

ABOVE & BEYOND

Quarterly News from the Charles H. Coolidge National Medal of Honor Heritage Center

VIRTUAL LIVING HISTORY PROGRAM A ROUSING SUCCESS

Facing the elimination of both field trips and in-class programs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Charles H. Coolidge National Medal of Honor Heritage Center sought ways to engage students about American history and heroes. Director of Education Hannah Sher, working with other staff, created Living History Virtual Classes to fill the void.

The program utilizes a talented group of living history specialists, who have been through a rigorous selection process, to present lessons while uniformed and equipped as a serviceman or servicewoman from a specific military conflict. The programs currently cover the Civil War, World War I, and World War II, and there are plans to add additional conflicts in the future.

The programs are presented via the school's designated online platform, allowing the living historian and students to engage virtually from the safety of their own locations. The presentations typically involve the living historian explaining the background of a specific military conflict and then describing the unit they represent, including a discussion of their uniform, weapons, and equipment. A question and answer period, allowing students to ask and have their inquiries answered by the presenter in real time, follows the presentation.

The program is a rousing success, with more than 2,000 students having participated so far. Presentations have been given to several classes in Chattanooga, as well as to classes in other states. Teachers who have used the program are impressed with its quality.

An educator at McCallie School stated "I value bringing

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save these dates on your calendar. Visit www.mohhc.org or call (423) 877-2525 for details and ticket information.

- MAR 25** Medal of Honor Day. *The Making of a Hero* book release and signing event
- MAR 27** *The Making of a Hero*-themed living history tours and book signing event
- APR 3** *The Making of a Hero*-themed living history tours and book signing event
- APR 10** *Saving Sycamore: The School Shooting that Never Happened* virtual book club
- APR 13** Closing day for "Henry Boynton and the Founding of Chickamauga National Military Park" exhibit
- APR 22** Golf at McLemore: Medal of Honor Golf Tournament
- APR 23** Opening of "Exploring Europe: Tourism and the American Soldier During World War II" exhibit
- MAY 1-2** "Exploring Europe: Tourism and the American Soldier During World War II" Curator's tours
- MAY 29** Visit by Medal of Honor recipient Captain Gary "Mike" Rose
- MAY 29-30** Memorial Day Civil War artillery living history event
- SEP 21** Celebration of Valor
- OCT 1** Clay Shoot

other people (living historians) into our class to teach history that they are passionate about sharing. The presenters were knowledgeable, fun, and dressed the part!” Another teacher remarked that the living historian presenter Reid Palmer “offered a real-life perspective and the students were in awe of the authentic uniform, weapons of war, and rations that were shown and explained. Reid made my students feel as if they had virtually time traveled to the WWII era!”

Living History Virtual Classes are available to all geographic areas and ages, including the collegiate level, and are offered free of charge due to a generous grant from the Osborne Foundation. To schedule a program, contact Hannah at education@mohhc.org or complete the form on our website at www.mohhc.org/Living-History-Virtual-Class. ●

TEMPORARY EXHIBITS PROGRAM DRAWS VISITORS

The Charles H. Coolidge National Medal of Honor Heritage Center’s temporary gallery has been a busy place over the past year! Encompassing about 1,000 square feet and containing several large exhibit cases, this gallery is a space that houses multiple changing exhibits each year. These displays highlight the varied experiences of individual and groups of Medal of Honor recipients to a degree not possible in the permanent gallery. They also provide context to Medal of Honor stories, highlight the experience of veterans during the past 150 years, and showcase the center’s artifact collections.

On exhibit now:

The Creation of National Memory: Henry Boynton and the Founding of Chickamauga National Military Park November 5, 2020 - April 13, 2021



This exhibit showcases the life of Henry Boynton, his Medal of Honor action on Missionary Ridge, and his leadership role in the establishment of the first national military park to memorialize the fighting that took place around Chattanooga. The exhibit features items that belonged to Boynton, including his Civil War frock coat, and features many objects that are on loan from Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park and local Civil War collector and National Advisory Board member Anthony Hodges. The exhibit may be viewed through April 13, 2021.

