



# “READY ROOM”

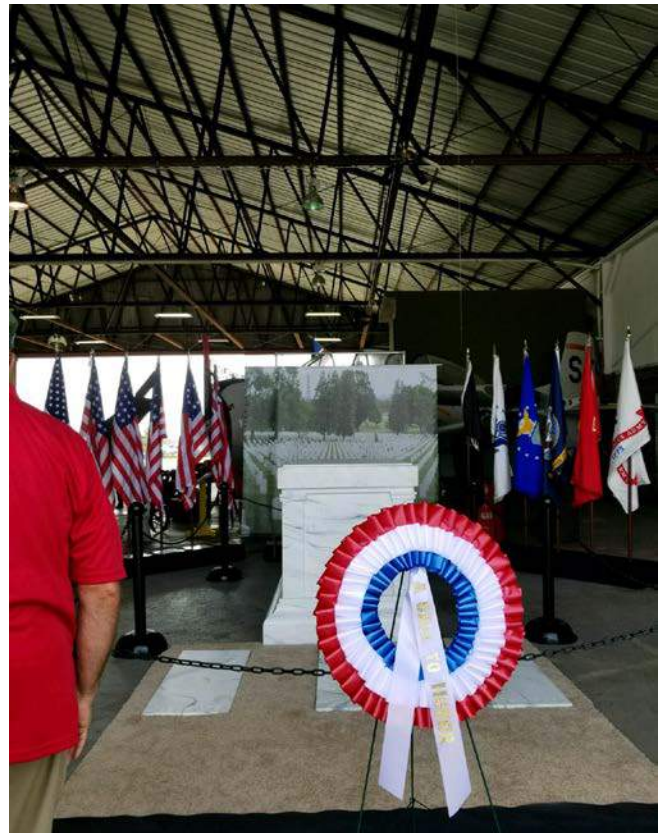
## NEWSLETTER

Volume 8: 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.*

## The Annual Museum of Flight Open House

The open house was another in a line of successes. The museum hosted cockpit tours, Home Depot kid's projects, food from a variety of local vendors, Huey & Cobra rides, the National Anthem & Colors by the Young Marines, T-28B flights, and a torque versus thrust demo. The day was packed with presentations, activities, and delicious food. A huge thank you is warranted to many including the; Young Marines for providing the colors, Erich DeHart for bringing the T6, Lesley Duke and Matt Fox for bringing the military vehicles, the Rome Exchange Club for hosting the replica Tomb of the Unknown, Ron Dobbs a MOF life member who flew in his helicopter, the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation for bringing the Huey and Cobra, and all the guest speakers. It is a “can't miss” event!



### **Above & Right:**

*The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier or the Tomb of the Unknowns is a monument dedicated to U.S. service members who have died without their remains being identified. Having no officially designated name, it is located in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.. Groups of dedicated men and women travel throughout the US to remind citizens of the brave men and women that have fallen. The Rome Exchange Club brought the replica to the open house, we thank them for their tireless efforts.*





**Above:** Thrust vs torque demonstration.



**Above:** The Rosie the Riveters' presentation.





**Left & Below:** Executive Director, Terri Woodruff, of the Anna Shaw Institute welcomed visitors to a booth at the open house. Dedicated to the memory of Anna Sue Shaw, the Institute will be a regional leader of and advocate for the care of children who are experiencing the challenges of autism spectrum disorder. The institute is needed now more than ever as 1 in 64 children has been identified with an autism spectrum disorder. Cognitive, psychological and developmental evaluations will be completed at the Institute to ensure the assessment of each child’s individual skill set and to identify appropriate therapy services to maximize the child’s development. The Institute will serve the families of Northwest Georgia, an invaluable local resource. Initial construction on the Institute is already underway and expected to be completed March of 2019.





# Donate to the Museum through Purchases You Already Make

Donating to the museum is now easier than ever thanks to Giving Assistant and AmazonSmile. If you create an account through Giving Assistant you can earn cash back at over 3,000 stores, and enjoy coupons at over 6,000 stores. When cash back is earned it can be donated to the museum. Click [here](#) to create an account and start donating. AmazonSmile is just as easy to use. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of items bought through Amazon. All you need to do is buy the products through smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com and select Museum of Flight, Hixson as your preferred cause. Click [here](#) to register.

