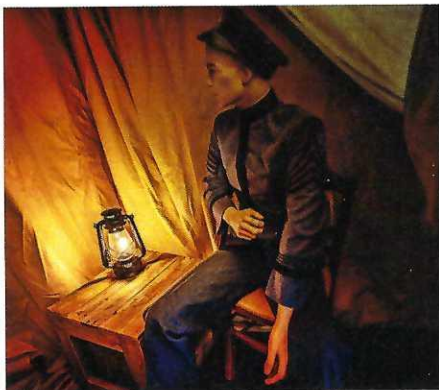


OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY MUSEUM



NEW MUSEUM EXHIBITS TRACE HISTORY OF THE OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY



The Oklahoma Military Academy Museum recently reopened with all-new exhibits on the campus of Rogers State University in Claremore.

"For the last four decades, we have been collecting artifacts, photographs, and stories that capture the history of the Oklahoma Military Academy," said Dr. Danette Boyle, director of the museum. "Now, through the efforts of alumni, university leaders, and a talented team of museum consultants, we have first-class exhibits that honor that story in a fascinating, engaging way."

The 2022 OMA Alumni Reunion was just great. I graduated in 1964 and it has been important for me to keep in touch with several of my former classmates. It means a lot to me. I was so pleased to see OMA alumnus Angel Beltran receive the Hall of Fame Award. And the new OMA Museum was better than I could have imagined. I really liked the Cadet Room.

– Jim Elder '67

The Oklahoma Military Academy (OMA) was founded as a state assisted military boarding school in 1919. Until conversion to a junior college in 1971, OMA changed the lives of more than 10,000 cadets who learned the lessons of discipline, teamwork, and personal responsibility. The motto of OMA, "Courage, Loyalty, and Honor," captured the spirit of the school.

The exhibits fill almost 4,000 square feet of space on the second floor of Meyer Hall, the first building constructed for OMA in 1919 and now the administration building for Rogers State

University. One gallery features a short video history of OMA with seating in the front half of a World War II-era Jeep and a touch-screen video experience with biographical information about OMA cadets and leaders.

The main gallery, where most of the artifacts are woven into the story, includes three "experiential" exhibits that take visitors back in time. One is a reproduction of a cadet's room with a life-sized, video-generated cadet describing life at a military academy. Another is a Sibley Bell tent where the first cadets lived in 1919.