



# CALL TO DUTY

Newsletter of the Capital Campaign for the National Museum of the United States Army

The Army Historical Foundation • 2425 Wilson Boulevard • Arlington, Virginia 22201 • www.armyhistory.org

## FALLEN LIEUTENANT REGISTRY'S 100,000<sup>TH</sup> HONOREE

First Lieutenant Kenneth M. Ballard, one of America's Fallen, became the 100,000<sup>th</sup> Soldier enrolled in The Army Historical Foundation's (AHF's) *Registry of the American Soldier*.

Ballard, a 26-year-old platoon leader with the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division's 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 37<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment, was killed on May 30, 2004, in Najaf, Iraq. His mother, Karen Meredith of Mountain View, Calif., enrolled him in the *Registry*.

"My son Ken dreamed of being a Soldier since he was very young," Meredith said when told that Ballard was

Germany until 1998. His initial European assignment with the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division included deployments to Bosnia and Macedonia.

In mid-1998, Ballard was awarded a Green to Gold Army ROTC scholarship that led to his commission as a second lieutenant of Armor and graduation from Middle Tennessee State University in 2002 with a B.A. in International Relations.

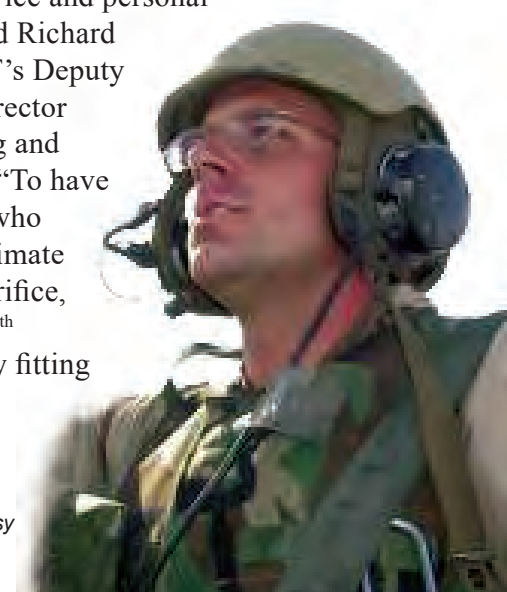
Ballard returned to Germany and the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division for his first assignment as an Armor officer. The division deployed to Iraq, with Ballard serving as a platoon leader during periods of intense combat, including the rescue mission of a pinned down American platoon during the April 4, 2004 battle of Sadr City chronicled in ABC News correspondent Martha Raddatz's "The Long Road Home: A Story of War and Family."

For his service during Operation Iraqi Freedom, LT Ballard was awarded the Bronze Star with V device and Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star for meritorious service, Purple Heart, and Combat Action Badge.

"Every Soldier enrolled in our *Registry* will have his or her service history preserved in the future National Museum of the United States Army as a tribute to selfless service and personal sacrifice," said Richard Couture, AHF's Deputy Executive Director for Marketing and Operations. "To have LT Ballard, who made the ultimate personal sacrifice,

enrolled as the 100,000<sup>th</sup> honoree is an especially fitting and poignant tribute."

Tank Platoon Leader Ballard. Photo courtesy of Karen Meredith.



the *Registry's* 100,000<sup>th</sup> honoree. "He represents everything that is good about our best and brightest who serve in the U.S. Army. His family and I are truly proud."

A fourth generation Army officer, Ballard enlisted in the Army in 1995, completed basic training at Fort Knox, and served as a loader on an M1-A1 Abrams tank in

# Cold War Gallery: Vietnam War Exhibit

As noted in the March 2014 issue of *Call To Duty*, the Vietnam and Korean war exhibit areas in the Museum's *Cold War* gallery will share a joint entryway featuring introductory panels informing visitors of the differences between conventional and unconventional war and providing a framework for understanding and contrasting these two conflicts.

The "Vietnam War" exhibit area will provide a comprehensive look at the U.S. Army's involvement in Vietnam from 1960 to 1975. Visitors will be drawn into "The Vietnam Experience" as they encounter a collage of images rhythmically changing to the accompanying pop music from the era. Images such as a platoon on a search and destroy mission in the jungle, a supply convoy moving tons of equipment, an artillery battery on a fire support base, and a Soldier reading a letter from home set the scene of the Vietnam War era and the Soldier experience.

