



# BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES B. THAYER OREGON MILITARY MUSEUM

15300 SE Industrial Way ♦ Camp Withycombe  
Clackamas, Oregon 97015

Phone (503)683-5359 ♦ Fax (503)683-4913 ♦ DSN 355-5359  
www.oregonmilitarymuseum.org



## FRONT LINES

The Oregon Military Museum Monthly Report  
November 1-December 4, 2012

### RECENT HAPPENINGS:

- A huge thank you goes to everyone who made the November 9, 2012 Veterans Day Open House at Camp Withycombe a huge success. Hosted by the Oregon National Guard and the Historical Outreach Foundation (HOF), more than 1,000 people, including many school kids, participated at the event and were provided free hot lunches, thanks to Fred Meyer. The event was held at the 41<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Armed Forces Reserve Center.
  - The Open House showcased the Oregon Military Museum and the Capital Campaign. HOF hosted a special VIP reception to recognize those supporting the Museum Capital Campaign. Below, left to right are sponsorship presentations by the Stimson Lumber Company, the Association of General Contractors Oregon Columbia Chapter, and FLIR.



➢ The Museum presented indoor displays from all the major war eras. We also provided living history interpreters, from Lewis and Clark to the Indian Wars, from the Spanish-American War to World War I, World War II to Korea, and Vietnam to today's Global War on Terrorism, to answer questions about the 100+ artifacts. The Museum even had a



World War II Harley Davidson motorcycle and a Vietnam era M274 Mule.

➢ Highlighted among the educational displays were Tribal dancers from Chemawa Indian School, who demonstrated a variety of tribal dances. Other military and support organizations had indoor displays, such as the Association for the U.S. Army Columbia Chapter, the Clackamas Chamber of Commerce, and the Oregon World War II Memorial.



➢ Outdoors, the public was invited to personally review and talk with Soldiers at the many wonderful Oregon National Guard displays of current military equipment.

- **A very special thanks go to the many Open House sponsors and volunteers** (below is partial list!):

- Oregon National Guard and the Historical Outreach Foundation
- Fred Meyer for the great lunch for 1,000, of hot dogs, hamburgers and all the fixings.
- The Sunrise Clackamas Rotary for cooking those hamburgers and hot dogs.
- Target for great volunteers.
- Shasta Bunnell and the school kids from the Franciscan Montessori Earth School for lunch set up and serving.
- Marge Harding and the Pacific Northwest Historical Group, as well as all the other living history interpreters.



- The day following the Open House, the Museum staff and volunteers headed to the Albany Veterans Day Parade. What an outstanding crowd this year, with an estimated 20,000 to 30,000 folks lining the streets! The Museum was joined by the Pacific Northwest Historical Group's living history interpreters.

- Our parade line-up this year was:
  - **Two versions of the Korean and Vietnam Era M37 Three-quarter Ton Truck, a Cargo version and Radio version.** Nicknamed the Work Horse, the M37 is considered by some to be the best military truck made after World War II. Reliable, well-engineered and a solid performer, the M37 was first made in 1949 and thousands served world-wide through the end of Vietnam era.
  - **Vietnam Era Jeep, Model M151A2, made circa 1970.** This jeep was nicknamed the MUTT, which stands for Military Utility Tactical Truck. This model was made to resolve the roll-over problems of older versions, and was the last military jeep model ever made.
  - **Vietnam Era Half Ton Platform Truck, called the "Mule."** The Mule was a versatile front line truck. It was used to haul ammunition, light cargo, and personnel such as aircrews or stretchers with wounded. It was also used as a weapons platform for the 106mm recoilless rifle.
  - **Vietnam Era 5 Ton M818 Tractor.** The tractor truck is a heavy transporter utilized to move equipment, materiel, or personnel. More than 92,000 of this series of trucks were made by Kaiser Jeep from 1969 into the 1980s.
  - **Vietnam Era 5 Ton M816 Wrecker.** Production of the medium M816 Wrecker began in 1970. The M816 is equipped with a revolving hydraulic crane that has a self-supporting, extensible boom. The outriggers provide stabilization when the boom is used, providing a lift capacity of 7000 pounds.
- This month's behind the scenes progress included laying out and creating the numbering systems for 33 new cabinets with more than 400 drawers. The new numbering system will become the new "Home Locations" for each of the 14,000+ artifacts in the collection. For every state object that is unpacked, a new "home location" code will be entered in our PastPerfect database. For every Federal object, the information must be entered into two databases.
- The equivalent of approximately nine pallets were unpacked and placed in their new home locations. Most of these were large and oversized items, such as machine gun mounts, 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain equipage such as skis and sleds, and radio equipment.



- More space was opened up on the Drill Floor (future main Exhibit Hall) by relocating objects, enabling us to move the F-86F Sabre Jet tail section inside. It was a very tight squeeze through the roll up door, but all went well, thanks to our great volunteers!
- Two previously undocumented paintings arrived at the Museum that are part of the larger series of paintings created by two Oregon National Guardsmen, Don Gray and John Swindley. Between 1968 and 1974, the duo created many works of art that were displayed in Armories across the state. These two new additions have now been catalogued and added to the Museum's collection.
- Our quarterly weapons inventory was completed and our two databases were updated to reflect this.
- An inventory of our growing education collection was conducted by volunteer Mike Guarino.
- This month, email account migration was completed for the Museum staff. We apologize for any inconveniences while the process took place, as we were without network and/email access for about a week. You can still reach us at [museuminfo@oregonmilitarymuseum.org](mailto:museuminfo@oregonmilitarymuseum.org).
- The Museum produced a Docent Guide that includes all the exhibit text and labels for the 41<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Armed Force Reserve Center exhibits.
- This month 13 research requests were assisted.
- Seven VIP tours were given at both the Museum and the AFRC.

