Volume XXVIII, Issue 4 July/August 2022

Hangar Tales

Official Newsletter of the National Warplane Museum



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The Glenn Miller Orchestra

By Diane Wilkins
Photos by Jessica Stettner

On Friday evening, August 5th, the National Warplane Museum hosted the Glenn Miller Orchestra for an amazing two-hour concert held in the big hangar, a perfect venue for listening to the sounds of the 40's.

Led by Rochester native, Eric Stabnau, the worldfamous orchestra performed most of the favorite hit songs composed by Glenn Miller, with vocals by songstress Jenny Swoish.

Hank Pajak gave dance lessons before the concert and many couples enjoyed "cutting the rug" during the toe tapping performance.



Jenny Swoish (L) and Eric Stabnau (R)



Rainy weather didn't dampen the spirits of concertgoers, as the outdoor ticket holders were able to move inside the hangar. During the intermission the rain stopped, and the crowd was treated to an incredible rainbow that arched over the museum grounds.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who gave countless hours to make this the huge success that

it was! From the organizing committee to the cleanup crew, it couldn't have happened without them. Setting up, taking tickets, parking cars (in the rain!) and all the other little things that needed to happen, Donna wants to thank you all!

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("Glenn Miller Orchestra" continued)

But none are more deserving of our thanks than Larry Jones. Larry was very crucial in the success of this event. From the contract and online ticket sales to the post event reception. Larry was responsible for getting the stage and seating acquired and set up, and advertising banners put up. Then for the performance, he was our Master of Ceremonies. Thanks again, Larry, for all you do!

All who attended really enjoyed the concert and were sorry to see it end. As the Glenn Miller Orchestra plays some 250 concert dates each year all over the US and overseas, Geneseo was fortunate to be able to host this talented group of musicians. Hopefully this wonderful orchestra can return for an encore performance next year!



MC Larry Jones





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("Glenn Miller Orchestra" continued)



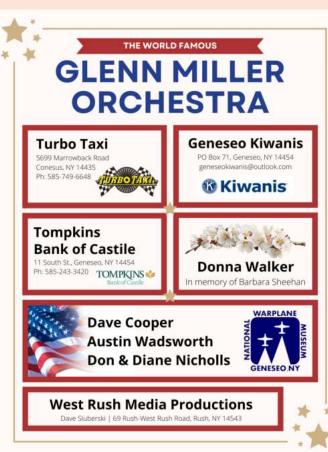
Dave and Sandra Sluberski

Master of Ceremonies, Larry Jones





Museum President, Austin Wadsworth "cutting a rug" with Tina Gillmeister



TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

Directed by Erik Stabnau

Tonight's performance will include some of the following selections from the Glenn Miller Orchestra library:

Moonlight Serenade Sunrise Serenade St. Louis Blues March Little Brown Jug At Last Danny Boy Adios

Adios
Serenade in Blue
Tuxedo Junction
Stardust
A String of Pearls
The American Patrol
Elmer's Tune
Anvil Chorus
In The Mood
Bugle Call Rag
Chattanooga Choo-Choo

Runnin' Wild I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo Handful of Stars

Rhapsody in Blue Perfidia I Dreamt I Dwelt in Harlem Jeep Jockey Jump Someone To Watch Over Me I Know Why The Nearness of You Tail End Charlie Caribbean Clipper Sun Valley Jump Here We Go Again Jukebox Saturday Night **Everybody Loves My Baby Swing Low Sweet Chariot** Moonlight Cocktail Song of the Volga Boatmen Pennsylvania 6-5000 That's Sabotage Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree

A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square

THE MILLER SOUND LIVES FOREVER! ®

www.glennmillerorchestra.com

GMO Planning Committee:

Donna Walker, Courtney Weimar, Lisa Thomas, & Mary Beth Clune Special thanks to Larry Jones for his assistance!



