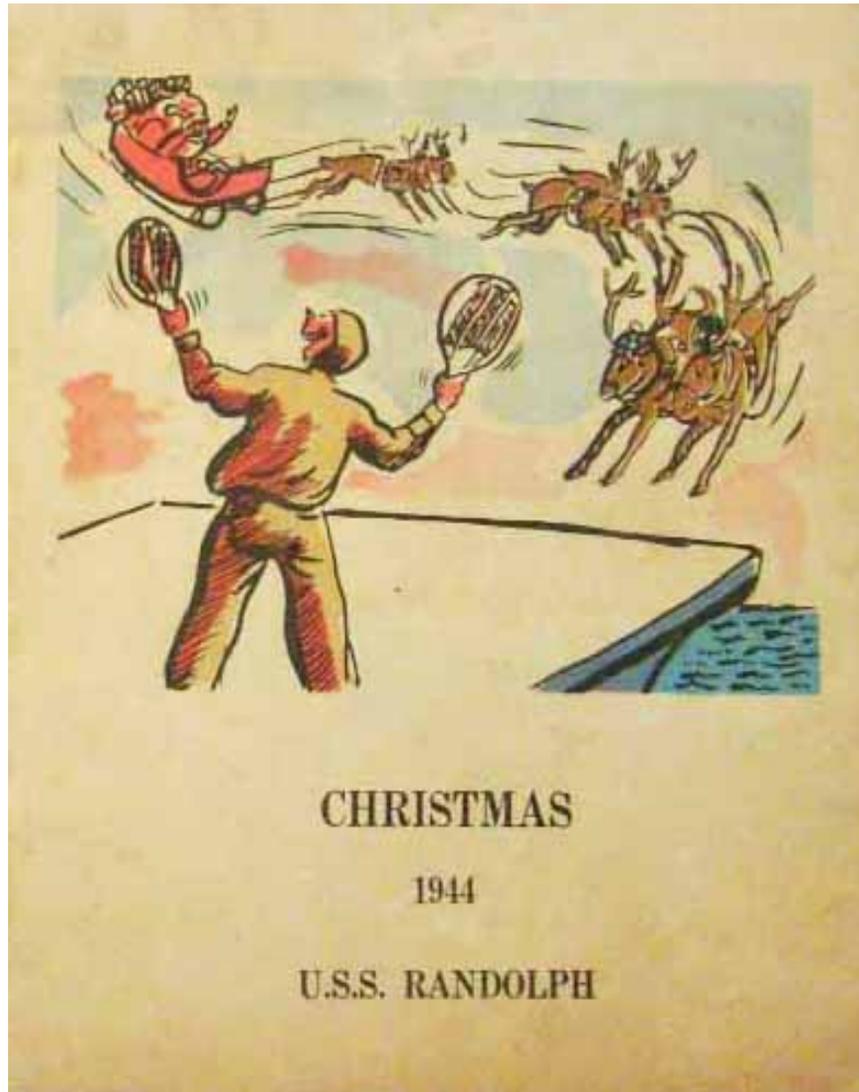


The Miami Valley
Military History Museum



SCUTTLEBUTT

Fourth Quarter 2013



CURATOR'S CORNER

As we end another successful year, I'd like to thank everyone who's helped us preserve our military heritage! Donations of artifacts continues to be constant, with some very unique items coming into our inventory. Additionally, our outreach programs kept us busy throughout the year – we averaged nearly two presentations/events every month the entire year! 2014 promises to be another busy year with a number of events already scheduled. Among the events you can look forward to is the 10th annual Patriot Freedom Festival in May, and the 4 Freedom Equestrian Team will resume their carriage rides around the campus in the spring.

While we're very active in the community there are still a lot of people who haven't heard about us so I encourage you to “talk us up” with friends and family! You can help by forwarded the newsletter to people who have an interest in our military heritage, or “Like” us on Facebook and invite your friends to do the same – the more people that know about us the better!

We're looking forward to another succesful year honoring our veterans and their families, and hope you can stop in and see the many unique artifacts we have on display!

Respectfully,

Mark Conrad, MSgt, USAF, RET
Curator



DONATIONS QUARTERLY WRAP UP:

- Among the more unusual items donated was a World War I 1915 pattern Prussian Kürassier (Heavy Cavalry) spiked helmet. This enlisted man's pattern helmet was first introduced on February 22nd 1843, and was worn in various forms through 1918. Thanks Dave and Carolyn!



