



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JANUARY 2012

Yankee Christmas/Holiday BASH has Record Attendance

There was plenty of food, so much so that even a record crowd did not go away hungry at the Yankee Holiday BASH in the High Bay of the Yankee Collections & Exhibits Building. Additional chairs and tables had to be set out to accommodate the more than 200 Yankee members and guests who enjoyed some great grub, an incredible dessert table and even a visit by Santa himself. **Ron Huber** won the 50/50 raffle and donated his significant winnings to the Hangar Fund. Other 50/50 winners went home with table center pieces.

A good time was had by all, and some attendees were able to have an airliner seat in the Yankee Theater and see a world premier DVD starring the *Yankee Warrior*.



Ron Huber accepts then gives back his 50/50 winnings to Event Coordinator Tracy Frink.



Near capacity crowd above, Santa gets a hug from Tracy Frink below. All photos by Al Hudson



Awesome dessert table had the Huey mannequins drooling.

Yankee Air Force, Inc.
 d/b/a **Yankee Air Museum**
 A Non-Profit Organization
 501(c)(3)
 47884 D Street (48111)
 Willow Run Airport
 PO Box 590
 Belleville, Michigan USA 48112-0590



Hangar Happenings is the monthly newsletter of the Yankee Air Museum.

Founding Editor: **Bill Abbott**
 1919 - 2000

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Officers of the Yankee Air Force:

Chair: Ray Hunter
Vice-Chair: Tom Matz
Secretary: Speed Gant
Treasurer: Larry Frincke

Directors: Bill Hanney
 Brian Higgins
 William Rands III
 Dick Stewart

Dave Steiner
 Jack Roush
 Kevin Walsh
 Dan Hale

Executive Director: Randy Hotton
Ex Officio: Dennis Norton

MEETING SCHEDULE

General Membership
 1st Wednesday of Month - 7:30 PM
 Members FREE, non-members \$5

Board Meeting
 2nd Thursday of Month - 7:00 PM

YAM Dispatch Riders Meeting
 3rd Saturday of Month—10:00 AM

Staff Meeting
 4th Saturday of Month - 10:00 AM
 All Department Chairs and Managers

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www.yankeeairmuseum.org

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Opinions expressed by our columnists are rightfully their own and do not necessarily reflect the outlook of our entire organization.



YANKEE AIR FORCE BYLAWS ARTICLE II - PURPOSES

The YAF is organized exclusively to obtain, restore, preserve and operate historic and vintage aircraft, related components for historical research and public educational purposes, and to establish a museum to facilitate the public display and exhibition of such items.

PAST DATES OF INTEREST

- 3 Jan 1944 "Pappy" Boyington, top USMC ace, downed by a Japanese Zero
- 6 Jan 1942 Final Liberator II accepted by RAF
- 9 Jan 1934 Patent issued for Davis Aerofoil, future wing design of Liberator
- 9 Jan 1941 First flight of an Avro Lancaster
- 12 Jan-
- 4 Feb 1945 First convoy down 1,044-mile Ledo Road highway between Ledo, Burma, and Kunming, China
- 13 Jan 1942 German test pilot uses first ejection seat to escape crash
- 13 Jan 1943 13th Air Force is formed. Although one of the smallest, it is the only numbered Air Force to fight in four theaters of war.
Submitted by Stan Wiecek
- 14 Jan 1943 Roosevelt and Churchill meet at Casablanca Conference to plan invasion of Europe
- 16 Jan 1991 *Operation Desert Storm* begins
- 22 Jan 1942 First B-24D delivered from San Diego production line
- 23 Jan 1942 First B-24D accepted by USAAF
- 25 Jan 1949 USAF adopts blue uniform
- 27 Jan 1939 First flight of a P-38
- 28 Jan 1945 8th AF observed its third birthday with a 1,000 plane raid on Germany
- 29 Jan 1943 64 B-17s make first USAAF bombing attack on Germany
- 31 Jan 1943 deHavilland Mosquitoes bomb Berlin to disrupt parade address of Herman Göring

