CELEBRATING 23 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

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**NEWSLETTER STAFF**

Ms. Rita Meneses, Editor, Cultural Resources Manager
SGT Damian J. M. Smith, Articles/Photos/Layout, Command Historian
Ms. Carolyn O’Day Malfara, Articles and Layout,
PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL GUARD SAYS
GOODBYE TO MG FRANK H. SMOKER, JR.

Major General Frank H. Smoker, Jr., (USAF, Retired) served as Commander of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard (PANG) with headquarters at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA, from 1 November 1978 to 6 June 1985, the date of his retirement after 42 years of service to his state and nation. The Headquarters (HQ), PANG, is responsible for advising and assisting the Adjutant General of Pennsylvania in the administration of Air National Guard (ANG) forces (47 units) within the state and for providing the command, control and supervision of the PANG required to accomplish the federal and state missions.

General Smoker was born in Columbia, PA, on 6 June 1925. He graduated from Columbia High School in 1943, received a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Franklin and Marshall College in 1950, a master of science degree in public administration from Auburn University in 1972, and completed the Air War College. Maxwell AFB, AL, in 1972, having achieved distinction and high honors by being awarded the National Geographic Society Award by the Secretary of the Air Force.

General Smoker began his military career in February 1943 by enlisting in the Army Air Corps. He entered active duty in July 1943 and, after completing basic training and aviation cadet college training, was classified for navigator training. Upon completion of preflight training at Maxwell AFB, AL, and navigator training (Class 44-12) at Selma Field, Monroe, LA, he was commissioned as second lieutenant and received his navigator wings in October 1944. He served with the Eighth Air Force in the European Theater of Operations from January 1945 to June 1946. While serving in England with the 92nd Bombardment Group, he flew 26 missions over Europe totaling 222 combat hours as a B-17 aircraft navigator. Shortly after VE Day (8 May 1945), his group was transferred to Istres Field, France, where the group participated in the Green Project, ferrying troops from Marseille to Casablanca, Africa. He was released from active duty in July 1946 as a captain in the Air Force Reserve.

In October 1946, General Smoker joined the PANG and on 17 January 1947, he became a member of the HQ, 53rd Wing upon its initial federal recognition. This was the first PANG unit to be federally recognized following World War II. While attending college, he served in various ANG capacities in the 53rd Fighter Wing including that of controller, personnel equipment officer, and squadron commander.

In July 1949, Captain Smoker was assigned to full-time duty with the HQ 53rd Wing. In order to qualify for pilot training, Captain Smoker requested and received a demotion to first lieutenant and entered USAF pilot training under the ANG quota in March 1951. Assigned to Class 52-B, he attended basic pilot training at Perrin AFB, TX, and Advanced Pilot Training at Craig AFB, AL. He graduated as a pilot on 22 March 1952 and returned to his PANG unit at Harrisburg, PA, which was then assigned F-51 aircraft. He resumed full-time duty and served as a tactical inspector and operations staff officer in HQ, 112th Fighter Wing until December 1955 when he was assigned as Executive Officer in the HQ, PANG. General Smoker served as Executive Officer from December 1955 until October 1972. During that time, he was attached to the PANG unit now designated as the 193rd Special Operations Wing, where he flew various transport aircraft including the C-121. Between 1965-1967, General Smoker flew many overseas flights and also participated on five airlift missions to Vietnam, for which he was credited with twenty combat flying hours.

In June 1971, Colonel Smoker was selected to attend the resident course of the Air War College. After graduation, he became the full-time Deputy Commander, HQs, PANG, in October 1972. General Smoker was assigned as Commander, HQs, PANG on 1 September 1978 and served full-time in that capacity until his retirement on 6 June 1985.
General Smoker's military decorations and awards include the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal (the United States Air Force's highest peacetime award), Air Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, Combat Readiness Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Medal with One Silver Star (Second Award), Pennsylvania Meritorious Service Medal, Air War College National Geographic Society Award, National Guard Association of the United States Meritorious Service Award, National Guard Association of Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Award, Air Force Association Outstanding Pennsylvanian Award, the Chapel of Four Chaplains Bronze Medallion, and the U. S. Army Chief of Chaplains Aaron and Hur Award. He holds three aeronautical ratings as command pilot, navigator, and aircraft observer and has over 5,000 hours flying time.

