

## Lifetime of Treasures Donated to MAPS

*By Kim Kovesci, MAPS Executive Director*

One day in January, I received a call from Stephanie Martin. Her husband, Bill, was on speaker phone with her. She said that Bill was in Hospice Care and they would like to make sure that his airplane collection, cabinet and books went somewhere that they would be appreciated. They had chosen MAPS!

As we talked about the collection, I offered to come get everything. Their home is in Wellington and we discovered that they knew Father Reymann. When we were figuring out logistics and scheduling, Bill made the comment, "It doesn't matter, I won't be around when you come out anyway." It was January 3rd, really warm but was predicted to rain for the next few days and then get cold. I thought it would be a while before we could get to their house because of the weather. The rest of the day I kept thinking about Bill's comment and it triggered a sense of urgency in my planning. It seemed like I received another slap on the back of the head. "Pay Attention! We are going to do something really nice!"

I knew I had to take immediate action, so I looked at the weather forecast again. There was a window from 5-9 PM where it was going to stop raining and then get colder. The next day it would start raining again. I called and asked if I could come out at 5 PM. Stephanie said yes, but she didn't have any boxes and I would need help to get the cabinet.

I recruited my wife, Christine, for another of our "Adventures." We didn't know how much room we needed so I grabbed a bunch of boxes from the recycle bin, my tape gun and threw them in my pickup and started on our journey.



**Stephanie Martin**

When we arrived in Wellington, the Martins invited us into their beautiful home where Stephanie had started getting the books ready. I met Bill and we talked for a while. He was a cook on a US Navy oil tanker in the late 50s. Being a Navy man myself, we hit it off right away. He said he remembered refueling the USS Saratoga several times in the Mediterranean. He was really impressed that my oldest son, Benjamin, is a Lt. Commander and flies in F-18 Super Hornets.

Bill was a graphic artist and created catalogs. His talent was evident throughout their home with displays of his work. Chris talked with him about our second son, Brian, a graphic artist, who designs furniture for a living. Needless to say, we had a lot in com-

*Kim's article continued on the following page*

### 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

### DIRECTOR'S ELECTION EDITION Information and Candidate Bios Pages 9 & 10

### ★ 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...***

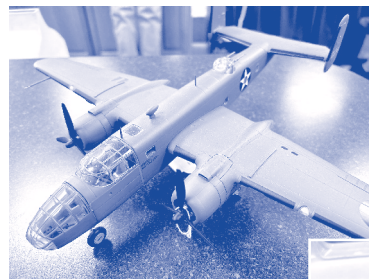
mon with Bill. I started packing the diecast models and was very careful to surround them in paper. I could tell Stephanie was watching and noticed how carefully the planes were placed in the boxes. She disappeared and came back with a couple of plastic models still in their boxes. She asked if we would be interested in something like these. I said absolutely - we sell these in the gift shop and the money we make helps with operational expenses. She smiled and said, "I have containers full of them that you can have." They ended up donating 37 diecast airplanes, 109 plastic models still in their boxes and 163 books.

As we left, I noticed that it had not yet rained and remained relatively warm the entire time we were there boxing up the books and models. We took the truck directly to MAPS to make sure we unloaded the cargo while the weather was still good. All of Bill's treasures were protected from the weather in the middle of a predicted rainstorm. Go figure!

During our trip to MAPS, I started to think about what had just happened. We packed up Bill's life-long passion. One that he was worried about. One that he thought would be discarded and meaningless. What we did was to repurpose his collection to help support MAPS Air Museum. He was thrilled when he found out that we have over 10,000 books in our library and that some of his books would be added to our collection.

In retrospect, thinking about what we just placed in boxes and brought to MAPS was the accumulation of Bill's passion over his entire life. I believe that seeing it leave to go to MAPS was a relief to him. Knowing that the collection was going to serve a purpose and not just be discarded gave him a sense of satisfaction. I think it was very important for Chris and me to meet Bill and Stephanie - to understand their backgrounds and their passion for aviation history. It was important to Bill that he was comfortable with us and trusted us with his prize possessions.

I believe that we were directed to do a really special thing for some really wonderful people.

**Diecast B-25****Diecast P-38****Diecast F-16****Bill Martin's wood and glass display case now in MAPS Gift Shop**

*Fly your Flag proudly!*

*June 14 - Flag Day*

*July 4th - Independence Day*

## Vintage Aviation News at MAPS

*Vintage Aviation News* recently did an article (March 27, 2023) on MAPS restoration of the FG-1D Corsair. The YouTube video on their website features **Denny Bachtel** describing the project in our restoration building.

In another YouTube video, *Vintage Aviation News* visited the museum on February 6, 2023 and interviewed **Kim Kovesci**, **Rich Ashley**, **Denny Bachtel**, **Ken Ramsay** and **Jerry Rozaieski**. The video features information about the museum, the Gallery of Heroes and restoration projects.

Check them out at [warbirdnews.com](http://warbirdnews.com). Type MAPS in the search box.



## 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 Haight

### 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

Roger Herbst

### WEBSITE & WEBMASTER

Ron Schultz

## New MAPS Art Gallery to Open June 1

*By Drew Maser, Curatorial Department*

The MAPS Curator team is pleased to announce a new display that is very near completion and will open to the public on June 1, 2023. In a first for the museum, MAPS will soon have a dedicated art gallery located on the second floor. The museum has always had a fine collection of military based art that has been used throughout our numerous displays to enhance the presentation and help bring the stories of these brave men and women to life for our visitors.