December 50/50 was won by
Dale Miller
 Who donated it to the Hangar Fund

Correction: WWI veteran Lt Adolph H. Meyer's award at the Yankee 30th Anniversary Gala was accepted by his great granddaughter

To contact Hangar Happenings
 E-mail: hangarhapps@yankeeairmuseum.org
 Phone: (734) 483-4030 ext 247

**FEBRUARY 2012 ISSUE DEADLINE IS JANUARY 13TH
 BUT BEST TO HAVE ITEMS IN JANUARY 1ST OR BEFORE !**



Executive Director Report - Randy Hotton

This might be my last Hangar Happenings Executive Director Report. I want to thank the many people who gave of their time and efforts to help make my tenure as Executive Director easier than it would have been without them. The Board of Directors has voted to hire a full time paid Executive Director. It was the intent of the Board when they appointed me as Interim Executive Director in January of 2010 that I would serve for a couple years while the museum transitioned from a membership-based organization to a director-based organization. Neither the Board of Directors nor I have any experience in running a dynamic growing museum. Neither the board of Directors nor I have any experience in marketing and promoting the potential of the Yankee Air Museum. I concur with the board that it is time to find a person with marketing experience

and who is also a "Turn-around Specialist" to move the Museum to the next level. It is time to take this next step in establishing a solid future for the Yankee Air Museum.

When I took this job in February of 2010, there was only a limited management structure in place and there was a need to move to a more traditional business structure. There was incomplete and hard to understand financial reporting that made management of Yankee Museum assets difficult. There were no personnel records; there was no Human Resources policy. There were no established procedures for recruiting volunteers. There was no written collections policy that would be needed at allow affiliation with other professional museums. This plus a host of other issues would have made it hard for a full time outside Executive Director to come into the museum and hit the ground running. There was also a need for a structured timetable to move into our newly acquired HQ building. Addressing these issues would be my focus while I served as the Interim Executive Director.

We have made great progress in formulating solutions in these areas over the last two years. We now have a page controlled document that provides guidelines in many areas of museum operations. This will form the foundation to build upon. We now have a structured financial reporting system that allows us to look at reports we did not have in the past. These include monthly budget estimates, projected cash position, change of financial position and a balance sheet. This will allow the Board to watch monthly and quarterly operations as opposed to annually. The presentation and acceptance by the Board of the 2012 Budget is the completion of this process.

We have also established an Audit Committee; this committee has been successful in taking the finding of our annual audits and incorporating changes to our financial procedures to ensure the museum receives the highest possible audit findings. It will make financial management of the Museum much easier for the new Executive Director.

I am excited about the progress that has been made, particularly the last year in our new building. The work of the volunteers to enhance our displays has made the Museum a great place to visit. Our visitors are pleased with the experience of their visits to the Yankee Air Museum. We have key people in place in the critical operating areas of the Yankee Air Museum. The new Executive Director will benefit from this stabilization.

An Executive Director Search Committee has been formed consisting of me, Brian Higgins, Speed Gant, Dick Stewart, and Bill Rands to identify and recommend hiring of a person who will become the Museum's full time Executive Director. I will continue to serve as the Interim Executive Director until such time as a full time Executive Director comes on board. When I have completed my duties, I want to return to my roots at the Yankee Air Museum and stay active as a C-47 and B-17 crewmember. I will continue to do the Speaker's Bureau tour singing the praises of the Yankee Air Museum and "How Detroit Saved the World." I will also serve in any other volunteer role where the Museum wants or needs my help. It has been an honor to serve in this, at times challenging, position. The Museum has made great progress as it moved through this transition from a member-based organization of the past to the director-based organization of today. There is still much to do, and additional challenges to face. Once again, my hat is off to the paid staff, the volunteers, and the many members who have helped.

