

# Thoughts From The Executive Director

*By Kim Kovesci, MAPS Executive Director*

Dear MAPS Members,

For those of you who have enjoyed the Collings Foundation Wings of Freedom tour held here at MAPS for the last several years, you must have been saddened by news of the crash of the B-17 Flying Fortress, "Nine-O-Nine" in Connecticut this past October.

The Collings Foundation was founded in 1979 and their mission is to organize and support "living history" events that enable Americans to learn more about their heritage through direct participation. And that they do! Many local residents have had the thrill of flying in one of these treasures of aviation history.

In 2019, the Wings of Freedom Tour brought five rare bomber and fighter aircraft to 110 locations throughout the United States. They have been doing this for 30 years!

In light of the tragic accident of the B-17, Collings suspended the Wings of Freedom Tour for the remainder of 2019. Please see the letter from Rob Collings in the next column.

Rest in Peace to those who lost their lives and to "Nine-O-Nine,"

Kim

## HOURS OF OPERATION

SUNDAY	11:30 - 4:00
MONDAY	CLOSED
TUESDAY	9:00 - 4:30
WEDNESDAY	9:00 - 4:30
THURSDAY	9:00 - 4:30
FRIDAY	9:00 - 4:30
SATURDAY	9:00 - 4:30

## ADDRESS and PHONE

**Address:** 2260 International Parkway  
North Canton, Ohio 44720

**Phone:** 330-896-6332



## An Important Message from the Collings Foundation

Dear Supporters,

Please join the Collings Foundation in our thoughts and prayers with those who were on the tragic flight of the B-17 Flying Fortress "Nine-O-Nine" on Wednesday, October 2nd. We will be forever grateful to the heroic efforts of the first responders at Bradley International Airport and the assistance of all local agencies in the days after the crash. The Collings Foundation team has been and remains fully cooperative with officials to determine the cause of the crash and we will comment further when facts and details become available. We have suspended the Wings of Freedom Tour for the remainder of the 2019 season and the aircraft have returned to our winter maintenance base in Florida.

The mission of the Collings Foundation remains steadfast in the goal of making history come alive as we have for over 30 years. Since 1989, the Wings of Freedom Tour has touched the lives of millions, as we have made visits to over 3600 communities in that time. Tens of thousands have flown aboard our Living History Flight Experiences (LHFE) on the B-17, B-24, B-25, and A-1E and flight training on the TP-51C, TF-51D, and TP-40N. In the past weeks we have received many stories on how powerful and life-changing the tour has been for families and as we move forward, and we expect there are thousands more who have been touched by the Wings of Freedom Tour.

*Continued on next page*

## ★ Mission Statement ★

MAPS Air Museum is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating people about the history of aviation and its impact upon society. It accomplishes this mission by acquiring, restoring, preserving, studying and exhibiting the impact of aviation on the culture of man.

***Collings Foundation Message continued...***

In the coming months, federal agencies will be reviewing the LHFE program for not only our organization, but many other organizations nationwide who continue to fly vintage aircraft as a part of their educational mission. As these reviews take place, we feel it is important for the voices of those impacted by the Wings of Freedom Tour over the years to be heard. **We need to let federal agencies know that the LHFE program is important to you and other American citizens as an educational tool.**

Please take a moment to add your comments to the current docket regarding the renewal of the Collings Foundation LHFE program with the FAA at the Federal Register. You may do so online at the following link:

<https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=FAA-2001-11089-0096>

As you write your comment, please review the tips for submitting effective comments from [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov/docs/Tips_For_Submitting_Effective_Comments.pdf) at [https://www.regulations.gov/docs/Tips\\_For\\_Submitting\\_Effective\\_Comments.pdf](https://www.regulations.gov/docs/Tips_For_Submitting_Effective_Comments.pdf)

Thank you for your support of our living history mission.  
Best regards,

**Rob Collings**

Executive Director  
The Collings Foundation

**Upcoming Events****DECEMBER**

SUN, DEC 1	SANTA FLY-IN
SAT, DEC 7	VOLUNTEER CHRISTMAS PARTY
WED, DEC 11	DIRECTOR MEETING 3 PM
SAT, DEC 14	MEMBERSHIP MEETING 11 AM

**JANUARY**

WED, JAN 8	DIRECTOR MEETING 3 PM
SAT, JAN 11	MEMBERSHIP MEETING 11 AM

**FEBRUARY**

WED, FEB 5	DIRECTOR MEETING 3 PM
SAT, FEB 8	MEMBERSHIP MEETING 11 AM

**MARCH**

WED, MAR 11	DIRECTOR MEETING 3 PM
SAT, MAR 14	MEMBERSHIP MEETING 11 AM
SUN, MAR 29	MILITARY COLLECTOR'S SHOW

*(Please check website for updates)*

**Your Skills are Needed!**

You may be thinking that you would like to volunteer at MAPS but you're not retired yet and you don't know the first thing about restoring aircraft!

Here's the good news! You don't have to be retired and you don't have to restore aircraft! There are no minimum number of hours you have to volunteer and some of our volunteers actually work from home.

Many of our volunteers come and help out when they can - for events in the evening or on weekends, working a few hours in the gift shop or giving tours (we have training for that.)

We also need help with carpentry projects or other maintenance type activities.

Because of our recent focus on coordinating the museum displays with significant events in history, we need help doing research on those events. We also need help developing and creating the library displays. Anyone who has an interest in preserving history would be a wonderful addition to the team!

Why not come in and check us out. Tell us what you'd like to do and we'll find a spot for you!

