



“READY ROOM”

NEWSLETTER

Volume 7 : Issue 6

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

A Museum Engagement!

Jason Beaver is engaged to be married to Alison Turner! The two took gorgeous engagement pictures at the museum. Jason is a long time member, and we at the Museum of Flight are overjoyed that we get to share in his happiness. We wish the couple endless sunshine as they journey together into the next stage of their lives. Congratulations!



NoogaStrong Memorial Ride, Flyby & Community Concert

We had the honor and privilege of flying Petty Officer Randall Smith's grandfather for the NoogaStrong Memorial Ride flyby. U.S. Naval Officer 2nd Class Randal Smith a 26-year-old logistics specialist in the Navy was a young man that was overflowing with promise, but he and four other men made the ultimate sacrifice during a terrorist attack in Chattanooga 2 years ago July 16, 2015. Never forgotten...



Navy Petty Officer Randal Smith

Thank you to all our members who helped us honor the memory of the Fallen Five. Pete "Wheeler" O'Hare and Don Shepard for fighting the weather and finding a way to punch through yesterday to make the Chattanooga National Cemetery on time and on target! Thank you, Tony Sommer, Jason Beaver, Matt Deville, Devan Pitman, and Shawn Woodward for all your hard work. Pete O'Hare executed the single ship Solemn flyby beautifully over the Riverwalk!



Petty Officer Randall Smith's Grandfather with our crew on the wing of the T-28.



Flybys, Flybys, and More Flybys!



On July 1st museum members and pilots alike got up early to make the Floyd County Conservation Club fly by a success. The lucky charm may have been Larry's grandson who rode in the backseat.



July 3rd Pops on the River was popping with excitement. James Howard of Sunny 92.3 flew in the Bravo, and Elizabeth Davis of 1410 AM WLAQ flew in the Alpha. Don Shephard flew the Alpha and Fred Amicangioli flew the Bravo. There is no better way to welcome the 4th than with a patriotic flyby.



The Museum of Flight had a very patriotic 4th, the pilots and members got to enjoy a beautiful evening completing a flyby for the Chattanooga Football Club. Joel Megginson Senior flew in the Bravo, and Joel Megginson Junior flew in the Alpha, and Joel Junior's nephew flew in the C-45. The three generations drew together to celebrate Joel Seniors 80th birthday.

Happenings at the Museum

The newest life member Bill Holland presents a celebratory military brand scotch to Jamie Trudeau in honor of his successful warbird restoration business. Trudeau does great work; the business prides themselves on setting the standard for safety. They have refinished and restored over 800 aircraft. Click [here](#) to discover more about Trudeau Warbird Enterprises.



The maintenance crew is on the job! They were busy this July replacing the transmission on the CH-53 that has been sitting in Chattanooga for two months. They put in some great sweat equity.



Museum of Flight Director, Christine Lewis, spent some of her summer scoping out the National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Florida. Click [here](#) to learn more about the museum and all of their exhibits.



Stemco held their employee retreat at our hangar. It was a day full of flying, bonding, and recognition. Employees and museum volunteers alike had fun, enjoying the thrills of aviation.



Brian Flippo, A&P, Shawn Woodward, and Devan Pittman replace the nose gear tire at Chattanooga on the Banshee 750 after it blew out on takeoff out of Rome. Thank you all for your hard work!

If you have not already donated towards bringing the Museum of Flight's very own F-14 Tomcat home, it would be so greatly appreciated. Click [here](#) to go to the GoFund page to donate. We cannot wait until the day when we are able to welcome home the beautiful and historic aircraft!





**THE LARGEST
GOP RALLY
IN NORTH GEORGIA!**

**10 AM TO 1 PM
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12
RICHARD B. RUSSELL REGIONAL AIRPORT
TILLMAN HANGAR
ROME, GEORGIA**



Tales of an Aircraft Mechanic

August 2017

My fellow aircraft nuts;

Here we are in August already; the year is quickly slipping by so quickly. We still a few Preventative Maintenance issues on the books that must be completed before the end of September. I will be relying on your help to get these jobs done in the coming months, so please contact me to schedule your time to help.