Our next temporary exhibit will be:

NEW IN THE GIFT SHOP



Congressional Medal of Honor Society Civilian Honors recipient and National Advisory Board member Molly Hudgens visited the Heritage Center for a presentation and book signing for *Saving Sycamore: The School Shooting that Never Happened*. The February 20th event commemorated the institution’s first anniversary. Copies of Molly’s book are available for purchase in the gift shop.

Experiencing Europe: Tourism and the American Soldier During World War II

April 23, 2021 - August 29, 2021

This upcoming exhibit, slated to begin April 23, 2021, will explore the everyday experiences of American soldiers in World War II as they liberated Europe and became tourists, learning about art, history, culture, and geography in the process. The stories of individual soldiers, including that of Medal of Honor recipient Charles Coolidge will be explored. A number of artifacts, many of which have not previously been seen by the public, will be part of this unique exhibit.

Past temporary exhibits included the following:

Honoring the Sacrifice: Medals of Honor Through Time

February 22, 2020 - June 11, 2020



The first temporary exhibit opened with the Heritage Center on February 22, 2020 and featured 12 Medals of Honor, from the Civil War to the Vietnam War, borrowed from museums, organizations, and individuals from across the nation. The recipients' stories were highlighted, not only by the medals, but by other artifacts as well. The exhibit emphasized the diverse backgrounds and experiences of these recipients who are bound together by their character traits of Patriotism, Sacrifice, Commitment, Citizenship, Integrity, and Courage under fire.

Dr. Mary Walker: Surgeon, Spy, and Patriot

June 20, 2020 - October 27, 2020



This groundbreaking exhibit was the largest display of Dr. Mary Walker items ever assembled outside of her hometown of Oswego, New York. In addition to her medical bag and other artifacts, the exhibit also included her re-issued Medal of Honor. This was the first time, to our knowledge, that this medal had been loaned for an exhibition outside of the Pentagon. The exhibit was a resounding success and even prompted the Tennessee General Assembly to declare the opening date of the exhibit, June 20, 2020, as Dr. Mary Walker Day in Tennessee.

Special events and public programs typically accompany temporary exhibits and help to make the exhibit experience even more meaningful. Please join us for the exhibits and related experiences. ●



**PURCHASE
A BRICK
TODAY!**

If you purchase a commemorative brick before April 5th, it will be dedicated by Medal of Honor recipient Captain Gary "Mike" Rose (USA, Retired) during our Memorial Day weekend ceremony.

Purchase your brick today at <https://bit.ly/38zldZE>.



CHANGING OF THE GUARD: NEW BOARD LEADERSHIP AND MEMBERS

The Charles H. Coolidge National Medal of Honor Heritage Center is pleased to announce the selection of Rear Admiral Noah Long, U.S. Navy (RET) as Chairman and Colonel Frank Hughes, USMC (RET) as Vice Chairman of its Board of Trustees. The leadership transition occurred as a result of the retirement of Major General William Raines, U.S. Army (RET), who led the organization for the past seven years.

“I would like to thank outgoing Chairman Bill Raines for his extraordinary leadership, bold vision and tireless efforts that helped design and build a first-class facility that honors Chattanooga as the birthplace of the Medal of Honor and commemorates the first recipients of the Medal of Honor as well as other recipients who serve as an inspiration to all of us,” said incoming Chairman Noah Long.

In recognition of his leadership of the Heritage Center and pivotal role in opening the new Charles H. Coolidge

NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR HERITAGE CENTER

National Medal of Honor Heritage Center in downtown Chattanooga, the Board unanimously named MG Raines as Chairman Emeritus. In addition, the Board of Trustees voted to appoint Maury Nicely to the Board of Trustees and Dr. Frank Butler to the National Advisory Board.

