



**Stars and Stripes
Association®**

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 2019

ALUMNI REVIEW NEW STRIPES OFFICE WITH 2018 REUNION



Stars and Stripes Publisher Max Lederer, kicks off the Stripes holiday gathering and 2018 reunion. To his right: Jim Martin, new president of the board of directors, Stars and Stripes Museum/Library Association, PSS alumni Mike Mealey (president of Stars and Stripes Association) and member Gary Cooper.

By Addison O'Shea (CSS 2018-present)

After a long-anticipated move and an even more anticipated reunion with old friends, Stars and Stripes was finally able to celebrate its new office with visiting alumni.

On the weekend of Dec. 6-8, 2018, former Stripes staffers gathered in D.C. to join in the festivities of the reunion. Greeted by commanders of the European and Pacific theater, alumni toured the new Central Office. They were guided by Lt. Col. Sean Klimek (Stars and Stripes Europe and Expeditionary), Lt. Col. Rich McClintic (Stars and Stripes Pacific), incoming First Sergeant TSgt. Travis Brosseau,

and Stars and Stripes Publisher Max Lederer.

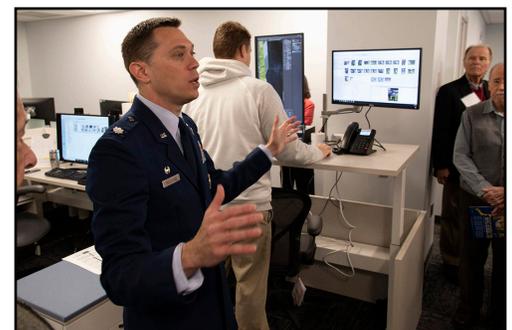
Together with current staffers, alumni participated in the annual holiday gathering and watched the new Stars and Stripes documentary film, *World's Most Dangerous Paper Route*. The film tells the story of the men and women who deliver the Stars and Stripes to soldiers. The film will be available for public viewing later this year.

Later that evening, December 6, Stripes alumni attended a dinner and panel discussion at the National Press Club, moderated by Editor Terry Leonard. Other panelists included Mark

Bowden, author of *Black Hawk Down*, current Stars and Stripes reporter Nikki Wentling, and former Tet Offensive and Stripes photographer John Olson (PSS 1968).

The following day, alumni visited the Newseum where John Olson's work from the Tet Offensive is featured in one of the world's only tactile photography exhibits, "The Marines and Tet: The Battle That Changed the Vietnam War."

It was a weekend full of laughter, memories, reuniting with old friends, and learning the stories of some new ones. The weekend was filled with a common purpose and passion--bringing the news to our servicemembers and their families, whether they are stationed stateside or abroad. Stars and Stripes has always provided a little piece of home, and we thank the people over the years who have helped us keep it that way.



Lt. Col. Rich McClintic, commander of Stars and Stripes Pacific, leads a tour of the new Stars and Stripes central office.

All photos by Joe Gromelski (ESS 1997, CSS 1997-present) except where noted.

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

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

Vice President and Secretary: Lorrie Goben, P.O. Box 502, Camino, CA 95709, phone 530-647-0511, e-mail 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

DIRECTORS

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

Jim Hummel, 3023 Delta Road, San Jose, CA 95135, phone 408-270-2349, e-mail k2it@pacbell.net

Max D. Lederer, Jr., Publisher, Stars and Stripes, 633 3rd St., NW, Washington, DC 20001 lederer.max@stripes.com

Walt Trott, P.O. Box 477, Madison, TN 37116-0477, phone 615-868-3248, e-mail trottaboutmusic@aol.com

Bob Trounson, 446 Theresa Lane, Sierra Madre, CA 91024, phone 626-355-0570, e-mail mbtrounson@aol.com

Newsletter editor: Addison O'Shea, 633 3rd St., NW, Washington, DC 20001, phone 202-886-0020, e-mail oshea.addison@stripes.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, website 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 Addison O'Shea, Content Designer, Stars and Stripes, phone 202-886-0020, e-mail oshea.addison@stripes.com

*From Calvin S. Posner
Membership Manager and Treasurer*

TREASURER'S REPORT

There is, as of December 31, a balance of \$18,899.58 which includes \$1,401.59 in our operational checking account and \$17,497.99 in our CD. Our largest expenditure since the last newsletter was \$11,012.64 to cover our obligation to support the Washington, D.C. Reunion. We received \$6,825 in reunion registrations and \$1,975 in donations and membership renewals since the last newsletter. All board members have been given the end-of-year bank statement including complete details of December deposits and expenditures for the D.C. Reunion.