The walls of the "Unconventional Warfare" exhibit section will be framed by artifacts showcasing objects from the U.S. Army, the Viet Cong, and the North Vietnamese Army.

North Vietnamese and Viet Cong (VC) forces often avoided large-scale battles against U.S. and South Vietnamese troops. VC guerillas moved clandestinely among the population, assembling to fight at times and places of their choosing. With no traditional front lines and few secure rear areas, U.S. Soldiers faced a constant threat of attack. These factors forced the Army to develop new tactics and techniques for the war in Southeast Asia.

Overhead a suspended UH-1B Iroquois (Huey) Utility Helicopter will invite visitors to learn more about the Army's expanded use of aviation technology during the Vietnam War and the evolution of the air assault concept.

The "Airmobile Operations" exhibit space will describe the evolution of the Army's air assault division with enough helicopters to lift one brigade of Soldiers at one time. The 11<sup>th</sup> Air Assault Division tested the concept at Fort Benning, Ga. in 1963 and 1964. Redesignated the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division (Airmobile), "airmobility" proved its worth during the heavy fighting in the Ia Drang Valley in November 1965. Later, the helicopter's effect on organizations and operations was considered as influential to the Vietnam battlefield as was the introduction of mechanized forces in World War II.

The "Vietnam Stories" section will showcase the personal stories of a variety of individual Soldiers who will share their Vietnam experience. The "Feature Stories" area will explore several military occupational specialties and how this new battlefield challenged the Army's doctrine, performance, and Soldier morale.

The last stop in the exhibit, "Beginning of Realignment," will discuss the Army's post-war self examination to improve its capabilities and move forward from this unpopular war. This exhibit area will explain the development of the 1970 Total Force concept which increased the reliance on the reserve components. Visitors will also learn that upon the elimination of the draft, the Army initiated another significant change in 1973 by establishing the all-volunteer Army, a force that continues today.



In recognition of support for the National Museum of the United States Army, certain exhibits or artifacts described in this article may be named in honor or memory of the donor or honoree.

### *SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:*

- Vietnam Experience Gallery and Theater - \$1,000,000
- Vietnam Stories - \$500,000
- Airmobile Operations - \$350,000
- Vietnam Topographical Model - \$150,000

*Design renderings courtesy of Eisterhold Associates Inc.*



A Vietnam War-era UH-1B helicopter. U.S. Army photo.

# Estate Gifts Support Campaign

The Capital Campaign for the National Museum of the United States Army recently received major gifts via the estates of two World War II Army veterans—a \$1 million gift of LTC Mary Bateman Connell (USA-Ret.), a 99-year-old retired Army nurse, and \$100,000 gift of a 95-year-old Army veteran whose name is being withheld at this time.

“Receiving these gifts was a very pleasant surprise,” acknowledged Rachel Hartmann, the Capital Campaign’s Senior Director for Major and Planned Giving, “and it’s an honor to know these individuals made purposeful provisions in advance to support the National Army Museum through their estates.” According to Hartmann, 2013 was a good year for the planned giving program, which gained six new members. Another four members have joined in first months of 2014.

“Some Museum supporters name us in their estate unbeknownst to us and we don’t have the opportunity to personally express our gratitude,” Hartmann continued. “We will always respect donors’ wishes if they prefer to keep their plans private, and we also enjoy the opportunity to work with our planned-giving donors and their personal advisors and welcome them into the *Legacy Society*.”

The *Legacy Society* is a recognition program to thank and honor individuals today for the future support they will provide to The Army Historical Foundation and the Campaign for the National Army Museum. COL David Mitchell, (USA-Ret.) is one of the newest members of the *Legacy Society*. At a meeting in March, Mitchell explained to Hartmann that he had made regular donations to the Campaign and started thinking further ahead with his estate plans. Mitchell added, “I reflected on what served as the basis in shaping my career and my adult life, and it was clear: my alma mater, Ohio University, and the U.S. Army.” Mitchell studied journalism at Ohio University and went on to serve three years in Vietnam. After Vietnam, Mitchell had a career as a civil servant and served as a civil affairs officer in the U.S. Army Reserve.

