



4th QUARTER
DECEMBER 2020



10th MOUNTAIN DIVISION FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the 10th Mountain Division Foundation is to honor and perpetuate the legacy of the soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division past, present, and future by doing good works that exemplify the ideals by which they lived.

**SUPPORT YOUR FOREVER
FOUNDATION**

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10thMountainFoundation.org

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Relevant and Sustainable: A Different Kind of Good Works

The Board of Directors and Partners of the 10th Mountain Division Foundation held its 2020 Annual Meeting on October 3, 2020. Shrouded in the COVID-19 environment, we met via a hybrid format. Whether live and in person across the room, or through the mosaic of faces on the big screen, it was good to see everyone again.

The meeting was the culmination of a year of melding Chairman Trux Dole's visions and strategies with a new and dynamic administrative director, and my tactical approach to building a sustainable nonprofit organization through best practices.

Trux, in his inaugural year as Chairman, continued to build his vision of the Foundation being a more program-based and relevant organization for the entire 10th Mountain Family. His leadership resulted in increased education and career opportunities for veterans, networking 10th Mountain Division sister organizations and engaging directly with the 10th Mountain Division (LI), headquartered at Fort Drum. His vision and "Good Works" were realized in producing the Foundation's new website.

As I inherited the reigns of the Presidency, I took on the administration and operational aspects of the Foundation. In doing so, I applied my "lessons learned" as a nonprofit administrator for nearly three decades. My intent was to work with our awesome new administrative director to progressively improve financial and operational systems, and diversify our development program. This would provide a more solid underpinning to our new-found relevancy.

As the Board worked its way through the agenda, I referred to many of the action items as part of a "housekeeping year." The statement certainly did not have the usual ring of excitement to the "Good Works" in years past which focused on awarding grants to mission-based programs, some of which you will learn more about in this newsletter. Yet in this year of COVID-19 with limited programming opportunities, supporting improved governance and financial systems made for a different kind of "Good Works" in our ability to sustain our vital nonprofit organization.

Be Safe Be Well!

Sempre Avanti,

Nancy Kramer, President



Nancy Kramer shares her father's (William "Ropesole" Robertson 87-G Medic) field medic flag and his legacy with her fellow adventurers at the 10th Mountain Division Hut

Spotlight: Keli Schmid 10th Mountain Division Resource Center

Keli Schmid earned her Master's Degree in Library and Information Science in 2012 from San



Keli Schmid knits!

Jose State University. She has held her position as Archivist Librarian at the 10th Mountain

Division Resource Center since January 2015.

During her studies she volunteered in the Denver Public Library archives. It was after that experience she knew where she wanted to land.

Keli is passionate about preserving pieces of history that have such a personal connection, yet her favorite part of the job is working with people inquiring about what their family members did during the war.

Outside of work, Keli teases herself about having a hobby of dabbling in hobbies. "I've tried so many, the one that seems to have stuck is knitting."

10th Mountain Division Resource Center – Preserving Our Stories

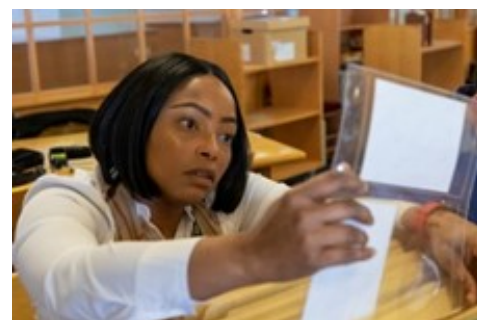
The 10th Mountain Division Resource Center, established at the request of veterans in 1987, is divided between the Denver Public Library Western Genealogy Department and History Colorado.

The library houses military documents, correspondence, photographs, oral history recordings, film, maps and other such "flat" materials, and the museum houses three-dimensional artifacts including uniforms, equipment and even a Studebaker M29 Weasel.



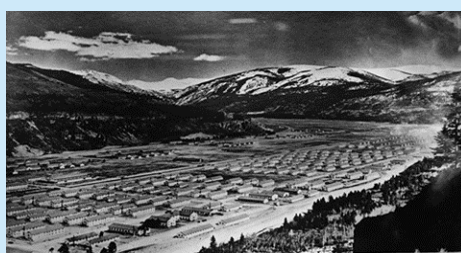
10th Mountain Division (LI) soldiers learn about archives and artifacts from the 10th Mountain Division's Collection Curators Keli Schmid and James Peterson (left).

As archivist of the 10th Mountain Division Resource Center, Keli Schmid maintains collections and ensures the preservation of materials. "I process new acquisitions, assist with research requests, and I help descendants and historians fill in the stories of individual soldiers and the time they spent with the Division." The best way to contact Keli is by email at kschmid@denverlibrary.org.



