



NYS Military Museum to Close Temporarily for Repairs



The New York State Military Museum was closed to the public as of the close of business on October 8, 2022, for repair work on the roof of the Museum building. The work will involve a significant amount of scaffolding on the interior of the building, requiring the Museum to be closed. Museum Director Courtney Burns reports that a contract has been awarded for the work. It is hoped that the Museum will be open to the public again in January 2023. While the Museum itself will be closed, the remainder of the building will be open and used for its usual purposes.

The Museum is also planning an extensive project on the HVAC system of the building. That work is expected to be a five-year project. The contract for that work has not yet been awarded. According to Burns: Phase 1 of the project will impact the Museum by requiring the basement to be emptied; the curators and library staff will use work space in the Public Meeting Room at the back of the Museum. Phase 1 could last up to 18 months. Phase 2 will involve work on the Museum floor, and Phase 3 will involve the upper floors of the building. It is not anticipated that any closing of the Museum will be required for the HVAC work.

Saratoga County Donates \$50,000 to the Friends for a Permanent Exhibit on the Global War on Terror

In a ceremony held in the Public Meeting Room of the NYS Military Museum on September 29, 2022, the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors presented a check for \$50,000 from the County's Non-Profit COVID Relief Fund grant program to the Friends of the New York State Military Museum. The grant is intended to help the Museum create a permanent exhibit on the Global War on Terror, which is being developed by staff of the Museum.

The new exhibit is anticipated to be opened in 2024. Previously, a temporary exhibit on the attacks of September 11, 2001, had been on display in the Museum, on loan from the New York State Museum in Albany. The new exhibit is intended to honor and recognize the many New Yorkers who have served in the United States Military in the decades-long battle against terrorism throughout the world.

Various officials from Saratoga County were present at the ceremony. They included Moreau Supervisor Theodore T. Kusnierz, Jr., who is also Chairman of the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors; Saratoga Springs Supervisors Matt Veitch and Tara Gaston; and, Clifton Park Supervisor Phil Barrett. Members of the Board of Trustees of the Friends of the New York State Military Museum were also present, including former NY State Senator Roy McDonald, who is President of the Friends, and Gen. Barry Hartman, who is Secretary of the Friends.

The \$50,000 granted by Saratoga County is part of a federal allotment made to Saratoga County to help non-profit organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to Supervisor Kusnierz, overall the Board of Supervisors has created a \$2 million grant program for non-profit organizations throughout the County, providing funds to more than 170 such organizations. The \$50,000 grant to the Friends represents the maximum amount which is allowed by the grant program.

Friends Trustees McDonald and Hartman expressed their gratitude to Saratoga County and the Board of Supervisors for the grant. On behalf of the Friends and the Museum staff, McDonald thanked the Supervisors "for this generous check because it allows us to keep operating and ... to get started on the Global War on Terror exhibit." He added that the exhibit will honor "ordinary New Yorkers who have done extraordinary things for this great nation."

Frank McClement, Director of the Saratoga County Veterans Services Agency, was also present at the ceremony. McClement noted the importance of recognizing the people who have served in the Global War on Terror. He also said that it is important for the public to know what those people have done and for the public to continue to support them.

The Friends plan to continue to do fundraising for the Global War on Terror exhibit in the coming months.

The Friends expresses its gratitude to Saratoga County and the Board of Supervisors for this extremely generous grant.



Pictured from left to right, at the ceremony at which Saratoga County gave a \$50,000 grant to the Friends of the NY State Military Museum: Gen. Barry Hartman, Secretary of the Friends of the NY State Military Museum; Clifton Park Supervisor Phil Barrett; former state Sen. Roy J. McDonald, President of the Friends of the NY State Military Museum; Saratoga Springs Supervisor Matt Veitch; Saratoga Springs Supervisor Tara Gaston; and Moreau Supervisor Theodore T. Kusnierz, Jr., Chairman of the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors.

New York State Military Museum & Veterans Research Center
Address: 61 Lake Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
Phone: (518) 581-5100
Website: www.museum.dmna.ny.gov

Peter Goebel, 1959 - 2022

Col. Peter Goebel, U.S. Army (Retired), director of the Rensselaer County Veteran Service Agency from 2014 until his passing, passed away on September 10, 2022, after a serious illness. Col. Goebel was a long-time supporter and member of the Board of Trustees of the Friends of the New York State Military Museum.

