

Hangar Tales

Official Newsletter of the National Warplane Museum



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Alpha Company

Story by Jay Jones. Pictures by Jay Jones and Jamieson Steele

On Saturday, September 10th the Army came to the National Warplane Museum. More precisely the New York Army National Guard and even more specifically - Alpha Company of the 2nd Battalion of the 108th Infantry Regiment of the 42nd Infantry Division. Alpha Company is stationed right here in Geneseo. They came to the museum for their pre-deployment ceremony.



All 131 soldiers (91 from Alpha Co. and 40 from NYC) would depart the following day for training at Fort Bliss in Texas for one month followed by SEVEN months in Djibouti, Africa. Djibouti is home of the last U.S. military presence in Africa, at Camp Lemonnier, critically located in the Horn of Africa. Alpha Company, the Avengers, led by Captain Cameron Manley and 1SG Frederick Goldacker III, will be on a security mission while in Djibouti.



So what brought the Avengers to the National Warplane Museum for their pre-deployment ceremony? Capt Manley stated it was due to the “continued support by the Wadsworth family for his unit”. So come they did, and not just the soldiers but so did their families, their friends and their supporters (to include many of our own staff and volunteers). They came to celebrate one last day together and to honor the 131 men and

women dedicated to the mission at hand.

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("Alpha Company" continued)

The day began with Alpha Company recognizing Donna Walker and the Museum as a whole with a wonderful thank you plaque. Then came the formal portion of the ceremony held in the main hangar which included remarks from Brigadier General Joseph Biehler, Assistant Adjutant General, Joint Force Headquarters. BG Biehler was actually the Alpha Company Commander, here in Geneseo, from 1996-1998. The ceremony concluded with a reception for all present. Many local businesses sponsored the reception which included cupcakes, cookies,



drinks...etc. Then it was time to relax and enjoy a last couple of hours with family and friends. Many of the families walked through the museum, many spread out blankets on the grass, some even grilled out. Everyone was absolutely thrilled when Whiskey-7 flew in due to an early return from Williamsport, Pennsylvania,

due to impending bad weather. It was a tough job to keep everyone back as the plane taxied in and many pushed forward to be even closer to the old warbird. After a quick crew download of the aircraft a good number of people enjoyed a tour of the famous C-47. Then, all too quickly, came time for goodbyes. A meaningful handshake, a lasting hug, a loving kiss. The day was over and the soldier's adventure was about to begin. So, too, did the SEVEN month countdown begin till the families would once again see their members of the Avenger Company.

Sgt Jacob Finzer and his mom, Amy



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("Alpha Company" continued)



Sgt Tim Brown and his family from Elmira



J-5 Wing Update

By Brian Trzaskos & Peter Bonneau



These pictures show 2" tapes being installed over the rib stitching. Done on both top & bottom of the wing.



These show the inspection ports installation. A 4" nylon ring is put in place with Poly Tak adhesive over hardware connectors. A round piece of the same polyester fabric is placed over each ring with poly brush coating. There may be up to 14 or so on the bottom of the wing. After the wing is installed, many of these will be cut out to allow for visual inspection, and then covered with a removable convex cover plate.



Views of the finished rib stitch tapes.



(Continued next page)

("J-5 Wing Update" continued)



These two shots show 3" tapes applied over the trailing edge aileron recesses.



Next step is to apply a 4" leading edge tape. This covers the edge of both the top and bottom fabric covers.



This shows the trailing edge tapes installed.



After the leading edge tape is in place, a wing bow tape is applied. This is a 4" bias tape, which is made to shrink to 3" wide while being stretched over the curved wing bow. .

(Continued next page)

("J-5 Wing Update" continued)



Once all the tapes, inspection ports, etc, have been applied, any imperfections will be ironed out to present a smooth surface for subsequent coats of poly brush. We spray 2 coats of Polybrush, check for imperfections, runs, etc. These photos show the wing after the total of three coats of Polybrush. The fabric is totally sealed, and is ready for the next step: coats of silver urethane.



Pretty anticlimactic from here on. We cross sprayed 3 coats of Polyspray coating. This has aluminum particles in suspension. This serves a very important function. It serves to completely block the fabric from receiving any UV radiation from the sun. The polyester fabric is extremely sensitive to UV radiation, which would destroy the fabric in just a few years, if the silver coats weren't applied. Now the wing is ready for its color coat. This is where we are currently.