Now for the first time, we will have a dedicated space where visitors can view some amazing artwork up close and at the same time learn about the service members, equipment and artists on display. This major addition was made possible through the generous donation of over 100 signed, limited edition prints by the family of Lorain, OH **Marine Corps veteran James Vargo**. James was a celebrated Marine Corps match shooter who also had a love for aviation art. Most of the art you will see on display is from his collection.



The pictures currently on display focus mainly on WWII, but this will change in the future as we periodically rotate our inventory of artwork. The best known military artists are here and include Robert Taylor, Richard Taylor, Nick Trudgian, John Shaw and James Dietz to name a few.

Most of the prints are signed by the pilots and aircrew involved and have historical significance with the likes of the Doolittle Raiders, Blacksheep Squadron, Flying Tigers, Eric Hartmann, Adolf Galland, Saburo Sakai, Douglas Bader, Don Blakeslee and many others. The images found in the gallery pay tribute to the those of all nations who participated in various conflicts.

In keeping with the MAPS mission to educate, the art gallery will feature a central display pillar that is intended to illustrate some of the steps involved in the process of taking an idea and transforming it into an image like the ones seen in the gallery. For example, you can follow along with aviation artist John Shaw (who also provided the large "Semper Fi Skies" Corsair piece in our lobby) as he describes the process that resulted in his painting "Black Sheep Squadron". Follow the arrows around the pillar to see the letters, notes and original drawings that document this fascinating journey.

Look for your favorite aircraft in these beautiful pieces! Take the time to read the captions found on each print or read the additional educational narratives that will discuss aspects of military art to include such subjects as remarks, concept sketches, the importance of signatures and what to know about framing.

The MAPS Curator team hopes that everyone will spend some time enjoying this interesting collection and gain a new appreciation for military art.



# C-130 Crew from Youngstown Presents Program

Recently, three C-130 crew members from the 910th Airlift Wing of Youngstown's Air Reserve Station presented an exciting and interactive program to Scouts Troop 7335 from Green that was recently chartered by MAPS.

After a brief introduction to the C-130 and a video depicting a "day in the life" of crew members, each woman talked about their specific role related to the plane.



In her current role as flight engineer, **SSgt. Murch** is responsible for assisting the pilot during flight by monitoring and operating systems and instruments and making any required in-flight repairs.

**SSgt. Murch** brought flight suits, helmets, headsets and night vision goggles for the scouts to try on.



L-R: Cheyanne Biltz, Eagle Scout and Naomi Amiot, Star Scout - ready for take-off!



**SrA McConnell** is a loadmaster and is responsible for everything that goes on in the back of the plane. Loadmasters are responsible for supervising the loading, securing and unloading of cargo, vehicles and people. A loadmaster's duties also include taking part in airdrop operations.

During the scout's tour of the C-130 at MAPS, **SrA McConnell** was able to demonstrate the intricacies and importance of her role as loadmaster.

**Capt. Windisch** is an intelligence officer. Her role is to obtain and analyze intelligence data pertaining to military projects and missions. Intelligence officers rely on leading-edge data collection and analytics techniques, effectively communicating and reporting results to decision-makers throughout the intelligence community.

**Capt. Windisch** demonstrated her role in fact finding and pattern analysis through interactive games with the scouts.

Probably the most exciting part of the day was when the scouts were able to go in the C-130 and get a first hand look at the massiveness of this plane and all that goes into maintaining and flying it. They had lots of questions and were eager to learn. After reluctantly leaving the plane, the scouts came back inside and were treated to pizza, chips, cookies and soda.



L-R: Ginny Puls and Kate Fahey in the cockpit!

These scouts are "dreaming big" and with this program, they took the "First Step".

MAPS is grateful to the three women from the 910th Airlift Wing for spending time with these impressive young people who will become our future leaders.



L-R: Capt. Cynthia Windisch, SSgt. Mae Murch and SrA Emily McConnell from the 910th Airlift Wing of Youngstown's Air Reserve Station

C-130 from the 179th Airlift Wing in Mansfield, delivered in January 2023





## Chairman's Notes

*By Dennis Bachtel, Director Chair*

At Maps, our exhibits and aircraft are brought to life due to their connection to local people. It is often commented upon by those who visit the museum that it is so interesting to have found a familiar face or name that they recognize. It is special that those people are honored in that way.

I recently had an experience that helped bring that point home to me. Let me relate my story to you.

Several weeks ago I received a call from a high school classmate, Marsha Mitchell Malone. Marsha now lives in Virginia but was born and raised in Massillon. The reason for her phone call was that Marsha had been contacted by the Army National Guard in Stow, OH and they invited Marsha and her family to attend the rededication of the recently renovated Armory.

Stow's armory is named after Marsha's great-great-grandfather, Medal of Honor recipient, Robert A. Pinn. Marsha was aware that MAPS had an exhibit that showcased Robert Pinn and she wanted to view it while in Ohio for the Stow event. I told her I would love to meet with her and her family to view the display and made the arrangements to do so only to later realize I was unable to be there on the Saturday planned as two of my grandchildren were graduating from college. I asked Scott Denniss, from MAPS Curatorial Department, if he could fill in for me and in Marsha's words, "Scott Denniss did an awesome job of showing us MAPS." I knew he would!

Because of my interest in the Civil War and especially for those men who were from my home town of Massillon, I had already done some research into Robert A. Pinn. He was an exceptional individual both militarily and professionally. First Sgt. Pinn, a member of Company I 5<sup>th</sup> US Colored Troops, was awarded the Medal of Honor for the actions he took at the battle of Chaffin's Farm. During the battle, all the Company's officers were wounded or killed. Pinn, wounded himself, took command and led his Company in battle.



