



Castle Courier



A Publication of the U.S. Army Engineer Museum

14296 S. Dakota Ave, Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo 65473

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Special State of the Engineer Museum

It's time for my favorite issue of the year; the State of the Engineer Museum! 2015 has been a year of great challenges and great opportunities. While staffing dropped to crisis levels for most of the year, we received many great leads and hosted many great events. We received many more leads than we were able to follow-up on. Most of these will be carried into next year. Army Engineer Association provided \$11,000.00 to the Museum. This is the highest amount received in the past two decades. One hundred percent of this money was used to purchase artifacts.

We were able to purchase two items from last year's "Top Ten List", and we located another, which we are in the process of purchasing. The Museum supported eleven Engineer reunions and attended offsite reunions at seven other locations. We made several improvements to the exhibit galleries and improved our soldier education program. The Museum received funding for a new 7,500 sf storage facility and with military unit inactivations received two 5,200 sf motor pool buildings for vehicle storage.

Steve Wells built a incredible castle cabinet, complete with a 60 inch television that raises out of the top of the castle, for the Essayons Room. Thanks to the new cabinet and a full audio/visual package, this classroom is getting more usage than ever before. Steve has an even bigger project planned for 2016.

With the addition of Scott Franklin, as our new curator, we look forward to catching up on our cataloging back log. Scott also has some plans to make improvements to the artifacts storage areas and will stay busy cataloging the many new accession we will acquire in 2016.

In closing, I'd like to thank each of you for your incredible support in 2015 and invite you to join us for an exciting 2016.

ESSAYONS!

Troy

Fundraising Goal Almost Reached

In August the Army sent me to Atlanta, so I took the opportunity to jump over to Boaz, Alabama to see the scraper pan that AEA is raising money to buy for the Engineer Museum. I had a wonderful visit with Loyd Richie. Loyd, now retired, owned a earth moving business for years. He owned over a dozen Clarke 290Ms at one point. Now all that remains of that fleet is the pan pictured below. This pan, when purchased, will be paired with the Museum's 290M to tell the important story of horizontal construction in



Vietnam. With \$13, 678 of the \$18,000 purchase price already raised, we are in the home stretch. Contributions can be sent to:

**Army Engineer Association,
P.O. Box. 634
Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473.
Payable to "MUSEUM
SUPPLEMENTAL FUND"**

State of the Engineer Museum.

The Engineer Museum's artifact collection stand at 10, 647, just slightly up from last year. Although the number of artifacts changed little, the quality of the collection improved greatly. Almost 300 artifacts were added to the collection this last year and 278 artifacts from the Engineer collection that did not support our mission statement or learning objectives, were transferred to other Army museums.

The Museum had several good donations. Vinton Dove's Distinguished Service Cross earned on D-day. Several uniforms with really good support documentation and photos of the Veteran were also received. We received donations of patches from Dave Kaufman and Jim McDuff.

The Museum added three vehicles to the collection; that can only be classified as the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. A Stryker (engineer variant) was just acquired, and will require almost no work, as it is in very good condition. A Buffalo acquired earlier in the year, is in need of some restoration. The vast majority of the parts are present, but the condition is pretty bad. The Museum acquired a pretty ugly TAMPCO compactor in the Spring. The price was right, but it was truly a basket case. We've acquired almost all the missing parts. We often have to fabricate missing parts. This compactor, has a cast metal emblem on each side. One of the emblems was missing and we were unable to locate a replacement. We removed the one emblem, shipped it to the Training Support Enterprise at Fort Eustis, Virginia. This amazing organization was able to scan the emblem we provided and 3D print a replacement for the missing emblem. The compactor is scheduled for full restoration in the late Spring.

With our new curator, Scott Franklin, we were able to bring our soldier education program up to standard. We were even able to add a class to our offerings. *Using Military History to Improve Unit Performance* is a 90 minute class that provides information on where to find Engineer specific historic vignettes, and how to use historic vignettes. The class contains a practical exercise where students listen to a video of one of the Engineer Silver Star recipients from the Global War on Terror, then develop a vignette of the events.

This year we are changing our "Top Ten Museum Needs List" to include 5 artifacts and 5 archival items.

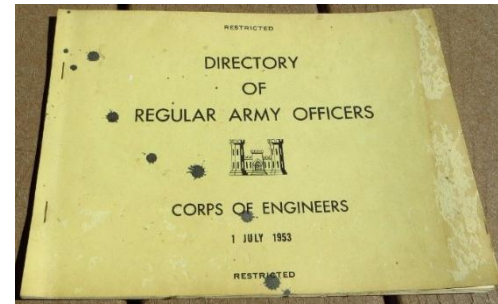
Top Ten Items on the Museum's Needs List.

Artifacts

1. A Medal of Honor (MOH) for an Engineer. Sixteen MOH's are attributed to Engineers. The Engineer Museum has the MOH of Herman Wallace. Wilbur Colyer's MOH is in a Museum near Chicago. If you know of the location of any other Engineer MOH's please let me know.
2. Dive log from an Engineer diver (1973 or earlier).
3. A Nuclear Reactor Operator's badge with provenance.
4. Civil War Engineer's uniform.
5. Tools or small bridge components

Archival items

1. Engineer unit publications: unit newspapers, unit histories, and magazines published by Engineer units.
2. Rosters and Directories of the COE or Engineer units.



3. GTA cards or other training aids.
4. MTOEs and any other documents showing number of soldier and type of equipment assigned to specific Engineer units.
5. Programs from change of commands, retirements, or other ceremonies, if they contain bios or unit rosters.

And as always, if you see and Engineer items at an antique store, or in your garage, please send me a picture troy.d.morgan12.civ@mail.mil or give me a call (573) 586-6720.