

UPDATES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Kim Kovesci, MAPS Executive Director

2017 RESULTS - Presented at the February Membership Meeting

2017 ended with breaking records in many areas. Our revenue increased to \$382K from \$355K in 2016. We have averaged significant revenue growth since 2009's number of \$131K.

We were able to maintain the number of visitors at 36,800 for 2017 even with the very low visitation in December due to the extremely cold weather. In 2009, the number of visitors was 6,400.

Our volunteer hours have continued to grow with documented levels of 55,644 hours - this corresponds to a value of \$1.3M in the eyes of the government.

Membership increased to 738 members from a 2009 number of 394 members.

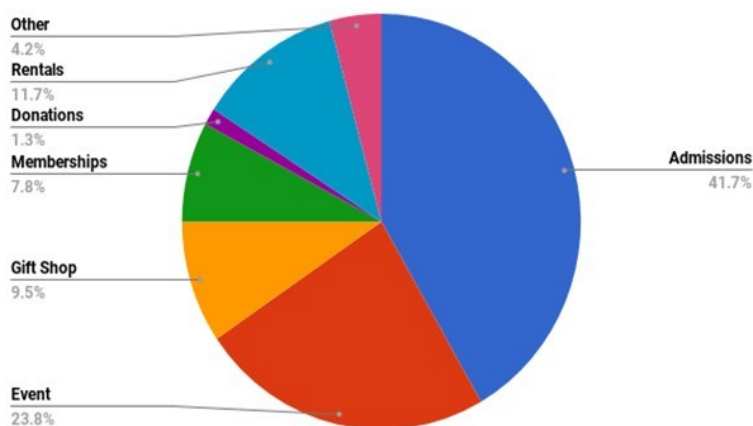
Financial results significantly out-performed our budget, even with the addition of an event coordinator. Our operating income budget was projected at \$2K but the final results are projected to be somewhere in the high \$20K's after depreciation is taken out.

Our sales have fallen off in the gift shop but the emphasis has been on reducing the inventory. In the past two years we have been able to cut the inventory in half and focus on stocking the things that sell the most.

I believe that the continued growth of the organization is directly related to the focus on our mission, the contributions of the directors and the dedication of our volunteers. I want to thank everyone in the organization for their support.

A breakdown of our revenue components reveals the following: →

2017 Revenue by Category



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

★ 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.

More from the Executive Director

Construction Status

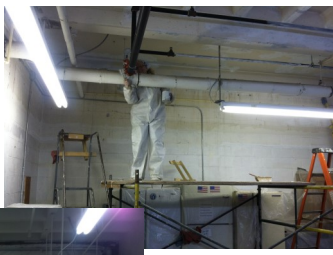
We have two major projects underway.

The first is drywalling the windows in the storage area above the Gallery of Heroes. This was extremely important to insulate and heat the rooms so the sprinkler system does not freeze. The walls are being constructed by the Portage Lakes Career Center's building trade classes.

The second project is the renovation of the lunchroom by MAPS members. They began to scrape and paint the ceiling, walls and floor in the lunchroom. When they took the pictures off of the wall, they could feel the cold air and see the window panes. A decision needed to be made. While we had everything out of the room, we decided to demo the wall and have PLCC build a new one. That was a no-brainer - take a little more time and do it right! We want to thank everyone who lent a hand to spruce up the lunchroom.



Second Floor
Museum Area



Lunchroom
- Mary Cody



Lunchroom - windows being covered

BOY SCOUT CAMPOUT

We are taking reservations for the Spring Boy Scout Campout that will be held May 11, 12, and 13.

The scouts come in Friday evening starting at 6:00pm.

Saturday, we teach the Aviation Merit Badge, have a special program and watch a movie in the hangar.

Sunday, the scouts eat breakfast, break camp and are home for Mother's Day. If you are interested in reserving space contact: Jim Felner at 330-800-8063 or email him at felner.james@mapsairmuseum.org



Boy Scouts' Flag Salute

Upcoming Events

MARCH

WED, MAR 7	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, MAR 10	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM
SUN, MAR 25	HUNTING & FISHING EXPO	9 AM

APRIL

SUN, APR 8	MILITARY COLLECTORS SHOW	8 AM
WED, APR 11	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, APR 14	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM
	RAFFLE DRAWING	
SAT, APR 14	PINEWOOD DERBY	9 AM
SUN, APR 29	PANCAKE BREAKFAST	8 AM - 1 PM

MAY

WED, MAY 9	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
SAT, MAY 12	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM

JUNE

SAT, JUN 9	9TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW	8 AM
WED, JUN 13	DIRECTOR MEETING	3 PM
THU, JUN 14	FLAG DAY CEREMONY	6:30 PM
SAT, JUN 16	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM

(Please check website for updates)

★ 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!