FUNDRAISING NEWS! *By Larry Jones*



Casey Bukowski and Larry Jones

The wait was finally over during our Labor Day Fly-In Breakfast on September 5th when our beloved volunteer, 98-year-old Casey Bukowski, drew 15 names from the raffle bin!

Taking first place and winning a ride in Lou Horschel's P-51 Mad Max was Caleb DeJournet from Amherst, NY. Ken Krieger and Dan Farley both took 2nd prizes with rides in Rob Gillman's Vultee BT-13 and Steve Nesbitt's Fairchild PT-26 respectfully. A huge thank you to our three pilot / owners – Lou, Rob, and Steve for offering their planes, time, and expertise in giving these rides!

Rounding out the remaining winners in our Shining Star, Whiskey 7, were the following lucky folks; Tim Ellis, Darcy Lynch, Rachel Ross, Francis Zimmer, John Altobello, John Gardener, Fabio Cirulli, Tim Reynolds, Gary Darnell, John Curry, Steve Babcock, and John Guerra.

All in all, we sold about 650 raffle tickets, mostly during our airshow. We took in over \$9,000 gross and netted over \$7,000 after expenses (fuel, tickets, posters.) We are happy with the results, even with the new limited way we are able to sell tickets under NY State Gaming Commission's rules and regulations.

Again, thanks to all who purchased tickets and to all who participated in selling them here at the museum! Keep watch for next year when we reveal another exciting raffle!

Fundraising is such an integral part of any museum or non-profit organization. Especially here at The National Warplane Museum where we have aircraft to maintain, a very large campus of fields and buildings that need constant upkeep and maintenance, as well as day to day expenses like utilities, supplies, promotions, and more. So, whether it is your generous donations, your annual membership renewals, or being a part of one of our several fundraising venues such as our raffles, breakfast, BBQ's, Glenn Miller Concert, Bombs and Blooms production, book sales, or gift shops purchases, your patronage and participation is so gratefully appreciated!

WIN A RIDE IN A P-51 MUSTANG!

<p>Ticket Prices:</p> <p>\$20 EACH</p> <p>3/\$50</p> <p>5/\$75</p> <p>10/\$100</p>		<p style="font-size: small;">Full Rules Online at NationalWarplaneMuseum.com</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">The National Warplane Museum 3489 Big Tree Lane, Geneseo, NY 14454</p>
<p>GRAND PRIZE: A RIDE IN A P-51 MUSTANG!</p>		<p>2 SECOND PRIZES:</p> <p>A RIDE IN A VULTEE BT-13 TRAINER or FAIRCHILD PT-26 TRAINER</p>
		<p>12 THIRD PRIZES:</p> <p>A RIDE IN OUR FAMOUS WHISKEY 7 C-47</p>
<p>Rides will be given on scheduled ride dates. Weight restrictions apply to winners.</p>		
<p>Drawing Labor Day 9/05/22 at the Museum. Must be 18 to enter. Do not need to be present to win.</p>		

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("Fundraising News." continued)



LABOR DAY FLY-IN (PANCAKE) BREAKFAST!

Rain may have dropped down upon us, but so did over 225 of our drive-in customers who patronized us on Labor Day morning! A huge thank you to our 30+ volunteers who swept and mopped the floor, set up tables and chairs, got the grills ready, then got up at the crack of dawn to set-up, serve, and clean-up! Hard work, yes – but also very fulfilling with comradery running high amidst the hustle and bustle of the morning!

The eggs were tasty as were the sausage patties, ham slices, and

regular or blueberry pancakes topped with delicious Canadian maple syrup donated by our own over the border friend and volunteer Gabe!

"Let's do this again" says the crowd! One of these years we may even get blue skies to allow some of our winged friends to partake!

And in addition to the fun and activity, we even made money! So, another successful day! Thanks to all who participated in any way!



Available Now! NWM's NEW 2023 CALENDAR !!!!

Another beautiful edition is on its way filled with stunning photos from our 2022 Airshow and more!

Calendars are being offered for sale in our gift shop and online! Check on Facebook and our website for more details!

A truly great gift for any occasion!



