

WingTips

A Publication of The Vintage Flying Museum in Fort Worth, Texas

Winter 2004

13th Annual Big Band Hangar Dance Celebrating a Century of Powered Flight

Approximately 900 attended the 13th Annual Big Band Hangar Dance & Silent Auction, October 18, 2003. Many came dressed in 40's attire or as their favorite aviator. Standing out in the crowd were Wilbur and Orville Wright (**Greg** and **Jeff Quinn**) who were authentically dressed and were amazing look-a-likes. **Missy Roth** came dressed as Amelia Earhart, with her appearance having an uncanny resemblance to Amelia. The ambience created that evening was spectacular, and the crowd was in great spirits. Emcee **Jim Douglas**, from WFAA TV, Channel 8 did a wonderful job recognizing the sponsors and volunteers and we always appreciate his talents and enthusiasm.

Attendees bridged the generation gap, ranging from teenagers to WWII veterans and everyone seemed to enjoy the wonderful atmosphere and the big band sounds from the **Alan Glasscock Orchestra**. It is always great fun to watch those talented swing dancers perform their uncanny feats. Many came from as far as Houston and Austin, with several universities represented including dancers from North Texas and TCU. The highlight of the evening for the younger set was dancing to "Sing Sing Sing" which is always a great spectacular to

watch and a chance for both orchestra and dancers to show their talents.

A history of the Wright Brothers was shown during the evening, continuous tours of the B-17 were provided, and everyone seemed to enjoy the exhibits on display, including the antique vehicles. Of particular interest was **Mike Coup's** Bentley, which he drove all the way from Wichita, Kansas, and the motorcycle and jeep exhibit from **A.E. Petsche**. **Mark Oristano's** and **Raul Duran's** jeeps were also big hits. Many walked away with photos taken by Mark with his jeep in the background. Mark's donation of all the proceeds to VFM was greatly appreciated! A special thanks goes to **Jack Prather** for his "Women in Aviation" and "Tribute to Bob Hope" exhibits. The exhibit "Celebrating a Century of Powered Flight" was also enjoyed by all.

Sponsors for the evening included KAAM 770 Radio, American Airlines, Fort Worth Star Telegram, Boeing Company, Lockheed Martin, High Voltage Power Systems, Five Star Ford, Pip Printing, RSC Rental Service, Sonny Bryan's Smokehouse, Albertson's in Lake Worth, and the Texas State Guard. Corporate table sponsors included A.E. Petsche Company

and Link Simulation and Training. The Silent Auction was a great success and fun for everyone. There were some wonderful items up for bid including airline tickets donated by Frontier Airlines and Southwest Airlines. Those terrific air circulating fans from Vornado Air Circulation Systems always make a hit. Our sponsors are an important part of VFM's overall success and we greatly appreciate their contributions.

Donations to VFM are tax-deductible

As a reminder to our new and old members, VFM is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation and donations are tax deductible. Throughout the year VFM receives numerous monetary donations from its members. These donations are always appreciated and play a vital role in supporting the daily operations and various projects at VFM. We thank those members who have so generously contributed over the years. If you have a special interest in supporting a specific project or would like to make a contribution to the general fund, please consider donating to the VFM. Your support will help keep our aviation heritage alive for generations to come.

VFM Participates in Century of Flight Celebrations

Thanks go to **Kate Crognale** for taking on the overwhelming task of providing displays and mannequins from the VFM for the DFW Airport Centennial of Flight Celebration. Display boards had to be constructed and Kate took on the challenge of researching and locating suitable drawings and materials. She commented that the VFM briefing room table was the perfect size for manipulating and sewing the yards and yards of material and Velcro. She even cut and drilled the supporting PVC framework herself. Needless to say, the display boards are beautifully crafted and professionally done!

We also thank **West Sanders** for assisting Kate in transporting the mannequins and setting up the displays. WWII veterans, **Russ Brainard, Fiske Hanley, Bruce Kilmer** and **Karl King** added an historical perspective to the event, and we thank them for their support. It was obvious with the Centennial of Flight Celebration, the crowd favorites were **Greg** and **Jeff Quinn** dressed as the Wright Brothers and **Missy Roth** dressed as Amelia Earhart. VFM thanks everyone who was involved in making this a wonderful event.

FAA, Southwest Regional Headquarters, held an impressive Century of Flight Celebration with a fly-by of RV 6's and five aircraft from the Antique Aircraft Association. In addition, there were helicopter displays, remote controlled aircraft and two hot air balloons. With perfect weather and calm winds, VFM members **Julie McClure** and **Mary Jane Goad** took advantage of the opportunity to go up for a tethered hot air balloon ride.

