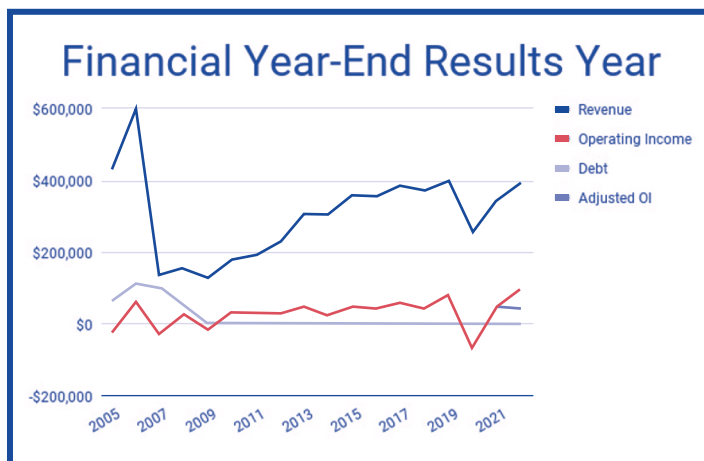


# MAPS Year-End Report - 2022

*By Kim Kovesci, MAPS Executive Director*

Our financial reports indicate that we have returned to Pre-Covid levels in revenue and operating income. This year we made a change to the reporting system. In prior years, we reported the impact of our investments at the end of the year. The stock market was extremely volatile in 2022 so we decided to update the system as the information became available. Our modified financial reporting showed a significant loss in our investments as an unrealized loss of (\$53,054). The chart to the right shows this adjustment as the Green line that was added. We kept the Red line as a continuation of our historical reporting. The bottom line, even though we took a big hit in the stock market, we did very well for the year and as the stock market recovers, there will be a corresponding improvement in our results.



The Gift Shop sales broke an all-time record. Bob Hollis, Mary Cody and all the volunteers have done a wonderful job growing and managing the gift shop activities. We had several projects where we either bought inventory from estates or items were donated. Sales associated with these projects brought in significant revenue without having the corresponding cost. We want to thank the McCoy and Martin Families for their donations that have significantly impacted our gift shop sales.



## 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*

## ★ 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...*

Regarding memberships, we reduced our number of members during the pandemic but made a full recovery in the past two years. Some of the newer members have begun to volunteer and have helped us significantly improve the organization. Thank you and welcome aboard!



Our visitor chart does not represent a full recovery from the pandemic. We are still experiencing smaller numbers of visitors during the events and have not fully returned to pre-COVID numbers in our High School Program. Also, some of this was due to data collection and will be addressed in 2023. We expect to surpass our record of 41,000 by the end of 2023.



Our volunteer hours are also lacking pre-Covid numbers. We lost some of our volunteers and some of the major projects have been completed. We have a lot of new volunteers who are getting into the swing of things and will make a big impact on our 2023 numbers. We expect to be around 58,000 volunteer hours by the end of 2023.



In summary, we have made a tremendous recovery from the impact of the Covid Pandemic. We expect to return to pre-Covid numbers by the end of 2023 and will return to the growth trends that we were previously experiencing. Thank you for all of your hard work. As you can see, it is paying off!



## Speaking of Volunteers...

Occasionally, when asked a question by a visitor, the person responding might say, "I'm just a volunteer." At MAPS, there is no such thing as "just a volunteer!" With a minimal number of paid staff, volunteers are the backbone of the organization and without them, the doors would close!

Each year, Independent Sector, headquartered in Washington, DC, gathers data and conducts research on volunteerism in the nonprofit sector. The results of that research provide nonprofits a way to calculate the value of volunteer time. For 2022, the estimated national value of each volunteer hour is currently \$29.95. With MAPS volunteer hours logged at 45,428 for 2022, that's a dollar value of \$1,360,569! That's nothing short of amazing!

## MAPS DIRECTORY

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kim Kovesci

### DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Reed Kimball

### EVENT COORDINATOR

Kent Kleinknecht

### DIRECTORS

Dennis Bachtel (Chair)

Bill Cody

Jim Jackson

Valerie Kinney

Ken Ramsay

Bob Schwartz

Marylou Thompson

### MARKETING

Doug Perry

### MUSEUM DISPLAYS

Scott Denniss

Gary Haught

### GIFT SHOP

Bob Hollis

### LIBRARY

Barb Johnston

Betty Tober

### MEMBERSHIP

Bob Schwartz

### MILITARY HISTORY PROGRAM

Debbie Bussinger

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Marylou Thompson

### OMM DISPLAYS

James Byerly

### PR / PUBLICITY

Mary Ann & Pete Nofel

### RESTORATION MANAGERS

Ron Duplain

Jim Jackson

Jim Schoop

Clay Tober

### SAFETY

Ted Mathies

### SCOUT COORDINATOR

Jim Felner

### SECURITY

Dave Conner

### TOUR COORDINATOR

Reed Kimball

### TREASURER

Mac McFarland

### WEBSITE & WEBMASTER

Ron Schultz

## Celebrating Black History Month

*By Marylou Thompson, Briefing Editor*

Black History Month is celebrated every year in February to honor the achievements and history of African-Americans. This issue of the Briefing is highlighting a little known WWII all-black female unit who served an important role in Europe during the war.

It was the only all-black, all-female battalion sent overseas during World War II. The 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion of the Women's Army Corps (WAC) was nicknamed the "Six Triple Eight." The 6888th was sent overseas in 1945, a time when there was growing pressure from African-American organizations to include black women in the Women's Army Corps and allow them to join their white counterparts overseas. A total of 855 women were deployed in 1945 - 59 from Ohio and only 6 are still living today.



