



An organization of past and present, military and civilian, staffers and employees, their families and friends of the U.S. Armed Forces daily newspaper, *Stars and Stripes*.

# NEWS

Spring 2017



Above: The first World War II issue of Stars and Stripes was published in London on April 18, 1942.

Left: Stars and Stripes' European operations in Griesheim, Germany, are shown in 1952.

Courtesy of U.S. Army Europe

## Soak up 75 years of Stripes' history in Europe

### Alumni called to join diamond anniversary celebration in Germany

2017 marks the 75th year since Stars and Stripes began publishing in Europe on April 18, 1942. A number of events are planned to commemorate the anniversary of both Stars and Stripes and the U.S. military in Europe, May 19-20, 2017, at Stripes Europe headquarters in Kaiserslautern, Germany, and at Ramstein Air Base.



Stripes will hold an open house Friday, May 19, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., during which visitors can explore the headquarters at Kleber Kaserne Kaiserslautern and talk to cur-

rent staff about how Stripes operates today. Make sure to provide notice to Stripes Europe (contact information on Page 3) of your desire to attend so base access can be obtained. For those interested, the base dining facility is across the street for lunch. It is a very reasonable price of \$5.55 per person (cash only). A bus departs for a trip to historic Heidelberg, Germany, a fascinating city and castle, at 12:15 p.m. The cost of the bus trip is \$30 per person which includes transportation, parking and admission to the castle. There will be ample time for sightseeing, shopping and dinner before returning.

**SEE REUNION ON PAGE 3**

### A brief history of European Stars and Stripes' first years

The very first newspaper called Stars and Stripes was a product of the Civil War put out by four Union soldiers in 1861. Using the facilities of a captured newspaper plant in Bloomfield, Mo., they ran off a one-page paper that made just a single appearance. Other obscure and short-lived editions of the newspaper later appeared, but the Stars and Stripes that first gained fame was the World War I edition, forerunner of today's paper, which first appeared late in the war on Feb. 8, 1918, in Paris.

The newspaper folded after the war, but 24 years later, on April 18, **SEE HISTORY ON PAGE 2**



Stars and Stripes staff work in the editorial office in Pfungstadt, Germany, in 1948.

## HISTORY: From page 1

1942, Stars and Stripes was reborn in Europe amid the screeches of air raid sirens and the buzz of V-1 bombs and B-2 rockets during World War II. In a small room in a London print shop, a group of servicemen founded a four-page weekly, selling each copy for “tuppence” (about 5 cents), which quickly grew to an eight-page daily newspaper.

The first edition of Stars and Stripes published during World War II featured an interview with Gen. George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff. Marshall quoted Gen. John J. Pershing, commander of the World War I American Expeditionary Force, who said that Stripes had been a major factor in sustaining

morale in the AEF.

“We have his (Pershing’s) authority for the statement that no official control was ever exercised over the matter which went into Stars and Stripes,” Marshall said. “It always was entirely for and by the soldier. This policy is to govern the conduct of the new publication.”

It was a challenge to publish, under military jurisdiction, a newspaper representative of the American free press. Bob L. Moora, wartime managing editor, recalled that throughout operations the staff had to fight to withstand the pressures of well-meaning but ill-advised officers to use the paper for propaganda purposes, for



The Stripes fleet is shown in Pfungstadt, Germany, in 1948.

personal publicity, or as a headquarters directive.

Stars and Stripes had a special friend and protector in Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander, who issued a hands-off policy and defended the paper against protest. In fact, those who were persistent

with their protests were told to call Regent 8484 and ask for Gen. Eisenhower.

