"READY ROOM"
NEWSLETTER

Volume 6: Issue 7

Our Mission is to increase the public's awareness of aviation through the flight of historical aircraft, while supporting our local children's hospital.

From the Front Seat

By Peter O'Hare



I thought it would be important to share with as many people as I possibly could, the sense of pride AND the complete overwhelming sense of privilege it is to climb into the front seat of the Museum of flight's aircraft including the T-28's. All of us who fly the airplanes recognize that we do so because it is the culmination of so many people's hard work. We all feel that we are only a small part, in a big cog of an operation, that is herculean. One thing I always feel is that bringing back the aircraft in one piece is PARAMOUNT. Hence, I always inject prior to hitting the primer Alan Shepard's prayer.

<u>THANK YOU FOR ALL THE HARD WORK</u>. We who fly your aircraft do so with the greatest amount of humility recognizing we are representing a group of caring people that give their time in order for the museum to execute its mission.



T-28C in Hangar Bay Aircraft Carrier USS Antietam CVS 36



Aircraft Carrier USS Lexington Deck Load of T-28's 1961



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Mitchell Family Visit

The museum received a very special visit from the Mitchell family in June. Ralph Mitchell drove all the way from Medina, Ohio, with his wife Delores and their son and daughter-in-law to visit the Taylorcraft and the museum.

Ralph retired as a transportation supervisor from the Leasway Corp. Before working at Leasway, he served in the army and was stationed in France during the Korean War. After the Korean War, Ralph served for 25 years in the army reserve, retiring as a warrant officer 4th class. Ralph and his wife have been married for over 60 years. They have seven kids, two girls and five boys. They also have 12 grandchildren and 9 great grand children.

Rlaph owned the 1946 Taylorcraft, with his late brother Bob, before donating it to the museum. The Mitchell family comes to visit the first airplane Ralph ever owned as often as they are able. These visits are often filled with cherished moments reminiscing about old times while creating new memories with family.

When Ralph's son asked him why he gave up flying the Taylorcraft, Ralph told him that on one of his last flights he was doing pattern work around the airport, looked down and saw a family picnicking on the grass. He realized that's where he needed to be, with his family. "God, Country, and Family," said Ralph. "That about covers it." Memories of flying the Taylorcraft with his brother Bob will always hold a special place in Ralph's heart.



Ralph and his Taylorcraft in the 1960's



Ralph with his wife Delores







Taylorcraft Flies Again!

After nearly two years, the Taylorcraft returns to the air! Museum volunteers Larry Jarret and Terry Madden worked for many tireless hours getting the 1946 Taylorcraft N96661 prepared for inspection. We greatly appreciate all of their hard work and it was great to see the Taylorcraft take off again!



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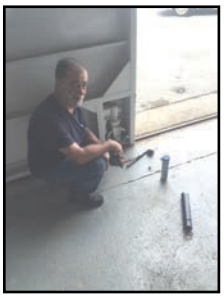
Museum Maintenance Update

As always, Museum of Flight volunteers have been working hard around the museum ensuring our museum's aircraft and vehicles are in proper working order. Member Rob Haley worked mechanical magic in finding and repairing a hydraulic leak on the T-28 Bravo.

Additionally, the BTD-1 received some much-needed TLC in June. The plane's engine was cleaned, removing several bird nests. The BTD-1 also received a new canopy cover and cowl cover, both donated by Ronnie "Gunny" Cox.

Last, but definitely not least, Mike Ambler Senior made some repairs to the hangar doors and, with assistance from Deforest Eliis, installed a new air hose for aircraft maintenance.

The museum is indescribably grateful for all the hard work and support our members and volunteers provide each month. Thank you for all you do! It is because of you we are able to keep our museum operations running smoothly and our aircraft flying.




Recent Museum Donations

Jerry Rosser donated a 620 cu. inch Stearman engine and a P-47 prop blade. The continental 220 hp Stearman engine has seven cylinders and also came with the case. The P-47 prop was buried at Dobbins AFB in the early 50's, and was discovered when they were digging to build. Rosser was in the Guard back then and said that if an aircraft crashed, they just dug a hole and buried it!

Thank you Jerry for your generous donations! The museum is excited to add these new artifacts to our collection!




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Ole Tymer BBQ Fundraiser



On June 18, The Museum of Flight joined forces with Ole Tymer BBQ in Rome, Georgia to support a local cancer patient, Buster Tudor. The event featured a motorcycle ride, which ended with music, food and fellowship. The Museum of Flight towed the T-28 752 to the event and also brought the Ramp Rat for cockpit tours. Overall, the event was a great success and all proceeds raised were donated to assist Tudor with his medical expenses.







