

Oregon Chapter 8th Air Force Historical Society
History News for February 2019



History News → Readers, where's your story?
Oregon 8th AFHS Chapter News and how to share YOUR history with others through our 8th AFHS Chapter is on the last page.

February 25, 2019

[The Federal Aviation Administration](#) (FAA) posted a rule in the [Federal Register](#) requiring small drone owners to display the FAA-issued registration number on an outside surface of the aircraft. Owners and operators may no longer place or write registration numbers in an interior compartment. The rule is effective on February 25. The markings must be in place for any flight after that date.

<Editor's note: I would put it on the blades of the drone or along the top spine.>

Wreck of the USS Hornet Discovered

Lost during the battle of Santa Cruz in 1943, The Hornet is best know for carrying B-25s of the Doolittle Raid of April 1942 against Japan.

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/vessel-discovers-wreck-of-world-war-ii-carrier-hornet>

The World's Biggest Passenger Plane, the A380, No More Production Runs

The Airbus A380, currently the world's largest passenger airplane, whose maker Airbus **announced** Thursday is being retired after just 12 years in commercial service.

<http://time.com/5529439/airbus-a380-retired/>

Yankee Air Museum Looking for Crew Members of a Pacific B-24 named "Michigan"

An old photograph of a World War II bomber with Michigan Stadium painted on its nose was discovered by Yankee Air Museum Chairman Ray Hunter almost 30 years ago.

<https://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/2019/02/yankee-air-museum-searching-for-wwii-michigan-stadium-bomber-airmen.html>

WW II Pilot Finally gets into a P-51

World War II veteran Jack Hallett of Leesburg fulfilled one of his life-long dreams Monday morning when he was invited to co-pilot the P-51 Mustang "Toulouse Nuts" fighter plane from the Wings of Freedom Tour at the Leesburg International Airport.

<https://www.dailycommercial.com/news/20190212/world-war-ii-vet-98-takes-flight-on-iconic-p-51-mustang>

Rosemary Mariner – Airline Exec Telling Her she would never be an Airline Pilot

Rosemary Mariner recalled meeting a visiting airline executive when she was an aeronautics student at Purdue University in the early 1970s. Women, he assured her, would never be accepted as airline pilots.

She became a Navy Pilot.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/rosemary-mariner-spurned-by-airline-executive-led-way-for-female-pilots-in-u-s-navy-11550244600>

UXB Cancels Eurostar Train

In a sign of European Unity, The Eurostar company blames both the RAF for dropping it and USA for making the UXB that was dropped in April of 1944 onto Porte de la Chapelle during WW II.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/02/17/eurostar-trains-cancelled-french-police-detonate-bomb-dropped/>

Atterbury-Bakalar Air Museum Reopens Spring 2019

It now will have an engine exhibit in addition to other items.

Located at 4742 Ray Boll Boulevard in the Columbus AirPark, will now have a Wright R-3350 Duplex Cyclone radial engine. The museum opens to the general public on March 5 for the season.

<http://www.atterburybakalarairmuseum.org>

http://www.therepublic.com/2019/02/18/flying_high_air_museum_to_debut_new_engine_exhibit_while_planning_to_obtain_a_flight_simulator/

Dresden February 13,14, 15 1945 – Target of the British De-Housing Campaign & US Army Air Force Precision Attacks

While the Americans tried to specifically target the RR yards around it, the British tactic was to fire-bomb of the entire city the nights before make it very difficult to hit specific targets. The backup Aiming Point for the Americans was the city center – none dropped there and instead tried to hit their assigned target – but they were not very accurate.

<https://www.airforcetimes.com/veterans/military-history/2019/02/16/74-years-ago-allied-bombers-obliterated-dresden-one-of-germanys-most-beautiful-cities/>

B-24 “Heaven Can Wait” Discovered Last Year

As part of a celebration of the discovery and to thank the people behind the search efforts, family members of the crew members met at a high school in Victoria, Minn., on Saturday.

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/remains-of-crew-from-downed-world-war-ii-era-plane-recovered-from-pacific-ocean>

CVEs of WW II – Pocket Carriers that Packed a Whallop

Quick and easy to build, based on the Liberty Ship / Victory Ship hull designs, and built mainly around Portland Oregon, they were very effective submarine hunters and convoy escort carriers.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/photos-of-escort-aircraft-carriers-us-expert-wwii-submarine-hunters-2018-10>

Romania Museum Helps in finding 6 WW II Aircraft

Six US aircraft are unaccounted for from WW II within Romania so the Romanian museum is using its local ability to help locate the aircraft.