Members of the 6888th dodged German U-Boats on their voyage to England and scrambled to escape a German rocket once they reached port.

When the 6888th settled in at Birmingham, England, the women confronted warehouses stacked to the ceiling with letters and packages. These buildings were unheated and dimly lit, the windows blacked out to prevent light showing during nighttime air raids. Rats sought out packages of spoiled cakes and cookies. As it was a cold winter, the women wore long johns and extra layers of clothing under their coats while working in these warehouses.

The 6888th devised their own system to handle the backlog of mail. This included creating and maintaining a card index of names of those with the same or similar names, using military serial numbers to distinguish between them. This index finally contained 7 million cards. They investigated insufficiently addressed mail for clues to determine the intended recipient, and they handled the sad duty of returning mail addressed to servicemembers who had died.



The mountains of mail had piled up and troops were grumbling about lost letters and delayed care packages. Thus became the 6888th motto, "No Mail, Low Morale."

The women of the 6888th worked in three different shifts, seven days a week, processing and delivering mail to fighting troops in Europe. Each shift handled an estimated 65,000 pieces of mail. In total, the unit handled mail for over four million military and civilians, as well as clearing backlogs in the UK and France.



*Article continued on the following page*



## Black History Month *continued...*

The women cleared out a backlog of about 17 million pieces of mail in 3 months - half the time projected. The battalion went on to serve in the same role in France before returning home.

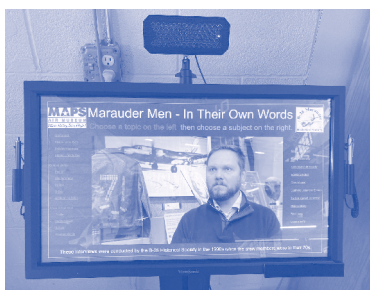
In February 1946, the unit returned to the United States where it was disbanded at Fort Dix, New Jersey. There was no public recognition for their service at the time.

In 2022, President Joe Biden signed into law legislation passed by Congress awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to the Black Women members of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion. The Medal is the highest expression of National appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions.



## Marauder Men... ...In Their Own Words

*By Steve Mitchell, Media Department Volunteer*



During your next visit to the museum be sure to check out the new 21 inch touchscreen kiosk around the Martin B-26 Marauder. Doing research at the University of Akron Archives for a new public television

program about the B-26, I discovered 144 VHS videotapes of interviews with B-26 ground and air crew members. They told fascinating stories recounting their experiences during World War II. It's often said we need to record our veteran's stories before they are gone forever. Fortunately, the B-26 Historical Society actually did just that in the 1990s, and as a result we now have another way to salute these World War II veterans.

To get the best quality video, I traveled to the B-26 Historical Society offices in Tucson, Arizona where they had the videos on DVDs. I made copies of 36 DVDs of interviews that told the personal stories of the crews and their affection for this plane. (And yes, they really did have an "affection" for their machine of war.) From those 72 hours of interviews, I identified 100 short video clips that told the story of the B-26 from its inception to its demise. These clips will be used to do a two-part TV

series that I hope will appear on local public television. I started work on the TV shows three years ago, but due to the Covid shutdown I had to put that project on hold. So, while cooped up at home, I developed a kiosk using the 100 videos, plus another 20 of MAPS volunteers, that tell the story of this airplane.

The kiosk allows users to choose from 12 topics like D-Day, Pacific operations, its use in the Aleutian Islands and the history of the MAPS B-26. Each topic has from 4 to 14 different recollections by the men who flew up to 85 missions over enemy territory. You'll hear about doing barrel rolls and flying under the Golden Gate Bridge, flying down the deck of a Japanese carrier, bailing out, bombing rail yards next to the Vatican, and why the B-26s were destroyed at the end of the war. You can also hear some MAPS volunteers tell about the restoration of our plane.

Our B-26 is one of only 6 left in the world and its story is not very well known. Only 5,288 were made over its four and a half years in service. It flew in the Pacific, Africa, the Mediterranean, Europe, and the Aleutian Islands and had the lowest loss rate of any aircraft in World War II. The kiosk will help our visitors understand how important the B-26 and its crews were in helping win World War II.



## THANK YOU



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# Chairman's Notes

*By Dennis Bachtel, Director Chair*

## The 2023 Annual MAPS Raffle is Underway!



This is the 17th year for this major fund-raising event. MAPS Directors and Staff would like to thank you for your support over the past few very challenging years.

With your support, we have been able to minimize the impact of the Covid shutdown on our financial year-end results. We anticipate returning to pre-Covid visitation and financial results by the end of FY 2023.

To start the year off right, we would like to ask for your support for our annual Cash Raffle. This fundraising program is a very important part of our overall financial plan. The Raffle fills a cash flow void during a time of the year when our visitation and rental revenue is at its lowest point. The Cash Raffle also provides an opportunity for members who are not able to volunteer to contribute to the overall success of the organization by selling tickets.

As in the past, we are asking that each member buy or sell 10 - \$5 tickets. The drawing will be held at the membership meeting on **Saturday, April 8th**. Your support is greatly appreciated!

If you would like more than 10 tickets, please stop by Headquarters and pick up more.

**Six great raffle prizes will be awarded: \$1000, \$500, \$250, \$125, \$75 and \$50!**

**Remember - you can't win if you don't enter!**

## Visitors from around the globe!

Despite not yet reaching our pre-Covid number of visitors, MAPS had visitors from 19 foreign countries sign the Visitor Log in 2022, 8 more than in 2021!