Contact Bob Schwartz, Membership Coordinator at [schwartz.robert@mapsairmuseum.org](mailto:schwartz.robert@mapsairmuseum.org)



**From  
Sea  
to  
Shining  
Sea,**

**She  
Graced  
Our  
Skies!**





## MAPS DIRECTORY

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kim Kovesci

### DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Reed Kimball

### EVENT COORDINATOR

Kent Kleinknecht

### DIRECTORS

Dennis Bachtel

Rick Hamlet

Bob Hollis

Jim Jackson

Valerie Kinney

Ken Ramsay

Bob Schwartz (Chair)

### MARKETING

Doug Perry

### MUSEUM DISPLAYS

Scott Denniss

Gary Haight

### GIFT SHOP

Bob Hollis

### LIBRARY

Barb Johnston

Betty Tober

### LUNCH ROOM

Mary Ann Cameron

### MEMBERSHIP

Bob Schwartz

### MILITARY INTERVIEW PROGRAM

Debbie Bussinger

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Marylou Thompson

### OMM DISPLAYS

James Byerly

### PR / PUBLICITY

Barb Johnston

### RESTORATION MANAGERS

Ron Duplain

Jim Jackson

Jim Schoop

Clay Tober

### SAFETY

Ted Mathies

### SCOUT COORDINATOR

Jim Felner

### SECURITY

Rick Hamlet

### TOUR COORDINATOR

Reed Kimball

### TREASURER

Mac McFarland

### WEBSITE & WEBMASTER

Ron Schultz

## A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words...

MAPS Veterans Day VII celebration was truly a memorable event! The ceremony honored Lt. Col. Kevin "Sonny" Sonnenberg, an F-16 pilot assigned to the 180th Fighter Wing who was killed in action on June 15, 2007, while serving in Iraq. The ceremony honored Sonnenberg's selfless service and sacrifice and included the dedication of a restored F-16 fighter jet in his name that will remain on display at the museum.

More than 400 guests, including members of the Sonnenberg family and current and retired members of the Ohio National Guard's 180th Fighter Wing were in attendance. Below are some pictures of the event, taken by SMSgt Beth Holliker, Public Affairs Superintendent, 180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard.



Presentation of Colors in front of the restored F-16 dedicated to Lt. Col. Kevin "Sonny" Sonnenberg. Jim Jackson, MAPS volunteer, was Crew Chief for the restoration.



Lt. Col. Kevin Sonnenberg

Reed Kimball, MAPS education director, narrates the POW/MIA table ceremony as members of a joint color guard team place hats at the table, representing those from each service who have not yet returned home.



The crowd, in silence, pays respect to those who have not yet returned.



Patriotic décor for a special and memorable evening

# Unternehmen Wacht am Rhein (Operation Watch on the Rhein)

*By Reed Kimball, MAPS Director of Education*

After the breakout from Normandy at the end of July 1944 and the Allied landings in southern France on 15 August 1944, the Allies advanced toward Germany more quickly than anticipated. The Allies were faced with several military logistics issues:

- ◆ troops were fatigued by weeks of continuous combat,
- ◆ supply lines were stretched extremely thin,
- ◆ supplies were dangerously depleted.

With the Allied advance stalled by these issues, the German commanders were able to reorganize the disrupted German armies into a coherent defensive force. The Allies believed that a new defensive army was being formed around Düsseldorf in the northern Rhineland, possibly to defend against British attack. What little intelligence they had led the Allies to believe precisely what the Germans wanted them to believe – that preparations were being carried out only for defensive, not offensive, operations. Adolph Hitler, however, had another goal in mind – to go back on the offensive. Much to the surprise of a majority of his senior leadership, Hitler proposed a new offensive operation. Its objective was to split the Allied armies by means of a surprise attack through the Ardennes to Antwerp, marking a repeat of what the Germans had done three times previously—in September 1870, August 1914, and May 1940.

The Wehrmacht's code name for the offensive was Unternehmen Wacht am Rhein ("Operation Watch on the Rhine"), after the German patriotic hymn "*Die Wacht am Rhein*", a name that deceptively implied the Germans would be adopting a defensive posture along the Western Front. The battle was militarily defined by the Allies as the Ardennes Counteroffensive, which included the German drive and the American effort to contain and later defeat it. While the Ardennes Counteroffensive is the correct term in Allied military language, the most popular description in English speaking countries remains simply the Battle of the Bulge.

The Battle of the Bulge was the last major German offensive campaign on the Western Front during World War II,

and took place from December 1944 to 25 January 1945. It was launched through the densely forested Ardennes region of Wallonia in eastern Belgium, northeast France, and Luxembourg. Given the reduced manpower of their land forces at the time, the Germans believed the best way to seize the initiative would be to attack in the West against the smaller Allied forces rather than against the vast Soviet armies. The offensive was intended to stop Allied use of the Belgian port of Antwerp and to split the Allied lines, allowing the Germans to encircle and destroy four Allied armies and force the Western Allies to negotiate a peace treaty and then to permit the concentration of forces in the east.

Due to a number of factors, the Allied High Command considered the Ardennes to be a "quiet" sector. These considerations led it to be used as a training ground for new units and a rest area for units that had seen hard fighting. The U.S. units deployed in the Ardennes were a mixture of inexperienced troops (such as the U.S. 99th and 106th Divisions), and battle-hardened troops sent to that sector to recuperate (like the 28th Infantry Division).

In making this assessment, the Allies were relying on intelligence indicating that the Germans were unable to launch any major offensive operations this late in the war. They failed to realize that the nature of the intelligence had changed. During the liberation of France, the extensive network of the French resistance had provided valuable intelligence about German dispositions. Once they reached the German border, this source dried up. In France, orders had been relayed within the German army using radio messages enciphered by the Enigma machine, and these could be picked up and decrypted by Allied code-breakers headquartered at Bletchley Park, to give the intelligence known as Ultra. In Germany, such orders were typically transmitted using telephone and teleprinter, and a special radio silence order was imposed on all matters concerning the upcoming offensive.

