

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MUSEUM OF MILITARY HISTORY

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RMMM NEWSLETTER

A non-profit Museum located in the Fort Missoula Historic District



RMMM
PO Box 7263
Missoula MT 59807

(406) 549-5346
website:
www.fortmissoula.org

E-mail:
info@fortmissoula.org

Hours:
Winter-Spring - Sundays 12-5
June 1 thru Labor day- daily 12-5
Other times by appointment.

MUSEUM RECEIVES MAJOR GRANT FROM LOCAL FOUNDATION

The RMMM has been awarded \$5000.00 per year for 2002 and 2003 from the Morris and Helen Silver Foundation. The funding will be used to continue the restoration of Building T-316 at Fort Missoula as the Museum's permanent main display facility.

BUILDING T316 RENOVATION UPDATE

Progress on the restoration of CCC Building T316 continues to be made by volunteers Dennis and Pauline Gordon, Ted and Diana Kirschmann, Kert, Scott, and Damon Gordon, Alvan Richard, Tom Peterson, and Shawn Thompson. The building's main roof, both front and back, is now complete and secure.

RMMM Officers 2002

President; Chairman
Brig. Gen. M Y (Bo) Foster AUS(Ret.)
(406) 543-6806

Vice-President
Maj. Gary Lancaster USAR Ret.

Secretary-Treasurer
Lt. Col. Glenn Parmeter USA Ret.
(406) 543-5002

Exec. Director: Tate Jones
(406) 549-5346

Newsletter Editor: Marcia Porter
(406) 728-0594

Foundation Executive Director Carolyn Sauro stated that the Foundation "is very excited about the Museum, and we are looking forward to watching your progress over the next couple of years". Museum President M.Y. "Bo" Foster expressed the RMMM's thanks to the Silver Foundation for their support

Ted re-roofed the south porch. Tom and Shawn poured the concrete pad for the new front porch. Ted designed and built the historically accurate structure, and Diana painted it. This porch greatly adds to the appearance of T316, and also provides for a friendly and convenient entry with a wheel chair ramp.

RAFFLE WINNER

Les Vining of Missoula, was the lucky winner of the 1839 .58 caliber Springfield Musket that was raffled by the Museum on Aug. 11, 2002, at the Missoula Gun Show. The raffle is a year long event, with all proceeds from the museum raffle support the restoration of the buildings

An effort is being made by volunteers to ready the large northeast room for exhibits by next spring. Tom Peterson and Shawn Thompson have been stripping the walls of the corridor and the large room, (formerly the drill room) in preparation for wiring, insulating, and the sheet rocking the walls and ceiling.

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VETERANS DAY

The RMMM will have military a display at Southgate Mall Nov. 9th through 11th to commemorate Veterans Day. Stop by and see us there. We will also be collecting new, or used, but good condition, books to be distributed to Veterans hospitals.

Weather will dictate how much progress can be made on the building this winter. These folks are really doing a great job! Thank you for all your hard work! Drive out and see how nice it looks.

NOV 11TH IS VETERANS DAY.

FLY YOUR FLAG!

THANK A VETERAN

permanent main display facility.

NOVEMBER IS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE MONTH.

If you are already a member, it's time to renew. If you would like to become a member, use the form on page 3. We appreciate your support!!

JULY 4TH 2002 CELEBRATION

The celebration held at Fort Missoula sponsored jointly between the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula and the Rocky Mountain Museum of Military History (RMMMMH) was an unprecedented success!!

Approximately 6000 people attended the patriotic ceremonies, shopped till they dropped, and enjoyed the food.

The RMMMMH's Collectors sale, a popular fund raiser for the museum, was the biggest and best ever!

Donations were being dropped off, or we picked them up, and volunteers started cleaning items and pricing them months in advance. Tables were set up on the Museum lawn the night before the sale began. Other volunteers camped out on the lawn to watch over the tables during the night. Shoppers came early and almost everything was sold.

SINCERE THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO DONATED ITEMS OR WORKED THIS EVENT!!

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

The Museum accepts donations of Military Artifacts from any era, for our permanent collection. If you have items you would like to donate, call us at 549-5346 or 549-6280. Or e-mail us at: info@fortmissoula.org.

We will arrange to have them picked up.

NOV. 5TH IS ELECTION DAY
YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

RMMH PRESIDENT "BO" FOSTER'S BIRTHDAY

M.Y. "Bo" Foster", Brigadier General, U.S. Army (ret.) is this month marking his 91st birthday and 13th year as RMMMMH President.

Bo grew up in part in Montana near Glacier National Park; his father ran a preparatory summer camp for college-bound youths. He graduated from Yale University and hitchhiked to Montana in the midst of the Depression, where he joined the Forest Service.

He also joined the Montana National Guard as a horse artilleryman. When World War II broke out he was subsequently promoted to Captain and served as an artillery liaison pilot for the U.S. 36th Division in Italy, France, Germany, and Austria. He was awarded the Silver Star for action in the air over Anzio, Italy and was selected to guard and fly captured Luftwaffe General Hermann Goering from Austria to Germany.

Back in Montana he helped to organize the 443rd Field Artillery Battalion at Fort Missoula in the 1950's, and went on to retire as State Assistant Adjutant General of the Montana National Guard in the early 1970's.

Thanks for all your work Bo, and Happy Birthday!

NEW RAFFLE ITEM! FORT MISSOULA COMMEMORATION RIFLE!

