



# The Pencader Press

## Pencader Heritage Area Association Newsletter

December, 2015

Volume 9, Number 4

**Who are we?** Volunteers interested in promoting Pencader Heritage through active participation.

**How do we do that?** ~ The Pencader Heritage Museum ~ Outreach programs ~ Educational Sign Program ~ Video Library ~ Local Oral Histories ~ Preservation of Pencader History.

**PHAA Museum 2029** Sunset Lake Rd. Newark, DE. 19702 phone # 302-737-5859  
Open: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free Admission!

**Want more information?** Visit our web site: [PencaderHeritage.org](http://PencaderHeritage.org).

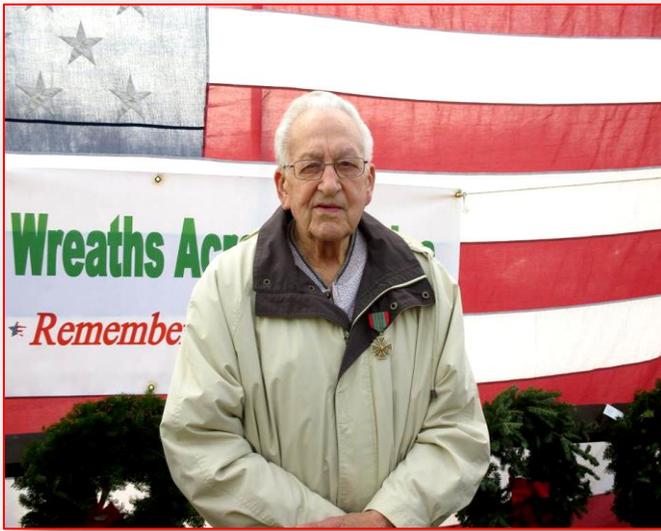


**Wreaths Across America**

**Remember ~ Honor ~ Teach**

Over the years Pencader has sponsored a number of things which make us very proud. Leading that list has to be what we were able to accomplish at our 2015 Wreaths Across America program.

WW II veteran, Charles Fretz was a member of the 509<sup>th</sup> Paratroop Infantry which jumped into southern France and fought with the Free French. He was one of the few Americans who survived. Somehow he never got the honor for heroism that he deserved. After years of research, efforts finally succeeded in obtaining his French military decoration the Croix de Guerre. He was not aware of those efforts and we were able to present the medal and certificate to him. He is a humble man who was overwhelmed when the medal was pinned on his chest. Mr. Fretz and his wife Lorraine, a Newark native, raised their family here. Their son and grandson display the family's collection of vintage WW II artifacts at Pencader every May.



**Mr. Charles Fretz**



**Croix de Guerre**

## EASTBURN WW II AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

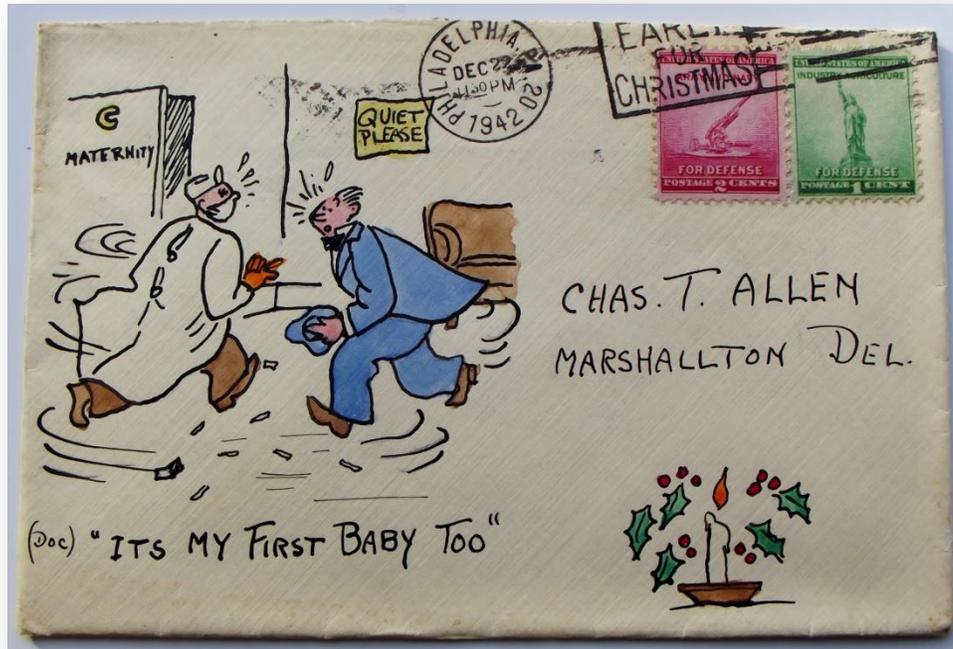
An amazing collection of WW II aerial photographs taken by LTC. David Randolph Eastburn, a Newark native, have been donated by his family. He was a reconnaissance photographer with the 67<sup>th</sup> Tactical Reconnaissance Group in the European theater of operations and earned the Legion of Merit medal. He was awarded the honor for improvements he made to aerial cameras which allowed photographs to be taken at higher elevations, therefore, making reconnaissance flying safer.



