

Army Heritage Center Foundation

Update

Fall 2023 Newsletter

Letter from the President & CEO, AHCF

Dear Friends,

If you've visited us in person over the last year, then you've probably met our Museum Store Manager, Chantal Lee. She probably greeted you with a smile and a wave as you walked through the front doors of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center. Chantal knows all our regular visitors by name (and she hides dog biscuits back in the store office for some of her favorite four-legged ones). During my first few months in my new job, she helped me acclimate to my new environment. She's warm and friendly and truly wonderful.

About every other week, Chantal helps me pick out a book to read from our stacks of new military history books or our very special collection of donated used books. As I write to you today, that book is the behemoth *I Dread the Thought of the Place: The Battle of Antietam and the End of the Maryland Campaign* by D. Scott Hartwig. It is robust (almost 1,000 pages if you include the indices) and extraordinarily written—worth savoring over the next few weeks.

Something else that makes Chantal so special is the way she prioritizes inventory for the store. She has a collection of crisp, clearly defined mental pictures of our customer groups, and one of her favorite groups to shop for is our target audience of families with young children. (That's why we carry so many toys at very affordable price points.)

When I think about the face of our Foundation, I think about Chantal Lee, who connects with more people in one day than I do in a month—no matter how hard I try. Chantal is mission-focused. She invests in people and builds authentic relationships.

All this is to say that while you might notice that a few things have changed around the Foundation this year—new leadership, programs and activities, board members, communication styles—at our core, we have always been committed to upholding the values of the U.S. Army as we



collaborate with our local civilian, Barracks, and War College communities to help USAHEC preserve and promote Soldier stories. Our people, like Chantal and each of my new colleagues at the Foundation, approach the decisions and challenges of every new day with that vision.

I hope you can take time to come visit us sometime soon. As winter approaches, you should probably stock up on enough good reading material to keep you busy until spring. Chantal and her Museum Store team can most certainly help you out with that.

With warm regards,

Julie Germany President

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NEW USAHEC Merchandise!

New products are being added to the online store weekly, so check back often!

950 Soldiers Drive - Carlisle (717) 258-1102

Located at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center Monday-Saturday 10am-4:30pm • Sunday 12pm-4:30pm Don't Forget -Personalized Dog Tags make GREAT souvenirs!

Development Update

OUTREACH AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

AN EVENING IN THE IA DRANG VALLEY – 1965



On May 9th in conjunction with our partner AUSA Redstone/ Huntsville, the Foundation hosted an amazing event.

This year, we highlighted the Battle of the Ia Drang at the Jackson Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

In November 1965, the U.S. Army engaged, for the first time in a major battle, the North Vietnamese Army in the Ia Drang Valley of Vietnam's Central Highlands. This important battle was highlighted in the book *We Were Soldiers Once... and Young* by LTG Harold Moore, USA Ret. and Joe Galloway, which was adapted into the feature film *We Were Soldiers*.

Our event featured an engaging panel discussion with battle participants from the famed 7th and 5th Cavalry Regiments and 21st Field Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division who discussed their roles in the battle. Panelists included: COL (Retired) Ramon "Tony" Nadal, COL (Retired) Joe Marm, Medal of Honor Recipient, COL (Retired) John Herren, SFC (Retired) Earnie Savage, COL (Retired) Bob Edwards, LTC (Retired) George Forrest, and was moderated by Vietnam-Cambodia combat veteran and military historian COL (Retired) Tom Vossler.



In coordination with our program, the local ABC affiliate, WAAY TV in Huntsville produced a short documentary on

the Battle of the Ia Drang, which included interviews of our panelists. This documentary, *Unbroken: The Bonds Forged in the Ia Drang Valley* can be viewed on YouTube.

This event benefited both the Army Heritage Center Foundation and U.S. Veterans Memorial Museum in Huntsville. With the warm welcome we continue to receive in Huntsville, we are already starting to look forward to a similar event for next year.

ARMY BIRTHDAY DINNER CELEBRATION



On June 10th, we hosted our celebration of the 248th birthday of the U.S. Army.

