

## MAPS Receives Military Vehicles

*By Kim Kovesci, MAPS Executive Director*

Richard Mastin is an Air Force Veteran. After the Air Force, Richard was a pilot for The Timken Company's private jets. He is an avid collector of Military Vehicles with a collection of over 20 different types in his inventory. This included a Sheridan Tank, Israel Half Track, several ambulances, several Jeeps, and a mule and scout car were among them.

Many years ago, Mr. Mastin came into my office and said, "I have a Gator 4-wheeler that I am not using and I would like to bring it over so you guys can use it." This was the beginning of a wonderful relationship. Richard loved to bring his vehicles to our events; pancake breakfasts, veteran programs and car shows. He supported us by bringing his Iwo Jima display and other vehicles in support of our entries in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Anytime we had an opportunity to show off his vehicles, he would jump at the chance and do whatever we needed him to do.



This relationship created a long-term plan to build a new hangar with the intent of housing Richard's collection on one side. COVID threw us a curve and we had to postpone the decision to build. Bottom line, we will not build a new hangar if we are not able to cover the operating cost. With the future uncertain, it would be irresponsible for us to proceed with the plan, so we stopped.

Richard started to liquidate his collection last year because we could no longer support the new hangar plan. He sold some of his vehicles and gave others away to his friends who have been with him throughout the years. For example, Ted Mathies (Medic's Corner Display) took possession of the Vietnam Ambulance, the exact model that he drove when he was in Vietnam. Ted is storing it at MAPS.

Earlier this year, Richard brought over the WWI French Ambulance that he and his crew constructed from drawings. We are displaying it right beside the WWI Sopwith Triplane.

The other day, Richard brought over an Air Force MP Jeep and Trailer and an M3A1 Scout Car that has been restored to near perfect condition.

### 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

### ADDRESS and PHONE

**Address:** 2260 International Parkway  
North Canton, Ohio 44720

**Phone:** 330-896-6332

*Kim's article continued on the following page  
with pictures of these amazing historic vehicles.*

### ★ 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.

## Kim's article *continued...*



**WWI French Ambulance**



**USAF MP Jeep and Trailer**



**Vietnam Era Ambulance**



**Richard Mastin**



**M3A1 Scout Car**



**Scout Car under the protective wing of our B-26**

Richard made a comment about bringing more vehicles over for us to display. Whatever he brings, we know it will be a wonderful addition to MAPS. All of these vehicles are operational and have been restored to world class levels. We want to thank Richard for all of his support over the years and for allowing us to display his beautifully restored military vehicles.

**I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of MAPS volunteers for making 2022 a year of progress and growth for MAPS. We couldn't have done it without you!  
With many thanks and much gratitude - Kim**



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Reed Kimball

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Dave Conner

### TOUR COORDINATOR

Reed Kimball

### TREASURER

Mac McFarland

### WEBSITE & WEBMASTER

Ron Schultz

## MAPS Supports Boy Scout Venturing Crew 1944

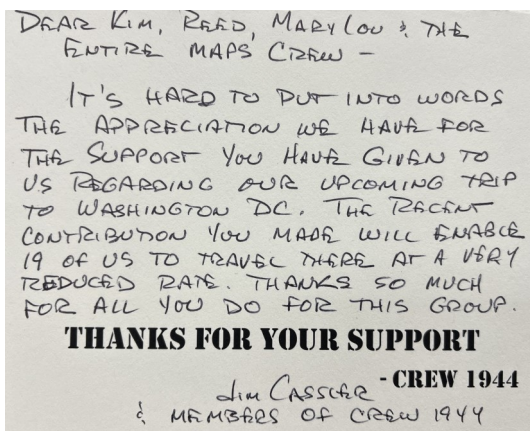
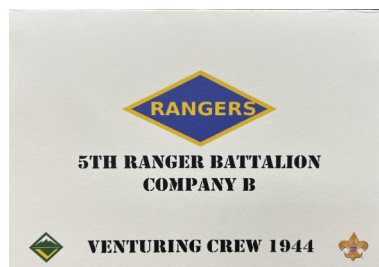
This year, our fall Military Collectors Show was again a resounding success! It was a beautiful fall day and 500 visitors came to see what vendors had to offer.

What made this event different and special was that the gross proceeds from food sales were to benefit the 5th Ranger Battalion, Company B, Venturing Crew 1944. These young men, dressed in authentic 5th Rangers uniforms, are the reenactors you've seen helping out at some MAPS events. Their fundraising efforts on this day were for a special cause—lodging and transportation to Washington, D.C.

Crew 1944 was honored and chosen to dedicate the D-Day prayer on Veterans Day at the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. The next day they traveled to Gettysburg to participate in the Veterans Day Program at the new WWII museum located there. It's interesting to note that many from Crew 1944 are the same age as the young men who enlisted to serve in WWII over 80 years ago.

We congratulate the members of Crew 1944 and thank them for all they are doing to keep history alive!