When not serving on frequent periods of active duty with the Air Force, General Smoker served as a full-time technician from July 1949 to August 1978 in the positions of Air Administrative Assistant, Executive Officer, and Deputy Commander, HQs, PANG, performing his duties in the Department of Military Affairs. In addition to being appointed to the position as Commander, PANG, General Smoker was appointed as the dual full-time position as Deputy Adjutant General for Air on 1 September 1978 until his retirement.

General Smoker was placed on the United States Air Force Retired List and received an honorary promotion, under State law, to the grade of lieutenant general on the Retired List of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

General Smoker was married to the former Kathleen M. Farrow of Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, England. They resided in Lebanon, PA. They have two children: Barbara and David. David is a Colonel, Commander of the 193rd Mission Support Group of the 193rd Special Operations Wing (SOW).

**BOARD MEMBER UPDATES**

The Museum Board of Directors would like to congratulate COL Walter T. Lord on his promotion to Brigadier General. BG Lord serves as the Deputy Commanding General of the 28th Infantry Division. He was born in Philadelphia, PA, in January 1965, and educated at Saint John Neumann High School, Valley Forge Military College, and LaSalle University. He enlisted in the 2nd Battalion, 111th Infantry in 1982 at the age of 17. In 1984, he was commissioned into the Pennsylvania Army National Guard from Valley Forge and served in various troop-level assignments with 1st Squadron, 104th Cavalry, 28th Infantry Division until 1990. In 1990, COL Lord entered active duty through the Active Guard & Reserve (AGR) program.

He is married to the former Grace Power of Philadelphia, PA. Grace is a graduate of Temple University with a degree in Marketing and Management. She has been the key to the Lord family’s successful survival through 9 moves, including 2 overseas, during their first 15 years of service. They have two sons and reside in Mechanicsburg.

The Museum Board of Directors would like to announce the election of LTC Robert D. Robinson II to the Board. LTC Robinson has a long service record with the military. He serves currently with Headquarters, 28th Infantry Division at the Harrisburg Military Post.

**MUSEUM TOUR GROUPS**

- Freedom of the Road RV Club
- Boy Scout Troop 529
- Military Family Support Group
- Lebanon Valley Tourist Promotion Agency
- 100th Boy Scout Anniversary Campout (Various Troops)
- Civil Air Patrol Squadron 306
- Lebanon Valley Bicycle Club
- Boy Scout Troop 360 (York)

*NOTE:* Other Group Tour Pictures may be found on the museum website under “Museum Event-Tour Groups”
**20th READING AIR SHOW & WWII WEEKEND**

More than 1,000 WWII military and civilian reenactors, 200+ motorcycles, jeeps, tanks, and dozens of beautifully restored WWII Aircraft were spotted at the 20th WWII Weekend at the Reading Airport.

Our assistant museum curator, John Schreffler, attended with his restored personal halftrack nicknamed "Bunker Buster."

Museum Curator Mr. Charles Oellig and the 28th Infantry Division Association President Mr. Walter Chmiola discuss events at the World War II Weekend.

The World War II weekend is held the first full weekend (including Friday) in June. Next year's event will be held June 3-5, 2011.

Allied and Axis Camps, home front displays, swing dances, USO shows and many other things are there for the whole family to enjoy. You can meet, speak with, and collect autographs from many famous WWII personalities. You can visit the Pacific and European theaters, U.S. Navy, Marine, and Army encampments, British Commonwealth forces, German Wehrmacht and Luftwaffe camps, and more.

For more information visit the Mid Atlantic Air Museum at:

www.maam.org

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**MILITARY MUNITION RESPONSE PROGRAM**

After decades of munitions-related activities required to maintain military readiness, unexploded ordnance, discarded munitions, and munitions constituents may be present to some degree at many active and former military installations.

The Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) was the remedial investigation for the ricochet Area located in State Game Lands 211. Field Crews were in the area from March through May 2010 conducting an investigation for historical munitions.

With the help of Joan Anderson, DMVA Bureau of Environment geologist and lead for the project, and Marty Holmes, Senior UXO Supervisor, Weston Solutions, Inc., from West Chester, PA, the PNG Military Museum was able to acquire some of the recovered munitions. They will be cleaned and preserved and put on display in the museum.

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**SCOTLAND SCHOOL DONATES TO THE MUSEUM**

Since 1895, Scotland School for Veterans Children has been an educational, residential school for students in grades 3 through 12. It is located in south central Pennsylvania in the village of Scotland. A scholarship was provided to students who met eligibility requirements. Students had to be the natural or adopted child, grandchild, niece, nephew, or sibling of an "eligible veteran." The school was closed by Governor Edward G. Rendell in 2009 due to state budget cuts.