Even the Wright Brothers (Greg and Jeff Quinn) were able to break away from the crowd and go up for a tethered ride. VFM member, Missy Roth dressed as Amelia Earhart made a brief appearance at FAA and then headed for DFW to attend the celebration there. The Wright Brothers (Greg and Jeff) passed out programs and balsawood airplanes as the employees entered the building. It seemed as if everyone who walked through the door wanted a photo taken with them. It was a difficult challenge to wisk them away from the photo shoots so they could attend the celebration at DFW airport in time!

In addition, VFM was represented with a display table for the event and we thank **Ernie Ruff, Brad Hartliep, Mary Jane Goad** and **Julie McClure** for monitoring the table.

One of the highlights of the event was the aircraft (built by **Daryl Burnett**) on display outside the entrance of the FAA Administration Building. Air Bear was poised sitting in the seat, 'flying' the aircraft. It also offered wonderful photo opportunities. Thanks go **Sal Salinas** and **Brad Hartliep** for painting, polishing and securing the airplane. We thank **Jim Goad** who provided transportation with his trailer and we thank **Carl Hinshaw** and Brad for assisting with the move. We appreciate the time and effort spent in making it all happen!

Stop by VFM and check out the new exhibits. VFM now has a new aircraft on display – a T-33 owned by the Texas Air Command. Also, six beautifully handcrafted WWI airplane models have been donated to the

museum and are on display in the briefing room, thanks to **Jim Gardner**. In February, the Huey Helicopter will be leaving VFM. It has been donated to the Museum of Science and History at the Smithsonian in Washington, DC.



Education Programs

A "Take Flight Day" was held at the VFM, November 25, 2003. Approximately 105 fifth graders attended from the W. J. Turner Elementary School in Azle, TX. Balsa airplanes were constructed and test flown under the direction of **Kate Crognale** and **Norm Poff**. Tours were provided of the B-17 and of the other aircraft on display including the Huey Helicopter. The WWII veterans gave an excellent presentation that was followed by an active question and answer period.

Feedback from the "Take Flight Day" has always been positive and many teachers have commented that it is the best field trip ever! Thanks to all our volunteers who make it all possible!

Inventory Control Help is needed

John Forde is busy working on the inventory which is an enormous task. John can always use help with the volunteers on Saturday and with the inventory. John needs help from anyone who has expertise or experience in inventory and supply systems and who is willing to log the items into the computer database.

Member Activities

The Royal Gull has been getting lots of special attention lately, with VFM members **James Kelly, Brad Hartliep, Pat Mahaffey, Brian Koontz, Roger Weeks, Joseph Figueroa, Carl Hinshaw, Alan Hewlett, and Steve Graham** checking out the various systems and replacing gaskets.

Bob and Missy Roth's PT-22 has been down for routine maintenance and restoration and should be flying by the end of February.

Tim Freyburg has taken on the challenge of making new floorboards for the radio compartment in the B-17. **Roger Weeks** and **Brian Koontz** are making sheet metal repairs to the structure supporting the floorboards.

Van and Kathi Stokes now have a flying Cessna 140, thanks to **Brad Hartliep, Steve Swift, Sal Salinas, Joseph Figueroa** and **Steve Graham**.

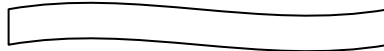
It was great to hear from members **Jim Stevenson** and **Bob Danner**. Bob has moved to San Antonio near Randolph Air Force Base and Jim is busy working for Southwest Airlines. We miss you both.

Art Evans has been repairing the horizontal trim tab on the L-3 and will be recovering the left elevator with fabric as soon as weather permits.

We will miss **Juan Jimenez** and his BD 5. Juan is moving to Puerto Rico in the near future and we will miss him and all his contributions to the VFM, including his computer expertise

in keeping VFM's computers up and running. We wish you well in your new endeavors!

We welcome **John Zapp** to VFM. He will be taking on the task of connecting our computers, managing our website, and solving all the other computer problems that seem to surface from time to time with the various programs. We are grateful that he is willing to take on this task! You may contact him at John.Zapp@AeroVents.com. We would appreciate pictures for the website and any suggestions you may have in order to keep our website informative and interesting. We will also be adding our newsletter to the website.



B-17 Wing Spar Project

The B-17 is ready to fly with the exception of the Wing Spar AD. Both the Yankee Air Force and the Lone Star Flight Museum have offered to help with the effort. Doc is now trying to locate the bolts which are difficult to find.