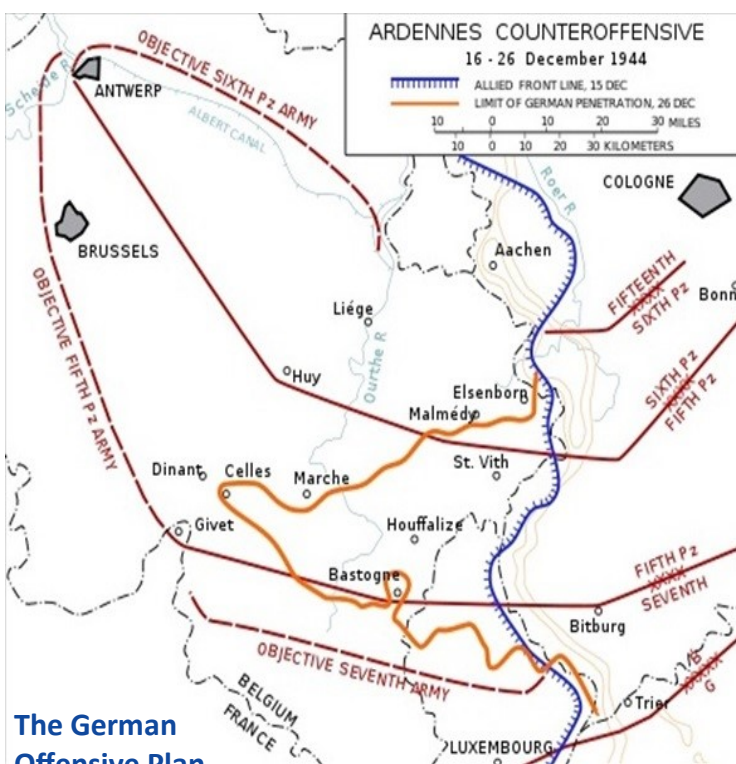
On December 16, three German armies launched the deadliest and most desperate battle of the war in the

*Reed's article continued on the following page*



## Operation Watch on the Rhein continued...

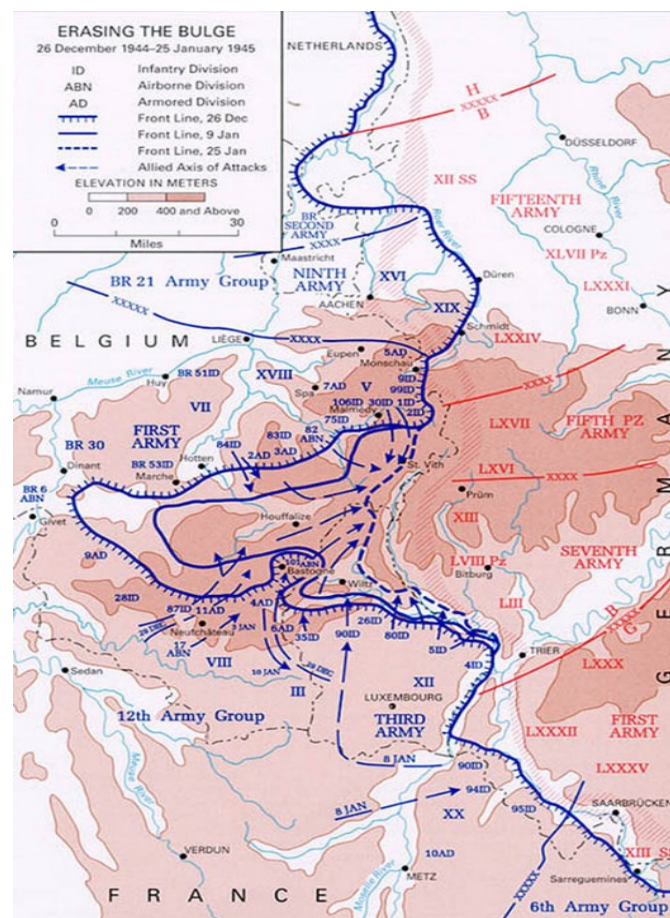
west in the rugged and heavily forested Ardennes. The Germans' initial attack involved 410,000 men; just over 1,400 tanks, tank destroyers, and assault guns; 2,600 artillery pieces; 1,600 anti-tank guns; and over 1,000 combat aircraft, as well as large numbers of other armored fighting vehicles (AFVs). These were reinforced a couple of weeks later, bringing the offensive's total strength to around 450,000 troops, and 1,500 tanks and assault guns. The once-quiet region became bedlam as American units were caught flat-footed and fought desperate battles to stem the German advance. The Germans achieved total surprise due to a combination of Allied overconfidence, preoccupation with Allied offensive plans, and poor aerial reconnaissance due to bad weather.



**The German Offensive Plan**

The 109th and 110th Regiments of the 28th Division were spread so thinly that their positions were easily bypassed. Both offered stubborn resistance in the face of superior forces and threw the German schedule off by several days. The 110th's situation was by far the worst, as it was responsible for an 18-kilometer (11 mi) front while its 2nd Battalion was withheld as the divisional reserve. The inexperienced U.S. 106th Division was nearly annihilated, but even in defeat, it helped buy time for Brigadier General Bruce C. Clarke's defense of St.-Vith. As the German armies drove deeper into the Ardennes in an attempt to secure vital bridgeheads west of the River Meuse quickly, the

line defining the Allied front took on the appearance of a large protrusion or bulge, the name by which the battle would forever be known.



