

Museum News

February 2011



Service Center Exterior is Now Complete



Thanks to donations from American Concrete, Mike Cathey Drywall & Urethane Foam, Metal Mart, and Spray Foam Distributing, the Museum Service Center structure was completed well under budget. This project was begun in 2010 with a purchase of the steel framework from the Federal Surplus Property system.

We still need to finish the interior with a bathroom, septic system, small office space, reception area, and storage space.

The Service Center provides for some storage but its primary purpose is restoration of artifacts and creation of major exhibits. You can help us complete this facility with your donations.

Founders Association

The Founders Association continues to grow. New member since our last newsletter is:

Leadership Mineral Wells Class 16 BNSF Foundation

This latest addition to the Founders Association brings the total membership to 89. You should be a member also.

Update the Wall June 4, 2011 Special Guest—Elvis (Kraig Parker)

You don't want to miss this year's wall update. Six more names were added to the wall in Washington last year, and we will add them to our replica on June 4, with activities beginning about 8:00 am. First thing you'll want is a breakfast burrito sold by our local Meals on Wheels volunteers. Prices are very affordable and the food is excellent. Also on display will be helicopters from Ft Hood.

By 10:00 am we should have the Fort Sill Artillery Half Section in place for your viewing pleasure. This is the last horse drawn artillery in existence and we are very proud to have them on hand.

SPONSORSHIPS: This event typically costs the museum about \$5,000.00. If you or your company would like to be the title sponsor for the event, a donation of that amount will put your name on a banner at the entrance to the site. We will also recognize you in our publicity efforts as well as on our web site. If you would like to participate in a smaller way, we have planned to provide reserved seating for a donation of \$50 per seat. Seat



Kraig Parker performs his Tribute to Elvis in Hawaii.

Kraig performed a concert in Mineral Wells last year and visited the museum site and walls. He was moved by our efforts and has agreed to be at the event this year...perhaps we can talk him into a song..

Photo from
<http://www.thekinglives.com/GalleryHub.html>

Update the Wall June 4, 2011 Continued

assignments are first reservation gets first seating. Names will be on the seat. All reserved seating will be towards the front.

In addition to the horse drawn artillery, we will have the Liberty Bell on site for all to ring unless they are responding to a funeral. Dana Bowman plans to drop in (literally).. BG Jim Spivey USA (Ret) plans to be on hand for the invocation.

Three of the names are of Marines and three are soldiers. Please come support them. MG Bob Hollingsworth USMC (Ret) will speak on behalf of the Marines and MG Richard E. Stephenson USA (Ret) will speak on behalf of the soldiers.

Kraig Parker will perform in concert Saturday night and the Mineral Wells High School auditorium. Stay for the show! Visit our web site for details as they become available www.NationalVnWarMuseum.org

New Construction

Do you want to help a boy scout earn his Eagle badge? Dustin Rollins has chosen the Reflection Garden at The National Vietnam War Museum as his Eagle Scout project. He has provide a master plan for the garden and will complete the first phase of the plan.

He can complete more of the plan with your assistance. Sponsorships are \$100.00 and sponsors will be recognized on a sign in the garden. The first phase will include six flagpoles on which we will fly the flags of our allies in the Vietnam War. You can sponsor a flagpole for a donation of \$1,000.00 and your name will be on the flagpole in addition to the sign in the garden.

The mission of the museum is:

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

Friends of the Museum Annual Fundraiser

If you haven't already noticed, somebody got the donor sponsorship level categories wrong on the invitation this year. The levels are: Judge (1,000) includes reserved table (8), Sheriff (500) includes 6 tickets, Deputy (250) includes 4 tickets, and Constable (125) includes 2 tickets. This is a minor change compared to last years change; moving from March to September. We're a little behind the power curve for this years event, but we'll get there. The building does have both heat and air conditioning.

We'll get the doors open at 5:30 with the mini bar and music starting at 6:00.

If you didn't get an invitation and want to come, here are the details:

Saturday March 26 at the Parker County Sheriffs Posse, Weatherford, TX, 2251 Mineral Wells Hwy. Single tickets are \$45.00. Sponsorships as noted above. You DO NOT have to attend to be a sponsor or a donor.

Jimmy Baldwin, and Troy Stone are on tap to provide both kinds of music (country and western) for your entertainment. Mini bar opens at 6:00 pm, dinner at 6:30 chili, beans, cornbread, & cobbler. Iced tea and water of course. Wear your boots **Get your tickets (\$45.00 each) early as this event will sell out early. Send checks tp PO Box 146, Mineral Wells, TX 76068**

This event will have a western theme, so dress western if that is comfortable for you. You may even be able to find a place to do some boot scootin' if you like.

Wish List

Last issue, we wished for an architect and are pleased to announce that The Perry Architectural Group, headed by Laine Perry, AIA, have accepted our offer to become the lead architects for the museum project. Watch for developments as we begin working towards plans for the construction of our main facility. We'll still need some money, so now is the time to

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help. We'll need some engineer support. Contact Jim Messinger, jmessinger@nationalvnwar.com if you want to assist.

A second wish for this issue is so the museum to begin becoming a room for windmills and we have lot need \$15,000 to install our first windmill. If you have a windmill company and will put your windmill on our site instead of money, we can handle that as well. Our bill is growing rapidly, and we see wind power as a method to help us control our costs.

A final wish. Visit the website at <http://s1217.photobucket.com/albums/dd388/MACV/SOG123/M113%20APC%20ACAV%20Vietnam%20War/> Check out their slide show and let us know if you want to donate one of our photos.



Coming Ever

March 26 Friends of the Museum Spring Fundraiser - Invitations were mailed January 7. If you do not get an invitation, send your request to PO Box 146, Mineral Wells, TX 76068

June 4 Update the wall. Six more names will be added to the wall. Names were added in Washington, DC last year. Confirmed guest speakers: MG Richard E. Stegall (Ret) and MG Bob Hollingsworth (Ret)

September 24 Our annual Ultra Run; run the Ducks at Clark Gate. For details, visit the website www.8HRFD.com

Museum Volunteer

Bottom left, Jim Messinger acknowledges Gary Salisbury's over 72 years of volunteer work in 2011. Gary and Chris Salisbury wait to be served with a birthday cake below. For the year, 1000 people worked a total 3412 hours. We had 333 visitors at the Visitor Center, 100 states and 15 countries.



Fort Wolters Gate Res Dedication March 12, Visit the web FortWoltersGate.com for details



If you would like to donate to this cause, send checks to the museum, PO Box 146, Mineral Wells, TX 76068. Donations are for the project:

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 \$10,000 or more.



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

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



Landowners plaque added to the front of the Visitor Center

(original photograph provided by Iola Messinger; colors enhanced for readability)