

MUSEUM MATTERS



November
2019 VESM NEWS

Our Mission: To Honor, Respect & Support Our Veterans & Emergency Services and to Educate the general public about their service to our Community & Country

NEXT MUSEUM BOARD MEETING:
TUES. NOV. 12, 2019 - 3:00PM
AT: FIRE STATION #1
S. BDWY & 6TH STREET SW
Facebook: Veterans and Emergency Services Museum

Upcoming Events

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1110
Meets 4th Monday of each month at VFW Post 1215
2775 43rd St. NW—7:00 pm

Korean War Vets Club
Meets at Grandma's Kitchen
7:30 AM Every Monday
1514 N. Broadway

Rochester Civil War Round Table
Nov. 13th 7:00PM
History Center of Olmsted County

LANNY
WITTER
PRESENTS:



“COL. WILLIAM COLVILL”
The man that led the First Minnesota Regiment to Glory At Gettysburg

Veteran's & Emergency Services Museum Round Table

The October program featured Captain Chuck Solseth of the Rochester Fire department who gave an inspirational presentation that showed a great deal of dedication and passion for being a part of our Rochester Fire Department Team. All who attended came away with a deeper appreciation for the Firemen who serve & protect us each day.

Our Next Meeting - Nov. 18th
features Army Nat. Guard Veteran
and Portrait Artist: Al Smith



Presenting:
“The Vietnam Experience”
Autumn Ridge Church,
Timothy Chapel—7:00 PM

Born & raised in Austin, MN, **Al Smith** discovered his love of art and drawing at a young age drawing cartoons, animals & comic book characters. Since he grew up during WWII, he developed a deep sense of patriotism and a love of soldiers and our flag. He studied at the Minneapolis School of Art, worked at Commercial Art Studios, Advertising Agencies and launched his own Advertising/Marketing Agency. When asked by a Vietnam Veteran friend to make a pencil drawing of him he discovered a passion to use his talent to honor and acknowledge those who served in Vietnam.

Al says:

“It is one way I honor those brave veterans”

Program will be held Nov. 18th in the Timothy Chapel to the South of the Main Church Entrance

“I believe our flag is more than just cloth and ink. It is a universally recognized symbol that stands for liberty and freedom. It is the history of our nation, and it's marked by the blood of those who died defending it.” *John Thune*



VETERANS DAY (ARMISTICE DAY)

“THE GREAT WAR”, WWI, did not officially end until the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28th, 1919, but President Wilson proclaimed November 11, as the first commemoration of “Armistice Day”, because that marked the official end to hostilities in Western Europe, which was November 11, 1918, the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. The first celebration using the term Veterans Day, took place in Birmingham, Alabama in 1947. Raymond Weeks, a WWII veteran, organized a parade and celebration to honor all veterans. In 1954, U.S. Representative Edward Rees of Kansas proposed a bill to change Armistice Day to Veterans Day, to include all veterans of all wars, the bill passed and was signed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, changing the name of the holiday from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. In 1971, the Uniform Holidays Bill changed Veterans Day to the 4th Monday in October, to give people a 3 day holiday, but in September of 1975 President Gerald Ford returned Veterans Day to November 11th, due to the historic and patriotic significance of the date.

Exciting News!! We're Making GREAT PROGRESS and you can help!!!!

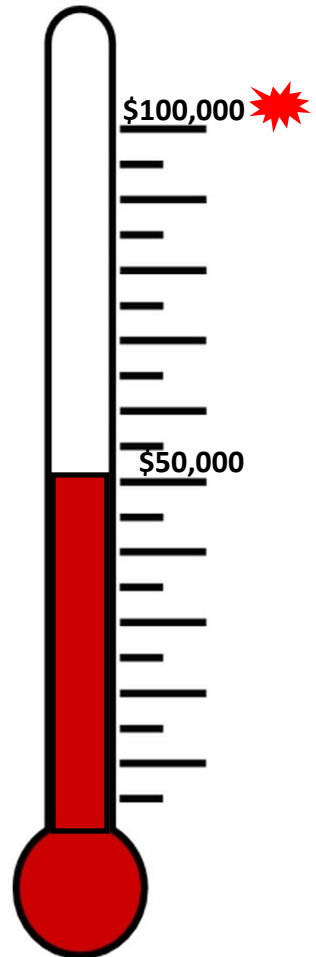
I am reaching out to you as President of the VESM, Veterans and Emergency Services Museum. Our vision is to open a state-of-the-art Museum here in Rochester that teaches the history of, and honors, our military services and emergency services men and women. We have taken a huge forward step toward the realization of that goal. The owners of the new Hilton Hotel have generously dedicated a space on the ground floor for us to use as a beginning museum space, at no lease cost to VESM. This location will help VESM raise public awareness and support for our bigger long-term museum space. It will also offer current displays for the general public and visiting guests to explore and enjoy. The Hilton museum space has been prepared with walls, lighting, flooring and HVAC. Essentially the shell of the space is ready to go. NOW IT'S UP TO US! We have planned the displays and collected needed artifacts. However, to display Museum artifacts, we need the exhibit display cases, additional lighting, and furniture. The cost for these items totals approximately \$100,000. As of this date we have commitments for \$50,000 and must raise the balance to place the orders for the custom built showcases and install the displays. This is your chance to play a part in making this wonderful contribution to our community come to life. Please consider making a tax deductible donation, ask your employer to consider a contribution and talk to your friends and neighbors.

**TO MAKE A DONATION JUST CLICK THIS
LINK TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MVESM/>

**To help even more please share the link!
Or you can send a check payable to VESM**

**Mail To: VESM
1090 Buck Ridge Dr. NE
Rochester, MN 55906**



PROJECT NEW HOPE “NEW HOPE...NEW LIFE”

A new project by the Lion's International providing help for Veterans with PTSD
For information contact: PDG Lion Joe Schlichenmeyer 1242 Morse Ave. St. Charles, MN 55972
Res. 507-932-5838 C: 507-696-5124 www.prokectnewhope.net