Represented were: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, England, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Italy, Mexico, Moldova, Philippines, South Africa and Switzerland.

Visitors from 46 of our 50 states and Washington, D.C. also signed in (including Alaska and Hawaii!) The only four states not represented were MS, NE, NM and SD.

Doug Perry, MAPS Marketing Manager, reports that MAPS has Facebook and Instagram followers from many foreign countries and all over the United States. We have almost 11,000 followers on Facebook and over 1,500 followers on Instagram.

# Upcoming Events

## MARCH

WED, MAR 9	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, MAR 11	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM
SAT, MAR 25 &	HUNTING, FISHING &	
SUN, MAR 26	OUTDOOR SHOW	9 AM - 4 PM

## APRIL

WED, APR 5	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, APR 8	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM
	RAFFLE WINNERS DRAWN	
SUN, APR 23	MILITARY SHOW	9 AM - 4 PM
SUN, APR 30	PANCAKE BREAKFAST	8 AM - 1 PM

## MAY

WED, MAY 10	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, MAY 13	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM

## JUNE

SAT, JUN 3	NORTH CANTON BEER FEST	3 PM - 8 PM
SAT, JUN 10	ANNUAL CAR SHOW	
WED, JUN 14	DIRECTOR MEETING	
SAT, JUN 17	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM
	ANNUAL MEETING/ELECTIONS	

## 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!

Reprinted with permission:  
Canton Repository, Saturday, January 7, 2023  
Author: Kelly Byer  
Photographer: Julie Vennitti Botos.

## ‘Spirit of Mansfield’ finds new home at MAPS Museum

GREEN - The “spirit of Mansfield” became the largest military plane at the Military Aviation Preservation Society (MAPS) Museum with its arrival Saturday, January 7, 2023.

The C-130H Hercules, which was previously flown from the Mansfield-Lahm Air National Guard base to the Akron-Canton Airport, was towed to MAPS just west of the airport while about 50 people watched. With a wingspan greater than 132 feet, it took about an hour or more of maneuvering and wood placed under one side to lift a wing over the museum's gate.

"It's very difficult to move this thing," said Kim Kovesci, the museum's executive director.

In 2021, the Air Force announced plans to transition the Mansfield base into the Air National Guard's first Cyber Warfare Wing. Because of its size, Kovesci said, there wasn't much competition for one of the eight, aging C-130Hs.

The plane was retired from the Mansfield base and, because the military still uses Hercules planes, is considered on loan to the museum.

Kovesci and Ray Weber, a retired squadron commander who flew the Hercules and other aircraft out of Mansfield, said getting the plane mostly involved a lot of paperwork.

Weber is a MAPS volunteer and retired from the [179th Airlift Wing](#), a unit of the Ohio Air National Guard. The Air National Guard is a separate reserve component of the U.S. Air Force. His son and grandson also have flown for the Air National Guard.

Weber has flown even larger planes than the Hercules transport and cargo plane but said its 155,000 pounds are easily maneuvered and capable of landing on only 3,000 feet of runway. That particular Hercules has made 14,450 landings.

"It's going to be a big asset to the museum," Weber said. "It's our biggest airplane yet."

Penny Schoenberger, a MAPS volunteer who was a master sergeant with the Air National Guard, said she performed maintenance for the 179th Airlift Wing for 10 years. Her late husband also was a master sergeant at the Mansfield base and flew many missions on C-130Hs.

"I'm just excited that it's coming here," said Schoenberger, who grew up in North Canton.

Kovesci said the MAPS Museum tries to maintain displays that are significant for the Northeast Ohio region. The C-130Hs have been flown out of Mansfield and Youngstown, and a lot of area residents "have a history" with them.

"This fits right in," Kovesci said. The Hercules joins about 60 other military aircraft at the MAPS Air Museum, 2260 International Parkway.



A C-130H Hercules Air Force combat cargo aircraft, with guidance from the Mansfield-based Ohio Air National Guard 179th Airlift Wing, makes its way to the MAPS Air Museum in Green.



Master SGT. Cory Matousek with the Mansfield-based Ohio Air National Guard 179th Airlift Wing keeps his eye on the wings as he navigates a C-130H Hercules to the MAPS Air Museum.



Kim Kovesci, executive director of the MAPS Air Museum, and Ray Weber watch as the C-130H is moved to the museum.

*More photos on the following page*



## Spirit of Mansfield *continued...*



The tail of the C-130H Hercules as it's moved to the MAPS Air Museum.



A C-130H Hercules Air Force combat cargo aircraft, with guidance from the Mansfield-based Ohio Air National Guard 179th Airlift Wing, makes its way to the MAPS Air Museum.



The "Spirit of Mansfield" after it reached its final destination at the MAPS Air Museum. (Photo by Kim Kovesci)



Volunteer Ray Weber, a retired one-star general talks while watching as a C-130H Hercules Air Force combat cargo aircraft with the guidance from Mansfield, Ohio Air National Guard 179th Airlift Wing makes its way to MAPS Air Museum.



A C-130H Hercules Air Force combat cargo aircraft, with guidance from the Mansfield-based Ohio National Guard 179th Airlift Wing, makes its way to the MAPS Air Museum.



Members of the 179th Airlift Wing who made it happen! (photo by M. Thompson)

## Strategic Planning

*By Kim Kovesci, MAPS Executive Director*

Prior to the Covid Pandemic, MAPS personnel were involved in a 10-year plan to renovate the second floor of the hangar and we were about half done when the pandemic hit. We turned a disadvantage into an advantage by completing the remaining five years of construction in one year!

