



THE CHINA LAKER

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LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!

Ray Miller, CLMF Facilities Vice President

What could be more important????

The Board of Directors of the China Lake Museum Foundation voted at its August meeting to locate the planned, new building for the Naval Museum of Armament and Technology on a 9-acre plot immediately south of the Naval Air Weapons Station's Main Gate. (See aerial photo, below.)

The structure that houses the Navy's twelfth official museum will be on Navy property, but accessible through the Ridgecrest Business Park. This will make the NMAT highly visible to visitors, while easing the burden on NAWS resources to provide security, fire protection and utilities. This site selection resulted from studies by the CLMF New Facilities Working Group (Steve Benson, Dan Goss, Ray Miller and John Robbins) and able assistance and cooperation from Captain Seaman and Captain Hollinberger of NAWS, as well as key representatives of the City of Ridgecrest.

The challenge now is to raise sufficient funding to initiate construction of the new building. The tentative plan is to build in two phases, with each phase providing approximately 20,000 square feet. This should ultimately yield about 34,000 square feet of exhibit space, with the remainder for gift shop, offices, auditoriums, etc



The inset of an architect's concept for a possible building design indicates the proposed location. For an expanded view of this structural concept, see Page 6.

MEET THE MANAGERS**Barry Lowry, Museum Manager**

It is my pleasure to announce that Kelly Mockler has assumed the position of Business Manager on the museum staff as of July 31, 2001 and is responsible for the operation of the gift shop, management of all financial activities and the general administrative functions of the organization.

Kelly holds a BA in Management from Eastern Michigan University and is married with two young sons. Her husband Tom recently transferred to China Lake. Kelly is available daily during museum business hours in the gift shop office. She can be reached at 760-939-3530 to answer any questions you might have.

I should introduce myself since I am also a new addition to the museum staff. I came on board August 23, 2001 as the Museum Manager and have overall responsibility for museum operation, interface with Navy staff and other organizations, and support of the foundation vice presidents in their activities. I hold a BS in Business and Management from the University of Redlands, and an MBA from California State University, Bakersfield. I spent 20 years in the military weapons manufacturing and testing business, most recently with Honeywell/Alliant Techsystems as Site Manager of the Ridgecrest Field Office. While attending graduate school in 1999-

2000, I worked part-time for IWV 2000 as Business Manager in their Business Development Office. You may reach me daily in the Museum Manager's Office at 760-939-4740.



Kelly and I are both excited to be a part of an energetic organization like the China Lake Museum Foundation. Although we have been here only a short time we have made great strides in understanding the organizations needs and in integrating into the daily operations of the museum and the foundation. We are both pleased with the opportunity to be part of and contribute to the many new projects on the horizon, including the new museum building effort and the Sidewinder 50th celebration Oct 31-Nov 3, 2002. As we go about our daily activities, we look forward to meeting each of you and hearing your ideas to grow the foundation and the museum and to develop ever-wider name recognition for the organization.

EXPANDED PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

In view of the stimulating challenges and opportunities that presently lie before the Naval Museum of Armament and Technology, the China Lake Museum Foundation's Board of Directors has authorized the following membership categories:

General/Family Member	\$25 annually
Enlisted Military Member	\$8 annually
Sponsor Member ¹	\$33 annually
Contributor Member	\$100 annually
Benefactor Member	\$500 annually
Lifetime Member	\$1000 once, or \$500 twice consecutively per annum, or \$250 four times consecutively per annum

Benefits for each category are:

General/Family

- 10% Off Gift Shop Items
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Membership Card
- \$5.00 Off Special Events
- China Lake Alumni Locator Service

Enlisted Military/Family

- 10% Off Gift Shop Items
- Quarterly Newsletter
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- \$5.00 Off Special Events
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Sponsor

- 10% Off Gift Shop Items
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Membership Card
- \$8.00 Off Special Events
- China Lake Alumni Locator Service

Contributor

- 10% Off Gift Shop Items
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Membership Card
- \$5.00 Off Special Events
- China Lake Alumni Locator Service
- 2 Free Tickets to One Special Event of Your Choice

Benefactor

- 10% Off Gift Shop Items
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Membership Card
- \$5.00 Off Special Events
- China Lake Alumni Locator Service
- Framed Certificate of Membership
- Private Tours Available
- 4 Free tickets to One Special Event of Your Choice
- \$50.00 Gift Certificate for the Gift Shop (on top of 10% off)

Lifetime

- 10% Off Gift Shop Items
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Membership Card
- \$5.00 Off Special Events
- China Lake Alumni Locator Service
- Special Shadow Box Plaque
- Private Tours Available
- 4 Free tickets to One Special Event of Your Choice
- Reserved Seating at Events
- \$50.00 Gift Certificate for the Gift Shop (on top of 10% off)

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FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATION OF \$5,000!
(OUR FIRST-EVER GIFT IN THE PLATINUM MAJOR DONOR CATEGORY)**

¹Sponsorship of an Enlisted Family in addition to own General/Family membership

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SIDEWINDER 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**BOB CAMPBELL, NAWCWD Museum Director**

The year 2002 marks the 50th anniversary of the invention at China Lake of Sidewinder, the world's most accurate, reliable, and successful missile--a missile adopted and copied by friend and foe alike. VADM Joseph W. Dyer, Commander, Naval Air Systems Command, has announced that the NAVAIR Team at China Lake will host a celebration of this milestone 31 October through 2 November 2002. Mark your calendars!