The Museum received 72 bookshelves from the old library, several show cases, 8 five drawer legal file cabinets, and several tables thanks to Sherri Arrowood, Administrative Officer at Scotland School.
MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to our recently re-joined or new members. The Museum is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization, and tax deductible dues or donations may be sent to:

PNG Military Museum
Building T-8-57, Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, Pennsylvania 17003-5003

Although space constraints prevent us from listing everyone who has joined or renewed their PNGMM membership, we would like to recognize as many patrons as we can. Here is a partial list of Regular and Family memberships:

Richard Adams (Regular)
Jerry Beck, Jr. (Regular)
Daniel Arron Benfer (Regular)
John Bisbano Jr. (Family)
James Cassarella (Regular)
Michael John Coleman (Regular)
James Corrigan (Regular)
Michael Demko, Jr. (Regular)
Robert Desousa (Regular)
George Duell, Jr. (Regular)
Jay Field (Regular)
Leo Filon (Regular)
Michael James Fluck (Regular)
Christopher Megella (Regular)
Richard Menne (Family)
Brent Musser, Jr. (Regular)
Joel Mutschler (Regular)
Robert Nairns (Regular)
Scott Alan Rissinger (Regular)
A. James Shedlauskas (Regular)
Richard Shertzer (Regular)
Russell Barry Sims (Regular)
A. John Smither (Regular)
John Stolzfus (Family)
Gordon Troxell (Family)

Your membership contributes toward preserving our military heritage and includes a subscription to our newsletter. It is 100 percent tax deductible.

Annual memberships are available for Individuals ($15), Families ($30) and Businesses ($100).

VISITORS SUCCEEDING GOALS

The museum has been very busy the past few months with tour groups and the increased activity that summer brings to Fort Indiantown Gap.

As of mid July, the museum has had 1,293 visitors who officially signed our register. This is more than all of visitors for 2008, and the year is only half over. We are on pace to exceed our 2,060 visitors from 2009.

Boy Scout tour group visits PNGMM on 20 March 2010

ASMIC MEETING

The American Society of Military Insignia Collectors (ASMIC) held their TRI-Annual Insignia Swap Meet on 21 August 2010 at the military museum.

The next event will be held on 13 November. Contact Museum Director/Curator Charlie Oellig for more details at: (717) 861-2402 or email:

c-coellig@state.pa.us

FACEBOOK and WEBSITE Updates

The PNG Military Museum currently has 172 fans on Facebook. The site is updated several times a week with historical events as well as news about the museum. For the museum’s latest happenings, go to http://www.facebook.com/pages/Pennsylvania-National-Guard-Military-Museum/320465245530 and click on “Like.”

The PNG Military Museum’s website is a busy place as well. We have had 2,459 visits and 76,927 hits on the website as of July of this year. The site has recently been updated with four new photo galleries. All the galleries have had a facelift with some new software that displays all of the images on the page faster and lets you enlarge them. There is also a new page showcasing the tour groups that have visited the museum. Check out the changes at:

www.pngmilitarymuseum.org
## 2011 CALENDAR  HISTORY EVENTS

### JAN
- **History Days at the Lebanon Valley Mall (Lebanon)**
- **TBA**
- 25-30 **66th Commemoration Battle of the Bulge Reenactment (Area 12 & 13)**

### MAR/APR
- **Guard Day at the Capitol (Harrisburg) TBA**
- **Women’s History Luncheon (Bldg 8-80) TBA**
- 31 MAR-3 Apr **27th Annual PNGAS Conference in Lancaster, PA**
- **SEP 7-10 28th Annual 28th ID Reunion (FTIG)**
- **MAY 21 Tenth Annual Armed Forces Day (Harrisburg)**
- **22 28th Infantry Division Memorial Service (Boalsburg, PA)**
- **2nd PNGMM Picnic TBA**
- **APR 30 2nd 28th ID Assoc Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction**
- **4th Unity Day at FTIG (Bldg 8-80) TBA**
- **16-18 3rd Civil War Three Day Weekend at FTIG (Area 14)**

## THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

The PNG Military Museum is run by a staff of very dedicated volunteers. Also, we have some behind the scene volunteers we would like to thank for their tireless efforts helping the museum become what is has today.

