

## 2012 in Review

*Kim Kovesci, Executive Director*

A presentation on the 2012 results was held at the February Membership Meeting. The results obtained in 2012 indicated another record year in all areas; revenue increased 18%, gift shop revenue increased 22%, membership increased 6%, volunteer hours increased 33% to 47,618, visitation increased 66% to 18,617, and tours increased 23%.

All of these results are due to the hard work of our dedicated volunteers. When I talk to other organizations about MAPS, the statistic that makes their heads turn is the number of volunteer hours that we document. Our 47,618 volunteer hours represents 23.7 equivalent employees and corresponds to over \$1,000,000 of organizational contribution when seeking grant funding.

Historically, January through March were slow times but we have added so much activity that we began to see this new activity by the end of February. January was a profitable month due to some very generous donations and we believe that we will continue to see the same progress all through the year.

In 2013, we will almost triple the number of High School Students that we bring to MAPS on our US History Grants. Our Scouting Programs are being filled to their maximum capacity, our car shows are developing a great reputation and the attendance at our pancake breakfasts are growing.

We have added several events for 2013 that we hope will be successful; the Honor Flight Recognition Celebration, a two

day Pow-Wow for Native Americans, and we hope to host the return of the Collings Foundation "Wings of Freedom Tour" B-17, B-24 and P-51.



**Our mission is to educate the public on the history of aviation and its impact on man. This is not a goal that can be reached in a short time, it is a journey and we are in position to make a significant impact on this journey. To accomplish this, we need more members to become active participants in our programs. Our immediate need is in the number of tour guides and their coverage of our open museum hours. In addition, we will need help for our special events with regard to security, parking, food service, ticket taking and cleaning during the events. If you would like to help make 2013 more successful than our record breaking 2012 year, please contact one of the Directors or me to volunteer at MAPS. Thank you for your support. §**

### HOURS OF OPERATION

SUNDAY	11:30 - 4:00
MONDAY	closed
TUESDAY	9:00 - 4:30
WEDNESDAY	9:00 - 4:30
THURSDAY	9:00 - 4:30
FRIDAY	9:00 - 4:30
SATURDAY	9:00 - 4:30

### ★ Mission Statement ★

MAPS Air Museum is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating people about the history of aviation and its impact upon society. It accomplishes this mission by acquiring, restoring, preserving, studying and exhibiting the impact of aviation on the culture of man.

# MAPS member, The late Lt. Ed Smith

*Don Neidert, MAPS Member*

Ed's name came up in a recent meeting so I thought I would write what I knew of a great guy. Many of the new members today did not know Ed or others who have passed. The issue was the markings for the P51 mockup, which by the way looks great. Ed Smith and Bob Withee were both P51 pilots- Bob in the Philippines/ WW11 and Ed in Korea. The decision was made to use Bob's markings which are fine. I talked to Ed's wife, Betty about the decision and she said that she is sure that Ed would approve wholeheartedly. Ed and Bob were close friends and spent hours discussing their times in the P51 and other aircraft.

Ed was one of the early members. He joined in 1991, shortly after MAPS was started. Ed passed away in 2007. When I joined MAPS in 1999, he encouraged me to stay on. When I would show up at the restoration building (MAPS did not have the hangar for several more years) and did not know what to do or who to ask, he would just say, "Don, sit down and talk to me". One corner of the building was reserved for a coffee shop for members to sit and have coffee and doughnuts. Ed would set it up every Saturday. He would be at MAPS almost every morning by 5 AM. Going back a bit, when he was a kid he said he would walk over to the Fulton Airport and do grunt work around the aircraft. That meant sweeping the hangar, washing planes, etc. That led to flying lessons and he became a pilot when he was very young. A few years later the Korean War started so he enlisted in the Air Force and, of course, was sent to pilot's training. He ended up flying a P51 in Korea and named his plane "No Quarter". It had yellow and blue markings as shown on his radio controlled model hanging over the Gallery door.

