

Historic Aviation Memorial Museum



**PROP WASH
DECEMBER 2020**

Museum

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Hangar

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Board Members

- Bob Strong, Pres———2021*
- Jack Downing———2021*
- Jerry Murdoff———2021*
- Lou Thomas, VP———2022*
- Ken Toby———2022*
- Warren Moore, VP——2022*
- Michael Hilgert———2020*
- Wyley Smith———2020*
- Chip Williams———2020*
- Jack Downing—(Secretary)

*Term Expiration Year

Museum Staff

Chip Williams——Curator

Karon Gilmore——Finance

Gail Strong—— Librarian

**WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION RESULTS

The Board of Directors election for 2021 term was held in November. The results were tabulated by the elections committee at the general meeting and the membership elected Michael Hilgert, Chip Williams and Ivan Torres to serve on the board. The Board also wishes to thank Wyley Smith for his service over the past two years. We are happy to announce that he will carry on as the facility maintenance technician and assist with events here at the museum.

2020 IN REVIEW

As we look back 2020 has been quite a different year for all of us as we faced and overcame unforeseen challenges. The Historic Aviation Memorial Museum began the year planning for several events only to be shut down on March 18th due to COVID-19. During the closure several volunteers worked to install new LED lighting and meticulously clean the museum. Governor Abbott allowed us to reopen in May. Our Board voted to reopen May 8th on Fridays and Saturdays and we have continued with this schedule.

Since the first of the year HAMM has hosted **1,537 visitors**.

HAMM has welcomed **17 new members**.

HAMM remembers **5 Life members** who have passed away this year.

Chip Williams (Curator) and Tim Spence (Assistant) are continually renewing and updating memorabilia in the museum. They are doing an outstanding job of bringing many of our displays more current with recent military conflicts and aviation.

The HAMM library continues to grow through your generous

donation of books. This year we added 53 new donations to our library bringing our collection of books to a total of 4,020. We often receive duplicate books which we sell with the donors approval allowing the library to be self-supporting. After library expenses, book sales have contributed over \$3,300 to the General Fund since beginning this program.

Staff at the Restoration Hangar are still working on restoring the FJ-4 Fury aircraft which is very time consuming. Panels and sections of aluminum skin were removed and replacement parts fabricated; work is ongoing into 2021 and we hope to complete this project by year end. The crew also refurbished a recently donated tug which has proven to be a valuable resource in moving our planes on the ramp.

HAMM made every effort to be fiscally conservative this year. The Board was proactive in attempts to apply for available funding, and we did receive a grant from the City of Tyler and the Federal PPP Program. HAMM has been blessed by donations received from members which have helped us through this difficult period.

2020 will be an **unforgettable year** for many reasons.

PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

The museum sponsored a Pearl Harbor Memorial this past Saturday. We had several old military vehicles on display thanks to the Military Vehicle club and a Stearman biplane from the CAF that was offering rides. The local paper gave us a nice front page write-up and HAMM member Alan Roberts has posted several photos of the event on our facebook page found at HammofTyler/photos.

USN AIRCRAFT INSPECTION

The aircraft, and one simulator, on loan to the museum from the Navy have just undergone a very thorough inspection. Apparently, at some point in the past, some aircraft were loaned out and the demilitarization process was not always properly followed. To rectify this situation a civilian company has been hired to inspect all loaned Navy aircraft whether located at museums or on military bases. They check for fluids, radiation, armaments, explosives in ejection seats and secure all movable surfaces. They have some very interesting stories to tell of things they have found during their past inspections at other locations. They finished up their inspections of our planes and found no major problems with any of them.

THUNDER OVER CEDAR CREEK

The Thunder Over Cedar Creek 4th of July air show was a big success. We had about 16 aircraft located here at Pounds field with 10 jets and 6 piston engine aircraft. The military provided (2) F-35, (2) A-10 and a C-17 aircraft; while there was a T-33, MiG-15, (2) MiG-17 and a British Vampire for the civilian jets. Then there was a B-17, C-47, B-25, P-51, P-63 and the only flying SB2C Navy dive bomber representing the piston powered aircraft. As usual we were a bit short of volunteers but all and all we had a good event working together with the CAF, Camp V and the Cedar Creek Veterans Assoc.

The planning for next years event is already under way. HAMM is planning on hosting our own air show in conjunction with the Cedar Creek Veterans Assoc. We will hold our air show the day before Cedar Creek hosts theirs in order to better utilize the aircraft and performers. Cooperating and coordinating with the hiring of the air show performers to perform in two shows back to back will save both organizations substantial money. Anyone interested in assisting the staff that is in the process of planning the event is urged to contact any of us at the museum and we will put you in touch with the proper person.

NEW MEMBERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Membership</u>
Robert Gee	Individual
Robert Bentz	Individual
Richard Fleming Jr	Individual
Richard Nielsen	Family
Cory Weatherford	Family
Jesse Cohen	Individual

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Docents - Guide visitors through the Museum, provide details of various displays, and escort visitors to our aircraft parked on the ramp.

Gift Shop/Greeters - Welcome visitors, process admission fees and Gift Shop purchases.

Library/Administrative Assistants – Assist in managing our Aviation Library and various tasks regarding Museum donations.

Technically-inclined individuals - work in our Restoration Facility helping to maintain our extensive aircraft collection and, when needed, assist with the restoration of these aircraft.

UPCOMING EVENTS

East Texas Modelers 1:30-3:30PM

Board of Directors meeting

General Membership Meeting 10:00am

December 12th, 2020

December 16th, 2020

December 19th, 2020

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