This particular project will take a major effort to complete. Plans are underway to acquire the replacement bolts, which will cost approximately \$1500.00. Please support this FAA mandated advisory directive, so the B-17 can become airworthy again. It is a difficult project to undertake, and we need a commitment from our volunteers to make it happen. Your financial contribution would be greatly appreciated to cover the cost of the bolts.

Vintage Fly-in scheduled for May 29th

The VFM and the OV-10 Bronco Association have joined forces to organize the 1st Annual VFM and OV-10 Vintage Fly-in, scheduled for May 29, 2004.

The first organizational meeting was held Friday, January 16th in the OV-10 Bronco Ready Room. Additional meetings will be held the 3rd Friday of each month from 7-9 p.m. In addition, there will be individual committee meetings as well. Please join us and volunteer your support and help make this the best event ever. We need committee heads, and expertise in numerous areas.

Here is your chance to really make a difference and have lots of fun too. Please call 817-624-1935 to volunteer! This will be a major fund-raiser for the VFM and the OV-10 Association and we need all the support we can muster to make this a successful event!

PX Sales Increase

Thanks to **Russ Brainard**, sales have increased in the PX. Russ, a former B-17 ball turret gunner, is not only a great tour guide, but salesman as well! Thanks to **Kate Crognale**, the PX has been inventoried and restocked with several new items. Kate has also taken on the challenge of making sure all the gift shop items are entered into the computerized point of sale system.

We appreciate **Jim Hodgson's** support in ordering the items, initially setting up the system and entering the inventory. Be sure to check out all the new items, new books, jackets, shirts, etc.

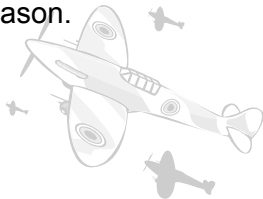
Bronco Ready Room Grand Opening

The OV-10 Bronco Association has grown by leaps and bounds and have made tremendous progress. They celebrated their grand opening of the Bronco Ready Room, October 10th, with a ribbon cutting ceremony and refreshments for the attendees. The grand opening was scheduled to coincide with their annual Broncofest with nearly 100 attending the event.

In addition, they now have a beautifully restored OV-10 fuselage in front of their newly remodeled room, thanks to the retires from Lockheed Martin. Everyone is looking forward to seeing the complete aircraft on display in the near future.

B-17 Update

All four B-17 engines were test run Sunday, January 25th. Only one minor squawk was found; a broken seal on the fuel pump. We appreciate the mechanics who maintain the engines and keep them running flawlessly. **Jim Goad** ran 5 engines the same day (tractors, that is) gearing up for the mowing season.



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VFM Living History Group Organized

[Article submitted by VFM member Bob Hopkins]

The Vintage Flying Museum has a new addition that we feel will be a great value to us. The VFM Living History Group has officially been formed and will represent the museum in parades, veterans' events, air shows, fly-ins, educational programs, and various other opportunities to honor the WWII veteran and the aircraft that took them to the battle front and, most of the time, brought them back home.

The group was developed by member **Bob Hopkins** of Weatherford. Bob was inspired with the idea after visiting with the Living History Group at the Lone Star Flight Museum in Galveston. After returning home he contacted good friend and AAF enthusiast **Andrew Haynes** and pitched the idea to him. Andrew thought it very interesting and agreed to participate. Bob then introduced the idea to **Doc** and **Chuckie Hospers** who both saw the positive benefits such an addition could have with the VFM. That was a year ago. Now the group has about a dozen dedicated members who provide their own uniforms and gear. They also painstakingly research AAF history for authenticity.

Anyone can be a member of the group as long as they have a deep interest and respect for the WWII AAF veterans and history because that is what it takes to conjure up the dedication required to be a member. There are no dues other than those annual dues to the Vintage Flying Museum. Several are also members of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association and/or the Texas 36th Div. re-enactors, which all tend to work in tandem in one event or another.

The future of the group is looking good as they already have several events scheduled for 2004. If you are interested in becoming a group member contact **Bob Hopkins** at 817-596-9745 or via email at RHop169812@aol.com.

Following are members of the VFM Living History Group:

Bob Hopkins-Weatherford
Andrew Haynes-Fort Worth
Brad Hartliep-Fort Worth
Dave Contreras-Hurst
Gary Brewer-Coppell
Charles (Big Joe) Varner-Grandview
Sal Salinas-Hurst
Jess Minton-Arlington
Carl Low-Fort Worth
Pete Walden-Euleess

Marion H. Havelaar Lt/Col. USAF Ret-Arlington (Technical Consultant)