He was shot down twice from ground fire. The third and

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last time a MIG 15 caught him off guard. (See his picture on the "Caterpillar Club" sheet on the south wall of the Gallery) A cannon shell passed through the cockpit. Shrapnel hit his helmet seriously injuring his face and lower jaw, he was unconscious. Luckily the P-51 glided into a snow bank near US troops and they managed to pull him out.. Because of the crash landing, both legs were broken. After spending two years in military hospitals, he was sent home. He received the Purple Heart plus other medals. Ed said the scars on his face made him really depressed and self conscious, so he started wearing a beard to hide them. He went thru years of doing anything dangerous or risky to take his mind off his problems. He raced a midget racecar on the Rubber Bowl track, dirt track racing and Daytona. (Competed with MAPS Member Jerry Saunders) . Ed said he finally had enough of the wild side and settled down.

He ended up driving truck for Consolidated Freight and married his loving wife, Betty. Then another tragedy struck, his truck cab caught on fire. In the process of moving the truck away from other parked trucks, Ed suffered burns and lung damage from smoke. From then on he suffered from breathing problems. He bought a T6 trainer and would fly it to Ft Myers Florida with Betty in the back seat. He loved to talk about the foster kids they cared for, until the kids could go out on their own. The kids would visit them later and thank Ed and Betty for the home they provided. They adopted two of the foster kids.

When Ed retired he needed something to do and Betty found the answer. She heard of this new place called MAPS and talked him into joining, he was hooked. MAPS started out in the southeast corner of the restoration building which gave room for a small shop. The MARC organization,(owned by Mr. Talichet) was contacted for aircraft. They ended up with the C45, C47, 2 (in pieces) SBD dive bombers, P40, and P39. The B26 and T28 were added later. The C47 was recently restored by Ron Duplain Keith Swinehart and crew. The MIG 17 arrived sometime in there and Jack Smith (no relation to Ed) and Ed restored it. I realize this is over simplified and many more people were involved but it would take volumes to cover everything that took place. Of course they managed to get use of the whole building and eventually the hangar. We are still involved with the MARC organization.

We would enjoy listening to Ed, Lee Kestler , and Stan Wojak trading insults and stories. Lee was a B17 gunner and POW,

(see his memorial in the Gallery), Stan was a P38 pilot shot down in Italy and a POW. I wish all of you could have known these guys. §

## MAPS Cookbook

*Bob Schwartz, Director Chair*

A big “MAPS THANKS” goes out to MAPS member Julie Adams for putting together a MAPS Cook Book. Julie also worked hard at obtaining funding to complete the project. The book contains many pictures of our aircraft collection along with some history of our museum. The main attractions are the many delicious recipes submitted by our members and friends. The cook book is available in the gift shop. Priced at \$19.95, it’s a bargain. It’s also available through the on line gift shop. §



## Chairman’s Notes

*Bob Schwartz, Director Chair*

Don Neidert and his wife Leona are long time members of MAPS. Leona graces our gift shop once or twice a week. Don

comes in 2 or 3 times a week or more if needed. Don was a member of the crew that restored the “Spirit of Akron” control car. He has assisted in most other restoration projects where special frame work is needed to support wings, fuselages or other parts for extended periods of time or to facilitate attaching parts together.

The Explorer Post recently elected members to various leadership positions. Josh Stiles- Post President, Robert Boykin- Post Vice President and Evan Schoonover-Post Secretary.

One of the goals of Exploring is to teach leadership. Our explorers now develop meeting agendas and run the meetings with post advisors. We recently obtained a beautiful 3x6 foot banner with the MAPS and exploring logos stating “MAPS – home of Aviation Explorer Post 356”. We will use it at our various marketing venues and have it prominently displayed in the hangar.

We had a record breaking year in 2012. Much of this increase is due our dedicated Executive Director Kim Kovesci. He actively increased our visibility through marketing, an increase in events and actively pursuing relationships and partnerships with various organizations and groups in the area. Our volunteers deserve a large amount of credit also for their dedication and enthusiasm. We couldn’t have had the big year without everyone of you. §

**VISIT MAPS WEBSITE**

Use this QR code to visit  
MAPS website



## Founders View

*Dennis Gugliotta, Founder*

### The Future

The future is an important goal of the MAPS air Museum. Most people would think future means more aircraft, new hanger, etc. But the board is thinking towards the financial future of MAPS. Last winter the board started an annuity program built from extra money obtained from the past years successful financial drives. The saved money will give a guaranteed income of \$50 a year per thousand dollars deposited. They did not stop there, it has been opened it to the membership to help MAPS annuity to grow more. Members can donate \$1000.00 to the annuity plan and in return receive a life membership. New members may also do the same by giving \$1000.00 when they sign up. Are there any security problems with the funds? Not likely. The money is controlled by a local foundation that has been in business for over 50 years doing just this. No one at MAPS can access this money. If (heaven forbid) the museum would close, the money would go to who ever obtain the collection. A sound move indeed!

