a movie showing at the Rivoli (“Lost Battalion”) and were guests of honor in the Grand Parade on July 4th. The Museum wishes to thank the sponsors: Cattle Bank and Trust (Pershing), Berry Law Firm (Patton), and Van and Becky Vahle (Roosevelt). The three stayed at BOQ#1 (Liberty House B&B) for the duration of their time in Seward (thank you Pat) and Sharon kept them fed and rested. Would like to thank Dave for the horse, Mike for the Model T and Paul for the Half-track for the parade. Thank you also to Erik and Dave for providing support during their stay. Everyone enjoyed the presentations!
The July 4th Dedication was a celebration of our state partnership with the Czech Republic and unveiling of new rooms and displays for 2018. Darin Krueger served as master of ceremonies for the 30 minute event. Major General Daryl Bohac, Nebraska Adjutant General and Commander of the Nebraska National Guard, was the speaker. General Bohac and Darin unveiled the framed display on the 25th anniversary of the state partnership program with the Czech Republic. The “I Am the Guard” Room was unveiled by members of Crete Carrier (representing the Acklie Family). They went on to speak about the ties that Crete Carrier has to active and veteran employment and support to the military. Darin acknowledged the other displays and donors for 2018: “Price of Freedom-Telegram Wall”, “Lost Battalion” Alcove, and “1854 Proclamation” Alcove. The crowd was given a commemorative program that listed all the donors. Also in attendance for the ceremony was the “Big Three” (Pershing, Patton and Roosevelt) and LTG Tim Kadavy (Director ARNG).
The “I Am the Guard” Room is open for business! A flurry of construction in the weeks prior got the room done just in time for July 4th. The Museum would like to thank Ross and Dale and the subcontractors for pushing the project in on time. Special thanks to Colonel Shane Martin for assistance on the project. The room features a virtual drill instructor yelling at you when you exit the theater, patrons get to stand on yellow footprints in the carpet and listen to the DI explain your welcome to the NENG. There is an Oath of Enlistment station with ear pieces to listen to current members recite the oath. The room is wrapped in images and displays for each area. The middle contains the latest recruiting information for Army and Air. The 20 Year Project highlights the current soldiers/airmen. The west wall is three interactive touch screens with stills and video and quiz questions for patrons to look at. The room is the only one like it in the National Guard Museum system. The room is a gift from the Duane and Phyllis Acklie Family.
“Big Three” Take Seward by Storm

From their BOQ Number 1 base the “Big Three” were the talk of the town in Seward. General Patton swung by the Bottle Rocket Brewing Company to try the “General Patton” Pilsner that was brewed in his honor (thank you Gerald, Jason and Ryan). They were guests of Virginia Cattle and were treated to a round table discussion on history (she even talked to General Patton who her husband had served with during WWII). They were special guests at the historic Rivoli Theater for the showing of the WWI movie “The Lost Battalion” and stuck around to do Q&A after the show. (thank you Chuck and Julie). They were part of the “Vaudeville 1918: Welcome Home” show at the Hillcrest Evangelical Church and were well received. The Museum would like to thank their sponsors: Cattle Bank and Trust, Berry Law Firm and Van and Beck Vahle. Special thank you to Pat and Sharon for taking care of food and billets when they were in town.
The Director of the Army National Guard in Washington, D.C. was the guest of the Museum over the July 4th holiday. He was part of a Leadership Seminar for both soldiers/airmen and civilians. He participated in the Grand Parade as a distinguished visitor riding in a WWII Jeep. The general interacted with the “Big Three” (Pershing, Patton and Roosevelt) on topics of history to the delight of the crowds. General Kadavy was able to tour the facility and see his digital display in the “I Am the Guard” Room.

**Leadership Seminars at Museum**

The Museum was host to several Leadership Seminars on July 2-3. The Adjutant General, Major General Bohac, hosted the NENG session to soldiers and airmen. Special guest was the Director of the Army National Guard, LTG Tim Kadavy. The “Big Three” (Pershing, Patton, and Roosevelt) also shared views on leadership to the military and civilian attendees. The guests also were able to meet and greet with the patrons after the sessions.