For those members whose dues are paid up through 2018, no more annual dues are required.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Just a reminder that all members paid through 2018 will never pay membership dues again. We currently have 95 members who are delinquent for 2018. The association has extended the deadline for those currently delinquent through the end of January. After that, any member not paid through 2018 will not appear in the 2019 Directory and will be taken off the mailing and email lists. \$20 pays your dues forever. The association will still gratefully accept donations throughout the year.

MEMBERSHIP SNAPSHOT

	TOTAL	CURRENT	DELINQUENT
U.S. Members	178	83	95
Foreign Members	22	15	7
Membership	200	98	102

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS:

Richard Maiolo PSS 1963-1965

Lt. Col. Richard McClintic PSS Commander, 2017-Present

Ed Kelin ESS - 9 years, PSS - 6 years

Mitchell Marovitz ESS 1998-2000

Christopher Six CSS 2002-2016

STARS AND STRIPES REUNION 2018



Top Left: Former Stars and Stripes staffers tour the editorial suite of the new Stars and Stripes office, Dec. 7, 2018.

Second Left: Stars and Stripes Editor in Chief Terry Leonard moderates a panel discussion at the National Press Club.

Third Left: Alumni enjoy dinner with current Senior Managing Editor Bob Reid at the National Press Club.

Bottom Left: Former Stars and Stripes staffers look on during a tour of the new office in Washington, D.C.

Top Right: Robert Black (PSS 1953) meets Lt. Col. Sean Klimek, commander of Stars and Stripes Europe and Expeditionary.

Bottom Right: Former Stripes photographer John Olson, with author Mark Bowden (Black Hawk Down) and Sabine Lederer.

SEE REUNION ON PAGE 8

Stars and Stripes Legendary Photographer “Red” Grandy Dies



A young “Red” Grandy at work.



Grandy poses in front of the famous photo he took of Eisenhower on April 11, 1951.

By Nancy Montgomery (CSS)

Francis J. “Red” Grandy (ESS 1951-1986), Stars and Stripes chief photographer for more than three decades, died Aug. 8, 2018, in Ogdensburg, N.Y. He was 96.

Grandy was known for some of the most iconic photos

in the world, including one that caught the priceless look on Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower’s face at the precise moment he learned that Gen. Douglas D. MacArthur had been dismissed as Korean War commander by President Harry Truman. The photo was published

all over the world and was named by the Associated Press as best news photo of the year for 1951.

The usually well-dressed Grandy was born in 1922 on a dairy farm in upstate New York. Starting in 1942, he spent four years in the Army Air Corps,

then studied photography at the University of Southern California. In 1950, he sailed for Europe to work on a master's degree in cinema. In 1951, he hired on as a photographer at Stars and Stripes, and quickly made an impression.

Grandy was soon promoted to chief photographer, a post he held for the next 35 years.

"I had many successes in getting pictures, often under very difficult circumstances," he said on his website, redgrandy.com. "Many times the story behind the picture was more interesting than the story itself."

Grandy was competitive. The small Stars and Stripes staff of six shooters won major newspaper photo contests year after year under his supervision.

His enviable assignments took him to military maneuvers, natural disasters, plane crashes, sporting events and film and jazz festivals in 37 countries. It was "movie stars, cocktail bars and shiny cars," he told one interviewer at age 91.

Grandy lived in upstate Hermon, N.Y., on the Grass River, where he was proprietor of the historic Lazy River Playground.



Grandy is congratulated by Gen. Eisenhower as Stars and Stripes Managing Editor Ken Zumwalt looks on at the Rhein-Main Airport in Frankfurt, Germany.



Red, left, and Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Bill Mauldin reconnect during a reunion.



Red, center, with two fellow Stars and Stripes staff members in the photo and art department in Europe.

RED CAPTURED HISTORY WITH HIS MANY...



Dwight D. Eisenhower reads a copy of Stars and Stripes.



President Ronald Reagan and Queen Elizabeth II, out for a ride at Windsor Castle in 1982.



