



"READY ROOM"

NEWSLETTER February, 2015

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

MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY STAND DOWN CONTINUE

Article by Peyton DeHart

The HFM Safety Stand Down program continued on 10 January with Pete O'Hare delivering a presentation on best maintenance practices as captured by an old Navy training film. The latter had neat archival film of some of our earliest jets. Great tips like: "don't drive a tug directly toward an aircraft, but aim to drive it just next to the side (in case of brake failure one doesn't run into an aircraft, but drives past it), came in handy even before the weekend was out. Watching the 1960's footage of some wreckage was reminiscent of the Mike Myers spoof of Doctor Evil when the narrator said, "because of this mishap, we lost a front-line fighter jet that cost a MILLION dollars!"

The balance of the day was spent unpacking some collections of models and artwork for the walls. Mostly, we just admired the significant effort and excellent execution of the museum floor covered in flying charts (protected by a coat of urethane). ...a product of considerable imagination and a lot of patience on the part of Christine Lewis and her mother, Linda Proy.

Most significant of the maintenance effort for the day was getting the C-45 replacement wing out of the "back" of the hangar and into the box truck for further transport to Larry Jarrett's house. Larry had graciously volunteered to work his mechanical magic in "spare time" at his shop at home.



But first, in order to make that happen, we recognized that we'd need to clear out the box truck of accumulated stuff. A working party unloaded everything. Then we picked up the wing and moved it to the back edge of the truck. There is a narrow ramp that is pulled out that

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gives access to the truck cargo hold interior, but four guys on four corners of a wide wing were not going to be able to fit on the ramp at the same time to make that happen. After some standing around and discussing strategy, we finally figured that if we stacked boxes and blankets in just the right way, we might reach the bananas of our goal. Some huffing and puffing later, the wing was securely inside the truck and it was on down the road to Larry's garage.

With the wing safely tucked away, plans were then made to gather the following day at the hangar in order to "restack" or shuffle the aircraft around so that the C-45 would be in a position to reinstall the reworked wing, when it returned, without having to move further.

That schedule having been set, the Tiger Flight ramp was making noise, or as much noise as one can make with ninety-horse engines, and it seemed a good time to see what the neighbors were up to. Answer: they were up to about 3000 feet fifteen minutes later. There is a great program, populated with dedicated folks and it will be fun to see if we can coordinate and integrate our future operations so that we draw as much attention as is possible wherever we are.



DR. CALDWELL FLIES AGAIN



maintenance and safety stand down weekend January 17th and 18th. All the hard work was rewarded by getting to see him fly the plane he built with his own hands again! Words cannot express the emotions felt by all observing this exciting experience! We are so grateful to the Caldwell's for donating this amazing plane to the museum.

Thanks to Justin Goss' efforts working with Dr. Caldwell on the annual with the help of Ronnie "Gunny" Cox and Phil Gilliland. Strut work by Larry Jarrett and Jason Day. Financial support from Peyton DeHart, and pilot support from Pete "Wheeler" O'Hare the Glasair made it Rome. Dr. Caldwell, wife Helen, their daughter Lori and their grandson were able to come join us for our



T-28 ANNUAL INSPECTION TRAINING WEEKEND

It was our great pleasure to have Jamie Trudeau of Trudeau Warbirds with us for our maintenance and safety stand down the weekend of January 30-February 1. We started the weekend on Friday with a brief walk around and some socializing at



New York Pizza in downtown Rome. Followed by a full weekend of inspection and training from Jamie with Justin Goss, Larry Jarrett, Jason Day. What a great opportunity for our members to learn from such a talented T-28 guru.

MECHANICS CORNER

by Phil Gilliland



How many of the younger generation would know what a grease fitting is? If you work with “Gunny” you will soon learn. The T-28’s rely on grease to lubricate important moving parts such as the landing gear, flaps, and gear doors. Saturday Gunny and I went thru the scheduled “Grease the aircraft maintenance”. Prepare to get a little greasy and be sure to wear head protection; you will bump your head, safety glasses and gloves. Gunny will give you instructions on where the fittings are located and how much grease to put in each one. It’s learning experience you will enjoy.

I also enjoyed working with Justin our maintenance coordinator. We did a compression test on the Alpha according to the maintenance manual. We had to manually rotate the engine to find TDC (Top Dead Center) and apply air pressure to determine the pressure level. This test gives an indication of ring and valve condition. Bravo also needed some TLC in this area. The cowling was pulled, valve covers removed and the valve lash checked. Bravo is near completion and will soon be ready to fly. Thanks to everyone who came out to help.

