



Oregon Coast Military Museum

Item Donations: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

The Museum's Mission Statement:

The mission of the Oregon Coast military Museum is twofold:

1) To educate the members of the coastal communities concerning the role our military members, both past and present, have played in defending the freedoms we all enjoy;

And

2) To provide an avenue for veterans to display and share their personal artifacts, memorabilia, memoirs and as an oral and visual history of their honorable military service.

What does "Donating" mean?

Donations are the primary way that the OCMM obtains artifacts for display and research. By donating to the Museum, the donor is expanding the available information and artifacts concerning Military History. When a donor donates their items, they are transferring the copyrights and ownership of the items to the OCMM.

Can I see my items if they are not on display?

Donors are welcome to schedule an appointment to view their items by themselves or to bring family to view their donations if they are not on public display. To ensure a smooth viewing appointment, **appointments should be scheduled a minimum of two weeks in advance** to allow archival staff to prepare a "safe" viewing experience.



All objects or artifacts donated are stored in our Archival Department on site.

When will my donation be on Exhibit?

The Oregon Coast Military Museum cannot guarantee artifacts will be exhibited or if so, when. Once an object, document, or photo is donated, it becomes available to staff and researchers who are working on an assortment of projects including exhibits and research collections. We cannot predict what specific uses your items will have or how it may be used. If the Item is used for an Exhibition (as most are), it is added in a future rotation of exhibits (Every 2-4 Months).

Is my donation going to sit on a shelf, never to be displayed?

What visitors don't see on display is just as important as what they do. In telling the story of Oregon's Veterans, we depend on a large collection, of which only a small percentage can ever be displayed at one time (on average about 4%). **Exhibits are rotated on a 2-4 month basis with items from multiple collections composing an exhibit.** No exhibits are solely dedicated to one person, Veteran or collection.



Exhibits are continually rotated to provide new experiences to visitors new or old.

Will I be notified if my donation goes on exhibit?

Yes. You will be notified by U.S. Mail and through Email in the event your donation is displayed. Museum displays are rotated every 2-4 months in cycles. A special exhibition can be created for visiting family by providing the Museum at minimum 3 weeks notice to allow for proper time to create and work in an appealing exhibit to the appropriate section.

Do I have to pay admission to see my item if it is on display?

No you do not. **When your item(s) goes on display, you and up to three guests will have free admission to view your item(s) when they are on display.** We advise calling and scheduling ahead of time to ensure a smooth visit and so staff can be notified of your visit.

The Museum allows, within reason, the individual donors to include what they want the credit to read as long as it fits on the information card. **Most credits are in the format of "Donated by (First Name) (Last Name)"** Some examples include, "Gift of Mr. Will Jackson Sr." or "Donated in Memory of Sgt. Michael Adams" or "Donated by Ashley Smith."

How will my donation be credited if it is put on display?

Will my artifact be returned to me at my request?

The Museum cannot return donated items or records to the donor or his/her heirs once they have been legally accessioned into the permanent collection. By donating your materials to the Museum, you are passing private control of such material to a new owner or educational entity.

Questions?

Give the Museum a call at 541-902-5160, or email us at ocmmoperations@gmail.com, or visit us in person Wednesday through Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 2145 Kingwood St. Florence, Oregon 97439. Mail or letters can be sent to P.O. Box 2040, Florence, OR.

"Honoring our Veterans by Educating the Public"