

Champaign County Historical Society NEWSLETTER

Museum at 809 East Lawn Avenue, Urbana OH 43078

July 2015

*** LAST HELICOPTERS OUT by David Norman ***

Sunday afternoon July 26th at 2:00 pm Champaign County Historical Society



David E. Norman, *U.S. Marine Corps, Master Sergeant, 1972-2002, Vietnam 1973-1975*, was prepared to die as one of the last 11 Marines to be evacuated from the top of the US Embassy in Saigon on the day it fell to the North Vietnamese in April of 1975. The command was "There's nobody coming for you. Don't surrender. Get in your fighting position and fight to the last man," but..... come to the museum meeting room on Sunday afternoon July 26, at 2:00 pm to hear the rest of the story.

David Norman grew up in Fairborn, Ohio and graduated from Park Hills High School with a draft number of 10. Knowing he was very likely going to be drafted as soon as he graduated, he enlisted in the Marine Corps' delayed entry program in March 1972 and went to Marine Corps Basic Training at San Diego, California that September before going on to Camp Pendleton, CA for Infantry training in December. He volunteered for assignment in South Vietnam. After his first tour of duty was completed in March 1974, he was sent to the Marine Security Guard School in Arlington, Virginia, and was then assigned to MSG duties at the American Embassy in Saigon, RVN. He remained there until the call for evacuation in April

Champaign County Historical Society NEWSLETTER

Museum at 809 East Lawn Avenue, Urbana OH 43078

July 2015

1975. His last assignment was to the American Consulate in Frankfurt Germany. September 1976 he left full time duty in the Marine Corps and returned home to Fairborn. Norman is currently a Lieutenant in the Miami County Sheriff's Office, Troy, Ohio. This program is to salute all of our young men (and not so young men) who serviced our county in the Vietnam Conflict. Too many lost their lives, too many suffered wounds of many kinds long after the last shot was fired, and too many are still dealing with the trauma of that war and other conflicts in which our country has asked them to defend the cause of freedom.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MILITARY THEME OF OUR NEXT TWO PROGRAMS THE CHAMPAIGN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL PRESENT AT THE MUSEUM A DISPLAY OF MILITARY UNIFORMS WORN BY CHAMPAIGN COUNTIANS. UNIFORMS OF WORLD WAR I, WORLD WAR II, KOREA, VIETNAM, AND AFGHANISTAN WILL BE INCLUDED. AS YOU ATTEND THE PROGRAMS ALLOW TIME TO VIEW THIS DISPLAY ANNOUNCED BY WARD LUTZ

COMING EVENTS:

July 22 Board Meeting at 6:00 pm

July 26 Last Helicopters Out by David Norman at 2:00 pm

August 23 Program by Vincent Foulk at 2:00 The situation in Iraq

August 26 Board Meeting at 6:00 pm

September 20 Program by Phil Kerns at 2:00 The Base of the Monument

September 23 Board Meeting at 6:00 pm

Champaign County Historical Society

NEWSLETTER

Museum at 809 East Lawn Avenue, Urbana OH 43078

July 2015

Committee members are busy organizing the upcoming Oktoberfest. The committee has purchased with the approval of the Board, a new sound system that can be used inside/outside

the museum. Please consider joining the Oktoberfest as an exhibitor or attending Sunday

October 4, 2015 from 10 AM to 4 PM. We guarantee many interesting exhibits on the grounds and new displays throughout the museum. Outdoor space for exhibitors only (10ft. x 10ft.) cost

is \$30.00. Applications are accepted no later than September 22, 2015, please contact CCHS

for an application. We encourage all vendors if possible to demonstrate your craft. The Oktoberfest continues to honor the values of the handmade and the homegrown. The Oktoberfest is the CCHS largest revenue source of the year. Thank you to all the wonderful and willing volunteers who step forward to help with the Oktoberfest. None of the museum activities can happen without a successful Oktoberfest and generous donations.

OKTOBERFEST CHAIRMAN Janice Coates