This year, we celebrated in a less formal way with a BBQ dinner buffet at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center. This change in format was well received and created a fun and relaxed atmosphere for our guests.

Entertainment before dinner was provided by The Federal City Brass Band, a 12-piece Civil War Reenactor Band with a public Army themed concert.

We hope that you can join us for the 249th celebration next June!

FN AMERICA AT THE U.S. ARMY HERITAGE AND EDUCATION CENTER



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On August 4th and 5th, a team from Corporate Leadership Council member, FN America, came to Carlisle to present their product line at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center.

This event was split into four sessions, the first was open to local and state law enforcement agencies, which allowed FN America to show their products that are tailored to law enforcement agencies.

The second and third sessions of the event were geared toward the international students who are studying at the U.S. Army War College this year.

These two sessions allowed FN America to introduce their latest weapons and technology to members of foreign militaries, while also fulfilling academic requirements for the International Fellows, who are required to learn about free market economies, supply chains, and logistics as part of their education at the U.S. Army War College.

The final session was open to the general public and allowed visitors to the museum to see some of what FN has to offer the civilian population.

The event was well received by everyone who attended the sessions. The FN America representatives were excited to have an opportunity to present their products to a new audience, and the International Fellows were pleased with an interactive way to explore both FN America's amazing product line and to learn more about how America's free market economy keeps prices low, while maintaining high production standards and product quality.



The Foundation would like to thank FN America for partnering with us again for this event. We are looking forward to working with the amazing team from FN on this

program next year.

UPCOMING PANEL DISCUSSION: 30TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION OF OPERATION GOTHIC SERPENT AND THE BATTLE OF MOGADISHU



On the evening of October 10th, the Foundation with the generous support of our

corporate sponsor, FN America, will host a panel discussion highlighting Operation Gothic Serpent in Somalia and the Battle of Mogudishu. These events were the basis for the feature film, *Black Hawk Down*.

Our exciting panel will include Veterans from the battle including: Mike Durant, **USA** CW4, Retired, Super 64 & Flight Lead, 160th SOAR (A); Norm Hooten, MSG, USA, Retired Assault Team Sergeant; Dan



Jollota, CW5, USA Retired, Super 68 & CSAR, 160th SOAR (A); Keni Thomas, SSG, USA, 3rd Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment; and will be moderated by MG (R) Clay Hutmacher, former commander of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment.

The Foundation is proud to share the stories and experiences of these Soldiers as they discuss their roles in Operation Gothic Serpent, the Battle of Mogudishu, and its aftermath. We look forward to these amazing Soldiers sharing their experiences as they help us to fulfil our mission of "Telling the Army Story... One Soldier at a Time."

16TH ANNUAL RECOGNITION DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

Planning for our annual dinner is in full swing. On November 4, we will be honoring BG Robert Stewart, USA Retired with our *Living Legend Award*. Stewart's service in the Army spanned almost 30 years of active duty. He is the First Active Duty Army Astronaut and also served as Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Strategic Defense Command and Director of Plans, United States Space Command. We are honored to have him join us for this event.

Operation Deploy Your Dress is the recipient of this year's *Boots on the Ground Award*. The organization began at Fort Bliss, in 2015, when a group of 5 military wives decided to organize

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a dress swap among their units' spouses, as a way to defray the costs associated with purchasing formalwear for military balls. Through national media attention, they have been able to provide over 20,000 gowns over the past 8 years, saving Military Families millions. We will also be collecting donated dresses at the event for those who would like to contribute. Registration information for this event can be found on our website under events.

STABLER INTERNSHIP



Last year, we received a generous grant from the Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation to fund a 16-week onsite internship at USAHEC focusing on creating digital exhibits. This past summer, Hannah Borkenhagen, a student in Shippensburg University's Master of Applied History program served as the intern. Hannah worked with Foundation and



USAHEC staff to create academic resources and content that will become a part of USAHEC's digital exhibits. Hannah worked diligently throughout the summer, and we can't wait to share her work with the public!

HONOR YOUR VETERAN'S SERVICE – THE SOLDIERS WALK

The Soldiers Walk at USAHEC is the perfect place to honor the military service of yourself, a loved one, or an ancestor. Located prominently along the walkway leading to the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center, the Soldiers Walk is open to Veterans of all eras and branches of service.