★ MAPS TRIVIA ★

QUESTION:

What American military aircraft displayed at MAPS is one of only three to have a "variable sweep" wing? What is the purpose of a variable sweep wing?

(answer on Page 12)

MAPS DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kim Kovesci

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Reed Kimball

EVENT COORDINATOR

Kent Kleinknecht

DIRECTORS

Rick Hamlet

Bob Hollis

Jim Jackson

Valerie Kinney

Len Palmer

Ken Ramsay

Bob Schwartz (Chair)

CURATOR

Jim Cameron

MARKETING

Doug Perry

MUSEUM DISPLAYS

Gary Haught

GIFT SHOP

Bob Hollis

LIBRARY

Barb Johnston

Betty Tober

LUNCH ROOM

Mary Ann Cameron

MEMBERSHIP

Bob Schwartz

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Marylou Thompson

OMM DISPLAYS

Tim Rhodes

PR / PUBLICITY

Barb Johnston

RESTORATION MANAGERS

Ron Duplain

Jim Jackson

Jim Schoop

Clay Tober

SAFETY

Ted Mathies

SCOUT COORDINATOR

Jim Felner

SECURITY

Rick Hamlet

TOUR COORDINATOR

Reed Kimball

TREASURER

Mac McFarland

WEBSITE & WEBMASTER

Kim Kovesci

A Fallen Feather Remembered

A letter from the feather carver, Graham Webb III

Dear Julie and Jerry,

It is such a gift for me to carve the memory feather honoring SSG Richard Ramey. Thank you for allowing me this honor. I hope that I have done you and your son well.

Large Feather - This feather is carved from a piece of wood that you gave me that is butternut. This wood is from a tree that Richard planted if I remember correctly. This particular piece is from the center of the log that you shared and the core (heart) runs through the "heart" (middle) of the carving. If you look you can see where the core or the heart has been opened on either end of the feather. I chose this section of wood to do the carving because of the things that I learned from SSG Ramey is your son had "heart" and was loved not only by you but by the people he served with. The writing on the back of this feather is done in an ancient method that dates back to the Vikings called Kolrosing. This method involves scratching the wood and rubbing in a fine powder (in this case coffee grounds) and locking the material into place with an oil rub. I thought of burning the lettering, but a warrior's method seemed more appropriate.

The feather is modeled from a bald eagle feather and is to size. I did not color the feather because the wood is so beautiful that I thought it better to stay natural so the only finish on it is grape seed oil and an oil and bees wax mixture letting nature do the color and patterning. You can see plainly on the back of the feather there is what I call an eye in the wood. Maybe it was meant to be there so Richard may keep an "eye" on things...



The Stand - On a recent trip to MAPS I stopped by Calvary Cemetery in Massillon and paid a visit to Richard. I played Taps for him while there and walked around the cemetery. As I was walking I found a piece of maple that I brought back with me to Columbus, This maple is what the base is structured from.

I added a small feather to the base that was dyed to resemble how some Native American Nations would decorate a feather to a warrior that was harmed in battle, similar to your son's Purple Heart. The little feather was originally carved to go on a smaller, traveling unit of the Fallen Feather Memorial. It seemed appropriate to share this one with you. I also placed Richard's "dog tag" as a name plate on the stand. Both the little feather and the "dog tag" are propped up by a mineral crystal. Crystals are known for healing. I hope that this gift gives a little to you.

Continued on following page

Your son was a great man. SSG Ramey made us stronger as individuals and as a nation. I can only believe that he learned these qualities from his parents. The number of lives he made better are countless. I will remember SSG Richard Ramey and share his story. Thank you for the opportunity to honor your son, an American hero.

Sincerely,

Graham Webb III

Columbus, Ohio

December 19, 2017



Julie and Jerry Ramey, parents
of SSG Richard Ramey

MAPS Annual Spring Cash Raffle

Its time again to get ready for MAPS annual cash raffle. This is the 12th year for this fundraising event, bringing in over \$12,000 a year to help with the operating activities of the museum.