During the next three years, the newspaper expanded its operations, paralleling the build-up of U.S. forces overseas. Over the course of World War II, Stars and Stripes published

**SEE HISTORY ON PAGE 10**

## REUNION: From page 1

There are three events scheduled for Saturday. In the morning there will be a “fun run” at Ramstein Air Base of (appropriately) 7.5 kilometers. Both runners and spectators are encouraged. There is no charge to participate or to attend. But you may also wish to enjoy a leisurely breakfast and a walk in the fussaengerzone of Kaiserslautern. In the afternoon, from 1 to 3 p.m., there will be a panel of distinguished U.S. military and political personnel, a representative from the German government, and a representative from the German media discussing the 75 years of the alliance as well as the future. There is no charge for this event.

The culminating event will be a formal dinner at the Ramstein Air Base Officers’ Club. There will be entertainment, a keynote speaker (the speaker is recently retired U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff General Mark Welsh), and presentations/video about Stars and Stripes in Europe over the last 75 years. The reception begins at 6:30 p.m., including an elaborate display of Stripes Europe history provided by Dr. John Provan. The dinner will be from 6:30 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$30 per person.

The closest commercial airport is in Frankfurt, Germany. There are multiple means to travel to Kaiserslautern, which is about a 90-minute drive. The options include shuttle services, the train, or a rental car, which can be obtained from the airport. Kaiserslautern is a midsize community, so the hotel options are limited. But there are two in the downtown area, which makes it easy to enjoy the walking zones and life of this attractive German city. Stripes will arrange transportation as needed between hotels and Ramstein.

For planning purposes, if you wish to attend and if you wish to take a trip to Heidelberg and/or attend the events on Saturday at Ramstein Air Base, please notify:

**Dennis Pertab, Assistant to the SSE Commander**

**pertab.dennis@stripes.com**

**011-49-631-3615-9401**

-- or --

**Carrie King**

**king.carrie@stripes.com**

At a later date we will reach out for a firm commitment. Ji Rogers at the central office can assist with logistics as well: rogers.ji@stripes.com or 202-761-0900.

Check starsandstripesassn.com/reunion for more updates.

The Stripes family is excited about seeing everyone in May!

*Max Lederer*

*Stars and Stripes Publisher*

## Travel and lodging information

The Frankfurt Airport is your best option for getting to Kaiserslautern, Germany. A map of the Frankfurt Airport can be viewed and/or printed at:

<http://starsandstripesassn.com/FrankfurtAirport.pdf>

**NOTE:** You’ll need to depart the U.S. on May 17 to arrive in Germany on May 18.

## Transportation to Kaiserslautern

**German Rail:** Deutsche Bahn (DB)

**Approximate one-way cost:** 29 euros

**Info:** <http://bahn.com/en>

**When you land:** Look for DB signs after exiting customs

**Ticketing:** Buy tickets to Kaiserslautern at the DB counter (get platform numbers for both Frankfurt airport and Mannheim Hauptbahnhof train station).

- First leg: Intercity Express (ICE) train (long-distance train) to Mannheim Bahnhof
- Take the Regional Express train from Mannheim to Kaiserslautern Bahnhof in the direction of Koblenz.
- Note the platform numbers (Gleis)

**Shuttle:** Alex Airport Shuttle

**One-way cost:** 40 euros cash or 44 euros with card

**Info:** <http://aas-airport-shuttle.de/en>

**When you land:** If you choose to use this service, Dennis from SSE (see mainbar) will assist in arranging the shuttle pickup at the airport if you provide the flight itineraries. Last pickup is 3 p.m.

**Rental cars:** Reservations can be made at [Rentalcars.com](http://Rentalcars.com)

## Hotels in Kaiserslautern

**SAKS Hotel:** <http://sakshotels.com>

**Approximate cost:** \$145 to \$167 (queen-size to suite)

**Art Hotel Lauterbach:** <http://art-hotel-kl.de>

**Approximate cost:** \$90 to \$162



## McNamara burial held at Arlington Cemetery

Burial services were held at Arlington Cemetery for William “Bill” McNamara on Nov. 22. McNamara, who is credited with personally establishing Stars and Stripes operations in the European Theater of Operations during World War II, passed away June 4 surrounded by family at his home in Alexandria, Va. He was 95. The funeral at Arlington Cemetery was attended by several Stars and Stripes staffers.