Goebel graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1981. Upon graduation, he was commissioned into the Air Defense Artillery. After completing the Air Defense Artillery Officer Basic Course and Improved HAWK Officer Training and Airborne and Ranger Schools, he was assigned to the Federal Republic of Germany as an IHAWK Platoon Leader. He graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in 1999. Goebel served with the First Marine Division, First Division (United Kingdom) and with the 82nd Airborne Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Later, after 27 months of Battalion Command, he was Chief of Training, Readiness, Operations Exercises and Support for the U.S. Army South (ARSOUTH) at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He deployed to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom in October 2009; after serving for one year in Afghanistan, he returned to Fort Sam Houston to become Chief of Strategic Synchronization and Engagement for the U.S. Army North/Fifth Army (ARNORTH). He retired as a Colonel in February 2012.

Goebel also served in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the AMVETS, the Disabled American Veterans, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Dutch Settlers Society of Albany, and the West Point Society of the Capital District of New York.

Col. Goebel was inducted into the New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame on Veterans' Day, 2020.

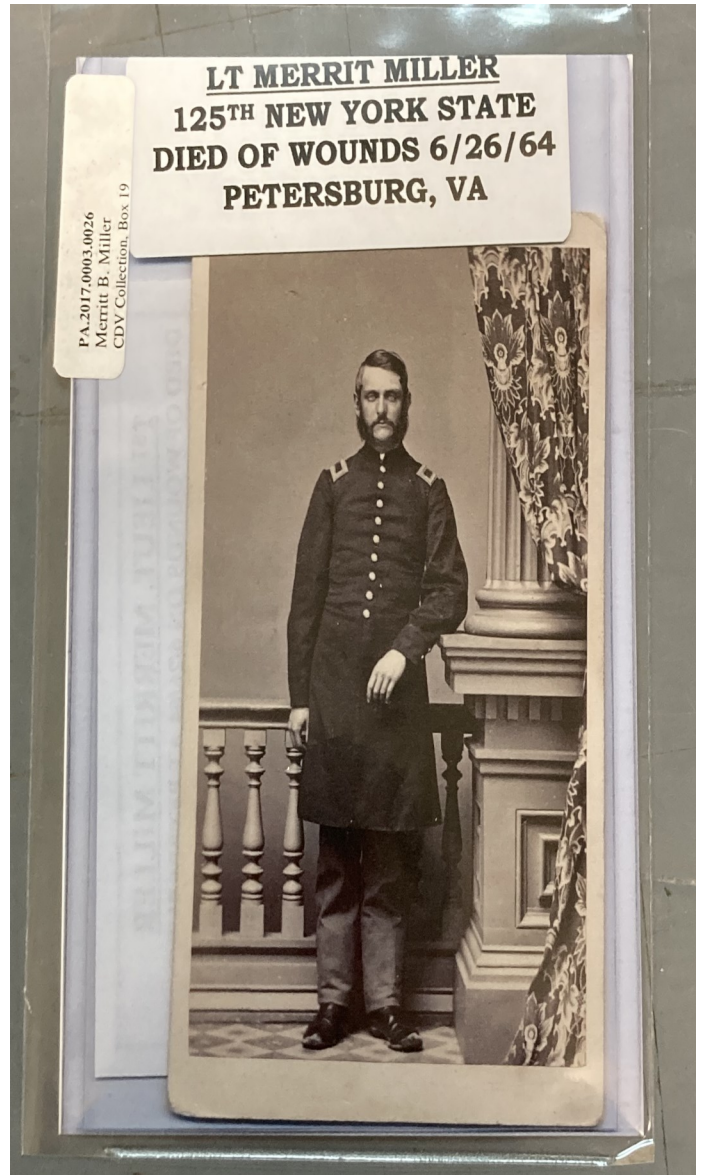
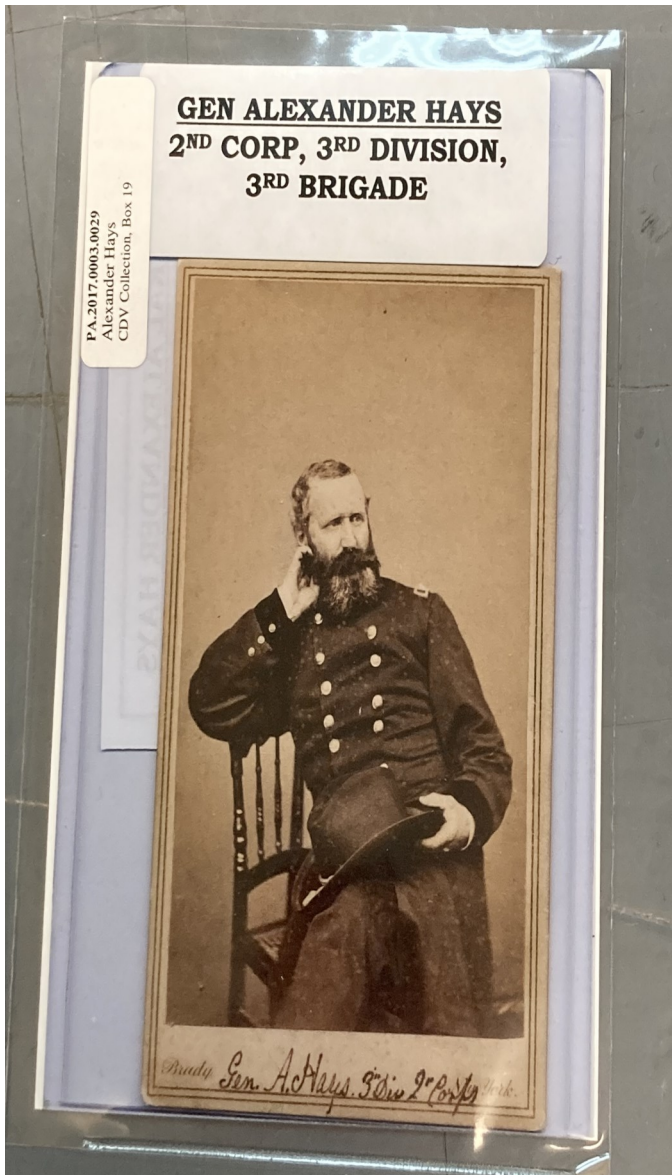
The Friends extends its condolences to Col. Goebel's family.