<https://www.romania-insider.com/romanian-museums-search-us-airmen-world-war-ii/>

New Book Out: Presidents Of War

Covering some, but not all, military conflicts that were authorized by a US President over the last few hundred years. Left out are the military involvements authorized by a President under various discretionary rule of engagement but not specifically authorized by a formal Congressional Approval.

[Presidents of War](#) (Amazon Link)

<https://www.npr.org/2018/10/09/655182411/presidents-of-war-sounds-the-alarm-about-presidential-power>

Civics and Social Studies Classes – The Downfall of History Classes in the USA

New survey helps explain why 2/3 of US citizens would fail the U.S. Citizen Test.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/nataliewexler/2018/10/11/three-myths-that-explain-why-americans-dont-know-much-about-history/#55c1f19247ba>

Corps of Engineers – Why Do they Exist?

The corps was created as a military unit for military needs and along the way often got transformed into civil assignments in order to keep their training up to date.

“George Washington saw the need for native-born American engineer officers in the future. An instructional program was devised and implemented which became the Military Academy at West Point under the supervision of the Corps from 1802 until 1866.”

https://www.martinsvillebulletin.com/news/looking-back-building-a-corps-of-engineers/article_37b8ac88-01b1-5edc-9018-fbab7bb110ed.html

“Balangiga Bells” Return to the Philippines

Taken as legal war trophies during the Philippine Insurrection ex Sec of Defense John Mathis promised their return.

<https://www.stripes.com/news/filipino-villagers-welcome-upcoming-return-of-church-bells-seized-by-us-troops-1.550467>

Breaking in to Steal War Medals

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 108 in Semans, Sask was broken into and all that was stolen were medals in a framed display on the wall.

Check EBay!

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/war-medals-stolen-semans-legion-1.4857085>

Old Officer’s Mess Goes up in Flames

An Inn dating back to the 1100s was gutted in Wales. As it was next to a military base it was used as an officer’s mess till 1954.

<https://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/historic-12th-century-gwynedd-inn-15278566>

Dutch Government Preparing to recover dozens of WWII plane wrecks

“Some 5,500 aircraft were lost in the Netherlands, many of which are still in the Dutch soil. It is believed that some 400 of these lost planes still contain the remains of crew members, the Ministers wrote.”

As of May 2016 there were 1,085 MIA in the Netherlands: 600 British, 228 American and 247 German. 501 known crash locations have never been examined.

<https://www.konitono.com/dutch-govt-preparing-to-recover-dozens-of-wwii-plane-wrecks/>

Drone Finds Missing P-38 Lightning

Mounting ground penetrating radar, which makes it much easier to see through ice that way, they found an metal anomaly 300 feet below the ice – which turned out to be a P-38.

<https://dronebelow.com/2018/10/23/innovative-drones-help-find-a-lost-world-war-ii-plane/>

Six “Desert Rats” return to El Alamein

The 2nd Battle of El Alamein was started on October 23, 1942 after many months of preparation by Field Marshall Montgomery – who wanted to make it a sure win much to the annoyance of PM Churchill who had sacked the previous 8th Army Commander for inaction.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6298545/British-World-War-Two-veterans-recall-horrors-El-Alamein-visit-Egypt.html>

How Fat Can Save A Solider

Sometimes it is safer to be fat in combat than thin – it will stop a bullet and also allow you to live on meager rations a lot longer than a “fit” soldier.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-6299067/COLONEL-TIM-COLLINS-chubby-drug-addled-right-Army-protect-enemies.html>

A Battle is Won or Lost Before It Starts

It has been stated that logistics will win a battle before it starts – and that was very true in WW II with the allies overwhelming supply chain backing up everything in excess where USA troops often threw things away that other nations would repair. Germany was before WW I was not in the same league as the COMBINED nations that would fight against it – 1 vs 1 each nation they could win – 1 vs 8 they could not –with their allies helping if was still like 1 vs 3: and 3 to 1 odds in most modern battles means you lose.

Sun Tzu wrote in The Art of War, “The general who wins the battle makes many calculations in his temple before the battle is fought. The general who loses makes but few calculations beforehand.”

<https://71republic.com/2018/10/18/german-lost-before-start/>

Surgeon’s Kit of 1812

If you get hit in an arm or leg – amputate!

