The UH-1 Huey in front of the Museum for the 25th Anniversary of the Call-Up for Desert Shield and Desert Storm on the evening of November 12th.

The 25th Anniversary of Desert Shield/Desert Storm event was held at the Museum on November 12th. Members of the 24th and 1267th Medical Companies and their families gathered at the Museum. It was the largest gathering of veterans since the war. Check out the story on page 4.
I think it is appropriate for my first newsletter article to just say thank you. First, I would like to thank the previous presidents of the historical society for their hard work and leadership in setting up the society with a solid business plan, operating processes and a dedicated board. Next I would like to thank the board for their countless hours of volunteer work both in the board meetings and volunteering on the individual level to make the Nebraska National Guard Museum the success it is so far. The next phase in our evolution starts now with fundraising and the construction / installation of our exhibits. I think this next phase will be filled with exciting developments, and some occasional disappointments, that are common in fund raising. It will be my challenge to keep the board and military department leaders adequately informed as we work through these issues so we can always maintain our focus of “telling the Guard story” and making the Nebraska National Guard Museum an absolute must see destination.

The New Nebraska National Guard Historical Society President, Darin Krueger. He served in the National Guard 1986-2013.

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.

From the Society President.....
Warren Buffett....NENG...1950’s

The Museum was honored to have a 15 minute conversation with Mr. Warren Buffett about his experience in the Nebraska National Guard 1951-56. He served in the finance section and talked about his many trips to annual training to pay soldiers (in cash). Mr. Buffett served with many fine soldiers and he shared several stories about the positive experiences he had. He also brought up the story about the call up for flood duty and his wedding day in 1952 which the Omaha World Herald ran under the headline: “Love Only Thing That Stops the Guard”. He also shared many pictures from his time in the service. Thank you Mr. Buffett!

Above: SGT Buffett (right)
Left: Unit photo. SGT Buffett (back row right)
Photos courtesy of Warren Buffett.

Sunday Omaha World Herald Article: “Love Only Thing That Stops Guard”
April 20, 1952

The Nebraska Headquarters of the Thirty-fourth National Guard Division went on duty Saturday without the services of one of its young corporals – Warren E. Buffett. Corporal Buffett, son of Representative Howard Buffett, was to be married to Miss Susan Thompson, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W.H. Thompson, Saturday afternoon at the Dundee Presbyterian Church.

The ceremony performed on schedule when Brig. Gen. Warren Wood heard about the corporal’s problem and excused him from active duty.

“Love is the only thing that will stop us,” the general said.

Seward Christmas Parade Honors

The UH-1 Huey and the Fairbury Tank were a tie for the “Starry Nite” Award for most lights at the 5th Annual Seward Christmas Parade on November 26th. The Museum wishes to thank Cody and Ron for helping with the lights and vehicles for the parade. Over 2,000 people enjoyed the parade and events.

Whisler Aviation in Seward towed the UH-1 Huey covered in 8,500 lights.

HUMMV and Fairbury Tank covered in lights at the Parade.
It was the largest gathering of the 24th and 1267th Medical Company veterans since the end of Desert Storm in 1991. Over 125 veterans, family members and friends came out to the Museum on November 12th to enjoy a reunion and program celebrating the 25 years since the call up in 1990. The Museum hosted the event which included a short program with General Gronewold as speaker. The Museum read off the names of the members who have passed away since the deployment and rang a bell in their memory. Bottle Rocket Brewery provided the cash bar for the event. Members of the group were greeted by the UH-1 Huey out front that actually flew with the group during the war. Members of the units signed a welcome banner and helped the Museum with identifying members in photographs that were from the time period. Veterans of the units gave the Museum many one of a kind artifacts for displays in the future. Some of the artifacts included: part of a tail rotor off a Huey signed by the maintenance section, helmets, patches, shirt/jacket, etc… The Museum wishes to thank all the volunteers: Ron, Cody, Ken, Deb and Bonnie for the great help!
UH-1 Huey Comes to the Museum

The UH-1 Huey that was a guest of honor at the Museum for 25th Anniversary of Desert Shield-Desert Storm. It was flown by Nebraskans back in the war. It is currently on display at the Seward Municipal Airport and is lovingly taken care of by its former crew chief, Greg Whisler (of Whisler Aviation). Greg and his crew towed it out to the Museum to provide the event with a unique greeting when the veterans arrived!