This is the very nice note MAPS received from crew leader, Jim Cassler.



MAPS is proud to have helped Crew 1944 travel to our Nation's Capitol!

## Christmas Shopping at MAPS



MAPS gift shop is all decked out for Christmas and ready for eager shoppers. With supply chain issues improved, the gift shop has many new items to see.

Choose from clothing for men, women and children, hats, model planes, anything Space Force, puzzles, books, coffee mugs, framed pictures, ornaments, stocking stuffers for kids and adults alike.

We are again offering a Gift Shop Gift Certificate that can be purchased in any amount and is good to use for one year from purchase.

We also offer a Free Pass which is good for one free admission during regular museum hours. Purchase any number of Free Passes to give to friends or relatives who may not have had the opportunity to visit MAPS yet. Once here, they will be want to come back again and again!

You can visit the gift shop any time during MAPS open hours without purchasing an admission ticket. See you soon!

# Susie-Q

*By Reed Kimball, MAPS Education Director*

You may have noticed a new piece of nose art on the MAPS B-26 painted by Ray Hamlin. Ray is also making replicas of the nose art on sheets of aluminum in restoration for presentation and sale. The artwork is being added to honor a specific B-26 bomber named Susie-Q that participated in the battle of Midway in June of 1942. Many, however do not know the story of Susie-Q or how that particular aircraft came to prominence. The following is the story of that aircraft and its pilot, Lieutenant James P. Muri.



On June 4, 1942, a formation of Martin B-26 Marauder bombers took off from Midway Airfield on Eastern Island at 0630 hours. Each of these Army Air Corps bombers was armed with an aerial torpedo on a mission to attack Japanese Navy vessels during the Battle of Midway. The weather was described as "very good". The formation of four B-26 Marauders included two from the 38th Bombardment Group, 69th Bombardment Squadron plus two B-26s from the 22nd Bombardment Group, 408th Bombardment Squadron.

On that day, Lieutenant James P. Muri, of the Army Air Force's 22nd Bomb Group, piloted one of four B-26 bombers that took off from Midway Island to attack a Japanese fleet planning to invade the U.S. outpost about 1,100 miles northwest of Hawaii. The formation was led by the B-26 piloted by Captain James F. Collins, with left wingman B-26 Satan's Playmate piloted by 1st Lieutenant Herbert C. Mayes and right wingman B-26 piloted by 1st Lieutenant William S. Watson. Behind them was B-26 Susie-Q (aircraft serial number 40-1391) piloted by 1st Lieutenant Muri.

The B-26 formation was intercepted by two A6M2 Zeros flying a Combat Air Patrol and defensive anti-aircraft fire from the Japanese fleet. At 0710 hours, the formation attacked the Japanese Navy carrier force roughly 150 miles northwest of Midway Atoll. Flying in a diamond formation at 700 feet in altitude, the bombers descended to 200 feet to make their torpedo attack.

Japanese fighter planes shot the bombers with machine guns and cannons. Muri's bomber was struck and the three gunners were wounded. Over the Japanese fleet, he targeted the Japanese aircraft carrier Akagi and released the aerial torpedo but failed to score a hit. Then, as shown by the beautiful artwork (titled "A Shot Across the Bow" drawn by aviation artist Roy Grinnell) Muri flew his craft along the flight deck of the ship in an attempt to escape the gantlet of fire unleashed by the enemy surface fleet and swarming Zero fighters. Muri flew lower than treetop level above the deck of the massive ship nearly grazing the bridge, reasoning that skimming the flight deck would prevent the fighters from firing on him and also prevent the carrier's anti-aircraft guns from shooting at the bomber, giving him the best chance to survive.



*"A Shot Across the Bow"*

*Reed's article continued on the following page*



## Susie-Q continued...

Two of the attacking B-26's were lost in the attack, the other two returned to Midway. Returning with heavy damage, *Susie-Q*'s hydraulic system was knocked out and the landing gear tires were punctured. Aboard, three of the crew were wounded. Despite this damage, the bomber successfully landed at Midway Airfield with the landing gear only partially extended. Initially, it was believed Muri hit or damaged the carrier he attacked and was initially credited for the sinking.

After the mission, 500 bullet holes were noted in the bomber and it was written off. The nose art with *Susie-Q* was cut out of the nose by co-pilot Lieutenant Pren L. Moore and kept as a souvenir. The rest of the B-26 was bulldozed into a barge and dumped into the lagoon off Eastern Island.



*The crew of the U.S. Army Air Forces Martin B-26 Marauder (s/n 40-1391, "Susie-Q") from the 18th Reconnaissance Squadron (Medium), 22nd Bomb Group, which made a torpedo-attack on the Japanese carriers in the early morning of June 4, 1942 during the Battle of Midway:*

*Pilot Lt. James P. Muri (second from left, front row), co-pilot Lt. Pren L. Moore, navigator Lt. William W. Moore, bombardier Lt. Russell Johnson, gunners S/Sgt. John J. Gogoj, Cpl. Frank L. Melo Jr, and Pfc. Earl D. Ashley 1st.*

The dramatic torpedo attack by Army B-26 Marauders of the 22nd and 38th Bomb Groups and the Navy TBF Avengers of Torpedo Squadron 8 forced Japanese Admiral Nagumo to alter his battle plan, a decision that set the stage for the incredible American victory at the Battle of Midway.