Today’s story is about a surgeon's kit from the war of 1812.

<https://wgno.com/2018/10/18/find-of-the-week-surgeons-kit-of-the-war-of-1812/>

Virginia Spends \$1 Million to Preserve Battlefields

[The Virginia Department of Historic Resources said Monday](#) that nearly 600 acres will be placed under protection with money from the Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund. It will help protect the Revolutionary War's Yorktown battlefield and nine Civil War sites throughout Virginia.

When Its Good to Block a Replacement Bridge

The Headquarters Road Bridge has spanned Tinicum Creek in a bucolic slice of Bucks County since the War of 1812.

<https://www.philly.com/philly/health/science/group-sues-to-block-replacement-of-206-year-old-stone-bridge-in-bucks-county-20181022.html>

USS Vermont – This time it’s a Sub!

The Virginia-class submarine will commemorate the history between the U.S. Navy and the State of Vermont. It will be the third vessel named after the state in the history of the U.S. Navy.

<https://www.vermontbiz.com/news/2018/october/21/governor-scott-attends-christening-uss-vermont>

Watchtower moves Inside

Built during WW II to watch for enemy aircraft in the USA, this one is being preserved by being moved inside.

https://www.dailyitem.com/news/volunteers-move-world-war-ii-era-tower-to-museum/article_6c43c66e-d722-11e8-bac0-53b01eaffd0b.html

An AT-6 “Messerschmitt” Crashes onto the 101

Making a landing on a non-busy part of the road the pilot did okay – till the fuel tank ruptured and the AT-6 caught fire.

<http://www.thedrive.com/news/24406/vintage-wwii-era-plane-with-luftwaffe-markings-crash-lands-on-california-highway>

The German Indian Legion in WW II

At the end of the war the Waffen SS was only 40% German – the other 60% of the combat units were from people all over Europe – and the World.

<https://www.dnaindia.com/analysis/column-hitler-s-indians-the-indian-legion-2680021>

How the Red Arrow Came to Be for the 32nd Division

The National Guard was created as a result of the Spanish American War. When the 1898 war started the US Government found out that there were not regular army troops around to use as cadres to create the size of Army needed even to fight in Cuba. Therefore, they created them so that people would be trained, but not in the regular active Army, and then people with knowledge of weapons could be used to create a larger Army.

“Jerebek and 15,000 other Wisconsin National Guardsmen joined 8,000 from the Michigan National Guard in September 1917 at Camp MacArthur, Texas. There, these

men trained together as the 32nd Division — which was constituted on July 18, 1917 as one of sixteen National Guard divisions that more than doubled the size of the Regular Army. These 17 divisions formed the backbone of the American Expeditionary Force as it entered combat in the spring of 1918.”

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/297668/badgers-wolverines-forged-red-arrow-france-100-years-ago>

The Last Frontier – Alaska in WW II

200,000 troops were sent to Alaska during WW II – very few wrote home about how great it was being stationed there. One of the units, common at the time, was a coastal battery unit, and going from Texas to Alaska must have been a great shock.

<http://www.hotsr.com/news/2018/oct/31/the-forgotten-front-20181031/>

Coffee to Invade Puerto Rico

After the last hurricane came through, and knocked down so many trees, it now looks like coffee will be planted – no cost in clearing the land for the plants now.

<https://caribbeanbusiness.com/lin-manuel-miranda-heads-crusade-to-make-puerto-rico-coffee-king/>

The Raid on Rommel – It Failed But it Inspired a few Movies About it

Killing enemy commanders was not written down as a rule of war – the idea to do so did occur and the most famous and successful was the shoot down and killing of Admiral Yamamoto by the US in 1943. Before that though the British tried to kill / capture General Erwin Rommel in 1941. It failed and Col Keyes was killed during the fighting. Gen. Rommel defied Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler’s newly issued directive ordering the immediate execution of captured Commandos and arranged for Colonel Keyes to be buried with full honors. The German general’s chaplain conducted the ceremony as Keyes was laid to rest beside four Afrika Korps soldiers killed in the raid. Rommel gave a funeral oration and, in an unprecedented soldierly gesture, pinned his own Iron Cross on the Briton’s body.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/how-british-special-operations-raid-intended-kill-or-capture-erwin-rommel-went-wrong-35022?page=0%2C1>

The #2 Pencil – Not used as much as in the Past

What got the pencil into every hand in the USA was the Civil War of 1861 to 1865. Writing home using a pencil was a lot easier than trying to use a quill and ink in the field. After that the pencil went world wide.