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Museum of flight hixson

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**Museum of Flight Hixson** Hixson TN

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**Featured Hot Deals**

<b>Free Shipping</b> on \$45+ Orders Plus 6% cash back	<b>20% Off Purchases</b> \$90+ Plus 9% cash back	<b>Up to 73% Off Daily Deals</b> Plus 6% cash back	<b>7% Off Sitewide</b> Plus 4% cash back
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**Trending Deals**

<b>airbnb</b> Earn up to 10% Cash Back as a Host!	<b>eBags</b> 25% Off Sitewide + Free Shipping	<b>KENDRA SCOTT</b> 15% Off Spring Styles	<b>Jake's Little Acne</b> 25% Off Children's Selections
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## F-14 Tomcat Update!



The wings are finally home! It took a village, aviators, mechanics, and volunteers, but they are both resting safely at the museum waiting for the fuselage. The museum is hard at work planning for "Sweet Little Miss's" arrival and display. A special F-14 memorial brick walkway surrounding the aircraft. Call 423-800-3455 to order your brick today! Donations can also be made on the [GoFundMe page](#), any size donation helps. Although the whole F-14 will soon be home many expenses still remain. The shipping alone cost a total of \$40,000.



Call 423-800-3455 to reserve your paver today!





# Good Neighbor Day Open House Airshow



The PDK airshow is always a favorite, even though this year the weather decided not to cooperate, but the flexible and dedicated MOF team still made it work. It also marked an exciting milestone; the first time a team of skydivers partnered with the MOF. The women’s parachuting team, the Misty Blues, successfully jumped out of the C45. It was the highlight of the airshow. The static display was packed with curious visitors.









# Adult Prom to End Alzheimer’s



The fourth annual “A Night to Remember: An Adult Prom” took place on Saturday, May 12, 2018. The local celebrities on the Prom Court competed to become Prom King and Queen by raising funds for the Alzheimer’s Association and local dementia-related needs. The museum was honored to host an elegant evening for a great cause.





## Happenings around the Museum

Devan Standish performs maintenance on the military mule.



A donated flat screen TV was installed over the wing bar.

Dennis Shaw gave the C45 a much needed oil change.





## Museum Spotlight: Ernie Betancourt

Ernie Betancourt hasn't just admired a T-28 from a lawn chair at an airshow, he was trained in the beast of an aircraft. Betancourt has experienced many of the events and aircraft that the Museum of Flight has worked to preserve, ensuring that the aircraft are maintained and the history is safeguarded for the next generation. Yet, Betancourt didn't always want to become a pilot. When he first joined the Airforce he didn't initially apply for pilot training. He had struggled with motion sickness and couldn't imagine himself surviving aerobatics. Betancourt eventually decided to apply for helicopter training, he thought that helicopters would be less likely to exacerbate his motion sickness. But, to his initial chagrin, he realized that he would have to complete training in the T-28. Betancourt became determined not to let his motion sickness get the better of him, in no time he had mastered the air combat maneuvers in the T-28.



Betancourt was in the last class to complete training in the T-28s. All of his instructors were hand selected, seasoned experts. After training Betancourt was sent to fight in Vietnam. He flew out of Da Nang, Vietnam as a long-range recovery helicopter pilot. He worked to rescue downed pilots in North Vietnam and Laos. After the war, he returned to the states where he worked as an Airforce helicopter school trainer. The Airforce then made the decision that Betancourt and other helicopter pilots that had trained in the T-28 program, most of whom were Vietnam Veterans, need to recomplete pilot training. The pilots negotiated with the administration and were only required to complete the program on a proficiency basis. Betancourt completed the program flying the T-38s, he said there was no competition, far preferred his Huey.

After he completed his final bout of Airforce training he considered flying the 130, which he flew in formation with in Vietnam and refueled off of. But, he would have had to be stationed out of Alaska, which he decided was a little too far north for him. He ultimately decided on the 134 which he describes as a great plane, even though the hours that were required of him were extraordinary.

