

Citizen Soldiers Education Foundation
Spring 2025 Update
116th/29th News

I hope this finds you well. I wanted to bring you up to speed on a number to things happening at the 29th Division and 116th Infantry Regiment Museum. **First**, the signage on I-81, coupled with our new billboard sign right above the Museum, is really increasing our visitor numbers. You can't miss us!



***New Lee Highway
Billboard***



***Additional
Street Sign***



Museum Sign

Second, the Cabin nearing completion has drawn a lot of interest from locals. Each day people are stopping to check on the progress, and we are looking forward to beginning roof and chimney work. The Cabin has been recognized as a historic site in the newly released book "100 Cities, 100 Memorials" book, which is available in our giftshop.



Cabin Foundation



Initial Construction



Recent Progress

Third, with the Augusta County Courthouse moving to Verona, we have become a partner in two new projects in Augusta County. We are represented on the Board of the “Veterans Memorial” to be located nearby, just outside the new Courthouse, when complete. We are also leading in the restoration of the historic Glebe Cemetery in southern Augusta County.



Veteran Memorial Sign 1749 Glebe Cemetery Before and after Restoration Effort

Fourth, commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Revolution, the CSEF participated in the historic reunion at Point Pleasant, recognized by Congress as the “first battle of the Revolution.”



Militia Musters and Departs Staunton for Pt. Pleasant



Reenactors Muster at PP for the 250th Anniversary

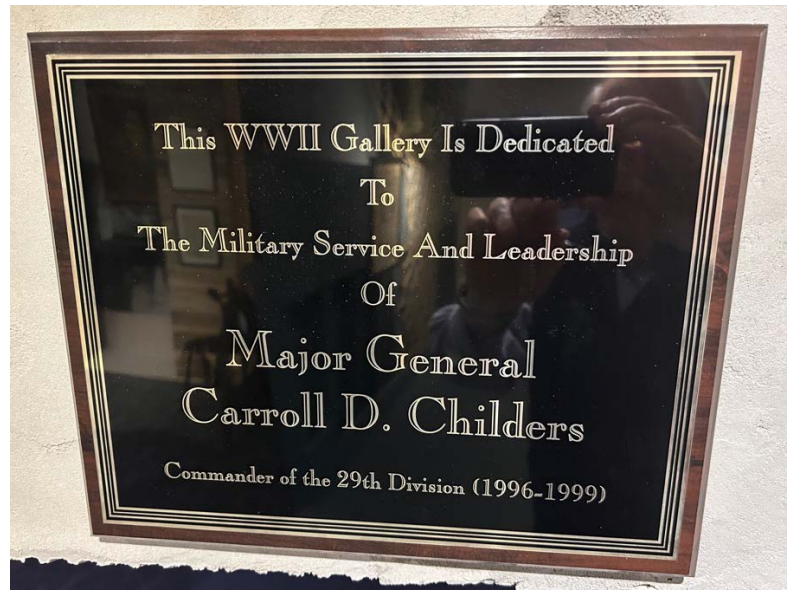


Floral tributes at the Memorial Burial Site

Fifth, the third Thursday of each month, “Third Thursdays at the Museum” we will host programs in the conference room where staff and guest speakers will talk history. The topic will be the story of Lexington and Concord and how the Valley Militia responded 250 years ago. Find the schedule on our website: thecitizensolder.org

Future Topics include “Creating the American Flag”, the “80th Anniversary of VE Day”, “History of our Valley Forge Cabin”, “Valley Indian Raids”, the “Story of the Purple Heart”, and the “WWI statue in Consenvoye, France”.

Sixth, our WWII exhibits have been enhanced to include a new video presentation. Friends of General Carroll Childers joined us in making that tremendous enhancement, so the CSEF Board voted to name the new WWII Gallery in **Honor of Major General Carroll D. Childers**.



The General unveils the plaque and expresses his appreciation to Roddy DeVoud representing his friends and old 183rd Cavalry family

Seventh, our educational tours will take us to D-Day and the dedication of our new Monument in Consenvoye, France, honoring the 116th Regiment and the 29th Division's participation in the Meuse Argonne-Offensive leading to the end of WWI.



Consenvoye and 29th Assn. select the Memorial Site



Future town Site of the WWI Memorial



Approval of Initial Sculpture Work

The 116th Family were stunned by the recent loss of Troy Hagwood and his wife Cheryl in a tragic crash on the Blue Ridge Parkway. They will be sorely missed.

In other news, congratulations to our Curator Dr. Rick Potter who will be recognized as the Commonwealth of Virginia's Community College Adjunct Professor of the year. **HAIL AND FAREWELL:** Thanks to Bob Huffman for his work as Board Chair in 2024 and congratulations to Wayne Brown who assumed the responsibility for 2025. Many thanks to Barent Parslow who is committed to identifying and researching all those who have served in the 116th. He is currently focused on WWI and assisting visitors with ancestor research, one of the important services we provide. Thank you Barent.