One of the things I have really enjoyed is putting these meetings together and I just wish that more people had come to see the programs. I think that the General Membership Meetings over the last two years have taken a new direction. They have become informative and entertaining for the General Membership. Again, for those who do not attend our General Membership Meeting in December, it was a night not to be forgotten. It was the 70th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. That historic night we had an USMC veteran who landed on Guadalcanal on August 7th, 1942. We did a live-recorded Veteran's Oral history interview. If you have seen the HBO series Pacific, his tales matched what you saw in the movie.

Our upcoming speakers for the next few months are as follows:

Jan: Ray Hunter will give an encore presentation on the first USAF helicopter to serve in Southeast Asia, the HH-43F "The Helicopter with Blades of Wood, Flown and Maintained by Men of Steel."

Feb: John Wukovits on General "Ike" Eisenhower

Mar: John Wukovits on USMC pilot "Pappy Boyington"



Santa wished everyone a Merry Christmas and reminded everyone to remember those serving in the armed forces this holiday season, and all year round.



Incredible chow line at Christmas/Holiday Party. No SOS here.

ASBURY & PARK PRESS

THE WAR BIRDS OF FORT MONMOUTH

Written by Shannon Mullen, Staff
Writer.

November 11, 2011



Col. Clifford A. Poutre tossing the last bird in 1957 at the close-out of the U.S. Army Signal Corps Pigeon Service, Fort Monmouth. /Photo courtesy of Alessandro Croseri Productions.

The eagle may be the symbol of American freedom and military might, but no eagle ever received France's Croix de Guerre for valor, or saved the lives of 1,000 troops trapped behind enemy lines, or walked five miles to deliver vital information after being shot out of the sky.

Pigeons, of the homing variety, accomplished all of this and countless other amazing feats, during their long and storied service in the U.S. Army.

Today, few people know about the heroism of these unassuming birds, or the integral role that Fort Monmouth played as the home of the Army's pigeon breeding and training center from 1917 to 1957.

"Back in the day, these pigeons were rock stars," said independent filmmaker Alessandro Croseri, who is completing a series of three documentaries about the Army's "pigeoneers," including the late Col. Clifford A. Poutre, a legendary figure who led the Pigeon Service for many years. "And then, everyone forgot about them."

In peacetime, thousands of people used to flock to the fort every year to see the pigeons. The star attractions included G.I. Joe, who saved a British brigade that was being bombarded by friendly fire in Italy in 1943, and Kaiser, a one-time German POW who later delivered messages for the Americans in World War I and went on to live to the ripe, old age of 32, twice the life span of an average pigeon.

"He was a tough bird," marveled Croseri, 38, of New York City, who has bred and raced pigeons all his life.

To read the entire article, please visit the website and scroll down: <http://www.pigeonsincombat.com>.

Kind regards,

Al Croseri
Director, Producer, Writer
Alessandro Croseri Productions
301 East 21st Street
New York, NY 10010
212 677 6833
www.pigeonsincombat.com

**Kroger Community Rewards:
YOU MUST REUP FOR 2011/12
Begins again in April 2012**

Yankee's enrollment for the last year ended on April 30, 2011 so **you must re-enroll** for the period May 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012. **This may be done anytime after April 1, 2011 but now must be done online.**

Enroll at www.krogercommunityrewards.com. Have your Kroger Plus Card number ready (the twelve numbers below the barcode) if you already have one. You will also need an email address and you must enter a password of your choice. If you don't have a Kroger Plus Card you can get one immediately at your local Kroger service desk. The Yankee Air Museum registered number is 83614, but Yankee will be on a pull-down list on the registration site.