This tremendous accomplishment required us to reassess the priorities for the organization.

In December, the staff and directors conducted a strategic planning meeting. The results of the meeting gave rise to the following areas of focus:

- Populating the 2nd floor museum space;
- Restructuring the Organization to support long-term survival;
- Refurbishment of the simulator room, estimate \$4,000, so it can be used once again as a classroom;

- Continued emphasis on Educational Programs, Home School students, and Intern Program;
- Inclusion of BSA Troops, Reenactors & CAP in Operational Activities and Training;
- Create a program to differentiate between members and active volunteers;
- Potential Capital Projects: power station, boiler room, and an additional hangar.

A note about building an additional Hangar:

This project has been put on hold. We believe we can raise the money for construction and we will eventually be able to cover the additional operating costs. We are not there yet, so we will wait until we are in a better position financially to cover these costs

# A HISTORY NOT STUDIED

## (Part 1 – Hysteria and Racism – Japanese American Internment)

By Reed Kimball, MAPS Education Director

In the first half of this two-part article, we will examine how historical bias and wartime hysteria impacted a group of American citizens. In the second part, in the next issue of the *Briefing*, will look at how many of these citizens responded to this Nation's call to duty.

To establish a "foundation" for this discussion, we need to go back to the 1800s.

Due in large part to socio-political changes and a recession caused by the abrupt opening of Japan's economy to the world market —people began emigrating from the Empire of Japan in 1868 to find work to survive. From 1869 to 1924 approximately 200,000 immigrated to the islands of Hawaii, mostly laborers expecting to work on the islands' sugar plantations. Some 180,000 went to the U.S. mainland, with the majority settling on the West Coast and establishing farms or small businesses. Most arrived before 1908, when the Gentlemen's Agreement between Japan and the United States banned the immigration of unskilled laborers.

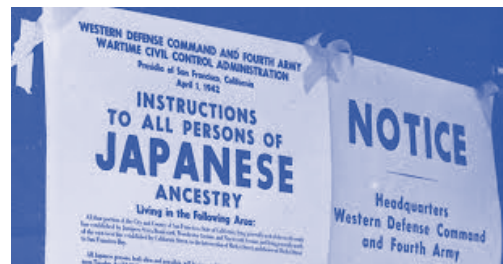


As the Japanese-American population continued to grow, European-Americans on the West Coast resisted the new group, fearing competition and exaggerating the idea of hordes of Asians keen to take over white-owned farmland and businesses. The Immigration Act of 1924 banned all immigration from Japan and other "undesirable" Asian countries. U.S. law prohibited Japanese immigrants from becoming naturalized citizens and therefore from owning property, voting, or running for political office.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, American public opinion initially stood by the large population of Japanese Americans living on the West Coast, with the *Los Angeles Times* characterizing them as "good Americans, born and educated as such." Many Americans believed that their loyalty to the United States was unquestionable. But, six weeks after the attack, public

opinion along the Pacific began to turn against Japanese-Americans living on the West Coast, as the press and other Americans became nervous about the potential for fifth column activity. Several concerns over the loyalty of ethnic Japanese seemed to stem from more from racial prejudice rather than any evidence of disloyalty.

On February 13, 1942 the Pacific Coast Congressional Subcommittee on Aliens and Sabotage recommended immediate evacuation of "all persons of Japanese lineage and all others, aliens and citizens alike" who were thought to be dangerous from the "strategic areas" of California, Oregon, Washington, and the Alaska Territory. A War Department conference on February 17<sup>th</sup> decided to commence evacuations "to the extent deemed necessary" to protect vital installations.



On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, authorizing military authorities to prescribe military areas from which any or all persons may be excluded. Military Area No. 1 consisted of the southern half of Arizona and the western half of California, Oregon, and Washington, as well as all of California south of Los Angeles. Military Area No. 2 covered the rest of those states.



In effect, wartime hysteria and racial prejudice pushed the country's leadership to violate rights guaranteed under the 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the United States Constitution.



## A History Not Studied *continued...*

Even when these injustices were brought to the country's highest court in the 1944 case *Korematsu v. United States*, the Supreme Court justices ruled that "military necessity" outweighed the civil rights of Japanese-Americans.

Somewhere between 110,000 and 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry were subject to this mass exclusion program, of whom about two-thirds were U.S. citizens. The remaining one-third were non-citizens subject to internment under the Alien Enemies Act. Many of these "resident aliens" had been inhabitants of the United States for decades, but had been deprived by law of being able to become naturalized citizens. These rules included persons of part-Japanese ancestry as well. Anyone with at least one-sixteenth (equivalent to having one great-great grandparent) Japanese ancestry were subject to this Act. Korean-Americans and Taiwanese, classified as ethnically Japanese because both Korea and Taiwan were Japanese colonies at the time, were also included.

Many internees lost irreplaceable personal property due to restrictions that prohibited them from taking more than they could carry into the camps. Businesses, homes, and possessions had to be sold or entrusted to neighbors or friends. Pets had to be left behind. Land laws in the West Coast states barred first generation immigrants from owning their pre-war homes and farms. Many had cultivated land for decades as tenant farmers, but they lost their rights to farm those lands when they were forced to leave.

Being sent to the camps meant a loss of honor for those to

whom honor meant everything. It also meant that many family heirlooms were lost costing families memories of their past.

