



Alaska Veterans Museum Memo

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Eagle River, Alaska

May 25, 2005

Membership growth, awareness top AVMM goals for 2005

Emphasis is to be placed on membership growth and increased public awareness about the Alaska Veterans Memorial Museum, the Board of Directors has decided. Goals for 2005 were set at an April 9 retreat held at Best Western Lake Lucille Inn in Wasilla.

To that end, the Board has ordered a series of promotional items and handouts for distribution at various events. Members also will be encouraged to appear in conjunction with military and veterans activities to disseminate information about the Museum and its plans.

"This is a very worthwhile organization and we need to let more people know about it," said Roger Wortman, president. "Response so far has been tremendous from government officials, veterans organizations and the general public.

"Letting more people know about our plans to establish a permanent location where folks can view displays commemorating the part played by veterans, particularly those in Alaska, can only lead to more interest. That increased interest will result in more donations of items of historic value."

Wortman told directors taking part in the retreat of a recent visit to Kenai where he had an opportunity to meet Cheri L. Curry, general manager for radio stations KSRM and KSLD. He

learned that her father, John Curry, "has lots of World War II 'stuff,' including some 8mm film of Dutch Harbor" that might be suitable for display at the Museum.

Dutch Harbor, an important fishing port and marine gateway to the Aleutian Islands, was bombed by Japanese aircraft June 2-3, 1942. Although the enemy aircraft were met by heavy anti-aircraft artillery fire and the bombs caused little damage, the attack on U.S. soil served to galvanize American resolve.

Museum mourns passing of early booster; Lloyd Dunham served as first president

Lloyd Dunham, a moving force behind the formation of Alaska Veterans Memorial museum, passed away July 15, 2004. He was 62.

Dunham, who served in the U.S. Army's 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam before finishing his career with the Alaska National Guard, was named as the Museum Board's first president when the organization was incorporated in 2002. He and his wife, Donna, continued to work with the Board of Directors until his death and the Museum was designated to receive his memorial contributions.

"He was completely dedicated to the idea of preserving the memories and commemorating the activities of veterans," said Robert Wortman, who

"American military forces have played a major part in Alaska's history from the day in 1867 when the Army accepted the transfer of Alaska from Russia at Sitka," Wortman said. "That relationship has continued for more than a century and a quarter and our state today is home to more veterans than any other except Hawaii.

"It is fitting that our Museum will be the place where people can see, hear and touch part of that history. The Museum brings to life our slogan, 'They Shall Not Be Forgotten'."



Lloyd Dunham, 1941-2004

was vice-president of the original Museum Board of Directors under Dunham. "President Dunham's con-

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Alaska Veterans Museum has non-profit corporation status

Alaska Veterans Memorial Museum was incorporated Dec. 13, 2002 as a non-profit corporation under laws of the State of Alaska. That status is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service and enables donors to claim their contributions to the Museum as tax deductions for charitable purposes.

The corporation gained non-profit status because its purpose is to “serve the general public.” Under Article II of the Museum’s By-Laws, the organization was established to:

(E)stablish and maintain a museum for public inspiration and remembrance and preservation of the memories of all of America’s veterans and of their sacrifice for America’s freedom and those of Allied forces.

(E)ducate the general public through the collection, research, preservation and exhibition of

America’s involvements in armed conflicts to preserve this nation’s and the world’s freedom.

(P)romote activities that will enhance or support the purposes of the Museum.

(D)irect all museum operations, improvements, fund raising activities and hold in trust all funds designed for the Museum and its operations.

Membership in the corporation is open to “any individual, organization, institution, governmental entity or business desirous of supporting the purposes of the Museum.” Provisions have been made for both personal and group memberships.

Individual memberships include individual active duty military members or veterans, senior citizens, adults and students. Each individual shall have one vote and family groups can have a total of two votes.

Group memberships are available to organizations, businesses, institutions and governmental agencies, with each group entitled to one vote.

Membership fees are established by the Board of Directors. In addition to participation in and support of the various activities of the Museum, all members will receive the *Museum Memo* newsletter and be entitled to such other benefits as might be awarded from time to time.

Members will meet annually at a place determined by the Board of Directors. A quorum is to be 10 percent of the total membership or 25 members, whichever is lesser. The meeting agenda will include reports and election of directors to staggered three-year terms.

Mourning: Dunham

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Contributions were responsible in large part for our success in getting the organization started. He played a major role in convincing others of the need to support its goals.”

Mr. Dunham was born Nov. 9, 1941, in Klamath Falls, Ore. Entering the Army in August 1967, he was stationed in Vietnam in 1968-1969. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal with two O/S Bars, Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, and the Vietnam Campaign medal with device 1960. He received an Honorable Discharge from the Army in 1970, then joined the Alaska Army National Guard, serving until he retired in July 2000.

He was a life member of VFW Post 9785 in Eagle River and was a past Post Commander. He served as the VFW State Surgeon 2003-2004. He was also a member of The American Legion and of Elks Lodge 2682.

