

Pennsylvania National Guard Military Museum



Fort Indiantown Gap ~ Building T-8-57
Annville, Pennsylvania 17003 717-861-2402
http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/Military_Affairs/museum/museum2.htm

PNG MUSEUM NEWSLETTER NO. 2 - Fall 2005

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Membership

Membership and "Friends of the Museum" contributions continued since our last newsletter. The Board extends its sincere thanks to the members and to those who submitted generous extra donations for use by the museum. We continue to solicit additional participation. The goal for the current fund drive is \$25,000, which will support the museum's projects.

Individual	\$10 per year
Family (3 or more)	\$25 per year
Business/Organization	\$50 per year

The Museum is a non-profit 501 (C) (3) organization. If you have not already joined or donated, you can send your tax-deductible dollars by check to:

PNG Military Museum
Bldg. # 9-79
Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003

You may also contribute in person by visiting the museum during any of the operating hours posted in this newsletter.

Visitors

Since our last newsletter, visitors continue to stream in to the museum. Thanks to the hard work of our curator, Charles Oellig, and his volunteers, over 400 visitors have viewed the exhibits. In addition, Mr. Oellig has fielded over 65 requests for information on museum exhibits and activities. Veterans, school groups, scout troops, and a conference of military chaplains have toured the facility. In case of the latter group, Mr. Oellig provided a special display on military chaplains.

On December 7, two new exhibits will open – a display of World War II toys and a Pearl Harbor collection. Even if you have been to the museum recently, exhibits continuously change so visit often.

Lewis Machine Gun on Exhibit

Museum Curator Charles Oellig proudly announced the acquisition of a Lewis Machine Gun to the museum collection. This unusual weapon was first used by Pennsylvania National Guard soldiers on the Mexican border in 1916. Shortly thereafter, it saw service during WW I among American and Allied ground troops and was also mounted on "flying machines" as air-to-air combat and tactical support of ground troops, thus becoming an integral feature of military aviation. The Lewis is a rare find and a welcome addition to our collection. It is on loan from the Pennsylvania Military Museum.



Range House Gets a New Look

Verling H. Wolfe, House and Building Movers, Bethel, PA, relocated the historic range house from its previous location on Range Road to the PNG Military Museum site in March 2004. Thanks to the efforts of Restoration Unlimited, Inc., of Elizabethville, PA, the exterior of the house received a complete restoration including a fresh coat of paint in the house's original colors. The restoration was funded by a grant to the Pennsylvania National Guard Foundation from the Department of Community and Economic Development. Reservation Maintenance provided the landscaping.

The historic structure was built in the late 1890s at the 28th Division's training camp at Mt. Gretna. In the mid 1930s, it was moved to the Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, where was used throughout the 1900s up to the Vietnam Conflict when electronic scoring was unitized for marksmanship exercises.

With the exterior rehabilitation completed, funds are now being sought to restore the interior to its original condition. Once this is finished, the range house will display weapons, trophies, and awards. The range house is a welcome addition in our efforts to preserve the heritage of the Pennsylvania National Guard. Thank you to the many people who helped make this restoration happen.

Directions

From I-81, take exit 85B, Fort Indiantown Gap exit, and proceed north on Route 934. At the first red light, turn right onto Service Road. The museum is located at the corner of Service Road and Wiley Road, building number T-8-57. Look for the Civil War Cannon.

Hours

Hours are 10:30-4:30 (Monday & Friday). To schedule an appointment to visit the museum, call 717-2402 on Monday & Friday or 861-9415 at other times.

Volunteer Muster

The Museum would like to thank Mr. Ted Herman and SSGT Keven Debus for their important volunteer assistance to the museum. The PNG Museum welcomes volunteers, as our upkeep and administration require many hands to insure continued growth and success. If you have time and talent to contribute, in any amount, please contact us by phone at 717-861-2402 or 717-861-9415 or in writing to the museum. It's the people who make the museum projects come alive and insure that the story of the Pennsylvania National Guard is told.

New Additions to Museum

The museum has acquired MG Nicholas P. Kafkalas' M-1902 Presentation Sword, BG Peter Phillipy's ejection seat from an F-84F jet fighter, 99 marksmanship trophies from the Pennsylvania Marksmanship Training Unit, and the 28th Military Police Guidon from 1941. The guidon is shown below with the company picture featured behind it.