President John F. Kennedy during his visit to Paris in 1961.



President Richard Nixon and his national security adviser, Henry Kissinger, 1972.



Tanks roll through the streets of West Berlin on Allied Forces Day, 1969.

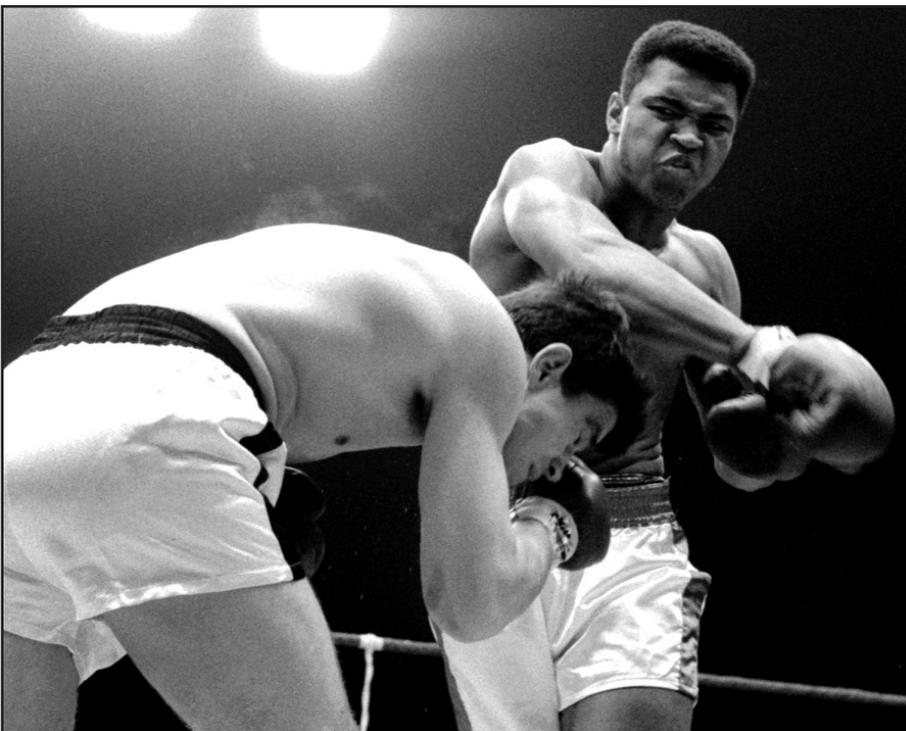
...MEMORABLE PHOTOGRAPHS OVER THE YEARS



Red poses next to boxing legend Rocky Marciano.



An F4 Phantom takes off from the USS Forrestal in the Mediterranean in 1970.



World heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali battles European champ Karl Mildenerberger at Frankfurt's Forest Stadium in September, 1966.



American fans celebrate during the "Miracle on Ice" game, 1980.

AWARD WINNING REPORTER-EDITOR FRANK PRAYTOR DIES



Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

By *Seth Robson (PSS)*

Frank Praytor (PSS 1952-1954), a former Korean War combat correspondent featured in an iconic photograph of a Marine feeding an orphaned kitten on the front lines, died Jan. 10, 2018, in Albuquerque, N.M.

Praytor, whose reporting included firsthand accounts of prisoner-of-war exchanges and the truce-signing at Panmunjom, was 90 years old and had been in poor health for several years, said his friend and fellow Marine Chas Henry.

Praytor grew up in Birmingham, Ala., and started his journalism career in 1947 as a police reporter for the Birmingham News. While attending Birmingham Southern College, he wrote for the Birmingham Age-Herald. That led to a post as northern Alabama bureau manager for the International News Service.

In 1950, he joined the Marine Corps and became a combat correspondent with the 1st Marine Division in Korea.

A 1952 photograph of Praytor with a kitten on a battlefield ran in newspapers worldwide. It shows the young Marine surrounded by sandbags, a pistol at his hip and helmet on his knees feeding the tiny kitten with a medicine dropper. The image was picked up by The Associated Press and published in more than 1,700 American newspapers, including The New York Times. In recent years, it has found new popularity on social media sites like Reddit.

Praytor weaned the kitten, whose mother was “shot by a Marine up on line because of her meowing,” on meat from “C” ration cans, he wrote later in *The Greybeards*, the Korean War Veterans Association magazine.