**Erasing the "Bulge"**

As a component of the overall plan, codenamed Operation Greif ("Griffin"), Otto Skorzeny successfully infiltrated a small part of his battalion of English-speaking Germans disguised in American uniforms behind the Allied lines. Although they failed to take the vital bridges over the Meuse, their presence caused confusion out of all proportion to their military activities, and rumors spread quickly. Checkpoints were set up all over the Allied rear, greatly slowing the movement of soldiers and equipment. American MPs at these checkpoints grilled troops on things that every American was expected to know, like the identity of Mickey

*Reed's article continued on the following page*

## *Operation Watch on the Rhein continued...*

Mouse's girlfriend, baseball scores, or the capital of a particular U.S. state—though many could not remember or did not know. General Omar Bradley was briefly detained when he correctly identified Springfield as the capital of Illinois because the American MP who questioned him mistakenly believed the capital was Chicago. The tightened security nonetheless made things very hard for the German infiltrators, and a number of them were captured. Even during interrogation, they continued their goal of spreading disinformation. When asked about their mission, some of them claimed they had been told to go to Paris to either kill or capture General Dwight Eisenhower. Security around the general was greatly increased, and Eisenhower was confined to his headquarters.

Panzer columns took the outlying villages and widely separated strong points in bitter fighting, and advanced to points near a major road junction in the village of Bastogne within four days. The struggle for the villages and American strong points, plus transport confusion on the German side, slowed the attack sufficiently to allow the 101st Airborne Division (reinforced by elements from the 9th and 10th Armored Divisions) to reach Bastogne by truck on the morning of 19 December. The fierce defense of Bastogne, in which American paratroopers particularly distinguished themselves, made it impossible for the Germans to take the town with its important road junctions. The Panzer columns swung past on either side, cutting off Bastogne on 20 December but failing to secure the vital crossroads.

**German Panzer Tanks in Action**



The Germans had attacked a weakly defended section of the Allied line, taking advantage of heavily overcast weather conditions that grounded the Allies' overwhelmingly superior air forces. The furthest west the offensive reached was the village of Foy-Nôtre-

Dame, south east of Dinant, being stopped by the U.S. 2nd Armored Division on 24 December 1944. Improved weather conditions starting on that date permitted air attacks on German forces and supply lines, which sealed the failure of the offensive. The Germans had outrun their supply lines, and shortages of fuel and ammunition were becoming critical.

On the south side of the “bulge”, Lieutenant General George S. Patton turned his Third Army ninety degrees from Lorraine to relieve the surrounded forces in Bastogne. At 16:50 on 26 December, the lead element, Company D, 37th Tank Battalion of the 4th Armored Division, reached Bastogne, ending the siege. Although the offensive was effectively broken by 27 December, the battle continued for another month before the front line was effectively restored to its position prior to the attack.

The “Bulge” was the largest and bloodiest single battle fought by the United States in World War II and the second deadliest campaign in American history. An official report by the United States Department of the Army lists 105,102 casualties, including 19,246 killed, 62,489 wounded, and 26,612 captured or missing. The German High Command accepted figure was 81,834, of which 12,652 were killed, 38,600 were wounded, and 30,582 were missing.

Although the Germans managed to begin their offensive with complete surprise and enjoyed some initial successes, they were not able to seize the initiative on the Western front. In the wake of the defeat, many experienced German units were left severely depleted of men and equipment, as survivors retreated to the defenses of the Siegfried Line. The German losses in the battle were especially critical: their last reserves were now gone, the Luftwaffe had been shattered, and remaining forces throughout the West were being pushed back to defend the Siegfried Line.

The Allies pressed their advantage following the battle. By the beginning of February 1945, the lines were roughly where they had been in December 1944. In early February, the Allies launched an attack all along the Western front: in the north under Montgomery toward Aachen; in the center, under Courtney Hodges; and in the south, under Patton.

**Victory in Europe was declared on May 8, 1945!**

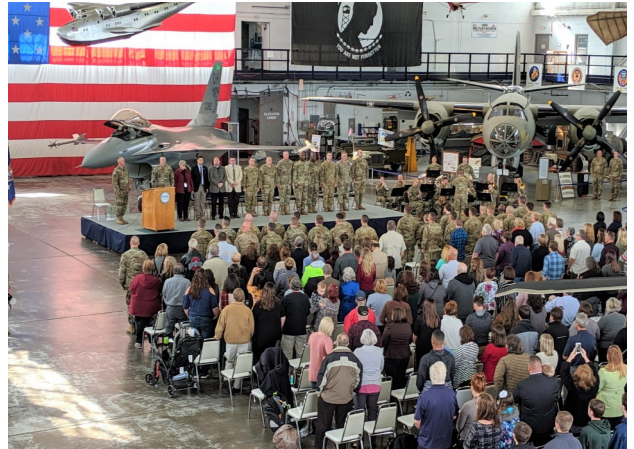


# Call To Duty Ceremony Held At MAPS

Over 200 people attended the Call to Duty Ceremony of 30 soldiers from the Ohio Army National Guard's Detachment 2, Company C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 238<sup>th</sup> Regiment (General Support Aviation Battalion.) They were deployed in October in support of Operation Spartan Shield. Col. Daniel Shank, Ohio assistant adjutant general for the Army, sent the unit off during the ceremony.

Through Operation Spartan Shield (OSS), Task Force Spartan maintains a U.S. military posture in Southwest Asia to strengthen our defense relationships and build partner capacity.

Units supporting OSS provide capabilities such as aviation, logistics, force protection and information management, and facilitate theater security cooperation activities such as key leader engagements, joint exercises, conferences, symposia and humanitarian assistance/disaster response planning.



Company C is a medevac support unit that was organized in the Ohio Army National Guard in 2016, and this is its first deployment.

## MAPS Says Thank You!

A huge MAPS "Thank You" to the **Northern Ohio Golf Charities** organization who provided us with a grant that allowed the replacement of the second floor windows.

The area where the windows have been replaced will provide a fantastic view for the 300-person conference room/banquet hall we are currently building.

**Glazing Systems, Inc.** of Brimfield installed the windows.

The whole building is getting a fresh look as MAPS member Mary Cody has recently been doing the bulk of the painting on the outside of our building.

