

"READY ROOM"

NEWSLETTER

Volume 13: Issue 9



Our Mission is to increase the awareness of aviation through the flight of historic aircraft, while supporting the Anna Shaw Children's Institute.

Members and Friends,

September was an interesting month, with seeing old friends, saying goodbye to Pete O'Hare. October was busy with Crossville, and many behind the scenes activities that kept everyone busy at the museum.

October also brought me back to the museum as a docent two times a month. Matter of fact, I am here writing, putting together the newsletter, watching for visitors while listening to director, Christine Lewis and Executive Assistant, Barb Letts clean and rearrange the director's office here at Paulding.

A quick note, the Museum Murder Mystery Dinner is rescheduled for January 2024. This one is going to be great! Watch for more details in future newsletters.

If you haven't been to the museum recently, you need to stop by and see all the wonderful displays from World War 1 to Operation Enduring Freedom. I am amazed at the incredible stories that are associated with some of our artifacts. Stories are so important in building camaraderie, sharing with our children, and encouraging our young adults. Have you shared your story? We would love to hear it and even add it to this newsletter.

So until next month!

Rebecca McAllister

Becky McAllister
Communications, MOF

Museum Docent's Needed

Retired? Homemaker? Enjoy People? History? Aviation?

We need museum docents in Paulding for the following days. Individual training is available, even a museum guidebook to help you give tours. No long-term commitment is necessary. Even once or twice a month is possible. Help to share in the mission of the museum. Contact Gil Espy at 706-974-8335 if you can help or would be interested in learning more.

- **Tuesday, November 21**
- **Tuesday, November 21**
- **Saturday, November 25**



<https://mofts.org>



[Facebook](#)



[YouTube](#)

The inside aviation, military memorabilia and outdoor displays are open 10-4 (Tues-Sat) at the Paulding County Airport.

Paulding Co. Airport
730 Airport Parkway
Dallas, GA 30157

Tours of our flying aircraft in Rome (Richard B. Russell Airport) by appointment only. [\(423\) 228-2FLY](tel:4232282FLY).

Rome Hangar
304 Russell Field Rd NE,
Rome, GA 30165

New Office Address
7022 Shallowford Rd.
Suite 1 #146
Chattanooga, TN 37421



Mascot: *Quimby*



Returning to the Museum as a Docent

By Becky McAllister, Communications

Today was my first day returning as a docent since December 2013, when the museum was first housed in a small hangar located in Hixon, TN. My husband Mark and I were new members of the fledgling organization. There were just a few airplanes and military artifacts in those early days. Things have changed considerably over ten years. About a hundred years of history are displayed on the walls and display cases in Paulding County and the outside display area.

A few days beforehand, I checked in with the lead docent, Gil Espy, for a brief tour and rundown of the procedures. He shared the museum docent guidebook that covers details about many of the artifacts inside and outside, plus the instructions on opening and closing. It wasn't that complicated, even for me, a complete novice when it comes to aviation.

On my scheduled day, I arrived a few minutes early, unlocked the doors, turned on the lights, and went down the hallway to open the back door that leads to the restroom. Next, I completed my "task" assigned to me... to wipe down the 50-caliber machine gun. It now looks clean and without dust.

It was time to look closer and follow the docent guidebook to ensure I was familiar with the items listed and where they were located. Starting at the beginning, near the "Delta" desk and sign-in area, I looked at the pictures and read the articles of the Pearl Harbor display.

I did a bit more reading on the PBV-5 Catalina, two of which were the first to be bombed on December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—I could imagine the photographers out early that morning only to have the aircraft go up in smoke shortly afterward.

I also caught sight of the writing next to the newspaper headline, "War! Oahu Bombed by Japanese Planes." Tucked just beside that article was the signature of "Dutch" Van Kirk, the navigator of the Enola Gay when it dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima. Later in life, he gave a talk in Texas while promoting his book, "My True Course". He was asked to describe the difference between the bombing practice in the USA and actual missions, and he replied, "In America, they're not shooting at you!"

