

THE INFANTRY HERITAGE LETTER



YEAR IN REVIEW 2018



SPECIAL

EDITION

*Message from the President***Taking the Best and Making it Better**

I'm one year into my second career, speed-learning the museum business and doing my best to fill big shoes left by Greg Camp and Ben Williams who helped birth and nurture this world-class museum. It's my privilege to take the ball and press forward to not only ensure the museum's continued financial solvency but also lead the growth required to exceed our visitors' and donors' expectations as we honor our Soldiers -- Past, Present and Future.



BG (Ret) Pete Jones
President and COO

The Foundation and Army Museum Staff are committed to this mission of both honoring our Soldiers and educating our visitors on our 244-year Infantry legacy of service and sacrifice. We are thankful that a seasoned Army museum director Scott Daubert – hired to replace the retired Frank Hanner – has also joined the team and is dedicated to making the National Infantry Museum the top military museum in the country.

But we can't do it without the help of the community we live in. In 2018, the Foundation focused on strengthening that relationship, serving as a bridge between Columbus and Fort Benning as we all celebrated 100 years of committed partnership. Special events like Night at the Museum, Columbus Salutes the Centennial, the Vietnam Symposium, the premiere of Sgt. Stubby: An American Hero, the rededication of the Global War on Terrorism Memorial and the observance of the WWI Centennial underlined the museum's vibrancy and relevance for all audiences.

While we're proud to be America's Best Free Museum (as voted by readers of USA Today) and on CNN Travel's list of the best military museums in the world, we know there's no time to rest on past accomplishments. We're diving into 2019 with big plans. This year, we will reopen the popular Family Gallery. With the help of a multi-million dollar grant, we will overhaul the Sole Superpower gallery, which tells the story of a war still being played out in places like Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria. As we did last year, we will again rededicate the Global War on Terrorism Memorial while we also observe key WWII anniversaries through revolving exhibits in our new temporary gallery.

This year, the NIM turns 10. With the support of the Columbus community, Fort Benning leadership and phenomenal members of our Boards of Directors and Advisors, we have covered a lot of ground since our opening in 2009, and with your continued support, we can expect to achieve many more milestones in our journey over the next 10 years.



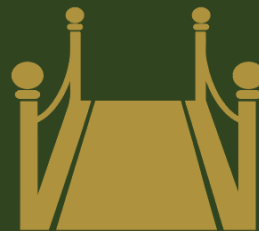
268,114

Attendance



14,763

Soldiers Toured



285

Events



208

Groups



A Centennial Year

We observed two big centennials in 2018 -- one celebrated Fort Benning's 100th birthday, the other marked the end of World War I.

On November 11 -- now known as Veterans Day -- representatives of seven nations that participated in World War I raised their flags as national anthems played. At the close of a traditional service and ceremony, an artillery barrage raged for five minutes, falling silent at 11 a.m. on the 11th day of the 11th month, just as they did 100 years earlier signaling the end of the war. The participating nations laid wreaths in tribute to the 17 million who died in the war.



Changes in Leadership

In 2018 we bade farewell to three key leaders: National Infantry Museum Foundation President and COO Greg Camp, Museum Director Frank Hanner and National Infantry Association President Dick Nurnberg. The three have a combined 70 years of service to the museum, foundation and association.

Far left, top: Chairman Emeritus LTG Carmen Cavezza welcomes Greg into the realm of retirees.

Far left, bottom: Frank Hanner wields the giant scissors on his last big project: a history of the NIM.

Right: Dick Nurnberg's staff gave him a taste of what to expect in retirement at his going-away party.



Night at the Museum



On a Friday and Saturday in February, we held back-to-back events celebrating Fort Benning's 100th birthday. "Night at the Museum" brought history to life for hundreds of invited community and military leaders. Officer Candidate School Students spent weeks researching, studying and rehearsing their roles as historical Soldiers. Many emerged from the museum's exhibits as if the cast figures really did come to life. They engaged visitors in conversation and shared the stories of their past. The "star" of the evening was General Omar Bradley, brought back to life by Maneuver Center of Excellence Commanding General MG Eric Wesley. The decorated WWII veteran talked to guests about how far Fort Benning has come in 100 years, and where it's headed.

On Saturday, the whole community was invited out for a full day of free activities. The OCS students were back, educating and entertaining families. The event looked to the future, too, with hands-on demonstrations of the MCoE's state-of-the-art robotics program.

Cheers to the next 100 years!



Columbus Salutes the Centennial

Army Chief of Staff Visit



Chief of Staff of the Army General Mark Milley visited the NIM during a trip to Fort Benning in February. He saw the Global War on Terrorism memorial and some of the museum's galleries, and took time to pose for pictures with families here to attend a loved one's graduation from basic training. Milley is the highest ranking officer in the United States Army.