**First Sgt. Pinn's display in the Ohio Military Museum on the second floor of MAPS.**



After the war, Pinn attended Oberlin College and went on to become a teacher and later an attorney. Robert was very active in the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) and was Commander of Hart Post in Massillon, Ohio. As an attorney, he worked diligently to get veterans their pensions.

I've researched my own family's history and through that research discovered that Robert Pinn's father's farm (William Pinn) and my great-great-grandfather's farm (Mathias Bachtel) were adjacent to each other. William Pinn, born a slave, and his family and Mathias Bachtel, a recent German immigrant, and his family were neighbors and friends. I have found documentation showing that Robert Pinn represented the Bachtel family in legal matters several times.

Although this may seem insignificant to some, our family's connections go back 170 years! I found it very interesting to think that a high school classmate of mine and I have had these generations-old family connections.

This is just one small connection here at MAPS, there are many more to be discovered and members and visitors may find them through aircraft, uniforms, or other artifacts in our displays.

Thank you MAPS and thank you to all the volunteers who make these connections possible.

## Raffle Winners!

**A BIG MAPS THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in this year's MAPS raffle. We collected \$18,335 - the highest ever, surpassing last year's highest total of \$18,200! Since 2014, this annual fundraising event has contributed \$152,430 to our operational stability.

We also want to thank the **Print Shop of Canton, Inc.** for printing the tickets and also thank **Bob Schwartz** for mailing and tabulating the raffle tickets. Below is a list of our lucky winners.

\$1,000.00	1st Place	M. L. Weaver
\$ 500.00	2nd Place	Bush Carlyle
\$ 250.00	3rd Place	Jeff Koskoris
\$ 125.00	4th Place	Jeanne Kenyon-Farrington
\$ 75.00	5th Place	John Chittock
\$ 50.00	6th Place	Jim Mesko
(See Jim's obituary on page 15. (A check will be given to his wife, Pat.)		



## DIRECTOR'S ELECTION 2023



At the April and May Membership Meetings, nominations were accepted for the four (4) Director's seats that are up for election at the Annual Membership Meeting to be held on Saturday, June 17, 2023 at 11:00 AM.

Seats up for election are currently held by **Dennis Bachtel, Jim Jackson, Ken Ramsay and Marylou Thompson**. Members will be voting for four (4) positions. Four nominations were received and accepted. The nominees for these positions are: Dennis Bachtel, Jim Jackson, Ken Ramsay and Marylou Thompson.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** Please note that due to the MAPS Car Show being held on Saturday, June 10th, the membership meeting and Director elections will be held on Saturday, June 17th.

If you cannot attend the election meeting, proxy votes will be accepted in person or via the MAPS website. In person ballots will be accepted until the start of the membership meeting on Saturday, June 17th. All website ballots must be received by 4:30 PM on Friday, June 16th.

**IN-PERSON VOTING:** Proxy ballots will be available in the MAPS office starting on Sunday, May 14, 2023. Ballots will be available on Saturday, June 17th in the Banquet Hall until the beginning of the membership meeting.

**WEBSITE BALLOTS:** Ballots may also be submitted via the MAPS website ([www.mapsairmuseum.org](http://www.mapsairmuseum.org)) under the NEWS/NOTICES link. On the "VOTE ONLINE" page click "VOTE HERE" and you will be directed to the ballot form. Click "SUBMIT" when finished with the ballot. That link will become active on Saturday, May 13th and will remain active until 4:30 PM on Friday, June 16th.

Even though there are only four candidates running for the four open positions, please show your support for each of them by voting!



## CANDIDATE BIOS



### DENNIS BACHTEL



**Education:** Associates Degree Civil Construction, Stark State College; Graduate Washington High School, Massillon, Ohio; Numerous classes: Water Treatment, Sewer Collection and Real Estate Sales.

**Work Experience:** Worked nearly 40 years for Aqua Ohio (Water Utility) and its predecessors in many capacities: Meter Reader, Water Treatment Plant Operator, Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator and Utility Maintenance Crew. I oversaw all new pipeline construction and water system maintenance, Service Department and Meter Reading Departments. Real Estate Sales with Cutler Real Estate for 25 years.

**Volunteer Experience:** Active volunteer at MAPS for 9 years, participating in the B-26 restoration and several other aircraft restorations, pancake breakfasts and car shows. Currently working with the restoration crew in building a Corsair. Member of MAPS for approximately 13 years and have been Board Chair since 2021.

Massillon Salvation Army volunteer for approximately 25 years; currently serving on Board of Directors and Property Committee. Massillon Museum various event volunteer and Youth Baseball Coach. Numerous School Bond Issues and Levy Campaigns for Massillon City Schools.

**Personal:** Married to wife, Debbie, for 49 years. Debbie also volunteers - in the gift shop and at MAPS events.

**Remarks:** The MAPS organization embodies many of the things I am passionate about - doing the right thing, preserving history, aircraft and education. If I can help further these ideals as a director, I would be happy to do so.

*Candidate bios continued on the following page*

**Candidate Bios *continued...*****JIM R. JACKSON**

**Personal:** Married to Bernice for over 51 years. Two grown children and four adorable grandchildren. Born in Canada and moved to the United States in 1978. Became a citizen in 2008.

**MAPS:** I have been a MAPS member since 2012 and a Director since 2014, Crew Chief on restoration of the A-4 Skyhawk (Blue Angel) and the F-16 Fighting Falcon; Recovery Team for the A-4 Skyhawk and the OV-1A Mohawk; involved in the demolition and construction on the second floor. Volunteer at special events, helping with set-up, moving aircraft, parking cars, and anywhere else I can help out fellow volunteers.