For those of you who are new members, each member is sent 10 raffle tickets in the mail. Each raffle ticket can be bought or sold for \$5 each. Many members sell them to friends and this turns into a nice promotional activity or they simply buy them all and turn the money back to the museum.

The annual raffle has turned into one of the most reliable fundraisers for MAPS. It also provides a way for those that can't actively volunteer at MAPS to contribute.

If you DO NOT wish to receive tickets in the future for the raffle please send a note to membership chairman Bob Schwartz at Schwartz.robert@mapsairmuseum.org. This year's tickets have already been sent to all members.

The drawing will be on Saturday April 14th at our monthly membership meeting.

Chairman's Notes

By Bob Schwartz, Director Chair

The start of building a FG-1 Corsair, to me, is very exciting news. My Uncle, George Kuhn was involved in the FG-1 Corsair project during WWII and I grew up listening to many stories on building the Corsairs at the plant at the Akron Airport. He was an aircraft mechanic and he passed on a love of aviation to me. George was also Cook Cleland's, chief mechanic after the war. I heard a lot of stories on how the Corsairs were modified to get a little extra speed to help win races. They won the 1947 and 1949 Thompson Trophy Race in their class.

Goodyear built over 4,000 of these aircraft during WWII and employed about 35,000 men and women. Goodyear made parts for other airplanes as well, including wings for the B-26 Marauder.

Speaking of Thompson Trophy Racers, MAPS Thompson Trophy winner in the 1949 jet class is making progress in the restoration building. Work on the jet, a North American F-86A is progressing quite well. Crew Chief Chet Starn and crew are doing an excellent job cleaning, repairing and making needed parts. Built in 1948, the F-86A Sabre is the world's oldest flyable jet. It was used by the USAF during the Korean War.



For those of you who don't know, the Thompson Trophy race was one of the National Air Races of the heyday of early airplane racing in the 1930s. Established in 1929, the last race was held in 1961. The race was 10 miles long with 50-foot-high pylons marking the turns, and emphasized low altitude flying and maneuverability at high speeds. As the race was flown around a closed course, crowds in the grandstands could easily see much of the spectacle.

For the 12 months of 2017, our volunteers accumulated a total of 55,664 volunteer hours. This is the highest total ever. We also had ten volunteers accumulate over 1,000 hours apiece. A big MAPS thank you goes out to all our volunteers regardless of the number of hours. We couldn't do it without you!

The MAPS “Volunteer”

By Reed Kimball, MAPS Director of Education

During the MAPS Christmas Party, we recognized a number of individuals who play a large part in the success of this organization. We call them VOLUNTEERS. There is a significant difference between being a member of MAPS and being a volunteer who actively supports the mission of the organization. I hope to, in this article, highlight their contributions and the impact that volunteers have on our success.



Reed's article continued on the following page

The MAPS “Volunteer” continued.....

These volunteers work in all of the areas that make up the Military Aviation Preservation Society. From the Library to the Gift Shop; from Restoration to the Motor Pool; from the Curators to the Tour Guides; from the Grounds Crew to the Canteen, they all contribute. MAPS prides itself on effectively educating the public on the history of aviation and its impact on society. It is the MAPS volunteers that make it happen by restoring, preserving, understanding and presenting history. They are the “heart” of this organization and of its success. One of the goals that has been set for MAPS is to change members into volunteers. The membership roles for MAPS listed a total of 1,151 members as of December 1st. Of this number, 246 registered volunteer hours between October 31, 2016 and November 1, 2017. This means that only 21.4% of the MAPS membership recorded volunteer hours. These 246 volunteers donated a total of 54,931 hours of their time to MAPS. This figure equates to 6,866 work days that were volunteered to make MAPS what it is today.

Many give what they can – a few give much more. If you want to know who makes MAPS what it is today, you just need to look at the list below. Each of these 72 MAPS members volunteered over 250 hours between October 31, 2016 and November 1, 2017. That figure represents only 6.3% of the membership of the organization. These 72 volunteers logged 45,681 of the 54,931 hours (83.2%) recorded in the volunteer sign-in records for the year. You will find them at the museum whenever they have a few hours to give, fixing lunches, rebuilding airplanes, planning and setting up displays, researching and cataloging books and magazines, moving aircraft, giving tours, running the gift shop, cleaning, repairing, mowing, planting and the hundreds of other functions that keep the museum operating. They are here during normal business hours and often for evening functions. They work both behind the scenes and in front of our guests. They fill in for others when needed and complete tasks even when they are not asked to do them.

