



Friends of the
**NEW YORK STATE
MILITARY MUSEUM**
Preserving Our Military Heritage

SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER

MUSEUM RE-OPENS TO THE PUBLIC AFTER RENOVATIONS

After being closed to the public for roof repairs for approximately nine months, the New York State Military Museum re-opened in July 2023.

At the time of the re-opening, work had been completed on the internal repairs to the roof. Work was continuing to be done on the external repairs to the roof, with that work anticipated to be finished by early to mid-September.

In addition, work continues on the HVAC system for the building. That work has required the Library and Archives parts of the building to be temporarily relocated to the Public Area at the back of the main floor of the Museum.

Since the re-opening coincided with the beginning of the track season for the Saratoga Race Course, upon re-opening the Museum was open through Labor Day weekend on the extended schedule of Monday through Saturday, instead of the regular schedule of Tuesday through Saturday.



Friends of the Museum President Roy McDonald, and Docents Curt Auerbach and Phil Imbarrato, appear at the Museum at the time of its re-opening in July 2023.

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Roy McDonald, President of the Friends of the New York State Military Museum, was present for the re-opening. McDonald noted that the Museum keeps getting “bigger and better” and that the public “was going to enjoy seeing [the Museum] again.”

Attendance was strong as the Museum re-opened. There were 35 visitors to the Museum on July 14th, the official date of re-opening. Attendance highlights of the first two weeks after re-opening included 47 visitors on July 15th, 91 visitors on July 18th, 53 visitors on July 22nd, 72 visitors on July 25th, and 49 visitors on July 27th.

There will be a celebration event on Saturday, October 7th, to mark the Museum’s re-opening. Festivities will take place from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. There will be military re-enactors from various time periods in American history. Free ice cream will be served, courtesy of Stewart’s. In addition, the N.Y.N.G. 42nd Division Band will be playing between 11:30 AM and 2:00 PM.

Save the Dates for These Upcoming Events

Re-Opening Celebration at the Museum:

Saturday, October 7, 2023, 11:00 AM—4:00 PM

Military Re-enactors

N.Y.N.G. 42nd Division Band (11:30—2:00)

Free Ice Cream (courtesy of Stewart’s)

2023 Veteran of the Year Ceremony:

Saturday, October 14, 2023, 1:00 PM

Saratoga-Wilton Elks Lodge in Saratoga Springs

**Honorees — COL (Ret) Christine T. Rem, Iraq veteran
David Terry Fox, Sergeant USMC,
Vietnam veteran**



Museum Docents Wayne Rozen and Mary Ann Adams
at the re-opening of the Museum in July 2023.

PRESERVING OUR MILITARY HERITAGE

Oral History Interviews

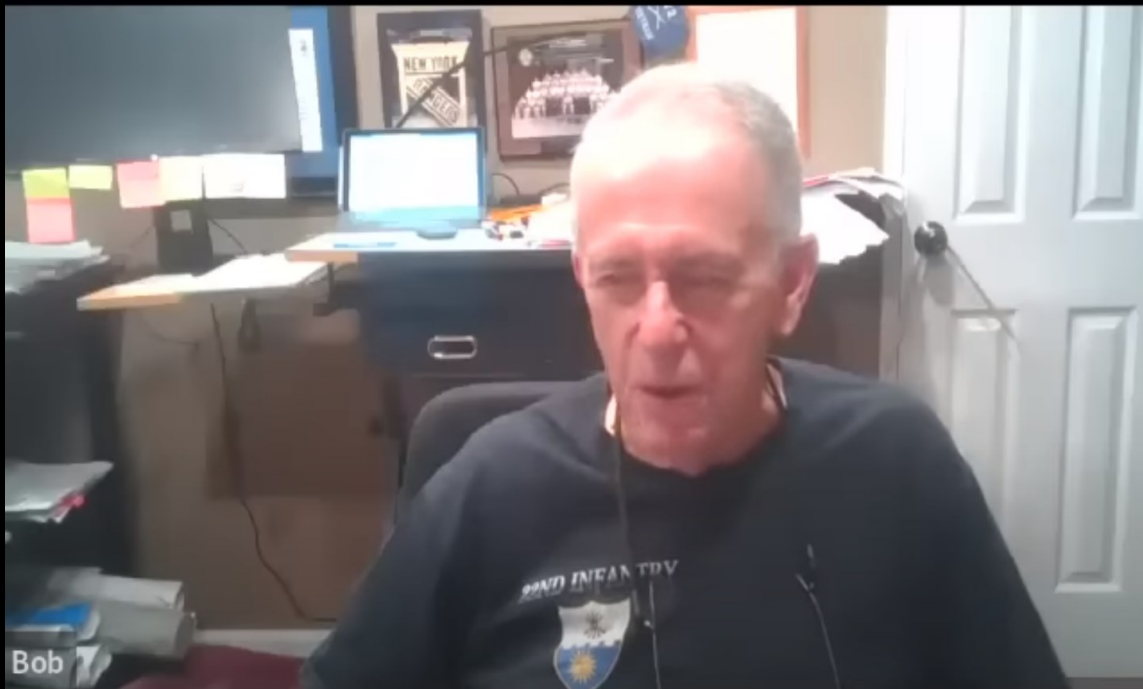
Vietnam Veteran Robert Price was interviewed by New York State Military Museum volunteers Fred Katz and Wayne Rozen on July 13, 2023. The interview was conducted virtually, via Zoom.