A photograph that Praytor

took of a Navy corpsman treating a wounded Marine on the battlefield won an award from *Photography* magazine that earned him a trip to New York for television and radio interviews.

“Frank was, first and foremost, a good human being,” Henry said. “That picture of him caring for a kitten lost on the battlefield wasn’t just cute; it captured his character. Beyond that, he was an elegant writer and master communication strategist. I was fortunate to be able to count him both a mentor and friend.”

Praytor’s widow, Katherine, said her husband also had a love for dogs. In 1953, he adopted a stray he named Mangy and brought it with him as he and *Stars and Stripes* colleague Bob McNeill toured the British Commonwealth Division’s front-line trenches in Korea.



Praytor poses with Mangy in Korea. Courtesy of Katherine Praytor

“Suddenly a battery of 4.2 mortars blasted away on a fire mission,” she said. “The noise terrified Mangy. He took off and was never seen again.”

She said Praytor and McNeill spent a week looking for the dog, confounding their Tokyo editors who wondered whether they were

SEE PRAYTOR ON PAGE 10

AN OLD FRIEND RECALLS THE “SPIFFY-LOOKING” MARINE HE KNEW



Left to right: McNeill, Jim White and Praytor at the City Desk in Tokyo in the spring of 1953.

By Robert S. McNeill (PSS 1952-1954)

I first met Frank Praytor on a cold Sunday morning in Tokyo in January 1953. I was an assistant city editor at Pacific Stars and Stripes and was sitting at the desk when he appeared at the head of the stairs. A spiffy-looking Marine if ever I saw one. Immaculate in his dress greens. That was the beginning of a long friendship. I accompanied him on many Korean adventures and was best man at his Tokyo wedding.

Praytor was soon sent to Korea where he had served as a combat correspondent with the 1st Marine Division. I followed him shortly afterwards for my second tour in Korea. I had spent most of '52 covering 5th Air Force. Frank met me at K-16 and we were constant companions until he left Korea for his Tokyo wedding in August.

Our first adventure occurred in June of '53 when the Seoul government ordered the release of all Communist prisoners of war who did not want to be repatriated to China and North Korea. These people were roaming free all over South Korea and the United Nations Command wanted them recaptured. The focal point of this story was Pusan, and 5th Air Force provided a C-47 to fly the press, including Praytor and McNeill, from Seoul to Pusan. But the C-47 developed mechanical

trouble. A C-46 was substituted and after a long delay we took off for K-9, a landing strip very close to the beach. About an hour later the C-46 settled down for a landing. We were seated in two lines of bucket seats, one on each side of the cabin with everyone facing windows on the other side of the plane. We, seated on the right, were looking at the horizon. A few seconds later we were seeing the ground. The plane had turned on its side, left wing down. That left all aboard more or less petrified. Then the pilot tried a second landing and the same thing happened all over again, a second sideways glide.

The C-46 was scheduled to fly us back to Seoul two days later, but it returned empty. We all took the overnight train.

When I think of Frank a picture always comes to mind of him standing on the hood of our jeep, Rolleiflex in hand, looking down through the ground glass at a platoon of ROK soldiers marching to the rear while mortar shells landed nearby.

On that trip we took along Frank's dog, Mangy, a lovable mutt that closely resembled a black Labrador Retriever. It was a rough ride for Mangy. The constant jouncing of the jeep over those washboard Korean dirt roads left him miserable. But things got worse for Mangy and Frank at the Commonwealth Division.

We had checked in at Fort George Press Camp and a PIO captain guided us on a tour of the front, which looked like a World War I battlefield. We passed a 4.2 mortar battery and the captain advised, "Better plug your ears. They just got a fire order."

And fire they did. A horrible racket. Fingers in the ears didn't help much. But poor Mangy had no fingers and off he went. Out of sight in seconds. We never found him, although

we spent a week looking. Frank would not give up. Every time I suggested we quit, Frank would say, "Not yet."

The Tokyo editors kept asking, "Where are Praytor and McNeill?" To which Ed Deswysen, the Korean bureau chief, could only answer, "I don't know."

During our search, we came across a camp of Korean laborers, who, we finally concluded, killed and ate Mangy.