*Based on volunteer sign-in/sign-out records.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOURS*</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOURS*</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOURS*</u>
Rick Hamlet	2,574	John Harris	622	Dave Bell	397
Allen Swain	1,577	John Sebrell	619	Sharon Kopp	393
Bill Cody	1,532	Kim Kovesci	618	Mac McFarland	386
Mary Cody	1,458	Dave Vasco	618	Bob Johnston	370
Jim Cameron	1,404	Carl Bergsneider	604	Ray Hamlin	365
Jim Jackson	1,389	Jim Boyea	596	Dennis Scott	359
Steve Satchell	1,378	Dale Cox	592	David Gibson	334
Bob Hollis	1,366	Paul Gates	561	Bruce Williams	323
Bob Schwartz	1,265	Henry Aegerter	554	Rick Willaman	322
Val Kinney	1,029	Barb Johnston	541	Gary Shapiro	320
Mary Ann Cameron	895	Denny Bachtel	535	Bob Barnett	301
Jerry Ramey	894	Dave Sanders	521	Dan Willaman	296
Gary Haught	848	Ron Duplain	517	Jan Boyea	295
Reed Kimball	838	Tim Petroff	495	John Koval	289
Jim Shoop	827	Tony Bistransky	482	Pat Schwartz	285
Brooke Anderson	799	Tim Rhodes	481	Wayne Noall	280
Chet Starn	789	Ken Olinger	477	Dianne Reese	277
George Reese	781	Mark Saurer	461	Kent Kleinknecht	271
Ken Ramsay	778	Gary Hengtsenberger	453	Marylou Thompson	262
Doug Perry	751	Larry Lewis	434	Jeff McCullough	254
Bob Zeh	720	Terry Harriman	429	Dick Stahl	254
Jim Byerly	665	Ted Mathies	425	Sandy Hollis	253
Betty Tober	650	M. L. Weaver	413	Bob Green	252
Clay Tober	628	Al Petschaurer	410	Julie Ramey	250

MAPS Receives Bequest from Mrs. Marianne V. Malzacher

MAPS Air Museum received a bequest of \$20,000 from Mrs. Marianne V. Malzacher.

Mrs. Malzacher is the mother of Sharon Ramsay, wife of Ken Ramsay, Director at MAPS. Ken said that Mrs. Malzacher wanted to see the museum that he was always talking about so they made a visit. She was thrilled when she arrived and spent 2 1/2 hours in the Gallery of Heroes, reading every display. Her favorites were: Pearl Harbor, Rosie the Riveter and the Reymann Brothers.

We would like to thank Mrs. Malzacher and her family for this very generous gift. In support of the family's wishes, the gift has been entered into a restricted account and will be used for the restoration of aircraft.



Standing: Ken Ramsay (L) and Kim Kovesci (R)

★ MAPS United States History Program ★

Springtime at MAPS not only brings better weather (finally), it brings high school students in large numbers to the museum. While most members never feel the impact of this annual surge, it does stretch the Tour Guide staff during this short, intense period.

The U.S. History program is in its eighth year. The program continues to maintain a positive reputation of supporting the high school United States History curriculum which, in turn, fosters the desire by the teachers to come back year after year. This expands the reputation and "reach" of the museum as those students that participate tell their family and friends about MAPS.

Annually funded through grants, the program allows for a history "field trip" for all United States History classes in Stark, Summit and Wayne County schools. This year, we even have a school coming from Portage County that heard about the program from a teacher who transferred from a school that participated in the past.

We are grateful to the Stark Community Foundation, Akron Community Foundation (McAlonan Fund,) The Timken Company and J.M. Smuckers Company for these grants.

At the present time, the following are included in the Spring tour schedule:

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>STUDENTS/TEACHERS</u>	<u>SCHOOLS</u>
Portage	125	1
Stark	1,718	12
Summit	1,580	10
Wayne	150	4

**This year that equates to
27 schools and over 3,573
students!**

A United States History Fact You Might Not Know!

When Alaska and Hawaii became states 49 and 50, President Eisenhower received thousands of ideas for an updated flag. Almost all of them were for a 50-star flag, including one from Robert G. Heft, a 17-year-old student at **Lancaster (Ohio) High School**, who created the design for a class project. Heft received a B- for his efforts, but his teacher said he would reconsider the grade if Congress accepted Heft's ostensibly mediocre design. In 1959, that's precisely what happened, and Heft's design was selected to be the latest iteration of the American flag.

