

GAM-NEWS

Winter 2016-17
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Heritage Museum Foundation
For Its Members



Museum Brings Back “Festival of Flight”!

Begun in 2001, the Festival of Flight was an event that brought families and aviation enthusiasts together. In July of 2016 the Board of Trustees decided to bring this popular event back. In 2017, the event will take place in two locations, Montgomery Aviation and the Grissom Air Museum. The date is ***August 19th***, which happens to be National Aviation Day, and will kick off with a **pancake breakfast at Montgomery Aviation Hangar**. The meal will be served from **8:00-10:30 AM**, and will include all the pancakes you can eat for **\$5**. The money raised from this meal will go toward next year’s festival. We will release more information about this special day in the next newsletter. We hope to see you at the ***2017 Festival of Flight on Saturday, August 19th!***



2017 State Funds



... will go toward restoring our B-58 and Alert Tower.

New monies received from the Indiana Tourism Department will be used to complete work on the TB-58 aircraft which includes a paint job and dioramic scene using pieces of equipment we already have.

The S.A.C. Tower will be scraped, primed, and painted this year. After the tower’s exterior is completed, we will try to recreate the office area as it would have looked in the ‘60’s. Some work will be done to the area surrounding the Tower.

GAM Adds D-21 Drone to Air Park!

Have you seen photos of the kind of drones our country flies now? Well, in the early '60's, drone aircraft looked quite a bit different. Lockheed manufactured a drone call a "D-21 Air Launched Drone" or Q-12. This unmanned aircraft was a response to the Frances Gary Powers/U-2 incident of 1960 in which Powers and his aircraft were captured. Initially designed — to be launched from the back of M-21 carrier aircraft, the drone was modified and launched — from under the wing of a B-52. This "spy" plane's mission was to fly over China, take high-resolution photos, release the camera, and then self-destruct.

The museum received this aircraft from the National Museum of the Air Force in October of 2007. The drone was stored in Building 33, or our hangar, and brought out for public viewing at events like the fly in, Festival of Flight, etc.

In 2015, the State of Indiana supported the museum's efforts to display the aircraft in the air park. The museum's trustees decided to place the plane near the former location of the B-17. (The B-17 was moved to Warner-Robins Air Force Base Museum in August of 2015.) The ground work, concrete work, and static covering were completed by July of this year. John Ensign and Bob Barr were able to move the drone from our hangar to its current location just prior to this year's car show.



Grissom Air Museum will open the first weekend in March, weather permitting. Please come and enjoy our 25 military aircraft, S.A.C. Era Alert Tower, Veterans Walkway, four seating areas, and more.



A big thanks to the sponsors and donors of this year's car show:

Primary Sponsor:

Beacon Credit Union West

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Warbird Cruise In "What a Ride!"

The weather was very cooperative, and allowed everyone to stroll among the classic vehicles as well as our 25 military aircraft. Wendell Ferguson out of Lafayette did an outstanding job of playing songs from the 40's, 50's, 60's, and 70's as well as engaging our guests. Visitors ate some wonderful tasting food including tenderloins, BBQ, pizza, snow cones, and of course ice cream from Young America's Lions Club. We awarded over 180 plaques to our entries. We would like to thank all of our volunteers, our vendors, our car entries, our sponsors, and our donors for making this an outstanding event.

***Join us Saturday,
August 5th, 2017 for the
next Warbird Cruise In!***



***Pre-registration for the
2017 Warbird Cruise In
can be done by emailing
director@grissomairmuseum.com.***

Group Tours Key to Our Success!

Museum's Tour Groups Come In Any Size

This summer, the museum hosted guests from small and large towns, young and more mature people, our country and from foreign countries. It seems very year we are visited by people from all walks of life who come here to see what we are all about.



This group from Purdue's Aviation School are receiving great insight from John Ensign.



Members of the Indiana State Budget Committee received a "behind the scenes" tour, so they could better understand how the operational issues of the museum.



We had a great time with the Western Middle School students as we celebrated the 15 Anniversary of the Alert Tower.



Sometimes we get a "special" visitor who stops by to see us. Indianapolis Colts mascot "Blue" paid us a visit while he was out promoting his new book, which happens to have a page dedicated to our museum.

Grissom Air Museum

***Open March through November
Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
from 10:00 to 4:00***

****Open Every Day June, July, & August
Call:***

765-689-8011

Email:

director@grissomairmuseum.com

If you have not renewed your museum membership for 2017, or you're a "Life" member and you want to make a donation to the museum, please email Jim at the following:

director@grissomairmuseum.com

*Your donations are tax deductible.

Grissom Air Museum

Trustees

**Chairman-Tom Kelley
Vice Chairman-Bob Sutero
Secretary-Erica Morgan**

**Rick Birk-Trustee
Marty Catron-Trustee
Tim Dalton-Trustee
Katina Dimitro-Trustee
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Richard Muchler-Trustee
Glenda Myers-Trustee**

Museum Staff

***Executive Director, Jim Price
Treasurer-Chris Birk
Book Keeper-Kayla Hudson***

Armed Forces Day/GAM Open House

Saturday, May 20th

Service Men and Women-FREE Admission

- Coffee, Donuts, and Conversation 8-10:30 AM
 - Free Will Donation Lunch 11-1:00
 - Guided Tours 1:00-3:30 PM
 - After Hours Mixer -4:30-6:00

Hope to see you at this event!

Annual Warbird Golf Classic

Wednesday, May 24th

Rock Hollow Golf Club

- ♦ Lunch at 12:00
- ♦ Tee Off at 1:00 PM
- ♦ Awards/Drawing at 4:30 PM



Grissom Air Museum's Membership Picnic

Saturday, June 24th

6:00-8:00 PM

Museum Business Meeting-6:05 PM

Membership Meal-6:20 PM

Museum Tours-7:15 PM

*Museum will provide Meat, Drinks, and Tableware

RSVP at director@grissomairmuseum.com



“FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT”

Saturday, August 19th

Fantastic flying fun for the whole family!

We're bringing it back, but we need your help.

Email Jim at director@grissomairmuseum.com today!

GAM Wish List

As we begin the new year (2017), the Wish List for the museum is about “man power”. We need volunteers for things like custodial, building maintenance, clerical, admissions/gift shop, collection data entry/identification, and display design. (see photo gallery) We need things done in a timely manner and with precision.

**We need “YOU”, so email Jim at
director@grissomairmuseum.com
and schedule your volunteer time “TODAY”!**