Muri and his crew were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. Singer and radio host Lonnie Bell paid tribute to the feat in his song "Midway," which he wrote in 1976.

Muri retired from active duty as a lieutenant colonel after serving 24 years in military service and returned to Montana in 1969. He and his wife, Alice, lived on Bridger Creek east of Big Timber for 30 years before moving to Billings in 1999. His wife died in 2001. In 2003, Muri was awarded the **James H. Doolittle Award**. On February 3, 2013, Muri died of natural causes in Laurel, Montana at the age of 94.



## James H. Doolittle Award

The **James H. Doolittle Award** is an honor presented annually by the Society of Experimental Test Pilots. It is an award for "outstanding accomplishment in technical management or engineering achievement in aerospace technology." The award consists of a perpetual trophy on permanent display at SETP headquarters, and a smaller replica presented to the recipient. General James Doolittle was famous for the Doolittle Raid on Tokyo during World War II.

The Doolittle Raid (planned by, led by, and named after Doolittle) was a U.S. air raid that targeted major cities in Japan. It occurred on April 18, 1942. The attack aimed to lift Allied spirits and incite fear in the Japanese population in retribution for the Japanese attack on the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7, 1941.



# A Brief History of Military Aircraft Nose Art

By Marylou Thompson, Briefing Editor

Placing personalized decorations on fighting aircraft began with Italian and German pilots. The first recorded example was a sea monster painted on an Italian flying boat in 1913. This was followed by the popular practice of painting a shark's mouth beneath the propeller's spinner begun by German pilots in World War I to intimidate the enemy and show fighting spirit.

Generally considered as the golden age of nose art, WWII gave rise to the most popular and well-known images of nose art. The artists who spent their time painstakingly painting these unique works of art ranged from air and ground crew to enlisted graphic artists and designers. Occasionally, professional artists were hired by the crew.

Some nose art was named after events in the aircraft's service like the *Ruptured Duck* from the Doolittle raids on Tokyo. The *Ruptured Duck*, a Mitchell B-25, had suffered minor tail damage during a training exercise, this was remembered with the image of Donald Duck on crutches painted onto the nose of the plane.

Pin-up art is virtually synonymous with aircraft nose art. Since the practice began in the 1940s, countless depictions of women have appeared on hundreds, if not thousands of planes.

During WWII, patriotic messages were often emblazoned on the noses of aircraft as morale boosters to rally American soldiers in their fight against the enemy.

Cartoon characters were also popular images for nose art - the characters reminded soldiers of home and gave them a distraction from the fight at hand. Movie stars were also commonly featured on WWII aircraft. Animals, both cartoon and realistic, also appeared in nose art regularly throughout the decades.

The USAAF tolerated the commissioning of nose art as its commanders felt it unified the crews and acted as a much needed morale booster, especially during the height of the conflict when aircraft and personal losses were at their peak. However, the US Navy outright banned nose art.



Classic shark's teeth on MAPS Bell AH-1S Cobra



Cartoon, Charley's Jewel on MAPS B-26



*Ruptured Duck* nose art replicated on MAPS C-47

As the U.S. began battling faceless dangers like communism, signs of protest replaced upbeat patriotic art, and death became a pervasive theme. Nose art reappeared in the theatre of operations in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. During the Vietnam War, nose art dramatically shifted to focus on rock music, in part because of society's shift in attitude.

During the 1991 Gulf war, allied war planes carried individual pieces of nose art. For the same reasons as the air and ground crews of WWII, these individual markings created unity among the crews who were operating far from home and safety.

Nose art still exists today in many forms. The USAF has allowed the painting of several patriotic pieces for some of its aircraft. After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, a number of social/political designs appeared on USAF aircraft.

Crews still derive a sense of pride and identification with an aircraft through its name and art. Given its past history, nose art, sanctioned or not, is bound to recur in one shape or another in the future. Each piece of nose art, much like a painting hung in a gallery, tells a unique story for each individual aircraft.



## “Semper Fi Skies” by artist John Shaw

*By Drew Maser, Curatorial Department*

Captain Archie Glenn Donahue of VMF-112’s “Wolfpack” becomes an Ace-in-a-Day in the skies near Guadalcanal in May of 1943. He would repeat this remarkable feat two years later, after shooting down 5 enemy planes while serving aboard a carrier, establishing himself as one of the finest aces in U.S. Marine aviation history. With the debut of the effectively lethal F4U Corsair, Marine and Navy pilots would soon gain fame and maintain air superiority throughout the Solomon Island region during the war in the Pacific.