Highlighting Museum Artifacts

In this issue, we are focusing on a collection of nearly 70 rare photographs from the Civil War and the Civil War era. These photographs were purchased by the Friends — with additional support from the 69th Regiment Historic Trust and the 71st Regiment Veterans Association — from the Estate of the late Michael McAfee, an avid collector and a former curator at the West Point Military Academy Museum. They were donated by the Friends to the New York State Military Museum, with the aim of cataloging and digitizing them, and placing them on the Museum's website.

These are two of the photographs:



New York State Military Museum Planning to Resume Veterans' Oral Histories

The New York State Military Museum is planning to resume its program of doing oral histories with veterans who are interested in sharing the stories of their time in service. The oral histories are taped on a video recording, or, if a veteran is not available to come to the Museum building, then on an audio recording. The interviews are made available on the Internet, so that the veterans and others can access them in the future. Typically, the interviews last for about an hour, but some of them have gone on for a good deal longer.

For many years, the program has been run by Military Museum Librarian/Archivist Jim Gandy. Most of the interviews have been conducted by former Museum employees Wayne Clarke and Mike Russert. During the period from 2001 through 2019, approximately 2,065 oral histories were recorded by veterans who had served in conflicts from World War II through Vietnam. The oral program was suspended with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The project is being resumed, again under the leadership of Jim Gandy. Interviews will be conducted by Museum volunteers Fred Katz and Wayne Rozen. Jim has a list of veterans who are hoping to share their stories. Anyone else interested in being interviewed for an oral history should contact Jim by phone at (518) 581-5109 or by email at jgandy@nysmm.org.

While past interviews have involved veterans who served from World War II through Vietnam, interviews in the resumed program can cover veterans from any subsequent periods in our history, all the way through the Global War on Terror.