I have barely scratched the surface of the guide notebook since it contains numerous articles about "Easy Eddie" O'Hare and his son, "Butch" O'Hare, the F-14 Tomcat, the BTD-1, and descriptions of the models that hang from the ceiling. Last, tucked in the back of the notebook, is the original tour guide instructions, the same document my husband and I reviewed when we were first-time docents on that fall day in Hixson.

While my first day at the museum was relatively quiet, I spent some downtime working on the newsletter for the next month. At 1600 hours, I turned off the coffee pot, turned out the lights, and locked up, feeling more prepared for the future and my twice-a-month donation of time as a Museum of Flight docent.

You can donate your time as a docent of the Museum of Flight. We would love to have you as often or as little as you can commit. Contact Gil Espy at 706-974-8335 for more information and to schedule your training.

Museum Pilots

Congratulations Kerry Tidmore, Fred Amicangioli, and Dave Biloz! Kerry Tidmore and Fred Amicangioli were checked out to fly the C-45 while Dave Biloz received his type rating to fly the T-28B.

Thank you to our Chief Pilot James Brown and DPE Bill Rourke for making it happen!!!!



Tacos on the Tarmac



In September, the Museum hosted **Tacos on the Tarmac**. The community and the Dallas Merchants Association had a great evening with dinner from Rudy's Food Truck, corn hole games, paper airplane contest for the kids, vendors and cockpit tours in the T-28.

Thank you to Dave Biloz and Philip Martin who flew the T-28 into Paulding.





LIFETIME MEMBERS

Fred Amicangioli
David Ball
Shawn Barber
Paul Barnett
George Barron
Jeanne & Tony Bass
Wain Bates
James Beaver
Jason Beaver
Brayden Becker
Ray Bell
Ernie & Nancy Betancourt
David Biloz & Family
Jason Bostic
Mark & Sam Brereton
James Brown
Andy Butler
Ed Callahan
Thomas Calvanelli
Danny Camp
Anthony Carson
Phil Cataldo
Dr. Donald H. Chamberlin
Keith Clingan
Nancy Coddington
Brendon Connor
Easy Cragg
Richard Dean
Erich DeHart
Logan DeHart
Peyton Dehart
Ron Dobbs
Scott Ducker
Thomas & Barbara Ducker
Mike Ellis

Vance Engle
Gil Espy
Jesse Evans
Rick Ferrin
Matt Fox
Frank Fry
Benjamin Gillam
Richard Gonzalez
James Greene
Richard Hafner
William Hall
Carson Hawkins
Evan Henley
Robert & Cindy Henninger
Tim Herren
Mark Homen
James Howard
Jared Ison
Dave Johnston
Christopher Keefe
Carrol "Chip" Lamb
David Lawson
Greg and Jennifer Leach
Anne Lewinson
Christine M. Lewis
John Luttrell
Arthur Matthews
Kent Matthews
Pamela McAllister
Rebecca & Sean McAllister
Joel Megginson
Russell & Leigh Ann Miller
Spencer Morgan
Scott Murray
Tony Neal

Jeffrey Newcomb
Susan, Hanna & Savannah O'Hare
John Osterhage
Julie Anne Owens
Clarence Greer Parramore
Edward Perman
Susan Reed
Ben Rees
Hollis Reese
Tim Rhyne
Gerad Riester
Rob Riester
Brant Robinson
Karl Schwelm
Peter Serodino
Dr. Daniel Serrato
Don Shepard
Harold Slemph
Woodrow Smith
Sol Snyder
Cooper Stewart
Tim Stoker
John Sullivan
Kenny Thomas
Kerry Tidmore
Stratton Tingle
Jorge Verdias
Wayne Vick
Alan Ware
Kim Watkins
Gary Watson
John Webb
David Wells
Brent Westfall
Doug & Terri Woodruff

Gone West

Voron Baughan
Darrell Baxter
Joan Beaver
Lloyd Blackwell
Dr. Gary Caldwell
Ronnie Cox
Dr. James Creel

Frank Davey
Jimmy Eskew
Deming Gray
Mark McAllister
Grady McDowell
Patricia O'Hare
Peter O'Hare
Lois and Richard Robinson

Conrad Schalk
Martha Shook
John Shook
Jasmine Sommer
Bill Wallace
Sylvia Wygoda
James Youngblood