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Airport Day In Norwich Welcomes D-Day Warplane, **Skydiving And Aviation Professionals**

Published: June 15th, 2022 By: Tyler Murphy (Evening Sun)



Evening Sun photo

The National Warplane Museum in Geneseo brought a C-47 WWII warplane, Whiskey 7, to Saturday's Airport Day at the Lt. Warren E. Eaton Airport in Norwich. W7 is a true WWII veteran. It was one of the lead aircraft of the first strike during the D-Day invasion on June 6, 1944, over Ste. Mere Eglise in Normandy, France. (Photos by Tyler Murphy)

NORWICH – When the allies landed in mainland Europe on June 6, 1944, D-Day, in the skies above Whiskey 7 led a flight of C-47 Dakota transport planes that dropped paratroopers and cargo on the battlefield.

Whiskey 7 flew from the National Warplane Museum in Geneseo to attend Airport Day on Saturday at the Lt. Warren E. Eaton Airport in Norwich. The aircraft led a first strike of the D-Day invasion over Ste. Mere Eglise in Normandy, France.

"With beautiful weather, Airport Day on Saturday, June 11, was a huge success. As always, the focus of the day was connecting our local residents to all the airport has to offer while also pushing STEM Education," said Chenango County Airport Administrator Shane Butler. "Airport Day is a community event where we try our

(Continued next page)

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("Airport Day...." continued)

best to get the community up to the airport to see all we have to offer."Whiskey 7 provided rides to 56 people during the event, including several veterans of various foreign wars, and families or guests who signed up.

The veteran plane was flown by Warplane Museum volunteers and experienced pilots, Craig Wadsworth (L) and Ruben Alconero (R).



As the plane took off, the twin engine propellers screamed with horsepower and caused the inside of the plane to vibrate like a sports car engine.

In flight the noise pitched lower, but the engine still rumbled so loud you had to shout to be heard by the person next to you. The plane gently surfed through the



air and circled the New York State Veterans Home in Oxford before returning to the airport – a quick 20 minute ride. The landing and take off were so seamless, if it wasn't for the tone of the engine changing, you could barely tell when you touched or left the ground.

Saturday saw excellent weath-

er and the event hosted displays and presentations from a number of area groups, including professionals from the aviation field; DCMO BOCES with information on Career Destinations program and Air Patrol program; U.S. Air Force recruiters; and Mohawk Valley Community College with the Air Frame program.



The New York State Police Aviation unit was on hand, the police K-9 and car crash simulator offered demonstrations, a LifeNet helicopter did a fly-in, and Just Jump Skydiving, a family owned and operated skydiving company, gave skydiving demonstrations.

(Continued next page)

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("Airport Day...." continued)



Newspaper.

Many thanks to Tyler Murray, managing editor.

The EAA Chapter 1204 had five pilots providing Young Eagle rides to youth ages 8 to 17 throughout the day, with a total of 84 kids taking rides and learning about the inner workings of the planes.

According to the National Warplane Museum, on D-Day, W-7 transported paratroopers from the 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division and participated in Operation NEPTUNE. The aircraft was actually one of the few that made it to the drop-zone assigned to the paratroopers. Flak was very heavy during these missions, but this C-47 managed to survive it all.

The aircraft originally served with the 12th Air Force in the Mediterranean Theater in 1943 and the 9th Air Force in England, 1944 to 1945, as part of the 316th Troop Carrier Group.

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GRUMMAN F6F HELLCAT

By Kevin House

The museum has a Hellcat on a pole in the center of the parking lot across from the visitors' center. It's not a real Hellcat, but a fiberglass full size replica. This fake 'cat' is free to move with the wind like a giant weathervane, and has been blown off of its perch by rough weather in the past. It is back where it belongs and looking a little worn and weather beaten.



So, what is a Hellcat anyway? Primarily used by the US Navy as a carrier based

fighter, over 12,000 were built by Grumman between 1942 and 1945. It's estimated that just 7 flyable examples remain today. The airplane was an original design to be used as a replacement for the F4F Wildcat. The F6F and its pilots are credited with 75% of the Navy's aerial victories in the Pacific theater of WW2. This meant that Hellcats destroyed over 5,000 enemy aircraft during the war.

Hellcats, except for the night fighter version, were phased out after the war. The night fighters continued on until 1954.

Other than the US, the F6F was flown by France, the United Kingdom, and Uruguay.

Flying the F6F

Navy ace Don McPherson: "It's a one seater, so how do you learn to fly it? You don't have an instructor....What they did is they gave you time enough to get in the cockpit and study all the instruments and gauges, and then they blindfolded you and you had to pass a blindfold check out....Then you just get in and you start flying it."