For further information you can contact our MAPS CEO Kim Kovesci. Please give for MAPS future! §

## Curator's Corner, March 2013

*Jim Cameron, Curator*

On July 5th, 1919, a 186 foot long Goodyear blimp, "The Wingfoot Express", was cruising at 1,200 feet over downtown Chicago on a publicity flight. The crew consisted of pilot Jack Boettner from Ravenna, Ohio, chief mechanic Harry Wacker from Cleveland, and mechanic Harry Weaver of Akron. A photographer and a publicity agent were the only passengers. They were all wearing parachutes

Suddenly, the blimp caught fire. Everyone jumped from the stricken craft. The mechanic's and publicity agent's chutes

caught fire. They plunged to their deaths. The pilot's chute opened. He landed safely on the roof of Chicago's tallest building. Despite his parachute opening, it caught fire and the photographer died on the street following impact. Chief mechanic Wacker struck a seven story building on his way to earth, but landed on a fire escape five stories above the ground. The blimp, its two engines, and two gasoline tanks in flames crashed through the skylight of the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank killing eleven and injuring twenty eight bank employees.

The cause of the fire was never determined and no one was ever held responsible. Harry Wacker spent several months in the hospital and several years recovering from his injuries. Every bone on his right side was broken. He resided in Akron until his death.

MAPS Air Museum is currently in possession of Harry Wacker's parachute thanks to his family. The intent is to display this important piece of history as soon as an appropriate method of display is created.



Mr. Wacker and Mr. Boettner hold the honor of being number “one” on the roster of The Caterpillar Club, an organization of individuals who used a parachute to exit a stricken aircraft and to survive. §



## News From MAPS Gift Shop

*Bob Johnston, Gift Shop Manager*

MAPS Gift Shop showed sales for 2012 at \$66,960. 2013 is off to a good start with sales over \$3,775 for January. This is an increase of \$1,685 over January of 2012. Our goal is for a total of \$70,000 for 2013. This can be accomplished with the help of our members and friends. MAPS members always receive 20% off most merchandise and 40% off MAPS logo clothing. Profit margins may be low on these items but it puts the MAPS logo into the public eye. It also rewards MAPS members for the hard work they do with no pay. I would like to thank our customers for their great support.

We have some new clothing in the store including brown and black sniper sweaters, NASA jackets, and large helicopters for kids three and up. Another new patch will be in about the first of April. It is from the 112 F.S. Ohio ANG. They flew P51s out of MAPS hangar from 1952 to 1955. The first of the year brings new catalogs with new items. Look for these and other new items in the months to come.

The Canton Car Show was a big success with over \$900 in

merchandise sold. That was double last years sales.

With more things going on at MAPS and in the gift shop, we could use a little more help. We would like to welcome MAPS

*continued on page 6*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### MARCH

- SAT, Mar 9: MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- SAT, Mar 9: TOUR GUIDE MEETING
- SUN, Mar 10: MEETING, HONOR FLIGHT
- THU, Mar 14: ELEXA ART
- SAT, Mar 16: CUB SCOUT DAY, GREAT TRAIL
- THU, Mar 21: CPR TRAINING, LIMITED SPACE  
REPLY ASAP. STARTS AT 9:00AM
- SAT, Mar 23: GIRL SCOUT DAY
- SAT, Mar 23: NORTH CANTON LIBRARY

#### APRIL

- SAT, Apr 6: STARK STATE, FIRETRUCK
- SUN, Apr 7: STARK STATE, FIRETRUCK
- WED, Apr 10: BOARD MEETING
- FRI, Apr 12: RED CROSS BASH
- SAT, Apr 13: RED CROSS BASH
- SAT, Apr 13: MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- MON, Apr 22: STARK STATE, FIRETRUCK
- WED, Apr 24: STARK STATE, FIRETRUCK
- FRI, Apr 26: STARK STATE, FIRETRUCK
- SAT, Apr 27: FAA LIBRARY SAFETY STANDDOWN
- SUN, Apr 28: PANCAKE BREAKFAST

