



“READY ROOM”

NEWSLETTER

Volume 7 : Issue 1

Volume 6: Issues 10 & 11

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

Crossville Fly-in

The Crossville fly-in was a wonderful opportunity for the museum last September. A fly-in is a pre-dictated meeting of aircraft, pilots, and members. The T-28s flew into Crossville on a crystal clear afternoon to meet some of the members that had gathered to watch their descent. The T-28s got some much-needed exercise, and their polished exteriors gleamed under the fading summer sun, making the day perfect for photo ops.



Sharon Graham helps Bobby Graham with a tricky flight suit.



T-28 Alpha Engine Overhauled

The members had to use a lot of elbow grease to remove and ship the gigantic T-28 Alpha Engine for overhaul. It was not an easy one-man task. The team of members had to work together to detach the massive engine before getting it ready to ship out for maintenance.



Larry Jarrett and Jason Beaver work on removing the engine

New Donations from N.M.C.A.

The National Museum of Commercial Aviation has generously donated a variety of different equipment to our Museum of Flight: a Martin 404 Cockpit Trainer, a Ray Charles Martin 404 Cockpit, a commercial airliner black box, a Gibson Girl emergency radio, and more. The Martin 404 Cockpit Trainer suffered some injuries during transportation, but we will work on it until one day it is fully functional. Another one of the exciting donations is the Ray Charles Martin 404 Cockpit, which is off of Ray Charles Martin's actual aircraft. The United States manufactured emergency radio, nicknamed Gibson Girl, is also a special relic. Rescue parties used Gibson Girls to find the bearings of distress signals, or the Gibson Girls was used to locate the signals through the aircraft radio compass. These are just a few of the donations from the National Museum of Commercial Aviation. The Museum of Flight thanks them for their support.

Picture on right: Matt DeVille, Jim Cook, Peter O'Hare, and Chuck Maire of the N.M.C.A.



A Southern Airway's simulator travels to the museum.



The Martin 404 is welcomed with open arms.

For Sale!



Museum of Flight

**1946 Taylorcraft
BC12-D
\$16000.00**



**Contact Matt DeVille
Museum Development
Director**

706-206-6285



**N96661 Serial # 8961
65hp Continental
engine, TTE 1654.1,
SMOH 993.5. Annual
June 25, 2016 ACTT
2271.5. Aux wing tank,
auto fuel STC.**



Safety Stand-Down & Aircraft Maintenance

The members have been busy putting safety first during a Safety Stand-Down, before getting their hands dirty with aircraft maintenance. The safety stand down focused on “Fall Hazards” and emphasized “Fall Prevention.” It was an important chance for everyone to discuss hazards, protection, and safety policies and goals. The aircraft maintenance offered an opportunity for members to work on the Glasair, T-28s, and the C-45. Everyone joined forces to get the aircrafts in the best possible shape.



Director Christine took no time before getting to work.



A crowd had gathered in the name of safety.



It takes a team to work on a T-28.

Hotel Discount for Open Hangar Gala

The much anticipated annual open hangar gala will be on April 15. Many travel from far and wide to experience a night filled with dinner, dancing, and DJs, all centered on aviation and charity. The Country Inn & Suites in Rome, GA is offering a discounted \$83 room rate, if the Museum of Flight is mentioned. Call: 706-232-3380



Get Your Tickets Now!



Museum of Flight

WWW.MOFTS.ORG
423.228.2FLY (2359)



Seventh Annual Open Hangar Gala



April 15, 2017

304 Russell Field Rd NW Rome, GA 30165

Dress:
Military Dress Mess or Dress Blue
Civilian Cocktail Attire
Museum Blazer & Tie

Reception

6:00 - 7:00



The event supports the museum and Ronald McDonald House Chattanooga

Silent Auction

Specifically for Ronald McDonald House Chattanooga 1800 - 2030

The Main Event

7:00

- > Dinner Catered by **BiBa's** ITALIAN RESTAURANT
- > Invocation
- > Brief Program

Dance The Night Away

8:00-10:30

- > Dancing By **THE BEATERS**
- > DJ & Sound BY **Matrix Music**



Let Us Capture You



In A WarBird Cockpit
Pictures by Amilia

1824 East Crabtree Rd. Hixson TN 37343 - 423.228.2FLY (2359)

"To increase the public's awareness of aviation through the flight of historic aircraft while supporting the local children's hospital"



<http://mofts.org>

1765 Thrasher Pike, Hixson, Tennessee 37343
423.228.2FLY
Hangar: 304 Russell Field Rd, Rome GA 30165



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"Exceeding Customer Expectations since 1990"

322 South Blvd. Rome, GA 30161
Phone: 769-253-6773 Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Matt DeVille

New Development Director

We are very excited to welcome, Matt DeVille, our new development director to our family here at the museum. DeVille, a Rome native, has had a lifelong passion for aviation. He obtained a BA in history, with a focus on public history and military history from Middle Tennessee State University. DeVille's passion that guided him, to first obtain his very own balsa glider as a child, has guided him all of his life. Now, that passion has led him here, to work with us at the Museum of Flight.

DeVille's interest in history has served his understanding of aviation and prompted his desire to help those in his community foster a love of aviation. Yet, DeVille also has experience outside of our local community. In 2013, DeVille traveled to Vietnam, to further analyze and understand the Vietnam War. He returned with an enhanced aspiration to help future generations learn about and appreciate the bravery and sacrifices of our men and women in uniform.

