



“READY ROOM” NEWSLETTER

Volume 8 : Issue 10

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

Hot Air Balloon Festival

On the 14th and 15th of September the hot air balloon festival brought dozens of hot air balloons right outside our front door, to the Richard B. Russell Airport. For two days families enjoyed tethered balloon rides, crafts, vendors, kids rides, and even aerial stunts by the Tiger Flight Foundation. Balloons included beloved childhood characters; the Purple People Eater, Tom & Jerry, Pepe Le Pew, Tweety Bird & Sylvester. The Museum of Flight also had the full catalog of aircrafts displayed for the public to enjoy. On both days the gates opened at 1 p.m. followed by craft booths opening at 3 p.m. The Rome Young Marines’ flag ceremony took place at 4 p.m. and tethered balloon rides began at 4:10 p.m. Hot air balloons lifted off at 6:30 p.m. and the balloon glow started at 8 p.m.







National Museum Day



Museum Day is an annual celebration of boundless curiosity hosted by Smithsonian magazine. The Museum of Flight participated in the nationwide event. Museums provided free entry to anyone presenting a Museum Day ticket. On Saturday, September 22nd guests at the Museum of Flight were able to immerse themselves in both the history and the future of aviation free of charge.





September Pancake Breakfast

MUSEUM OF FLIGHT



Pancake Breakfast Fly-In

Another in a long line of success, the September 22nd pancake breakfast fly-in was a hit. With over 57 attendees and 14 airplanes the ready room was filled with aviation enthusiast. Pilots from Jasper to Collegedale enjoyed coffee, bacon, and pancakes alongside the Museum of Flight team.





Taylor Craft Appreciation Day



It took a village to complete the laborious process of restoring the Taylorcraft to a L2 Grasshopper. Dozens of volunteers with different backgrounds and specialties collaborated to complete the project. To thank the volunteers for their hard work the museum hosted a dinner. Twenty-two attendees celebrated the success of the restoration of the Taylorcraft. A huge thank you is due to all of our amazing volunteers!





Happenings around the Museum

The Crossville fly-in was the perfect opportunity for the T-28s to get some exercise and for the MOF team to interact with the public. Pictured below are Johnny Shook and Wain Bates, quintessential southern gentlemen who acted as perfect lunch escorts.



The museum was honored to be able to host the rehearsal dinner for Crash and Leigh Ann, we are honored to be able to share in their joy as they start their life together.





Museum Curator, Cecilia Ratke's, Smithsonian Internship

Museum Curator, Cecilia Ratke, had the extraordinary opportunity to participate in a 10 week Smithsonian internship. Cecilia's main project was working with a collection of fish illustrations that was donated to the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) in 2016 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).



Upper right: Cecilia working to catalogue the donations from the NOAA.

Above: Cecilia pictured with the Blue Whale skull.

The illustrations were mostly pen and ink illustrations by Jack C. Javech created between 1983 and 2004. Cecilia was tasked with going through the illustrations, rehousing, and cataloguing them. Rehousing them involved removing any extra paper flaps, staples, or tape on the illustrations that would damage them over time. She then put the illustrations in individual archival folders for storage. Cataloguing them involved giving each illustration a catalog number so that it became an official member of the Fish Illustration Collection. Finally, Cecilia added information about the piece (e.g. date, artist, art medium, species of fish) to the NMNH's Fish Illustration Database.

Cecilia also had the opportunity to tour the collections of some different departments at the NMNH. She remembered the Meteorite Collection as being particularly notable. She was able to hold meteorites from the moon and from Mars! Another highlight was the Marine Mammals collection, where she saw the skull of a Blue Whale which was at least 3 times as tall as her.



Pictured above: Cecilia's workspace where she was rehousing illustrations.

Cecilia experienced firsthand how large museums catalog their collection and keep track of everything they have. The NMNH has over 126 million items, and the Fish Illustration Collection has over 27,000 illustrations, so keeping track of it all is an huge endeavor. Cecilia plans to further streamline her method of cataloguing the Museum of Flight's collection based on the new methods she learned, emphasizing the ability to find the item over an exhaustive description of it. She also learned the value of taking care of film and paper, which will guide her efforts to upgrade museum displays, while preserving the items for the future. The museum is lucky to have Cecilia on the team, her dedication and talents have already been a huge help in furthering the MOF cause.



<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
January 1	Ground Handling Ops- Pete O’Hare	Museum	Complete
January 13	Airport Operations- Mike Mathews	Museum	Complete
January 20	Mishaps Lessons Learned- Gerad Riestar	Museum	Complete
January 27	Pancake Breakfast & Safety Videos	Museum	Complete
February 3	Safety Standdown	Museum	Complete
February 10	Safety Standdown	Museum	Complete
February 17	Safety Standdown	Museum	Complete
February 24	Pancake breakfast & Mandatory Pilot Meeting for all Pilots flying in 2018	Museum	Complete
March 3	Safety Standdown	Museum	Complete
March 10	Safety Standdown	Museum	Complete
March 17	All Hands on deck for upcoming Airshow	Museum	Complete
April 7-8	Thunder in the Valley Airshow	Columbus, GA	Complete
April 14	Museum of Flight Gala	Museum	Complete
April 28	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	Complete
April 28-29	Joint Base Charleston Expo	North Charleston, SC	Complete
May 19	Good Neighbor Day Fly-in	KPDK	Complete
May 26	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	Complete
TBD; May/June	Airshow	Calhoun	Complete
June 2	Museum Open House	Museum	Complete
June 23	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	Complete
July 28	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	Complete
August 25	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	Complete
September 14-15	Balloon Festival	Richard B. Russell	Complete
September 15-16	Owensboro Airshow	Owensboro, KY	Complete
September 22	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	Complete
September 29	Fly-in	Crossville, GA	Complete
October 13-14	Wings Over North Georgia Airshow	Rome, GA	
October 27	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	
October 27-28	NAS Jax Airshow	Jacksonville	
November 3	Toys for Tots & Mess Night	Museum	
November 24	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	
December 29	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	



LIFETIME MEMBERS

Shawn Barber
George Barron
Jeanne & Tony Bass
Voron Baughan
James Beaver
James Brown
Ray Bell
Ernie & Nancy Betancourt
Ed Callahan
Thomas Calvanelli
Phil Cataldo
Dr. Donald H. Chamberlin
Nancy Coddington
Ronnie Cox
Dr. James Creel
Richard Dean
The DeHart Family
Ron Dobbs
Scott Ducker
Mike Ellis
Vance Engle
Phil Gilliland
Deming Gray

James Greene
Robert Henninger
Mark Homen
Larry Jarrett
Chris Keefe
Frank Kalinowski
David Lawson
Jennifer Leach
Anne Lewinson
Christine M. Lewis
Arthur Matthews
Pamela McAllister
Joel Megginson
Brian McNiece
Spencer Morgan
Scott Murray
Tony Neal
Peter & Susan O'Hare
John Osterhage
Clarence Greer Parramore
Time Rhyne
Gerad Riester
Peter Serodino

Dr. Daniel Serrato
Don Shepard
Woodrow Smith
Sol Snyder
John Sullivan
Jorge Veridas
Wayne Vick
Kim Watkins
David Wells
Brent Westfall
Terri & Doug Woodruff

Gone West:

Joan Beaver
Dr. Gary Caldwell
Ronnie Cox
Mark McAllister
Patricia O'Hare
Conrad Schalk
Sylvia Wygoda