Here is the month of July in review, starting from the most recent events and working backwards:

1. On Monday the 31st July both T28's were preflight checked by myself in readiness for their flight over at the National Cemetery in Chattanooga. The flights were in Honor of our two lost members Ronnie "Gunny" Cox and Doctor Gary Caldwell (Glasair donor) whose funerals were held on Tuesday the 1st of August.
2. On Friday the 28th of July both T28's and the C45 were rolled out of the hanger and washed within an inch of their lives, thanks to Jason B, Mike A Jr, and myself.
3. While the aircraft were out of the hanger Matt D and I swept and washed the hanger floor.
4. Also on Friday Justin G and David B worked on the Glasair in an attempt to get it ready for a flight on Tuesday Aug 1st, but they were not able to repair it in time to fly over Doctor Caldwell's service.
5. On Saturday the 22nd of July, Darrell B and I (Under the supervision of Justin G) replaced the rod end bearings on bravo's elevator trim tabs, and also the rod end on the elevator control rod.
6. On Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th the Museum of Flight conducted two flybys in Chattanooga to honor the Fallen Five. The weather started out fair but by the time the crew were getting ready to taxi the sky opened up and it bucketed down. Normally we would not fly in such weather but this was an important event as the grandfather of one of the fallen was in Bravo and we had to go. On takeoff, T28 Bravo hit and enormous puddle of water on the runway that threw up a spectacular spray of water, but unfortunately it caused the nose wheel tire to blow out. Pilot Pete landed the aircraft safely in Chattanooga.
7. A new nose wheel tire and tube was ordered and a crew in Chattanooga changed it for us.
8. The 'paint party' to prepare the C45 for painting was held between the 5th and 8th of July was a success thanks to Garrett, Michaela, Darrell, Christine and me. It took a little longer than planned due to the lack of volunteers.
9. On July 10th STEMCO, an international corporation located in Rome, brought 15 of their staff to fly in our two T28's. A great day was had by all, thanks to all our dedicated volunteers.



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Jobs still to be completed;

1. T28-B needs both main tires replacing.
2. Wing to fuselage seal needs to be replaced on T28-B. The seal can be cut from an old inner tube.
3. C45 still has some static discharge wicks missing
4. The tow bar for the C45 needs repairing
5. We need a couple drip trays for the C45
6. VSI (rate of climb) meter in Bravo back seat not working

A new Maintenance procedure has been implemented that will identify and record any fault that may prevent the aircraft from making a safe mission;

Before any aircraft is flown the Ground Crew will perform a “Preflight Check” and follow and record their inspection on the forms available from my office.

Likewise when an aircraft returns from a flight Ground crew will perform an “After Flight Check” and follow and record their inspection on the forms available.

Thank you all once again for your good work and hope to see you in the hanger soon.

Tony Sommer, Maintenance Coordinator

Do you have a story or a picture you want to share?

Contact Savannah O’Hare
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We Remember Doctor Caldwell

It is with boundless sadness we say goodbye to Museum of Flight Life Member, Dr. Gary Caldwell. He passed the morning of July 27th, survived by his wife, children, brother, and sister, as well as many grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Dr. Caldwell also leaves behind countless friends, because Dr. Caldwell was the type of person to make even a stranger feel like family.

Dr. Caldwell was born in Mississippi where he completed his schooling, including obtaining his M.D. at the University of Mississippi Medical School. It wasn't until he completed his internship and medical residency at Erlanger Hospital did he move to Chattanooga. He served two years at the United States Naval Hospital in Quantico, Va, before returning to Chattanooga. Service and generosity are two characteristics that were engrained into Dr. Caldwell. He worked tirelessly to make both his country and his local community a better place.

The Museum of Flight was lucky enough to receive some of that generosity in late 2014, Dr. Caldwell donated the 1980 Glasair I to the museum and became a life member. If you wish to read more about this beautiful aircraft and the eight years it took to complete it, please visit the [museum newsletter archives](#).