The original painting, Semper-Fi Skies was completed in 2006. The 4’ x 5’ oil painting was commissioned by the Cavanaugh Flight Museum, located just north of Dallas, Texas, in the city of Addison and hangs there today.

If you have entered MAPS museum through the main entrance recently you no doubt noticed the new and massive Corsair painting that immediately catches your eye. Some months ago, it was decided that MAPS needed a large show piece to welcome our guests, something that was big enough that they would want to take their picture with it as a memento of their visit to this amazing facility. The curator’s department was given the task to come up with something that could represent our mission and the service men and women that we seek to honor.

The Corsair was an obvious choice to complement our local community connection with Goodyear and the museum’s ongoing efforts to build our own aircraft that will be a highlight of our collection. So we contacted artist John Shaw to see if we could use one of his images for this project. John is considered one of the top aviation artists in the world today. Many of John’s historical aviation and military scenes have become some of the industry’s most sought-after and valuable lithograph titles. Originals and reproductions of his work are also on display in the Pentagon and in the collections of past US Presidents.

John quickly agreed to the project and was very excited to develop a plan for producing a special piece for MAPS. The image would be printed on canvas (known as a “giclee” print) which gives the impression of an original oil painting. The image was

so large that he had to have it printed on two pieces of canvas, which he cut and then pieced together. After that, he decided he needed to get out his brushes and oils and add additional details by hand.

The museum paid a very reasonable price for this epic image, but John wasn’t done yet. On his own, he decided to donate 75 regular sized prints of this painting for MAPS to use as a fund raiser. He signed and numbered each one as a special MAPS limited edition which can only be purchased from our gift shop. He also included a very informative Certificate of Authenticity for each one making this a fantastic MAPS-only collectible. The end result is we now have a beautiful and unique Corsair image in our lobby and the museum will make money on the sale of the prints.

If you haven’t taken a close look at our massive version of this painting, please stop by the lobby and see it for yourself. Our thanks to John Shaw and the MAPS volunteers that worked to bring aviation history to life for our guests and community.



## Santa Fly-In 2022



The Covid pandemic caused a hiatus in MAPS ability to host our annual Santa Fly-In. But we're pleased to say that Santa and Mrs. Claus are healthy and excited to return to MAPS on Sunday, December 4th from 11 AM to 3 PM.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive by Castle Aviation at 11:30 and Santa will begin seeing children at 12 noon.

Families will receive a special "group" pass at check-in. One group will be called at a time to line up to see Santa. Only 60 passes are available so plan to get here early and be ready to take pictures of your little ones with Santa.

Cookies and Sunny-D are free for children and coffee will be available for the Moms and Dads. While you are waiting to see Santa, Santa's Elves will help children have fun at the coloring table, listen to a story-teller, or enjoy face-painting.

This event is **free to the public** but we would appreciate donations of non-perishable food or paper products for our local Ohio National Guard. Cash donations are welcome also and checks should be made out to MAPS Air Museum with a notation that it is for the National Guard.

This year we have teamed up several groups to help with this event including:

- ◆ Akron Canton Airport
- ◆ Ohio Army National Guard
- ◆ Daughters of the American Revolution
- ◆ Castle Aviation
- ◆ Civil Air Patrol #278
- ◆ The Print Shop of Canton
- ◆ Canton Folk Group

MAPS thanks each of these groups for their support and to all who are willing to help bring smiles to both young and old during this special event!

We look forward to seeing you on December 4th!

THANK YOU!



6536 Promler Ave. NW  
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Commercial Printing  
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MAPS thanks The Print Shop of Canton, Inc.  
for sponsoring "THE BRIEFING"

## It Takes a MAPS Village...

A big Shout Out to several of MAPS "Elves" who helped with the finishing touches on the new Veterans display outside the library!

Many thanks to **Denny Bachtel, Bill Barracato, Scott Denniss, Drew Maser and Al Petschauer.**

Thanks guys!! - MLT





# Chairman's Notes

*By Dennis Bachtel, Director Chair*



As the year comes to a conclusion, I want to take this opportunity to thank the many MAPS volunteers who have dedicated themselves to the mission of educating, preserving and sharing military aviation history with our

MAPS Museum visitors.

It is your belief in our organization that keeps it vital and thriving. Regardless of what you are dedicated to—whether it be assisting with special projects, working in the library, curator area, tour guides, gift shop, special event assistance, food service, restoration, grounds crew and more, it takes a large group of people to keep MAPS running smoothly. For you, we are thankful!

I also want to welcome any and all new volunteers to our organization. We want to make you feel welcome and know that your time here is valued. You may not be aware of the various areas that need your help. Please feel free to talk with me or any of the other board members who can assist you in exploring volunteer opportunities.

The success of MAPS is dependent on our volunteers. We encourage all of you to join us as we move forward into a new year.

I wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

## On another note...

MAPS will begin **Winter Hours** beginning January 1, 2023 and continuing through Monday, March 13, 2023.

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

On Tuesday, March 14, 2023, MAPS will resume regular hours. (See front page of the Briefing)

MAPS will remain open for our volunteers to come and work on projects in their respective areas on days we are closed to the public.

# Upcoming Events

## DECEMBER

SAT, DEC 3	VOLUNTEER X-MAS PARTY	6 PM
SUN, DEC 4	SANTA FLY-IN	11 AM - 3 PM
WED, DEC 7	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, DEC 10	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM

## JANUARY

WED, JAN 11	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, JAN 14	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM

## FEBRUARY

WED, FEB 8	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, FEB 11	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM

## MARCH

WED, MAR 8	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, MAR 11	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM
SAT, MAR 25 & SUN, MAR 26	HUNTING, FISHING & OUTDOOR SHOW	

**APRIL MIGHT SEEM LIKE A LONG WAY OFF, BUT MAPS WILL HAVE TWO EVENTS TO HELP END THE WINTER DOLDRUMS - THE MILITARY COLLECTORS SHOW AND THE SPRING PANCAKE BREAKFAST. CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS!**

## A note about events

Please call MAPS or check our website, Facebook or Instagram for details about events and any updates. Do not rely on any other internet sites as they may not have the most current information.

# ★ MAPS ★ Endowment Fund

*A message from Kim Kovesci, Executive Director*

Our Endowment Fund has been set up to ensure the long term survival of the organization. If you plan to have a financial review done, MAPS Air Museum would appreciate being considered in your plans. Thank you!



# Restoration Magic!



*By Marylou Thompson, Briefing Editor*

## Meet the Magicians!

In the last several issues of the Briefing, we have showcased a few of the planes that have been restored by MAPS all-volunteer restoration crew. These guys and gals come from all walks of life. Some are still working full time but most are retired from their respective fields. Those who are retired come from a plethora of careers and industries: business owner, education, counseling, engineer, public utilities, banking, corporate pilot, law enforcement, firefighter, IT, heavy equipment operator, medical equipment repair, physician, sheet metal worker, mechanic, paramedic, aerospace engineer, city worker, tire industry, scientist, automotive, construction and the packaging industry. Some are Veterans of the military but all have one thing in common - their passion for restoring aircraft to museum status.

Ken Ramsay frequently posts updates on MAPS aircraft that are in the restoration process. You can see a listing of the types of aircraft, mostly military, that are in various stages of refurbishment or maintenance on our website under the "Aircraft" tab. You can also see 56 "before and after" color pictures of various aircraft. A few aircraft are in our restricted Restoration building for heavy repairs. While many others are awaiting their turn to be fully restored, you can still see many of these aircraft on display at MAPS.

As of October 1st of this year, over 10,000 hours have been logged by the volunteers in restoration! After restoration, some volunteers take responsibility to provide ongoing maintenance of the planes to keep them looking pristine.

Recently, Ken Ramsay's brother Gene (retired BGen USAF) wrote, "The talent, expertise, dedication, ingenuity and craftsmanship of your volunteers is extraordinary."

Below is a listing of these magicians whose talent, expertise, dedication, ingenuity and craftsmanship is extraordinary!

