

Easton Heritage Days Easton, Pennsylvania

On 8 July 2018, the Easton Heritage Day <http://heritageday.org/> invited AGFA to participate in the celebration. Heritage Day celebrates Easton's historic significance in the founding of the United States. At noon on July 8, 1776, Easton was one of three places where the [Declaration of Independence had its first public reading](#). It was read on the steps of the old courthouse in Easton's historic Centre Square by the Chair of the Committee of Safety, Robert Levers. A reenactment of that event, and a festival organized around it, first occurred during the Bicentennial Celebration in 1976. From that year on Heritage Day has been celebrated as Easton's own Independence Day celebration.

The members of AGFA who participated in the event were Donna Cusano, Paul Cusano, Anne Lutkenhouse, Steve Rossi, Gary and Deanna Weaver, John Uhler and Shawn Welch.

The educational objective was to provide an interpretation of the Coast Artillery, medical operations and chaplain operations during World War II.

The photo below shows the participating membership on Sunday, 8 July. We were able to take advantage of the shade in front of The London Shop in Easton. We provided interpretive living history from 1200 to 1700. After the event, we had dinner at Maxim's 22 Bistro/Brasserie (<http://maxims22.com/>) - a fantastic French restaurant in downtown Easton.



Below 1LT Lutkenhouse provides medical information to visitors.



The location under the awning of The London Shop provided a great relief from the rays of the sun. Much of the medical equipment is sensitive to light and high heat and this shade was a big help.



Additional medical displays are shown below including glass syringes which are very rare today.



CPT(Chaplain) John Uhler's collection of very rare ecclesiastical materials and his WWII jeep were very welcome components of the AGFA display. Notice the working field organ in the front center of the below picture.



As part of John's display, he addresses both major military chaplaincies - the Army and the Navy. The white Navy pennant indicates a service is in session.



CPT(CH) Uhler's collection contains many rare and unusual materials, such as a complete communion set from WWII.



T-4 Rossi's display saw a lot of visitors throughout the day.



T-3 Rossi's display is shown in more detail below and includes individual weapons, bayonets, mess equipment and chemical warfare equipment.



The Coast Artillery display items in this picture include from left to right an M1910A1 azimuth instrument, Time-interval bell and electrical components, a EE-91 fire control telephone, a wind component indicator, and a M1905 Deflection board.



Below is another view of the Coast Artillery displays. CPL Cusano provides an explanation of how the materials worked.



In this view we see the deflection board clearly in photo center on the table as well as the donation can (a 6-inch powder can) in the lower left of the picture.



The M1910A1 azimuth instrument saw a lot of visitor attention. Below a young lady uses the instrument to look at cars several blocks up the street.



Below is another view of the display area.



We were all surprised when a historian interpreting General John J. Pershing, overall US commander in World War I, showed up on horseback - an amazing sight!



Below 1LT Lutkenhouse chats with member SGT Weaver who is portraying a Civil War soldier for the event.



With the focus on Heritage day being Revolutionary War era, we have a British Fife and Drum team playing for us during the day.



1LT Lutkenhouse speaks with "Benjamin Franklin".



Some of our ammunition is visible in this photo, including a fiberglass replica of a 16-inch 2,240 pound armor piercing shell and a 6-inch high explosive shell.



After we packed up our materials, 1LT Lutkenhouse and 2LT Cusano prepare to order at Maxim's 22 Brasserie.



After dinner, we prepare to say good bye until we meet at Fort Hancock for the August work days!



Easton Heritage Days is a very welcoming event with historians from all relevant American time periods of military history. We encourage you to attend!