During a recent meeting with Hartmann, COL Donald R. Werner (USA-Ret.) expressed that he also had included the Museum in his estate plans. Werner served two years in the Marines and then enlisted in the Army. Werner explained that he joined the Army for the GI bill benefits and the training. It turned out that he loved the Army and he stayed. “I served over 30 years in the Army and the Army was very good to me,” Werner added. “Now is my time to give back.”



Rachel Hartmann updates COL Mitchell (USA-Ret.) on the Museum project.

## LEGACY / PLANNED GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



There are several ways to get involved:

### Gifts by Will or Revocable

**Trust** – Name The Army Historical Foundation in your will through a bequest provision.

### Qualified Retirement

**Plans** – Designate The Army Historical Foundation as a beneficiary of your retirement plan assets.

**Gifts of Securities** – Transfer stock to The Army Historical Foundation.

### Gifts by Life

**Insurance** – Designate The Army Historical as owner/beneficiary of a life insurance policy.

### Charitable Remainder

**Trust** – Create a trust that provides a fixed or variable income to meet your specific needs, at the termination of which all remaining assets are passed to The Army Historical Foundation.

**Retained Life Estate** – Give a remainder interest in your personal residence, farm, or vacation home to The Army Historical Foundation.

**Contact Us:** To learn how one or more planned giving opportunities may be appropriate for you, please contact Rachel Hartmann at (314) 495-6121 or [Rachel.hartmann@armyhistory.org](mailto:Rachel.hartmann@armyhistory.org). Recognizing the private nature of such planning, all inquiries and communications are held in strict confidence and are without obligation.



# 1814 Society Gather for A

Over 75 members of *The 1814 Society* from 10 different states recently gathered in Washington, D.C. for their annual event. This year's event was hosted at President Lincoln's Cottage on the grounds of the Soldiers' Home, which the Federal Government founded in 1851 as a home for veteran Soldiers.

The cottage served as President Abraham Lincoln's family residence for 13 months during the Civil War, and he regularly commuted between there and the White House. Members who attended the guided tour also learned President Lincoln was living at the cottage when he prepared the Emancipation Proclamation.

"We considered the Lincoln Cottage a perfect site for our group," said Beth Schultz Seaman, Manager of *The 1814 Society*. "It's a lesser-known site that is rich in history and whose origins began with the 'relief and support of invalid and disabled soldiers of the U.S. Army'."

Following the tour and cocktail reception, guests settled in for an update on the National Army Museum by project leaders. AHF Executive Director BG Creighton W. Abrams, Jr. (USA-Ret.) welcomed the attendees and applauded that at 906 members strong, *The 1814 Society* has donated over \$3.1 million to the Capital Campaign and will be recognized through their sponsorship of an artistic representation of the U.S. Army campaign streamers in the Museum's main lobby.

The first guest speaker, Dr. Charles H. Cureton, Chief, Museums Division, U.S. Army Center of Military History, gave a sneak peek of the Museum exhibits and shared the stories and historical significance



LTG and Mrs. Joseph DeFrancisco (USA-Ret.) and Dr. Cureton.

Photos by 1814 Society members, Bill and Jerrie Lane.

# Members Annual Event

behind some of the artifacts and artwork that will be displayed at the Museum.

Mr. J. Randall Robinson, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy & the Environment and Project Executive Officer for the Museum, shared the Army's perspective on the importance of the Museum and acknowledged *The 1814 Society* members for their support. "Each of you is here because of your optimism and because of your dedication to telling the Army story," Robinson remarked. "You are a part of something very big .... Let's continue to move forward and do this. First a groundbreaking – then a ribbon cutting!"

Several *1814 Society* members continued their weekend by attending The Army Historical Foundation's overnight staff ride of the Wilderness Campaign led by LTC Gustav Person, (NYARNG-Ret.). Also known as Grant's Overland Campaign, the tour traced a series of Civil War battles fought in Virginia during May and June 1864, including stops at The Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, North Anna, and Cold Harbor.

For more information, or to join *The 1814 Society*, contact Beth Schultz Seaman at (703) 879-0006 or email [Beth.Schultz@armyhistory.org](mailto:Beth.Schultz@armyhistory.org).



