

"READY ROOM"

NEWSLETTER

Volume 13: Issue 12



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

Happy New Year

2023  2024

Members and Friends,

As we bid farewell to 2023, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our incredible community of donors, volunteers, and the devoted Board of Directors. The past year posed significant challenges with the loss of our beloved founder, Peter O'Hare, whose absence is deeply felt. Yet, it is the unwavering dedication, support, and hard work of our museum family that has propelled us forward. Together, we have continued to fulfill our mission of promoting aviation awareness and supporting the Anna Shaw Children's Institute. Looking ahead to 2024, I am filled with anticipation for the exciting events lined up, including the Murder Mystery on January 27th and the Open Hangar Gala on April 27th. I continue to work on our upcoming airshow season and will be attending SECAS Southeast Council of Airshows Convention at the end of February.

As we embark on this new year, I challenge each of you

1. If you are not a member of the museum or need to renew your membership, please join, or renew. Your membership is important to the museum and its future growth. [Join or Renew Now!](#)
2. Please volunteer, donating your time is an incredibly commendable endeavor that can have a profound impact on both individuals and communities.
3. Make a donation, your support enables the museum to "keep them flying", offer museum tours to individuals and groups, and build a museum-quality hangar to preserve our historically significant collection.
4. Visit and promote friends, family, and co-workers to visit the museum.

Let's soar to new heights in 2024!

Christine Lewis
Executive Director



<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](#).

Rome Hangar

304 Russell Field Rd NE,
Rome, GA 30165

New Office Address

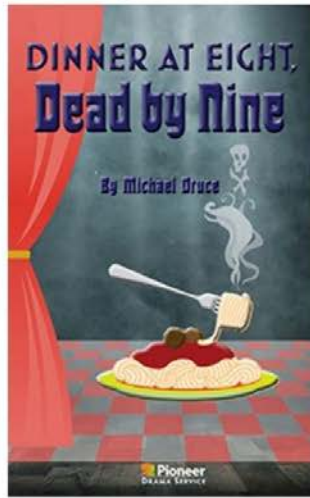
7022 Shallowford Rd.
Suite 1 #146
Chattanooga, TN 37421



Mascot: *Quimby with Gil Espy, Head Docent*



Museum of Flight Murder Mystery Dinner



JANUARY 27, 2024
PAULDING COUNTY
AIRPORT TERMINAL
750 AIRPORT PARKWAY
DALLAS, GA 30157
6:00 PM



TICKETS:

[Ticketstripe.com/MuseumMurderMystery](https://www.ticketstripe.com/MuseumMurderMystery)



Ticket includes:

- Reception
- Dinner
- Murder Mystery



Join us for a fun evening in support of:



Anna Shaw
Children's Institute



Sponsorships & Group Tables Available

Call: 423-322-0521

Writing by Michael Druce,

"Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Denver, Colorado"

BY PEG SHELDRIK
PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH
PIONEER DRAMA SERVICE
DENVER, COLORADO

Murder Mystery Dinner Rehearsals



Just a few more days of rehearsals for this group of well-known amateur actors before they provide us with their amazing performance!

Who is the murderer? How did this happen at such a special event? Join us for a special dinner at our Murder Mystery fundraiser for the Museum of Flight at the Paulding County Northwest Airport.

[Get your tickets today!](#)



Quimby's Corner



I just wanted to share about our visit with Gil Espy (with my hooman, Christine Lewis, MOF director).

We had a great conversation, and he is doing much better. We are thankful he is healing well.

Signed,
Quimby

Museum Docent's Needed

We need museum docents in Paulding on various days in February.

Individual training and a museum guidebook will assist you in giving 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 want to learn more.

At the Museum!



Above and left: Panel removal begins for inspections.

The aircraft's annual inspections have begun, as well as aircraft maintenance.

Right: Zachary had a blast at the museum with his mom, aunt, and sister from France, soaking up the Christmas vibes in the area. 🎄



The Story of Ned Felder

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

By Alonzo Felder

These people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. Hebrews 11:13



It was over 90 years ago, but Ned Felder, like most men, had hopes and aspirations; he lived 16,113 troubled days and then died in despair.

