

# Dahlgren Heritage Museum

# Deck Log

DAHLGREN  
HERITAGE  
MUSEUM

PRESERVING NAVAL HISTORY

## Touring NSF Dahlgren

*Gillian Both, an intern at the museum and University of Mary Washington graduate, participated in a tour of Naval Support Facility Dahlgren earlier this month. Here's the narrative of her tour.*

Experiencing the Base on a Bus  
By Gillian Both

One of the events the Dahlgren Heritage Museum offers the community is a guided bus tour of Naval Support Facility Dahlgren. As the museum's summer intern, I was thrilled with the opportunity to tour the base. I have countless family members and friends who work there and I looked forward to putting context to the history I had been studying during my time at the museum.

As we departed from the museum Rob Gates explained how the base was founded and its purpose, and talked about John Adolphus Dahlgren, the pioneer in munitions testing the base was named after. We entered the main gate and immediately saw a bust of Dahlgren that had been donated to the base. This was our first stop. We had the opportunity to walk around and see displays on the first testing at Dahlgren. We took multiple stops on the tour and were able to stand next to some unbelievably large guns. Reading about the testing done on the base only scratches the surface. The tour and getting to stand under the barrels of such impressive weaponry put all of my research into perspective.

Cont'd on pg. 2

DAHLGREN  
HERITAGE  
MUSEUM

SPEAKER  
SERIES '22



THE ESTATE AT  
White Hall Vineyard

DAHLGREN  
HERITAGE  
MUSEUM

PRESERVING NAVAL HISTORY

For more info  
call or text  
(540) 846-3382

Come and learn more about the US Space Force and their presence at Naval Support Facility Dahlgren with special guest speaker Lt. Col. Jonathan Smith, USSF, Commanding Officer, 19<sup>th</sup> Space Defense Squadron

Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>  
Reception begins at 4:30 p.m.  
Program begins at 5 p.m.  
@ Estate at White Hall Vineyard Stables  
3668 White Hall Rd.  
King George, VA 22485

This event is free but donations are encouraged.

Visit [www.dahlgrenmuseum.org](http://www.dahlgrenmuseum.org) to become a museum member or make a donation today.

Want to join us for our next base tour on October 22? Visit [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) and search Dahlgren Heritage Museum to get free tickets.

Have you paid your membership dues for 2022-2023? See page 3 to renew your membership today!

## Eagle Scout Candidate Constructs Kiosk

Will Tolley, an Eagle Scout candidate from King George, recently constructed a kiosk on the railbed terminus of the Dahlgren Rail Heritage Trail (DRHT). The kiosk includes a map of the trail and guidance on using it, and an informational poster entitled "From Rail to Trail: The Life of the Dahlgren Railroad." The kiosk is next to the Sheetz on Route 301 across from B Gate at Naval Support Facility Dahlgren. B Gate was the original "railroad gate" in 1942.

Tolley, a 17-year-old senior, received assistance from 26 people in creating and building the kiosk, including members of his troop, the community, Friends of the DRHT and Dahlgren Museum's Alan Dean. Tolley said his troop had hiked the trail many times and the kiosk was "a way to give back to the community." He hopes to enter college next year and study computer science.

The kiosk is easy to visit, just next to the south side of Sheetz off Owens Drive.



## Tour continued from pg 1

One treat was being able to visit the main testing range. We viewed some of the guns that are currently being tested (don't worry, we visited on a Saturday so there was no testing occurring then). That trip to the test range made me realize just how impressive and intimidating these weapons can be! During the tour, I particularly enjoyed hearing Rob share some of his experiences and memories from when he arrived on base. The personal element that he added made the tour very engaging and earned quite a few laughs. We were able to drive all around the base and see testing laboratories, housing, historic structures, munitions storage, planes, hangers, and more.

The tour ended at the museum and it was wonderful to share the exhibit *Pioneers of the 20th Century: The Story of the Wests* with my family who joined me on the tour. Thank you, Rob, and everyone who facilitated this great opportunity!

**We've changed the date for our Murder Mystery Dinner Theater – Join us April 15, 2023 at Estate at White Hall Vineyard for all the fun! Watch for tickets on Eventbrite after the first of the year. Hope to see everyone there!**



# DAHLGREN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Telling the Story and Reflecting the Spirit of the Navy and the Community at Dahlgren

- Join Our Crew! [Click here.](#)
- To make a tax deductible donation, [click here.](#)
- Visit us on the web: [www.dahlgrenmuseum.org](http://www.dahlgrenmuseum.org)
- Visit us on [Facebook](#)



P.O. Box 816, Dahlgren, Virginia 22448

www.dahlgrenmuseum.org

*President*

Edward W. Jones

*Vice President*

Robert V. Gates

*Treasurer*

Dennis Quick

*Secretary*

Jeron Hayes

*Board of Directors*

John B. Ashton

Jon Dachos

Michael Hubbard

Gary Kendrick

Peter Kolakowski

Michael Purello

Alice Stanton

David Zook

Cathy Binder (ex officio)

## 2022 - 2023 Membership

Thank you for your support of the Dahlgren Heritage Foundation! With your help we are educating the community on the Dahlgren story, running a museum, and working towards hosting more interesting and exciting events. We wouldn't be able to do any of this without you. We look forward to another great year and we are thankful for your membership! Donate by mailing a check to PO Box 816, Dahlgren, VA 22448 or visit [www.dahlgrenmuseum.org](http://www.dahlgrenmuseum.org) and click Membership.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Family Membership \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Member \$500.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Sponsorship \$1000.00 \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make an additional tax-deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I'd like to volunteer at Dahlgren Museum and fundraising events