

VINTAGE FLYING MUSEUM

Minutes
June 23, 2007

NEXT MEETING – MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY & WORK PARTY on SUNDAY, JULY 22, noon to 5 PM

Bring your work clothes & a dish to share. Tractor-made ice cream & drinks provided.

1. B-17 Annual Update

- Due to a lack of help, we're behind on the work that needs to be done to get *Chuckie* ready to fly. The Yankee Air Museum (Detroit) is helping by making a replacement part. We need mechanics & mechanically-inclined volunteers to help complete the annual. Volunteers should be willing to commit to 1-day a week so they're familiar with the work, aircraft limits and VFM practices. There are sign up lists and a list of jobs/tasks that need to be done posted in the maintenance shop. Contact Doc Hospers or James Kelly if you're interested.
- We weren't able to schedule air show appearances this season due to the annual. Instead we'll concentrate on giving rides for \$450 each. We have a waiting list for those interested in taxi rides or flights. **If you would like to fly or know of anyone who might be interested, please sign up.**

2. Welcome New Members – New and prospective members were welcomed. Please introduce yourselves and jump in to the activities. We're delighted to have you join the museum and be so eager to share your enthusiasm and talent.

3. Take Flight Days, ACE Academy & Teachers' Workshop

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with educational activities in the past months. Dan Patz organized volunteers for several Take Flight days and tours for large school groups. We need a pool of volunteers who are available on weekdays to help with tours, glider-building, speakers, set-up, etc. There's another group tentatively scheduled for July 18th. If you're interested in helping at youth events, please contact Dan at HQ918BG@aol.com.

Thanks also to the volunteers and pilots who flew 30 kids and 20 teachers during the ACE Academy & Teachers' Workshop. Weather postponed the ACE flights, but it came off beautifully the following week. Fuel for the volunteer aircraft was donated by Phazar & Texas Jet. These are our big annual educational activities in cooperation with the FAA, Black Airline Pilots Association, TCC and other organizations. Next year's Aerospace Education Workshop for Teachers will be expanded to 200 teachers in conjunction with a TEA initiative and TCC. If you're interested in helping, please contact Chuckie.

4. 17th Annual Big Band Hangar Dance & Silent Auction – Sat., October 13th

Theme: Salute to the U.S. Air Force

- Corporate Sponsors – We need corporate sponsors to help underwrite some of the costs of putting on the dance. Sponsors receive advertising credit in our publicity and on our website for the year, corporate banners are displayed at the dance and companies are given a corporate table with 10 tickets and a special basket if they choose to attend the dance. Some companies give tickets to employees as an award; others decline the tickets but receive the benefit of publicity from their sponsorship. If you think your company might be willing to sponsor, please give Chuckie the contact information for follow up.
- Silent Auction – Deanne & Pete Bromkowski and Greg & Jeff Quinn have terrific plans for this year's Silent Auction. Start collecting donations now. Items should be new or collectibles. We need a range of merchandise (\$5- thousands of dollars). Model airplane kits, airline tickets, sports event passes, uniform or vintage clothing articles, coupons for services like oil changes, hair styling, photos or art work, household items, tools, airplane rides – all kinds of things appeal to our bidders. We'll post a **Donation Letter** and have printed copies available to solicit donations from merchants. We'll post a **Donation Receipt** on the website or you can pick up a sample at the VFM. This will help us to keep track of who donated what, prepare receipts or "thank you" letters and really helps the person

typing the Bid Sheets. Please fill out a donation receipt or at least attach a description of the item and it's value. This saves a lot of work for the bid sheet typist.

- Advertising/Publicity – Lance Anderson & family will take on the media notification campaign. It was suggested that we contact KAAM and the XTM 40's station in addition to the local and state media. Flyers will be available to print from the website and we'll have printed copies for distribution. Word of mouth brings in a lot of attendees so please mention the dance wherever you go.
- B-17 Tours – We'll need volunteers to give tours through the B-17 and to help keep visitors moving.

- Preparations & Set Up

Volunteer sign up sheets are in the Briefing Room. We'll need lots of help, so please sign-up for 1 or more positions.

Set Up – The week before the dance is hectic. We need to move planes out of the hangar to set up but we can't do it too early due to the weather, so most of the work is done on Friday. Once the planes are out & the B-17 is pushed back, we sweep the hangar several times. We'll need volunteers and a fork lift operator to move the stage, tables and chairs from the North hangar. Volunteers will be needed to set up, clean and cover the 100+tables and 1000 chairs. We'll need to set up the stage and podium.