MG Kyoung Soo Shin, Defense Attaché, Embassy of the Republic of Korea and Mrs. Shin, with AHF's GEN William W. Hartzog and BG Abrams, and CPT Monika Stoy (USA-Ret.)



The staff ride makes a stop in Spotsylvania, Va.



Staff ride leader Gustav Person discusses the uniform and equipment of a Civil War Soldier.

# Foundation Thanks Myles Eckert, “a gold star kid”

“CBS Evening News” coverage of a thoughtful act of kindness recently earned eight-year-old Myles Eckert of Toledo, Ohio, a special thank you from The Army Historical Foundation (AHF).

If you missed Myles’ story, here’s why it impressed AHF’s Board of Directors, prompting them to acknowledge his thoughtfulness.

Myles found a \$20 bill heading into in a Maumee, Ohio Cracker Barrel restaurant. Excited, he told his mom, Tiffany, that he was thinking of spending the money on a video game. He changed his mind inside the restaurant once he spotted Air Force Lt. Col. Frank Dailey and his family having dinner. The officer reminded Myles of his dad, Sergeant Andy Eckert, who was killed in Iraq when Myles was only five weeks old.

So with his dad in mind, Myles wrapped the \$20 bill in a note that said, “Dear Soldier—my dad was a soldier. He’s in heaven now. I found this 20 dollars in the parking lot when we got here. We like to pay it forward in my family. It’s your lucky day. Thank you for your service. Myles Eckert, a gold star kid.”

Myles told CBS he gave the money to Dailey “because he was a soldier, and soldiers remind me of my dad.”

Dailey kept the note but paid forward Myles’ gift to a charity. Meanwhile, many CBS viewers wanted Myles to have a \$20 bill. Instead, the Eckerts referred viewers to Snowball Express, which helps children who’ve lost a parent in war. Over a quarter of a million dollars has been paid forward to the charity since Myles got the “Snowball” rolling.

When AHF learned that Myles was also interested in Army history and would be in Washington, D.C. at Easter time, he and his family were invited to visit the Foundation, where he was presented a Lifetime Membership, a copy of AHF’s “U.S. Army: A Complete History,” and a plaque commemorating his dad, an honoree in AHF’s *Registry of the American Soldier*.

“Myles, thank you for what you did,” said BG Creighton W. Abrams, Jr. (USA-Ret.) in making the presentation. “It made us feel good about being Soldiers and about what we are doing to bring Army history alive.”



BG Abrams and Myles Eckert.

## Family With Long Military History Supports Museum

The M. R. and Evelyn Hudson Foundation, a family foundation based in the Dallas-Fort Worth area of Texas, recently donated \$50,000 toward the construction of the National Museum of the United States Army, thanks to a family member. Dr. Wally Hooser, a cousin of the Hudsons, explained that the Hooser family connection to the Army dates back to the French and Indian War and five ancestors serving in the Revolutionary War.

“I grew up poor and I was the first in my family to attend college,” explained Hooser. “My family valued patriotism and shared a lot of stories about our relatives who had served in the military and the opportunities our country afforded us ... It shaped my outlook on life in a very positive way.”

While Hooser was in his last year of medical school, he and his brother volunteered for military service during the Vietnam War. Hooser finished medical school and spent two years at Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii which received constant medical evacuations from Vietnam. After a serious illness, Hooser was medically discharged, but continued practicing

medicine in civilian life and became a successful radiologist. Hooser added that those two years strongly influenced him and he embraced the principles of honor, duty, and loyalty, and when he is asked, “Where did you learn that?” he always replies, “I learned that in the Army!”

When M.R. and Evelyn Hudson passed away they established a foundation with their remaining estate and gave their family one directive — do good and help those who are trying to help themselves. Upon learning of their gift, AHF’s Executive Director BG Creighton W. Abrams, (USA-Ret.), affirmed that supporting the National Army Museum is a donation that will do good now and continue to do good years down the road through educating Museum visitors about the Army’s history and engaging young people in interactive STEM educational activities.

“I hope more folks and Army vets will think about their time in the Army and what it meant to them,” concluded Hooser. “Everyone’s time and money is valuable, big and small, and giving what you can is worthwhile and makes a difference.”