**NATIONAL
WARPLANE
MUSEUM**

**3489 BIG TREE LANE
PO BOX 185
GENESEO, NY 14454
(585) 243-2100**



Whiskey 7 flying over Old Glory - D-Day Conneaut, Ohio - August 2022

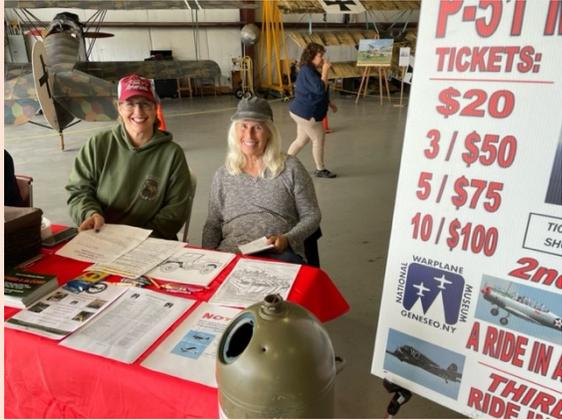
2023 Calendar

Nationalwarplanemuseum.com

Follow us on Facebook: National Warplane Museum - Geneseo Airshow

Volunteers at the Raffle Drawing and Fly-In Breakfast

Pictures courtesy Jay Jones



Holly Stettner and Monica Kingston



Diane Wilkins and Dave Cooper



MaryAnn Martin and Ruta Frew



Barb Jones and John Snyder



Kevin House



(L to R) Bob Cox, MaryAnn Martin, Larry Jones, Holly Stettner, Colleen Venturino, John Snyder, Ruta Frew, Pat Wiley, and Kevin House



Lisa Thomas

Save the Date to ROC the DAY! November 29, 2022

Join us and make a difference!

By Colleen Venturino

On Tuesday, November 29, the Greater Rochester community will come together to ROC the Day and we need YOU to join us in supporting the National Warplane Museum! It's 24 hours of unprecedented on-line community giving. And it's your chance to make a real difference right here in the Greater Rochester region. As you purchase other holiday gifts, please take the time on November 29 to support the Museum with a one-time gift-- you can even give a monetary gift 'in memory of' or 'in honor of' a friend or loved one.

Stay tuned! More information coming soon via email!

ROC
NOVEMBER 29
THE • DAY
powered by United Way



Sent to us by Bill Clune and the MARS (Monroe Aeronautical Rocket Society) Group. They found it in the field during their latest rocket launching event at the Museum.

2022 W7 Rides Wrap-up

By Craig Wadsworth

At the end of the 2021 season we challenged ourselves to look at events for W7 away from Geneseo differently. We had been pursuing an airshow+rides program and we had success but wondered if we could do better. Taking the lessons we learned long ago we started looking for events with strong local support we could bring more attention to with the airplane focusing on giving rides. This year we



W7 at Wheeling WV

didn't go to any large urban airshows but only smaller events. We attended events in Norwich and Cortland New York, Conneaut Ohio, Williamsport Pennsylvania, and Wheeling West Virginia. Most of these events were one day instead of the two to three day airshow commitment allowing us to take more of our volunteers. We also did six rides days at Geneseo for a total of 11 events this

season. The results confirmed what we thought last year. We did 11 events, 52 flights, and 651 passengers. We beat our minimum passenger load requirements on every flight and only had two flights less than full. We will continue the focus and broaden our efforts to reach those underserved by the Airshow industry.



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("2022 W7 Rides Wrap-up." continued)

The feedback we got from the event organizers was very positive. Several of them have already expressed an interest in our returning in 2023.



Rides Day at Geneseo

What did our passengers think about their ride? Here are some of their comments:

"As a first time flyer, the experience was excellent. We all enjoyed our time aboard W7, and before and after at the gift shop and museum. We really appreciate the efforts made by your group to bring these experiences to the people. Keep up the great work!"

"The tour was simply amazing! I took my father for his 72nd birthday and it was an unforgettable experience. As a huge WW2 history lover, riding on Whiskey 7 was a bucket list item for me! My grandfather was a Master Sargent in the Army and was at Normandy ...which made the ride on W-7 even more meaningful. Keep up the amazing work keeping history alive!"

"It was a fantastic and emotional experience that I thoroughly enjoyed! Thanks again to the crew and all the support personnel for keeping Whiskey 7 in the air and offering these rides in history!"

More results from the survey: 70% of our passengers bought their ticket vs. 30% rode because of a gift certificate, sponsor, or raffle winner. The same ratio were people who rode with a friend or family member (70%) vs. rode by themselves (30%). Just over 90% of our passengers took the opportunity to tour the cockpit in flight vs. just under 10% who didn't want to or didn't take the chance on their flight. 92% of our passengers say the length of the flight was about right or just right vs.



Norwich Airport Day

10% who wanted it to be longer. No one said it was too long. There were a few suggestions for improvement which we will consider to make sure we are providing an excellent experience in the future. A special thanks to Phil Hadlich, Tina Gillmeister, Tina Triechler, and Bob Howard for working to make these events a success.