**Other:** I retired in 2010 after 43 years of working in various businesses both large and small. The last 18 years I was self employed. I was a Guardian and Bus Captain on six Honor Flights

taking WWII Veterans to their Memorial in Washington D.C.

**Special Skills:** Certified "Sledge Hammer Operator," strong history of criticizing and finding fault with others, Extremely Humble and Shy, and Thrifty (Some Say "Cheap")

**KEN RAMSAY**

**Education:** BS, Mechanical Engineering; MBA Industrial Management. Squadron Officers School (USAF); Commercial Pilot's License, instrument rating certified flight instructor.

**Work Experience:** 1960-1970 USAF, Senior Pilot, Instructor Pilot, Quality Control Test Pilot Louisiana, England, Turkey, Libya, Italy, Norway, Vietnam, Taiwan, Philippines, (T-34, T-37, T-33, F-100, A-37 aircraft); 1970-1972 Ohio ANG, Springfield, Senior Pilot, F-100. 1970-1987 General Electric Aircraft Engines. Quality Engineer, Quality Manager, Manufacturing, Engine Assembly, F101 Program (B-1 Bomber). 1987-1992 Chemtronics (turbine engine casings and frames, engine component repair), Director of Quality Assurance

1992-1994 Cleveland Pneumatic Landing Gear (military and commercial aircraft landing gear), Vice President Quality Assurance. 1994-1996 Lamson & Sessions (plastic conduit and electrical boxes), Director Quality Assurance. 1996-1998 Aviation Product Support (turbine engine blade and frame repair), Director Quality Assurance. 1998-Present Retired.

**Volunteer Experience:** Boy Scouts - Troop Committee Chairman for two troops (Sharonville, OH and El Cajon, CA); Explorer Scouts - flight instructor, Explorer Post, Hamilton, OH; Committee Member Explorer Post 356, MAPS Air Museum; MAPS Air Museum - Crew Chief, F-100 Super Sabre, Crew Chief, A-26 Invader, Member Board of Directors, Instructor Aviation Merit Badge, MAPS Air Academy; aircraft recovery trips to Florida (2), Illinois and South Carolina; Treasurer Clandon Park Homeowners Assn.

**Remarks:** MAPS is experiencing great success. I will continue to support and participate in our museum improvement programs, education programs, restorations and financial stability.

**MARYLOU THOMPSON**

**Personal:** I was born in Shaker Heights, OH but have lived in eight other states - all east of the Mississippi! I retired in 2015 and moved back to Ohio where it all started.

**Education:** Nursing degree, BS in business and psychology, Masters in Business with a concentration in healthcare administration, post-graduate coursework at OSU.

**Work Experience:** I began my career as an RN working in critical care, then moved into nurse management positions which led to hospital and regional administrative positions.

At one point, I left the healthcare industry for a short time and was the owner/operator of an 80-seat fine dining restaurant and six room country inn in NH. On transitioning back into healthcare, I did management consulting, presented management seminars across the country and was a corporate education director for a large healthcare company. During the last 20 years of my career I was responsible for the operations of multiple healthcare facilities throughout the Northeast.

*Continued on following page*



## Candidate Bios *continued...*

**Personal:** Although I have no military experience, I am a proud Navy brat and an equally proud Army mom! I have three awesome children and three awesome grandchildren.

**MAPS:** I have been a member of MAPS for 7 years and a Board member for 2 years. I spend my volunteer time working in the library, helping out with events, coordinating food services, editing the Briefing and collating visitor log data.

MAPS is my "happy place"! I admire the passion and dedication of all the volunteers at MAPS and am proud to be part of such an amazing organization.

## Two MAPS Volunteers Honored

*By Kim Kovesci, MAPS Executive Director*

At the May membership meeting, two long-time volunteers were honored. They were presented with engraved plaques to commemorate all they have done for MAPS over the years.

Lellan "Mac" MacFarland joined MAPS in 2005. His background in upper management and as a business professor made him the perfect match for the role of Financial Manager at MAPS. He served in that capacity until his retirement on April 1 of this year.

Bob Schwartz remembered Mac giving a doom and gloom speech about the finances when he first started in 2006. The organization was in real trouble but with Mac's guidance and a little luck, they stopped the bleeding and started to change the culture.

Bob Schwartz joined MAPS in 2006 and was elected to the board in 2008. He became the Chairman of the Board in 2009, a position that he maintained until last year. Bob continues to be on the MAPS board of directors and handles all of the membership duties including tracking volunteer hours.



L-R: Mac McFarland, Bob Schwartz and Kim Kovesci

When we look back at when Mac and Bob started with about \$1,200 in the bank, the growth of MAPS has been amazing. We can all be proud of the organization that we have created but we would be remiss if we didn't give credit to two of the most important people who got us to where we are today!

*Thank you  
Mac and Bob!*

## Upcoming Events

### JUNE

SAT, JUN 3	CRAFT BEER FEST	5 PM - 8 PM
WED, JUN 7	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, JUN 10	ANNUAL CAR SHOW	9 AM - 2 PM
SAT, JUN 17	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM
	ANNUAL MEETING/ELECTIONS	

### JULY

WED, JUL 5	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
FRI, JUL 21 &	ASMIC MILITARY INSIGNIA SHOW	
SAT, JUL 22	FRI 12 PM - 5 PM / SAT 8:30 AM - 5 PM	
SUN, JUL 30	PANCAKE BREAKFAST	8 AM - 1 PM

### AUGUST

SUN, AUG 6	CAK - 5K ON THE RUNWAY	8 AM
WED, AUG 9	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, AUG 12	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM

### SEPTEMBER

WED, SEP 6	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, SEP 9	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM
SUN, SEP 10	PANCAKE BREAKFAST	8 AM - 1 PM

### 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!



## Corporal Dale U. Dafler

By James Byerly, OMM Curator

The newest display in the second floor OMM gallery honors Corporal Dale U. Dafler. Corporal Dafler was born in 1921 in Lanier Township in West Alexandria, Ohio. He is the father of Cindy Lapointe (Dafler) who is the wife of Medal of Honor Recipient Specialist 4th Class Joseph G. Lapointe, Jr. (who also has a display in the OMM gallery.)