Mary  
Cody  
"Doin'  
her  
thing"



## Evolution of the Exterior of MAPS



Before the brickwork



After the brickwork



Painting and new windows

Check out the  
beautiful view!



# How Soldiers Have Celebrated Christmas from the Revolutionary War to the War on Terror

## Revolutionary War

Christmas of 1776 marked the first major victory for the Continental Army. Washington decided to make a bold move and attack Trenton, where Hessian troops were wintering. On December 25, the Americans formed into three divisions and were to cross the river at three separate locations once night fell. Washington personally led one division. The weather was poor. Ice chunks were floating in the river, and the falling snow soon turned to sleet and hail driven by a bitterly cold wind. Once the troops – many lacking warm winter clothing and shoes – crossed the river, they marched nine miles to the town of Trenton. The Hessian soldiers were celebrating Christmas in a traditional German style, never expecting an attack on the morning of December 26.

Christmas was so inconsequential in early America that after the Revolutionary War, Congress didn't even bother taking the day off to celebrate the holiday, deciding instead to hold its first session on Christmas Day, 1789. It took almost a century for Congress to proclaim it a federal holiday.



## Civil War



Many Christmas traditions celebrated today actually started during the Civil War era. The Civil War saw the first introductions to the modern image of a jolly and portly Santa Claus through the drawings of Thomas Nast, a German-speaking immigrant. In this picture, Santa is distributing gifts to Union soldiers.

Soldiers celebrated by decorating their camp Christmas trees with hard-tack (a hard biscuit made of flour, water and salt) and salt-pork and singing carols such as “Come All Ye Faithful” and “Silent Night.”

After General William Sherman captured Savannah in December of 1864, his soldiers dressed their horses up like reindeer by attaching branches to their headgear and delivered food and supplies to hungry families in Georgia.

Christmas during the Civil War served both as an escape from and a reminder of the awful conflict that had torn the country in two. Soldiers looked forward to a day of rest and relative relaxation, but had their moods tempered by the thought of separation from their loved ones. At home, families did their best to celebrate the holiday, but wondered when the vacant chair would again be filled.

## WWI

The Christmas truce was a series of widespread but unofficial ceasefires along the Western Front of World War I. British and German troops met in “no man's land” on Christmas Day, 1914. On Christmas Eve, decorated trees began to pop up from their trenches, followed by signs reading "You No Fight, We No Fight." To various degrees across the front, German and British troops put down their weapons and fraternized.

The truce began after a German messenger walked across “no man's land” on Christmas Eve to broker the temporary cease-fire agreement. Over the course of the day, troops exchanged gifts of cigarettes, food, buttons and hats and even played football. The Christmas truce also allowed both sides to finally bury their dead comrades, whose bodies had lain for weeks on “no man's land,” the ground between opposing trenches.





## *How Soldiers Have Celebrated Christmas continued ...*

### WWII

Christmas during World War II found Americans on many fronts. In 1941, only a few weeks after the Pearl Harbor attack, American soldiers were putting up a fighting retreat in the Philippines. In 1942, soldiers fought on Guadalcanal and New Guinea, and in Tunisia.



In 1943, US forces fought in the Southwest Pacific and in Italy. Christmas of 1944 found the Allies reeling from the Battle of the Bulge in Europe and also engaged in northern Italy and back in the Philippines.

During the war, the armed services went out of their way to provide special holiday meals whenever possible. Those serving on ships or on fixed bases, either at home or abroad, had elaborate meals of turkey and ham with all the fixings. Even on the front lines, kitchens tried to provide turkey dinners. However, in 1942 on Guadalcanal, the troops were happy simply to receive an orange and a warm beer.

Listen to Bing Crosby sing "I'll be Home for Christmas," a song that was originally written to honor soldiers overseas who longed to be home at Christmastime.

### Vietnam



While many USO shows traveled to Vietnam, the most notable and well-known program of the holiday was the Bob Hope Christmas Tour. A tradition that he started

during World War II, Bob Hope visited Vietnam each Christmas season from 1964 to 1972. Soldiers in combat units and forward positions often received preference for the shows, and an opportunity to attend was always high on everyone's wish list. His annual trip brought some of the more notable stars of their day to perform.

While only a small fraction of the 2.5 million troops who served in Southeast Asia actually got to attend Hope's

performances, for those who did he managed to break the monotony, ease the loneliness and give the troops in combat zones across Vietnam a couple of hours of laughter—and a memory for a lifetime.

Homesick and war-weary, many U.S. soldiers in Vietnam tried to bring at least a little traditional Christmas spirit to their bases, tents, and outposts. While some of the luckiest were chosen to attend USO Christmas shows at nearby bases, most soldiers quietly celebrated Christmas wherever they were stationed. Some troops were treated to a full Christmas dinner, including turkey, mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls, sweet potatoes, and pumpkin pie, but many others just ate their normal C-rations.

Each year, from 1965 until the withdrawal of combat troops in 1972; the United States, South Vietnamese and the North Vietnamese government announced a Christmas truce. These truces lasted 24 to 48 hours, and for U.S. forces, only defensive actions or artillery fires to defend American troops were permitted.

### Iraq and Afghanistan



In the War on Terror, our brave men and women in the military are deployed across the world to keep us safe. Unable to celebrate Christmas with their families,

they try to celebrate with each other and bring a little Christmas spirit into their lives. Many wear Santa hats; they enjoy Christmas music and sing along to familiar tunes. For some, this is their first deployment but for others being away from their family has become a repeated occurrence. Despite the difference in the number of "separated Christmases" the Soldiers made the most of the day with each other.

Technology allows our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines to pick up the phone and call home, FaceTime or Skype and join in their family's festivities.