When the Panmunjom peace talks got serious I moved to the Munsan Press Camp to cover them. Frank soon followed as a photographer. There we lived in tents, but it was a good life. We had censors there to process our copy. There was a nice mess tent and best of all in the hot weather, a big shower tent that opened up every day at 1700 hours.

The day the armistice was signed, July 23, 1953, 8th Army organized a press convoy to move from Seoul to Panmunjom. For some mysterious reason, those of us at Munsan could not join the convoy as it passed through. We had to back-track to Seoul and join it there.

The next month, August, we went back to Panmunjom and nearby Freedom Village to cover Operation Big Switch, the final exchange of POWs. The former POWs were outfitted with new uniforms and Frank and I took advantage of this procedure to outfit ourselves with British duds, which were much superior to the fatigues worn by Americans. I wore British army pants the remainder of my time in Korea.

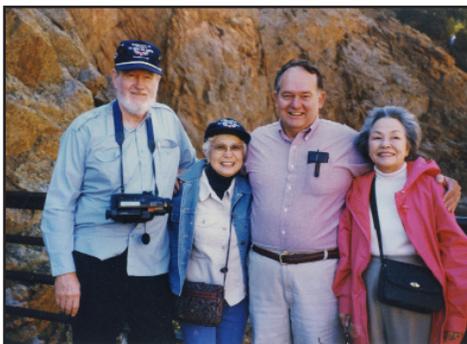
Frank's time in Korea ended that August when he returned to Tokyo for his marriage to his first wife. I took a short R&R and served as his best man. He and his bride rented a Japanese home, and he was discharged from the Marines in Aug. 1954.

PRAYTOR: FROM PAGE 8

dead or alive.

“Finally, it was concluded that Mangy was captured and eaten by Korean laborers,” she said.

Toshi Cooper, retired Stars and Stripes librarian and interpreter, recalled meeting Praytor in 1952 and then working closely with him over the years on the Alumni Newsletter and helping to promote the Stars and Stripes Museum Library. He edited the association’s newsletter from 1998 to 2002.



Frank with Toshi, Jim Mayo from Stars and Stripes Museum/Library and Tomoko Hanway (PSS 1953-1955) at the Colorado Springs reunion 1996.

“He was a very good man and a sweet friend,” she said. “I’ll miss him very much.”

After two years at Stripes’ Tokyo bureau, Praytor left the Marines in 1954 and worked in public affairs and advertising in Texas, Oklahoma and Colorado, eventually starting his own agency. In 1992, he moved to Albuquerque and worked as a freelance writer, public relations consultant and in real estate.

He is survived by Katherine Praytor, his wife of more than 46 years; granddaughter Nicole; grandson Jacob; great-grandsons Landon, Brantley and Brendyn; and great-granddaughter Preslie.

The family interned his ashes May 18, 2018 at Santa Fe National Cemetery.

REUNION ATTENDEES

Tim Baker (ESS 1995-1999)
Robert Black (PSS 1953) and Marcia Doscher
 Richard Braun (ESS 30 years)
Brian Brooks (ESS 1997-1999)
 Travis Brosseau
Gary Cooper (PSS 1965-1967, 1974-1975)
Toshi Cooper (PSS 1949-1971)
 Vince Crawley (ESS 1988-1999)
 Virginia Abraham
 Linda Cunningham and Eddie Cunningham
 James Daubel
 Michael Davidson (CSS)
 Kathryn Dickerson (ESS 1995-1999)
 Richard Dickerson (CSS)
 Betsy Diehl (ESS 1985-1988)
 Dave Diehl (ESS 1984-1991)
 Cindy Elmore (ESS 4 years)
 Rufus Friday
 John Gardiner
 Robert Giles
Joe Gromelski (ESS 1997, CSS 1997-present)
Lucia Guajardo (ESS 1974-1978)
Cecilia Hoke (CSS 2004-2006)
 Janet Howells-Tierney (ESS 1986-1992)
 Rachel Akpotu
Margaret Irish (CSS 2005-2017)
Ed Kelin (ESS 9 years, PSS 6 years)
 Thomas Kelsch ex-Publisher (ESS/CSS 1996-2007)
 Kim Keravuori
 Lt. Col. Sean Klimek Commander (ESS 2018-present)
Max Lederer Publisher (ESS 1992-2000, CSS 2000-present) and Mrs. Sabine Lederer
 Terry Leonard Moderator (CSS 2007-present)
Gale Lilja (PSS 1971-1975)
 Reid MacCluggage and Linda MacCluggage
Victoria Mannina (ESS 1981-1984)
 Ingrid Grinde
 Mitchell Marovitz
Jim Martin (Associate, Museum/Library) and Mrs. Dorothy Martin
 Lt. Col. Richard McClintic Commander (PSS 2017-present)
Michael Mealey (PSS 1963-1964)
 Roger Mumford (CSS 1997-2012) and Mrs. Mumford
 Mark Najarian (ESS 1992-1997)
 Rick Oleszewski (CSS)
John Olson speaker (PSS 1967-1968) and Mrs. Olson
 G. Kurt Piehler
 Jennifer Popescu (CSS 2017-present)
Calvin Posner (PSS 1967-1968, ESS 1971-1973) and Mrs. Barbara Posner
 Bob Reid (CSS) and Mrs. Reid
 Warner Robins
 Shane Schiermeier (ESS)