Dale Dafler served in WWII in the Pacific Theater with the Army 10th Air Force during the China-Burma-India Campaign. He was a B-24 bomber engine mechanic.



**Corporal Dafler's uniform and depiction of his medals.**

Dale had four brothers who also served in WWII:

Lt. Joseph R. Dafler, Jr.—Army Air Corps—who served stateside during the war.

Lt. Col. Henry A. Dafler—Army Air Corps—who served in England and flew B-24, B-29 and B-36 bombers.

Pvt. Gerald G. Dafler—Army Air Corps—basic training at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis.

Tech. Sgt. James E. Dafler—US Army—served in WWII in Germany and France and again in the Korean War.

All five brothers returned home safely after the war. Corporal Dafler passed away in 2010.

### The Dafler brothers from L—R:

Joseph, Henry, Gerald, Dale and James



## THANK YOU



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## Annual Veterans Program

This year marks MAPS 11th Annual Veterans Program and as in past years, it will prove to be special. It will be held on November 11, 2023.

We will be honoring the 179th Tactical Airlift Squadron which is a unit of the Ohio Air National Guard, stationed at Mansfield Lahm Air National Guard Base, Mansfield, Ohio. We will highlight their history - past and present.



In January of this year, MAPS received a C-130 Hercules from the 179th in Mansfield which is now on display just outside the hangar.

The 179th Airlift Group was active during the 1991 Gulf War providing airlift support throughout the Continental United States and Europe. Portions of the 179th were activated during Desert Shield/Storm and served in the US, Europe and Saudi Arabia.

179th Airlift Wing fulfills an airlift mission by transporting personnel and cargo throughout the United States and the world.

The Air Force selected the 179th Airlift Wing to be the Air National Guard's first cyberspace wing in the country and has been in the process of converting the Wing, infrastructure and mission.

**Look for more information about the program on MAPS website in early fall 2023.**



# Restoration Magic!

By Marylou Thompson, Briefing Editor



In May of 2019, MAPS purchased two A-4 Skyhawk motion flight simulators from NASA/Glenn Research Center in Sandusky for \$500. The first of the two was placed in the hangar in September of that year and set up as an interactive static display. The second is just now getting her “beauty makeover” from **Crew Chief Brett McKay and his team - Bruce Beatty, Jodie Davis, John Gilbert, Mark Hanna, Tod Krino, Bob Stoller, Clay Tober and Rick Willaman.**

Some differences in this simulator from the first:

- ◆ Motion capability has been disabled. It is mounted on a wheeled frame (built by Restoration) so it can travel to events.
- ◆ Visitors can sit in the simulator and imagine piloting an A-4 Skyhawk.
- ◆ In the cockpit, the gauges are lighted and the sound board is activated with a jet engine sound.
- ◆ When the “pilot” pulls the trigger, machine gun fire is heard.
- ◆ Another button tells the story of the A-4 Skyhawk.
- ◆ Push another button to hear information about MAPS.
- ◆ Yet another button plays a rendition of the USAF poem, *High Flight*.
- ◆ This simulator will be painted the colors of MAPS Blue Angel which is an actual A-4 Skyhawk.

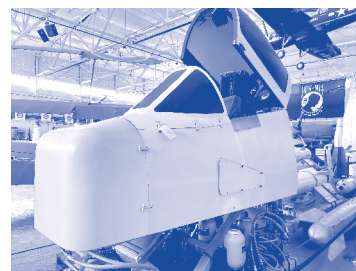
**Rick Willaman** was instrumental in creating the electronics and sound board capabilities that will make this simulator the highlight of someone’s visit to MAPS!

A flight simulator is a machine that uses a combination of computer technology, motion, sound and other inputs to mimic what it's like to fly an airplane. A simulator reproduces the equations that control how a real airplane maneuvers, how a plane reacts when flight controls are manipulated, and how a plane responds to weather and other external forces.

A pilot trainee sits in the simulator cockpit and learns to fly a plane with an instructor present. The cockpit has all the same controls and flight instruments of a real plane, so the training is (almost) identical to what the trainee will experience in the air. This is one of the safest ways to train pilots for real-world applications, so that they will be able to safely fly and land a plane. More advanced types of simulators also use motion and sound to train pilots for advanced maneuvers.

Simulators have been used to train pilots since WWI. The best-known early flight simulation device was the Link Trainer. During World War II, approximately 10,000 Link Trainers were produced to train 500,000 new pilots from allied nations. Almost all US Army Air Force pilots were trained in a Link Trainer. (See MAPS Link Trainer on the hangar floor.)

Since WWII, flight simulators have become progressively more sophisticated. Today, a highly customized FAA Full Flight Simulator (FFS), will cost between \$5 and \$15 million. For those of you who are more budget conscious, Microsoft provides an amazing Xbox flying experience for less than \$100! You can fly an A-4 Skyhawk or the expanded version - Top Gun: Maverick!



Static display of A-4 Skyhawk Simulator at MAPS



Getting her shiny new paint job!

Almost finished - just need to add decals and the canopy.