(Continued next page)

("2022 W7 Rides Wrap-up." continued)

What else did our passengers think about their ride? Here are some more of their comments:

"All details were great, the crew and supporting staff were extremely helpful and friendly. All instructions were handled properly and made the experience a great one!"

"Crew was exceptional and very knowledgeable. Could not have asked for more."

"Everything is great. It was my 3rd time on board."

"I found the staff was very friendly and informative. I loved that we were able to see in the cockpit in flight. I plan on taking the flight again in the future with more family."

"I think your crew was wonderful, welcoming and informative. Of course I wanted the flight to last longer but I'm being selfish! I will booking another flight this year with my kids."



"It was perfect and the crew was awesome!!!!!"

"Keep doing what you are doing! I am 77 years old. I grew up with WW2 vets, including my dad. What a thrill for me and my grandson. I wish more ex-military vets would take advantage of what I did, to appreciate what my WW2 friends did for us."

"Loved my experience and consider it an honor to ride on Whiskey 7."

"My overall experience was great. The airplane is awesome and your crew did a great job with the maintenance hiccups that day. Most places would have sent everybody home."

"The crew and flight were great, I can't think of anything to change. I hope you're back in my area again next year."

Ride Program Summary

Events scheduled: 12 (1 cancelled due to weather-St Mary's PA)

Total events completed: 11 (6 @ Geneseo)

Total passenger flights: 50 (24 @ Geneseo)

"The crew was fantastic!"

"This was my first and certainly not last plane ride and it was amazing!! Thank you for doing this."

"We had a delay due to a switch failure. The crew was great and stayed with the group. They gave us info about the plane and museum and answered any questions that we had."

"Well, I would really like to pilot the plane, but, no not really."

"You guys do an awesome job! We absolutely loved our trip."

"You guys provide a very good experience. For me it was more than a ride in an old war plane. My grandfather was shot down in a B-17 and I can't imagine what those airmen saw and did. He came home but unfortunately drowned 13 years after the war ended. Thank you. It was a moving event for me."

Bombs & Blooms

By Ruth Henry



Andrew & Kyle



Brooke, Bradley, Peter, & Diane—"Off we Go!"



Kori



Bombs & Blooms concluded four performances of their 4th Production at NWM with over 400 attending, including 2 senior groups and school groups from Perry, Mt. Morris and Canandaigua, whose students sat spell-bound throughout the play and then scavenger-hunted the Museum and romped the airfields. The W-7 was the star of the show, positioned front-and-center behind the three stages, the nose illuminating during the Bombing Mission Log narrations. Nine period-costumed actors brought laughs and tears to the audience, as the story of the WWII Pilot unfolded across the stages in music and dialogue. The 2 morning matinees filled nicely, but evening attendance was disappointing, partly due to chilly temps. The 7 returning actors surpassed themselves, having a year to ponder and evolve their characters and performances, most involved in several theatrical productions throughout the Rochester Region. One tearful-eyed senior commented, "I've seen lots of WWII movies, but until I saw this play, I didn't really understand what my parents went through."



LINDBERGH AT GENESEO ???

The last Sunday in October found myself, and Mac, AKA Ducky, at the museum doing tours, and entertaining visitors with our nonsense. As the day wound down, a small plane came in, picked up a passenger, left, came back, and did it again several times.



It was a high wing style, and looked a lot like Lindbergh's Sprit of St. Louis, all silver, but it did have a forward view.



Of course, I had to go take a closer look at this odd plane, and the pilot, and his wife were quite happy to tell me about it. He was Jeff Lachanse, and his wife, from Gaines Valley. He oversees underground, service gas drilling operations in central NY, and just flies for fun.

His odd plane is a 2002, kit, based on the 1938, Wittman Buttercup, W-5, built by Steve Wittman, and the original is on display at EAA Oskosh. It is a two place plane, with heavy insulation from the cold, as it was meant for cold weather travel, and was made in Minnesota, and it gets cold there.

You just never know what will fly into our field, so much fun!

Tour Blather Boy

Jamieson R. Steele



THE CARNES CLAN VISITS THE MUSEUM

As many of you know, we are tackling some major projects around the museum. Storage areas are being emptied, items sorted, and reorganized. We have seen floors and walls that have been buried for decades. Beefed up circuits for the RV parking during events, new LED lighting, walls being built, WiFi for all the buildings, new telephone system, and many repairs of all sorts. Two trees in front of Swanson were pulling up the roof, and heaving the sidewalk, so they came out, as one had already half fallen years ago.



