

Easton Heritage Days  
Easton, Pennsylvania

On Saturday 12 July 2025, AGFA participated in the Easton Heritage Day celebration (<http://heritageday.org/>). 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 forward Heritage Day has been celebrated as Easton's own Independence Day celebration.

The members of AGFA who participated in the event were John Dwyer, Joel Gonzalez, Anne Lutkenhouse, Jerry Still, John Uhler, Shawn Welch and our guest Rich Moran. AGFA members John Uhler and John Dwyer brought their jeeps and flanked the display area with jeeps.

The educational objective was to provide an interpretation of the Coast Artillery, Medical Corps, Chemical Warfare and Chaplaincy during World War II.

This year's event was conducted on a bright sunny day and public participation was high.

For the first time since 2019, we were able to be located in front of the London Shop (<https://londonshopofeaston.com/>) which was very much welcome!

Below is a photo of the AGFA team.



There were many visitors starting before the official opening at 1000 hours. Below SSG/T-3 Dwyer explains the medical equipment that is on his jeep.



AGFA guest "Marine" Moran speaks with a visitor while holding an M1918A3 Browning Automatic Rifle.



In the photo below, 2LT Gonzalez explains some of the aspects of our work at Fort Hancock to a visitor.



Below is an eastern view of our area with the big, yellow Mk-12 Army 16-inch 2,240 pound armor-piercing projectile and the Chaplain's jeep and display.



Below, CPT(CH) Uhler takes a short break in his exhibit area.



A few minutes later, AGFA member TSG Weaver steps in (attired as a Civil War marksman) and answers the EE-8 field telephone.



Many other organizations were also represented. Below are our friends from the HMI (Historic Military Impressions) 28<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.



Below is another view of the 28<sup>th</sup> ID display.



And another view of the 28<sup>th</sup> ID display - much equipment, weapons and materials for the public to see and learn about.



We were visited by Northampton County councilman Tom Giovanni and his wife, below with 1LT Lutkenhouse.



The National Museum of Industrial History ([www.nmih.org](http://www.nmih.org)) had a metal melting set-up to demonstrate on a small scale how metal was smelted at Bethlehem Steel.



Below, Museum Historian Mike Pierson gives us a smile as he is working with visitors to create small metal objects.



Another excellent historic display was that of the US Colored Troops during the Civil War. These four gentlemen were a wealth of information regarding these stalwart soldiers for freedom.



Later in the afternoon, TSG Weaver visited us again in the uniform of a Union Infantry Sergeant. He is with 2LT Still as we are adjusting telephone wire.



Our fellow “Marine” Moran took some time to “take a load off his feet” and chat with the London Store team - an important real-life component of his professional business wardrobe! We had a blast discussing the 1940s and the M1918A3 BAR as the hit of the conversation.



Refreshed, “Marine” Moran is chatting with visitors about the M1918 BAR and how the Marines used it to defend their coast artillery batteries.



Below SSG/T-3 Dwyer discusses the various medical items in his display with visitors.



The day ended at 1700 hours and we packed up in less than an hour. Below, 2LT Still, CPT(CH) Uhler and 2LT Gonzalez say their last goodbyes before our next event!



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