His teacher promptly changed the grade to an A!

Heft later became a high school history teacher, college professor and served seven terms as Mayor of **Napoleon, Ohio**.



CURATOR'S CORNER

By Jim Cameron, Curator

All military museums have a radio display section and MAPS is no exception. Thanks to MAPS member Rick Willaman, MAPS has an extensive display of military radio equipment that includes aviation, ship, mobile and ground installations. His display includes transmitters, receivers, telegraph keys and much more ranging from WW II through Vietnam. The military would not be able to function efficiently without radio communication.

Rick's interactive display includes information on Morse Code and visitors can practice on radio transmitters. The US Navy and Coast Guard still use signal lamps to communicate via Morse Code. Did you know that one of the first times SOS was used was when the HMS Titanic was sinking in 1912?

Not only did Rick Willaman create the radio display, he also installed the MAPS security camera system that included digging a trench from the hangar to the camera. In addition, he replaced old power cables between the hangar and restoration building with communication lines. He also restored the "Spirit of Akron" blimp instrument panel to working order. It currently broadcasts the transmission from the airport control tower to any and all aircraft within their control area.

Rick has worked on everything related to radio or electronics. He is just another example of the very talented volunteers we have at MAPS. Thank you Rick!

To see Rick's display, head toward the Gallery of Heroes and take a right along the side wall of the hangar. Enjoy!



Do You Shop on Amazon?

With more and more people shopping on-line these days, it's likely that you do too. If you're like some households, many of your purchases may be delivered right to your door via Amazon.

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization selected by the customer. There is no additional cost to shoppers.

Getting started is easy. If you already have an Amazon account, there is no need to change it. Log into **Smile.amazon.com** and you will be prompted to select a charitable organization. MAPS is the obvious choice!

Make sure to bookmark AmazonSmile. If you forget to log into **Smile.amazon.com**, MAPS will not receive the donation.



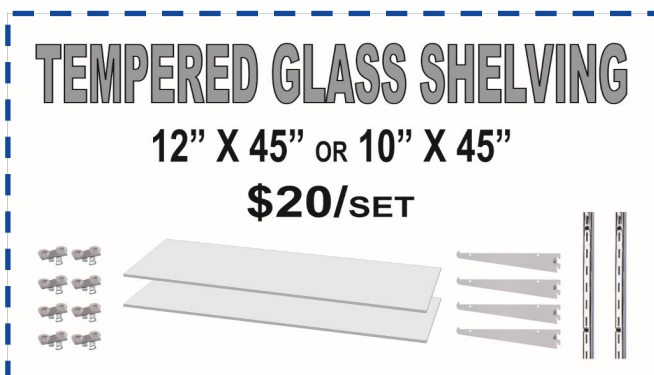
This is a relatively new endeavor for MAPS and during the last quarter of 2017, MAPS received a \$40.61 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation. In total, MAPS has received \$231.13 as of February 2018. Although this doesn't seem like a lot of money, every penny counts! If the entire MAPS membership begins to shop AmazonSmile, the dollars donated will make a difference!

Ask your family and friends to shop Amazon Smile too!

Are you starting to think about spring home improvement projects??

The curator's department has acquired a large number of excess glass shelving units that we are offering for sale at a great price!

Sale times are any Saturday from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Please ask for Jim Cameron at the gift shop counter. See detailed picture to the right.



MAPS Anniversaries

November 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018

*** designates Family Membership*

15 YEARS

Gibbs, Lewis

10 YEARS

Bergsneider, Carl

Baker, Bob

5 YEARS

Weiner, Jacob

Gyalai, Steven

Still, Bernie**

Cody, William**

Mann, Roger**

Hess, Alan**

Congratulations!
Thank You
For Your
Continued Support!



JOIN MAPS TODAY!



New Members

November 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018

*** designates Family Membership*

Augustine, Mason

Bixler, Tyke**

Cebula, Fr Thomas

Conner, Renie

Comstock, Steven**

Freygang, Dale**

Gaffney, Edith**

Goss, John**

Harding, John**

Koenig, William**

Krueger, Eric**

Massouh, Cheryl

Massouh, Steven

Massouh, Mason

Mathis, David

Oakes, Heather**

Radel, Erin**

Rowland, Darren**

Salerno, Anthony

Shank, Brandon

Shank, Cameron

Shank, Kurt**

Sherwood, Joe**

Sherwood, Joe**

Smith, Nancy

Smith, Barb**

Summers, Karl

Tatka, Barbara**

Vannan Jr, Frederick

Wassil, Jon **

Weber, Vince

Welch, Porter**

Wolf, Michael

Zelasko, Emil**

The Print Shop of Canton, Inc.