Your donation will not only create a lasting commemoration to a patriot's military service, but also helps to fund the continued construction of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center.

In addition to your brick, you will also receive a certificate suitable for framing. For more information on our commemorative brick program, please visit our website or call the Foundation offices.

Jevin Orcutt
Director of Strategic Initiatives

Education Program Update

The Education Department offers traditional and hands-on learning experiences and commemorative events that highlight Army Values, teach the lessons of military history, help Veterans connect and share stories, and introduce students to the virtues and values embodied in military service.

Our programs offer Foundation members numerous opportunities to get involved. Whether attending a Veterans Café breakfast, sitting for an oral history interview with a high school student, sharing your knowledge and experiences with students in our Youth Leadership Academy, or helping us craft a Soldier story from the resources in the USAHEC collection, our programs represent your chance to share your Army story with a new generation, one Soldier, and one Student, at a time.

The SOLDIER EXPERIENCE ADVENTURE CAMP is our most hands-on program. Using historical training manuals, we have crafted an experience for youth like no other. Set in the late Cold War period, the camp teaches skills to develop camper's situational awareness and strategic mindset. Campers then engage in a series of dynamic games and drills designed to help them develop observational, teamwork, leadership, and decision making skills.

This year was our most successful ever: over 120 campers attended our 6 sessions. Campers came from as far away as West Virginia and Chicago to attend. Ten Counselors-in-Training assisted with activities, many bound for military continued on page 6

Education Program Update continued from page 5



Campers at Lower Base Camp on the Army Heritage Trail. CITs are wearing black and gold ball caps. CIT Kylie Coulston (1st from the right in the second row) is attending The Citadel this fall on an ROTC scholarship, while CIT Padraig O'Neal (back row, 1st from left) is attending Bucknell, also on an ROTC scholarship.



ABOVE: Youth Leadership Academy students get an up-close look at Army equipment. BELOW: Trust-Walk, students learn how to give instructions and build trust by guiding their blindfolded teammates through the exhibits on the Army Heritage Trail.



COL (R) Frank Hancock with Junior Campers.



careers of their own.

We held three sessions of our Senior Camp for campers in grades 7-10 and expanded the Junior Camp for campers in grades 4-6 to three sessions as well, thanks to outstanding support from COL (R) Frank Hancock, who supervised the Junior Campers. Registration is now open for our Fall Camp programs. These include day and evening programs, complete with night training. Please visit the Foundation website for more details.

Sixteen students attended the YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY through generous support from the G.B. Stuart Charitable Foundation. In addition to our usual program of classroom activities, leadership talks, games, drills, and leadership-reaction course activities, the students got to spend time with State Senator Greg Rothman, himself a USMC veteran, as well as have an inside look at the M109 self-

propelled howitzer on the Army Heritage Trail courtesy of USAHEC's Deputy Director, COL Tim Baer.

Our end of year VETERANS' EVENTS include:

- Vietnam Veterans Bus Trip to the National Museum of the United States Army, Saturday, October 28, 2023. No cost to attend, lunch and snacks included. Sponsored by Humana.
- Veterans' Day Eve Watchfire, Friday November 10, 2023, 5:00 to 6:00 PM (or later). This tradition evokes the traditions of old, when armies would light watchfires after battle to guide Soldiers home to their units. Join us for fire, food, and fellowship. Sponsored by United Concordia.
- Veterans' Café Breakfast, Saturday, December 2, 2023, 8:00

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Education Program Update continued from page 6

to 9:30 AM. No cost to attend. Sponsored by Hoffman Funeral Home, Humana, and United Concordia.

The VETERANS ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM (VOHP) is starting up for the 2023/2024 Academic year at Cumberland Valley High School. Over 25 students, most of whom have no experience or connection with the military, have signed up to help collect YOUR story. Contact us to become one of our oral history participants. Don't live near Carlisle? No problem, we can arrange to collect your story online. Reach out to us for more information.