Major General Daryl Bohac, 33rd Adjutant General and Commander of the Nebraska National Guard, addresses the Leadership Seminar for members of the Nebraska National Guard in the Jones National Bank and Trust Co. Theater.
Anniversaries

- July 5, 1944—134th Infantry lands at Omaha Beach and moves inland to St. Lo.
- July 15, 1944—Battle for the liberation of St. Lo, France.
- July 26, 1946—Birthday of the Nebraska Air National Guard
- August 7, 1930—Dedication of Memorial Hall on Camp Ashland
- August 7, 1944—Battle of Mortain with the 134th Infantry Regiment in WWII.
- August 23, 1899—First Nebraska mustered out after service in the Philippines.
- August 30, 1942—Invasion of Adak with the “Lost Battalion” of the 134th Infantry Regiment during WWII.
- September 13, 1880—Start of first unofficial encampment near Central City with the NENG.
- September 15, 1944—Liberation of Nancy, France.
- September 21, 1958—Ricks Trophy winner CPT Christensen.
- September 28, 1919—Omaha Street Car Riots.

The family of Robert Fowler gather at Camp Ashland to help present the “Robert Fowler NCO of the Year Award” to a brigade soldier at the dining in event recently. The family also toured the museum and left a copy of his memoirs and statues as gifts. Robert Fowler served in the 134th INF Reg in World War II and retired from the NENG.

The Seward 4th of July Committee and Museum

The Heritage Leadership Award was given to the Museum in recognition of the their “over the top” efforts and contributions to the successful July 4th celebration activities in Seward. The award recognizes the efforts to bring General Pershing, General Patton, Colonel Roosevelt to the city for four days to be part of all the activities planned by the Museum. The Director of the Army National Guard—LTG Tim Kadavy was another great addition to the activities. The Museum would like to thank Clark and the Committee for the very nice award!

Clark “Mr. 4th of July” Kolterman presents the Heritage Leadership Award to the NENG Museum (Jerry Meyer) at a recent 4th of July Committee Meeting.
July 4th at Museum

The day got started with the firing of Reveille at 7:30am to counter the traditional Seward “firing of the anvil” down the street. We saw over 8,500 people visit the Museum on that day (short of the 2017 record). The day was really hot but the museum was able to keep everyone cool. Thank you to people that brought vehicles for the actors….Mike Vaughn and his Model T…..Paul Koenig and his half-track….were much appreciated. Thank you to Dave Gordy for the horses so General Pershing could ride in style. Thank you to Erik for coming in again this year to set up displays. Thank you again to Mike Wilson and his 1776 soldiers for the encampment and marching in the parade. We want to thank the Nebraska National Guard soldiers who helped out with the day getting tents, chairs and peddle cars set up. Thank you to the VA for bringing out the mobile van and the crew in the museum for doing dog tags for vets and kids. Another great July 4th at the Museum!
Vaudeville 1918: Welcome Home

Another great Vaudeville show is in the books! Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, the Museum hosted its annual kick off for the July 4th holiday. Acts from around the state participate in the show. Great music and acts made for a grand evening at the Hillcrest Evangelical Church in Seward for a crowd of 350. Mike Meyer was our master of ceremonies for the evening. The evening was divided into three themes…..sacrifice, service and victory and featured the Big Three (Roosevelt, Patton and Pershing). The music was outstanding….New Found Sound, the Seward Kitones, Franklin Hronik, and Meghan Meyer. Craig Strong sold Model T-s and hawked wristwatches between acts. Four standing ovations for the evening…..Outstanding!

Gage County Museum Display

Members of the Museum Society attended the dedication of the new Gage County Museum display on citizen soldiers of the county. The display was built by Doug Hartman of Hartman Historical Services in Omaha. The adjutant general, MG Daryl Bohac, was on hand to speak to the large crowd. Retired SGM Ted Guenther and Colonel Allan Grell were the force behind raising the necessary funds for the display. Looks awesome! Go visit Beatrice and check it out!
National Airborne Day 2018 at Museum

What a great National Airborne Day in Seward! Members of the Nebraska National Guard completed a training mission and the public got to view out at the Seward Airport. 1SG Steve Brewer presented a coin he jumped with to WWII veteran Charlie Hermann on the DZ. The reception hosted by Berry Law Firm was at the Museum. The cake was provided by Tasteful Indulgence (Kitty). Airborne All the Way!

