



Castle Courier



A Publication of the U.S. Army Engineer Museum

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Spring is upon us, and the Engineer Museum celebrated with its first Volunteer work day for 2016. Accessions have been rather slow as the reduced staffing has left little time to seek new artifacts and archival items. We were able to buy a really neat artifact grouping containing 60 items, but you'll have to wait for the next issue for the details. Steve Wells, the Museum's exhibit specialist, has elected to retire in early June and is working diligently to finish the furniture for the Essayons Classroom before his pending retirement. Overall the last two months have been challenging but productive.

ESSAYONS!

Troy

"Learn More."

Over the past few years the Engineer Museum staff has been using an interpretive technique known as "Learn More." This technique uses QR codes, which visitors scan with their smart phones, to learn more, and small cards with websites, articles, or book titles, that allow the visitor to further explore topics covered in the Museum.

Recently, I've been contemplating how to apply the "Learn More" technique, so that *Castle Courier* readers could benefit. "Learn More" will be a new intermittent column to share some of our favorite websites with you.

The Corps of Engineer History Office at the Humphries Center, Virginia, has an incredible website with tons of Engineer History:

<http://www.usace.army.mil/About/History.aspx>

One of my favorite parts is the images page (link in lower left corner of webpage.) This page has hundreds of photographs, which can be browsed, and you can even download a high resolution copy. The "Historical Vignettes" page is also a must visit. It has over a hundred vignettes divided into nine subject areas, there is something for every interest on this page.

Museum Receives 1st Engineer Battalion Archival Donation

Over the course of the last year, Ms. Sara Millar, widow of LTC Roger Millar, sent LTC Millar's military papers to the Engineer Museum. The donated items included several After Action Reviews from operations, unit rosters, unit newspapers, and photographs. These items will be used to support future research and exhibits.

The Engineer Museum and the Engineer History Office actively seek archival items. Items sought include; unit newspapers and magazines, unit rosters, reports, programs from change of commands or other ceremonies, and programs. If you have any of these items and would like to donate them to the Museum, please email me at: troy.d.morgan12.civ@mail.mil

Fundraiser Complete.

For the past 18 months the Army Engineer Association (AEA) has been raising money to purchase a Vietnam-era scraper for the Engineer Museum. Last month the goal of \$18,000.00 was achieved and the check mailed to the seller. The scraper arrived at Fort Leonard Wood during Engineer Week. In the very near future AEA will announce the target of the next fundraiser to benefit the Museum.



Scraper being unloaded at Fort Leonard Wood

“Holy Castle!”



A/V cabinet built by Steve Wells. The cabinet has a 60-inch computer monitor that raises from behind the center turret and inside the center big door is an electronic whiteboard; both for instructional support.

developed the concept into a plan and, whenever spare time was available, they would work on the Essayons Room. Last year Steve Wells, the Museum’s exhibit specialist, built a huge audio/visual cabinet in the shape of a castle. This year Steve has out done himself with a historic object display and serving station; also shaped like a castle.

In 2010, then BG Watson, suggested the idea of an “Essayons Room.” The concept was that the room would be more intimate than the Engineer Regimental Room and loaded with Engineer history. The Essayons Room would be a multi-purpose room; functioning primarily as a classroom, but could support reenlistment and retirement ceremonies, as well as, small dinners and lunch events. The Engineer Museum staff



Steve Wells in front of this year’s project.



the Engineer Warrant Officer’s Basic Course re-sided one of the buildings from the FLW Museum and installed track lighting in another. The next Saturday, April 16, over two dozen students from the Engineer Noncommissioned Officer’s Academy, painted buildings at the FLW Museum, cleaned the Museum motorpool, worked on several historic vehicles, and prepared large artifacts for shipment to other Museums.

Volunteer Days

With the extremely small staff of the Engineer Museum and no employees currently working at the Fort Leonard Wood Museum, volunteers are essential to keeping the Museum Complex operating. Several Saturdays, each year, the Museum hosts volunteer days. In April we had two. On April 9th, students from