- USAF Master Sergeant Tammy Hill gave two presentations for the echoingU classes on their field trip to the museum, and afterward donated her flight suit, jacket and accouterments - thanks MSgt Hill!



- We received a one-quarter scale Nieuport 28 built by WWII Navy veteran Carl Schurenberg! The plane is painted in the color scheme as flown by 26-victory ace, Captain Eddie Rickenbacker in early 1918 - he scored his first 6 kills in the plane. First Lieutenant Quentin Roosevelt (the son of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt) was shot down and killed flying the Nieuport.



The Nieuport 28 (N.28C-1) was a French biplane fighter aircraft flown during World War I. The SPAD XIII was the first choice of the U.S. Air Service - however a shortage of SPADS led to the available production Nieuport 28s equipping four American squadrons between March and August 1918 - the first aircraft to see operational service with an American fighter squadron. A total of 297 Nieuport 28s were purchased by the Americans, with the 94th and 95th Aero Squadron receiving the initial allotments, starting in March 1918.



DONATIONS QUARTERLY WRAP UP (Continued):

- After an 11 month process, we received this Japanese Type 14 Nambu pistol in hand! It had been turned in to a Police Department by the widow of a WWII veteran as part of a gun buy-back program, and luckily, one of the officers is a "history guy" and set it aside. They offered it to the National WWII Museum who in turn referred them to us. It was made by the Toriimatsu factory at Nagoya, and is a Showa 20.1 date (January 1945). Thanks to the Newark Delaware Police Department and Lieutenant Harry Busse of the Vandalia, Ohio Police Department for making this happen!



Without the generosity of people interested in preserving our military heritage, museums like ours couldn't exist – space doesn't permit an individual listing of all the donations we've received, but we want to thank the following groups and/or individuals for helping us tell the stories of the defenders our great nation. (*an asterisk indicates multiple donations*):

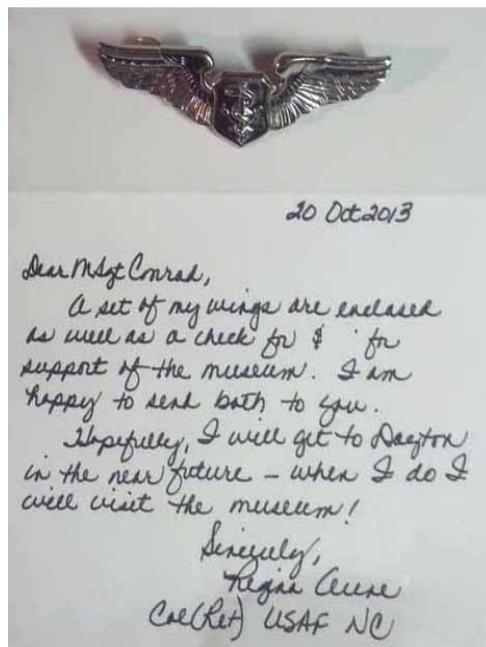
*Dave and Carolyn Burns (Ohio) Tamella Hill, MSgt, USAFR (Ohio) Carl Schurenberg (Ohio)
Beavercreek Historical Society (Ohio) Jean-Jacques Labrot (France) Fred Profeta (New Jersey)
Newark Police Department (Delaware) *Bill and Margaret Kruckemeyer (Ohio) Rhonda Bird (Ohio)
Regina C. Aune, Col, USAF, Ret. (Texas)

FEATURED ARTIFACT: Colonel Regina C. Aune flight nurse wings

We recently obtained the uniform of (Staff) Sergeant Kenneth E. Nance, who was killed in the crash of the first Operation BABYLIFT aircraft, a C-5A Galaxy. In order to add more to his display, I contacted the pilot and the lead Flight Nurse, (now Colonel, then 1Lt) Regina C. Aune, who graciously donated a pair of her wings.