We look forward to further working with DeVille and seeing his unique traits and talents in action. As the development director, DeVille will implement plans to raise funds for the museum. So, DeVille will be given the large task of overseeing fundraising. The very fundraising that will help give us the ability to continue with our work and our goals, aviation or otherwise, that we set for ourselves.



DeVille posing with a C1-COD



1940's Hangar Dance

The WWII themed 1940's dance last September was truly a night to remember. Although costumes were not required, nearly every attendee dressed in true 40's fashion. So, there was a plethora of competition at the costume party. The rest of the starlit evening was filled with dinner, drinks, dancing, and great music. Laughter echoed out of the hangar. It was a night filled with not only fun but charity too. As with everything that we do at the museum, we try to find any opportunity to give back to the community that has made us so strong.



James Howard poses between Christy Thau-howard and Christine Lewis



Terri and Doug Woodruff look dapper in their 40's garb

Rome Block Party

The Rome block party was yet another opportunity for the museum to engage with the public. Face painting was the most popular station, much to parents' chagrin. The decaled Corvette also made an appearance, which delighted adults and children alike. There was great foot traffic past the tent that had memberships available for sale. There is no wonder why membership continues to rise, as the museum hosts so many fun events for the public to take part in.



<http://mofts.org>

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Tommy Stallings Installed New Radio in

Bravo

We want to thank Tommy Stallings for using his expertise to install a new radio in the Bravo. Thanks to his efforts there is now a reliable radio in another one of our aircrafts. Members like Stallings are the reason why our museum is so successful.



Rome Airshow

The Rome airshow was electric with excitement last September. The BTD-1 made its first appearance, along with the regular assembly of aircraft. There were marvelous displays of aviation, as various flybys were scheduled throughout the day. Yet, the airshow served as something more. The Rome airshow was a time for the community to gather and honor those that lost their lives while protecting our country. As one walked around the tarmac the telling of stories could be heard. Friends and family of men and women in the military would be reminded of the love that their loved ones' had for our country and the sacrifices they made to ensure that we can maintain our freedom. The Museum of Flight is dedicated to the beauty of aviation, but it is also dedicated to the many men and women throughout history that have given so much for our freedoms.



Mark McAllister gives one of his famous tours

We Remember Mark Charles McAllister

MOF Safety and Security Officer

Finally, to conclude this newsletter, we bid adieu to a father, husband, brother, friend, and a member of our family here at the museum. Mark Charles McAllister passed away peacefully on January 23. His memorial was held at our hangar, where over 200 people joined together in celebration to remember Mark's memory. Mark gave so much to the museum and to all of us that are involved with it. The Tiger Flight performed a “Missing Man” formation, our last salute to truly great man. It was appropriate that he was honored at a place where he was surrounded by what he loved to do, and by people that loved him.

Mark is not the only McAllister that volunteered at the museum. His whole family is an integral part of the museum. His wife, Rebecca (Becky) McAllister, is the communications director, and his son, Sean, docents regularly. Becky thought back to their experiences at the museum together, “In October of 2012, Mark and I attended the Rome Air Show and met a great group of people. Debbie Lawson and Sally Bast didn't have to do much talking to get Mark to buy a family membership to the Hixson Flight Museum. Mark was so excited to be a part of the museum. We made the trip up to the Museum a couple of times for training with Pete O'Hare . . . Mark was in his element. He loved airplanes and flying.” Both Becky and Mark found themselves donating a plethora of their time to the betterment of the museum.

Becky recalls that once the museum moved to Rome, Mark's backyard, he volunteered even more. He could be seen almost every Sunday afternoon working on countless tasks. He would help with safety and security, drive the "Deuce and a Half" with his commercial driver's license, give cockpit tours, and help with varying other missions. This was Mark's hobby for more than four years, and we like to think that he enjoyed being at the museum as much as we loved having him here. We all miss him deeply and offer Becky, Sean, and his other family and friends our deepest condolences.



Mark exuding his typical essence of strength and confidence.



Mark had an eagle eye, making him the perfect Safety and Security Officer.



Tiger Flight performs the “Missing Man” formation.



The Museum of Flight's members, staff, and board of directors gathered to remember Mark.



The air was heavy with love and sorrow, as the crowd sat filled with memories of Mark.



2017 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
March 11	Open House	Rome Airport	Complete
March 24-26	Airshow	Brunswick	
March 31-April 1	Airshow	DeFuniak Springs	
April 8-9	Airshow	Columbus	
April 15	Open Hangar Gala	Rome Airport	
June 10	Airshow	PDK Good Neighbor	
September 23	Airshow	Lafayette, GA	
September 30	Airshow	Crossville, TN	
October 20-22	Airshow	Coosa Valley Fairground	

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Jeanne & Tony Bass
Shawn Barber
Voron Baughon
Jim Beaver
Ernie Betancourt
Dr. Gary Caldwell
Phil Cataldo
Dr. Donald Chamberlain
Nan Coddington
Ronnie Cox
Dr. James Creel
Erich DeHart
Vance Engle

Logan DeHart
Peyton Dehart
Ron Dobbs
Scott Ducker
Phil Gilliland
International Aviation Services
Larry Jarrett
Chris Keefe
David Lawson
Christine Lewis
Frank Kalinowski
Art Matthews
Spencer Morgan

Scott Murray
Pete and Susan O'Hare
Scott Pilkington Sr.
Sol Snyder
Don Shephard
John Sullivan
Stratton Tingle
Wayne Vick
Brent Wade
David Wells
Jody Whitmire
Ed Woods
Jorge Verdias

Judy Wilson
Doug Woodruff
Kim Watkins
James Green
Fred Amicangioli
Capt. Don Bailey