“The Heritage Center has been very fortunate to have incredible leaders over the years, and that tradition continues with our leadership changes and board additions,” said Heritage Center Executive Director Keith Hardison. “Their voices, expertise and leadership are essential as we work to sustain the Heritage Center and grow our mission during these challenging times while our community and country recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Each of these distinguished individuals brings extensive experience in their professional fields as well as in leadership roles from the business community and nonprofit boards:

Rear Admiral Noah Long, USN (RET)

Prior to becoming Chairman, RADM Long served as Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and was responsible for the design and construction of the new Heritage Center. After serving in the Navy for more than 30 years, RADM Long worked for several development and real estate companies before retiring in 2006 from Rosser International, a full service architectural and engineering firm where he had served the last five years as President and CEO. In addition to serving on the Heritage Center's board, RADM Long also serves as Chairman Emeritus of the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association where he helped raise \$3.5 million for the organization's scholarship program for the sons and daughters of Seabees.

Colonel Frank Hughes, USMC (RET)

Prior to becoming Vice-Chairman, Col. Hughes served on the Board of Trustees and Chairman of the \$6.25 capital campaign to design and build the new Heritage Center. Col. Hughes retired as a colonel from the United States Marine Corps where he served as battalion commander of the Fourth Battalion, 14th Marines. He is currently Executive Vice President of Investor Relations for SmartFinancial, Inc., the parent company of SmartBank.

Maury Nicely

A successful attorney and co-founder of the law firm, Evans Harrison Hackett, Nicely continues to practice law in the areas of employment litigation, labor law, and general business litigation. His clients range from small local non-profits and start-ups to large national corporations. In addition, he is an avid historian and accomplished author. In 2002, Nicely wrote the *Chattanooga Walking Tour & Historic Guide* and, in 2011, the *East Tennessee Walking Tour & Historic Guide*. His newest book, *Hoffa in Tennessee*, about the 1964 Chattanooga trial of Jimmy Hoffa, was released in April 2019.

Dr. Frank Butler

Currently serving at the UTC Foundation's Associate Professor of Management with University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's Gary W. Rollins College of Business and

faculty director of the school's Veterans Entrepreneurship Program, Dr. Butler specializes in teaching a variety of strategic management and business courses at the graduate and undergraduate level. He also specializes in working with non-profits and advising their boards on how the organization can implement sound business principals to effectively deliver its mission and remain sustainable over time.

RADM Long concluded, "I am deeply honored to serve as the new chairman and look forward to moving the Heritage Center forward. "Together, with our dedicated board members and staff, and our generous stakeholders, we will continue to sustain and grow our mission – a mission focused on memorializing the incredible heritage of our country's highest award for valor – the Medal of Honor – and educating the next generation about the six character traits embodied by the award: Patriotism, Citizenship, Courage, Integrity, Sacrifice and Commitment." ●



STAFF LISTING

Keith Hardison

Executive Director

Molly Randolph

Curator

Vince Butler

Campaign Coordinator

Hannah Sher

Director of Education

Melinda Craft

Development Officer

Todd Smith

Marketing Coordinator

Sandra Horsman

Office Assistant

Steven Thomas

Director of Program Support

Kimberly Kelly

Office Administrator

INAUGURAL GOLF TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD AT MCLEMORE

The Charles H. Coolidge National Medal of Honor Heritage Center will host its Inaugural Golf Tournament on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at McLemore. The new fundraising event was created to support the Heritage Center and its mission to memorialize the history and heritage of our nation's highest military award for valor and educate future generations of Americans about the six character traits embodied by the Medal of Honor and its recipients: Patriotism, Citizenship, Courage, Integrity, Sacrifice and Commitment. The Silver Sponsor for the tournament is TransCard of Chattanooga, and other sponsorships are currently being sought.

Located on Lookout Mountain in Northwest Georgia, McLemore is a private, master-planned, mountaintop community featuring an 18-hole championship highlands course and 6-hole short course designed by internationally acclaimed architects, Rees Jones and Bill Bergin. Recently

named "Best 18th Hole since 2000" by Golf Digest, The McLemore was recently nominated as "Best New Course in 2020." The tournament brings together business executives, supporters and golf enthusiasts from across the country who will take to the greens to help raise funds for the Heritage Center and its character education initiatives.