In 2018, the Iraqi Cabinet approved a law to mark Christmas Day, December 25, as an official holiday across the country "on the occasion of the birth of Jesus Christ," not just for Christians but for all Iraqis.

# THE CORNERED CURATOR

By Scott Denniss, Curatorial Staff

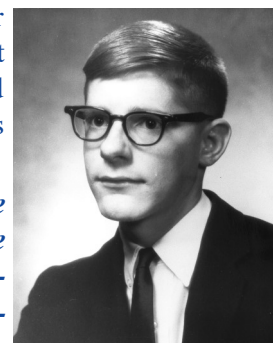
*The journalistic musings of a disinclined raconteur.*

Did you know that the museum has six Medals of Honor? Yep, we sure do but no one has ever seen them on display...until now. I put the last of the six out in their respective display cases in late October. Up until then we did not have the proper security measures in place. But now we have a security system that would make Hudson Hawk nervous.

So what's so special about that upside down five pointed star with the light blue ribbon you ask. Well for one thing, it's our nation's highest and most prestigious personal military decoration that can be awarded to a member of the armed services. It's awarded to an individual by the President in the name of Congress, which is why most people erroneously refer to it as the *Congressional* Medal of Honor. In order to have been awarded, the awardee must have "distinguished him or herself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of their life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in military action". This, in many cases, means they willingly and knowingly gave their life so that others may live.

**In the next six articles, I'm going to briefly tell the story behind each of our six medals.**

First up is United States Army Private First Class David F. Winder. PFC Winder was a 23 year old Combat Medic serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment in the Republic of Vietnam. A pacifist by nature and upbringing, Pfc. Winder considered sitting out the war in Canada. But "I figured that wasn't the right thing to do." So he joined the Army and became an unarmed medic. Below is the official citation for the award of the Medal of Honor.



*"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty Private First Class David F. Winder, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division, distinguished himself on 13 May 1970 while serving in the Republic of Vietnam as a Senior Medical Aidman with Company A, 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry, Americal Division. After moving through freshly cut rice paddies in search of a suspected company-size enemy force, the unit started a thorough search of the area. Suddenly they were engaged with intense automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenade fire by a well-entrenched enemy force. Several friendly soldiers fell wounded in the initial contact and the unit was pinned down. Responding instantly to the cries of his wounded comrades, Private Winder began maneuvering across approximately 100 meters of open, bullet-swept terrain toward the nearest casualty. Unarmed and crawling most of the distance, he was wounded by enemy fire before reaching his comrades. Despite his wounds and with great effort, Private Winder reached the first casualty and administered medical aid. As he continued to crawl across the open terrain toward a second wounded soldier he was forced to stop when wounded a second time. Aroused by the cries of an injured comrade for aid, Private Winder's great determination and sense of duty impelled him to move forward once again, despite his wounds, in a courageous attempt to reach and assist the injured man. After struggling to within ten meters of the man, Private Winder was mortally wounded. His dedication and sacrifice inspired his unit to initiate an aggressive counter-assault which led to the defeat of the enemy. Private First Class Winder's conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the cost of his life were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army."*

Display case in OMM

*Scott's article continued on following page*



### *The Cornered Curator continued...*

Think about that for a minute. He willingly crawled into open ground under intense enemy fire with no cover and no weapon. His only concern was his wounded brothers pleading for help. He gave up all of his tomorrows so that one or more of his comrades would see theirs. This is the action of a hero, not a guy who can dribble a basketball. This is why what we all do at MAPS is so important. These stories need to be preserved and told so that our young people know what true courage, honor, and valor is. They certainly don't seem to be learning it in school.

Please visit the OMM (Ohio Military Museum) on the second floor of MAPS. The elevator is conveniently located to the right of our beautiful big American flag.



### **On A Personal Note:**

Most everyone is aware that I produce the military show twice a year at the museum. We are headed for our tenth show in March and seventh at the museum. Each show gets better and better and this is in no small part because of the museum and the members. I could not ask for a better venue or crew. I doubt I could find a better team of paid workers let alone a volunteer staff. So I want to extend my appreciation and thanks to everyone who plays a part in the success of the show. You are all the best! *Scott*



## **Many Thanks... to Ryan Monroe Kalmar!**

We would like to acknowledge and thank Ryan Monroe Kalmar for his Boy Scout Eagle Project to restore our shed, paint it and place Snoopy on top. Snoopy was created and placed on his dog house as a weather vane to honor the world famous WWI Flying ACE created by Charles M. Schultz.



**Ryan and Snoopy**



**Restored Shed**



## **Endowment Fund**

*A message from Kim Kovesci, Executive Director*

Our Endowment Fund has been set up to ensure the long term survival of the organization. If you plan to have a financial review done, MAPS Air Museum would appreciate being considered in your plans. Thank you!

*Follow us on Facebook  
and Instagram*

## Chairman's Notes *By Bob Schwartz, Director Chair*

MAPS hosted one of our largest Veterans Day programs on November 9<sup>th</sup> with a crowd of over 400 guests in attendance. I had the chance to visit with many of the attendees, including Graham Webb III, the founder of the Fallen Feather's display. Graham said that he was very happy to have MAPS hosting his display that many thousands of visitors see every year. If you haven't visited the Fallen Feathers display it is just inside the hangar to the right. There is a kiosk that explains the display and also lists all the feathers and gives a short history on each of our fallen heroes. You can also go to our website and select exhibits and drop your mouse down to Fallen Feathers Memorial.

Of the display, Graham says, "The Fallen Feather project is designed to give honor through remembrance to the Ohio soldiers that we've lost during Iraq and Afghanistan, during the war on terrorism. What we've done is organized wood carvers from all over the state to carve a bald eagle's feather, individualized to each fallen."