We recently paid a visit to the Print Shop of Canton, an organization that has been supporting MAPS and the Briefing for the last 10 years.

We met with president, Jeff Grametbauer and he gave us a little history of the company. Jeff's father, Joseph (an Air Force Veteran,) started the company 40 years ago. Joseph was always in the print business and started out in the basement of his home in the 1960's. His first commercial print shop was located on W. Tuscarawas in Canton and he remained at that location for 25 years until the company outgrew the space and they moved to their current location in North Canton 15 years ago.

Jeff remembers always helping out in his dad's printing business on a part time basis but joined full time in 1988 while still a student at Kent State. He became president of the company in 1995.

Jeff currently has 11 employees, continues to grow the business and uses the latest state-of-the-art equipment. In addition to printing, the Print Shop does graphic design, custom folding, booklet binding and copying. Jeff is as concerned about the environment as he is about customer service - the Print Shop is a certified green printer, using only recyclable eco-smart soy-based inks. Even the printing plates used are chemical-free.

Jeff has been a member of MAPS since 1991 and is proud to support a local non-profit organization. He strongly believes in supporting the local community by eating and shopping locally and is committed to personalized service for all of his customers.



Pictured: Lori Amiet, Graphic Specialist and Jeff Grametbauer, President.

The sign in the photo is the original sign that hung outside the first Print Shop on W. Tuscarawas for 25 years.

THANK YOU!



**Commercial Printing
& Graphic Design**

6536 Promler Ave. NW
North Canton, Ohio 44720

330-497-3212
FAX 330-497-6306
theprintshop@neo.rr.com

MAPS thanks the Print Shop of Canton
For sponsoring "The BRIEFING"

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



You don't want to miss any of the exciting events planned at MAPS this year!

The first **Pancake Breakfast** of the year will be held on Sunday, April 29th. For those of you who have attended in the past, you know how what a delicious event this is. For first timers, you are in for a treat as

MAPS "chefs" prepare pancakes from their secret pancake recipe! The next Pancake Breakfast is Saturday, July 14th.

Saturday, June 9th is the 9th Annual **Don Sitts Car Show**. Come see beautiful cars alongside MAPS historic aircraft!

This year's **Collings Foundation Wings of Freedom Tour** is August 10th - 12th. Come out and view, tour or fly in four of the most famous WW II bomber and fighter aircraft; the B-17 Flying Fortress, B-24 Liberator, B-25 Mitchell and the P-51D mustang.

Interesting Facts About Our Visitors in 2017

Of the 3090 visitors (8.4% of total visitors) who signed the Visitor's Log in 2017, 81% were from Ohio and of those, 69% were from Northeast Ohio.

The three main reasons of what drew visitors to MAPS were "word-of-mouth," "internet" and "saw the signs."

Visitors came from 31 other states, including Hawaii.

Twelve foreign countries were represented: Austria, Bermuda, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Holland, Iceland, India, Jamaica, Kenya and the Netherlands.

Focus on Volunteers

Our focus in this issue is on a man who is as much a fixture at MAPS as our wonderful displays. His name is Rick Hamlet and he has been a dedicated member since 2003.

Rick grew up and has lived in the area all of his life and was educated as a machinist. From 1969-1985 he worked at Chandler Machine and in 1985 he started RTR Slotting and Machine. He served as president of the company until he retired in 2016.

Along the way, he found time to devote to Endurance Racing and to be a Road Race Crew member which he still does on occasion.

Rick came to MAPS because he thought it would be interesting and he has never looked back. He worked in restoration early on and his favorite project was working on the SBD (Scout Bomber Dauntless.) Since that time, he has served as a director three times from 2006-2008, 2012-2014 and his current term that began in 2016.



Rick Hamlet

Last year he logged over 2500 volunteer hours at MAPS! That's an average of over 50 hours each and every week. And Rick says he's "retired!"

Rick is a part of almost everything that happens at MAPS. He still occasionally works in restoration, helps out at events, opens and closes the museum, helps to move planes in and out of the hangar, sets up for special events, oversees construction projects and according to Rick, "I just do whatever needs to be done."