**COL Carl Magagna (USA, Retired)** did an excellent job this summer during the hot spell. He spent numerous hours trimming the bushes, edging the flower beds, and getting rid of those pesky weeds.

**LTC Rick Shertzer (USA, Retired)**, a new volunteer, has been helping with tasks around the museum. We are glad to have him join our family.

Mr. John Schreffler repaired and restored rust spots on our Korean Era tank outside the museum.

Center State Communications donates hosting space for our museum web site, and Carolyn O’Day Malfara, one of the partners, provides site with updates and maintenance. Carolyn has also helped with newsletter articles and layout for the past year and a half.

It’s the people who make the museum projects come alive and insure that the story of the Pennsylvania National Guard is told. If you have some time and talent to contribute, in any amount, please contact the museum at 717-861-2402.

## END OF AN ERA FOR THE 111TH FIGHTER WING

The 111th Fighter Wing officially ended 86 years of flying as they transitioned to a new mission. The FW’s last A-10 aircraft took their final flights in June. The 111th Fighter Wing’s history began with the establishment of the 103rd Observation Squadron in June 1924, based at the Philadelphia Airport as a unit in the 28th Infantry Division.

The 111th unit was the only fighter wing in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Air National Guard still has two flying units, the 193rd Air Special Operations Wing in Middletown and the 171st Air Refueling Wing in Pittsburgh.
DONATIONS

The museum has been fortunate to receive some great donations over the summer. Here are some of the items and wonderful people that gave generous contributions that helps save our military heritage for future generations:

CSM Richard L. Fonner—formal white mess-dress uniform (Pictured above). Richard was the first Command Sergeant Major of the Pennsylvania National Guard. We will be adding Richard’s miniature medals once we receive them from Walter Chmiola.

Marine Corps League Detachment 1011 from Andrews, NC - a WWI uniform and other belongings of Mr. Fred M. Fogle, Battery B, 107th Field Artillery

Mr. Michael Eidenberg - a book on American Tanks and Tank Destroyers and two brass US Eagle seal plaques.

US Property and Fiscal Office (USPFO) at Fort Indiantown Gap - 5 rifles: M1917 Eddystone, M1903 Springfield, M1922 Springfield Target Rifle, a M1 and a M14 rifle.

LTC Sam Hayes -a complete ACU uniform worn by the donor in Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and a Stryker print.

Mr. Henry Hill—a collection of 212 PS magazines including the No. 1 edition.

Mrs. Vernon (Anna) James—uniforms, prints, a guidon, head gear, plaques, and a framed Franklin flag.

Ms. Millie Clay—two uniform, two caps, a purse, ID tag, papers and photos. She was the first enlisted female in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard.

Mr. Clifford L. Kreiser d - a pair of rare World War I wool straight-leg trousers.

SGM Larry W. Rinker (USA, Retired) - a U.S. magnetic compass.

Mr. Chas Funck - a 90mm projectile and a manual on the gun that fired it.

LTC David Russell (PAARNG, Retired) - an oil painting entitled “Oil Fire in Northern Iraq.” LTC Russell was also the artist.

Ssgt Daniel A. Benfer (PAANG) - an Airman’s battle ensemble, coat, pants and battle shirt.

LTC Lauren Muglia—a 1915 NGP Encampment Pennant at Mount Gretna (Pictured below) and a City Grays Ball invitation dated 1889
Mr. Warren G. Keller of Lebanon—a large wooden board containing 320 mostly World War II shoulder sleeve insignia. The board originally came from Dave Orr’s Hotel in West Lebanon and had been stored in Mr. Keller’s garage for about twenty-five years. (Pictured above is only part of this collection).

CSM Richard L. Fonner—MG Norman D. Cota’s personal 28th Infantry Division flag (Pictured Above) said to have been given to MG Cota’s World War II driver by his widow. It passed through several hands before being donated to the Museum. The Pennsylvania Military Museum located Boalsburg, PA, has other artifacts from MG Cota.

CSM James W. Staub, Jr.—items from the old 28th Division Artillery including pictures, cups, DIVARTY unit histories, DUIS, and a unit scrapbook.

MSG Gina M. Vennare, SFC Jeffrey Fisher, and SFC Daniel Crow from Company D, 1-110th IN and Company E 128th BSB located in the Hunt Armory in Pittsburgh, PA—collection of items such as films, unit histories, and framed pictures.