Captain David McCampbell, Navy's leading ace and Medal of Honor recipient: The F6F was "....an outstanding fighter plane. It performed well, was easy to fly, and was a stable gun platform, but what I really remember most was that it was rugged and easy to maintain."

Evan Fagen, Chief Pilot of Fagen Fighters in MN: The Hellcat had widely spaced landing gear. It had good ground handling and rudder control. It could climb well – 2,600 feet per minute. The pilot "wears" the airplane. It's a large aircraft with a snug cockpit, so "you feel like you're literally wearing it."

(Continued next page)

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("Grumman F6F Hellcat" continued)

"It whistles the whole time you're flying it. And the faster you go, it whistles more."

Specs for the F6F-5 model

Powerplant: Pratt and Whitney R-2800/18 cylinder/2,000 HP

Gross Weight: approx. 12,500 lbs

Top speed: 340 kts

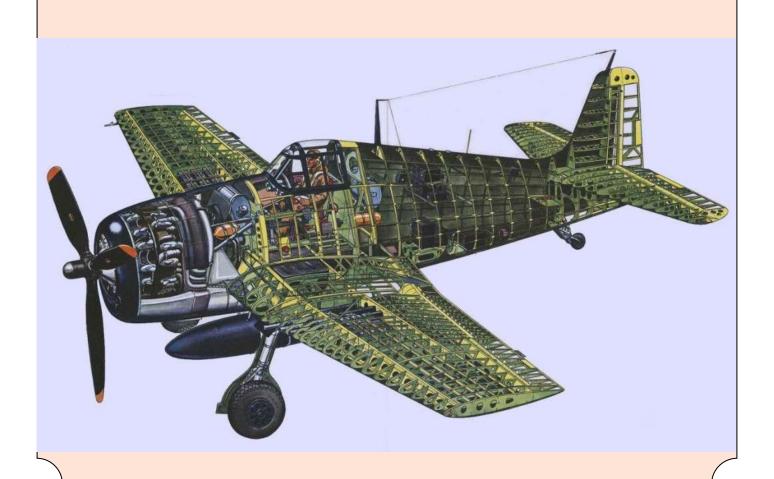
Cruise speed: 180 kts with a fuel burn of 75 gallons per hour

Range: 945 miles

Armament: 6 X .50 caliber machine guns/ 400 rounds each

The night fighter carried 2 X 20mm cannons

The aircraft could also carry rockets, bombs and an external fuel tank.



HANGAR VISITS & SPECIAL EVENTS

By Jamieson Steele

We all know that the air show went very well, and June remained busy. July and the first half of August were also very busy times full of activity and events, with more to come by the end of August.



The weekend of July 13 had the Flying Aces (Free Flight) filling the skies with the rubber band air forces. They craft small planes of all sorts and nations, wind them up, and let them fly. They do spend a lot of time trying to find some of them, and we have them falling out of trees all winter, and return them, never mind the condition. They have a new president, but he could not attend, so the former leader, and ever humorous. 'Sky' took over the duties. They have awards at a meal, that we have prepared for them, and it is a very fun event

for them, and our volunteers.

The weekend of July 30 was a free admission day, courtesy of the Rochester Area Community Foundation, and we had several hundred visitors, and large store sales. Austin sat out front counting heads, and many of our planes were flying, much to the delight of the visitors on both days.





That same weekend was our volunteer, family camp out. If you want to thank anyone, just yell out 'Thanks 3 Tinas', and you will pretty much cover the bases. Of course, many others helped, and/or offered humor, and air plane rides. Various meals were a highlight, with the roasted ribs being quite the favorite. Many of us were treated

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("Hangar Visits & Special Events." continued)

to a fantastic ride in Rob Gilman's BT-13, and other birds took folks up into the blue, as well.

In the evening, there was to be a campfire, but there were two, sort of. Close to the mower shop was a real fire, but it seemed the most folks were over at the Treichler compound; however, their 'camp fire' was ONE citronella candle. In itself, that was funny, but the usually serious pilot, and



Bill Cooper Gets a Ride in the BT-13

firm daddy of the twins, seems to become the happy brunt of the standard Pete Treichler Roast. Throw in Bill Cooper's soliloquy on his marvelous talents and feats, and belly laughs abounded. Both events somewhat fueled by a lightly watered down brown liquid, but I shall say no more. Fun night for all!