Photos by Marie Woods/Stars and Stripes





Courtesy of the U.S. Army

**A construction crew uncovered a suspected World War II-era bunker in November while installing a fire hydrant behind Stars and Stripes' office building at Hardy Barrack in Tokyo. City officials decided not to investigate or preserve it.**

## Suspected WWII-era bunker uncovered at PSS headquarters

*By Aaron Kidd and Hana Kusumoto  
Stars and Stripes*

Officials decided not to preserve or even explore a suspected World War II-era air-raid shelter discovered recently at a small Army installation in central Tokyo.

The bunker was found in November at Hardy Barracks, a former Imperial Japanese Army base that's now home to a Morale, Welfare and Recreation lodging facility and Stars and Stripes' Pacific headquarters. A construction crew uncovered the secret behind Stripes' office building while installing a fire hydrant near a road that leads to a helipad, said Takayuki Sasaki, a construction-site manager for Nagayasu Kogyo, the company contracted for the work.

Workers dug about one meter down with a power shovel when the dirt suddenly fell, exposing a deep bunker that appeared to branch off in two directions, he said.

Construction was halted and the site was roped off and covered with a tarp while Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education officials decided how to proceed. They chose to fill in the bunker and go ahead with the construction, said Yoshihiro Tajiri, a civil engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Japan District.

"It probably means that something of this scale is unworthy of historical structure," said Tajiri, who added the officials did not bother to inspect the site in person.

The bunker's actual size is un-

known, he said. A worker went inside to take photos; however, out of cautiousness, no one has ventured farther to see where it leads.

The site is not a safety hazard, Tajiri said. Before it's filled in, a larger hole will be dug around the bunker to ensure the surrounding ground does not collapse.

It's not unusual to find bunkers, tunnels and historical items during on-base construction projects, said Tajiri, who mentioned that work at the Ikego housing area near Yokosuka Naval Base was suspended for several months after crews uncovered some old earthenware at the site.

During the war, U.S. firebombing raids destroyed much of the city and killed an estimated 100,000 Japanese.

# When you're a Striper, you can always go home again

## Former deputy commander pays visit to Pacific office

By Katie Wais  
Stars and Stripes,  
Publishing and Media Design

When a vacation through Asia presented a former Pacific Stars and Stripes deputy commander the opportunity to drop by his old stomping ground, Phil Raschke couldn't pass it up.

"We just popped in unannounced," Raschke said of visiting the Stars and Stripes office in Tokyo. "They were wonderful."

Raschke, deputy commander of Pacific Stars and Stripes from 1978 to 1981, was on a cruise in October 2016 with his wife of 51 years, Beverly. He and his friend, Nakatsukasa, a former military liaison to the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, realized they were not far from Hardy Barracks in Tokyo. Raschke and Naka decided to stop in at the Pacific Stars and Stripes' offices and say hello.

"It brought back a lot of memories," said Raschke, who hadn't been back to Asia since the mid-80s.

The two visitors were treated to a tour of the Stripes offices by current commander Lt. Col. Brian "Coyote" Choate and superintendent Master Sgt. Ashlee L. Nepela.

Raschke said he was surprised by how much the facility had changed. He remembers the offices when they still housed a Stars and Stripes bookstore and a busy newsroom, as well as a club and cafeteria on an upper floor.

Raschke said in 1978 he was assigned to Stripes with an eye toward helping "improve their financial situation."

"Times were changing," he said.



Phil Raschke, right, and friend, Nakatsukasa, pose with Pacific Stars and Stripes commander Lt. Col. Brian "Coyote" Choate, above, in October 2016.

Among his responsibilities were marketing, overseeing the Stripes bookstores throughout the Pacific, guiding commercial advertising and sorting through AAFES contracting. Initially, he served as deputy editor in chief.

"That's just the way it was in those days," Raschke said. "The mornings were mostly the newspaper. Then the afternoons were marketing and other 'housekeeping.'