Inside the cockpit of the A-4 Skyhawk simulator with gauges lit and ready to “fly”

MAPS Blue Angel A-4 Skyhawk





# A History Not Studied

## (Part 2 – Honor Despite Mistreatment - Japanese-Americans That Served)

By Reed Kimball, MAPS Education Director

In the first part of this study, we looked at how a small portion of the American population were treated at the beginning of World War II. In this second part, we will look at those Japanese-Americans that served this Nation despite undisguised racism by the American people.



**Nisei Soldiers**

Most Japanese-Americans who fought in World War II were Nisei (nēsā), born in the United States to immigrant parents. Shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Japanese-American men were initially categorized as 4C (enemy alien) and therefore not subject to the draft. Many Nisei worked to prove themselves as loyal American citizens. Of the 20,000 Japanese-Americans who served in the Army during World War II, "many had gone to war to fight racism at home" and they were "proving with their blood, their limbs, and their bodies that they were truly American".

Some one hundred Nisei women volunteered for the Women's Army Corps, where, after undergoing rigorous basic training, they had assignments as typists, clerks, and drivers. A smaller number of women also volunteered to serve as nurses for the Army Nurse Corps.



**Nisei Women**

Many men deemed proficient enough in the Japanese language were approached, or sometimes ordered, to join the Military Intelligence Service to serve as translators, interpreters and spies in the Pacific, as well as in the China Burma India Theater.

The U.S. Army called for 1,500 volunteers from Hawaii and 3,000 from the mainland. An overwhelming 10,000 men from Hawaii volunteered. The announcement was met with less enthusiasm on the mainland, where the vast majority of draft-age men of Japanese ancestry and their families were being held in internment camps. The Army revised the quota, calling for 2,900 men from Hawaii, and

1,500 from the mainland. Only 1,256 volunteered from the mainland during this initial call for volunteers. As a result, around 3,000 men from Hawaii and 800 men from the mainland were inducted.

President Roosevelt announced the formation of the 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, saying, "Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry." Ultimately, the draft was instated to obtain more Japanese-Americans from the mainland and these made up a large part of the 14,000 men who eventually served in the 442nd Regiment.

The 442nd Regimental Combat Team is best known for its history as a fighting unit, composed almost entirely of second-generation American soldiers of Japanese ancestry. Beginning in 1944, the regiment fought primarily in Europe during World War II, in particular Italy, southern France, and Germany.

The 442nd Regimental Combat Team was activated February 1, 1943 and became the most decorated unit in the history of American warfare. The 4,000 men who initially made up the unit in April of 1943 had to be replaced nearly two times.

In total, about 14,000 men served, earning 9,486 Purple Hearts. The unit was awarded eight Presidential Unit Citations (five earned in one month), 5,200 Bronze Star Medals, 588 Silver Stars, and 52 Distinguished Service Crosses.

Twenty-one of its members were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, including a young 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant by the name of Daniel Inouye, who went on to become a United States Senator, serving from 1963 to his death in 2012.



the norm. These Americans proved their loyalty to this nation with their service and their sacrifice despite the hardships they faced.



**442nd Insignia**  
**Motto: "Go For Broke"**

To volunteer to fight for a country that took so much and who knew they were being tagged as second-class citizens, took courage beyond



## Japanese-Americans Honored

By Marylou Thompson, Briefing Editor

Thousands of Japanese-Americans who fought in the fiercest battles of World War II and became some of the most decorated soldiers in the nation's history were given an overdue thank-you from their country when Congress awarded them its highest civilian honor.



**Nesei Soldier  
Congressional  
Gold Medal**

In 2011, nearly seven decades after the war, Congress awarded three Army units the Congressional Gold Medal. In all, about 19,000 Japanese-Americans served in the units that were honored at the ceremony: the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service. About 19,000 veterans were awarded the honor.

Even as they fought in Europe, many Japanese-American troops had family members who would spend much of the war in U.S. internment camps. While in training, one soldier from the 442nd recounted visiting his parents and two sisters 200 miles away at the Rohwer Internment Camp in Arkansas. Despite the injustice of being forced to relocate from Stockton, CA, the soldier said his parents took great pride in their son fighting for the U.S. military. However, he ignored his mother's request in her weekly letters to avoid hazardous duty.



He said he wanted to be on the front lines, as did his peers. They volunteered for the military because they had something to prove - we wanted to show American citizens that we loved our country - we were born and raised here.



## Focus on Volunteers



As you drive into MAPS, did you ever wonder what goes on in the big brick building on the right? It is definitely a beacon that lets visitors know "they have arrived".

This building houses MAPS Motor Pool. We don't often hear about the volunteers who work there, they keep a low profile, but their work is important to the function and beautification of MAPS.

In June of 2013, the motor pool building was vacated by the Akron-Canton Regional Airport and became part of the MAPS Air Museum. During the summer and fall of 2013, construction work was started on internal walls to prepare the building for occupancy. One of the biggest issues was the roof - it pretty much didn't exist - water came down like a shower room! Additional work was completed to repair and seal windows in the motor pool bays. Originally there was no running water in the building so a water line was added that also allowed for installation of a toilet and sink. The building has heat but no air conditioning. According to Alan Swain, that's not a problem as there is a wonderful cross breeze when the bay doors and windows are open.

The talent of these volunteers is amazing - pretty much anything that breaks they can fix - lawn mowers, vacuum cleaners, golf carts, tugs, high lifts, forklifts and whatever anyone brings them.

In addition to "fixing", the Motor Pool is also responsible for grounds maintenance - our lawns are kept beautifully manicured as you can see from the picture above!