#### MAY

- SAT, May 4: DRAKE DEDICATION
- WED, May 8: EXPLORER MEETING
- WED, May 8: BOARD MEETING
- FRI, May 10: BOY SCOUT CAMPOUT
- SAT, May 11: MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- SAT, May 25: TASTE OF GREEN
- SAT, May 26: TASTE OF GREEN
- MON, May 27: TASTE OF GREEN

## MAPS DIRECTORY

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KIM KOVESCI

### DIRECTORS

RON DUPLAIN

RICK HAMLET

KENT KLEINKNECHT

KEN RAMSAY

STEVE SATCHELL

BOB SCHWARTZ (CHAIR)

KEITH SWINEHART

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#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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#### SOCIAL EVENTS

PAT SCHWARTZ

#### TOUR COORDINATOR

DICK JOHNSON

#### TREASURER

MAC MCFARLAND

#### WEBSITE & WEBMASTER

KIM KOVESCI

*continued from page 5*

Member Rita Haines as a new volunteer in the gift shop. We look forward to working with her.

A special thanks goes out to our great crew in the gift shop. With their help and support, the volunteers make the gift shop a great success.

Again thanks to all and don't forget your 20 or 40% discounts. §

## Our Visitors

*Bob Schwartz, Director Chair*

We had 18,617 visitors in 2012. You've seen the visitor sign in sheet in the lobby and maybe saw one of our visitors answering a couple questions, or maybe you wondered where they are from or how they found out about us. 2,590 or about 14% of our visitors filled log. Not surprisingly 76% are from Ohio and about 65% from NE Ohio. What is a surprise is that we had visitors from 49 states and the District of Columbia. Only Rhode Island didn't provide us with a visitor. We had 55 visitors from 21 countries sign in with Germany topping the list with 12. 1,486 filled out the "How Learned" block. 29% said they heard about us by "word of mouth". Another 20% said they found us on the internet.

The other main items accounting for about 6% of the total are newspapers, return visitors, they saw one or signs driving by, and brochures. Various events make up most of the rest of the total. A complete, detailed breakdown is available on google drive in our MAPS email system. §

## Million Dollar Volunteers

*Bob Schwartz, Director Chair*

Kim Kovesci discusses our record number of volunteer hours in another article, but I would like to go into a little more detail. The 47, 618 hours was recorded in 48 different categories. The major items are restoration – 13,710 hours. Tour Guides – 6,592, Gift Shop – 4,292, Special events – 3,359, Library – 2,553 and Curators – 1,837. Many other activities make up the remainder of hours, installation of a new phone system and security system, hangar maintenance, administrative, etc. A complete, detailed breakdown is available on google drive in our MAPS email system. Our volunteers are dedicated, enthusiastic and excited about MAPS. §