Remember, pilots only fly them, we keep them in the air !

ALL HANDS ON DECK



Maintenance and safety stand down efforts were ramped up when it was discovered that the Bravo was due for its prop AD inspection. All hands we called in to push the work on the annuals to be ready for airshow season. Many members came out and contributed to getting the prop off the plane the wheels painted for Alpha, and the gear swing done, to get her back on her legs. Also many other inspection items checked off the list. So many came out I could not begin to try to list them all. Thank you so much to all those members who helped get these things done.



Our members are amazing!!!



LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION



What an exciting day at the museum. David Lang with Atomic Videos came out to video tape the Caldwell family about their experience building the



Glasair and its donation to the museum. Dr. and Helen Caldwell were naturals in front of the camera and learning of the hard work and family memories was incredible. The video was in preparation for the Open Hangar Gala where Dr. Caldwell will be out

guest of honor this year and to add to our YouTube library. Make sure you go to our YouTube channel to check out the video.



We also had a visitor that weekend and ended up with a new life member. Ernie Betancourt joined the museum last year at the Smyrna TN airshow. He flew his beautiful, immaculate 1929 Waco ATO airplane in to Rome to visit the museum and to donate his T-28 class picture to the museum and decided to join as life member.



T-28 BRAVO GETS NEW BLING



Affectionately referred to as my high maintenance “Ladies”, the T-28 Bravo recently lived up to that title. While reviewing the log books for the annual inspections of the aircraft, Justin Goss our maintenance coordinator discovered

that Bravo was due for her prop inspection this year. Thanks to Tim Kline, Mike Ambler, Loy Blackwell, Jason Day, Justin Goss, Pete O’Hare, Ricky LeCroy and Peyton DeHart and a special thanks to Jamie Trudeau for shipping his prop tools for us to use. The prop came off and was taken



to Burlington NC for inspection. It was found to be in need of more TLC than the prop shop there was able to do so Peyton hauled the prop box from Hixson to Burlington for the prop to be shipped to

Whites Lake, MI where it was inspected and reassembled with new blades. The return delivery arrived in the late evening hours and the midnight oil was burned to get the prop mounted back on the plane in time for the Gala. Unfortunately only to find out she was still missing a part which was ordered and installed in time for the Salute to America airshow in Dallas, GA. She is back in the air and sporty her new shiny bling.



GIFT SHOP ITEMS

We now have three new colors of T-shirts in stock for purchase. One is black with white screen printing. The second shirt is a forest green with khaki screen printing and the third is white with the royal blue screen printing. The design has been re-worked a little and the price is still \$12.00 each.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event Schedule Museum of Flight 2015

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>OWNER</u>
January 1 – 30	Safety, Security & Maintenance Stand down	RMG Hangar Rome GA	Mark McAlister
February 1 – 28	Safety, Security & Maintenance Stand down	RMG Hangar Rome GA	Mark McAlister
March 19 – 22	Thunder In the Valley Air Show	Columbus GA	Peter O'Hare
April 10 -12	Museum of Flight Open Hanger Gala	CHA Wilson Air Chattanooga	Peter O'Hare
May 29-31	Good Neighbor Days	Peachtree-DeKallb, GA	TBD
"July 4 "	Independence Day Fly-By	Chattanooga TN	TBD
July 10 - 30	BTD 1 Destroyer Assembly & Paint	Rome Georgia	Christine Lewis
August 1 - 30	C-45 H Annual	RMG Hangar Rome GA	TBD
September	Barwick County Fly In	Lafayette GA	TBD
September 25-27	Memphis Air Show	Memphis TN	TBD
October 2-4	Wings Over North Georgia	Rome Georgia	TBD
"November 4"	Museum Mess Night	TBD	Peter O'Hare
November 6-30	Toys For Tots		
December 6-9	ICAS Convention	Las Vegas Nevada	Peter O'Hare
"December 15	Annual Blood Drive	TBD	Deming Gray

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Jeanne and Tony Bass

Voron Baughon

Jim Beaver

Dr. Donald Chamberlain

Nan Coddington

Dr. James Creel

Peyton Dehart

Larry Jarrett

Frank Kalinowski

Chris Keefe

David Lawson

Art Matthews

Erich DeHart

Spencer Morgan

Phil Gilliland

Scott Pilkington, Sr.

John Sullivan

Wayne Vick

Brent Wade

David Wells

Jody Whitmire

Ed Woods

Jorge Verdias

Dr. Gary Caldwell

Doug Woodruff

Judy Wilson

Stratton Tingle

Logan DeHart

Ernie Betancourt

Shawn Barber