Robert Price served in the United States Army from April 6, 1967 - January 21, 1969. He spent one year in Vietnam during the conflict there, as a rifleman in a mechanized combat infantry unit. He first came under fire approximately one month after arriving in Vietnam. He was wounded three times in a period of five months during his tour, as well as contracting malaria during his tour.

In his written comments prior to the interview, Price noted that the most inspiring thing about his service “was how all of us worked together regardless of race. When we were in combat we were all like brothers [and] would sacrifice our lives to save each other.”

Price was awarded three Purple Hearts, along with the Vietnam Service Medal with four Bronze Service Stars, along with other decorations. He attained the rank of Sergeant E-5.

Robert Price, Sergeant, US Army, Vietnam War



The Friends Mourn the Loss of Long-Time Docent Mike Carney

The Friends mourn the passing of long-time Museum Docent Mike Carney, who passed away on September 3, 2023.

Mike was a graduate of SUNY Oneonta, where he met his future wife, Diane. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. Mike was drafted into the US Army in November 1970. After basic training, he was assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas. He was released from active duty in November 1972. After leaving the Army, he earned a Master's Degree in Elementary Education, and he went on to teach for 34 years in the Saratoga Springs Public Schools.

Mike loved playing baseball. He played throughout his high school and college years, and his team won the SUNY baseball championship in his sophomore year.

Mike and Diane were married for 53 years. They raised two boys, and they also have two granddaughters.

Mike was a Docent at the Museum from 2006. He was also a long-time member of the Museum's Education Outreach Program, which works with students who visit the Museum with their schools or other organizations.

Our condolences go out to Mike's family and friends.



Photo courtesy of Tim Sinnott

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

Museum Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 AM—4:00 PM
Also open on Mondays from mid-July through Labor Day, 10:00 AM—4:00 PM

Museum Bookstore and Shop: Tuesday through Saturday, 11:00 AM —4:00PM

Docent and Volunteer Picnic

Museum Docents and Volunteers were treated to a picnic on Thursday, August 17th at the home of volunteer Melissa Thompson-Flynn in Saratoga Springs. Museum Director Courtney Burns and Office Manager Colleen Maheux also attended, along with Friends President Roy McDonald. The Friends generously provided funding for food and accessories for the picnic.



Museum Volunteer Melissa Thompson-Flynn at the Volunteer and Docent Picnic on August 17, 2023.



Museum Docents Tim Sinnott and Robert Kazalski on duty at the grill station at the picnic for Volunteers and Docents on August 17, 2023.

Thank you to the following people for their efforts in creating and/or distributing this issue of the Newsletter: Fred Katz, Robert Kazalski, Roy McDonald, Curt Auerbach, Phil Imbarrato, Mary Ann Adams, Melissa Thompson-Flynn, Courtney Burns, Jim Gandy, Colleen Maheux, Wayne Rozen, Tim Sinnott, Bruce Farley and Francis Crandall (Flight Creative Group).

Museum Docents

In this issue, we highlight long-time Museum Docent Curt Auerbach.

Curt was born in Brooklyn, NY. After high school, he attended Pace University. He graduated with a degree in Business Administration in 1970. After college, he worked in the publishing industry and in advertising sales.

In 1990, Curt decided to become a teacher. He graduated from the College of Staten Island with a Masters Degree in American History in 1994. He taught for more than 12 years in the New York City public schools, at Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School in Brooklyn.

After retiring from teaching, Curt volunteered as a Docent at the Theodore Roosevelt Home in Manhattan, giving guided tours to visitors. Curt has been a Docent at the New York State Military Museum since 2010. His favorite area at the Museum is the Civil War exhibit, “Empire for Union”. In addition to volunteering as a Docent at the Museum, Curt is a Tour Guide at the Grant Cottage historic site in Wilton, NY.

Curt and his wife have one daughter, and they have been blessed with two grandchildren — twin boys.

Curt is an avid baseball and football fan, following and supporting the New York Mets and New York Giants.

