

# Historic Aviation Memorial Museum



**PROP WASH**  
**JULY 2024**

## Museum

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## Board Members

**Tommy McBride-VP- -2025\***

**Sam Brandon- - - - -2025\***

**Darron Jackson- - - - -2025\***

**Michael Hilgert- - - - -2026\***

**David Stewart - - - - -2026\***

**Chip Williams, III- - - - 2026\***

**Mike Yeck - - - - -2024\***

**Jack Downing-VP - - - 2024\***

**Bob Strong-Pres- - - - 2024\***

**\*Term Expiration Year**

## Museum Staff

**Chip Williams- - - Curator**

**Karon Gilmore- - - Finance**

**GeoJan Hunter-Accounting**

**Gail Strong- - - - Librarian**

## WARBIRD EXPO

HAMM and Cedar Creek Veterans Foundation ("CCVF") had our annual Warbird Expo. It took place on July 6, 2024,

It was successful due to the effort that the HAMM volunteers put in. Everyone was able to see the USAF latest mainline fighter the F-35A Lightning II. Other aircraft on the ramp of HAMM was the AT6, B-25, and C-45.



Photo by M Hilgert

F-35A in HAMM's Restoration Hanger

WELCOME OUR  
NEW MUSEUM MEMBERS  
JAN-JULY 2024

January

Kent Stewart Indiv

February

Gary Longley Family

March

Ross McMillan Family

April

David White Life

May

Sam Falast Indiv

Joseph Gazman Indiv

Raymond Tucker Family

July

Donald Hood Indiv

Richard Black-elk Indiv

Amanda Slyter Family



Space Shuttle in route to Florida landing at Carswell for fuel

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

HAMM is in need of volunteers. We are open from Wednesday –Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. All volunteers must be members of the museum.

- Gift Shop/Greeters are our number one need.
- We also need individuals to work in our restoration facility.
- Docents

**Gift shop/Greeters** – Welcome visitors, process admission fees and Gift shop purchases.

Volunteers to work in our **Restoration Facility** helping to maintain our extensive aircraft collection.

**Docents** - Guide visitors through the Museum, providing details of various displays, and our aircraft parked on the ramp.

**Library/Administrative Assistants** – Assist in managing our Aviation Library and associated tasks.

One of the Volunteers, Ivan Torres, brought to my attention some history surrounding Tyler Pounds Regional Airport. I thought it might be of interest to those who were not aware of the Airports background. So gathering information I decided to include some history of the airport in the PROPWASH.

## HISTORY OF TYLER POUNDS REGIONAL AIRPORT

### Pt. 1

Pounds Field was established by the City of Tyler in 1929 at a cost of \$40,450 (equivalent to \$717,752 in 2023) as a municipal airport. As part of the buildup of the Army Air Corps in 1941, the Administrator of Civil Aeronautics of the Department of Commerce, acting under the Commerce Appropriation act, entered an agreement with the city for the development of the Tyler Municipal Airport as a necessity for national defense. In exchange, the city would continue to use the airport as a civil facility.

In November 1942, the Army Air Forces began the conversion of the municipal airport to a military airfield, with the construction of hangars, a large aircraft parking ramp, two hard-surfaced runways along with a station area consisting of numerous buildings and barracks to support 2,000 personnel. Initial construction was completed in April 1943. The facility, named **Tyler Army Air Field** was assigned to Third Air Force officially on 27 March 1943. Third Air Force assigned the facility to Barksdale Field, Louisiana, as a sub-base.<sup>[2]</sup>

A detachment was assigned to Tyler from Barksdale to prepare the facility as an operational training field. This included erecting a control tower and also setting up facilities such as a hospital, Post Exchange and other support facilities. The land also required sod and shrubbery which was purchased from local sources along with service clubs for keeping up enlisted men's morale. In April transient aircraft began to land at the airfield and a transient alert detachment was established to render refueling and maintenance support.

On 8 November 1943, the facility was renamed **Pounds Army Air Field** in honor of Second Lieutenant Jack Windham Pounds. Lt Pounds was killed in the crash of a Vultee BT-13A Valiant (41-1249) at Lemoore Army Air Field, California on 4 March 1942. He was a flying instructor at Lemoore who was born in Tyler.

**Next Month Pt. 2**