Memorial Day 2019

A day of remembrance.

May 27, 2019 was a great day in Harrington. Our organization hosted the first Memorial Day Parade in Harrington in many decades. Citizens and visitors alike were treated to a parade full of fire trucks, community organizations, Marine Honor Guard and several local politicians joined us in honoring those that gave their lives in the service of our country.

After the parade we hosted a ceremony at Norman Barlow Pavilion featuring a George Washington interpreter, funded by a grant from Delaware Humanities. A big thank you to them for their support of our event.

After our first President spoke, we then honored descendants of Benjamin Clark, the founder of Harrington, as well as, descendants of Samuel Maxwell Harrington, the man the town is named for. We laid a wreath at the Clark Monument, located across the street from the police station. Also, the Samuel Maxwell Harrington Bible was presented to the museum as a gift from the Harrington family. The restoration of the bible was funded by former Mayor Arthur “Buck” Cahall and his wife Charlotte in honor of the mayor’s father, who himself was killed in action in World War II in the pacific theater of operations.

Next we honored three citizens of the Greater Harrington area that served our country during World War II. The first, 2nd Lt. John M Butler, grew up in Andrewville. He was the co-pilot of the first glider to land behind enemy lines on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Lt Butler was killed in action that morning. His son Roger donated a large number of artifacts and papers of his fathers to the museum. A permanent exhibit was later unveiled in the church museum.

Our next honoree was Capt Jeanette Wyatt Faulkner, who grew up at Mastens Corner. After attending nursing school, she remained in Wilmington to work. She enlisted in the Army and was assigned to return wounded soldiers from the front. Her plane was shot down twice during her service to our country. On one of her flights she happened to meet another local man who had been wounded during the war. Edward Hutson, Charlotte’s husband was returning to England after being severely wounded in France. Captain Wyatt’s daughter Sandy Takeda was on hand to meet Charlotte and remember Edward coming to her mother’s funeral several years ago.

Our third honoree was truly a blessed man. Sgt Alvin Donophan survived multiple attacks, including D-Day +1, Battle of the Bulge, and an attack where he was only one of 13 men out of 300 that survived. Sgt Donophan was from Masten’s Corner as well.

Each hero was then given the honor of a wreath laying at their graveside involving their family members.

Current book sales going strong. Next up, Harrington Through Time

The current book published by Arcadia Publishing has been a great driving force for interest in the museum. To date we have sold over 250 copies of the book at the museum and sales continue. The next book about our town, Harrington Through Time, published by Fonthill, is due to be released on October 28, 2019, just in time for Christmas!

Heritage Day is coming

Our next big event will be Heritage Day 2019. This year it will be held on Aug 24, 2019. The museum will be open, at all three locations, from 9 am to 4 pm. We need all the help we can get! Sodas and Ice Cream Floats will be sold again at Burtons Soda Fountain.

Wreaths Across America, honoring our veterans during the holiday season

This year, our organization has taken on the challenge of being the organizer of this great service to all those men and women that have served our country and have since passed away. We are organizing Hollywood Cemetery as our sponsored location. There are approximately 1000 veterans buried at the cemetery. We are hoping to get a wreath sponsored for each and every one of them. The cost for a wreath is $15.00. You can sponsor as many as you would like. We have forms at the museum or you can visit our website for all the details. We are currently looking for volunteers to help gain sponsors for the wreaths. If you wish to help, contact Doug Poore. On December 14, 2019, we will be placing the wreaths during a ceremony that day. More details to follow on this portion of the event. Please don’t wait to sponsor your wreaths!!! We need them sooner than later. Don’t put it off!