This program is for Kroger shoppers in Michigan only. Just make sure you have a Kroger card registered to Yankee Air Museum. **Any friend of Yankee can register.**

**494th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) REUNION
World War II - 7th USAAF**

Dates
Wednesday, April 25– Sunday April 29, 2012

Location
Holiday Inn Presidential
600 Interstate 30
Little Rock, Arkansas 72202

Local phone (501) 375-2100
Holiday Inn toll-free reservation (866) 900-7625

Contact
Marshall L. Keller
7412 Vassar Drive East
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
Ph/fax (248) 626-3684

OR
Gilbert Rohde
1379 Charles Drive A-5
Longmont, CO 80503
Ph (303) 678-1087

The 494th BG flew B-24's a part of the 7th AAF

Colonial Veterinary Clinic

Dr. Robert Hott



Small Animals and Horses

1013 South Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
Office: (734) 459-1600
Emergency: (734) 674-2642
www.colonialvet.us

Your veterinarian is the best source for up-to-date pet health care information. Call or check our web site: www.colonialvetclinic.com.

Ask us about discounts on professional services for active duty military personnel.

Colonial Veterinary Clinic is again running an ad in every month of 2012 HH. Make sure you call them for the very best in veterinary care for your pet.



Yankee Dog Tag & Retail Team

YAM DOG TAGGERS
YANKEE AIR FORCE
GET READY FOR 2012

If you'd like to become a member of the Dog Tag and Retail team and be eligible to be chosen for air show trips, get in contact with Steve Hopper in retail, www.retail@yankeeairmuseum.org. Interested candidates will be contacted by Steve for DT school. Then put in an app for a show crew next summer when the schedule comes out in late spring.

The Membership Department salutes you!



**Thanks to all our Members for your support.
A special thanks to the Members that completed our recent survey.
A very special thanks to our 2011 Yankee Stars.**



Yankee Member Illustrates Aviation Book for Children

Linda Terentiaik, long-time Yankee member is the illustrator of an aviation book for children about flying to Oshkosh authored by pilot Sue Hughes. This is the fourth in a book series by Hughes. The two met at AirVenture 2010 and shortly thereafter Linda was chosen to illustrate this latest book by Hughes.

Other books in the series are: The Pilot Alphabet, What Pilots Fly and Claire Bear's First Solo. Yankee Air Museum store is planning on having "Linda's" book on sale. To order on line go to www.PowderPuffPilot.com or call (888) 801-6628

Well done Linda!

Rooms for Rent - Revenue Needed for Yankee Air Museum

Yankee's Collections and Exhibits Building is a great venue for meetings of all sorts. If you know of an organization that needs to rent space for a function of any kind, any size, make sure you tell them about Yankee's unique facility! Family gatherings, birthday parties, you name it.

Below is the link on the web site with all the information. Send it to anyone or organization you know of that is looking for meeting space. Or pick some up at HQ to pass out. The Yankee Education Center is also available for rental to smaller groups of 50 or less. http://yamair.org/documents/Room_Rental_Brochure_2010.pdf

Yankee Air Museum offers three 20'x40' Multi-Purpose rooms. Room partitions are easily removed to offer a total of 2,400 square feet of event space. Each room offers state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment that is able to meet any and all of your needs.

Capacity Seating:

- Theater: 60 people
- Banquet: 40 people
- U Shaped: 28 people
- Classroom: 36 people
- Hollow Square: 32 people
- Boardroom: 26 people



All the spaces are competitively priced with room reservation as low as \$150 per day. For a personalized quote for your meeting or event please contact: Tracy Frink, Director of Events, tracy.frink@yankeeairmuseum.org or call 248-840-2502.

In Memory Of...

Richard Crosby Senior Life 5395
November 15, 2011

Dan Willison #7634
May 30, 2011

Richard M. Kutz #3580
Oct 12, 1925 - September 5, 2011

David H. Raup #16584
Oct 2011

Clayton Anderson
Senior Life #626
Member since June 12, 1982



Tax Planning and Planned Giving to Yankee Air Museum

If you are interested in planned or estate/trust/IRA giving to Yankee Air Museum, it is now possible to do this through Morgan Stanley.