Moving into August, Wayland-Cohocton music teacher, Chris Lynn, husband of our equally talented, Bevin Lynn, brought a number of summer students for a museum tour. Brian T and I divided them up, and gave them the full tour, on a beastly hot day.

On August 6th, the combined group of American Legion and VFW members had their annual picnic in the hangar, and were treated to Needimeirs wonderful pulled pork, and other delights. Many took advantage to see the displays, and all the planes. Their fearless leader, Dennis Staley, insisted that I join them, and given no choice, I did so. The oldest vet was Dick Bondi at 96 or 97, a WWII submarine sailor, who is just as sharp, and funny, as our own Casey Bukowski. Dick also

dances with the pretty ladies at the Dansville outdoor music events. For the ladies sake, we better keep those two apart.

Earlier that day, W7 did three rides. On one ride, Dave Armer of Geneva, brought his father's, Capt. Leon Armer's, B-13, uniform jacket (L). His dad was a C-47 Navigator with the 438th Troop Carrier Squadron, who flew out of England, and earned four Oak Leaf Clusters, which indicates at least 25 missions. Dave and the jacket had a nice ride,

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("Hangar Visits & Special Events." continued)

and then Dave Cooper, his friend, and I gave him a tour.

OK, almost done. On the 14th, (VJ Day), the Porsche Club came for a visit, and totally enjoyed their tour. They were from all over, and one fellow had recent knee surgery, and could not get in his car, so he flew in from Boonville!! That is dedication!

I am sure I missed something, but we sure were busy.

Jamieson R. Steele Displays, Collections & Tours



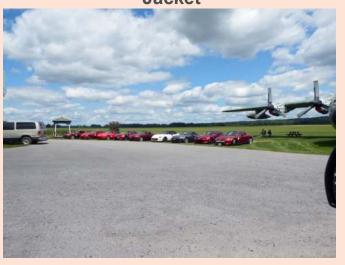
Rob Gilman (L) and Bill Cooper (R)



Closeup of Patch on Capt. Armer's Jacket



Flying Aces Awards Banquet



Mazda Miata group visits, courtesy of the Rochester Area Community

Foundation

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Wargames Among the Warplanes

By Boe Langless

Wargames Among the Warplanes is a twice yearly miniature wargaming event held at

The National Warplane Museum in Geneseo, NY. We started off in April of 2015 when I offered to run a wargaming event at the museum to help with showcasing the varied events that could be held there. I was inspired by other military museums that hold similar events. These museums include the Bovington Tank Museum in England, the USS Texas, and The National WW2 Museum in New Orleans. The NWM was enthusiastic in their support and continue to welcome us and offer encouragement to our efforts.



The event started out being held only once a year, but the positive response we re-



ceived made it clear we could hold it twice yearly. As the museum is home to Whiskey 7 we decided to hold our events in early June and mid-September to coincide, as closely as the dates permit, to D-Day and Market Garden to honor W7's participation in those operations.

Our last event, held on June 11th, was attended by 20 people who played a variety of games over many genres. Although we play predominantly historical games, we do enjoy

the occasional foray into fantasy and science fiction gaming. The games at this event reflected that with games being played covering Rome vs. Gaul, several WW2 ground and air combat games, the French and Indian War, the Cold War, a science fiction droid hunt game, and a King Kong game. We also held two classes geared towards the creative side of the hobby with instructors teaching how to paint a WW2 GI and make a building for gaming. These classes were new this time but will become regular offerings

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("Wargames Among The Warplanes." continued)



at future events. All games are designed to be played by complete novices and our folks are happy to teach newcomers the rules. All of this is at no extra charge with all the entry fees going to the museum. Many players generously make small donations to the museum which we happily pass along. Everyone involved in making the event happen do so without any other compensation than helping make it enjoyable to the people attending.

Running these events has inspired our group, who now go by the name Whiskey 7 Wargamers, to hold events showcasing the wargaming hobby and promote the museum evnets. We were just starting to do these when COVID struck, but we did hold a daylong event at the Henrietta Public Library prior to that. This bore fruit as we had a couple of people who attended that event come down to the museum for our events there. We have attracted at-



tendees from Buffalo, Syracuse, Rochester, Canada, and Massachusetts.