### **IN PROCESS:**

- The heavy recent rains have actually been beneficial to us, since they revealed seven leaks in the building: five from the roof, one from a wall, and another from a window. Daily inspections of the entire building have been required to keep a handle on them and mop as needed. Repairs are being made between storms.
- Processing continues on our annual renewals of all artifacts out on loan.
- We are working to return four recently unpacked large aircraft models that have been on long term loan from Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI). The models were on display some 30 years ago for a few years, and have been in storage since circa 1985.
- As time permits, we have been diligently trying to whittle down the accumulated large backlog of artifacts and library donations. This month, 45 artifacts have been catalogued (averaging an hour an object). We *greatly* appreciate everyone's patience in waiting to make new donations. Highlights of new additions we were able to process this month include:
  - A World War II Willys-Overland Quarter ton truck (Jeep), in very original condition, along with a quarter ton trailer. The donor's family acquired the Jeep in 1946 in its original crate. The vehicle had been garaged ever since! Our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Mel Swire! ↑
  - Two World War II Bren light machine guns, one of which is a cut-away, were acquired from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, following many months of coordination between several agencies.



- A Japanese Arisaka Type 44 Cavalry Rifle (aka carbine), a Japanese Naval officer sword with black lacquer wood scabbard and leather outer sleeve, a Moro barong with wood sheath, a Lineman's Signal Corps tool kit, and a Black Brownie "Six-16" box camera, from the collection of Alton Wheeler, a 163<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 41<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division veteran.
- Brigadier General Fred M. Rosenbaum Mess Dress USAF jacket and trousers, and his bamboo and sterling swagger stick.
- Civil War and World War I letters and personal items relating to Corporal Howard Ramsey, the last living U.S. World War I combat veteran, and his family.
- World War I stokes mortar round, horseshoes, remnants of a pot belly stove, and rifle match signs that were unearthed during the Clackamas Range cleanup project.
- Sets of U.S., Japanese, and German insignia, from various sources.
- And, finally, for those about to retire, we now have two examples of the Jim Beam Short Timer whiskey bottle, thanks to Art May. ➔



### **BUILDING PROJECTS UPDATE:**

- The HVAC contractors are down to the final items on the punch list. Still in process is the Direct Digital Controls (DDC) system for the new nine HVAC units.
- A lock on a collections storage area had completely malfunctioned, and thanks to a visit from a locksmith, we are again able to access the room.
- Numerous maintenance work requests have been completed, with our sincere thanks to the great folks at the State Shop!

### **RELATED WEBSITES TO VISIT:**

- Again, thank you for your support and interest! If you wish to join our email list to be notified when new reports have been posted online, please email us at [museuminfo@oregonmilitarymuseum.org](mailto:museuminfo@oregonmilitarymuseum.org)
- Museum: [www.oregonmilitarymuseum.org](http://www.oregonmilitarymuseum.org)
- Capital Campaign: [www.allstarsalute.com](http://www.allstarsalute.com)
- Foundation: [www.historicaloutreach.com](http://www.historicaloutreach.com)

### **DATA LOGGERS:**

**PERIOD: November 1, 2012 – November 30, 2012**

As the chart shows below, we have reinstalled our data loggers. Our ability to meet museum standards for temperature is doing great - no violations this month! However, we are hard at work figuring out the steps to take to meet the standards for relative humidity.

**Museum Standards:** Stable temperature and relative humidity are needed to preserve artifacts, photos & documents.

- The goal is to maintain 68° F and 50% relative humidity (RH), except vaults' RH should be at 40%. Temperature and/or RH should not swing more than +/-5 within a 24 hour period, since these swings are what cause deterioration.
- Green highlights indicate when and where **all standards were met**. Yellow highlights indicate **violations** of standards during the time period listed, by being off goal (too hot or cold, too high or low RH).
- Outside Temperature – High 66, Low 35

**Quick Look:** Fluctuations of more than 5° or 5% occurred within a 24 hour period this many times:

Collections:	25 of 30 days	Library:	13 of 30 days	Vault 6101-2:	15 of 30 days
Art Storage:	9 of 30 days	Drill Floor:	28 of 30 days	Vault 6410:	1 of 30 days
Textiles Storage:	23 of 30 days	Vault 6101-1:	0 of 30 days		

November 1, 2012 – November 30, 2012							
LOGGER NO.	LOGGER LOC.	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	AV TEMP	HIGH RH	LOW RH	AV RH
2307219	Collections	72.72	66.20	68.55	62.96	31.29	45.43
2307220	Art Storage	72.55	66.19	69.36	60.38	34.66	45.33
2307221	Textiles Storage	68.42	65.34	66.75	64.59	40.62	50.41
2307222	Library***	71.34	68.93	70.50	70.96	36.89	48.65
2307223	Drill Floor	69.28	65.00	67.12	65.67	28.97	46.92
2307224	Vault 6101-1	67.74	66.40	66.91	53.76	52.10	53.13
2307225	Vault 6101-2	68.59	68.10	68.30	44.94	38.28	41.36
2307226	Vault 6410	68.76	63.63	65.70	49.80	42.61	44.53

\*\*\* The Library's humidifier was being tested during the beginning of the month, as it had not been used or serviced in several years. Due to this, the RH levels swung drastically. The RH has since leveled out to around 49%.