



OREGON MILITARY MUSEUM

15300 SE INDUSTRIAL WAY

CAMP WITHYCOMBE

CLACKAMAS, OREGON 97015

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Accomplishments 2011

Thank you for your support, guidance, and interest! We are very grateful to all who have assisted us as we transform the Museum and work toward our reopening goals. We could not have done it without you!

Staff:

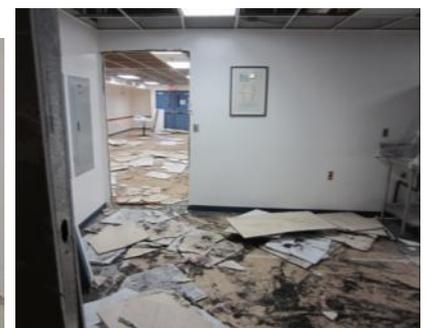
- Tracy Thoennes, Curator/Director, full time technician, and was elected to serve a two-year term to National Guard Bureau's Museum Advisory Council Executive Board.
- Kathleen Daly, Museum Technician, full time contractor, and was elected for a two-year term as a member-at-large to the Oregon Museum Association's Board of Directors.
- Jason Ross, intern from Portland State University, part-time.
- We are so fortunate to have a fabulous and dedicated volunteer corps.
 - An estimated total of 2,791 volunteer hours were donated in 2011!
 - This equates to a donation of \$59,616.00 for in-kind services provided at this year's philanthropic hourly rate of \$21.36 per hour.
 - The top three hourly volunteers: Mark Stevens, Steve Greenberg, and Phil Richart.

What We Did in 2011:

- HVAC renovations began November 14. There will be nine new climate zones, with forced air heating and first-time air conditioning.
- Out of nine zones, work has begun in three. The furniture and contents of these rooms were moved to other areas. Hundreds of artifacts have been packed, put away, and their new locations updated in databases. As the project progresses, the contents will be "leapfrogged" and rearranged as needed.
- The entire contents of the 9,000 sf. Drill Floor were rearranged to create a 28 foot wide "T" shaped path down the center. Then all the pallets, shelving units, file cabinets, and macroartifacts were covered in plastic to protect them. Ductwork began arriving in December.



- Ceiling demolition in the old kitchen, mess hall and rifle range has begun.



- In November, thanks to all the help of Airman 1st Class Brian Zimmerman, we launched our new website, www.oregonmilitarymuseum.org and two public email addresses were established, info@oregonmilitarymuseum.org and museuminfo@oregonmilitarymuseum.org.
- The Museum formally established a relationship with the Historical Outreach Foundation (HOF) to support fundraising to help the Museum reopen as a regional attraction. Our vision is to create high-quality visitor experiences that investigate Oregon's military history and honor Oregonians' military service. Various policies, guidelines, and two Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) were created. HOF is an educational 501(c)(3) that qualifies as an Oregon Cultural Trust charitable organization. In 2011, HOF partnered with two fundraising events to benefit the Museum: a Portland Blazers April basketball game, and a tribute to First-Responders 9-11 anniversary event.
- New brochures, a gift acceptance policy, and fundraising were created, establishing a \$6.5M capital campaign. To learn more, please see the last page of this report. The project's seven goals are:
 - Become a regionally significant museum with an expanded audience and better defined character.
 - Create new educational exhibits and enhance the public's access to powerful and meaningful learning experiences.
 - Prepare, protect, and preserve Oregon military-related artifacts and library material.
 - Enhance visitor experiences and visitor services.
 - Support historic military research and study.
 - Upgrade building systems to meet minimum museum standards, such as adding air conditioning.
 - Modernize environments with greater energy efficiency and durability.
- A top priority for 2011 was exhibit development for the 41st Infantry Division Armed Forces Reserve Center. Themes for the two floors of exhibits include: *41st Division Overview, 1917-1968 Timeline, Captured Weapons and Jungle Warfare Equipage, International Partners, A Hero's Heart, and Humanitarian Missions*. Approximately 150 objects relating to the 41st Infantry Division, 2,000 images, 80 pages of exhibit text, and many first-hand accounts were researched, acquired, curated, catalogued, and custom installed.
- The staff fielded and assisted with 101 research requests from on-site visitors, phone calls, and mail.
- Museum contacts were notified of our new street address in July, and new phone numbers in October.
- Twelve artillery pieces that were formerly in the barn have been reinstalled there, ranging from the Civil War and Indian Wars era M1841 6-pounder howitzer to the Korean era 105mm recoilless rifle.
- Quite a lot of cleaning took place in our macroartifact storage areas. Our covered "picnic shelter" storage space was emptied, our outdoor compound space clean out began (with more cleaning yet to be accomplished), and the Shop was significantly rearranged.
- The World War I 210mm Krupp long mortar, the World War II M7B1 Priest, the Korean Era M41A3 Walker Bulldog, the Cold War era M60A3 Patton Tank, and 3 stone memorials were placed in the historic district.



