



News Release

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National World War I Museum Announces New Board Member Appointments

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Monday, July 28, 2014) – The National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial announced the addition of new appointees to the Board of Trustees and the National Advisory Board.

Board of Trustees appointments include: Dan Crumb (Kansas City Chiefs Chief Financial Officer), Peter deSilva (UMB Financial Corporation President and Chief Operating Officer; UMB Bank Vice Chairman; UMB Fund Services Chairman), Scott Van Genderen (Edward Jones, Principal) and Julie Wilson (Cerner Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer).

National Advisory Board appointments include: Jon Cook (VML Chief Executive Officer and President), Robert Dalessandro (U.S. Army Center of Military History Executive Director and Chief of Military History), John Dillingham (JoDill Corp. and Dillingham Enterprises, Inc. President and Director), Steve Harrison (Financial Advisor at Edward Jones), Diane Lees (Imperial War Museum Director-General) and Admiral J. Stanton Thompson (retired Rear Admiral of the U.S. Navy).

“It’s fitting that the National World War I Museum welcomes a new collection of renowned board members as the international spotlight continues to shine on the Museum and Kansas City during the Centennial commemoration of the Great War,” National World War I Museum President and CEO Dr. Matthew Naylor said. “We will work closely with our board members to ensure that we continue to educate the public about World War I and its enduring impact on the world.”

“These appointments to the Board of Trustees and National Advisory Board bring a wealth of experience and connections that will help ensure strong governance and help strengthen the work of the Museum during this important time,” National World War I Museum Board of Trustees Chairman Thomas Butch said.

Crumb has served as the Chief Financial Officer of the Kansas City Chiefs since 2010. In this role, Crumb oversees the organization’s finance department, information systems department and ticket office.

deSilva serves as the President and Chief Operating Officer of UMB Financial Corporation, the Vice Chairman of UMB Bank and Chairman of UMB Fund Services as well as serving on the company’s executive committee. In these roles, deSilva is responsible for all of UMB's fee-producing business units and product lines.

Van Genderen is the Principal at the Edward Jones headquarters in St. Louis, Mo. He joined Edward Jones in 1990, became a principal in 2002 and assumed responsibility of the firm’s client retention program in 2011. Prior to working at Edward Jones, Van Genderen was an Officer in the U.S. Air Force for seven years.

Wilson serves as Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer of Cerner. In these roles, Wilson is responsible for leading Cerner’s human resources and associate services organizations as well as developing people and support strategies for Cerner worldwide.

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Cook has served as Chief Executive Officer of VML since 2011 and as President of VML since 2007. Cook helped facilitate VML's global expansion and development of full-service operations in Africa, Asia, Australia, Eastern Europe, India and South America.

Dalessandro has been the Executive Director and Chief of Military History at the U.S. Army Center of Military History since 2011. With more than 30 years of experience in the Department of Defense, Dalessandro is a renowned expert on battlefield interpretation.

Dillingham is the President and Director of JoDill Corp. and Dillingham Enterprises, Inc. Dillingham also serves as a Trustee of Waddell & Reed Funds Inc., and is a former President/Chairman of the Liberty Memorial Association (2005-07).

Harrison is a Financial Advisor for Edward Jones with more than 30 years of experience. In addition to his role as an advisor, Harrison previously served as a principal with leadership responsibility for the Edward Jones branches in the Kansas City area and branches throughout eastern Kansas.

Lees has been the Director- General of the Imperial War Museums since 2008 and oversees all aspects of one of the largest Museum organizations in the world. Lees also serves as the Vice President of the American Air Museum in Britain and the Director of the Imperial War Museums Trading Company.

Admiral Thompson has more than 35 years of experience with the U.S. Navy and served in several leadership positions within the Navy before his retirement in 2005. Thompson is a Vietnam veteran who served as a Harbor Defense Commander in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, as a Principal Advisor to the Commander U.S. Northern Command for maritime homeland defense and is currently on Missouri's Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission.

Admiral Thompson has more than 35 years of experience with the U.S. Navy and served in several leadership positions within the Navy before his retirement in 2005. Thompson was a Commander in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Commodore in Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti and was a Principal Advisor to the Commander for maritime homeland defense.

The National World War I Museum holds the most diverse collection of World War I objects and documents in the world and is the second-oldest public museum dedicated to preserving the objects, history and personal experiences of the war.

About the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial

The National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial is the only American museum solely dedicated to preserving the objects, history and personal experiences of a war whose impact still echoes in the world today. The National World War I Museum holds the most diverse collection of World War I objects and documents in the world and is the second-oldest public museum dedicated to preserving the objects, history and personal experiences of the war. The Museum takes visitors on an epic journey through a transformative period and shares deeply personal stories of courage, honor, patriotism and sacrifice. Designated by Congress as America's official World War I Museum and located in downtown Kansas City, Mo., the National World War I Museum inspires thought, dialogue and learning to make the experiences of the Great War era meaningful and relevant for present and future generations. To learn more, visit theworldwar.org.

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