Heritage Center Executive Director Keith Hardison stated, "We are very excited to establish this new event at such a scenic location and to share our mission with many new supporters. We appreciate the leadership of event chair Becky Cope English and her team in making this event a reality."

Participating teams will enjoy breathtaking views, complimentary goody bags, and food and beverage throughout the day.

For information on sponsorship opportunities, and team registration visit www.mohhc.org/events/inaugural-golf-tournament. ●



MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION

In this first issue of the new newsletter, the Charles H. Coolidge National Medal of Honor Heritage Center recognizes our earliest supporters. These Charter or, as they are sometimes called, Veteran Members purchased \$500 lifetime memberships to support the capital campaign. As a result of their generosity, the Heritage Center was able to reach key benchmarks in the effort to relocate the institution to a new home in Aquarium Plaza. Other types of members will be highlighted in future newsletter issues. Thank you all for your generous and timely support.

Matthew Aboudara • Morgan Adams • Benny Ray Adkins • Charlotte Adkins • Bud Alley • Davis Alley • Fletcher Alley • Charles Alsobrook • American Legion Post 14 • American Legion Post 95 • American Legion Post 257 • Tonya Amin • Robert Applewhite • Danny Arnold • Johnny Arp • Donald Ashenbramer • James Asher • Donnie Ashley • Lawrence Austin • Charles Ayers • Celia Baker • Vickie Balding • William Baldrige • Chester Bankston • Krissa & Marc Barclay • Charles Bates • Robert Bayne • Russell Bean • Kevin Beavers • Rowena Belcher • David Bell • James Bell • B.B. Bell, USA (Ret) • John Bennett • Homer Benson • Andy Berke • Thilo Best • James Birchett • Robert Bissell • David Black • Diane Black • William Blake • Bryan Bledsoe • Charles Blevins • Jim Boney • Robert Bosworth • Patricia Bowers • Donald Boyles • Marvin Brantley • Julia Branum • Ted Bratcher • Janice Brauch • Robert D Brauch • David Brewer • Henry F Brewer • William Brooks • James M. Brown • Natalie Brown • Scott Brown • Homer Broyles • Jane Bryan • Max Bryant • Michelle Bryce • Dale Buchanan • Eric Buchanan • G. Scott Bucher • Adam Buddenbohn • Richard Buhrman • Jean Bullard • Stephen Bullard • Eddie Burns • Graham Burns • J.A. "Rebel" Burton • Stuart Bush • Elizabeth Caldwell • Mark Caldwell • Judge David Campbell Chapter • Jack Canipe • Tom Canipe • Mike & Joan Carter • Alan Cates • Jane Catterton • Clyde Cauthen • Albert Ceren • Frank Chamberlain • Glenn Chambers • Richard Chandler • Bill Chapin • Chattanooga Chapter, MOAA • Chickamauga Chapter DAR • Jerry Childers • George Chip • Jack Chislett • William Clarke • William H. Boots Clarke • David & Mary Clemons • David Closen • Christopher L. Cole • John Collins • Michael and Belinda Collins • Leila Connell • Ken & Leah Conner • Mack Conner • Bradford Coolidge • Charles H. Coolidge • John & Marie Coolidge • Charles Coolidge, Jr. • David Cooper • James Cooper • Andrew G. Cope • Raymond Copeland • William J. Copeland • Mayor Jim Coppinger • Sen. Bob Corker • Michael Costa • Robert Cothran • Robert Crates, Ret. • C. Barton Crattie • Ernest Cravens • Robert Crawford • Tracey Crozier • Lee Culpepper • Alan Cummings • Randy Currey • Cathy Daughtery • George Davenport •

