



Message from the Founder and Chairwoman of the Pritzker Military Museum & Library:

To: My colleagues at the PMML, Members, Donors, and Friends of the PMML.

My purpose is to inform you that the Pritzker Military Museum & Library (PMML) is in the process of transitioning from a private operating foundation in which I am the sole member of the corporation, to a public charity with multiple corporate members and governance by a board of directors and professional staff based on the interests and desires of the general membership. The PMML is also moving from its Chicago location, the Monroe Building at 104 South Michigan Avenue, to its new location at the Pritzker Military Archives Center located in Somers, Wisconsin.

The reasons for this move are as follows.

- The PMML is a private, voluntary, non-governmental organization transitioning from a private operating foundation to a public charity. As a public charity, I will continue to personally support the consolidated PMML - PMAC within legal and reasonable limits. Yet, due to the definition of a public charity, I can no longer be the sole or majority patron provider to the PMML and PMAC. This means the assets are under the control of the corporation as opposed to me and thus protected from inefficient piecemeal distribution of assets which considerably dilutes the value of the assets.
- The purpose of this move is to provide the greatest opportunity to continue operations and growth for future generations. This is the best way to ensure orderly succession of command and operations. Initial services at the PMAC will include member access to library services, virtual resources, and digitized offerings. Member researchers will also have exclusive access to historical archival collections to assist in their studies. In the future, in-person exhibits, and sponsored programming will be added. We aim to open to the public by late spring 2024.
- The PMAC in Somers Wisconsin is a world class building designed by the distinguished architect Helmut Jahn. This building was custom designed specifically for PMML/PMAC whereas the Monroe Building was adapted for the Museum & Library from a more than 100-year-old restored office building. The 51,600 square foot facility at the PMAC includes 9,400 square feet of public space.



- The PMML now owns high-quality real estate directly accessible from Interstate Highway 94. This is conveniently located with a relatively short distance between both Milwaukee and Chicago metro areas. The building is actively seeking a permanent tenant for the PMML space and in the interim we are open to short term rentals.

This change is indeed a complex and challenging one. It means literally going outside the box with essential tough decisions made by many individuals and includes a reorganization of the PMML staff. I am confident that the staff, Board and other parties on the team have contributed to the most orderly and cost-efficient process to protect the interests of all parties involved. We are literally stepping out of the box after 20 plus years in a comfort zone.

We are embarking on a new era for the PMML. This new era will provide the ways and means for future generations to continue the mission of improving understanding between the military community and the civilian community through the study of military history and affairs. Soldiers are also citizens, and citizens are potential soldiers – and essential to supporting to the military. This mission of striving for the maintenance of democracy is essential.

We hope that you will share in our goal to expand the mission to people from around the world. The PMAC will ensure that the lessons derived from service continue to educate current and future generations on the freedoms they tirelessly protected. I am deeply grateful for all your previous support. I welcome you to join the progressive evolution of the PMML and PMAC to the next plateau.

If you have any questions, please contact Roberto Bravo, Interim President, at president@pritzkermilitary.org.

Sincerely

Jennifer Natalya Pritzker
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)
Founder and Chairwoman of the PMML