"I loved it. I couldn't have asked for a better job."

In the newsroom, Raschke recalls

"Stars and Stripes was losing money and there was a lot of concern that it was becoming a drain."



Phil Raschke pays a visit to the Stripes office in Guam in 1979.



Pacific Stars and Stripes commander Col. Robert Delaney and Phil Raschke talk with author and film director James Clavell in the Stripes newsroom. Clavell made several visits to Stripes while filming the mini-series "Shogun" in Japan.

Photos courtesy of Phil Raschke

working alongside such talented Pacific Stars and Stripes writers as Hal Drake and Bill Lopez. Local and military news as well as sports coverage was at the heart of the newsgathering operations, but he also recalls turning out a special edition in June 1979 to commemorate the death of actor John Wayne.

Raschke was born in Chicago and raised in southern California and graduated from Pepperdine University.

He always wanted to be a pilot. He joined the Army as an armor officer and was assigned as an "aero scout" to the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, 1st Air Cavalry Division (airmobile).

"Our job was to go out, to seek and to find the enemy," Raschke said of flying in the air cavalry.

It was the 1/9th Cavalry that discovered North Vietnamese troops in the Ia Drang Valley, sparking the Battle of Ia Drang, depicted in the movie

"We Were Soldiers" and the book "We Were Soldiers Once ... And Young."

In Vietnam, Raschke racked up 1,300 combat flying hours and earned a Purple Heart, two Vietnamese gallantry awards, 48 Air Medals and a Presidential Citation for Valor.

Later, Raschke joined the Coast Guard, where he flew air and sea rescue missions. He earned at least 10 lifesaving awards.

Raschke went on to earn his master's degree in mass communications from the University of Tennessee — eventually leading to his assignment at Stripes — but would later return to flying "once I convinced them I could still fly, not just write stories," he said.

After the military, Raschke served as executive director of the Washington State Elks Association and worked in marketing and training positions at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe and Fort Lewis in Washington (now Joint Base Lewis-McChord).

Now retired in Lakewood, Wash., Raschke is heavily involved in his community, including volunteering with his local theater group, arts commission, historical association and tax commission as well as the Military Officers Association of America, among others. He coordinates an Asian film festival and a Black History Month program. Last year, Raschke was named Lakewood's Volunteer of the Year.

A history buff, Raschke is also in his fifth year of producing his "Historical Phil" radio series on local station KLAY Radio, 1180 AM. The series, sponsored by the Lakewood Historical Society, features three-minute segments about the community's history and people.

For all his volunteering and activities, Raschke is most proud of his family. He is the father of three grown children and grandfather of nine.

# William Murphy, Stars and Stripes chief financial officer, dies at 56

By *Stars and Stripes*

William Aubrey “Bill” Murphy, chief financial officer for Stars and Stripes and a member of the town council in Dumfries, Va., died Feb. 3, 2017, at his home. He was 56.

Murphy came to Central Stars and Stripes in 1997 and was promoted to CFO in 2012.

“Bill believed strongly in the mission to provide servicemen and women around the world with independent news and information,” said Stars and Stripes Publisher Max Lederer. “His dedicated service was essential to successfully entertaining and informing the military community. Bill was a gentleman, a dedicated manager, committed to everything he did. He made a difference in all the lives he touched.”

Murphy was born Sept. 26, 1960, in Utica, N.Y. He attended Mohawk Valley Community College and graduated in 1980 with an associate’s degree. He went on to graduate from Rochester Institute of Technology in 1982 with a bachelor’s degree in accounting. While there, he was governor of residence halls and played varsity ice hockey.

Murphy was very active in his local community, serving on the Dumfries Board of Zoning Appeals for five years before being appointed to the town council two years ago. He was also an usher at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Triangle, Va.

Friends remember Murphy for his devotion to community service and volunteering. He was passionate about hockey, loved grilling outdoors and was devoted to his longtime com-

panion, Mylien Nguyen, of Annandale, Va., and his dog, Lexi.