Betancourt is now retired allowing him more time to enjoy the thing he loves most, aviation. He lives on a farm outside of Nashville that is complete with its own landing strip. His planes are literally in his backyard. He is married to his wife Nancy, they share a daughter and wonderful granddaughters. His motion sickness is now a thing of the past, he regularly enjoys aerobatics and nuanced maneuvers. While attending an airshow at Smyrna he saw the Museum of Flight's T-28A, Betancourt had kept his eye out for T-28s like those he trained in. He said that he has seen plenty of Cs, a fair deal of Bs, but rarely an A. He became a member and the Museum of Flight is far greater for having a man of Betancourt's experience, skill, and knowledge.



*Betancourt pictured top left with his USAF class; 66B/H.*



<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
January 1	Ground Handling Ops- Pete O’Hare	Museum	Complete
January 13	Airport Operations- Mike Mathews	Museum	Complete
January 20	Mishaps Lessons Learned- Gerad Riestar	Museum	Complete
January 27	Pancake Breakfast & Safety Videos	Museum	Complete
February 3	Safety Standdown	Museum	Complete
February 10	Safety Standdown	Museum	Complete
February 17	Safety Standdown	Museum	Complete
February 24	Pancake breakfast & Mandatory Pilot Meeting for all Pilots flying in 2018	Museum	Complete
March 3	Safety Standdown	Museum	Complete
March 10	Safety Standdown	Museum	Complete
March 17	All Hands on deck for upcoming Airshow	Museum	Complete
April 7-8	Thunder in the Valley Airshow	Columbus, GA	Complete
April 14	Museum of Flight Gala	Museum	Complete
April 28	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	Complete
April 28-29	Joint Base Charleston Expo	North Charleston, SC	Complete
May 19	Good Neighbor Day Fly-in	KPDK	Complete
May 26	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	Complete
TBD; May/June	Airshow	Calhoun	Complete
June 2	Museum Open House	Museum	Complete
June 23	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	
July 28	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	
August 25	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	
September 15-16	Owensboro Airshow	Owensboro, KY	
September	1970s Hangar Dance	Rome, GA	
September 22	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	
September 22	Fly-in	Lafayette, GA	
September 29	Fly-in	Crossville, GA	
October 13-14	Wings Over North Georgia Airshow	Rome, GA	
October 27	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	
October 27-28	NAS Jax Airshow	Jacksonville	
November 3	Toys for Tots & Mess Night	Museum	
November 24	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	
December 29	Pancake Fly-in Breakfast	Museum	





## LIFETIME MEMBERS

Shawn Barber  
George Barron  
Jeanne & Tony Bass  
Voron Baughan  
James Beaver  
James Brown  
Ray Bell  
Ernie & Nancy Betancourt  
Ed Callahan  
Thomas Calvanelli  
Phil Cataldo  
Dr. Donald H. Chamberlin  
Nancy Coddington  
Ronnie Cox  
Dr. James Creel  
Richard Dean  
The DeHart Family  
Ron Dobbs  
Scott Ducker  
Mike Ellis  
Vance Engle  
Phil Gilliland  
Deming Gray

James Greene  
Robert Henninger  
Mark Homen  
Larry Jarrett  
Chris Keefe  
Frank Kalinowski  
David Lawson  
Jennifer Leach  
Anne Lewinson  
Christine M. Lewis  
Arthur Matthews  
Pamela McAllister  
Brian McNiece  
Spencer Morgan  
Scott Murray  
Tony Neal  
Peter & Susan O'Hare  
John Osterhage  
Clarence Greer Parramore  
Time Rhyne  
Gerad Riester  
Peter Serodino  
Dr. Daniel Serrato

Don Shepard  
Woodrow Smith  
Sol Snyder  
John Sullivan  
Jorge Veridas  
Wayne Vick  
Kim Watkins  
David Wells  
Brent Westfall  
Terri & Doug Woodruff

### **Gone West:**

Joan Beaver  
Dr. Gary Caldwell  
Ronnie Cox  
Mark McAllister  
Patricia O'Hare  
Conrad Schalk  
Sylvia Wygoda