It was hard to tell who admired whom more -- the Army trainees or the sports stars. During a tour of the museum, the trainees' eyes widened when they recognized some of the hosts of Fox NFL Kickoff also visiting the museum. Coach Dave Wannstedt, former Falcons quarterback Michael Vick and sideline reporter Peter Schrager interrupted their visit to offer the young men and women words of encouragement and appreciation for their willingness to stand up for their country. "You're the real heroes," they told them.

OCS Distinguished Members



The museum unveiled a new exhibit honoring 21 Distinguished Members of the Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame in 2018. Several of the 21 were able to attend the ceremony, including the widow and son of GEN John Shalikashvili, pictured above. A video highlighting the honorees' many achievements in both military and civilian endeavors was shown, and each was given a certificate, a custom-designed lapel pin and a commemorative paver on the OCS Memorial Walk. The permanent exhibit in the OCS Hall of Honor on the museum's mezzanine features photos and bios of each of the awardees. The 2018 honorees are:



Mutual Admiration Society

Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller
 Secretary Caspar Weinberger
 Rep. John Dingell, Jr.
 Sen. Frank Church
 GEN Frederick Kroesen, Jr.
 Sen. Bob Dole
 William Buckley, Jr.
 William Gates, Sr.
 Secretary John Marsh, Jr.
 Ambassador Terence Todman
 Secretary Gordon Gray

GEN Robert Kingston
 GEN James Lindsay
 GEN Leon Salomon
 GEN John Shalikashvili
 GEN Johnnie Wilson
 GEN Tommy Franks
 GEN John Abrams
 GEN Buck Kernan
 GEN Benjamin Griffin
 GEN Bryan Brown

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Columbus Salutes the Centennial

WWII Vet Meets German Son



The photos were faded, but the memories were sharp. On March 24, a 92-year-old American World War II veteran met his German-born son for the very first time. The family chose the National Infantry Museum to bring the two together.

Nathan Jones has vivid memories of his wartime relationship with a beautiful young German woman, but she never told him she was pregnant. It was his son, Bernhard Draiscol, who discovered the link through DNA testing.

And now the father and son are catching up on the 70 years they lost.



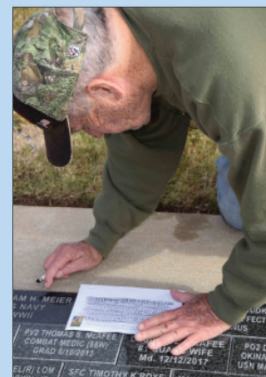
Our nation was built on the shoulders of leaders who inspire others through example and vision. The military leaders we know from our history books drew on much more than their combat skills to achieve success. Find out how lessons from the battlefield can transfer to the boardroom in the NIM's new Follow Me Executive Leadership Development Program. This class of Emory University business students made up the inaugural class. Contact us to find out how your organization can benefit from our team of experts.

Veterans Day at the NIM

In addition to the WWI Centennial Observance on November 11, the museum commemorated Veterans Day with a paver dedication ceremony, a mini camp for the kids, and a flag retirement ceremony in the scout-built fire pit behind the NIM.

The Giant Screen Theater hosted a free screening of the documentary "The Weight of Honor," a film that tells the story of six strong, inspiring women whose lives have been changed as they become caregivers to catastrophically wounded veterans. A panel of local caregivers shared their own experiences, and several support organizations set up tables to pass out information. "Weight of Honor" will be added to the theater's regular schedule in 2019.

And, Batson-Cook Construction -- the company that built the NIM -- treated a busload of veterans from East Alabama to a day at the museum. Batson-Cook hosts the Honor Bus every year to show their appreciation for those who have served their country.



Follow Me Executive Leadership Development



Cheers to 100 Years!

More than 400 guests filled Cavezza Hall for the 9th annual 1775 Society Salute to Soldiers Gala. They raised their glasses to Fort Benning and its 100th anniversary. The silent auction and “100 for 100” campaign raised more than \$21,000 for the National Infantry Museum Foundation. The money will be used to further the museum’s mission of honoring Soldiers.

Mark your calendars for the next big party on August 17, 2019!

We know how to celebrate!



Looking for another good reason to join the 1775 Society? You’ll be invited to exclusive events like Arts and Arms, which was held in October. Guests enjoyed amazing small plates, a whisky tasting from 13th Colony, and a rare visit to the museum’s basement, where all the treasures that aren’t on display are stored. The museum’s Army staff showed off a much-envied collection of artwork and weaponry. Wouldn’t you like to see these hidden gems, too? Give us a call to find out how to join the 1775 Society.



The 4th of July is one of our favorite days of the year!

FREEDOM FEST

More than 6,000 people turned out for Freedom Fest 2018, enjoying the Silver Wings parachute team, the MCoE Rolling Thunder rock band, cannon firings, living history, the Pint-Sized Patriots Parade and more. What a great way to celebrate our pride and patriotism!