John Davenport • Judi Davenport • Justin Davis • Sammy Davis • Rose Decosimo • Joseph Decosimo • Buford Dennis • Richard Dillard • Greg Dixon • Alan Doak • Christopher Dooley • Kimberly Dooley • Robert Dooley • Duke Doubleday • Derek Duke • Jack Duncan • Dunlap Lions Club • Rodney Easterly • Levi Eaves • John Echerd • Winston Edwards • Raymond Elder • Catherine Eldridge • Samuel Farmer • George Farr • John Farr • Jack Farrow • J. Franklin Farrow • Deborah Fausch • Ron Feldman • Harry Fields • James Fields • George Fincher • Dante Fiorini • Brad Fisher • Danny Fisher • Joe Fisher • Chuck Fleischmann • Charles Fowler • Russell Friberg • Jonathan Frost • Steve Frost • Vance Fry • Glen Fulghum • Ron Galante • Terry Gann • George Gannaway • Virginia Gannaway • Todd Gardenhire • Gregory Garrison • Philip Garver • William Gauntt • Salvatore Geraci • Robert Gilliam • Thomas Gliss • Edgar Godsey • Rick Govan • Joe Graham • Marc Gravitt • Dr. Mark Green • John Green • Many-Bears Grinder • James Grisard • Thomas Griscom • Larry Haines • Claire Hale • Christopher Hall • M. Hayne Hamilton • Renee Marie Hamilton • Steven Wesley Hamilton • James Hammond, III • John Harbison • Michael Hargadon • Ken Harpe • Lucy Harrill • H. Brock Harris • John Harris • Ronald Harris • Mark Harrison • Joe Haskins • Patsy Hazlewood • Roger & Shirley Helle • Ronald Helle • Mary Helms • Steve Hemstreet • Susan Henderson • Paul Hendricks • Snoda Melinda Wilson Hendricks • Henry Henegar, Jr. • Tom Henley • Robert Hereford, Jr. • Curtiss Hewett • Billy Hewitt • Curtiss B. Hewlett • N. Darrell Hill • Don Hladik • Charles Hobbs • Andy Hodes • Buster Hogan • James Michael Holden • John Holden • Jasmine Holmquist • David Horsman • Karl Horst • David Houseman • Richard Howard • Jerry Howell • Rob Howell • Bucker L. Hughes • Frank Hughes • William Hullander • Fred Huskey • J. Nelson Irvine • Jack Jacobs • Paul Jacobs • Don Jenkins • Paul Jensen • Sheila Blankenship Jetton • Franklin Johnson • Larry Johnson • Paul Johnson • Terry Johnson • William Johnson • Summerfield Johnson • Doyle L. Johnston • Nancy Jonakin • Daniel & Heather Jones • Tijuana Jordan • Frank Kalinowski • Jeffrey Kelley • Suni Kim • James Kincaid, Jr. • Geraldine King • Frank Kirbus • William Kisling • Sherry Kitts • Mark Kleiner • Clifford Kluge • James Knight • Lebert Knight • Brian Kopet • Savas Kyriakidis • Bob Lahiere • John Lamhertino • Donald Langford • Charlotte Latta • James Laymon, Jr. • Anne Leonard • William & Anne Leonard, III • Martha Levarnsen • Carl E. Levi • Richard Lewallen • Kent Lindner • David Linville • Michael Lisowski • Henry Long • Noah Long • Paul Long • Agnes Loyd • Edward Lusk • Lee Mangum • Ralph Mann • Javier Martinez • Jeffrey Massey • Don Mathis • Lois Mathis • Mary Maxwell • Todd McCain • Anne McClaughlin • Tom McConnell • Gerald McCormick • Lawrence McDaris • William McDonald • Alyssa F. McFarland • Scott McGinness, Jr. • Bob McKamey • James McLain • William Merritt • Ben Miller • Dennie Miller • Gloria Miller • Kenneth Miller • Madeline Miller • Ralph Miller • Eras "Tony" Mines • Jason Mines • E. Cozette Mitchell • Lawrence M. Mitchell • Carrington Montague • Deaderick Chapin Montague • John Moon • William Moon • Barbara Moore • James Moore • Anne Morgan •