Signage – David Hanson, a new member, and Devlin Chouinard volunteered to print signs and banners for the dance & other events.

Sound system - The sound system has been a particular problem because of the poor acoustics in the hangar. This is especially difficult because people are not able to hear or understand the announcer. If you have any expertise, please get with James Kelly.

Lights and Electrical Work – We need 2 (or more) light towers with generators to illuminate the parking areas. We also need a spotlight and check/replace the hangar light bulbs. There are always electrical outlet and cable problems that require professional expertise. If you're a licensed electrician, we really need you on stand-by the night of the dance.

Gift Baskets – Are you creative and resourceful? We need a volunteer or volunteers to stock & assemble gift baskets for our sponsors, corporate tables and as prizes. We'll need donations of wine, cheeses, crackers, cookies or other goodies to stock the baskets. Wrapping is usually done the day of the dance to keep the perishable items fresh. Anyone interested in taking this project on?

Golf carts & Parking – We'll have 4-5 golf carts available to help volunteers & transport guests the night of the dance. We'll need help setting up the parking lot and directing traffic the night of the dance. Chuckie is contacting a volunteer group.

Crowdpleaser – We'll have portable bathroom facilities delivered. We'll need volunteers the night of the dance to check the mens' and ladies' facilities each hour to make sure they're clean and supplies are stocked. The sign-up list needs 1 volunteer for each facility.

Portable Air Conditioning – If you know of a supplier for portable air conditioning that's quiet and doesn't require building electricity (outlets aren't available), please let us know.

Credit card machine – We'll investigate getting more than 1 credit card machine for the night of the dance. It's been difficult to share 1 reader with the ticket table, PX & Silent Auction.

- Ticket Sales and Corporate & Reserved Tables – Tickets will be on sale on the web using Paypal. Tickets will also be available for sale at the VFM and will be distributed to members to sell in advance. We were very close to selling out all available seats last year. This year we are raising ticket prices to Dance Only - \$25 advance/\$30 at the door per person. Tickets for the dinner (advance only) will add \$15 per ticket. Groups of 10 can reserve a table in advance. Last year we had almost two-thirds of the tables reserved. Corporate tables are \$1000 in advance and include 10 tickets plus a reserved table and a goody basket.
- Veterans Groups – We had a wonderful time hosting the 386th Bomb Group reunion at last year's dance. We're encouraging other veterans' groups to consider celebrating their reunion with us.

5. Cowtown Warbird Roundup - October 26 & 27 & 28

There's been some planning and discussions with the OV-10 Bronco Association about the CWR. The annual fly-in event is scheduled for the last weekend in October when the weather (hopefully) will be milder. The OBA is setting up appearances by dozens of military and civilian aircraft. Admission will be \$5 per person. They're planning to have food service catered in a tent adjacent to the hangar. They're asking for VFM member support in setting up, running the event and clean-up. We will also give VFM &

B-17 tours, and have food & PX sales. The 99s usually hold a pancake breakfast. Contract discussions re: VFM responsibilities & revenue share are on-going. More details to follow.

6. Announcements

- Living History Group – The VFM LHG took 3rd place at the Militaria Show for their display. The group has been working on displays of WWII uniforms in the museum.
- Grounds & fence - Jim Goad asked for volunteers to clean up the area and trim bushes before he mows the grass. The fences need work, too.
- Window replacement – Thanks to Bob Roth for all his effort to replace the window in the PX.
- Fork Lift – The fork lift cannot be left outside. Please remember to store it inside the hangar. The forklifts were donated. However, they need repairs and regular maintenance. Are there any technicians who will volunteer to fix these forklifts? Or do you know of someone who'd donate a newer forklift?
- Advantage Tech shop willing to help with aircraft parts.
- Meacham runway resurfacing is postponed until 2008.
- Volunteers needed – As an all-volunteer organization, we need folks to get the jobs done. We are very grateful to our “regulars” who spend countless hours fixing things, working on aircraft, giving tours, running the PX, etc. We need help in a number of areas including:
 - Membership – process member applications, send out dues notices, issue cards & communicate with members, maintain database & rosters (1 volunteer - monthly)
 - Gift Shop – greet visitors, collect admission donations, handle PX sales & records, purchase & price merchandise (multiple volunteers needed – Sat, 9:30-5; Sun. 11:30-5 PM)
 - Mechanics, technical experts, mechanically-inclined or willing to learn – work on aircraft and facilities (lots of volunteers needed - during the week & on weekends)
 - Weekday staff – greet visitors and answer calls during the week; provide tours, accept packages, etc. as needed (daily except Monday – afternoons or whenever)