Medal of Honor Workshop at Museum

Sixty local and state educators were part of the Medal of Honor Character Development Workshop held at the Museum. The MOH Foundation put on the workshop. The educators were treated very well with a full breakfast and lunch and materials for their classrooms. The highlight of the day was meeting Sammy Davis (MOH 1967 Vietnam) who, along with his wife Dixie, spent the day with the educators. The workshop focused on character traits that are common with recipients of the MOH. The feedback from the educators was very positive and we look forward to hosting another one in the future.
Remembering Dave Shuey......

Nationally renowned portrayer of General John Pershing, David W. “Dave” Shuey, has passed away from complications with cancer. He was born on September 19, 1954 and lived in Newville, Pennsylvania with his wife Susan (“Suzie”). Dave was a special guest in the city of Seward on several occasions recently: Chautauqua 2017 and the July 4th 2018 festivities.

Dave Shuey made his first appearance in Seward during Chautauqua in June, 2017 and was part of the pre-celebration activities at the Nebraska National Guard Museum. He was sponsored by Cattle Bank and Trust, Van and Becky Vahle, Zabka Funeral Home, Greg and Dixie Zabka, and Brad and Jill Perdue. While attending the kick off for the Chautauqua at the City Band Shell, many people brought up pics of relatives who served with Pershing in World War I. He got to interact with many of the actors at the event who portrayed President Woodrow Wilson (Paul Vicker), Jane Addams (Helen Lewis), WEB DuBois (Charles Everett Pace), Edith Wharton (Karen Vuranch), and William Jennings Bryan (Ted Kachel). He was a guest during his stay at the Liberty House B&B (Pat Coldiron). He performed several presentations at the Museum and was able to get out and ride a horse (courtesy of WWI re-enactor Dave Gordy) and visit people. He really enjoyed meeting Virginia Cattle on one of his visits to talk about history.

During his last visit he was recovering from cancer treatment (very few knew of his condition) and he performed a full slate of activities for the July 4th holiday in Seward in 2018. He arrived early with several other historical characters, Colonel Theodore Roosevelt (Josef Otmar) and General George Patton (Gib Buckbee) and they were housed at the Bachelor Officer Quarter Number 1 (Liberty House B&B) in Seward. He was again sponsored by the Cattle Bank and Trust. He performed at the Museum doing leadership seminars for Nebraska National Guard personnel and civilians, movie night at the Rivoli (“Lost Battalion”) and Vaudeville 1918 “Welcome Home”. He was really at home in Seward and loved riding his horse in the Grand Parade on July 4th. He was seen after the parade riding with Lieutenant General Tim Kadavy around the Museum having a great time (despite the heat).

Dave was told by family and friends not to push his recovery and come to Seward this past summer. He loved to visit Seward and wouldn’t miss a July 4th in what he called the “most patriotic city in America”. He showed up and performed and the people loved him. The Nebraska National Guard Museum and the city of Seward have lost a great friend.

Dave Shuey’s memorial service will be held on October 20, 2018 in Newville, Pennsylvania. He is survived by his wife Suzie and son Nathan. Condolences can be sent to his family at: 870 Doubling Gap Road, Newville, PA 17241.
More Pictures from the 4th of July…..

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: WWW.NENGMOrg
Captain Cade Takes on New Role….

Captain Cody Cade is now a state employee working in Lincoln. He served as our curator from 2015 until just recently. The storage and lower bays were his home and he put in countless hours making the place look great. We could always count on him for support for the events at the Museum. Best of luck to Cody on his new endeavor!

As the Museum searches for a new curator, we ask that artifact donations be delayed until a new hire can be brought on. Thank you.

Behind the scenes support….

Thank you to all the people who supported the July 4th events in Seward with horses, cars, half-tracks, displays, etc.. We really appreciate you helping out the Museum!
Thank You “Big Three” Donors...

Thank you to our donors that made the “Big Three” visit to Seward possible this year. The characters really made a great July 4th holiday for everyone! Thank you again for your great support!

Thank you to our display donors for 2018. We were able to add three high quality exhibits to the Museum this year: “1854 Proclamation” Alcove, “Lost Battalion” Alcove, and “Price of Freedom—Telegram Wall”. These additions help the Museum tell stories from the history and heritage of the Nebraska National Guard. Your financial support is much appreciated. Thank you again for helping support the mission of the Nebraska National Guard Museum.