Any additional volunteers who are interested in conducting interviews or otherwise assisting with the oral history program are asked to contact Jim Gandy — at (518) 581-5109 or jgandy@nysmm.org.

Thank you to the following people for their efforts in creating and/or distributing this issue of the Newsletter: Fred Katz, Robert Kazalski, Courtney Burns, Chris Morton, Jim Gandy, Colleen Maheux, Lee Coleman, Tim Sinnott, Bruce Farley, and Francis Crandall (Flight Creative Group).

2022 Veteran of the Year Ceremony to Honor Distinguished Veterans of New York State

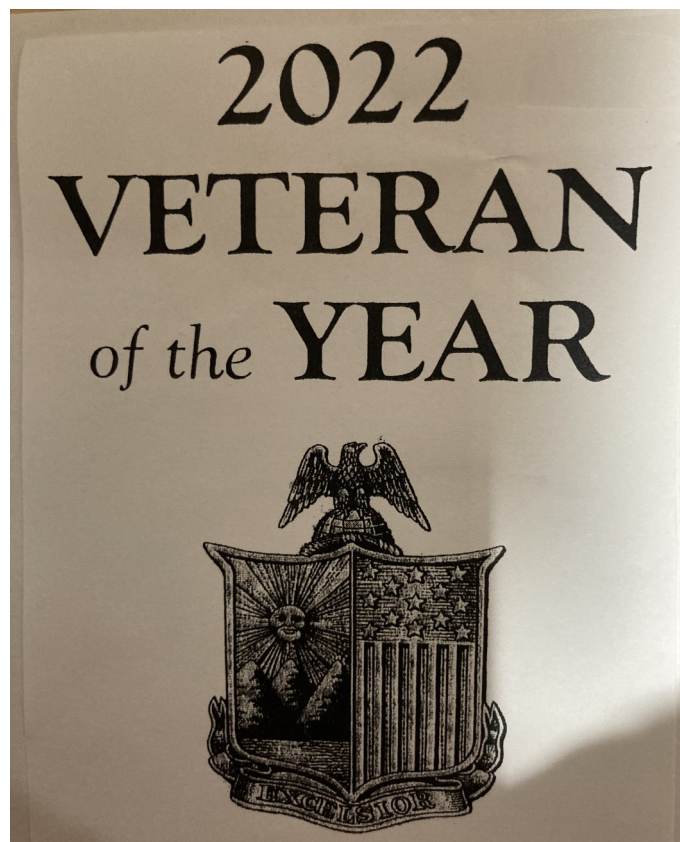
Date: Sunday, November 6, 2022

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Saratoga-Wilton, NY Elk's Lodge 161,
1 Elks Lane, Saratoga Springs, NY

Honoree: David T. Wallingford, USMC, Vietnam War

Open to the Public/Admission is Free



Remember to Renew Your Annual Friends Membership

For further information, please visit the Friends website:

friendsofthenysmilitarymuseum.com

PRESERVING OUR MILITARY HERITAGE

New Docents at the Museum

Lisa Munday hails from the suburbs of Cleveland. Lisa attended Padua Franciscan High School, and she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Notre Dame College of Ohio (in Cleveland). After that, she earned a Master's Degree and a Doctorate (in American Military History) from Kansas State University. Before moving to Saratoga Springs, Lisa lived in Kansas, Vermont, Virginia and Texas.

Lisa is a teacher, historian, and author. While in graduate school, she worked as a history intern at the NASA Johnson Space Center. After that, she worked as a Historian at the Army Center of Military History at Ft. McNair in Washington, DC. She was also the History Department Chair at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, TX. Currently, she teaches online for Norwich University. Lisa is the author of two published books — Militarism and Anti-Militarism in American Popular Media, 1945-1970, and, Fighting the Forever War: The U.S. Service Members Experience in Afghanistan, 2001-2014. Both books are available from Amazon.

Lisa's grandfather fought in World War II, and her father served in Vietnam. Her husband, Mike, served in the 1/5th Field Artillery, 1st Infantry Division; he deployed twice to Iraq, and currently, he serves in the US Army Reserve.

Lisa and Mike have a daughter, Allison, an elementary school student. Together, they like to build Lego models.



Photo — Tim Sinnott