- All loans were addressed:
 - 14 new incoming loans were processed from 41st Infantry Division veterans or family members, who lent us their photo collections for research and use in the AFRC exhibits. More than 2,000 images were scanned, and all but two collections have been returned.
 - 35 existing outgoing loans with hundreds of objects were renewed, and 5 were returned to us.
 - 6 long-term incoming loans were renewed, and 2 were returned to owners to open up shop space.



- In April, we announced the opening of our Portland State University Internship position, interviewed candidates, and welcomed Library Media Studies graduate student Jason Ross.
- During “Volunteer Week” in April, we held a Volunteer and Museum TEAM event at a local restaurant. 30 people attended. The event was sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Flegel of Redmond, Clackamas NAPA Auto Parts Store, Mr. Ryan Smith (owner of Oregon City’s Verdict Bar and Grill), and the Clackamas Old Spaghetti Factory!
- 6 out of 7 long-term discrepancies and unanswered requests with the U.S. Army Center of Military History (CMH) and the Tank Automotive Command (TACOM) were resolved.
- On Armed Forces Day, we co-sponsored the 15th Annual Living History Day at Camp Withycombe with the Military Vehicle Collectors Club of Oregon. Approximately 400 visitors enjoyed 39 military vehicles on display and several re-enactor groups.
- We completed rehousing of 300 artifact garments that were on thin wire hangers and wood hangers, replacing these with padded, archival hangers to lessen fiber damage.
- We continued acquiring the archival boxes, materials, and massive metal cabinets for the huge upcoming job of unpacking the collection and the library.
- Thanks to the help of many Oregon National Guard folks and volunteers, the following objects have been restored this year and/or freshly painted:



- The U.S. M4A3 Sherman tank and the Japanese Type 95 Ha-Go tank restorations were completed. Both have been placed in front of the 41st Infantry Division Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC).
 - The Japanese Type 41 75mm mountain gun is restored and now on display in the AFRC.
 - The M41A3 Walker Bulldog tank was painted and restored.
 - After being painted, the M60A3 Patton tank was placed on display at the Prineville Armory.
 - Other restoration projects begun and currently underway include the Korean era M42 Duster, the World War II M29C Weasel, and the World War II Japanese Type 91 105mm howitzer.
- All quarterly weapons inventories completed.
- Kathleen Daly is the Museum’s Environmental Point of Contact (EPOC), and has completed all necessary training. The Museum had zero findings during this year’s IPAS environmental inspections.
- We continued to battle maintaining museum standards of environmental control of temperature and relative humidity in sensitive object areas, by monitoring and recording findings with dataloggers.
- We remain very grateful that our months-long database issues were resolved, so that backups and reindexing now take only minutes instead of days.
- Our education collection was organized and inventoried for the first time by volunteer Mike Guarino.
- Thanks to Wendy Yoder of the Military Department, we were able to provide a Purple Heart replacement medal to a local museum when the one on display was stolen. The stolen purple heart had been awarded posthumously to 21-year old Army Air Force Pvt. Robert L. Jennings, Gresham’s first World War II casualty. Jennings was killed in action on December 8, 1941, during the Japanese invasion of the Philippines.

2011 Donations of Artifacts, Library, and Archives:

- We are very grateful for the wonderful donations that have come in this past year. Highlights of the incredible history that has been preserved and will be accessible to all can be found online in the Museum's monthly reports: <http://www.oregonmilitarymuseum.org/news.html>
- A total of 67 artifact donations were accepted, with 467 objects.
- 506 objects or sets of objects were catalogued (39 were 2010 backlogged objects.)
- 105 library books were added to the catalogue from 29 donations.
- More than 2,000 photographs were scanned, with permissions for use documented.
- Special presentations were made to the Museum at the 41st Infantry Division Association 62nd Reunion banquet dinner. It was truly an honor to meet and work with these veterans and their families, and we thank them for their service and sharing their history with us all. Presentations included:
 - A 41st Association "Time Capsule" with objects and stories.
 - LTC (SDF) Ron Weil presented his painting "The Tank Battle on Biak" (acrylic on canvas) to MG Rees and the Museum. The painting will be displayed in the new Armed Forces Reserve Center.
 - Several 41st veterans presented photographs, library materials, and artifacts to the Museum.

Collection Stats as of December 31, 2011:

- 14,203 catalogued library books, manuals and periodicals. With 14,000 [+/-] awaiting processing.
- 14,132 catalogued objects and photos. With 1,000 [+/-] objects awaiting processing from inherited backlog and tens of thousands [+/-] photographs awaiting to be unpacked and processed.
- 10,175 title headings on file folders in our Archives.
- 1,728 contacts records.
- 350 loan records, both incoming and outgoing.
- 160 pallets and custom crates of artifacts and library materials will need to be unpacked, rehoused, and new locations entered into two databases, once HVAC renovation is completed.