Stars and Stripes staff members were quick to recall him fondly.

Marie Woods, director of publishing and media design, worked with Murphy for the last 18 years.

“He was a good soul, generous and thoughtful to everyone he knew. I’m grateful for having had the opportunity to know him and count him among my closest friends. I will truly miss him.”

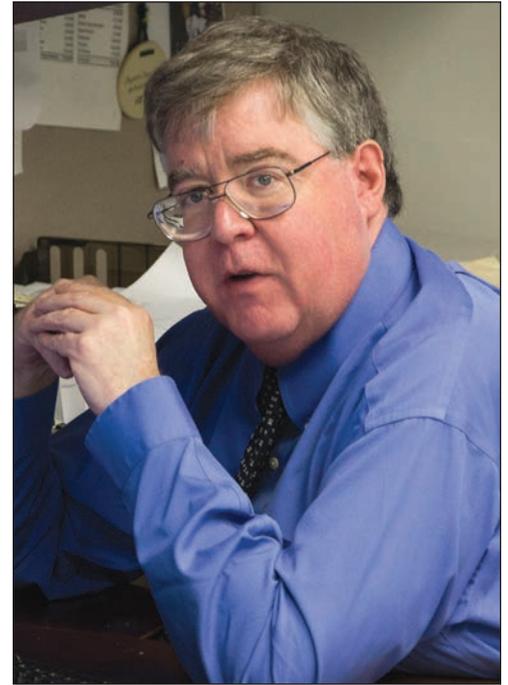
He was a valued resource to many.

“For newcomers like me, Bill was a one-stop shop for information on how to wade through the rules and regulations of the U.S. government and for translating ‘GovSpeak’ into clear English,” said Robert Reid, senior managing editor of Stars and Stripes. “He always did so with a smile.”

Corey Henderson, a Stars and Stripes multimedia consultant, called Murphy “an important leader in our professional family.”

“He worked hard to make sure that our organization maintained solid stewardship of the funds that support our servicemembers and their family members.”

Murphy was also known for his warm nature and sense of humor. Meg Irish, director of member services, recalled that “early in my time with Stripes, Bill arrived in my office to distribute our pay documents and I said, ‘Oh, look! It’s the Paycheck Fairy!’ And without missing a beat or cracking a smile, Bill drew himself up and replied, ‘Please! The correct term is Finance Ranger.’ I’ve thought of him as our Finance Ranger ever since.”



Chris Carlson, Stars and Stripes publishing and media design manager, said Murphy was respected for the work he did. “But most importantly, he was just a great guy. He will be missed.”

Visitation was Feb. 12 at Owens-Pavlot & Rogers Funeral Service in Clinton, N.Y. A funeral Mass was held Feb. 13 at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Clinton. His burial was in Deansboro Cemetery.

A memorial service was held Feb. 24 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 18825 Fuller Heights Road, Triangle, Va., followed by a reception in his honor at the Dumfries Triangle Rescue Squad Bingo Hall, 3800 Graham Park Road, Dumfries, Va.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 18825 Fuller Heights Rd., Triangle, VA 22172 or to a scholarship in Bill’s memory at Clinton Central School Business Office, 75 Chenango Ave., Clinton, NY 13323.

To offer an online condolence, visit [goo.gl/2Adp6G](http://goo.gl/2Adp6G).

## Former ESS city editor Judi Erickson dies

Judi Erickson, former Stars and Stripes city editor in Europe, died Dec. 28, 2016, at her home in Marion, Ky., according to the Los Angeles Daily News. She was 53.

“Judi was city editor during the first year American troops were in Bosnia,” Brian Bowers, current Stars and Stripes Assistant Managing Editor, said of his time working with Erickson. “She was instrumental in helping us to switch from covering garrison communities to covering deployed troops. We learned a lot in 1996 that we were able to put into practice when the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq started.”