In addition to aiding the Museum and other service activities, he enjoyed fishing, camping, snow machining, four-wheeling and hunting.

He is survived by his wife, Donna Dunham, of Eagle River; his mother, Lana Savage of Willits, Calif.; siblings and their spouses, Dorothy and George Sanders, Nancy and Andy Bouelds, Jim and Bonnie Savage, all of Willits, and Fred Savage; son and daughter-in-law, David and Lorelei Dunham of Tualatin, Ore.; son, Sean Dunham; daughter Latisha Dunham; two stepsons and four stepdaughters; and 10 grandchildren.

The family requested donations to the Alaska Veterans Memorial Museum. His remains were inurned July 22 at Fort Richardson National Cemetery with full military honors.

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They Shall Not Be Forgotten



Board adopts logo design

A logotype identifying the Alaska Veterans Memorial Museum has been adopted by the Board of Directors. It will be used on the organization's stationery, brochures, business cards, signs and advertising.

Designed by Dennis Smith of Eagle River, the red, white and blue logo features the Alaska map and state flag topped by the national emblem. The Museum name appears below the artwork.

Brochures describing the Museum are being prepared and will be distributed at various events around the state during the coming months.

It is planned to have an entry in both the Chugiak Fourth of July Parade and the Bear Paw Parade in Eagle River.

Alaskans recognized for Troop Fan Mail support

Alaska was well represented in the Troop Fan Mail program sponsored by the national Friends of Our Troops Committee.

Spearheaded by Forest and Catherine Brooks, the Alaska Veterans Memorial Museum sent 3,040 pieces of mail to Servicemembers. That number was just 2030 pieces below the fifth-place organization, Boone County 4-H of Belvidere, Ill.. The Brookses were also listed for their individual submissions of 153

letters of support to troops.

Among military organizations, family members at Fort Richardson and Elmendorf AFB were listed in fourth and fifth places, respectively.

Alaska schools sending greetings to the troops were led by Chugiak High School (260 pieces), Gruening Middle School (275) and Alpenglow Elementary (476).

Information about the program is available by calling Museum Secretary Forest Brooks at 694-AVMM(2866).

Annual Museum Gala planned

Arrangements are being finalized for a top-level speaker for the 2005 annual museum event. To be held in November in conjunction with Veterans Day, the date will be set after the speaker's schedule has been confirmed.

More details about the celebration will be available in the July edition of *Museum Memo*.

Veterans' stories are preserved

Millions of Americans have served their country in times of war and in times of peace. Each of them has a story to tell.

"Alaska Veterans Memorial Mu-

seum wants to record as many of those stories as possible in order to preserve them for posterity," said Roger Wortman, president of the Museum's board of directors.

"The ranks of those who served during World War II are thinning as the years pass. It will be important to have their stories available for review by their great-grandchildren and anyone else interested in learning about the personal side of military service."

Videographer Dan Spakrman has volunteered to tape interviews with veterans, using a format similar to that developed by the Smithsonian Museum.

Those wishing to suggest a veteran with an interesting story is asked to call 694-AVMM (2866) or Al Romaszewski at 694-4200.

Two appointed to vacant Board seats

Two vacant seats on the Museum Board of Directors were filled at their April 25 meeting.

Lee Jordan, founder and former editor of the Chugiak-Eagle River (Alaska) Star, was named to Seat 2. Now retired, he is president of the board of Matanuska Electric Association. He also is on the boards of the Chugiak-Eagle River Foundation and Chugiak Senior Center. He served in the Army.

Stacie Stevens, sales manager for Alaska Publications of the Morris Communications group, is a graphic designer and has 13 years' experience in marketing and advertising. A former Air Force member, she has been involved with the 11th Air Force Memorial. A resident of South Anchorage, she has two sons, one of whom is in the ROTC program at Service High. She fills Seat 5.

Museum seeks new members

Although the organization's name says "Veterans," membership is open to anyone with an interest in preserving the memory of those who have served their country.

Adopting the slogan, "They Shall Not Be Forgotten," the Alaska Veterans Memorial Museum seeks to provide a permanent setting where exhibits from the past can be put on display.

"Our program is well defined and well underway with significant contributions already received," said Roger Wortman, president. "We just want more people to join in our effort toward this great cause and invite everyone to participate."

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



To: Alaska Veterans Memorial Museum
P.O. Box 773364
Eagle River, Alaska 99577-3364

I want to help make the Alaska Veterans Memorial Museum successful and wish to become a member.

Membership Type:

- Veteran [\$25]
- Active, Reserve, Guard [\$20]
- Adult [\$30]
- Senior (55+) [\$25]
- Student (under 18) [\$15]
- Family [\$50]
- Organization
- Business
- Institution
- Governmental Entity [ea. \$300]

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

e-mail address _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Address Label for Addressee

Postage
Stamp
or
Indicia

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