Hayes Otoupalik has donated an antique, Winchester Model 1894 .32 caliber rifle, to the Museum to be raffled during the next year. A brass plaque affixed to stock reads:

"Fort Missoula, Montana,
125th Anniversary, 1877-2002".

This rifle will be a great addition to a Western History Buff. Raffle tickets are available at the Museum, or any of the functions presented by the Museum. Tickets are \$1.00 each, or 6 for \$5.00.

All proceeds go to the Museum Building restoration fund.

NEW ACQUISITIONS

We wish to thank the following people for their generous donations to our museum collection:

Jane Greenough Green: two books- *Mien Fliegerleben* and *Hals Und Beinbruck* by Ernest Udet, WWI ACE, WWII General

Barbara Koessler: 2 German helmets WWII, Misc. WWII items, and ammunition Collection.

Mrs Stanley Pavlick: 2 footlockers and 19 Marine uniform items.

Bob Whaley: Two handmade Viet Cong items, a sabre and .30 cal. rifle.

The late Dan Wolnick's family: Military Magazines; collection of 200 models of military planes, tanks, and trucks.

Ken Young and Richard Wherley: WWII US Army Mine Detector.

Warren Harris- 1930's Citizen Military Training corps photos

John Moe – WWII Navy leggings

Book reviews

Looking for a special gift for someone? These make great gifts!

"*An Alien Place*" – Longtime Missoulian reporter and Dean of the UM School of Journalism Carol Van Valkenburg examined the political and legal background of the Fort Missoula Alien Detention Center during WWII, and includes several first-person accounts of detainees and other participants. The book includes many period photos and an extensive bibliography; it is the most extensive work on the subject to date. \$10.95

"*Italian Boys at Fort Missoula*" – Former detainee Umberto Benedetti uses his memoirs and an extensive period photo collection to document the life of the detainees at Fort Missoula. Benedetti, who remained in America after repatriation to join the U.S. Army and work at UM, also includes much material on his prewar and postwar experiences. \$12.95

Both from Pictorial Histories Publishing, and available at the RMMMMH. Plus a \$5.00 shipping and handling fee.

FOR ONLY \$250.00 YOU CAN PURCHASE A
"WINDOW TO THE PAST"

If you are interested in dedicating a window in this building for a friend or loved one, there are still some windows available! The new windows that have been installed look great! A 2x3 brass name tag will be placed on the window or an oak plaque with the name of the person you are dedicating the window in honor of.



Building T-316

Please make checks payable to: RMMMHH

Enter the following information for your family member or friend, to be placed on the brass name tag

In Honor of: Name: _____

Branch of Service: (if app.) _____

Rank: (if app.) _____

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail address : _____

The RMMMHH is a private 501 (c)3 non-profit Institution. Contributions are tax-deductible to the amount allowed by law. Your continued support for our exhibits and programs are most welcome.

NOVEMBER IS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE MONTH

The Museum offers memberships on several levels.
Membership are renewable on an annual basis, on **Veterans Day, November 11.**

Name: _____

____ Youth-under age 18-- \$10.00

Address: _____

____ Adult-----\$25.00

City _____

____ Family-----\$50.00

State _____ Zip _____

____ Business-----\$100.00


____ Lifetime -----\$500.00

e-mail address: _____

If you are renewing your membership, please check your address for accuracy, and note any corrections on the form.

Please make checks payable to:
RMMMHH
PO Box 7263
Missoula MT 59807

YOUR SUPPORT IS SINCERELY APPRECIATED

Rocky Mountain Museum of Military History 
PO Box 7263
Missoula MT 59807

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We're on the Web
www.fortmissoula.org

A private non-profit museum promoting the commemoration and study of the U.S. armed services from the Frontier Period to the War on Terrorism.

**DONATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR
OUR JULY 4TH 2003 COLLECTORS SALE,**
Please remember that donations are needed for our 3rd annual
4th of July sale so we can continue to raise funds for the
renovation of Building T316.
The museum is seeking collectible and antique items to sell.
This could include dishes, jewelry, hunting and fishing items,
furniture, sports equipment, etc. We can also sell tools,
books, nicer modern furniture, household items, etc. We
would also be interested in estates.
If you have items you no longer want, and would like to
donate to a good cause, please call:
Tate Jones at 549-5346 or Dennis Gordon at 549-6280.
We can arrange to have items picked up if necessary
Remember, ALL proceeds from the sale of the items go
toward restoration of Building T-316.
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**We will NOT accept military items for this sale.**

**Fall and Winter Programs at RMMM**  
All programs at 3:00 on Sunday afternoon, Building T-310.  
NOV. 10- Exhibit opening: "Glory Road: The Civil War in the  
East, 1862-63"  
NOV. 10 - 227th Anniversary of U.S. Marine Corps; program-  
"Marines in Korea" by Major Rick Kostecki UM ROTC  
NOV. 24 - "The First Desert Storm: Operation Torch,  
North Africa, November 1942".  
DEC. 8th: "140th Anniversary of the Civil War  
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va."  
DEC. 22- Museum Christmas Party, "140th Anniversary of the  
Civil War Battle of Murfreesboro, Tenn."  
FEB. 2 - "The Wehrmacht Halted: 60th Anniversary of the  
Battle of Stalingrad, February 1943".  
FEB. 16 - "Desert Defeat: The Battle of Kasserine Pass,  
North Africa, February 1943".  
MARCH 9 - "War on Terror - 1803: The U.S. Navy and  
the Pirates of Tripoli"

\*\*\*COME AND VISIT US SOON\*\*\*