Following her time at Stripes, Erickson worked as a business editor for The Honolulu Advertiser for five years, according to the Los Angeles Daily News. She was hired as the Los Angeles Daily News assistant city editor in August 2005 and was promoted to city editor in September 2007, the paper stated in a Dec. 30 obituary.

Later, Erickson helped start the Los Angeles County Business Federation, an alliance of regional business groups, according to the Daily News. She left the group in 2014 and went back to Kentucky to take care of her father.

She is survived by her father, Cliff Erickson, and step mother, Donna Erickson.

## John McPeck, former PSS photo editor, dies

John O. McPeck, 90, former photo editor and assistant news editor for Stars and Stripes, died Nov. 14, 2016, at his home in Lakeside, Calif. He was 90.

McPeck worked at Pacific Stars and Stripes in Tokyo from 1963 to 1965. From Stripes, he joined the San Diego Tribune.

He was originally from Bucyrus, Ohio.

## Join us on Facebook!

Visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/StarsAndStripesAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/StarsAndStripesAssociation) to stay up to date on the latest news and reunion announcements, to share photos or just to catch up with old friends!

Stars and Stripes Association Inc. is a California non-profit corporation with more than 300 members worldwide.  
Address, 1510 West Nottingham, Anaheim, CA 92802

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICES:** Calvin Posner, membership manager, 4440 Strathmore Drive, Lake Wales, FL 33859 or [calposner@aol.com](mailto:calposner@aol.com)

*In memory of Maurice (Maury) Martin, Col., USAF (Ret.), whose efforts as co-founder made this association possible.*

### OFFICERS

President: Mike Mealey, 337 Applebrook Drive, Malvern, PA 19355, phone 610-722-0783, Fax 610-722-0784, e-mail [michaelpmealey@aol.com](mailto:michaelpmealey@aol.com)

Vice President and Secretary: Lorrie Goben, P.O. Box 502, Camino, CA 95709, phone 530-647-0511, e-mail [lorrieandrong@gmail.com](mailto:lorrieandrong@gmail.com)

Membership Manager and Treasurer: Calvin Posner, 4440 Strathmore Drive, Lake Wales, FL 33859, phone 863-662-4410 or e-mail [calposner@aol.com](mailto:calposner@aol.com)

### DIRECTORS

Chairman Emeritus: Toshi Cooper, 15 Possum Hollow Road, Newark, DE 19711, phone 302-454-6488, e-mail [tgmcooper@comcast.net](mailto:tgmcooper@comcast.net)

Jim Hummel, 3023 Delta Road, San Jose, CA 95135, phone 408-270-2349, e-mail [k2it@pacbell.net](mailto:k2it@pacbell.net)

Max D. Lederer, Jr., Publisher, Stars and Stripes, 529 14th St., NW, Washington, DC 20045 [lederer.max@stripes.com](mailto:lederer.max@stripes.com)

Walt Trott, P.O. Box 477 Madison, TN 37116-0477, phone 615-868-3248, e-mail [trottaboutmusic@aol.com](mailto:trottaboutmusic@aol.com)

Bob Trounson, 446 Theresa Lane, Sierra Madre, CA 91024, phone 626-355-0570, e-mail [mbtrounson@aol.com](mailto:mbtrounson@aol.com)

Newsletter editor: Joe Schneider, 4053 Mount Brundage Ave., San Diego, CA 92111, phone 858-278-0394, e-mail [aztecjoes@aol.com](mailto:aztecjoes@aol.com)

### ALLIED WITH

**The Stars and Stripes Museum/Library Association Inc.®**, P.O. Box 1861, Bloomfield, MO 63825. Phone/Fax 573-568-2055. Philip Tippen, President; Sue Mayo, Librarian, e-mail [stripes@newwavecomm.net](mailto:stripes@newwavecomm.net), website [starsandstripesmuseum.com](http://starsandstripesmuseum.com)

### Stars and Stripes Association News

Editorial matter about The Stars and Stripes and Stripers should be sent directly to the editor, who reserves the option to edit copy. Neither the association nor the editor attests to the accuracy of submitted articles published. Views expressed by authors are their own.