**Denny Bachtel** - MAPS member 12 years

**Bill Barracato** - MAPS member 19 years

**Bruce Beatty** - MAPS member 4 years,

**Carl Bergsneider** - MAPS member 14 years

**Mike Bilderback** - MAPS member 4 years,

**Tony Bistransky** - MAPS member 14 years

**Jim Boyea** - MAPS member 10 years

**Bryan Brubaker** - MAPS member 27 years

**Nai Consbruck** - MAPS member 3 years

**Jodie Davis** - MAPS member 3 years

**John Disko** - MAPS member 13 years

**Ron Duplain** - MAPS member 13 years

**Tim Feaser** - MAPS member 2 years

**Paul Gates** - MAPS member 32 years

**Dave Gibson** - MAPS member 7 years

**John Gilbert** - MAPS member 3 years

**Ron Gottschalk** - MAPS member 3 years

**Ray Hamlin** - MAPS member 23 years

**Mark Hanna** - MAPS member 5 years

**John Harris** - MAPS member 7 years

**Jack Hastings** - MAPS member 12 years

**Paul Heilman** - MAPS member 2 years

**Gary Hengstenberger** - MAPS member 10 years

**Jim Jackson** - MAPS member 10 years

**Rick Johnston** - MAPS member 32 years

**Kent Kleinknecht** - MAPS member 22 years

**Tod Krino** - MAPS member 9 years

**Bob Kurtz** - MAPS member 1 year,

**Larry Lewis** - MAPS member 18 years

**Brett McKay** - MAPS member 4 years

**Don Neidert** - MAPS member 23 years

**Ken Olinger** - MAPS member 11 years

**Jerry Patton** - MAPS member 8 years

**Dave Pawski** - MAPS member 26 years

**Al Petschauer** - MAPS member 8 years

**Ken Ramsay** - MAPS member 18 years



## Restoration Magic *continued...*

**Evelyn Runer** - MAPS member 5 months

**Dave Sanders** - MAPS member 13 years

**Mark Saurer** - MAPS member 10 years

**Rich Schoeppner** - MAPS member 2 years,

**Jim Shoop** - MAPS member 12 years

**Mason Smith** - MAPS member 2 months

**George Shearwood** - MAPS member 16 years

**Chet Starn** - MAPS member 12 years

**Bob Stoller** - MAPS member 32 years

**Scott Swift** - MAPS member 14 years

**Tom Thesing** - MAPS member 3 years

**Clay Tober** - MAPS member 11 years

**Terry Van Sickel** - MAPS member 3 years

**Bob Warren** - MAPS member 10 years

**Ray Weber** - MAPS member 8 years

**Kathy Jo Wells** - MAPS member 1 year

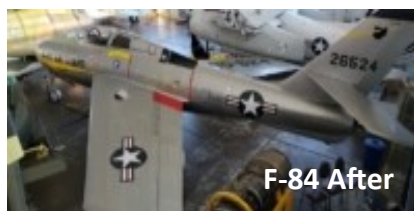
**Dan Willaman** - MAPS member 13 years

Thank you to the entire restoration crew for your dedication to keeping history alive!

**We hope you enjoy some of these amazing before and after pictures.**



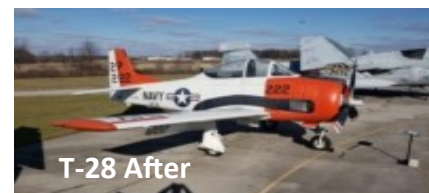
F-84 Before



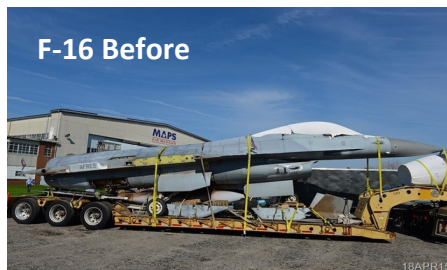
F-84 After



T-28 Before



T-28 After



F-16 Before



F-16 After



Goodyear Drake Before



Goodyear Drake After



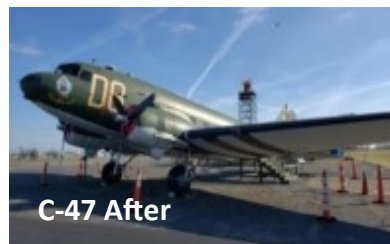
F-100 Before



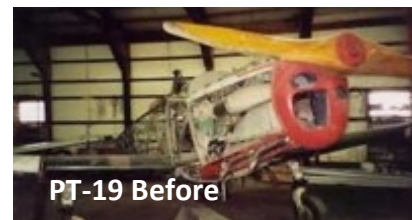
F-100 After



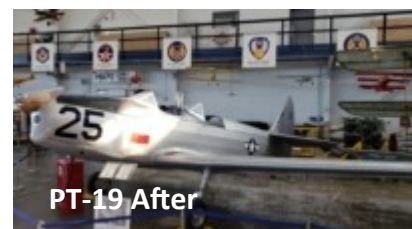
C-47 Before



C-47 After



PT-19 Before



PT-19 After

*Continued on following page*



## Restoration Magic *continued...*



Kiowa Before

Kiowa After



Before - T-37 sat on the tarmac from 2007-2021.

After - conversion to A-37. Ken Ramsay flew this plane!



Do you want to see what MAPS Air Museum has to offer before you come? Take a Virtual Tour! Look under the "Plan Your Visit" tab on our website.

# COME FOR THE AIRCRAFT

## *Stay for the History*

### **MAPS**

#### AIR MUSEUM

*Where History Takes Flight!*



Find us on [f @mapsairmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/mapsairmuseum) or [www.mapsairmuseum.org](http://www.mapsairmuseum.org)

Please check our Website or Facebook page for current hours.





**WALK-THROUGH TOURS:** (No Reservation Required)  
 Adults - \$15 • Children (Ages 6-12) - \$8 • Children under 6 - Free  
 Discounts for Veterans, Active Duty Personnel and Seniors.  
 Group discount available for 15 or more with prearranged reservation.

**Just 3 Miles off Interstate 77 • Just 9 minutes from the Pro Football Hall of Fame**

MAPS Air Museum is located on the west side of the **Akron Canton Airport** in the **CAK International Business Park** • 2260 International Parkway (at the very end) off Massillon Rd. City of Green

**330.896.6332 • [www.mapsairmuseum.org](http://www.mapsairmuseum.org)**

Gift Shop • Free Parking • Handicapped Accessible • Over 50 Aircraft on site  
 2 Museum Galleries with over 130 displays

## A Little History of Corsairs built in Akron, OH During WWII

It is 1943 and America is at war with Japan because of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. Depending on where you lived, war may have had little effect on your daily life, but if you lived in Akron, some exciting things were happening at the Goodyear Aerospace factory adjacent to the Akron Fulton Airport.