P.O. Box 11467
Chattanooga, TN 37401

Physical location:
2 W. Aquarium Way, Suite 104
Chattanooga, TN 37402

HOURS

Monday - Saturday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Sunday 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Last ticket sold 45 minutes prior to closing

ONLINE

Visit www.mohhc.org

Find us on Facebook and Instagram @TheFirstMedals

Melvin Morris • Erich Murray • Marilyn Athea Nagel • George Nelson • John Patrick Neuhoff • James Phillip Newman • Lisa Newman-Daniel • John Niemeyer • Robert Nodes • Donald Norris • Bill Norton • Jerry Norton • Johnny Norton • Lester Norton • Scott Norton • Rhonda Nunley • Janet O'Brien • Marisa Ogles • Janet O'Neal • Robert O'Neal • R. Ouimette • Regina Owensby • Roy Allen Pace • Jerry Pala • Julie Parker • Joseph Parks • Tom Patrick • Janet Patten Moon • Vincent Patterson • Stephen Peake • Alden Perry • James Pesnell • R. Wayne Peters • Hershell Pettyjohn • James Phillips • Jennifer Pritzger • Jill Pieritz • William Polidoro • Kevin Ponsler • Carl Poston, Jr. • Karen Potalivo • Glenn Poteat • Patrick Powers • James Pratt • Susan Price • Janette Priddy • Robert Allen Pruvenok • Brad Quinlin • Martha Quinlin • John Robert Raines • John William Raines • Will J. Raines • William Raines • Gray Ramsey • Nate Rawlings • Peter Rawlings • Eric Redlin • William "Bill" R. Reesor • David Reynolds • Tom Reynolds • Roger Rich • Wayne Rich • David Phelan Rickard • Ellen Rickard • James David Rickard • Donald Ristine • Charles H. Rittenberry • Joe Robbins • Fred Robinson • Clint Romesha • Burl "Ed" Rudder • Steven Russell • Shaun Sadler • Dan Saieed • Brett & Mindy Sanders • Tony Sanders • Camden Scearce • James Allen Schwartzkopf • James Scott • Jeff Scott • Thomas Shipley • Jeffrey Sims • Wilson Sims • Jerry Sloan • Andrew Smith • Daniel D. Smith • David Smith • Ellen Smith • Mark Smith • Randall Smith • Robin Smith •

Wesley Sorrow • James Sprayberry • Billy Sparks • Cynthia Sperry • Randy Stansell • Jack Staples • Kenneth Starry • Jerry Stauffer • Robert Stephens • Fred Ross Stewart • George Matthew Stewart • Tom Sucher • Jeremiah Sullivan • John J. Sullivan • Philip Sumrall • Robert Swedenburg • Alan Syler • John Szewczyk • Dan Taylor • Marsha Ann Thibadoux • Robert Thomas • Susan Thomas • Bruce Thompson • Dean Thompson • Herbert Thornbury • Danny Thornton • Michael Thornton • Timothy Tinsley • William F. Todd • David B. Towery • Jack Towns • Kenneth Trapp • Brian Traxler • Arch Trimble • Arch E. Trimble III • Mel Tryon • Bill Tucker • Roger Tudor • David Turner • J.R. Vercoe • Raymond Vieira • Greg Vital • Jim Wade • Michael Walden • Mike Wall • Rudy Walldorf • Everett Warren • Blake Watson • Bo Watson • John Weathers • Aaron Webb • Sandra Webb • Walter & Allison Webb • James & Cindy Webster • Skip Wells • Keith Wheatley • Charles Whidden • Ronald White • Ken Wiledman • Jim Willard • Barry Wilson • Thomas Wilson • James Winsett • Derek Wirz • Dolores Wolfe • Robert Jeffrey "Jeff" Wolford • Dan Wolgast • Don Womack • George Woodruff • Daniel Wooten • Jeffrey Worsham • Bayrene Wright • David Wyatt • Chuck Zeiser • W.C. Zimmerman ●

If you would like to make a donation to the Charles H. Coolidge National Medal of Honor Heritage Center, call us at (423) 877-2525 or visit our website at www.mohhc.org/donate.