<https://www.thomasnet.com/articles/daily-bite/america-s-oldest-pencil-manufacturer>

Chinese-Americans in WW II

China was an ally during WW II (and during WW I), and many Chinese living in the USA joined the military and fought around the globe. Unlike what happened to the Japanese citizens living here, they were accepted in the military – but still faced discrimination after the war.

<https://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/politics/414072-its-time-to-recognize-the-service-of-chinese-american-wwii>

How to Start A War

In 1898 Hearst supposedly told a reporter to get to Cuba and he will get him a war to cover. In Hong Kong in 1903 a newspaper was founded to overthrow the Qing Dynasty.

<https://www.inkstonenews.com/politics/south-china-morning-post-was-founded-support-revolution/article/2171939>

A Soldier's Foray Into WW II in North Africa and Italy

Overall 90% of US soldiers in WW II never saw any combat -fired their weapons at any enemy – they were behind the lines and just followed along. But in 1942 90% of the soldiers did see actual combat.

<http://www.liherald.com/stories/valley-stream-world-war-ii-veteran-recalls-north-african-european-invasions,108941>

Modern Comics showing WW II

Commissioned for Remembrance Day it is a comic telling a true story of a British soldier.

<https://www.shropshirestar.com/news/uk-news/2018/11/09/british-real-life-superhero-soldiers-story-immortalised-as-comic/>

Comic at: <https://www.forces.net/stories/stunning-comic-book-brings-real-story-british-army-soldier-life>

Life in Ireland After WW I

Fighting in the British Army then returning to Ireland was a new peril for ex-soldiers that could also get you killed. When Ireland started it Ireland, and the IRA, started its campaign to have Ireland an independent nation and leave the UK.

Indeed, what is remarkable is the extent to which Britain complied with its "imperial obligation" to its Irish veterans. In the late 1930s, Britain was paying the equivalent of more than €100 million a year in disability pensions to Irish veterans. Its financial commitment, which extended into the 1960s, amounted to billions over the decades.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/heritage/ireland-s-first-world-war-veterans-shunned-ostracised-murdered-1.3691036>

Industrial Grade Censorship via The Boer War

Public opinion in the modern era really started with the Crimea War due to the telegraph. But when the British went to fight in the Boer War in 1899 they had not changed their style of communication and it hurt them worldwide public opinion. This was not to be once WW I – The Great War – started in July of 1914.

“The press censors of the Second World War realized the folly of the First. Wilfrid Eggleston, the chief English press censor and later, the founder of Carleton University’s journalism school, believed bad news stimulated people to fight. Canada had been protected from the grim reality of the First World War, and France’s brutal censorship before June of 1940 had allowed the French people to ignore the Nazi danger until it was too late.”

<https://www.macleans.ca/opinion/how-censorship-became-deadly-during-the-first-world-war/>

1 in 10 Died

Out of all the British soldiers who served in WW I about 1 in 10 died – around 600,000. In a family of 10 brothers who went to war – 1 died. Private John Calpin sent a Red Cross postcard to his wife to let her know he had landed safely in England, but died in November 1916 at the age of 39.

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/7691674/world-war-one-ww1-band-of-brothers/>

The First and The Last – British Soldiers to die in WW I

Officially these are the two. Some questions remain as to whom was last since the British ordered all units to keep attacking until the very last minute before 11 AM on November 11, 1918.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6372237/The-British-soldiers-die-WW1.html>

Oregon Chapter 8th AFHS;

Next Chapter meeting May 11, 2019

*Doors open at 10 AM at the
Beaverton Elks Lodge
3464 SW 106th Ave
Beaverton, Oregon 97005-1941
<http://www.beavertonelks.org/>*

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The Oregon Chapter is a registered Non-Profit 503(c) with the IRS and within the State of Oregon.

The Oregon 8thAFHS maintains a person on the club roster for up to one year even if they had not renewed, or if the original member is deceased their next of kin will continue to receive all club mailings, before they are removed them from the club roster.

If a person wishes to receive the club mailed newsletter and meeting notice they need to submit the membership form along with the yearly \$15.00 dues (pro-rated if necessary) to become a member of the chapter.

If you wish to be removed from the e-mail list please let us know.