

April 5, 2017

Dear Christina,

We love the Chime Master System! We have been overwhelmed with the positive response from the community to the chimes and the sound. I have had many people stop me in the community and tell me how they have pulled over while driving to listen to the bells and songs. We are extremely pleased with the system and highly recommend it. Gary Loper did the installation and he was very professional and knew what he was doing! The installation was much quicker than I expected it would be. Gary took time to explain how to set the system, how to make changes and he made sure we were comfortable with the system before he left. He was extraordinary.

Again, thanks so much for the quality product and service. White Sands Missile Range has bells ringing once again. I attached a short article about the bells and WSMR.

VR,
Don

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The bells are no longer silent

Honoring veterans has always been important to the White Sands Missile Range community. One need only look at the massive effort each year at Bataan Memorial Death March to know that honoring our veterans is a WSMR core value. However, prior to ever hosting the Bataan Memorial Death march WSMR was showing honor to veterans. On 21 November 1986 the WSMR community dedicated the carillon bells and tower at the Post Chapel in memory of all who have given their lives for the cause of freedom and for those who remained



Bell Tower Plaque in front of Post Chapel

missing in action. Over eleven veteran organizations gathered with 350 people for that November 1986 dedication ceremony. Their vision was clear—the ringing bells were a reminder for the community to remember those who lost their life in the fight for freedom and those who remain listed as missing in action.

But at some point between 1986 and 2017 the bells fell silent. In a sense that means the WSMR community broke faith with the 21 November 1986 ceremony and let go of the opportunity to keep the honor going for our veterans.

But on March 14, 2017 the bells began to ring again reconnecting the current White Sands Missile Range community to our history. Colonel Dave Brown, Garrison Commander, in the first month of his command at WSMR encouraged Chaplain (LTC) Don Carrothers, Garrison Chaplain, and his staff to get the bells ringing again. At some point since 1986 the carillon bell system had fallen into disrepair, been removed and not replaced. With the help of his Religious Support Office staff, SSG Istvan Petrus, SPC Laruen Phillips, and Mr. Caleb Blue Jr. they came up with a plan to get the bells ringing again. They drafted a proposal and received an Ecclesiastical Equipment Grant from funds from Chaplain (MG) Pat Hurley's office. Chaplain Hurley is the Army Chief of Chaplains.

The bells ring on the hour from 0700-1900 M-F. When people hear the bells from the chapel bell tower, they are hearing a White Sands Missile Range call to honor the fallen and remember the missing in action. Much like the Bataan cry, the bells are WSMR's way of saying to our fallen and missing—we remember, you have not been forgotten.

Weather doesn't daunt Veterans Day service

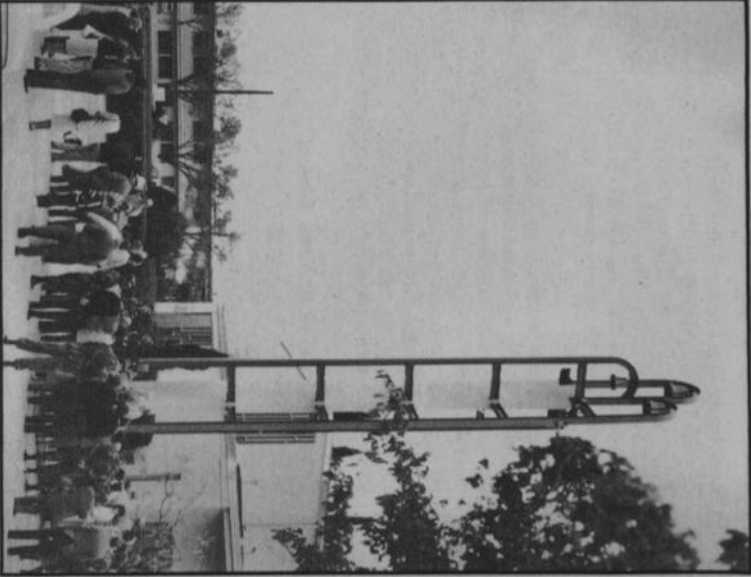
by Bill Gross

The weather last Thursday at White Sands Missile Range was cold and rainy, probably very similar to November 11, 1918 when the armistice was signed in Europe ending World War II.

The dismal day, however, failed to daunt more than 250 military and civilian WSMRites from attending Veteran's Day ceremonies at the Post Chapel.

Actually, 350 persons attended the luncheon prior to the chapel service. Long lines extended out of the serving area into the halls and even out on to the sidewalks. Having to wait in the cold rain seemed not to bother any of the attendees, all of whom were in a festive mood.

The ceremonies were twofold, honoring veterans of all wars and dedicating the new memorial tower cartlions. Several persons on the program, including Donald C. Harris, retired chief of Morale Support Activities, who was to have been the principal speaker, were restricted by the weather from traversing San Augustine Pass, and were not



SOME OF THE more than 250 persons who gathered in the rain to dedicate the new WSMR Memorial tower cartlion and observe the

began with a procession, followed by the posting of the colors by the WSMR color guard, singing of the National Anthem and the Invocation given by Irving Rubenstein, Jewish Lay Leader.

Father E. Paul Betowski, S.J., the Catholic Chaplain, conducted a responsive reading and the congregation was welcomed by Chaplain Lt. Col. John E. Snider, WSMR Installation Chaplain.

May. Gen. Joe S. Owens, range commander, added his personal welcome and some thoughts on Veteran's Day. A Scripture from John 15:12-13 was read by Chaplain (Col.) Edward J. Speitel, AMC Chaplain.

Separate prayers were conducted for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

Richard M. Harding, Chaplain, Col. retired, former WSMR Installation Chaplain, told the history of the Carlton Chimes at WSMR and the ceremony closed with the congregation singing "Oh Beautiful for Spacious Skies," the retiring of the colors and the benediction by Chaplain Snider.

side. Owens led a reading of the dedication which is also inscribed on a bronze memorial plaque placed at the base of the tower. It reads:

This memorial Carlton Tower is dedicated to the memory of those who gave their lives, or who are yet missing for the sacred cause of freedom "... no one has greater love than this!"

In April 1984 the WSMR Post Chapel started to raise a minimum of \$10,000 to purchase new electronic cartlions, and to improve the chapel tower.

The cartlions and tower were to serve as a fitting memorial to all those Americans who gave their lives for this nation and for human freedom.

WSMR congregations contributed to the project, during chapel services through monthly designated offerings, as well as with individual donations, and a donation by Raytheon Corporation.

Those who gave desired to honor loved ones or members who paid the supreme sacrifice for their country. Eleven veterans organiza-