



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Presentation Explores Trench Warfare during World War I

[Concordia, Kansas] – Cloud County Historical Society Museum in Concordia will host "Eye Deep in Hell: Trench Warfare during World War I," a presentation and discussion by Larry Burke on June 27, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at the Cloud County Historical Museum, 635 Broadway. Members of the community are invited to attend the free program. Contact the Cloud County Historical Museum at 785-243-2866 for more information. The program is made possible by the Kansas Humanities Council.

The National Orphan Train Complex is hosting a traveling exhibition, "The Progressive Era: Creating Modern America, 1900-1917" May 27 to June 24, 2015. The focus is on America's transformation into a modern and industrial nation. The NOTC has organized a series of presentations and events that will take place during the four weeks of the exhibition with the Cloud County Historical Society Museum hosting "Eye Deep in Hell: Trench Warfare during World War I" with Larry Burke.

Soldiers in the trenches of World War I suffered extreme temperatures, disease, and parasites in addition to the psychological stresses of war. This presentation will provide a background to the events leading to the war, and will examine the strategies and tactics of trench warfare along the Western Front.

Larry Burke is a historian, emeritus professor at Dodge City Community College, and a Vietnam combat veteran. His research focuses on military history with special emphasis on Civil War and Reconstruction, Vietnam War, and World War II history.

"Advancements in military technology, particularly machine guns and artillery, made the offensive tactics attempted by both sides early in World War I horrifically costly and obsolete," said Burke. "This caused a stalemate on the Western Front resulting in trench warfare which imposed terrific physical and mental stress on the individual soldier 'eye deep in hell.'"

"Eye Deep in Hell: Trench Warfare during World War I" is part of the Kansas Humanities Council's *Humanities* Speakers Bureau, featuring presentations and discussions that examine our shared human experience—our innovations, culture, heritage, and conflicts.

The Kansas Humanities Council conducts and supports community-based programs, serves as a financial resource through an active grant-making program, and encourages Kansans to engage in the civic and cultural life of their communities. For more information about KHC programs contact the Kansas Humanities Council at 785/357-0359 or visit online at www.kansashumanities.org.

For more information about "Eye Deep in Hell: Trench Warfare during World War I" in Concordia contact the Cloud County Historical Museum at 785-243-2866 or visit www.cloudcountyks.org.

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