In Hawaii, the military imposed martial law, complete with curfews and blackouts. As a large portion of the population was of Japanese ancestry, internment was deemed not practical; it was strongly opposed by the island's business community, which was heavily dependent on the labor force of those of Japanese ancestry. It was accurately believed that an internment of Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants in Hawaii would have had catastrophic results for the Hawaiian economy. In the hysteria of the time, some mainland Congressmen (Hawaii was only a U.S. territory at the time, and did not have a voting representative or senator in Congress) promoted that all Japanese-Americans and Japanese immigrants should be removed from Hawaii but were unsuccessful.

After the war, Japanese-Americans encountered hostility and even violence when they returned to the West Coast. Concentrated largely in rural areas of Central California, there were dozens of reports of gun shots, fires, and explosions aimed at Japanese-American homes, businesses, and places of worship, in addition to non-violent crimes like vandalism and the defacing of Japanese graves. In one of the only cases to go to trial, this underlying racial bias became evident. Despite a confession from one of the men that implicated the others, the jury accepted their defense attorney's framing of the attack as a justifiable attempt to keep California "a white man's country" and acquitted all four defendants.



**Internees lived in uninsulated barracks furnished only with cots and coal-burning stoves. Residents used common bathroom and laundry facilities, but hot water was usually limited. The camps were surrounded by barbed-wire fences patrolled by armed guards who had instructions to shoot anyone who tried to leave.**



## 2022 Legacy Awards

The MAPS Legacy Award was created in 2014 to acknowledge MAPS members who have lived their lives as examples to our young. Those chosen every year have been pillars of society and as volunteers, have significantly contributed to the success of MAPS Air Museum. The previous recipients met in late October and made a decision on who the 2022 recipients would be.

The 9th annual MAPS Legacy Award ceremony was held at our Christmas party in December. This year's recipients are Bill and Mary Cody, Bob and Sandy Hollis, Lee Kessler (posthumously) and Kim Kovesci.

### Bill and Mary Cody

Bill and Mary Cody joined MAPS in January of 2013. They both have been active since day one.

Most all of the exterior hangar painting, high and low has been accomplished by Mary and Bill using high ladders and lifts. During Covid, Mary painted all the ceilings in the banquet hall and new galleries. While she was doing that, Bill worked on walls and floors.

They both help out with both private and public events held in the hangar and in the banquet hall. During events, both Bill and Mary can be seen approaching volunteers to see if they need any help. They are always smiling!

Mary helps in the gift shop as a cashier and also with unpacking shipments of new items and placing them on shelves. Mary has also spent many hours beautifying the front of the hangar that greets all our visitors as the first thing they see as they get out of their cars and approach our entrance.

In addition to performing those "other duties as assigned" that come up from time to time, Bill also volunteers as a tour guide.

### Bob and Sandy Hollis

Bob and Sandy Hollis joined MAPS in June of 2011 and have been very active since joining.

Bob has been active in managing the MAPS Gift Shop and with sales increasing to record levels over the past few years, a lot of extra work has gone into ordering and inventory control to keep adequate items on the shelves. Bob has also assisted at special events, especially Boy Scout weekends, teaching several Aviation Merit Badge classes. Early on, Bob also worked in restoration.

Sandy is an active volunteer at almost all of MAPS events. She helps with food service and is our resident expert on grilling those delicious beef hot dogs. She's front and center at the annual car show, handing out registration packets as the cars arrive. She's also one of the first people folks see when they come for the pancake breakfast. Recently she has helped Mary Cody with some painting projects - turns out, she loves to paint!



**L-R: The three Kessler children accepting for Lee Kessler; Bill and Mary Cody; Bob and Sandy Hollis and Kim Kovesci**

### Lee Kessler - WWII Veteran

Very few of you know of Lee Kessler, but Lee's legacy surrounds us. Go into the hangar and check out the second floor walkway from the floor. Almost all those military command emblems were drawn by Lee Kessler.

There are two different display areas in the Gallery of Heroes dedicated to Lee. The first one is Lee's story from WWII as a bomber crewman and POW that contains pictures and other items that Lee donated to MAPS. At one point during Lee's internment, the Russians were pushing west and Lee and his fellow POWs were moved west. Lee came across a body on the side of the road and Lee noticed a crinkled picture near the man's hand of a woman with two young children. A butterfly had landed on the man's hand. Years later, Lee made a drawing showing the hand, butterfly and picture. Visit the display and as you study it, your eyes may tear up.

There is a video streaming on the display case featuring Lee explaining his war years. The second display contains models of B-17 and B-24 WWII bombers that Lee built from scratch.

***Legacy Awards continued on the following page***

## Legacy Awards *continued...*

### Kim Kovesci

Kim Kovesci became a member of MAPS on March 1, 2008. In addition to volunteering at the museum, he became a member of the Board of Directors, serving from June 2010 to July 2011.

He was introduced to the membership as the new MAPS Executive Director during the membership meeting on June 8, 2011. He assumed the duties and functions on July 3, 2011.

During his tenure, MAPS has flourished. To gauge his impact on this organization we only need to look at the progress and growth that this organization has realized since he assumed leadership of this museum. From the various awards and honors that MAPS has received, to the additions to the aircraft and artifact collection. From the upgrades to the facilities realized in just these past few years to the increasing popularity of this small museum of aviation history.

While Kim would say that he did not do most of those things, leadership involves developing both a vision and a direction. It also requires the, often challenging ability, once those goals are set, to step back and allow the volunteers of this organization the freedom to accomplish the task.