Camp Hale Featured on Rocky Mountain PBS Program

Rocky Mountain PBS' Colorado Experience Series in November featured the compelling story of Camp Hale, the historic training grounds of the 10th



Camp Hale during World War II

Mountain Division. It is now available for viewing at the [RMPBS website](http://RMPBS.org).

Description: Built high in the Rockies, Camp Hale was the training grounds for the famed 10th Mountain Division during WWII. Their service is honored at what remains today at Camp Hale. The site also remains not only a significant place for preservation and conservation, but for recreation—as veterans visit the hallowed site to connect to its legacy, and heal.

The 10th Mountain Division Living History Display Group Staff Ride

The Foundation's Collections and Public Resource Team includes several components. Featured in this newsletter is our public outreach program managed by the 10th Mountain Living History Display Group and coveted 10th Mountain Division Resource Center at the Denver Public Library.

The "Living History" component provides a venue for collectors, re-enactors and historians to learn about and share their passion for history and interest in the 10th Mountain Division.



Dave Little, TMDF Historian, hosts 10th Mountain Division (LI) soldiers for a Staff Ride at Camp Hale

Offering a "museum without cases" concept, the Living History Display Group hosts events throughout the year or on request that provide the opportunity to:

- See and experience the Division's equipment in action

- Explore the contents of a soldier's pack (90 lb. rucksack)
- Learn what it was like to train in the Colorado Rockies for deployment in WWII.

As one of the longest established Living History groups of its sort, they are based in Colorado but have chapters around the country. One of the more curious offerings Dave Little, the Foundation's Historian and our 10th Mountain Division Living History Group, can offer is a "Staff Ride." I have heard about these outings for nearly a decade now, but it took a recent conversation with Dave to help me to understand the background and value of these experiences.

Staff Rides is a military term, when officers and senior enlisted soldiers tour a past battlefield and walk the ground to understand A) what happened before and B) how they would fight that battle today. This exercise started in Germany, riding areas the German officers thought the next battle might be. In the US, it became a learning session—a field classroom—where soldiers learned from the past and applied it to their future battles.

A Staff Ride at Camp Hale will reveal that the 10th Mountain Division's battle

was as much about the elements and terrain as it was against enemy forces, and that harsh winter conditions haven't changed—be it Afghanistan, Antarctica, the Alps or the Urals—many of the same rules apply today as they did 75 years ago.

This past winter during Vail Legacy Days, Dave hosted a Staff Ride for CG Brian Mennes and 10th (LI) soldiers from Fort Drum. It was their first visit to Camp Hale. Not a bad way to learn about the place in which the legacy of your Division was founded.



Unfortunately, in the current COVID-19 environment, the Living History Display Group is unable to host any events. Beyond the COVID-19 era, look for opportunities to learn more about the 10th Mountain Division, its history and legacy through a Living History experience. Perhaps there is a Staff Ride in your future. I sure hope so.



Partners, Donors and Ways to Give

The Board of Directors of the 10th Mountain Division Foundation extends its gratitude for the generous contributions received from October 2020 through November 2020. The Foundation is pleased to announce the inaugural edition of a 10th Mountain Division Foundation Annual Report to be produced during the first quarter of 2021.

Garrett Grants: A grant from the Garrett Family Ever Forward Foundation in support of the Foundation's for advancing legacy-based winter adaptive sports and education programs.

Another grant from the Garrett Family Ever Forward Foundation will support the Foundation's Monuments and Memorial Programs.

Laura W. Ford Trust: Laura's husband was Grant Maynard for, Lt 86-C.

100th Birthday Gift: Marty Hamamoto's special gift from her Donor Advised Fund at the Long Island Community Foundation in honor of her father, Virgil W. Meeker's 100th Birthday. Virgil was a sergeant in the 3rd Battalion headquarters of the 86th Infantry Regiment (86-HQ-3).

A special thank you to Terry and Kathy Stoke of Postnet Steamboat Springs, David Richards and his RISEcx team, and Jen and Joe Neville for their contribution of vital professional services through the year.

Other Ways to Give

[Through the 10th Mountain Division National Association](#)

[Colorado 10th Mountain Division Special License Plates](#)

Thank You, Partners!

2020 has proved to be a very challenging year for a number of our program partners. Yet many did complete winter programs and have, through tenacity and innovation, found ways to raise awareness of partner programs and execute outdoor events.

*10th Mountain Division Hut Association
10th Mountain Division National Association
10th Mountain Division Descendants, Inc.
10th Mountain Division Living History Display Group
History Colorado
Friends of Denver Public Library
Colorado Ski and Snowsports Museum
Flathead Valley Ski Museum
PSIA/AASI The Snow Pros
Cañon City JROTC
Deviation Ski and Snowboard Works
Weston Backcountry
Icelantic
Vail Resort and the Town of Vail
NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School)
STRIDE Wounded Warrior SnowFest
Move United Warfighter Winter Sports Program*

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