...and a short narrative of her actions which earned her the Airman's Medal, and the Cheney Award - the only one ever awarded to a female:

" The C-5A quickly climbed to 23,000 feet. Just a few minutes after takeoff, an explosion blew out a pressure door, the center cargo door and the cargo loading ramp. Explosive decompression hurled people and equipment throughout the airplane which instantly filled with fog. Lieutenant Aune was thrown the entire length of the upper deck. The airplane was severely damaged with two hydraulic systems inoperative and many flight control cables severed. The pilots could only control the airplane with engine thrust. They began an emergency descent and turned back to Tan Son Nhut. Unable to maintain flight, the Galaxy touched down in a rice paddy two miles short of the runway at 270 knots. It slid for a quarter mile, became airborne for another half mile, then touched down and slid until it hit a raised dike and broke into four sections. 138 people were killed in the crash.



Although herself seriously injured, Lieutenant Aune began evacuating the children. When rescue helicopters arrived, they were unable to land close to the wrecked transport, so the children had to be carried. After she had helped to carry about 80 babies, Regina Aune was unable to continue. She asked the first officer she saw to be relieved of her duties and then passed out. At a hospital it was found that she had a broken foot, broken leg and broken vertebra in her back, as well as numerous other injuries.

Regina Aune became the first woman to be awarded the Cheney Award by the Air Force, which was established in 1927, and is awarded "to an airman for an act of valor, extreme fortitude or self-sacrifice in a humanitarian interest, performed in connection with aircraft, but not necessarily of a military nature." (*Donated by Regina C. Aune, Col, USAF, Ret.*)



SERVICES WE PROVIDE:

We now offer an on-line Veterans Roll of Honor, which can be found at: <http://www.mvmhm.com/vroh.htm>

To submit a veteran for the Roll of Honor, email their full name, rank, branch of service, service history and awards and decorations (these are optional), to our Curator at curator@mvmhm.com. You may submit only a name, or you can also include a picture; if no picture is available, the appropriate service emblem will be used. Note that we reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, grammar and spelling.

During the past quarter, we've helped more than a dozen veterans or their families request their records and/or replacement medal sets – all at no cost!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Spring 2014: Presentation at the Lincoln Society of Dayton.
- Thursday, May 01, 2014, 9:30AM: Group tour for the Ramey AFB Historical Association.
- May 2014: Daughters of the Union 102nd Congress.
- Saturday and Sunday, May 24 - 25, 2014, 11:00AM to 6:00PM: 10th annual Patriot Freedom Festival - call 267-7628 for more details or to participate.
- Saturday, July 19, 2014, 6:30PM: Presentation for the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).

Check our events listing periodically at: <http://www.mvmhm.com/events.htm> for an updated list of events!

MISCELLANEOUS:

echoingU tours:

In November we were invited to bring our Operation FOOTLOCKER WWII program to the students of Dayton's echoingU school, followed later by two tours of our facility. echoingU is a new program built to serve young adults with disabilities in a whole new way. echoingU (<http://www.echoingu.org/>) is a four year post secondary transition program for young adults with disabilities who are graduating high school and those who have recently graduated up to age 30. The kids were enthusiastic and had lots of questions for us. We also invited Master Sergeant Tammy Hill to talk to the kids



– the group returned the next week to deliver "Thank You" notes to the veterans in hospice and the patient towers for Veterans Day, and to enjoy the free carriage rides given by the 4 Freedom Equestrian Team.



How YOU can help preserve our veterans history

Each day, more and more of our veterans are passing away - the last veteran from World War I passed away in February 2011, and our World War II veterans are dying at the rate of approximately 1,000 a day. Unfortunately, many times when a veteran dies all of his or her history dies with them, and the mementos they kept end up in yard sales, or worse, the garbage. We've witnessed this first hand: We were able to acquire a WWII Army Captains' footlocker with some of his souvenirs and other paperwork from his service time, along with literally hundreds of V-mails sent between him and his family. The entire lot was going to be thrown away after his widow moved into a nursing home. On another occasion, a neighbor gave us several hundred photographs and some insignia that had belonged to her neighbor's father. Again, they were going to be thrown out because no one wanted "that junk". Another time, a group of documents from a man killed in action during the Battle of the Bulge were being sold off piece by piece. Fortunately, we were able to convince the seller not to break up the group so that we could keep it together. Our veterans' history deserves a better fate than the trash heap or the auction block!