### Previous Legacy Award recipients:

- 2014 Robert Withee (D), Ralph Lynn (D), Don Block (D), - All deceased
- 2015 Ted Mathies, Robert Johnston, Jim Boyea
- 2016 Mac McFarland, Jim Mosley (D), Ken Ramsay
- 2017 Jim and Mary Ann Cameron, Rick Hamlet, Bob and Pat Schwartz
- 2018 Paul Gates, Reed Kimball, Jim Jackson
- 2019 Don and Leona Neidert, Allen Swain, Richard With (D)
- 2020 Fred Lindsay (D), Joseph Miller (D), Dave Pawski
- 2021 Betty and Clay Tober, Barb Johnston, Rick and Marcia Willaman

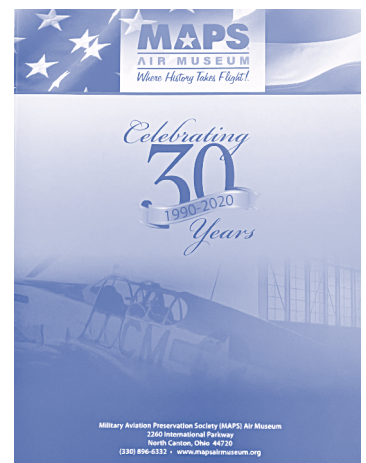
**Congratulations and Thank You to our Legacy Award Recipients!**

## MAPS Accomplishments Then & Now!

To read the complete history of MAPS since its inception in 1990, pick up a copy of the book, *“Celebrating 30 Years 1990-2020”* authored by our Education Director, Reed Kimball. It is available in our gift shop or you can peruse a copy in the Louise Timken Library and Research Center on the first floor.

The book, 85 pages of beautiful color pictures and accompanying text, showcases the amazing 30-year journey of what has become an internationally known museum of aviation that serves as a center of aviation history for NE Ohio.

Since our 30-year anniversary in 2020, even more amazing accomplishments have occurred because of dedicated staff and volunteers. Most recently, the completion of a 5-year project to complete the second floor banquet hall and additional gallery space in just one year, as well as the arrival in January of our biggest plane yet - a C-130H.



### Memorial Day is Monday, May 29, 2023

*On this day, fly the American Flag to honor and remember the men and women who sacrificed their lives while serving in the U.S. Military.*





## Restoration Magic!

*By Marylou Thompson, Briefing Editor*



Cold temperatures and howling winds don't keep our Restoration Crew from working their magic in the winter months. There is work to be done on aircraft not yet restored as well as repainting and maintenance on aircraft already completed. The planes below are currently in the hangar being tended to by our restoration crew.

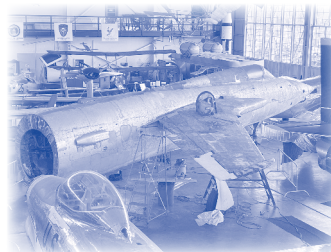
The F-14B Tomcat has been stored outside for years and needs total repainting. The painting and marking are of its time with the F-32 Swordsmen.

The A-26C Invader, has been totally restored to museum status but since it has been stored outside, the paint on the stars and bars markings have started to chip and flake and need to be repainted.

The F-105B Thunderchief has been at MAPS since 2011 and needs a complete new paint job.

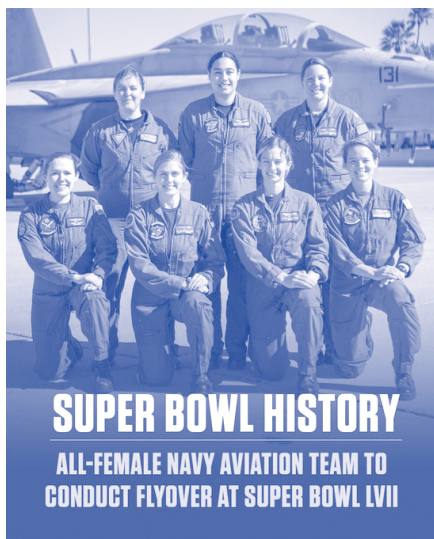
The A-37 Dragonfly was updated from a T-37B Tweet in 2021. Maintenance this winter includes cleaning the engines and replacing the floor.

The F-86A Sabre is awaiting painting and markings after being in the restoration building for 8 years. She will be painted a racer since she participated in the Thompson Trophy Race (Jet Division) National Air Races in Cleveland in 1949.



**In the last issue of Restoration Magic, Dave Sanders tenure at MAPS was listed as 13 Years - it is actually 23 years!**

## March is Women's History Month



**The flyover featured four of the Navy's most advanced planes: an F-35C Lightning II, two F/A-18F Super Hornets and an EA-18G Growler.**

Women's History Month is designated every year to celebrate and acknowledge the specific achievements women have made over the course of American history in a variety of fields. One such field is Naval Aviation. An all-female flight crew was selected for the Super Bowl flyover this year to commemorate the 50th anniversary of women flying in the U.S. Navy.

In 1973, the first eight women began flight school in Pensacola, and one year later six of those eight women, titled "The First Six", earned their Wings of Gold. In the fifty years since, Naval Aviation has expanded its roles for women to lead and serve globally. Today, the Navy's women aviators project power from the sea and in every type, model, and series aircraft. They fly and fight in all strike missions, hunt submarines, protect the integrity of our nuclear triad, supply essential cargo and personnel to every corner of the globe, and rescue those in distress at sea and ashore. They command aircraft carriers, carrier air wings, squadrons, and missions to space. In 2023, we reflect on Naval Aviation history and pay tribute to all of the women Naval Aviators - "The First Six" and all those who have come after them. Our Nation and our Navy is stronger because of their service.

History was indeed made during Super Bowl LVII when the all-female Navy Aviation Team performed the flyover to a crowd of almost 68,000. The annual Super Bowl flyover is a salute to the military and serves as a tribute to the men and women in uniform who protect our country.