Contact Yankee Vice Chair **Tom Matz**; call him at (734) 483-4030 ext 239 and leave a message or via email at matzsm@aol.com. Automatic electronic transfer can be set up for continuous giving as well.

**Make Yankee Air Museum
part of your legacy.**

Movie Night Returns In Yankee Air Museum's Collections & Exhibits Building

January 21, 2012
Doors at 6:00 p.m.

Pizza and beverages will be on sale.

633 Squadron is a little-known 1964 movie about an RAF squadron that is assigned to knock out a German rocket fuel factory in Norway, which is part of the Nazi effort to launch rockets on England during D-day, by flying up a well-defended fjord at low level. The movie features some great low-level flying sequences in Mosquito's, with five real AC being used in the filming. The star, Cliff Robertson was a strong supporter of aviation. To learn more about his life visit www.cliffrobertson.info/aviation.htm.



Tickets available at the Gift Shop, online, by calling 734-483-4030 or email Tracy Frink at: tracy.frink@yankeeairmuseum.org

You may also mail the form below with check made payable to:

Yankee Air Museum

Attn: Tracy Frink

P.O. Box 590

Belleville, MI 48112-0590



Starring:
Cliff Robertson
George Chakiris
Maria Perschy

Movie Night Returns: "633 Squadron"
on January 21, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Members Ticket Price: \$5.00 x _____ tickets = \$ _____

Member Number: _____ Name of guests: _____

Non-member Ticket Price: \$10.00 x _____ tickets = \$ _____

Name of guests: _____

Ad space in HH

If your business would be interested in purchasing ad space in **Hangar Happenings**, please contact **Dave Steiner** via email at hangarhapps@yankeeairmuseum.org or call the Museum (734) 483-4030 ext 247, and leave a message for him to call you.

HH is mailed all around the world, so your message will reach the far corners of the globe. Most YAM members are in southeast Michigan and northwest Ohio, so you will also be reaching a local base and helping out the Museum.

These ads help offset the printing and mailing costs for HH.

ATTENTION CHAMBER of COMMERCE MEMBERS

If you are a chamber member within 70 miles or so of Yankee Air Museum, the PR Department would like to have you contact them. Part of PR's mission is to reach out to Chambers in southeast Michigan and northwest Ohio. They want to know who you are.

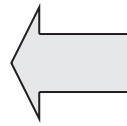
Contact Bob Hynes

bob.hynes@yankeeairmuseum.org
or call (734) 483-4030 ext 242

Yankee Photo Gallery

Here's the link to the Yankee Photo Gallery maintained by Dwight Koslowski. The latest HH images in **COLOR** are there along with thousands of other Yankee and Yankee related photos.

http://public.fotki.com/Kos/members_photo_galle/



LOTS OF GOOD STUFF
INCLUDING AIR SHOW CREW REQUEST FORM
CHECK IT OUT AND
BOOKMARK OR SAVE
AS A FAVORITE

News from the Collection Department

.By Bob Catalano and Tony Pequeno

As 2011 ended, we looked back at all the progress that has been made by the Collections Department in the High Bay of the Yankee Air Museum. Coming off last year's grand re-opening of the Yankee with no exhibits on the High Bay floor, to having 25 displays of artifacts consisting of uniforms, flight helmets, the instrument panel of a Willow Run Ford built B-24H model, to a display of World War II children's toys to name just a few. There are three static displays consisting of our F-86D Sabre, the F-84F Thunderstreak, and the Yankees own 1943 Stinson Reliant. The banners chronicling the events that lead up to World War II until its end, have been moved and set up where the Link Trainer had sat, until it was moved to its new locations by the other flight simulators. Work on the DC-9 simulator is coming along and we hope to have it up and running or flying soon.

In May, the Huey UH-1A helicopter in the High Bay was repainted and restored to represent the aircraft flown by Jerry Towler and Bob Mason in Vietnam in 1965. We were assisted with the restoration by the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 310 Washtenaw County.