There is rarely a moment when they're not busy. In the first four months of 2023, these volunteers logged almost 600 hours! Many thanks to each of these dedicated volunteers:

- Ron Gottschalk - member since 2019
- Rick Hamlet - member since 1999
- Terry Harriman - member since 1996
- Don Neidert - member since 1999
- Jerry Ramey - member since 2005
- Alan Swain - member since 2001

# Volunteer Opportunities

*By Debbie Bussinger, Military History Program & Library Volunteer*

Do you remember seeing the “Opportunities to Volunteer” boxes on the bottom of your membership forms? There may be some of you who did not have time to volunteer when you first became a member, but now may have more free time to do so. I would like to share some of the many opportunities we have for members to volunteer in the MAPS Louise Timken Library and Research Center.

A few years ago, I came across some old video tapes of various interviews, and thought they should be digitized, especially those tapes of veteran interviews and those containing videos of past MAPS events. In addition to the movie film, VHS Tapes, and DVDs, **James Byerly** of the Ohio Military Museum brought me four banker boxes of audio cassette tapes. None of these items were digitized or documented in any way. While converting some of the old video tapes to a digital file, it occurred to me that we should still be conducting Oral History Interviews.

As a result, in 2018 my journey of procuring audio and video equipment began. The next step, of course, was to find people who would like to be interviewed. This did not take long, as one of our first interviews was with a 100-year-old World War II Army Air Corp Nurse. Around this same time, I met MAPS member **Steve Mitchell** who wanted to volunteer using his video production experience from both military and civilian life. Since that time, together we have interviewed over 92 individuals. Steve has also produced several videos that can be seen in the hangar, The Gallery of Heroes and on our local TV station.

Yet there are still interviews and/or recorded events not benefitting anyone if we do not have a way to identify their content. It is important to create a product for users, provide a search tool to identify the value of each item, and a safe place to store them. At a basic level, this would

require listening to or viewing each item to overview the content that could be summarized in a database item file.

In one audio recording I digitized on the topic of Women on the Homefront, the woman who I was interviewing discussed the military service of her grandfather in the Civil War, her husband in WWI and her son in WWII. She also went on to share stories about her grandparents living next door to Jessie James. Without listening to every recording, we have no way of knowing the valuable information inside each.

Of importance is that many of the interviews we have conducted meet the requirements to be submitted to the **Library of Congress**. However, this process requires time consuming but essential work, including submitting a time log of every interview, noting highlights that are then cataloged before submission. For example: at the time of 1:17:50 in **Jim Boyea’s** interview (MAPS volunteer), he found out he was a first-time dad from the Battalion Commander who Jim was piloting into Bien Hoa, Vietnam.

Volunteers in the Louise Timken Library and Research Center perform many tasks; you do not need to be skilled or trained in every role to volunteer in the library. Some of the tasks we perform are greeting visitors, data entry, shelving and labeling books, checking books in and out for patrons, cataloging books into our on-line database, completing paperwork for oral history interviews to be submitted to the Library of Congress (if you like taking notes while listening to stories or watching old movies, this may be the job for you), helping visitors find books, conducting research for gallery exhibits, and creating our own exhibits in the library, to name just a few.

Stop by the library and check us out! We have a spot for you! You’ll enjoy working with our friendly volunteers!

## About The Library of Congress

The Library of Congress, located in Washington, DC, is the largest library in the world and America's oldest federal cultural institution. It was founded in 1800 to serve the needs of Congress.

The Library has grown into an unparalleled treasure house of the world's knowledge and America's creativity. The Library is the main research arm of the U.S. Congress and the home of the U.S. Copyright Office.

The collection of more than 173 million items includes more than 51 million cataloged books and other print materials in 470 languages; more than 75 million manuscripts; the largest rare book collection in North America; and the world's largest collection of legal materials, films, maps, sheet music and sound recordings.



## MAPS Anniversaries

February 1, 2023 to April 30, 2023

*\*\* designates Family Membership*

### 30 YEARS

Grabowski, Edward

### 25 YEARS

Cameron, Mary Ann

Lavrenchik, Michael

Mailing, William

### 15 YEARS

Applegate, John \*\*

Kovesci, Kim \*\*

### 10 YEARS

Dougherty, Ron

Krino, Tod \*\*

Michalec, Chris \*\*

Palko, Charles

Petroff, Timothy \*\*

Stanich, Ronald

### 5 YEARS

Bilderback, Mike

Branan, Doug \*\*

Carmean, Kim \*\*

Cimperman, Charlie

Crowl, John

Dehoff, Linda

Evans, Robert \*\*

Hake, Howard \*\*

Lamm, Loren \*\*

Moeller, Timothy \*\*

Murphy, Noah \*\*



## CONGRATULATIONS

Thank You For Your Continued Support!

## New Members

February 1, 2023 to April 30, 2023

*\*\* designates Family Membership*

Barko, Tom \*\*

Bell, Lisa \*\*

Boyle, Michael \*\*

Calta, Dick \*\*

Crewson, Donald

DeRemer, Ehrin \*\*

Fink, Joshau \*\*

Geier, John \*\*

Geikowsky, Elliot \*\*

Gorham, Brian \*\*

Groman, Mary \*\*

Hambach, George \*\*

Hanson, Mark \*\*

Hillen, Terry

Johnson, David

Jordan, Okey \*\*

Kettler, Martin

Kinkaid, Donna \*\*

Lesniak, Marilou

Lewis, Geraldine

Molter, Robert \*\*

Moniot, Charles \*\*

Moore, Denis \*\*

Moser, Mark

Mosher, Hanna \*\*

Mumaw, John \*\*

Over, Marian \*\*

Seevers Jr, Carl

Shadle, Tracey \*\*

Skelton, Thomas \*\*

Smarr, James

Travers, Kimberly \*\*

Wallace, John \*\*

Weiss, Daniel \*\*

Weygandt, Sharen

White, Jermaine \*\*

Wootan, Robert \*\*



A Warm MAPS Welcome!