Terri, Greg and Ryan brought the UH-1 out to the Museum

Thanks to Chief Baldwin for the police escort to bring the Huey from the airport

Bringing the Huey into the front parking area.
Price of Freedom Display

The Price of Freedom display is meant to give the patron an emotional experience. Once you exit the Hedgerow, you will see over 90 Western Union Telegrams from soldiers of the Nebraska National Guard that were killed in World War II. Across from the telegrams will be a Wall of Faces display which will show the faces of the fallen from past to current. This will also include an interactive display in order for the patron to do research on the fallen. The outer shroud will have a digital image from the Funeral Honors detachment.

The Museum is proud to team up with the American Battle Monuments Commission in helping find and photograph Nebraska National Guard soldiers graves overseas from World War II. The pictures and information will be part of the Price of Freedom display and also the information we collect can be shared with the ABMC for their database.
The Museum hosted a youth group Veterans Day presentation on November 11th. Mr. Ralph Hansen, World War II pilot, talked to the youth about his experience in the war and the need for service today. The group was given a tour of the facility. They wrote Thank You letters to veterans that will go to the Lincoln VA.

Colonel Brett Andersen gives a Veterans Day speech to the Chamber Annual Luncheon. The Historian followed up his speech with an update about the Museum.

The Museum wishes to thank Mr. Harry Barr for the loan of his Packard Rolls Royce engine. This is the type of engine used in the P-51s’ that were part of the early Air National Guard unit in 1946.
October 10, 1961: Berlin Crisis. Nebraska units—1056th and 1057th Transportation Companies along with the 24th Medical Company were called to active duty.

November 3, 1944: 134th Infantry in Europe during World War II. Started operations in the Saar Region. Concluded on December 16, 1944.

November 11, 1990: Mobilization of the 24th Medical Company for Desert Shield/Desert Storm. The 1267th Medical Company (Detachment) would soon follow.

November 13, 1944: SSG Junior Spurrier of the 134th Infantry is cited for gallantry in combat and will later be awarded the Medal of Honor.

December 6, 1940: War Department orders National Guard Divisions to switch to the Regular Army Triangular configuration from the old Square set up used in World War I.

December 7, 1945: 134th deactivated on the 4th anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

December 10-19, 1944: Battle for Habkirchen, Germany. Probably one of the toughest and costliest missions of the 134th in World War II.

December 23, 1854: Proclamation calling for a formation of the Nebraska National Guard.

Did you know that the North Platte Canteen was started when local residents thought that 134th Infantry soldiers from Nebraska would be stopping at the depot on their way to the West Coast in late December, 1941? The unit that arrived was from another state and the volunteers organized to make sure all trains got the “special” treatment. It lasted throughout the war and has become a true symbol of Mid-West pride and patriotism.

The Seward 4th of July Committee and Museum

The theme for July 4, 2016 is Aviation. This honors the 100 years of military aviation in Nebraska. The Nebraska National Guard has the second oldest aviation tie in the nation. The slogan is: “Into the Wild Blue Yonder”. Major General Bohac is the Grand Marshall for the parade. The USO style show is aviation themed from 1946 and will feature a return of Bob Hope and this troupe on July 2nd. Aviation themed displays and exhibits will be dedicated on July 4th at 9:00am and will feature a tremendous fly-over to start off the program. Make plans to be in Seward for the dedication and parade on July 4th. Check out the celebration online: www.julyfourthseward.com. Also check the Museum out on Facebook for updates at Nebraska National Guard Museum.
In the October-November 2015 timeframe the Nebraska National Guard Historical Society and the Nebraska Military Department entered into a new operating framework called the Museum Executive Board (MEB). The MEB process appropriately aligns responsibilities and oversight thereby giving each organization a clear understanding of their responsibilities.

The historical society is charged with fund raising, volunteer staff recruitment and training, and management of the gift shop.

The Adjutant General (TAG) and select members of his staff are charged with oversight of the historical society activities and conceptual approval of all exhibits.