"These feathers have been placed in a memorial wall made of Buckeye and put on public display. Each feather is in a 50 caliber shell casing and in that shell casing there is a blood stripe, the red stripe from an American flag that was taken from a cemetery because it was unserviceable."

"The eagle on the top of the memorial wall is facing the peace side. It is facing the side that has the olive branch, even though the eagle was carved during a time of war, the soldiers that it rests over are at rest. On the war side, the arrow side of the eagle, the eagle is missing a feather; it's the third feather in, which is the feather that we used as a template for the fallen feathers that rest below. The eagle was carved shedding a tear."

"This memorial is to offer remembrance, to give honor to those that are fallen, and to hopefully help the families that have lost their loved ones."



**Graham Webb III and his wife**



We also have the Sharon Lane display on the wall to the right as you enter the lobby area. And did you know that just to the left of Sharon's display is a reproduction of a Vietnam War Memorial panel that lists Sharon's name down near the bottom? It is highlighted with a small white dot. Sharon grew up in Canton and attended the Aultman Hospital School of Nursing. In 1968 she enlisted in the US Army Nurse Corps. In 1969, the hospital where she was working in Vietnam was struck with several 122mm rockets launched by the North Vietnamese Army. Sharon was struck by shrapnel and killed instantly. She was the only US servicewoman to die in Vietnam due to enemy action. She was only 25 years old at the time of her death. In 1973, a memorial statue of her was unveiled outside the Aultman Hospital.

We are all very busy when we are at MAPS, but occasionally we stop anywhere in the hangar, in a display room, on the ramp or restoration and take in the view. We have so much history here at MAPS and you will really feel something awesome - it is hard to describe.



## A Chronology of Military Events that Occurred in the Month of January!

January will soon be here and for us here at MAPS it will most likely be a cold, slow month. A time when the restorers will be working with the doors closed. A time when it will be slow in the gift shop. A time when the tour guides may not be able to take guests outside the hangar door. A time when the grass will not need mowing but, the snow will need removing. A time when Reed will be booking the thousands of school kids for spring visits. A time when Mary Cody will not be able to paint the outside of the building!

However, history says January has not been a slow month for many serving in the military. The following are a few examples of what the month of January had in store for some in uniform.

**January 3, 1777** was the Battle of Princeton. Revolutionary troops forced the British to abandon New Jersey.

**January 8, 1815** was the Battle of New Orleans where Major General Andrew Jackson (7th US President) led 4,500 Army regulars, frontiersmen, free black men, New Orleans upper crust, Choctaw tribesmen, and even the pirates of Jean Lafitte defeated British forces numbering 8,000. It was not only the last battle of the war of 1812, it was a battle that took place after the war was already declared over! Guess the cell phone service was poor and they did not get the news on time.



**January 8, 1967** was Operation Cedar Falls in Vietnam, a “search and destroy” operation to try and destroy the “Iron Triangle”. It was the largest American ground operation of the war and saw the first of the “tunnel rats”.

**January 9, 1945** American forces under General MacArthur land on Luzon, Philippine Islands to take the islands back from Japanese forces.

**January 17, 1781** The Battle of Cowpens was in South Carolina. This was a victory for revolutionary forces as more than 800 of the British forces there were killed, wounded, or captured. There were less than 100 lost on the revolutionary side.

**January 17, 1991** Operation Desert Storm begins. Known as “The First Gulf War,” it was to remove Iraq forces from Kuwait.

*By Doug Perry, MAPS Marketing Director*

**January 22, 1944** Allied forces land at Anzio, Italy. This landing would lead to the surrender of Italy but, a take over of operations there by German forces. The German forces did a slow withdrawal to the North. Fighting there was some of the most savage of the war.

**January 22, 1969** Operation Dewey Canyon begins in Vietnam. This would be the last major offensive by the 3rd Marine Division. The operation was designed to stop the flow of men and materials from the North to the South. While a tactical success, it was unsuccessful in cutting off the flow of those men and materials.

**January 24, 1943** began the New Guinea Campaign to force Japanese forces from the area.

**January 26, 1943** was the first Eighth Air Force raid on German soil. The strike on the boat yards at Wilhelmshaven caught the Germans by surprise. The 8th only lost 3 airplanes in the attack. However, the Germans had learned that the B-17, Flying Fortress, was vulnerable from the front and the losses got much worse in later raids. During a raid in June of that same year 26 of the 102 aircraft involved were shot down.

**January 30, 1968** saw the beginning of what was called the Tet Offensive in Vietnam. This was a large operation that American leadership did not believe the North was capable of doing. 80,000 Northern and Viet Cong troops struck in more than 100 towns and cities, including 36 provincial capitals and the southern capital of Saigon. American ground forces beginning in 1968 numbered 331,098 Army personnel and 78,013 Marines. They were also supported by several units of allied forces.



Unprepared and surprised by the scale and scope of the offensive, troops regrouped and defeated the effort. Although a defeat for their military the offensive was a victory for the

North as general support for the war was declining in the US and the Tet Offensive led the US into seeking a negotiated end to the war.

Thinking of how nice it would have been then, and now, if January would only be a cold and slow month!