Goodyear Tire and Rubber had secured a contract to manufacture the Chance-Vought FG-1 Corsair, a single-engine fighter plane. By 1943, the planes were rolling off the assembly lines and into the skies with a production goal of "a plane every eight minutes." During World War II, as men were called up for duty, women took their place on the factory production line. In Akron, it was women who helped to produce more than 4,000 Corsair fighter planes for the Navy and Marine Corps.

During the height of production, it wasn't unusual to see Corsairs flying above Akron in synchronized formation.

With its aggressive shape and ferocious speed, the Corsair

was a vital component to Allied air superiority in the South Seas. The Japanese called the Corsair the "whistling death" because of its characteristic screaming dive which produced a frightening sound.

The Corsair FG-1 fighter is a gull-winged airplane that could zoom at speeds of more than 300 mph and soar to an altitude of 33,150 feet. It is a perennial favorite at air shows and flight museums throughout the country. The FG-1 Corsair testifies to Akron's contribution to national aviation history.

In 2009, the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company permanently closed its museum and donated a Corsair cockpit to MAPS that had been on display in their museum for over 60 years. The cockpit was on display at MAPS for the next 9 years when a decision was made to build the full aircraft around the cockpit. Imagine that! Building a vintage aircraft from scratch! Who does that? The magicians in restoration - that's who!



# 40th Anniversary - Vietnam Veterans Memorial

*By Marylou Thompson, Briefing Editor*

The year 2022 marks the 40th anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. In 1982, when the Memorial was built and dedicated, a promise was made to never forget those who served and sacrificed in the Vietnam War.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. stands as **a symbol of America's honor and recognition of the men and women who served and sacrificed their lives in the Vietnam War.** Inscribed on the black granite walls are the names of more than 58,000 men and women who gave their lives or remain missing.



The memorial also features the Three Servicemen statue, the Vietnam Women's Memorial, the In Memory plaque, and a flagpole with an etching of the insignia of what were then the country's five military branches.

The Memorial is one of the most iconic places of remembrance in America, even nearly 50 years after the war ended and 40 years since The Wall was dedicated. It has enabled the healing of a generation – and a nation – after one of the most divisive times in our nation's history. It changed the way we treat our returning veterans. It is also the most-visited memorial on the National Mall in Washington, attracting more than 5 million people each year.



Keeping watch over the wall are three figures in a statue honoring those who fought and returned from the war. The Three Servicemen Statue was unveiled on Veterans Day in 1984, two years after the wall was dedicated.



Not far away in another grove of eight trees is a sculpture of three servicewomen caring for a wounded soldier – the Vietnam Women's Memorial. In the sculpture, a nurse sits on sandbags holding a wounded serviceman while another searches the sky for help – perhaps a helicopter airlift. A third kneels behind the sandbags, holding a helmet in her hand. Dedicated in 1993, it honors the contributions of women in the Vietnam War.



On Veterans Day in 2004, a plaque was added near the Three Servicemen statue to remember and honor the sacrifice of veterans who later died as a result of their service in Vietnam.



During the Vietnam War and in the following twelve months, **235 Medals of Honor were awarded and since 1978 a further 31 awards have been presented.** Of the total of 266 awards, 178 were to the US Army, 15 to the US Navy, 58 to the USMC and 14 to the USAF. The Medal of Honor is the United States highest military award for valor.

## MAPS Anniversaries

August 1, 2022 to October 31, 2022

**\*\* designates Family Membership**

### 20 YEARS

Menefee, Douglas

### 15 YEARS

Courtney, David

### 10 YEARS

Culbertson, David\*\*

Davis, Les\*\*

Naugle, Bob

Noall, Wayne\*\*

Strauch, James (Jim)\*\*

Willaman, Richard\*\*

### 5 YEARS

Bennett, Rick

Boyce, Melina\*\*

Carrothers, James\*\*

Dewalt, Michael\*\*

Grubbs, William\*\*

Holland, Harry\*\*

Kolp, Tim\*\*

Lauer, Bruce\*\*

Philp, Margaret

Ryba, Dale\*\*

Stauder, David\*\*

Wadel, Gregory\*\*

## CONGRATULATIONS

Thank You For Your Continued Support!

**Do you have an aviation enthusiast or history buff in your family or circle of friends?**

**A MAPS membership would be a wonderful Christmas gift that will last an entire year!**

**The membership form can be found on the MAPS website, downloaded and sent back to us - all from the comfort of home!**

Many of you will be doing holiday shopping on Amazon again this year. Remember that if you sign up for Amazon

Smile, you can choose MAPS as your charitable organization to receive 0.5% of your eligible purchases all year long. It won't cost you anything extra to use Amazon Smile - the company is simply donating part of its profits.