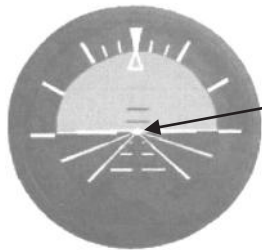
Most recently, the Antonov AN-2 "Colt" that sat in the Air Park for years was brought into the High Bay and repainted to represent a Russian camouflage scheme from the 1950's. The wings and flaps were reattached in October and the Restoration Crew is putting the final touches on the fairings and small panels to complete the airplane's restoration.

The Restoration crew has also been working on the SPAD project. Having finished the wings, they are starting to attach the upper wings on the fuselage. We have received two waist gun turrets and Restoration has started the transfer to inner workings of the port turret to the starboard turret, which will be installed on the PB4Y in the airpark.

The Collection Department has been fabricating professional looking display cases for our artifacts instead of buying them from outside vendors, saving the Yankee Air Museum quite a bit of money.

Finally, we are conducting an audit of all the artifacts in Collection Storage that we have accepted since 2004. By doing this, we will have a full accounting of what artifacts are in our collection.

We look forward to the coming year and the many new exhibits that will be on display in 2012. If you have not visited the Yankee in awhile, get the family in the car and come in and see the progress that we have made.



ON THE HORIZON

AIR PARK

East side of Willow Run Airport
at Beck and Ecorse Roads

HEADQUARTERS

47884 D Street , Willow Run Airport

www.yankeeairmuseum.org



JANUARY

Saturday 21st

Yankee Air Museum Movie Night returns - **633 Squadron**. Tickets on sale now in the Museum store. See more on page 9

Fri-Sat 20th-21st

Great Lakes International Aviation Conference (GLIAC). Yankee will have a booth (#43) on the trade show floor at EMU Student Center. Go to www.greatlakesaviationconference.com/index.php for more info or to register

FEBRUARY

Saturday 11th

Move Night Black History Month

The Tuskegee Airmen: They Fought Two Wars

Saturday 18th

Bottle to Throttle - Casino night and Micro-Brewery

Beer & Wine tasting in the High Bay. Be sure to attend and tell your friends about this **Yankee event**

SAVE THE DATE !



MARCH

Sat - Sun 17th-18th

THUNDER OVER UTAH™ , with the Navy Blue Angels, St Georges, UT. Tickets on sale online now.

APRIL

Saturday 21st

Yankee Italian Bistro Night.

MAY

Memorial Day Commemoration at Yankee Air Museum Collection & Exhibits Bldg. Pancake breakfast, fly-in, drive-in. Bring the family.

AUGUST

Sat - Sun 4th-5th

THUNDER OVER MICHIGAN™ 2012 - MUSTANG MANIA. The show this year will showcase the iconic P-51 Mustang. No jet team, but expect some air planes with their engines "on fire" too. Tickets on sale online now.

Bookmark www.yankeeairmuseum.org on your browser

Click on Yankee Photo Gallery for COLOR pics from this issue of HH and MUCH MORE!

PHONE FOR DETAILS (734) 483-4030 ext 237 WATCH FOR UPDATES AT www.yankeeairmuseum.org

YANKEE AIR MUSEUM
P O BOX 590
BELLEVILLE MI 48112-0590 USA

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 56
Belleville, Michigan

January Meeting Program

The January 4th general membership meeting is 7:30pm at the **NEW Yankee Air Museum Collections & Exhibits Building** east side of Willow Run Airport.

Program is
Ray Hunter
Encore presentation about SAR
in southeast Asia

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILING ADDRESS! NOTIFY OUR MEMBERSHIP OFFICE OF ANY CHANGES (734) 483-4030 ext 222



December Membership Meeting

Raymond O'Neill (left) was the special guest speaker at the December membership meeting. He talked about his experiences as a Marine on Guadalcanal early in the war. The meeting was recorded as an oral history. Below, with a fellow member of his VFW post. Photos by Rand Bitter.