We hope to continue our events at the museum with ideas to expand them and bring more people to enjoy what the museum has to offer. This is an incredible place to host



our events which our players appreciate immensely. If anyone has questions about our events, or wargaming in general, please feel free to contact me, Boe Langless, at wargamesw@yahoo.com. You can also check out our Facebook page, Wargames Among the Warplanes, to see the full gamut of how we indulge our hobby.

Our next event will be held on September 10th. Stop down and check our event out in person and maybe even give it a try!

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Free Flight Day with "Flying Aces"









Historical Musical Drama

BOMBS & BLOOMS

Thursday Sept. 29 @ 10am
Friday Sept. 30 @ 10am and 7:30pm
Saturday Oct. 1 @ 4pm

NATIONAL WARPLANE MUSEUM Geneseo, NY

Bombs & Blooms, a 70-minute historical musical drama, following home-front life and the wartime service of a WWII pilot, with readings from authentic bombing mission logs and Vintage Warplane on set.

www.nationalwarplanemuseum.com 3489 Big Tree Lane, Geneseo, NY 14454

General Admission: \$24 advance/\$26 door Matinee & Military Vets: \$20 advance/\$22 door Students: \$16.00

Suitable for ages 8+ BOCES APPROVED MS-HS Curriculum Available

For more information: henryr@nycap.rr.com
585-243-2100

View Excerpts: https://youtu.be/exia9DxiMdA

"Bombs & Blooms made me feel the harrowing ups and downs of the war. Set during WWII and chock-full of catchy original songs, this fast-paced production had me in tears by the end. The Museum's airplane hanger venue added to the history..."

NYSCA-A.R.T./New York Creative Opportunity Fund (A Statewide Theatre Regrant Program)

Tickets are available Online at: www.nationalwarplanemuseum.com

Or at the following locations:

Sweet Arts Bakery (Geneseo)
Lakeville/Livonia Pharmacy
West's Shurfine Market (Livonia)
National Warplane Museum Office

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Geneseo - After the Show By Tom Pawlesh

Many photographers know that sometimes the best part of an airshow is not the airshow at all. Arrival day and practice day can be just as exciting as the show itself. This past June, I attended the annual "Greatest Show on Turf" put on by the National Warplane Museum in Geneseo, New York and my best images were produced after the show and late into the night.



I was privileged to again be able to fly in the Museum's WWII veteran C-47, Whiskey 7 for an air2air photo mission on Saturday evening. While airborne I photographed Steve Lindrooth in his T-6 and a flight of three P-51 Mustangs flown by Thom Richard, Lou Horschel and Ariel Luedi. Rob Holland also joined the formation in his MXS-RH. C-47 photoplane pilots for our flight were Ruben Alconero and Chris Polhemus.

I had done a night engine run with
Skipper and Jay Hyle on Friday night
and Thom Richard suggested a
night shoot with the Corsair, P-51
and P-40! How could I pass that
up? I had brought a couple of small
LED's that could illuminate one aircraft but not three, so it seemed our
night shoot was a failure before it
began. Luckily, a few NWM volunteers got wind of our plans and said

Photos by Tom Pawlesh



they had a generator powered 20' light stand and would be happy to drag it out of the hangar and power it up. As the sun set, everyone came together for what

(Continued next page)

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("Geneseo—After the Show" continued)

Thom called an epic night shoot.
Thom, Lou and Ariel towed their aircraft out to the field while NWM volunteers fired up the generator and lit the scene for us. With a little glow still left in the western sky, the pilots climbed in their aircraft and treated the fortunate few that stayed late to the roar of the Warhawk, Mustang and Corsair. After a ten minute engine run that gave us



time to photograph different angles, the aircraft were shut down.



After the engine run, Thom, Lou and Ariel had to tow their aircraft back to the hangar and be at the airshow briefing early the next morning. The NWM volunteers shut down the generator, folded up the light stand and towed it back to the hangar. But the night was far from over for me. At this late hour, with only a handful of people remaining, Jason Owen and Blake

Wild volunteered to run the engines on the PBY Catalina for the final shoot of the night. Exhausted but happy, I packed up my camera and lights and drove across the now deserted airport to my hotel.