Andrew Schneider (CSS 2011-2018)
Mark Swearengen (ESS 1982-1991)
Joe Tartaro (PSS 1952-1954)
Floyd Thomas (ESS 1966-1974) and Mrs. Yolanda Thomas
Walter Trott (ESS 1969- 1976)
 Chris Verigan (CSS)
 Nichole Wentling (CSS 2017-present)
 Barry Williams (PSS & CSS)
Marc P. Yablonka (PSS Stringer 1990-1997)

REUNION: FROM PAGE 3



Top: Current CSS reporter Nikki Wentling speaks with Stripes alumni after the panel discussion.

Middle: John Olson stands in front of a photograph of himself during the Tet Offensive.

Bottom: John Olson guides the hands of a vision impaired museum visitor. Olson’s exhibit is one of the only tactile photography exhibits in the world.

LIBERTY DAYS 2018 CELEBRATED AT THE MUSEUM IN BLOOMFIELD



Liberty Days 2018 participants pose next to the welcoming sign, Bloomfield, Missouri, October 6, 2018. All photos courtesy of Sue Mayo

By Sue Mayo, Stars and Stripes Museum/Library

Thank you to all of you who renewed your Stars and Stripes Museum/Library memberships. As you may have heard, the museum does not receive government funding, so we truly depend on memberships, donations, merchandise sales and fundraisers to operate.

In the previous newsletter we mentioned the upcoming Liberty Days event and I'm happy to report that the 6th annual Liberty Days on October 6, and 7, was a big success! On Friday, October 6, 41 sites, either in the museum or on the grounds, were visited by 1,202 students from 11 area schools.

Students saw re-enactors dressed in period clothes or uniforms and heard stories about different time periods. Vendors provided pizza, hot dogs, hamburgers, tacos, homemade cookies and shaved ice.

Saturday's activities began with a parade through town. The Wake

Foundation provided two bands, Just E Nuf and Old Highway Bluegrass. An additional celebrity presence was felt from Mark Littell, former relief pitcher for the Kansas City Royals and the



A veteran looks on at the on-going Liberty Days 2018 activities.

St. Louis Cardinals during the 1970-80s. Littell spent the day autographing baseball cards and his two books, *On the Eighth Day, God Made Baseball* and *County Boy Conveniently Wild*.

Additional activities included a talent contest and a spaghetti supper for the re-enactors, provided by Stars and Stripes board member Jerry Elder and his wife.

Dan Self, commander of the Poplar Bluff American Legion Post 153 presented a \$500 check to the museum and they plan to do this quarterly. If enough organizations commit to a designated amount on a regular schedule it may be possible to pay the salary of a full-time curator.



Visitors at Liberty Days 2018.

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Membership/Change of Address Form

New Member: Please complete the form below, include a check for \$20 payable to the Stars and Stripes Association and mail to: Cal Posner, Membership Chairman, 4440 Strathmore Dr., Lake Wales, FL 33859-5761.

Change of Address: Notifications should be sent to Membership Chairman at above address.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Dates and Place(s) of Service with Stars and Stripes _____

Check any of the following that you DO NOT want to be published in Membership Directory

Address ___ Phone ___ E-Mail ___

Comments:

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