LTC. Eastburn's photograph album, medal and paperwork are on permanent display at the museum. The album has been restored and stabilized but due to its delicate condition, it cannot withstand handling. So, we digitalized each page and individual picture and transferred them to a DVD. Please come to the museum to see the album and study the pictures on a large screen TV. If you see one you're interested in just pause the recording! If you're a WWII buff you won't want to miss this.



Our exhibits are being regularly enhanced and improved. We recently added a wonderful collection of hand-painted, illustrated postal envelopes. Unfortunately, they suffered many years of neglect in an overheated attic which was also home to a very hungry little mouse! Despite their hard-knock life they retain the details and brilliant color which the artists created from 1938-1945. They are one-of-kind folk art and were well worth the effort it took to restore and preserve them. Come in and see the 58 we put on display and the remaining 186 are available for study. Most are comical in nature and sure to amuse our visitors. Please stop in to see them.



All turned out well for the new and nervous father and doctor. A baby girl arrived after Christmas 1942.

We've welcomed 2 new Advisory Board members; Brig. Gen. Ken Wiggins, Jr. (DE ANG (ret.) and the Hon. David Tackett. Thank you, gentlemen, you are a great asset to Pencader.

Election results for 2016:

President Barbara White and V-P Bill Conley are returning officers.

Secretary John Slack and Treasurer E. Lowell Jacobs were newly elected to serve.

We also officially welcomed Linda Duffy and Jim Stone as new Executive Board members.

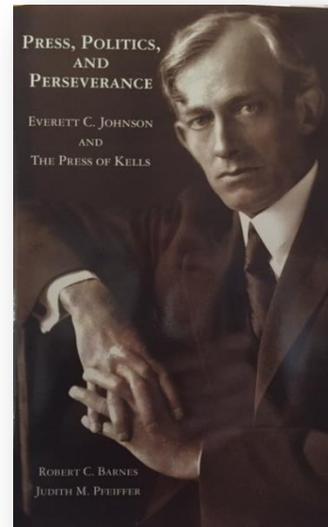
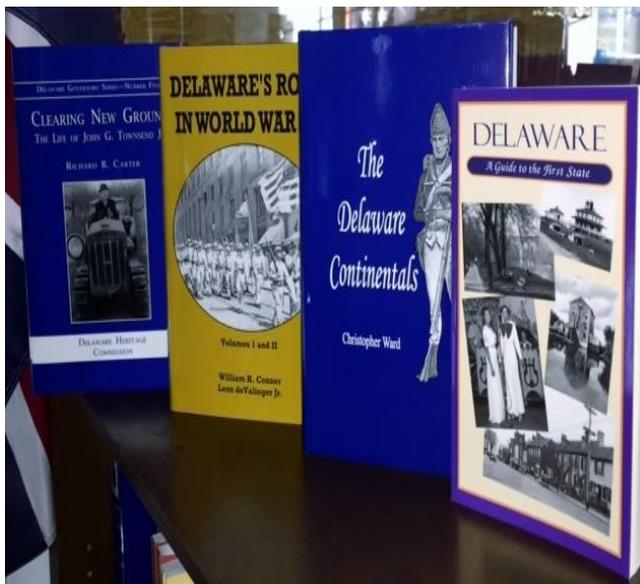
We've been able to purchase larger flags for the Plaza at Dayett Mill Road and Old Baltimore Pike. The new ones at 4 ft. x 6 ft. are much more visible.

It's time to renew membership. Dues are \$10.00 per person, 25.00 per family and we've instituted a *Lifetime membership at \$100.00*. Dues and donations go to regular operating expenses. With a build-up of Life memberships, we can plan for future activities knowing funding is available. We are a tax-exempt organization and all donations are tax deductible.

A major expense facing us is the rebuilding of framing for our educational signs at the flag plaza. It's critical that this be done as soon as possible and costs will run well over \$2000. New advertising banners are also needed.

#### FOR SALE

A supply of **NEW** books on Delaware topics has been donated for PHAA to sell as a fund-raiser: *Clearing New Ground, Life of Gov. John G. Townsend, Jr.* (\$10); *The Delaware Continentals* (\$10); *Delaware's Role in WW II* (\$10); *Colonial Delaware*, by Dr. John Munroe (\$10); *Delaware, A Guide to the First State*, with map (\$5.00); *East of the Mason-Dixon* (\$10).



From our own inventory we offer: *Press, Politics & Perseverance, Biography of Everett C. Johnson*, founder of The Press of Kells and The Newark Post (\$10); *Fire in the Hole, The Re-arming of Ft. Delaware*; (\$1.00); *A Guide to the History and Heritage of Pencader Hundred, Delaware* (\$2.00).

\*An incentive: All books at half price with your \$10.00 membership.

Unfortunately, due to logistical problems, we've had to cancel our planned Kids' Fest scheduled for May. Hopefully we can pull it together another year.

We had 204 visitors in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and our volunteers gave 1086 volunteer hours.

Did you know: Since we opened in 2007 we've sponsored or hosted at least 24 different activities?

## COMING EVENTS

All events **FREE** and open to the public

Regular hours: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, other times by appointment. Contact the website: [pencaderheritage.org](http://pencaderheritage.org) for an appointment.

May 14, 2016, Saturday - Re-enactors encampment week-end.

September (date to be announced) Annual Memorial Service.

December (date to be announced) Annual *Wreaths Across America* program.

Keep an eye on the website and Facebook for updates.

Website: [pencaderheritage.org](http://pencaderheritage.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/PencaderHeritageMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/PencaderHeritageMuseum)