## MAPS Anniversaries

November 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023

*\*\* designates Family Membership*

### 20 YEARS

Ballo, Dr Bela

### 15 YEARS

Baker, Bob

Bergsneider, Carl \*\*

### 10 YEARS

Cody, William \*\*

Gyalai, Steven

Hess, Alan \*\*

Hobart, Denise

### 5 YEARS

Comstock, Steven \*\*

Harding, John \*\*

Massouh, Cheryl

Massouh, Steven

Massouh, Mason

Shank, Brandon

Shank, Cameron

Shank, Kurt \*\*

Smith, Barb \*\*

Tatka, Barbara \*\*

Welch, Nancy \*\*

Wolf, Michael

## New Members

November 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023

*\*\* designates Family Membership*

Cheatham, Dante

Delgado, Nica

Demers, Ken

DiGiacinto, Mardy

Duncan, Christopher \*\*

Engelhart, Chris \*\*

Fox, John \*\*

Gallagher, Ann \*\*

Gingerich, Sam \*\*

Hartman, Brandon \*\*

Jamieson, James \*\*

Kover, Stephen \*\*

Lambert, Bill \*\*

Leighley, Robert \*\*

Nason, Josh Jr \*\*

Nason, Susan \*\*

Nathaniel, Matthew \*\*

Newby, Patrick \*\*

Ortman, Gerald

Rozaieski, Gerald \*\*

Sage, Jim \*\*

Smith, Kenneth \*\*

Snyder, Dana

Starkey, Robert

Zeigler, Delmar

**MAPS also welcomes new members from BSA  
Troops 335 and 330 and Reenactors Crew 1944**

### Troop 335

Akers, Jason

Akers, Noah

Berlyoung, Dan

Berlyoung, Nathan

Berry, Andrea

Duffrin, Vianne

Elliott, David

Elliott, Matthew

Keefer, Jacob

Laterza, Brad

Laterza, Nicholas

Ludrosky, Luke

Ludrosky, Mark

Prater, Amy

Prater, Conner

Prater, Erich

Prater, Ethan

Shoray, Andrew

### Troop 330

Hogan, Evan

Hogan, Terrence

Spence, Case

Van Voorhis, Dorian

Van Voorhis, Michael

Wynn, Jil

Wynn, Michael

Wynn, Steven

### Crew 1944

Earles, Kersten

Earles, Noah

Jones, Anthony

Lawrentz, Justin

Novak, Christopher

Pindel, Michael

Pindel, William

### Correction from the last issue

A portion of the column listing 5-year members was accidentally cut off in the last issue. Our sincere apologies! Here is the list of members that was missing.

### 5 YEARS

Blattman, Ronald

Maser, Drew

Mitchell, Steve \*\*

Perkins, Larry \*\*

Seibert, Melissa \*\*

Sibila, Faye

Street, Dolores

## CONGRATULATIONS

Thank You For Your Continued Support!



A Warm MAPS Welcome  
to our New Members!!



## MAPS Mourns the Loss of Three Members

It is with heavy heart and great sadness that we inform you of four recent losses to the MAPS family.

### Richard "Dick" Seivert, Jr. 1936-2023



Retired Colonel Richard "Dick" H. Seivert Jr., age 86, passed away on Thursday, January 5, 2023.

Dick was born in Egeland, North Dakota on May 18, 1936. Dick is survived by his wife of 58 years, Sue, two children, five grandchildren, two siblings and many nieces and nephews.

Dick loved his family deeply and cherished the moments he was with them, and he traveled to see them wherever they were living.

Dick graduated from Egeland High School in North Dakota in 1954 and from the University of North Dakota with a Bachelor degree in Education, certified in mathematics in 1958, where he was also in Air Force ROTC and a member of the gymnastics team. Before his pilot slot became available in the United States Air Force, he was Superintendent of Hansboro Schools in North Dakota.

As a United States Air Force pilot, he flew refueling KC-97 and KC-135's while he was stationed at Lockborne Air Force Base in Columbus, Ohio and Grissom Air Force Base in Kokomo, Indiana.

Richard attended Ohio State University and received his Masters in Business Administration in 1970. He came to Canton, where he was employed by Timken Company as a Systems Analyst for 9 years. In 1979, he became a manager in the computer department at the University of Akron. Before his retirement in 1998, he was Director of the Computer Department. While working for Timken and the University of Akron, he joined the Air Force Reserve unit, the 911 Tactical Wing in Pittsburg where he flew C-123's and C-130's for 10 years before becoming a Colonel and being transferred to the United States Pentagon in Washington D.C. as a computer analyst until his retirement in 1990.

Dick enjoyed traveling and had a passion for history, the Civil War, World War II, and he visited most of the Civil War battlefields, along with the Lewis and Clark Trails.

He was involved in several organizations as a member and past President of The Sons of Norway Arctic Circle Lodge, Systems Management Organization (ASM), Civil War Blue and Gray Association. He also volunteered for many years at MAPS and was active in the gift shop from 2009-2014.

### George William Sherwood, Jr. 1946-2023



George William Sherwood, Jr., 76, of Elyria, surrounded by his loving family, passed on to his heavenly reward on Sunday, January 8, 2023. George, loving husband, dad, papa, uncle, cousin and friend, was born June 27, 1946 in Norwalk.

He graduated from Midview High School in 1965 and remained close to many of his classmates. He obtained training at a heavy equipment trade school and then joined the U.S. Air Force and served as a crew chief for the F105B Thunderchief and was stationed in Thailand during the Vietnam War.