On April 2, 1917, President Wilson declared war against Germany. Ned saw this as an opportunity to show patriotism and secure a place as an equal citizen: "The world must be made safe for democracy," Wilson said.

Negroes thought it would be insincere for the country to fight for democracy in Europe while they remained second-class citizens. Over one million Negroes responded; roughly 370,000 were inducted. Within a week, the War Department stopped accepting Negro volunteers. Comprised entirely of white men, the draft boards began to draft Negroes into service. At 10% of the population, Negroes supplied 13 % of inductees.

In January 1918, Ned was registered for military service. On the word of a white spectator, Ned is collared, kicked, jailed, and fined for "disloyal talk" towards white troops. By April, he'd entered the 92nd Infantry Division. Over 200,000 Negroes fought with the American Expeditionary Force AEF in France. Negro units fought with the French Army; none fought alongside white American troops.

Ned's 367th Infantry was cited for bravery and awarded the distinguished French Croix de Guerre. On February 17, 1919, Negro soldiers marched up Fifth Avenue and into Harlem before some 250,000 onlookers. Overseas they learned skilled trades and hoped for better jobs, but skilled jobs were closed to Negroes.

Shellshock, racism, oppression, and terrorism made life hard but are largely un-noted in post-WWI narratives. Angered at the equal treatment the French had given Negroes, white mobs nationwide lynched seventy Negro veterans -many still in uniform- in the first year after the war.

"We must not eat with them, must not shake hands with them, seek to talk to them or to meet with them outside the requirements of military service. We must not commend too highly these troops, especially in front of white Americans"

-General John J. Pershing, commander of the AEF in Europe, in a communique concerning Negro troops sent to the French military, August 7, 1918.



Ned Felder's WWI uniform is on display at the MOF.

There is still little honor for these men. Little is said of the sacrifice of colored troops. After WWI Ned marries my grandmother. Their only child, my mom, remembered "We won the war, but lost the man."

Records from Florida State Hospital for the Insane in Chattahoochee, Florida, describe a Bipolar man with "Manic Depressive Psychosis." How'd this aspiring young man end up an "inmate" in a State institution?

"Since admission, he becomes upset; fights other patients or anyone with whom he comes in contact; requires restraint to control him." "When admitted, did not know anything about his family, nor cared. good physical condition; much ego."

Bipolar or PTSD, can onset from severe stress. Those with the disorder can have a "precipitating event" that sets it off. I believe the brutality of combat, the build-up of expectations, and returning to Jim Crow qualifies as a "precipitating event." Then called "shell shock," PTSD is a psychiatric injury.

Negro troops had known equality with the French, but back home, they were fighting for respect. Instead of receiving proper care, Ned, like many, endured the trauma of electric shock therapy "treatments."

On 9/19/1933, he was transferred to the Tuskegee VA Medical Center. This old soldiers' home was created to provide long-term care for Negro vets and was fully staffed by whites. Imagine a Negro man being tended to by white folks in medical uniforms. Remember, Negro men were routinely hanged for "looking at a white woman" or "speaking out of turn." What healing could be expected for Ned? He died Feb. 4, 1939. His chart reads:

*"dark brown, muscular,
5 ft 6 in tall, 140 lbs. Missing all teeth,
unhealthy gums.
20/20 vision.
6th grade education,
... exceptional for a Negro "*