Your donation will ensure the museum's continued growth, preservation of our veteran's memories, and support exhibiting traveling displays. For many younger people, even conflicts as recent as Vietnam seem just to be "old war movies". We want to bring to life the stories of those people who served in America's wars and provide a tangible link to our veterans. All donors will be credited on the museum's web site.

What types of things can you donate? We're always seeking new and unique items to add to the museum or for use in traveling displays and educational trunks. We're also trying to expand the amount of coverage for each of the conflicts represented, to include the addition of the Civil War and the Spanish-American War. We always need items such as uniforms, insignias, medals, photographs, newspapers, captured trophies, etc. - anything that will help tell our veteran's stories, especially those from Ohio. Nothing is too small or insignificant. We can also use items that you may feel are too damaged or worn out, to restore other pieces.





FREE ENTRY - FREE PARKING!

May 24-25, 2014

**Memorial Day Weekend
Dayton VA Medical Center Campus
4100 W. Third Street, Dayton, OH 45428**



Food, Vendors, Non-profits
5K Run/Walk/Roll
Reenactors & Living History
Free children's activities & rides
Period Military Displays
Guided Historical Tours
Miami Valley Military History Museum

Live Music & Entertainment Including –

- NoT ThaT BaD
- Troupe Roja
- Wayne Seibert & Company
- Columbus Dance Troop
- Military Periods Fashion Show
- 4 Freedom Equestrian Team



for more information call **937-267-7628**
www.americaveteransheritage.org

THIS QUARTER IN MILITARY HISTORY:

October 7, 1970: President Nixon announced a new 5-point peace plan for Vietnam.
October 12, 1917: First Battle of Passchendaele.
October 14, 1950: Chinese Communist troops cross the Yalu River into Korea.
October 16, 1918: Private Raymond J. France is killed in action.
October 19, 1781: British surrender at Yorktown, effectively ending the Revolutionary War.
October 21, 1861: Union defeat at the Battle of Ball's Bluff.
October 31, 1941: U-552 sinks the USS Reuben James, 115 die; first US ship lost in WW II.

November 2, 1783: His Excellency, General Washington, bids farewell to his troops from Rocky Hill, near Princeton, NJ.

November 9, 1918: Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany abdicates and flees to Holland.

11 November 1982: The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is dedicated in Washington D.C.

November 12, 1991: President Bush extends call-up of Selected Reservists to active duty from 90 to 180 days.

November 14, 1864: Sherman sets out from Atlanta on his "March to the Sea": "Total War" begins.

November 19, 1969: Congress gave the president the authority to institute the "draft lottery" system aimed at inducting 19-year-olds before older men.

November 24, 1950: General Douglas MacArthur's final "Home by Christmas" offensive begins.

November 26, 1941: Admiral Nagumo's First Air Fleet leaves the Kuriles with 6 aircraft carriers, 423 planes, 2 battleships, 28 subs, 2 cruisers, and 11 destroyers. Destination: Pearl Harbor.

December 2, 1990: Six weeks before the United States and its allies initiate Operation DESERT STORM, Iraq test launches three Scud missiles from sites in eastern Iraq, which impact in western Iraq.

December 11, 1950: The 1st Marine Division fights through encircling Chinese Communist Forces to reach the 3rd Infantry Division in the Chosin Reservoir.

December 16, 1944: German Armies launch a surprise attack in Belgium which becomes known as the Battle of the Bulge.

December 18, 1972: The first Operation LINEBACKER II bombing raids against North Vietnam begin.

December 25, 1914: German and British soldiers in the Ypres sector hold an informal truce and celebrate Christmas together.

December 30, 1862: The U.S.S. Monitor sinks during a storm off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. June 23, 1915: First Battle of Isonzo.

TRIVIA

Last quarter's trivia question was:

What is our country's oldest continuously awarded decoration, originally established as an award for enlisted men to "further promote the efficiency of the Navy"? The Navy Good Conduct Medal.

This quarter's question is:

During the Battle of the Bulge, what was General Anthony McAuliffe's response to the German demand for surrender?



The Miami Valley Military History Museum is co-located with the American Veterans Heritage Center (a 501c3 organization), located in Building 120, the historic Putnam Library, in the Historic District of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio.

Please note that although we are located on federal property, we receive NO funding from the Veterans Administration - we operate entirely "out of our own pockets" and with the help of unpaid volunteers.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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