Newsletter edited and designed by Katie Wais and Chris Verigan.

## HISTORY: From page 2

as many as 32 separate editions, with page counts running as high as 24 pages per issue. At one time, there were as many as 25 publishing locations in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific.

Throughout World War II and the first few months of 1946, the European editorial staff was all military. The newspaper was printed in captured or requisitioned plants by indigenous personnel under military supervision. It was distributed through ration breakdown points and message center channels. Equipment and supplies were requisitioned or drawn on memorandum receipt from Army appropriated fund sources.

World War II ended, but Stars and Stripes was instructed to continue to publish as long as U.S. troops remained abroad.

European Stars and Stripes became a nonappropriated fund instrumentality in 1946. As wartime military staff began returning to the States, the newspaper replaced them with a full-time civilian staff. Gradually they built a top-of-the-line team of professional journalists and newspaper business people, augmented by a small contingent of military journalists and managers. The first civilian managing editor was appointed in February 1946.

The first newspaper plant in Germany was set up in a brewery in the town of Pfungstadt on April 5, 1945. One year later, the newspaper moved to the Bavarian town of Altdorf and took over the presses of Der Sturmer, a Nazi newspaper. Stars and Stripes returned to Pfungstadt in 1946, and moved again in 1949 to its location at a former Luftwaffe training field in Griesheim on the outskirts of Darmstadt.

On July 1, 1947, the European Stars and Stripes was re-designated as a nonappropriated fund of the European Command. Taking advantage of the circulation runs necessary to distribute



Stars and Stripes' art department works in Pfungstadt, Germany, in 1948.



Above: Stripes' European headquarters are shown in Griesheim, Germany, in 1976.

Left: USAFE PIO personnel admire the four-color press during a tour of the Griesheim facility.

the newspaper and to provide a source of revenue, it was agreed that European Stars and Stripes would take over from European Exchange System the distribution and sale of newspapers, periodicals, and books throughout the command. Consequently, circulation district offices were organized, newsstands opened and delivery routes established.

In 1961, European Stars and Stripes began converting newsstands into bookstores, providing greater display space for merchandise and, therefore, a larger and more varied selection of magazines, newspapers and books. Bookstore revenues were especially important to the organization, since they offset losses posted by the daily newspaper.

Many changes have occurred since that first newspaper in 1942, but the

mission of providing independent news and information to the military community continues to be the primary purpose. Today, the European edition has been replaced by a single global edition of Stars and Stripes that is published Monday through Thursday, with a special Weekend Edition on Friday for Europe and Pacific, and a separate Mideast edition Friday through Sunday. The Europe bureau operates out of Kaiserslautern, Germany. Stripes no longer runs military bookstores.

For all the changes, the paper's mission remains unaltered. So long as military men and women remain in Europe, Stars and Stripes will be there to provide them with news and information from around the world.

# News from the Stars and Stripes Museum and Library

By Sue Mayo

*Stars and Stripes Museum Librarian*

Thanks to the Stars and Stripes Association for the \$1,000 donation for improvements to the barn. Museum director Laura Meyer, her father, mother and several other volunteers have cleaned out the barn, made a weather-proof room for storage and used some of the inside barn wood to replace damaged panels on the outside of the barn.

Liberty Days, the fourth annual re-enactment at the Stars and Stripes Museum and Library, was held in October and was a big success with 23 campsites representing a timeline from 18th century to the present. On the event's Education Day, 1,078 middle school students from three counties visited the campsites and enjoyed the personal attention of the re-enactors. Several musical groups provided entertainment Friday evening and throughout the day on Saturday.