As of September 2022, MAPS has received \$1465.56 from this program!

It's a wonderful way to support MAPS. Sign up today!

## New Members

August 1, 2022 to October 31, 2022

**\*\* designates Family Membership**

Allen, Mark

Bain, Hannah

Ballinger, Perry

Blasko, Anna\*\*

Bleakley', Willaim\*\*

Bradley, Victoria\*\*

Budziak, Max

Durbin, Neil\*\*

Finch, Brandon

Fox, Gerald\*\*

Friedebach, Eric

Geier, Dierker\*\*

Griffin, Allison\*\*

Harris, Pamela

Hayden, Thomas

Horne, Teri\*\*

Hughes, Andrew

Johnson, Gregory\*\*

Jordan, Matthew

King, Richard\*\*

Kois, Benjamin

Lipfend, Michael

Luikart, Ronald

Mahaney, Phylis

Malensek, Scott\*\*

Mitchell, Cindi Ann

Rarrick, David\*\*

Ridgley, April\*\*

Ridgley, Ryan\*\*

Schoonover, Richard

Schuman, Sabrina\*\*

Skakun, Mark\*\*

Smith, Gregory\*\*

Smith, Mason

Smith, Shyloh

Stokes, Kelly\*\*

Stormer, Brian

Weary, Brian\*\*

Weaver, Mark\*\*

Westfall, Brian\*\*

Whittaker, Teresa\*\*

Wilcox, Rodney\*\*

Winger, Janice



A Warm MAPS Welcome!



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You shop. Amazon gives.





## ★ Focus on Volunteers ★



**Debbie Bussinger with Ronald Van Dress at his home being interviewed as part of MAPS Oral History Program. Ronald is 96 years young and was a machine gunner during the Battle of Okinawa.**

For those of us working in the library, a question heard several times on any given day is “Is Debbie here?” or “Is Debbie coming in today?”

That’s because Debbie Bussinger, in the 10 years she has been a MAPS member, has been the driving force behind several important initiatives at MAPS.

She was instrumental in bringing Library World to our Louise Timken Library and Research Center. Library World is a web-based library management system that allows for the creation of your own library site. Because of this initiative, all of our books are now cataloged and accessible through an online data base on the MAPS website.

When Covid prevented many of our members from physically coming to the museum, Debbie began doing Zoom membership meetings. She has continued doing this and now the membership meetings are accessible to members whenever they want to view them.

Debbie has also created a whole audio-visual team so that MAPS events, such as our Annual Veterans Event, can be viewed at any time via live streaming on a number of platforms.

To date, as part of MAPS Military History Program, Debbie has taped 86 interviews with veterans, family members or those connected to the military so that their stories are not lost. Many have been submitted to and accepted by the Library of Congress.

Debbie has also developed relationships with local colleges and created a formal internship program at MAPS. Interns from museum studies, library science and history programs have provided invaluable project work for the library and the curators.

The amazing thing is that Debbie is still working full-time at McMaster-Carr Supply Company in the customer service and sales areas and has been there for the last 25 years. She has still managed to contribute over 1000 hours of volunteer time to MAPS this year!

Debbie was drawn to MAPS during her internship for a Masters in Library Science with a concentration in Museum Studies at Kent State. That is when she started working in the library 10 years ago. She was also drawn to MAPS because of the A-7. You see, when Debbie was in the USAF from 1977-1981, she worked on A-7s and A-10s. She was assigned to a Tech Fighter Squadron at England AFB in Louisiana and then to a Component Repair Squadron at RAF Bentwaters, England where she worked on the autopilot and instrument systems of both of these aircraft.

On a personal note, Debbie hails from Stow and has two children; a son who lives in Youngstown and a daughter who lives in Lima. She has four grandchildren, two boys and two girls. Her granddaughter, Nica, is currently living with her while she attends Kent State, pursuing a degree in anthropology.

Debbie and her long-time significant other, Jake (USCG Veteran), are frequently seen together at MAPS events.

When she has time, Debbie likes to run, watch movies, visit museums and shop flea markets. She has always had a love of history and likes to document events and share them with others. She is currently a contributor to the WWII Roundtable Programs. In the past, Debbie has volunteered at the Hower House Museum, Habitat for Humanity and the Cleveland Food Bank.

When asked, “What’s the best thing about MAPS?”, she says it’s the people and her access to history. She enjoys the cohesiveness and comradery that has developed among the departments and she looks forward to the time she can retire and devote more of her time to MAPS.

We thank Debbie sincerely for all of the contributions she has made to the growth of MAPS and are grateful she is part of the MAPS family!

# MAPS

## AIR MUSEUM

*Where History Takes Flight!*

2260 International Parkway  
North Canton OH 44720  
Phone 330-896-6332

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*The BRIEFING Newsletter*  
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*Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year to all  
MAPS members, their  
families, friends and all  
Veterans who have served  
our great Nation.*