MAPS is thankful for Rick and all he does to further the mission of our wonderful museum.

Volunteers are key to our success!

A Passion For the FG-1 Corsair

By Dave Pawski

I began volunteering at MAPS over 21 years ago. I have spent the bulk of my time restoring the B-26 Marauder with the help of many MAPS volunteers to bring it to where it is today. Now that work is nearly complete, I am turning my attention to our FG-1 Corsair cockpit donated by Goodyear.

About 2 years ago, I came up with a crazy idea. MAPS has the Corsair cockpit, a propeller, and several R-2800 radial engines. Why not put these parts together and try and build the rest of the airplane? MAPS and its members have made good contacts with other Warbird organizations out there, so I am hopeful we might find non-airworthy parts for the items we can't make.

My first challenge was to access the drawings for the airframe. I have worked in the past with the Director of Microfilm Library at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. He gave me a good tip where I could access the drawings on a website for a nominal fee of \$50/year. This way, MAPS could save on buying a microfilm machine and at least \$1500 worth of microfilm rolls!

I began researching the motor mount and the engine cowling and have been able to find drawings as I need them. From the original drawing of the motor mount, I created a simplified design using Solidworks, a 3-D Cad program. I contacted Minerva Welding, who I've worked with in the past, and they agreed to build the motor mount free of charge!

I also picked out one of the R-2800 engines that looked to be the best candidate. We brought it into the Restoration shop several months ago and is being cleaned and painted currently. We discovered that one of the jugs on the rear bank is actually a front jug. So, I brought in another engine to see if we can pull a rear jug for the Corsair engine. So far, it won't budge!

I have also been working on creating new cowling parts from scratch. The Air Corps Library website has been my lifeline for making templates & forms for making these parts. I usually redraw the parts in Auto Cad and then print off a full size template that can be used to cut out the metal and also make a wooden form for bending.

I have also been trying to reach out to others in the Warbird community that might know of any non-airworthy F4U/FG-1 Corsair parts. The landing gear is something this project desperately needs. I hope we will turn up something in the next few years.

One of my goals is to make the wings fold too. That will help save on floor space! I think I can design a system using hand-pumped hydraulic cylinders to accomplish folding the wings safely and lock pins when in the folded position.

My connection to the Corsair is my grandfather served in the U.S. Navy during WWII as an airplane mechanic. He told me he was a lead man with 2 other mechanics that changed engines. He said he always kept his wire cutters handy as they were always cutting safety wire!

It's pretty cool to work on the same type of airplane as my grandfather! Hopefully, this project won't take 21 years to complete like the Marauder!

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The FG-1 Corsair cockpit on display at MAPS. This will become part of the finished plane.

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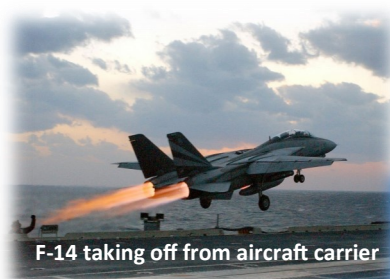
MAPS TRIVIA ANSWER

The F-14 Tomcat fighter jet was one of only three American military aircraft to be able to change the sweep (position) of the wings while in flight.

Typically, a swept wing is more suitable for high speeds (reduces drag) while an unswept wing is suitable for lower speeds. This unique feature allowed the aircraft to carry more fuel and/or payload as well as improved take-off and landing performance. A variable-sweep wing allows the pilot to select the correct wing configuration for the plane's intended speed. The outstretched position was best for low speed maneuverability and tucked in was ideal for supersonic runs. Also, the ability to bring the wings in past a point that would be useful for flying, enabled aircraft carrier crews to get planes tucked very closely together.

The F-14 had a wing span of 64 feet unswept and 38 feet swept. It could fly at altitudes of above 53,000 feet with a speed of over 1500 miles per hour (Mach 2.34.) The Tomcat's radar could track up to 24 different targets simultaneously.

The F-14 Tomcat operated aboard US aircraft carriers from 1974 to 2006 when it was retired from service. The other two military planes with variable sweep wings are the Rockwell B-1 Lancer (still in service by USAF) and the General Dynamics F-111 (retired from service in 1998.)



F-14 taking off from aircraft carrier



F-14 displayed at MAPS



F-14 wings swept



F-14 wings spread



Swept wing positions