

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MUSEUM OF MILITARY HISTORY

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ RMMM NEWSLETTER

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



☆ SPRING ☆

☆ 2002 ☆

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BUILDING T-310 OPENS!

We are proud to announce that after several hundred hours of volunteer labor, restoration of the 800 square foot building was completed, and Building T-310 opened in the summer of 2001.

Spearheaded by Board Member Dennis D. Gordon, his wife Pauline, family members Scott, Damon, and Kert, and Alvin Richards, and with the help of many volunteers, the entire roof was replaced, as well as the windows, floors, and much of the interior of the building. The entire building got a new coat of paint, a sidewalk was added, and it looks great.

The community has generously responded with donations of labor and some of the materials necessary to complete the restoration.

Building T-310 has displays which will change periodically.

Our sincere thanks to the many people who so generously worked on this building, or donated materials to help make the opening of this building possible!!

BUILDING T-343

Building T-343, the Sentry Box, has been renovated. When you visit us, note the original graffiti on the wall.

BUILDING T-316 UPDATE

Building T-316 is still in need of major renovation. The building contains approximately 20,000 square feet. When renovation is completed, it will be devoted to the history of America's military heritage. It will be the exhibit center for both the vintage military vehicle collection of the Northwest National Military Foundation and the rare World War I items of the National Doughboy Historical Society.

Under the supervision of board member Ted Kirshmann, the main portion of the roof was replaced before winter set in; however the porch roofs still need replaced. Major work remains on the interior of the building, including new floors, walls, ceilings, and windows.

When renovation of the buildings is completed, the Museum will be the largest recognized center for military history in both the Pacific Northwest and the Rocky Mountain regions.

Both buildings were constructed by the U.S. Fourth Infantry Regiment and the Civil Conservation Corps during the Great Depression, and were used by the Montana National Guard through the 1970's.

The Museum will be permanently housed at Fort Missoula, by special arrangement with the Montana National Guard.

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.

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

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Southgate Mall's History Days

This was the second year that the RMMMh participated in this annual event held at Southgate Mall. The two day event was held on March 2 and 3rd, 2002. A record number of people attended the event this year

The Museum displayed items from the CCC, including books, patches, newspapers, and other memorabilia.

\$\$\$\$ RAFFLE \$\$\$\$

As a fund raiser, we are raffling a 1839 Springfield Musket, converted to percussion, to support the ongoing work that needs to be done on Building T-316.

The drawing for the musket will be held at the Missoula gun show, August 9th –11th, at the Adams Fieldhouse. You need not be present to win, so be sure and get your tickets, available at the Mall during Memorial Day week, the July 4th event at the Museum, or the August gun show.

Other items that have been raffled in the past were three Civil War swords, and a pistol.

Past winners of items the Museum has raffled include : Charlie Crookshanks, and Gary Sorenson.

SAINT PATRICKS DAY PARADE ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Hayes Otoupolik's restored 1917 US Army Ambulance was the Museum float, pulled on Joe & Vi Schrage's flatbed trailer.

The parade was held on Thursday Mar. 14th, instead of the 17th, so two members of the New York Fire or Police force could be in Missoula as Grand Marshall's of the parade.

MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS

In conjunction with Southgate Mall, the local newspaper the *Missoulian*, and the Museum, the week of May 20th –27th, will wrap up a year honoring "The Greatest Generation".

Exhibits at the Mall will include: American Women and War, 1775-2002; and , 1942: Turning Point in the Pacific".

Join us at 10 A.M. at the J.C. Penny Court on Sat. May 25th, to honor all Military, Law Enforcement, and Fire Department Personnel.

Brigadier General Hal Stearns, from MANG, will be the keynote speaker for the celebration.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Do you have time, materials, or skills, that you could volunteer to help get Building T-316 renovated?

We could use:, electricians, carpenters, building materials and help painting .

Call us at 549-5364

We would appreciate your help!

MEMORIAL WINDOW SALES

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All thirteen windows in building T-310 have been replaced.

However, there were a total of 107 windows that needed replaced in both buildings. There are still a number of windows available for sale. The windows are being sold for only \$250.00.

A 2x3 brass name tag will be placed on the window, or on an oak plaque displayed in a prominent place, with the name of the person you are dedicating the window in honor of. If you are interested in dedicating a window for a friend or loved one, see the Memorial Window form on page 3.