However, aviation was not Dr. Caldwell's only passion. He also loved the sailing, cursing, and photography. He was also a member of the Barnard Astronomical Society and even received a Lewellen Evans Award in 2008 for outstanding achievement and dedicated service to the society. Yet, this was not enough to keep Dr. Caldwell busy; he was also a member of the Privateer Yacht Club. Dr. Caldwell was a man of adventure, always full of curiosity and an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. We'll miss you Doc!!

Our sincere condolences to the family.



We Remember Ronnie "Gunny" Cox

Gunny will be remembered here at the Museum of Flight for his larger than life personality, and his tremendous strength. The strength that kept him fighting for so long in his battle against cancer. But, on July 28th, Gunny was called home, he had fought for long enough. Gunny passed at his Soddy Daisy home; he is survived by his son, siblings, nieces, and nephews, as well as countless friends.

Gunny was one to put everyone's needs before his own, especially those of his country. Gunny was a proud Marine, and rightly so, he served in Vietnam as a sniper and an MP, which earned him several service medals. He continued his military service by serving in the Army National Guard for twenty-four years. This is the man we all knew. A man who would give you the very shirt off his back, if you ever so much as asked. He worked assiduously for the Museum of Flight, putting in countless hour for the betterment of our collection of aircraft and everyone involved.

The BTD-1 Destroyer was his pet project, and he was a key contributor to its retrieval both financially and in sweat equity. This beast of an aircraft will serve as a reminder of Gunny's generosity. We can only hope that we as members live up to the standards that he set.

Although, Gunny spent more than his share of time volunteering he also found time for his other passions, like; fishing, building large scale models of airplanes and Army tanks. We are just glad that Gunny decided to spend so much of his time at the museum. He brightened everyone's day. We already miss his sunshine.

We love and miss you Gunny!



Gunny testing his strength against a monster aircraft, if any one person could do it, we would put money on Gunny.



2017 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
March 11 th	Open House	Rome Airport	Complete
March 24-26 th	Airshow	Brunswick	Complete
March 31-April 1 st	Airshow	DeFuniak Springs	Complete
April 8-9 th	Airshow	Columbus	Complete
April 15 th	Open Hangar Gala	Rome Airport	Complete
May 27 th	Flyby	Chattanooga FC	Complete
June 3 rd	Fly-in	Madison County Open House	Complete
June 10 th	Airshow	PDK Good Neighbor	Complete
June 17 th	Fly-in	Calhoun	Complete
July 1 st	Fly-in	Floyd County Wildlife Club	Complete
July 3 rd	Flyby	Pops on the River	Complete
July 4 th	Flyby	Chattanooga FC	Complete
July 10 th	Stemco Corporate Even	Museum hangar	Complete
September 23 rd	Airshow	Lafayette, GA	
September 30 th	Airshow	Crossville, TN	
October 20-22 nd	Airshow	Coosa Valley Fairground	

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Jeanne & Tony Bass
 Michaela Baswell
 Voron Baughon
 Garrett Bennett
 Jim Beaver
 Ernie Betancourt
 Bob Brodie
 Daniel Byrnes
 Dr. Gary Caldwell
 Phil Cataldo
 Dr. Donald Chamberlain.
 Nan Coddington
 Ronnie Cox
 Dr. James Creel
 Erich DeHart
 Logan DeHart
 Peyton Dehart
 William Diaz
 Charlie Dickens

Phil Gilliland
 James Green
 Jeffery Hatcher
 Thomas Henegar
 James Henthorn
 International Aviation Services
 Dave Johnston
 Larry Jarrett
 Frank Kalinowski
 Chris Keefe
 David Lawson
 Christine Lewis
 Art Matthews
 Dawn Miller
 Spencer Morgan
 Bjorn Nelson
 Scott Murray
 Pete & Susan O'Hare

Sonny Padayao
 Don Shephard
 Woodrow Smith
 Sol Snyder
 Anthony Sommer
 John Sullivan
 Stratton Tingle
 Jorge Verdias
 Wayne Vick
 Brent Wade
 David Wallace
 Kim Watkins
 David Wells
 Sanford White
 Jody Whitmire
 Judy Wilson
 Ed Wood
 Doug Woodruff