I cannot thank the NWM volunteers enough for bringing the lights out and staying late for our night shoot. The pilots, Thom Richard, Lou Horschel, Ariel Luedi, Jason Owen, Blake Wild and Jay Hyle all had to be back early the next morning for a briefing but were willing to stay late and run their aircraft. This is what makes the National Warplane Museum special, someone has an idea and everyone came together to pull it off. I just had to show up with a camera!

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Miscellaneous Photos From "After The Show" Photo Shoot

Thom Richard's P-40 "American Dream

Ariel Luedi's P-51 "Little Witch"





- (L) Thom Richard's P-40 "American Dream,
- (C) Lou Horschel's Corsair, and
- (R) Ariel Luedi's P-51 "Little Witch".

2022 Calendar of Events



3489 Big Tree Lane, PO Box 185 Geneseo, NY 14454 585-243-2100

MUSSON

WARPLANE

www.NationalWarplaneMuseum.com

EVENT	Date	CONTACT	
Wargames Among Warbirds	9/10	wargamesw@yahoo.com	
Great Grape Gathering	9/11	Roy Smith aeronut.kos.net	
United Way Gala	9/17	Call the office for more information	
MARS Sport Launch	9/17 - 9/18	www.marsclub.org	
Bombs and Blooms	9/29-10/1	(585) 243-2100	
LAST Rides Day @ Geneseo	10/8	(585) 243-2100	
MARS Sport Launch	10/8 - 10/9	www.marsclub.org	
MARS Sport Launch	11/5-11/6	www.marsclub.org	
Veterans Day	11/11	(585) 243-2100	
NWM Christmas Party	12/10	(585) 243-2100	

Dates Subject To Change



The Piaggio P 180 Avanti is powered by two Pratt & Whitney (Canada) PT6 engines mounted in pusher configuration. It has a top speed of 460 mph, cruises at 366 mph, and has a range of 1,737 miles.

On a recent stop in Batavia for fuel, the W7 crew spotted this unusual aircraft. It was a Piaggio P 180 Avanti, (N411AW), a twin turboprop aircraft registered to Worldwide Consulting Group, Inc., out of Fort Worth, Texas





NATIONAL WARPLANE MUSEUM

3489 Big Tree Lane PO Box 185 Geneseo, NY 14454-0185

585-243-2100 (office) 585-245-9802 (fax)

newsletter@nationalwarplanemuseum.com

Check here if you need a new decal for your car

Museum Hours:
November 1 through April 30
Wed, and Sat. 10 a.m.—3 p.m.
May 1 through October 31
Wed.—Sun. 10 a.m.—3 p.m.

The National Warplane Museum is a not-forprofit (501 (c) (3) public corporation with a **Provisional Museum Charter issued by the** New York State Board of Regents. We are dedicated to the restoration, preservation and operation of vintage and historical aircraft, particularly aircraft associated with World War II, the Korean War and the Golden Age of Aviation. The facilities and 5,000foot grass runway are located adjacent to the picturesque village of Geneseo, NY. Founded in the 1980s, the Museum continues to promote and encourage the appreciation of military and civilian aviation, aeronautics and aviation history. It serves the community with flying events, museum displays, social functions and educational opportunities associated with these aircraft and their history. To date, we have twenty historic aircraft owned by or associated with the Museum. We are operating profitably and have increased the attendance to our annual Geneseo Airshow in each of the last five years. Plans for the future include expanded facilities and additional aircraft.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (OR RENEWAL)

Name:			Phone: _		
Address:			e-Mail _		
City :	State	Country		ZIP: _	
Occupation:					
Membership entitles you t one-year e-Mailed subscri s requires for admissions	ption to <i>Hangai</i>				
Membership fees (Reflects changes as of January:		Please check if New Membership □ or Renewal □			
Individual (18-59 yrs) Individual (Gold) Senior (age 60 and up) Student (17 and unde Family (Parents and 2 Family (Gold) (Parent	r) children under 18. l				\$ 50.00 \$ 75.00 \$ 45.00 \$ 20.00 \$100.00 \$150.00 \$600.00