Participated in 13 Community Events:

* Presentation / ** Table display / *** Vehicles display

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| Jan 26-28 | 42 nd Annual Northwest Agricultural Show, Portland Expo Center. *** |
| April 15 | Oregon National Guard Retirees' Council luncheon. * |
| May 12 | Historic Preservation Month Fair, Capitol Lawn. ** |
| May 13 | State Capitol Armed Forces Day celebration. *** |
| May 30 | Memorial Day at Willamette National Cemetery. *** |
| July 5 | Theodore Kulongoski Gate dedication. *** |
| Aug 6 | Canby Vietnam Memorial. *** |
| Sept 16 | 41 st Armed Forces Reserve Center building dedication. *** |
| Oct 28 | Oregon Military Heritage Conference in Salem. * |
| Nov 8 | Salem Kiwanis. * |
| Nov 11 | 2011 Albany Veterans Day Parade.*** |
| Dec 7 | Clackamas County Historical Society's Pearl Harbor Day event (HOF). ** |
| Dec 14 | ORNG Association and Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition's briefing. * |



Facilities Improvements of 2011:

- From battling multiple heaters repeated malfunctioning to spending an afternoon mopping and wet-vacuuming 55 gallons of "water" that came up a bathroom drain, more than 35 work requests were completed. **A HUGE THANK YOU to the awesome State Shop folks and our volunteers!**
- Pest management continues, with weekly monitoring of traps and monthly visits by Orkin.
- Our annual safety inspection identified 14 violations. 12 were resolved.
- The cyclone fencing along the old gate entrance inside the new Historic Area was removed.

Work Requests Completed Building 6101:

- Repaired drill floor heater, multiple times. Repaired the heating system in collections storage, and south wing, multiple times. Installed a valve on the north office heating system to better regulate the temperature. Repaired a broken air conditioner in Ms. Daly's office.
- Replaced one, and repaired one dehumidifier located Museum vaults.
- Resolved restroom-related issues seven times, and provided port-a-potties for Living History Day.
- Resolved lighting issues, multiple times.
- Removed mysterious gray goop (putty?) that leaked from the roof all the way to inside a vault.
- Caulked around the drill floor man door to reduce/stop water leaks.
- Repaired and resolved door lock issues, multiple times.
- Placed GFIs on water fountains to comply with OSHA regulations.
- Provided no parking signs near the rollup door and eastern entrance of new fence.

Barn:

- Installed stairs mid rails and replaced light bulbs to comply with OSHA regulations.
- Attached hasp for padlock to the barn's attic door to inhibit public's entry.
- Added a light switch next to the barn's front doors.
- Installed the barn's interpretive sign.

Qhut:

- Reattached conduit that was displaced during its move.
- Serviced a fire extinguisher in the Qhut that had lost pressure.
- Reinstall air conditioner to Qhut.

Training Attended (One or More Museum Staff and/or volunteers in attendance):

- NGB Museum Advisory Council Meeting, Mississippi Armed Forces Museum, Camp Shelby.
- National Guard Museums Annual Training Course, Illinois State Military Museum, Springfield.
- Oregon Military Heritage Conference, Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept., Salem, OR.
- Ms. Daly was awarded a competitive stipend to attend free of charge the Balboa Arts Conservation Center's Workshop *Creating and Maintaining Digital Collections* at the University of Oregon's Schnitzer Art Museum, Eugene, OR.
- Oregon Museums Association Annual Meeting, Philomath, OR.
- "Best Practices for Display and Care of Two-Dimensional Objects" webinar at the Portland Art Museum, put on by the Preparation, Art Handlers, and Collections Care Information Network of the American Association of Museums.

2011 Publications that include the Museum and its objects:

- The Museum's rare Japanese Type 95 Ha-Go Tank was featured in a full color article in the Armor Modeling and Preservation Society (AMPS) membership magazine *Boresight*.
- Ian Skennerton's booklet *9MM Sten Machine Carbine Marks V, VI & II(S): Small Arms identification Series No. 24*. Mr. Skennerton, an Australian, conducted some of his research here a couple of years ago. The book includes images of the Museum's MK II(S) submachine gun and cutaway silencer.
- University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History (NMCH) has a new 2011 coffee table book *10,000 Years of Shoes* that features five pairs of combat boots from our collection. We loaned these to MNCH for the 2008 exhibit *Walk a Mile in These Shoes – The Stories They Tell*. The boots date from World War I through Operation Iraqi Freedom, and tell a short story about each boot's owners, CPT Conrad Stafrin, SGT James T. Francis, PFC David Brown, COL Alphas Clark, and LTC Joseph Cramer. <http://www.registerguard.com/web/livinglifestyles/27240979-41/museum-book-lanker-shoes-brian.html.csp>
- Newspaper articles and various newsletters regarding the Willamette Heritage Center's summer exhibit *Tools of Survival* that included several loaned objects from the Oregon Military Museum.