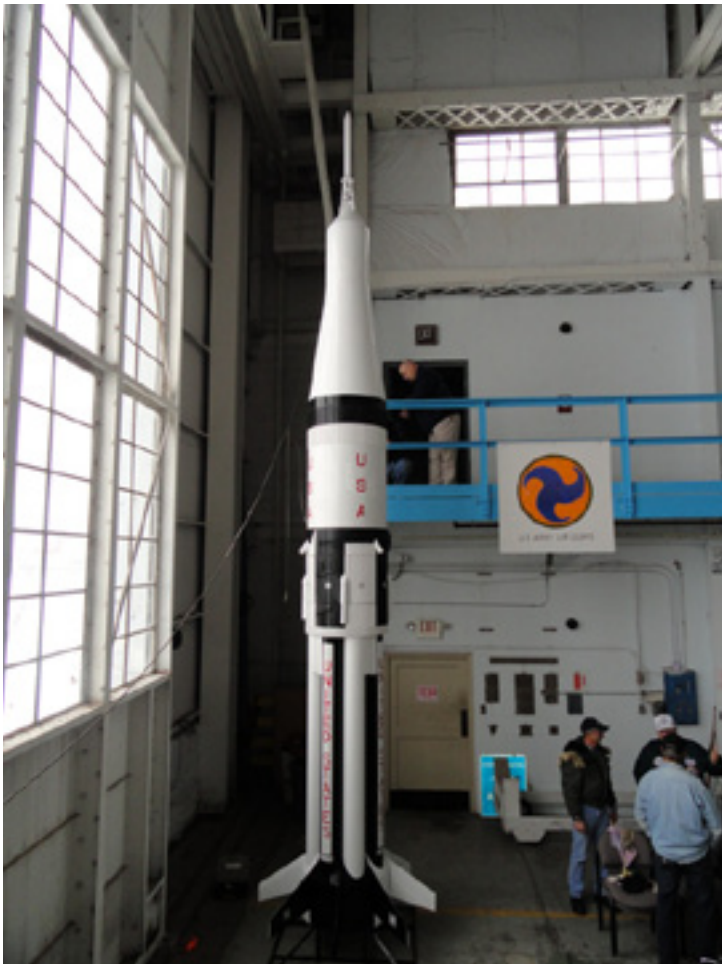
## Saturn 1B Rocket

*Kim Kovesci, Executive Director*

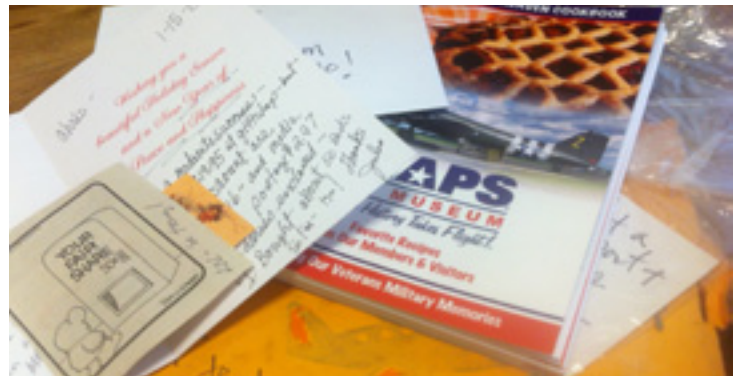


Steve Eves designed, built and flew his 1:9 scale 25 ft Saturn 1B Rocket. Then,

he brought his rocket to MAPS to be displayed. This is the second major project that Steve created. The first rocket was a Saturn 5 that he built and flew. The Saturn 5 rocket is currently on tour of Europe that is sponsored by NASA. If you go to our website, [www.mapsairmuseum.org](http://www.mapsairmuseum.org) you can watch both of these rockets fly. Thanks Steve for sharing your remarkable talent with MAPS. §



A moment like this occurred in late February. I was expecting a copy of “MAPS Cook Book” sent directly from Julie Adams. And in the mail, on this particular day, was a manilla envelope from Ohio. I opened the package and not only did Julie include the cookbook but also a sense of home. She hand wrote messages of inspiration and encouragement on the envelope, the MAPS Cook book, and an included holiday greeting card. It was very special and loving. She did an amazing job compiling this collection, and now every time I make a recipe from the book, home will be a helping away. §



## THANK YOU!



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MAPS thanks The Print Shop of Canton for sponsoring “The Briefing”

## Feeling at Home

*Chris Paprocki, Editor*

Two months ago, I headed back out West for design contracts. While it has been essential for paying the bills, it does make it hard to leave the exceptional community at MAPS. Not only is Canton where I grew up, but is easily still the place I feel at home. So, it’s important to find a sense of this home in every journey away.

### ★ MAPS TRIVIA ★

**QUESTION:**

During WWII how many Tuskegee Airmen were deployed overseas as fighter pilots?

- A. 155
- B. 355
- C. 955
- D. 1,555

*(answer on page 8)*

# Route 77 Signs

*Kim Kovesci, Executive Director*

If you are traveling North or South on Rt-77 prior to the Suffel Road Exit, you might notice some very important brown signs that say MAPS Air Museum. We want to thank the Ohio Department of Transportation, Ohio State Senator Frank LaRose, Ohio State Senator Scott Oelslager, Green Mayor Richard Norton, and CAK Airport President Mr. Rick McQueen for their support in helping erect the signs. There were two projects in this portion of our growth strategy, Signs on Rt-77 and the P-51 on Massillon Road. With the support of our friends, we have been able to accomplish the first and very shortly we will set the wheels in motion for the second project.

Again, we appreciate the support from all who have helped us “Get The Signs.”

Thank You! §



MAPS TRIVIA ANSWER: B. 355

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