

# Museum News

October 2010



## Visitor Center Now Open



September 7, 2010 we began opening the Visitor Center to the public on a trial basis. We have volunteers staffing the center seven days a week from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

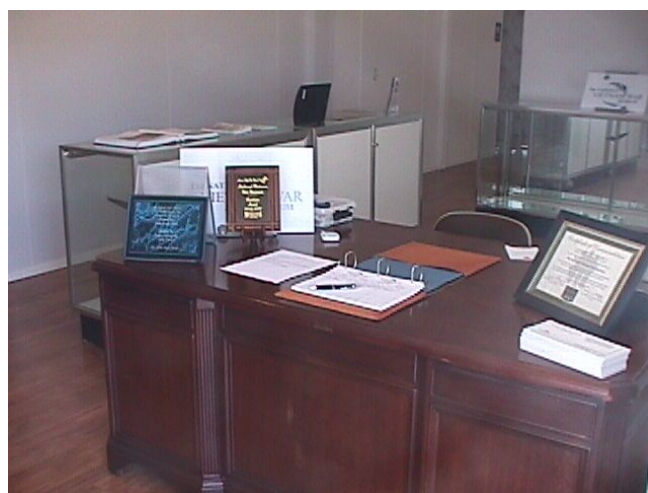
We still need additional volunteers as there will be replacements needed from time to time. If you can spare 4.5 hours one day a week, we have two shifts 8:30—1:00 and 12:30—5:00. Contact Jim Messinger, [jmessinger@wc.edu](mailto:jmessinger@wc.edu) if you want to help.

We have literature available for you to take home and are beginning construction of exhibits for the center. Currently the gallery area is empty except for a few pieces that are beginning to develop into our first planned exhibit “the hootch.”

We have acquired some 105mm ammunition boxes to use in constructing our hootch. You may recall having a footlocker, wall locker, or other piece of furniture made out of the old ammo boxes. Of course we all lived differently. My first tour I lived in a GP Large tent with 19 other helicopter pilots. We each had a cot and enough space to walk beside the cot. High living compared to

what the normal infantry man had available. We’ll let you know as soon as the exhibit is ready so that you can visit and share stories of how you lived.

Your donations have allowed us to build the center, but we still need a back porch for about \$5,000. We’re also going to need a security camera system and could use an expert to design that. Send what you can, when you can.



Reception area of the Visitor Center

## Founders Association

The Founders Association continues to grow. New members since our last newsletter are:

**Stroud & Mary Kunkle**  
**Col Billy Wood USA (Ret)**  
**Skip & Marty Humphrey**  
**Cobham S-Tec Corporation**

The latest additions to the Founders Association bringing the total membership to 87.

The Founders Association consists of individuals or groups who contribute \$1,000 or more to the museum before the ground-breaking for the main museum building. These people share our vision for building the National Vietnam War Museum. Join us now!!!

## Wish List

The museum could use a volunteer architect to help with plans for the main museum building. We need a concrete floor, and steel roof and siding for the Service Center (maintenance building), and security camera system for the Visitor Center.

## Coming Events

March 26 - Friends of the Museum Spring Fundraiser - Invitations will be mailed after the first of the new year.

June 4 - Update the wall. Six more names will be added to the wall. The names were added in Washington D.C. this year. Confirmed guest speakers are MG Richard E. Stephenson USA (Ret) and MG Robert Hollingsworth USMC (Ret)

## Service Center Construction Underway

Construction began this summer on our new Service Center. It is 2,400 square feet that will house a large bay for maintaining, refurbishing and constructing equipment and exhibits. Indoor space at the museum site is at a premium, and this facility will increase

our storage space. It will also include an office. We need to pour a concrete floor in it this fall and get some steel on the sides and roof. Total budget for the remaining work is \$20,000. If you would like to see your name on the building, that amount will make it happen. We should have this building open and operating by the end of the year, but certainly in time for our wall update June 4, 2011.



First stage of construction of the Service Center

## Spring Fundraiser Sep 18, 2010—Huge Success

Thanks to our donors and sponsors, the annual fundraiser hosted by the Friends of the Museum was a great success raising over \$25,000 net.

Our sponsors were: **Diplom Ingenieur** - Baum Carlock Bumgarnder Funeral Home, Carl E. Kessler Family Foundation, Betty Boyd Dettre, and Robert Perkin.

**Diplom Braumeister** - David Barksdale, David & Kathy Boswell, Bunker Hill Ranch, Ronny & Terri Collins, First Financial Bank-Weatherford, Bob Ford, Phil Myhra, Pantego Lions Foundation, Virginia Upham, Allan & Helen Jane Werst,

**Brauer** - Fran Acosta-Carlson, Don & Diane Brawley, John & Monica Chesnut, Buddy Dietz, Col Ronald G. Hardy USA (Ret), Gary & Judy Havener, Virgil & Mary Sue Laughlin, Jack & Susie Lowey, Bob MacNicol, Oneal Keg 1, LtC Gerald Ourada USAF, & Paul & Sanna Roling

**Braulehring** - JoAnn Barnhart, Harris & Vicki Brooks, Robert & Doris Causbie, Ron & Penny Chandler, Col Robert W. Cooper USAF, Dr. Mark Eidson, Vernon & Constance Eppley, Mr. & Mrs. Earl Fields, Harry & Debra Fisher, Roger Gilmore, Joe & Edith Gray, Loren and Betty Hall, Richard Hanson, Mike & Janet Holland, Jim Irwin, Bob & Nicky Lakey, John Lawrence, Barry McHenry, Ed McKee, Phil & Sandra McMillen, Donald & Christine Monroe, Sylvia Nall, Scott Paternoster, Bert Rice, Wayne Sanderson, Steve & Debbie Smith, Angelo Spelios, Wallace Voss, and Win-Gen Power.

We hope to grow bigger every year. Bring some friends next year and lets fill the whole newsletter with sponsors names!

### The mission of the museum is:

To promote an understanding  
of the Vietnam era  
while honoring those who served.

## Spring Fundraiser March 26, 2011

I know it seems like only last month we were having a Spring Fundraiser, but that's the way life is sometimes.

Next years fundraiser will be March 26 at the Parker County Sheriff's Posse building. They have built a very nice new facility (air conditioned) and heated, so we should be comfortable. This event will have a western theme, so dress western if that is comfortable for you. Details are still a work in progress, but we plan to have two kinds of music; Country & Western for your listening pleasure. You may even be able to find a place to do some boot scootin' if you like. Mark your calendar now. Invitations will be mailed in early January. You do not need an invitation to come to the event. Just be sure to buy your ticket early. The 2010 event was sold out in March

## Fort Wolters Gate Restoration—Artists concept



We are working closely with a community committee to restore the Fort Wolters Gate as it was in 1967. We will be providing the two helicopters for display. If you would like to donate to this wonderful cause, send checks to the museum, PO BOX 146, Mineral Wells, TX 76068. Donor recognition will be at the gate. Donor levels for the project are:

Platinum	\$5000 or more
Gold	\$2500—\$4999
Silver	\$1000—\$2499
Bronze	\$500—\$999

Special donor opportunity! - Your name can be on one of the helicopters for a donation of \$10,000 or more.



P.O. Box 146, Mineral Wells, TX 76068-0146

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STANDARD  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Weatherford, TX  
Permit No. 140

## Spring in September



Are You in this picture? You should be next year!! March 26