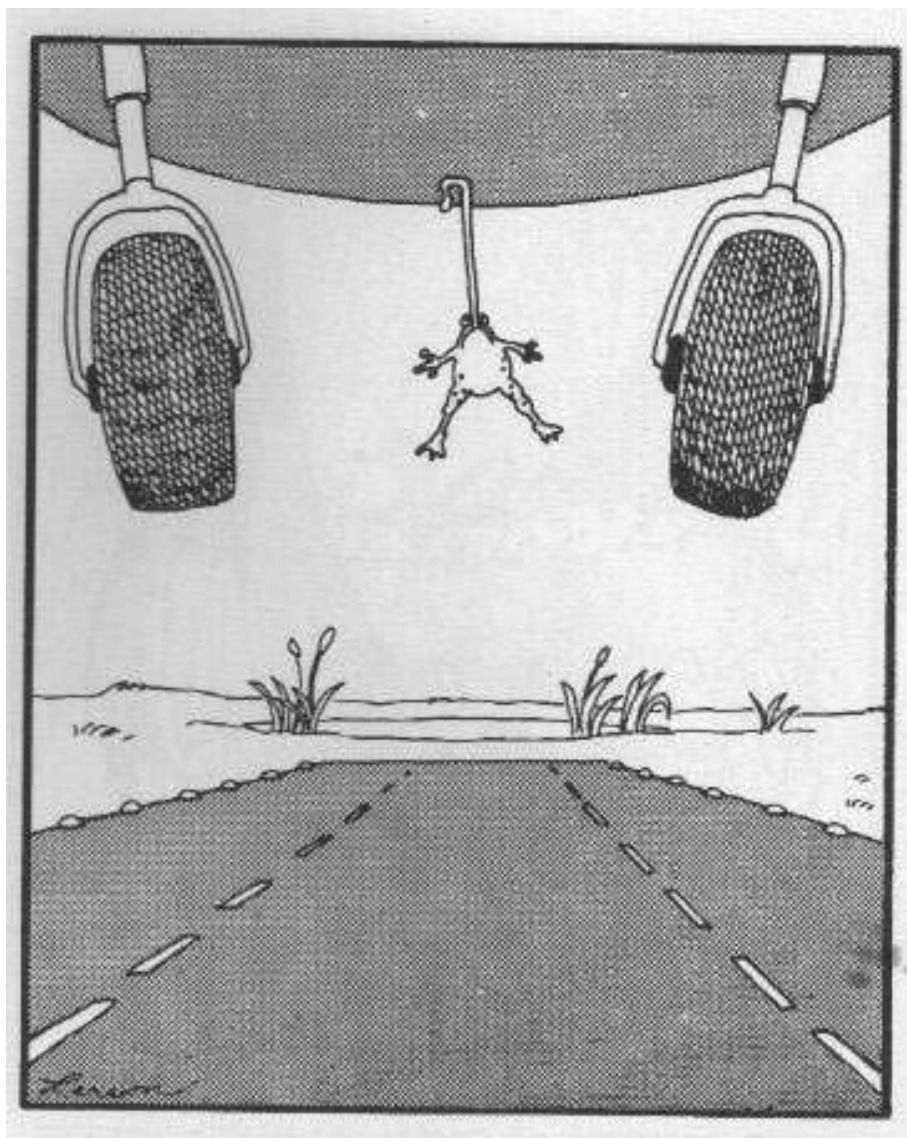


Ned Felder was many things - a railroad fireman, a waiter, an auto-mechanic, a soldier, and ultimately an inmate. He is buried at Bay Pines National Cemetery in St. Petersburg, Florida. He was my grandfather. Men like Ned did not end well. They lived lives of oppression and fought for respect. I believe they earned it. Let's show respect for fallen heroes like Ned Felder.



2024 Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
January 27	Murder Mystery Dinner Fundraiser	Paulding Airport FBO
April 27	MOF Annual Gala	Rome Hangar
<i>All dates are subject to change. Check future newsletters for additional events.</i>		





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
 Jarid Ison
 Dave Johnston
 Christopher Keefe
 Jeremy Kwaterski
 Carrol "Chip" Lamb
 David Lawson
 Greg and Jennifer Leach
 Anne Lewinson
 Christine M. Lewis
 John Luttrell
 Phillip, James & Jacob Martin
 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 Riestler
 Rob Riestler
 Brant Robinson
 Karl Schwelm
 Dr. Daniel Serrato
 Don Shepard
 Harold Slempp
 Woodrow Smith
 Sol Snyder
 Cooper Stewart
 Tim Stoker
 Trey Studstill
 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
 Peter Serodino
 Martha Shook
 John Shook
 Jasmine Sommer
 Bill Wallace
 Sylvia Wygoda
 James Youngblood