As the result of a \$5,000 donation from a local businessman, several proj-

## HELP THE MUSEUM

Do you shop at Amazon? If you do, you can help out the Stars and Stripes Museum Library. Instead of going to Amazon's regular website, go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). Then select the Stars and Stripes Museum – Library Association Inc. as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate 0.5 percent of your purchase price to the museum.

ects have been possible. The Stars and Stripes newspapers have been matted and placed in black frames giving a more professional look to the timeline in the entrance room. Four iPads and stands have been purchased to help tell the newspaper's story. We plan to get present and former Stars and Stripes employees to make videos telling of their experiences at the newspaper.

Volunteer Lynn Robey has been using her artistic talents to benefit the museum. She has painted the Stars and Stripes logo on ornaments that we are selling for \$10 plus \$2.75 for postage.



The Stars and Stripes Museum spruced up its timeline in the entrance room, thanks to a recent donation.

Lynn is also painting a mountain scene mural on the wall of the Vietnam exhibit.

On Jan. 21, the museum hosted a Trivia Night Fundraiser, raising a total of \$2,000. Items were provided by local merchants for a silent auction and food was available for purchase.

January began the annual membership drive here at the museum and we encourage all present and former Stripers to either renew or establish their membership. The levels of membership are: **Friend \$25, Family \$50, Advocate \$75, VIP \$100, Business/Organization \$150.** Payments may be made by sending a check to: Stars and Stripes M/L, P.O. Box 1861, Bloomfield, MO 63825, or with a Visa or Master Card or PayPal at [stripes@newwavecomm.net](mailto:stripes@newwavecomm.net).

## Treasurer's Report

As of Jan. 31, 2017, we have 238 total members, including one new ESS member, Leah Larkin. Welcome, Leah.

Of the 238 total members, 122 are current in their annual dues and 116 are delinquent for two or more years. Those who have been delinquent since 2014 will be taken off the mailing and email lists on Jan. 17.

Currently, our bank balance is \$25,030.26. We have \$5,550.88 in our business checking account and \$19,479.38 in our money market account. We expect many delinquent members to renew so they can participate with us at the European Stars and Stripes 75th anniversary and reunion in Kaiserslautern, Germany, in October.

Because of the recent revelations about our bank, Wells Fargo, the board decided to have me look into moving our account. Among other vagaries carried out against their banking customers, the bank also foreclosed on the

homes of 400 military servicemembers, mostly California National Guard members, who were deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, in violation of the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act. The bank settled out of court for a fine said to be in the tens of millions of dollars and agreed to provide relief to the military families. I spoke with the G-1 of the California National Guard. He assured me that the bank had made good on its agreement with the feds and had taken a number of actions to make things right.

I also had both our accounts audited and they were found to be pure with no unauthorized separate accounts formed or fees taken.

I also learned that several other national banks including Bank of America and Chase had done the same thing and settled more quietly out of court. So we couldn't move our account to a national bank that was pure on this issue. That said, I've kept our current accounts in place for now.

*Calvin S. Posner*

*Treasurer and Membership Chair*

# Membership Renewal/Change of Address Form

Below is the form needed to renew your membership, activate a new membership, or report a change of address.

**Current members** wishing to renew their memberships should complete the form below and mail to:

**Association Treasurer Calvin Posner 4440 Strathmore Drive, Lake Wales, FL 33859**, along with a check for \$20.

**New members** should also complete the form and mail to Association Treasurer Calvin Posner with a check for \$20.

**Make your check payable to Stars and Stripes Association.**

*New members are asked to include a short biography and current members are encouraged to add any updates to their bios.*

*The bios will be included in our membership directory.*

**Change of address, e-mail, phone, fax notifications** should be sent to Membership Manager Calvin Posner with no check.

**Note: Dues are NOT tax deductible.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Years with Stars and Stripes (CSS, ESS, PSS) \_\_\_\_\_

Circle any of the following that you do **NOT** wish to be published in the Assn. Directory

Address Phone Cell Phone E-Mail

Comments:

First Class Mail

Change Services Requested

Cal Posner  
Stars and Stripes Association  
4440 Strathmore Drive, Lake Wales, FL 33859