Leaky roofs were high on the list of needed repairs. We had the ridge of the long



hangar caulked, and re-screwed a few years ago, but much water was still coming in all over the various buildings. As luck would have it, my neighbor, Ernie Carnes, is a roofer, and he did the ridge, and now has been doing the necessary repairs, all the while finding more holes, loose roofing, missing vent caulk, and more. He bends metal roof material at work to fit into our problem

areas.

I had given Ernie, and his blended family with his wife Amy, a family gift certificate, and I suggested they use it while he is already here working. Indeed they did, and had a wonderful time. It was his two kids, her HS age boy, and her three grandchildren, one a toddler. Boy, did they have fun in the jeeps, exploring the various planes, and all very respectfully. Ernie runs a tight ship.

SEABEES IN DISGUISE AT THE MUSEUM

During WWII, the US Navy had Construction Battalions to clear jungles, build runways, buildings, air raid trenches, and any other heavy duty projects. The name was shortened to 'CB', thus the name "Seabees", Busy Bees. They did the work, often in harm's way, then quickly moved on to the next project, or island, perhaps never seen by those who benefited from their work.



Well, it seems our museum has our own CBs, doing work that many never see them do, and they never mention all they do for us, but I will. We all know that the France family, Wayne, Wayne, and Margit, brought the huge model airplane collection for all to enjoy, as well as Mr. Walter France senior's WWII Bakelite ID models on display in the long hangar. However, they did not stop with that

huge addition to the museum.

They see a need, and act on it, quietly, asking for nothing in return. They have adopted us, and we are blessed. Most recently a fresh sign, about the France Model Airplane display, graces the entrance to Swanson Visitor Center. They have taken upon the piles of donated, books that Don, Ducky, Mac has sorted, and run book sales for us. They noticed that the sunlight was fading the merchandise in the store area, and installed new, UV blocking, curtains that still let the light in. They clean the floor every week, and bought us new entry carpets, and a vacuum cleaner to help. Fresh bake goods are also not uncommon.



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("Seabees In Disguise..." continued)

They saw the outside store room was a mess, and cleaned it out with marginal help from me, and we found all sorts of great items that were hidden in there. Much of the recovered items ended up in my collections storage trailer out back, and they noted that one side had only a plank on some cinder blocks. Well, not for long. They built a new set of stairs, and added hand-rails and skid tread to both stairs, making them much safer.



Did I mention that they are also the most pleasant folks you could ever want to know. This article will be printed with lemon juice, as they ask for no credit for deeds they have done, so after you read this, don't tell them I wrote it, or they might try to make sense of the trailer, and that is a real challenge for me, but not our very own CBs.

Thank you France family, from all of us, and our visitors.

Jamieson R. Steele
Collections & Displays

("The Carnes Clan Visits the Museum." continued)

The family left after chasing Ernie back up on a roof to continue the repairs. The Carnes Clan live right behind me, and I share my yard, and gardens with them, and they keep an eye on the old guy next door, which I need. Warm, home cooked meals for me are also not uncommon from their kitchen. Now Ernie, get back up on that roof !!



Jamieson R. Steele
Roofing Supervisor



**NATIONAL WARPLANE
MUSEUM**

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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-for-profit (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 5,000-foot 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.

A P P L I C A T I O N F O R M E M B E R S H I P (O R R E N E W A L)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ e-Mail _____

City : _____ State _____ Country _____ ZIP: _____

Occupation: _____

Membership entitles you to free admission to the airshow and museum, a 10% discount at the museum store, one-year e-Mailed subscription to *Hangar Tales*, a window sticker for your car, and a membership card which is requires for admissions and benefits.

Membership fees (Reflects changes as of January:

Please check if New Membership
or Renewal

- | | |
|--|----------|
| _____ Individual (18-59 yrs) | \$ 50.00 |
| _____ Individual (Gold) | \$ 75.00 |
| _____ Senior (age 60 and up) | \$ 45.00 |
| _____ Student (17 and under) | \$ 20.00 |
| _____ Family (Parents and 2 children under 18. Please provide names & dates of juniors) | \$100.00 |
| _____ Family (Gold) (Parents and 4 children under 18. Please provide names & dates of juniors) | \$150.00 |
| _____ Lifetime | \$600.00 |
| _____ Check here if you need a new decal for your car | |