

Media Contact

April Smith-Miller

Director of Marketing

asmith-miller@pritzkermilitary.org

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Pritzker Military Museum & Library to Honor 2026 Founder's Award Recipients at Liberty Bash

PMML will honor three leaders at Liberty Bash for service to veterans and community.

KENOSHA, WI - April 29, 2026 - The Pritzker Military Museum & Library (PMML) will honor three distinguished leaders as recipients of the 2026 Founder's Award at the annual Liberty Bash, to be held Saturday, May 30, 2026, in Kenosha, Wisconsin. This year's theme, *Spirit of '76: Birth of the Citizen Soldier*, commemorates the founding of the United States while celebrating leaders whose work reflects service, leadership, and civic commitment.

The 2026 Founder's Award recipients are:

- **Robert Bied**, President of Captain Dave's Foundation
- **Bob Curry**, Founder of Dryhootch
- **Nick Pinchuk**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Snap-on Incorporated

Presented by PMML Founder and Chair LTC Jennifer N. Pritzker, USA (Ret.), the Founder's Award recognizes individuals or organizations whose exceptional contributions advance the mission of the PMML and help preserve the legacy of the Citizen Soldier.

"These 2026 Founder's Award recipients have been steadfast champions of the Pritzker Military Museum & Library, enabling it to grow as an institution and share the stories of service, leadership, and the Citizen Soldier's legacy", says LTC Jennifer Pritzker. "We are proud to recognize their leadership and share this moment with the community."

The Liberty Bash is PMML's signature celebration in Kenosha, bringing together civic leaders, veterans, community partners, and supporters for an evening honoring military

service past and present. The event will highlight the origins of the Citizen Soldier while recognizing leaders who continue to serve veterans, communities, and our nation.

“At its best, the Citizen Soldier ideal is about more than answering the call,” said Scott English, President & CEO of the Pritzker Military Museum & Library. “It is about what comes after how we serve our neighbors, support veterans, and help hold communities together. In different ways, each of this year’s honorees has carried that responsibility forward.”

About the 2026 Founder’s Award Recipients

Robert Bied is a Chicago-based executive and civic leader with decades of experience in advanced manufacturing and product innovation. Through his leadership of Captain Dave’s Foundation, he has shown a deep commitment to serving veterans and their families.

Bob Curry is a Vietnam veteran, entrepreneur, and the founder of Dryhootch, a nationally recognized organization that supports veterans in recovery and transition. His work reflects a lifelong commitment to helping veterans heal, reconnect, and move forward after military service.

Nick Pinchuk served in Vietnam and is chairman and CEO of Snap-on Incorporated. He is a widely respected champion for U.S. manufacturing and a tireless advocate for upskilling the American workforce. Snap-on partners in many veteran-focused initiatives, including expanded Honor Flight tours, and its franchise is consistently named the top choice for veterans by *Entrepreneur* magazine.

For more information about the 2026 Liberty Bash, please visit the [Pritzker Military Museum & Library website](#).

About the Pritzker Military Museum & Library

The Pritzker Military Museum & Library connects the public to military history, national security, and military affairs through exhibits, public programs, and research centered on the lived experience of the Citizen Soldier, with a focus on the Cold War’s lasting global impact. Located in Kenosha, Wisconsin, the non-governmental, non-partisan institution houses more than 40,000 artifacts and over 70,000 book titles, serving audiences locally, nationally, and worldwide through in-person and digital engagement.

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