### PROGRAMS

On Dec 30, 2001, Exec. Director, Tate Jones, presented the first program in Bldg. T-310, commemorating the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Revolutionary War's Washington Crossing the Delaware.

Other programs Jones presented include: April 14 - "The Devil's Own Day: The Battle of Shiloh, April 1962"

May 12 -The End of the Great Sioux War: Nelson Miles and the Lame Deer Fight

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 29- Victory on the Hudson: The Saratoga Campaign, New York 1777

July 28- The Guns of Lewis and Clark- by Bob Schipf

August- Frontier Soldier Month at the RMMMh; 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fort Fizzle; 1877 Battle of the Big Hole, and more.....TBA

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### BOOK REVIEWS

We're adding more bookshelves in Building T-310 so that a larger selection of books will be available from our gift counter. Suggested reading includes:

*The Tree Army:* by Stan Cohen. A pictorial history of the Civilian Conservation Corps, their life and work in the National Forests and National Parks during the Great Depression. Book \$12.95 Video avail. \$21.95 .

*Montana's Home Front During WWII.* Author Gary Glynn looks at WWII's impact on Montana, from the establishment of the Alien Detention Center at Ft. Missoula, to the influx of Russians in Great Falls to assist in ferrying of aircraft to the Eastern Front; the overseas campaigns of the First Special Service Force and the U.S. Division, units that had special ties to the Treasure State. \$14.95.

Both books are published by: Pictorial Histories Publishing Co. in Missoula.

If you would like to order books or videos, from the museum, there is a \$5.00 shipping and handling fee.

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

(See: Memorial Windows on page 2)



Building T-316

Please make checks payable to: RMMM H

Enter the following information for your family member or friend, to be placed on the marker

In Honor of: Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service: (if app.) \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: (if app.) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address : \_\_\_\_\_

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The RMMM H 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.  
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**HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE MUSEUM**

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

If you would like to support the museum, you may do so at any level.

**(Veterans-here’s your chance, you may choose any rank you desire!!!)**

\_\_\_\_ Corporal-----\$15.00

\_\_\_\_ Sergeant-----\$25.00

\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant-----\$50.00

\_\_\_\_ 1st Lieutenant-----\$100.00

\_\_\_\_ Captain-----\$500.00

\_\_\_\_ Major-----\$1000.00

\_\_\_\_ Lt. Colonel-----\$5000.00

\_\_\_\_ Colonel-----\$10,000.00

\_\_\_\_ General----- \$15,000.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: RMMM H  
Rocky Mountain Museum of Military History  
PO Box 7263  
Missoula MT 59807

Presorted  
Standard  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Missoula, MT  
Permit No. 569

We're on the Web  
[www.fortmissoula.org](http://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.

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**DONATIONS NEEDED!!**

We are accepting donations for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual COLLECTORS sale!! We would appreciate any antiques, collectibles, or good quality items that you no longer want. All proceeds from the sale of the items will go toward restoration of Building T-316. We can arrange to have items picked up if necessary.

Give us a call at **549-5346**, or **549-6280**

We will not accept military items for this sale.

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**ANNUAL JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION  
COLLECTORS SALE!**

At Building T-316 at Fort Missoula

Join us between 8-5, on the 4<sup>th</sup> and see what bargains are available!

**BARBECUE!!!**

We'll also have our annual barbecue, on the 4<sup>th</sup>, so shop till you drop, and grab a dog or burger while you are there. Come and enjoy the fun!!

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Exhibits at RMMM

Ongoing Exhibit: The U.S. Army vs. The Depression: Fort Missoula and the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-41

On display through MEMORIAL DAY: Devil's Brigade: the First Special Service Force, 1942-44

JUNE 1- through Veterans day: The Great Divide: Montanans and Vietnam .

JUNE 14- Flag Day at the Korean War Memorial 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration at Rose Memorial Park, South Korean Ambassador to the U.S. will be the keynote speaker

JUNE 15- Benefit Dance and Grand Opening of the R.Preston Nash Hanger at the Museum of Mountain Flying (549-8488)

JUNE 25- 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Fort Missoula at the Historical Museum.

JULY 4- Revolutionary War Display

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**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](mailto:info@fortmissoula.org). We will arrange to have them picked up.

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