George and his wife, Jean, were married in 1971 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in North Ridgeville. They raised their two daughters in Elyria and celebrated 51 years of marriage this past September. George worked as a road service forklift mechanic for Ohio Material Handling until he retired in June of 2011. For the past 11 and a half years, he busied himself with caring for his grandsons and other relatives especially his mother, Elizabeth (nee Bishop) who preceded him in death this past August. George's father, George Sr., also preceded him in death.

George is survived by his wife, Mary Jean (nee Edwards); daughters, Cynthia Marquitz and Elizabeth (Paul) Post; grandsons, Thomas and John; brother, Kelly (Joanna); aunt, Carol Feathers, cousins, many nieces and nephews, and countless friends.

George was a hard worker, talented mechanic, master of all trades, family man, proud veteran, fierce patriot, cut-throat competitor, devoted servant, eternal optimist, patient mentor, and devout Catholic. He was loved by all who knew him and he will be missed.

George joined MAPS in 2006 and became an active volunteer. Four years later in 2010, MAPS received an F-105 Thunderchief. Because of George's experience in the Air Force, he became crew chief on MAPS F-105.



*Third Obituary on following page*



## Obituaries *continued...*

### Dennis E. Gugliotta 1950-2023



MAPS founding member Dennis (Denny) Gugliotta passed away on January 25th at the age of 73. Denny was one of the original 14 founding members of MAPS who were formerly members of the Ace of Spades Wing of the Confederate (now Commemorative) Air Force. Denny was the first Assistant Director of MAPS, serving from 1990 until September of 1992, and held membership number 003.

Denny was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force with a final rank of Staff Sergeant. He served as an F-4 Phantom crew chief based in Thailand during the Vietnam War. He was very proud of his service. One of his fondest memories was a flight in the rear seat of his F-4 following repairs on his aircraft.

After leaving the service, Denny worked for the Alside company for 10 years. Following his employment at Alside, he worked for the U.S. Post Office in Akron as a Mail Processing Equipment Mechanic. He retired from the Post Office in November of 2014.

Following his service as Assistant Director, Denny volunteered in a variety of roles at MAPS. Most recently, he volunteered as a tour guide, working special events and the spring high school history programs. Denny was very proud of how the organization that he had helped to form has grown to what it is today. He will be greatly missed - especially by his tour guide comrades.

Denny's hobby was gardening. In fact, he bought his house because it was on a two acre lot - enough room for a big garden. His green thumb once produced an 8 pound zucchini!

Denny was a contributing author in earlier issues of the Briefing. He wrote a column called *"Founder's View"*. The following is a portion of what he wrote in 2012.

*"There's a saying that if you've forgotten the language of gratitude, you'll never be on speaking terms with happiness."*

Denny contributed greatly to the growth of the organization he loved. MAPS is forever grateful to him.

A Celebration of Life was held on February 4th at MAPS in the Banquet Hall. Rest in peace, Denny.

## Meet MAPS New Interns



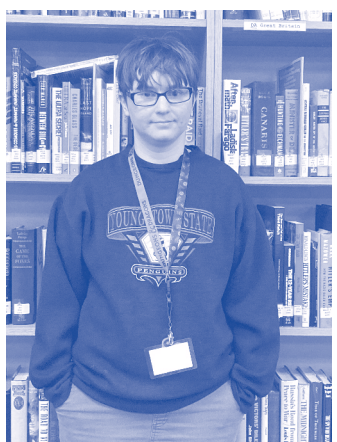
Brandon Finch, is a junior at Kent State University. He grew up in a military family - his dad serving in the Marine Corps and his granddad serving in the Air Force.

Growing up, Brandon was surrounded by military history and was a frequent watcher of the history channel. Because of this, he decided to pursue history in college and as a career.

Brandon is currently pursuing a bachelor's in history and plans to go for a master's and potentially a doctorate in history.

After graduating, Brandon plans to become a professor and teach history. When he's not studying or researching, he is partaking in various hobbies. Playing guitar has been something that he's been doing since 2017 and he enjoys playing classic rock and blues. Apart from music, Brandon also enjoys playing videogames, ping pong, and outdoor sports like frisbee and tennis.

The MAPS Air Museum has been a great fit for Brandon and he has enjoyed researching the Vietnam Donut Dollies and the 69<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment for his internship.



Blake Bain graduated from Kent State University this past December with a degree in Digital Media Production and a minor in communication. Blake's goal is to make "edutainment" videos which are videos that provide education with the goal of making learning enjoyable.

Blake also comes from a military family. Their paternal grandparents met in the Navy during the Korean War and their maternal grandfather served in the Army. Blake plans to interview their grandmother who served during Korea.

At MAPS, Blake has been creating video representation of audio recordings that were donated by KSU and Perry HS history classes dating back to the late 1980s. These videos are now available for viewing on the MAPS YouTube channel. Blake has also helped our media team during MAPS membership meetings.



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

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*Stay for the History*



**MAPS**  
**AIR MUSEUM**  
*Where History Takes Flight!*

Find us on @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

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- ★ **Hunting, Fishing and Outdoor Show**  
Sat & Sun, March 25 & 26  
9 AM - 4 PM
- ★ **Spring Military Show**  
Sun, April 23  
9 AM - 4 PM
- ★ **Pancake Breakfast**  
Sun, April 30  
8 AM - 1 PM
- ★ **North Canton Beer Fest**  
Sat, June 3  
3 PM - 8 PM
- ★ **Annual Car Show**  
Sat, June 10  
8 AM - 2 PM