



Jan Behrendt, MHM Berlin-Gatow

## Volunteer Experts and Museum Documentation

Opportunities – Challenges – Limits

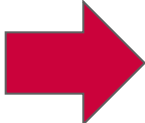
© RAF Museum London, 2014

## Outline

- Volunteers and the Museum
- Risks and Challenges
- Benefits and Opportunities
- Jobs for Volunteers
- Organizing Volunteers

**Outline**

- **Volunteers and us**
- Risks and Challenges
- Benefits
- Jobs for Volunteers
- Organizing Volunteers



## Volunteers and the Museum

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- **Legitimacy:** Most museums were established by enthusiastic museum amateurs
- **Networks:** Everybody needs friends - so do museums
- **Specialists:** The larger the collection, the greater the need for outside specialist knowledge
- **Manpower:** Sometimes you may simply need more staff



## Risks and Challenges

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- **Risks and Challenges**
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- Volunteers think they know everything better
- Volunteers cost time
- Volunteers need emotional compensation
- Volunteers have no ideas of museum documentation
- Volunteers make mistakes and have accidents
- Qualified specialists are rare among volunteers

## Benefits and Opportunities

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- Volunteers and us
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- **Benefits**
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- Volunteers are your most loyal visitors
- Volunteers advertise your museum
- Volunteers know your collection  
(sometimes better than yourself)
- Volunteers often have specialist knowledge you might need
- Volunteers are there because they love your museum

## Jobs for Volunteers

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## Jobs for Volunteers

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- **Curatorial:** Consultants with specialist knowledge about your collection and available artifacts
  - **Documentation:** Consultants providing information / assisting with research about your objects
  - **Collections Management:** Consultants / Specialists for transports, installations, etc.
  - **Exhibitions:** Guides and visitor service personnel (requires special training)
  - **Restoration:** Specialists may assist in restoration projects or general duty works (e.g., if trained: cleansing etc.)



## How to Organize Volunteers

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Use your in-house information management to:

- **Identify:** find willing partners
- **Assess:** note what a person is good at
- **Train:** enable your volunteers to fulfill their tasks; keep track of your training efforts
- **Motivate:** display partnerships at artifacts (object/web); make efforts public; organize frequent meetings/trainings; put colleagues in charge of groups of volunteers

Mediendaten    Interne Aufgaben

Deutschland

zum Appen, Appen

Vorbesitzerdaten übernehmen

Sako Antrag  
017 Nacherfassung aus Altbestand, 'Wolf

Bedingungen

Bemerkungen

Provenienz

Objektdatei

Objektdatei: Objekte

Typ

Adresse

Bemerkungen

Interessierter Besucher  
Interessierter Spezialist  
Interessierter Zeitzeuge  
Partner - Besucherbetreuung  
Partner - kuratorisch  
Partner - Restaurierung  
Pate - Besucherbetreuung  
Pate - kuratorisch  
Pate - Restaurierung

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Militärhistorisches Museum der  
Bundeswehr - Flugplatz Berlin Gatow

Published by Jan Behrendt [?]

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Wir danken allen Freiwilligen, wie beim heutigen ersten Treffen der AG Exponatpflege mitgearbeitet und der MiG-29 zu altem Glanz verholfen haben. Das war allerfeinstes Hands-On-Museum!

\*\*\*\*

Thank you to all volunteers who helped make today's first Hands-On Museum event a success. We took care of the MiG-29.

Tag photo Add location Edit

Like Comment Share

34

Top comments

2 shares

2 comments



**Steffen Tittmann** Das sollten sich andere Museen auch zu Herzen nehmen

Like · Reply · Message · 25 October 2014 at 16:03 · Edited



**Constantine Wolf** ich habe es zu spat gelesen 😊 aber sehr gute Idee

**LUFTVERLABARES  
FLUGABWEHRRAKETENSYSTEM**

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**Technische Daten / technical data**

Hersteller / manufacturer	Social Network Industriale Hermonium 00402 60402
Bezeichnung / name	279paw + 1 Bertholomae E-1 Lufttransportmittel
Produktion / production	von 03784994
Adresse / address	Adress / region DE Tym 66, 22 549494, 5348 45
Spezifikation / specification	=
Tauglichkeitsbereich / usage surface	=
Kapazität / load capacity	=
Lernweise / empty mass	=
Maximale Drehmoment / maximum speed of mass	=
Trabfahrkapazität / flat capacity	1000 kg
Höchstgeschwindigkeit / maximum speed	km/h oder Mach
Dimensionen / dimensions	=
Identifikationsnummer / identification number	000


**Wichtige Informationen**  
Für Informationen zum QR-Code: Bitte die nach Mitteilungsblatt 62 des  
Museum für den Transporter anfordern  
Mehr Informationen  
Für Informationen zum QR-Code: Bitte die nach Mitteilungsblatt 62 des  
Museum für den Transporter anfordern

**Exponatpatate  
Edhahdbrf djsjsjsh  
Lufttransportgeschwader 62**

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Iststrecke / requires runway for landing	m
Landegeschwindigkeit: landing speed	km/h
Schub / engine thrust	kN

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 **Exponatpate  
Edhahdbrf djsjsjsh  
Lufttransportgeschwader 62**

template for display, © MHM Gatow/Duncan McCauley

See you soon in Gatow!



Hangar 3 im Umbau



Hangar 7 geöffnet