A book of newspaper clippings from an early regiment of the National Guard of Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Gretchen K. Rohland—an early postcard showing troops arriving at the Mt. Gretna Train Station.

BG Stanley J. Jaworski—an Air Force’s General Officer’s belt (Pictured below) along with seven Air Force patches.
AIR GUARD DONATION

Colonel Christopher Dutton, Commander of the 193rd Regional Support Group, presents a $1,000 check to Museum Board President, Major General Walter Pudlowski, on behalf of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard and the 193rd RSG Morale Fund.

The donation was made possible by the 193rd Regional Support Group’s 6th annual golf tournament held 7 May at the Blue Mountain Golf Course in Fredericksburg, PA.

LEGION DONATION

Ms. Sharon Flaig was pleased to present Museum Board President, Major General Walter Pudlowski, with a $1,000 check on behalf of the American Legion Marlin Gahres Post 883 Auxiliary (Jonestown, PA). Sharon is a member of the Auxiliary and also volunteers as the PNG Military Museum’s secretary and the Annual Foxhole Invitational Golf Tournament coordinator.

MUSEUM WISH LIST

-Various DUIs (unit crests) and patches from PA NationalGuard units.

-Flat Map cabinets for guidons, regimental colors and military maps storage.

-Military History books for the museum library for research.

-World War II M-1 Carbine.

-World War II Axis uniforms

If you have objects to donate to the Museum, please contact us at (717) 861-2402. We will need information regarding the items such as age, the conflict related to, connection to Pennsylvania, your contact information and, if possible, photographs of the object.
2nd ANNUAL BENEFIT DINNER and SILENT AUCTION

The 28th Infantry Division Association will hold their Second Annual Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction on Saturday, 30 April 2011, at Felicita Resort in Harrisburg. This year’s theme is A Salute to World War II. Proceeds from the event benefit the Association’s 28th Infantry Division Scholarship Fund, the Monument Fund, and the Military Museum Fund.

The evening will begin at 6:00 pm with a cocktail hour with live music. Auction tickets will be available for sports memorabilia and tickets, museum passes, weekend getaways, dinner gift certificates, baskets of cheer, adventure activities, art work, celebrity items, and more.

The dinner buffet features entrees of stuffed chicken breast, penne pasta with basil alfredo sauce, garlic shrimp, Italian sausage with onions and green peppers, seasonal vegetables, salad and key lime cheesecake or chocolate torte pie.

Felicita Resort has on site golf packages, spa packages, and overnight accommodations available at a special rate for dinner guests. Visit Felicita at: www.felicitaresort.com for more information. Tickets are $55 each, $100 a couple, or a reserved table of 8 for $400. They are available from SGT Damian Smith or Ssg. Ted Nichols at the PAO and at the 28th ID Association Office. For more information, call SGT Damian J. M. Smith at 717-861-2464 or visit: www.28thInfantryDivisionAssoc.org to purchase your tickets online.

CURATOR’S CORNER by CHARLES B. OELLIG

Thirty-one members of the Harrisburg City Grays, Headquarters Company, 55th Brigade, 28th Infantry Division, pose wearing their parade dress uniform in 1933.

They are wearing gray cadet-style jackets with white cross belts, white trousers and dark blue shakos trimmed in white with white plumes. These uniforms were worn only for parades and ceremonies. The two officers in the front row are Captain Statton L. Rice and 2nd Lt. Raymond H. Hoffman.

Today, the lineage of the City Grays is carried on by Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 28th Infantry Division located in Harrisburg, PA.
**Pennsylvania National Guard Military Museum**  
Bldg 8-57  
Fort Indiantown Gap  
Annville, PA 17003-5003

**HOURS**

**Hours are 10:00-4:30 (Monday & Friday).**

To schedule an appointment to visit the museum at a time not listed, call the Museum Director, Mr. Charlie B. Oellig, at the museum Monday & Friday at 717-861-2402, the Command Historian, SGT Damian J. M. Smith, at 717-861-2464, or the Cultural Resources Manager, Rita Meneses, at 717-861-9415.

**DIRECTIONS**

From I-81, take exit 85B(northbound) or exit 85 (southbound), Fort Indiantown Gap exit, and proceed north on Route 934. At the first red light, turn right onto Service Road. The museum is located four tenths of a mile at the corner of Service Road and Wiley Road, Building T-8-57. Look for the Civil War Cannon, Korean era tank, and the museum signs on the right hand side.