## Capital Campaign Launches *Lexington & Concord Society*

Introducing the *Lexington & Concord Society*, a new group specifically designed for donors making gifts between \$5,000 and \$49,999.

“The *Lexington & Concord Society* creates a unique giving opportunity within the Campaign, and true to its name, reflects the spirit of the brave minutemen who banded together to fight for America’s Independence,” said Kerri Kline, Director of Donor Initiatives and Museum Relations.

Members of the new *Lexington & Concord Society* — Minuteman, Continental, and Patriot associates — will have the unique opportunities to:

- Meet top Museum officials,
- Stay abreast of Museum project details,
- Be the first to learn of public programs and educational initiatives, and
- Receive premium VIP invitations to special Campaign and Army Historical Foundation events.

On April 19, 1775, tensions between the American colonists and the British government reached a breaking point, resulting in the first military engagements of the American Revolution. After the initial fighting at Lexington and Concord, militiamen from nearby towns came to the aid of the local colonists to push the British regulars back to Boston. Ralph Waldo Emerson captured the importance and significance of the battles of Lexington and Concord in his phrase “the shot heard ‘round the world.” Nothing would ever be the same, and the Colonists took the first steps toward revolution and independence. In a few short months, the Continental Army, the forerunner of the United States Army, was formed on June 14, 1775.

“This month, the Army celebrates 239 years of service to our nation,” said MG John P. Herrling, (USA-Ret.), Campaign Executive Director, “and we invite our supporters to join together through the *Lexington & Concord Society*, like the minutemen, and use their collective resolve to drive this campaign forward to a shared goal – Museum groundbreaking.”

**MINUTEMAN  
ASSOCIATE**  
\$5,000 – \$9,999

**CONTINENTAL  
ASSOCIATE**  
\$10,000 – \$24,999

**PATRIOT  
ASSOCIATE**  
\$25,000 - \$49,999

*Background Image: “Lexington Common, 19th of April 1775.” Painting by Don Troiani.*

# MPCs— Trong chi tiêu của bạn là gì?

(“What’s in your wallet?”)



Vietnam veterans will surely recall those quirky-colored Military Payment Certificates (MPCs) used to buy Seiko watches, Pentax cameras, stereo gear, and beer and tobacco in U.S. facilities throughout South Vietnam.

Meant to help control inflation and deter black market operations and currency manipulation, the MPCs took the place of U.S. dollars as the authorized medium of troop payment and exchange “in country” beginning in September 1965.

Although new to Vietnam in 1965, MPCs were introduced in 1946 and used by all U.S. personnel, military and civilian alike, throughout post-war Europe (Germany, Great Britain, Austria, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Luxembourg, Trieste, France, and Switzerland), North Africa, and the Pacific (Japan, Korea, and the Ryukyus).

Designed by the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the Vietnam-era certificates were issued in denominations ranging from as little as five cents up to twenty dollars. Fractional dollar denominations—five cent, ten cent, twenty-five cent, and fifty cent certificates—were the approximate size of Monopoly money, while whole dollar denominations—ones, fives, tens and twenties—were printed in various larger sizes. Depending on their series issue dates, the MPCs featured images ranging from submarines to astronauts and peasant girls to majestic mountains scenes.

The use of MPCs made illegal currency transactions more difficult but did not eliminate them entirely. In 1968, various records and statistics indicated that a substantial amount in certificates issued originally in 1965 were in the hands of unauthorized personnel, prompting a decision for the first in a series of unannounced “conversion days”—“C days,” as they became known among the troops.

The first MPC “C Day” in Vietnam was kept secret until actually conducted on October 28, 1968, when all personnel authorized to possess certificates were restricted to their locations and required to exchange their MPCs for a new series controlled and provided by specially appointed

finance agents stationed at all U.S installations and base camps. Thus, the series of MPCs in circulation became worthless to anyone possessing them after “C day.” According to Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) records, certificates totaling \$276,931,802.50 were converted, leaving



\$6,228,597.50 unaccounted for and presumed to be in the hands of unauthorized personnel. A second “C day” was conducted on August 11, 1969 to further thwart black marketers and profiteers.

After the official end of U.S. participation in the Vietnam War in April 1975, MPCs remained in use only in South Korea, and only until later that year when American dollars were reintroduced.

## THE ARMY HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

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