MAPS is pleased to announce we will be taking part in the National Endowment for the Arts "Blue Star Museum" program again this year.

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and museums across America, offering free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families, including National Guard and Reserve.

On average, more than 2,000 museums participate, including nature centers, zoos, and children's museums.

The 2023 Blue Star Museums program begins on Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 20, 2023 and ends on Labor Day, Monday, September 4, 2023.

Please note that this does not apply to special events held at the MAPS Air Museum.

**We look forward to welcoming our active military and their families to MAPS!**



## MAPS Mourns the Loss of Two Members

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

### James Mesko 1948-2023



**James Mesko** passed away on Wednesday, March 29, 2023 following complications from diabetes due to Agent Orange. He was born June 23, 1948, to Peter and Stella Mesko in Akron, Ohio. He grew up in the Portage Lakes area, attended St. Francis de Sales school and Coventry High School. .

In 1966 he enrolled in the University of Akron where he received a teaching degree in History, Political Science, and Earth Science. At the university he was a freshman counselor, a member of Sigma Pi Fraternity, and participated in intramural football, wrestling, and basketball. .

Following graduation in 1970, he joined the U.S. Naval Reserves and deployed to South Vietnam to Advisory Team 62 in 1971. There he worked in the Vietnamization Program until leaving in 1972.

Upon his return from Vietnam, he began a 35-year teaching career, first as a substitute, then working full time for Green Local Schools until he retired in 2007. He started the wrestling program at the Junior High and coached the first experimental girl's softball program. He also was a member of the Green Education Association, serving as a state delegate and eventually becoming the vice president and then president of the organization.

Following his retirement, he took a part time job as a staff writer for the Suburbanite, a weekly newspaper, and wrote hundreds of articles covering a variety of topics. He was also a member of the Military Aviation Preservation Society (MAPS) Air Museum where he worked in public relations and as a tour guide. Jim was a longtime member of St. Francis de Sales parish where he served as an usher for over 20 years.

Jim was also a prolific author, writing 45 military history books for Squadron Signal Publications and became a well-known authority on military subjects. He was a member of the International Plastic Modeling Society (IPMS) and the Armor Modeling Society (AMPS) and became a featured seminar speaker at the national IPMS and AMPS conventions. His passion for modeling military subjects garnered him numerous local, regional, and national awards for a variety of subjects ranging from tanks to humor, including a special national winner of his favorite cartoon character, "Opus".

He is survived by his loving wife of 40 years, Pat, who was his wonderful companion and soul mate for all the years of their marriage.

### James Dale Cameron 1934-2023



James Dale Cameron, 88, passed away at Canterbury Villa in Alliance on Saturday, April 22, 2023. James was born in Sebring, Ohio on November 15, 1934 to the late Donald and Ruth Ann Cameron and lived in Sebring all of his life. In his youth, Jim played American Legion and Hot Stove League baseball and played softball under the lights at Sebring stadium. He played drums in the band and graduated in 1952 from Sebring McKinley High School.

He was a member of the Ohio Army National Guard where he began participating in competitive pistol shooting, winning several state matches and a trophy at the national matches in Camp Perry, Ohio. His pistol shooting had to end when he was required to wear trifocal glasses.

Jim worked at Babcock and Wilcox Tubular Products in Alliance, Ohio for ten years as a timekeeper. When General Motors opened their new plant in Lordstown, Ohio he began working there in time study. After 22 years with GM, his last project was "salary manpower reduction". He joked that the last person reduced was himself which led to his retirement at 55 years old.

After a lifelong interest in aviation (for a number of years he held a private pilot's license), he joined the MAPS Air Museum in Green, Ohio where he rose to the position of curator and retired from that position after 20 years. Jim and his wife, Mary Ann (who also volunteered at MAPS), were the recipients of the MAPS Legacy Award in 2017.

James was a man of many interests. He was a fly fisherman from age twelve to the present, built model planes and cars all of his life, owned several sports cars and muscle cars throughout the years, played golf (and lost a lot of balls), was a militaria and stamp collector, and sold on eBay for a number of years. He is survived by his loving wife of 69 years, Mary Ann (Papadeonise), whom he married on February 20, 1954.



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## Mark Your CALENDAR



### 13th Annual Don Sitts/MAPS Air Museum Car Show

Saturday, June 10th

Car Registration 8 AM      Show 9:30AM-2PM

All makes, models and years welcome! The first 300 receive dash plaques.

Come early to see all the cars! Last year we had over 450 cars on display!

There will be food trucks, a 50/50 raffle and door prizes.

### CAK - 5K on the Runway

Sunday, August 6th      8AM

The race will start and finish at MAPS.

The course will take you out on to the runway/taxiway areas of the airport that are normally restricted for aircraft only.

This August date was chosen to coincide with activities at the Pro Football Hall of Fame during Enshrinement Week.

### American Society of Military Insignia (ASMIC) Show

Friday, July 21st    12-5 PM and

Saturday, July 22nd    8:30 AM-5 PM

ASMIC is one of the oldest and largest organizations of military insignia collectors in the world. Founded in 1937 by a small group of enthusiastic collectors, the Society is "home" today to 2,000 dedicated collectors in the United States and foreign nations.

### Summer Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, July 30th      8AM-1PM

Bring the whole family for a delicious summer event!

As with all our special events, not only do you get to enjoy the event, but you also get full access to the museum - over 50 aircraft, the Gallery of Heroes and the Ohio Military Museum. Check us out - take a virtual tour - look under the "Plan Your Visit" tab on our website.