SOLDIER MARATHON

Soldiers, civilians and members of the Army family participated in the annual Soldier Marathon at the National Infantry Museum. Fallen Hero Program Runners were offered the

opportunity to run in honor of a fallen soldier. Since its founding in 2010, the Soldier Marathon has donated more than \$250,000 to military beneficiaries, and with the support of its runners. The

NIM is thankful for this partnership and support, helping us to continue our mission to honor the legacy and valor of the U.S. Army Infantryman.



New Exhibit

Check out the NIM's new artillery exhibit! It features a 4.2" chemical mortar (nick-named "the four-deuce") positioned in a Korean War era mortar pit. Mortars were first used in the Revolutionary War, but by World War II, they had become an integral part of the Infantry's arsenal, providing quick, heavy arms response when artillery or air support were too far off. The four-deuce's rifled barrel – unusual for a mortar – gave it good range and accuracy. It weighs 333 pounds, but can be broken down to be carried. It can fire five rounds per minute, and its maximum range is 2.7 miles. Today's soldiers still use mortars, but they're much more effective, and much more portable.

The four-deuce is just one of more than 200 rare and fascinating weapons you'll find on display at the NIM.

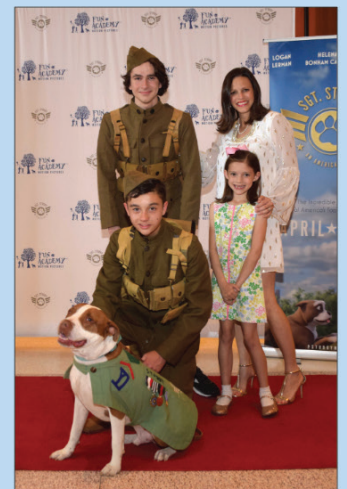


Sgt. Stubby Steals Hearts

Families filled the Giant Screen Theater for a premiere of Sgt. Stubby: An American Hero, an animated film produced and distributed by Columbus-based Fun Academy Motion Pictures. The film tells the true story of a mutt who attaches himself to an Army unit during World War I and winds up saving lives on the battlefield and becoming the only canine to earn the rank of U.S. Army Sergeant.

The event featured a Stubby stand-in on the red carpet, paw-shaped cookies and treat bags for the kids and a popcorn-and-cocktail bar.

Stubby was such a hit, the film's going on our regular movie schedule in 2019!



BOTOBERFEST at the NIM

BotOberfest 2018 brought robotics enthusiasts from schools, industry and the military to the NIM. The AeroVironment MultiGP Drone Races on Inouye Field featured world-class UAV pilots navigating a course of gates and hurdles at speeds up to 100 miles an hour. Inside the museum, 6th-9th graders built mini-robots, programmed them and then competed in the Robot Sumo League Tournament. Industry innovators got to show off their robotic inventions to Fort Benning leadership. Our region is indeed becoming a leader in the field of robotics!





By joining the 1775 Society, you are part of an exclusive, annual membership group that provides significant financial support to the National Infantry Museum Foundation.

It is because of patriotic people like our members that the museum's mission of honoring Soldiers – past, present, and future – continues to be fulfilled every day.

Freedom Level - \$10,000

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Cheves
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pezold
Dr. and Mrs. Carl Savory

Liberty Level - \$5,000

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Mr. and Mrs. Mark Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Butler, Jr.
Emory University Goizueta Business School
Mr. and Mrs. Jake Flournoy
Mrs. Jean McKee
MG (Ret) and Mrs. Peter McVey
Mr. and Mrs. Warner Neal
GEN (Ret) Robert RisCassi
George and Ann Swift Family Foundation
Tawani Foundation
Thayer Companies
The HON Judy Thomas
Mrs. Katherine Corn Wilson

Patriot Level – \$2,500

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Mr. and Mrs. Jim Weaver
Mr. Richard F. Wright

1775 Level - \$1,000

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 and the HON Julia Lumpkin Sando
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**Your membership in the 1775 Society
 comes with at least two free tickets to the
 annual Salute to Soldiers Gala at the
 National Infantry Museum.**

**To learn more about supporting your
 museum, contact Jane Bayer at
 706-685-2604 or
jbayer@nationalinfantryfoundation.org.**





NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM FOUNDATION

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FOLLOW THE INFANTRY

HONOR THE SACRIFICE

PRESERVE THE LEGACY

The National Infantry Foundation was established in 1998 to honor our nation's Infantrymen, past, present and future, and to preserve their legacy. The Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Army, is committed to sharing their legacy through the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center.

The museum is sponsored, in part, by the U.S. Department of Defense. The content of this newsletter does not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the Government and no official endorsement should be inferred.

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