Phillip LaBerge Memorial Fly-By

On May 28, the Museum of Flight participated in a tribute fly-by in honor of long time aviator and veteran Phillip LaBerge, who passed away May 17. Phillip is the father of museum member Marie-Claire La Berge.









LaBerge was a U.S. Navy pilot who served two tours of duty in the Vietnam War. After serving in the military, LaBerge was a Delta Airlines pilot for 34 years. At Delta, he flew various types of aircraft and also served as an instructor in the pilot training department and preformed as a line check airman.

After retirement in 2004, he and his wife Lynda opened a flight school, Pandora Aviation. LaBerge was loved by many and will always be remembered for his passion of teaching others the art of flying.

During the fly-by, the museum's T-28 751 (Alpha) preformed the missing man formation with daughter Marie-Claire in the aircraft.

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Georgia Highlands Summer Program

On June 8, the Museum of Flight visited Georgia Highlands College to participate in their summer program, in support of Floyd County Emergency Services. The program was geared towards underprivileged children. The museum volunteers and members who attended were Joel Megginson, Sean McAlister, Mike Ambler and Christine Lewis. Everyone had an excellent day sharing the love of history and flight with eager and excited children.









Boy Scout Summer Camp

The Museum of Flight was honored to attend a Super Heroes themed Boy Scout camp at Lock and Dam. On the last night, themed "Real Live Super Heroes," Pete "Wheeler" O'Hare brought the museum's 1978 Corvette "Ramp Rat" for photos and discussion about how it performs in Torque vs Thrust demonstrations. He was proud to be one of the heroes in attendance, among other police, firefighters and military personnel.





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2015/2016 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	OWNER	STATUS
Jan 5 – March 5	Aircraft Conditional & Annual Inspections	Rome Hangar	William Bannister	Complete
March 26	Grand Opening	Rome Hangar	Christine Lewis	Complete
April 9	Open Hangar Gala	CHA Wilson Air	Pete O'Hare	Complete
April 16-17	Thunder in the Valley Air Show	Columbus, GA	Pete O'Hare	Complete
May 14	Good Neighbor Days	PDK, Atlanta, GA	Pete O'Hare	Complete
May 30	Memorial Day Event	Coosa Valley Fairground	TBD	Complete
June 4-5	Great Tennessee Air Show	Smyrna, TN	TBD	Canceled
July 3-4	Independence Day Fly-In	Chattanooga, TN	TBD	Complete
September 10	Member's Only Cocktail Party	Rome Hangar		
September 9-10	Crossville Air Show	Crossville, TN	Pete O'Hare	
September 17	LaFayette (Barwick County) Fly In	Lafayette, GA	Pete O'Hare	
September 30	1940's Hangar Dance	Rome Hangar	Christine Lewis	
October 8-9	Wings Over Golden Isles Air Show	Brunswick, GA	Pete O'Hare	
October 15-16	Boshears Skyfest & Fly-in	Augusta, GA	Pete O'Hare	
October 29-30	Wings Over North Georgia	Rome, GA	Pete O'Hare	
November 5	Mess Night	TBD	Pete O'Hare	
November 17	Toys for Tots	TBD	Christine Lewis	
Jan, Feb & March 2017	Annual Safety Stand Down and Conditional Inspections	Rome Hangar		
April 1-2, 2017	Annual Hangar Open House	Rome Hangar		
April 8-7, 2017	Annual Open Hangar Gala	Rome Hangar		

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Jeanne & Tony Bass
Shawn Barber
Voron Baughon
Jim Beaver
Ernie Betancourt
Dr. Gary Caldwell
Phil Cataldo
Dr. Donald Chamberlain
Nan Coddington
Ronnie Cox
Dr. James Creel
Erich DeHart
Don Shepard
Logan DeHart
Peyton Dehart
Ron Dobbs
Scott Ducker
Phil Gilliland
International Aviation Services
Larry Jarrett
Chris Keefe
David Lawson
Christine Lewis
Frank Kalinowski
Art Matthews
Spencer Morgan
Scott Murray
Pete and Susan O'Hare
Scott Pilkington Sr.
John Sullivan
Stratton Tingle
Wayne Vick
Brent Wade
David Wells
Jody Whitmire
Ed Woods
Jorge Verdias
Judy Wilson
Doug Woodruff
Kim Watkins

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