Our most recent **TEACHER WORKSHOP** on the intervention in Somalia and the Battle of Mogadishu reached audiences around the world. During our next Teacher Workshop on October 27, we will be presenting Silent Warriors: U.S. Special Forces in American History.

THANK YOU TO OUR PROGRAM SPONSORS. Our education programs would not be possible without the support of our donors. We would like to thank our current sponsors: Universal Health Services of Delaware, the Caudal





LEFT: Veterans, friends, and family gather at the Watchfire for fellowship and to honor absent friends. RIGHT: Veterans' Café breakfasts are an opportunity to share quality time with friends and hear stories of service.

Foundation, M&T Bank, Hoffman Funeral Home, Humana, United Concordia, G.B. Stuart Charitable Foundation, and Walmart for their support.

Jeff Hawks
Director of Educational Programs and Veterans Outreach

Join Us to Honor Soldiers! 16TH ANNUAL RECOGNITION DINNER & SILENT AUCTION NOVEMBER 4TH AT 6 PM

AT THE U.S. ARMY HERITAGE AND EDUCATION CENTER
This year's honorees include



Living Legend Awardee
BG Robert Stewart, USA Ret.



Boots on the Ground Awardee
Operation Deploy Your Dress



Contact the Foundation's office for information 717-258-1102; info@armyheritage.org



USAHEC Director's Update

Mr. Geoffrey Mangelsdorf

The roar of the propellers is deafening inside the tight aircraft. "30-SECONDS!" The seasoned Soldiers smile and look to the door. "STAND-BY!" Their hearts race as the light turns green. "GO!" All eyes turn skyward as the first jumper exits the aircraft and hurtles towards the earth.

The Golden Knights from Fort Liberty, parachute into the center of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center campus on 14 October 2023, to kick-off Army EXPO '23. I know you want to see that!

It's going to be an action-packed weekend, with UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters flying over and landing throughout the day, historical aircraft (trainers flown by the Tuskegee Airmen) doing low passes, and interactive demonstrations (including an RQ-11 Raven drone unit) scheduled to participate. On the ground, there are over a dozen current-operations vehicles, equipment, displays, an Army Adventure semitruck display and the regional PAANG recruiting unit is bringing a rock wall to climb. Look for M777 and M109A6 howitzers and a long list of engineering and firefighting vehicles.

The program includes reenactors depicting every era of Army history complete with vehicles and live demonstrations. We welcome over 23 separate regional organizations to contribute indoor and outdoor booth spaces, including veterans' organizations, Army civilian employment, regional industry, and historical organizations. Enjoy afternoon concerts from two Army rock bands--Army Field Band "Six String Soldiers" and USAR 78th Band "Checkmate."

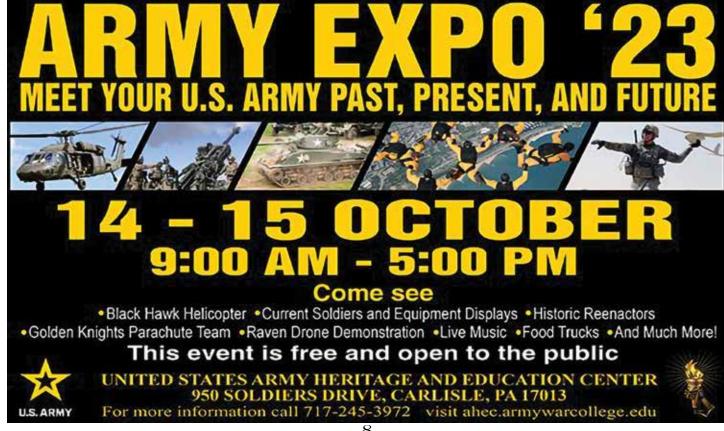
We're transforming the legacy program of Army Heritage



Days into this new event to better connect the American public with their Army. We leverage this new direction to incrementally shift towards an event that showcases the entire Army capabilities and workforce. The expo addresses contemporary issues and emphasizes service as a Soldier and as an Army Civilian. We intentionally apply a lens of past, present, and future that favors the present and future Army. Of course, we will retain a historical component in portraying a successful Army, over time, in challenging environments—it is in our DNA.