## MAPS Anniversaries

August 1, 2019 to October 31, 2019

*\*\* designates Family Membership*

### 5 YEARS

Turk, Donald \*\*  
Indorf, David \*\*  
Marston, Tucker \*\*  
Muckensturm, Gary  
Patton, Jerry \*\*

### 10 YEARS

Sanders, David \*\*  
Willaman, Dan \*\*  
Milano, Anthony \*\*  
Seivert, Richard  
Klise, Don  
Sylvester, Bob  
Wilson, Ellen  
Hubbs-Shapiro, Nancy \*\*  
Campbell, Sharlene \*\*  
Duplain, Ron \*\*  
Steele, Robert  
Shealy, Cheryl \*\*

### 15 YEARS

Lewis, Larry \*\*

### 20 YEARS

Weber, Chris \*\*  
Hamlin Sr, Raymond  
Stahl, Richard \*\*  
Guilliams, Dave  
Bell, David \*\*

### 25 YEARS

Wohlin, Gaye

**Congratulations!**  
**Thank You For Your**  
**Continued Support!**

## New Members

August 1, 2019 to October 31, 2019

*\*\* designates Family Membership*

Bradley, Thomas  
Brenner, James \*\*  
Chaney, Richard \*\*  
Cirese, Adriana  
Collum, Nicole \*\*  
Cookro, Tony \*\*  
Couris-Rebescher, Kimberle  
Cunningham, Cynthia  
Davis, Jodie \*\*  
Deibel, Peg \*\*  
Elliott, David  
Fedorko, Rhonda \*\*  
Feld, Brandyn  
French, Duane \*\*  
Fuentes Jr, David  
Fulmer, Denny \*\*  
Gladieux, Tristen  
Hummel, Larry \*\*  
Kaivinen, Edward  
Kansa, Geoffrey \*\*

Keenan, Michael \*\*  
Kmetko, David \*\*  
Kozak, Dottie \*\*  
LaGuardia, Gary  
Lancaster, John \*\*  
Linn, Larry \*\*  
Lowry, Barry  
May, Rebeca \*\*  
McCammon, John \*\*  
Myers, Christopher \*\*  
O'Gara, Robert  
Palo, Victor  
Parga, Daniel \*\*  
Paulus, Michael \*\*  
Rabatin, Shelby  
Setny, Mary \*\*  
Tahyi, Terry  
Thompson, Scott \*\*  
Wilkinson, Dale \*\*  
Zust, Richard

**A Warm MAPS Welcome!**

## Christmas Shopping at MAPS

**"Tis the season...**

MAPS has made your Christmas shopping so much easier this year! Visit our gift shop and choose from men's and women's clothing, hats, model planes, puzzles, books, coffee mugs, framed pictures, stocking stuffers for kids and adults alike and so much more!

An addition this year is a Gift Shop **Gift Certificate** that can be purchased in any amount and is good to use for one year from purchase.

We also offer a **Free Pass** which is good for one free admission during regular museum hours. Purchase any number of **Free Passes** to give to friends or relatives who may not have had the opportunity to visit MAPS yet. Once here, they will be want to come back again and again!





**THANK YOU!**

**Commercial Printing  
& Graphic Design**

MAPS thanks The Print Shop of Canton, Inc.  
for sponsoring "THE BRIEFING"

6536 Promler Ave. NW  
North Canton, Ohio 44720

330-497-3212  
Fax: 330-497-6306  
print@printshopinc.com



## Focus on Volunteers

Jim and Jan Boyea are one of many married couples who volunteer their time at MAPS.

Jan has lived in Green all her life and Jim moved to Green in 1968. It was then their love story began...the couple met during their senior year in high school and married the year after graduation. When skeptics might say they were "too young" and "it would never last", Jim and Jan would prove them wrong - they just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in May of this year!

Their sons, Christopher and Michael have five children between them and have provided Jan and Jim with the "lights of their lives!" You may have heard granddaughter Gretchen sing the National Anthem at MAPS events.

Jim retired after 30 years of management in the trucking industry has been volunteering at MAPS for the past 7 years. Jim had heard about MAPS and on his first visit, he came to make a donation of flight books. Sometime later he met Kim Kovesci at an event and spent some time speaking with him. The rest is history - Jim started working in the gift shop, painted the hangar doors and then became a tour guide. Jan followed him 2 years later and was able to use her financial skills from 24 plus years working in a credit union. Jan pays the bills for MAPS and balances the books in the gift shop. Both are invaluable members of MAPS volunteer team!

Things did not start out easy for Jim and Jan. In 1969, Jim was attending Akron U as a full time student but wasn't feeling it was right for him. He visited an Army recruiting office and they told him if he scored high on the test, he could learn to fly. That excited him and he enlisted, graduating from flight school in February of 1970. In March of 1970 he was sent to Vietnam and didn't return home until March of the following year. While in Vietnam, Jim flew OH-6 helicopters on a variety of assignments.

Back at home, after Jim's deployment, Jan had moved back in with her parents and was pregnant with their first child. It was difficult for the couple as the ability to make phone calls was limited to maybe 2 or 3 calls a year. They had to rely on the postal service and mail delivery could be sporadic. They sent each other cassette tapes just so they could hear each other's voices. The separation was difficult for both of them - especially since the due date of their first child would be during Jim's deployment. Jim was flying an OH-6 when the Red Cross notified the Lt. Col. he was with and the message was relayed to him that he had a son. Jim did not see his first child until he was 6 months old!

Jim left the Army in 1971 as a CW2. He joined the National Guard from 1971 to 1974 during which time he flew out of the hangar that is now MAPS!

When Jim and Jan were asked what is the most important thing to help couples stay connected during a deployment, their answer was simple - communication. It is much easier today because of technology, but there are worries for both. The deployed person worries about their family back home and the person at home hangs on every news report, knowing their loved one is in harms way.

A quote about deployment from an unknown author says, "Distance does to love what wind does to fire...it extinguishes the weak and fuels the strong." Jim and Jan were strong way back then and are still going strong after 50 years!





2260 International Parkway  
North Canton OH 44720  
Phone 330-896-6332

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*The BRIEFING Newsletter*  
Copyright © 2015, MAPS Air Museum



*Our heartfelt wishes for MAPS members,  
their families and all Veterans who are  
serving or have served our Country.*

MAPS volunteers have worked very hard this year and we want to make sure they all have time to spend with their families this Christmas season. To allow this, we will be closed:

December 23 to 25 and

December 30 to January 1

We all look forward to the continued growth of MAPS and the excitement of a brand new year!