The MEB itself is an executive meeting between the TAG and some of his senior staff and the society president and his selected staff to include a civilian community member. Once the museum is built out this meeting will occur annually however over the next few years as key decisions need to be made it could occur more than once a year.

The first MEB was conducted on January the 20th, 2016 and several exhibits were approved in concept and the society can now proceed with fund raising, receiving bids from contractors and moving forward with their construction and installation. Our goal for this year is aviation and that is tied to the theme of the Seward 4th of July, 2016 celebration “100 Years of Aviation”. We are also prioritizing the “Price of Freedom” exhibit honoring our fallen National Guardsmen who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

I would ask all society members to start checking the museum Facebook page weekly so they can stay informed on our fund raising efforts and the status of our exhibits. We are also currently researching an appropriate crowd funding site so that museum supporters anywhere can make contributions. We will also have a donation option on our upcoming webpage for everyone’s convenience.

A final fund raising note is if you know of someone in your family or community that might support us with a significant financial contribution feel free to contact me (402-450-6188) and we can schedule a private tour of the museum so that they can see what our vision is and the different exhibits that we need support to complete. To complete the museum it is going to take a lot of personal engagement, tours, meetings and most importantly handshakes to meet all of our goals.

Thank you again for your support of the society and the Nebraska National Guard Museum.
One of the first alcoves a visitor will see when entering the Museum is now dedicated to "Seward and the Nebraska National Guard". A gift from the family of the late Willis Heyen, first commander of the unit in the 1956 Seward Armory, and the Seward Brick and Mortar Grant , funded the display. Hartman Historical Services is the designer and creator of the display. The exhibit features a timeline of the Nebraska National Guard and the city of Seward. Also included are photographs and artifacts related to the city and the national guard. The history of the guard in Seward goes back to A Troop, CAV in 1899 to Company M during World War II to the last unit, 135th QM (Riggers) that left the armory in 2014. The Museum is proud to be in Seward ...."Nebraska's 4th of July City"
Above the Learning Center is a state of the art exhibit on the Airborne. Built to honor the last unit stationed in the armory (135th QM), it is placed above the students to inspire and ask questions about the Nebraska National Guard. The original display featured an airborne soldier descending from the ceiling. When the new parachutes were received at the Museum, they were much larger then the older designs and a change was made. The new exhibit, created by David Jenkins of Midwestphotopro in Omaha, features a mock up door to the C-130 on the shroud with a jumper preparing to exit and another jumper just exiting the door with his chute being pulled back into the front shroud gaps. The exhibit is being sponsored by Berry Law Firm of Lincoln. John Berry is a current member of the Nebraska National Guard and an Airborne Ranger. Dedication of the exhibit is scheduled for 2016.
Pictures of the Museum….  

Phil Daubman—Photographer  
Daubman Photography  
Omaha  
Email:  www.daubmanphotography.com  

Series of pictures for BVH Architects  

Museum wishes to thank Phil for the wonderful pictures! Check out his website!
Nebraska National Guard Birthday—Dec. 23rd

Acting Governor Thomas B. Cuming issued a proclamation on December 23, 1854, “recommending that the citizens of the territory organize, in their respective neighborhoods, into volunteer companies”. This became the birth of the modern Nebraska National Guard. In 1854, the territory consisted of two regiments, one north and one south of the Platte River. Each regiment was to have one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one major and an adjutant appointed by the governor. The funding came from the communities and soldiers supplied their own weapons and equipment.

Remembering…..The Price of Freedom

Air Guard Pilots/Crew
Max Blank—October 9, 1949
Robert L. Young—November 17, 1956
Nolan C. Voight—November 20, 1977
Raymond C. Hesse—November 20, 1977
Sturgeon J. Armburst—December 15, 1965
Fritz Craig—December 16, 1953

Army National Guard Soldiers
Pete Rose—December 14, 1990
134th INF attack against the Saar—1944
134th INF at Hambirken, Germany—1944
Nebraska National Guard Historical Society

“Volunteer Saturday” Schedule – 2016
201 N 8th Street - Seward, NE

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
201 North 8th Street, Seward, NE 68434

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 Date _______________________
☐Check Amount_________________________________________ 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.