Under the leadership of Scott O'Neil and Captain D. J. Venlet, a Steering/Action Committee is hard at work planning the event, which will be patterned after the very successful China Lake 50th Anniversary Celebration in 1993. The Committee has defined the goals of the Sidewinder Celebration as: (1) to provide a museum-quality "Sidewinder Story" exhibit illustrating the origin, development and accomplishments of Sidewinder here at China Lake and nationally; (2) to host a gala reunion for renewal of old acquaintances with former fellow employees; (3) communicate the future prospects of Sidewinder and other RDT&E programs now under way at China Lake.

On September 19 several members of an Advisory Board (consisting of legacy Sidewinder and management personnel) met at the Museum to provide inputs for this celebration. Frank Knemeyer, former NWC Deputy Technical Director for Strike Systems, chairs this Board.

Current plans have the festivities kicking off on Thursday night with a Wuzwinder Party, echoing the exuberant celebrations prompted by successful test firings throughout the decades. The following day there will be a City Reception honoring the Sidewinder Team, along with a golf tourney and the premiere display of some of the Celebration's special exhibits. On Saturday there will be an open house in Michelson Laboratory. Also, numerous outside exhibits will be displayed, and videos will be screened throughout the day at the Museum and Mich Lab. Plans are being developed for a flight demonstration, including the possible firing of a Sidewinder. A gala dinner dance will take place on Saturday night, and the festivities will wind up with a picnic on Sunday.

The China Lake Museum Foundation is heavily involved with the base in the planning for this event. Our efforts are focused on pulling together the Sidewinder Story exhibit for the Museum, and in addition we are working to identify and invite speakers for the different events. We will interface with the Steering/Action Committee to host special speakers throughout the year, in order to further document some of the Sidewinder Story for historical purposes.

As well, we are initiating efforts to find corporate financing to commission Larry Zabel to create a commemorative painting in honor of this occasion, which will be donated to the Foundation. We are also seeking sponsoring organizations/corporations to provide funds to build the Sidewinder Story exhibit. If any of you have or know of any special Sidewinder artifacts or experiences which should be shared at this event, please contact us at the Museum and we will follow up.

First live-fire air launch of Sidewinder AIM-9X over the China Lake ranges 15 April 1999.





The China Lake Museum Foundation
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Bob Campbell, *NAWC-WD Museum Director*

Leroy Doig III, *NAWC-WD Command Historian*



MEMORIALS

Paul Homer, *CLMF Vice President*

The China Lake Museum Foundation accepts contributions for the purpose of commemorating deceased China Lakers appropriately.

A panel of the Foundation's Board of Directors is in the process of defining the scope and appropriate recognition of deceased China Lake alumni/ae. The charitable donations in the name of a deceased alumnus/a will be accumulated and used to develop presentations of the life, career,

and accomplishments of China Lakers. The presentations will be displayed in an area in the Museum, with long-range plans including a special area or room in the new Museum building set aside for proper recognition of deceased China Lakers.

Charitable donations are being accepted by the Foundation at this time in memory of Haskell (Hack) Wilson, Charles P. (Chuck) Smith, John Cox, Fred Chenuault, Howie Wilcox and Dillard Bullard.



Architect's conceptualization of a monolithic dome structure, one of several designs under consideration for the proposed Museum building.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We have been very busy since the last newsletter at the Museum. With the standing-up of the Museum, the Foundation's Board of Directors reorganized, establishing five Vice President groups to do the business and planning of activities for the Foundation. Those VPs, along with the Foundation Treasurer and Secretary, now meet once a month to discuss and coordinate the activities of each VP group across the entire Foundation and the Board.

Each VP group is to establish a program plan that can be combined with the program plans of the other VP groups to form a master plan for the Foundation. This process will provide coordination of activities and ensure that all groups have the same goals and objectives for the Foundation. This Master plan is scheduled for implementation in December 2001.

A committee has been established to make recommendations concerning the

establishment of a Hall of Fame, Memorials, Recognition Displays, and/or other forms of remembrances for those who deserve and desire such recognition at the Foundation.

Since it is so very important to the families and loved ones of those remembered, the process and final concept must be very well thought out and implemented. The Foundation already has received donations to recognize certain individuals, and those desires will be implemented as soon as the overall recognition program is established and implemented. All members are requested to provide to the Foundation inputs on ideas and concepts for the recognition program for consideration by the committee. This program can provide a solid display of part of the history and story of the past and current accomplishments at China Lake, and your inputs are important.

The Foundation has joined the Ridgecrest Chamber of Com-

merce with the intent of combining forces to increase public awareness of and visitation to the Museum. Cooperation and coordination of common interests has increased between the Foundation and the County of Kern, the City of Ridgecrest and the Maturango Museum for the same purpose. The number of people who are currently visiting the museum has been on the increase, and the results are encouraging.

Museum hours will be extended in the near future on a trial basis to determine the optimum hours for the public. The extended hours of operation are made possible because of the long and tireless hours that our many volunteers donate, and because your VP for Operations, Mr. Frank St. George, is constantly working and managing the Operations of the Foundation. All of our "Thanks" and a great big "Well Done!" to the volunteers and Frank.

Burrell Hays