I thank each of you for your mentorship and generosity in supporting our venture. We only achieve the exhibits, programs, and collections through you and your ideas. I hope you make time in your busy lives to visit Carlisle so we can share memories and maybe make some new ones.

I look forward to seeing all of you at Army EXPO '23 in a couple weeks, and reconnecting-even if we are not paratroopers with "our knees in the breeze!" The program runs from 0900-1700 each day, 14-15 October 2023.



USAHEC Academic Studies Division Update

The U.S. Army War College's (USAWC) new Root Hall is already in use. As part of the immersive academic environment, the expert staff at U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC) produced and installed thematic displays that invite students, faculty, staff, and visitors to consider how the USAWC produces talented graduates who are able to go forward in their careers to tackle the most pressing and serious problems and issues confronting the world.



The thematic exhibits prompt viewers through creative and engaging means to understand how the USAWC has contributed to strategic art in the past, is continuing to influence key events in the present day, and plans to continue as the cutting edge of strategy formulation into the future.

The exhibits reflect the current state of strategic art and use innovative techniques to demonstrate that. Many of the exhibits also employ innovative ways of displaying information and providing access to deeper sources of knowledge. With the IT infrastructure of the building designed to accommodate yet more innovation into the future, exhibit curators can continue to expand the knowledge presented and transform how it is presented.

The following exhibits greet those who walk the halls: Welcome and Community; USAWC Past, Present, and Future; Strategic Leadership, Innovation, and Wargaming; Community: The Carlisle Experience; International Partners; Strategy Formulation; and Knowledge Commons. Coming



online in the near future are exhibits on Digital Experience and Leader Development.

The facility offers a unique opportunity to present an innovative exhibit program, digitally enhanced, aiming to explore diverse and captivating topics. Its purpose is to educate and inspire students, faculty, and esteemed visitors alike. To bring this vision to life, a successful implementation of the curated content through the digital wall and individual exhibits requires ongoing support and collaboration from faculty, staff, technicians, and contractors over multiple years. Once fully developed, this program promises to elevate significantly the learning experiences of students and visitors, leaving a lasting impact for years to come.



2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FOUNDATION PROGRAMS

(Information on our programs can be found on our website, under events.)

October 10, 2023, 5 pm

Commemorating Operation Gothic Serpent, the 30th Anniversary of the Battle of Mogadishu, AUSA National Expo

October 14 and 15, 2023, 9 am – 5 pm

Used book sale at the Museum Store

October 21, 2023

Soldier Experience Adventure Day Camp

October 27, 2023

Teacher Workshop – Silent Warriors: U.S. Special Forces in American History

November 4, 2023, 6 pm

16th Annual Membership Recognition Dinner and Silent Auction

November 10, 2023, 5 pm

Veterans Day Watchfire Program

November 11, 2023

Soldier Experience Adventure Evening Camp

November 25, 2023

Soldier Experience Adventure Day Camp

November 30, 2023, 10 am

Talk with General David Petraeus, USA Retired
— Conflict: The Evolution of Warfare from
1945 to Ukraine

December 2, 2023, 8 am

Veterans Café

December 2, 2023

Soldier Experience Adventure Evening Camp

December 27, 2023

Soldier Experience Adventure Day Camp

USAHEC

October 14 & 15, 2023

Army Expo 2023

October 18, 2023, 6:30 pm

Feeding Washington's Army: Surviving the Valley Forge Winter of 1778 with Dr. Ricardo Herrera

November 11, 2023, 11 am

U.S. Army War College Veterans Day Commemoration

November 15, 2023, 6:30 pm

Proving Patriotism: Latino Military Recruiting with Dr. Adam McGlynn

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

The Soldier Experience Gallery Exhibit - The Visitor and Education Center

KaPow Boom! Understanding the Soldier Experience Through Comic and Illustrative Art- in the Soldier Experience Gallery

On Patrol (Current Operations) - Ridgway Lobby

Animals in the Army: Companions Mascots and Animals of War - Bradley Art Gallery

A Call to Arms: The Story of the U.S. Army Reserve – Hall of the American Soldier

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