

Organizational Analysis and Problem Resolution

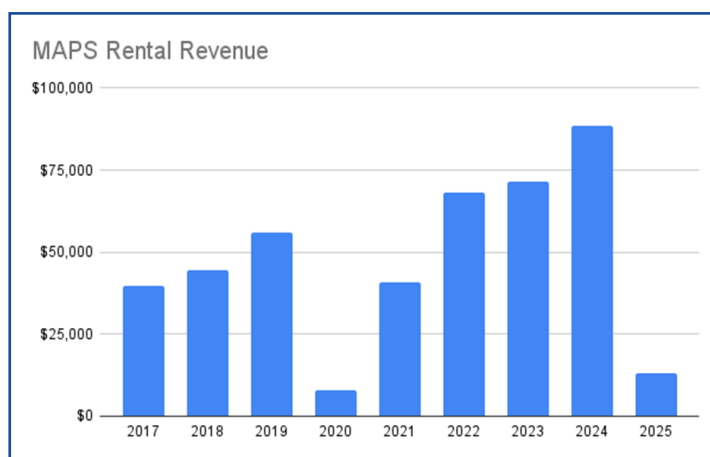
By Kim Kovesci, MAPS Executive Director

We are almost a year into the major organizational change where we added two directors, Debbie Bussinger as the Museum Director and Dave Conner as the Operations Director. Our objectives were to handle the increased activities (transaction volume) due to our continuous growth and also to revisit our policies and procedures to ensure continuous improvement.

The intent was to spread out the workload to eliminate the additional 60 to 70 hours per week that were needed to grow the organization to its current level. Most of us are partially retired so we need to distribute the workload and reduce our time at MAPS to reasonable levels.

When I first started, Bob and Pat Schwartz scheduled all the rentals until it became too much activity for them to handle. Kent Kleinknecht was hired to fill in for them. He has done a great job establishing pricing structures for all of the areas that we rent: the main hangar floor, banquet hall, Mohawk Room, Prowler Room and the Library. He has developed a great understanding of the local rental market and we also try to give back to the community whenever possible.

The following chart shows the growth in rental revenue since Kent has taken on this responsibility. It makes sense that this growth in revenue also reflects a significant increase in the number of events and the number of hours needed to ensure events run smoothly



In addition to the increased rentals, we still have our MAPS events; two military shows, three pancake breakfasts, two boy scout campouts, two cub/girl scout days, the

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 5-7

★ 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...*

car show and the Veteran's program. Most of these events are coordinated by a small group of MAPS members and they are the same people working the rental events.

After we made the organizational changes last July, we identified a problem within the organization. It had to do with managing the events - both rentals and MAPS sponsored. Kent, Marylou, Debbie, Peg, Dave, Jim Jackson, Jerry and myself ended up spending a large amount of time working events and it is beginning to stress the organization because the workload is spread among so few people.

It is important that we reduce this stress as quickly as possible and we are going to address the problem in two ways.

First, we will conduct an analysis of all of our rentals to identify the type of event, size of the event, profitability, challenges, and stress to the organization, among other criteria. Hopefully, this information will be useful to determine what type of events we want to seek and which ones we want to stay away from. We want to help keep our bottom line strong without stressing the staff and volunteers.

Secondly, with concept approval from the Board of Directors to begin, I will start the process of creating a position of Event Coordinator to work closely with Kent, our Event Scheduling Coordinator. After an event is scheduled, this person will take a handoff from Kent to basically manage the details of the events, both rental and MAPS sponsored.

The Event Coordinator position will be a part-time hourly position with no benefits. We are looking for a retiree or partial retiree - just like the rest of us.

Kent is responsible for scheduling and preparing for an event with all the required contracts, permits, security, and setup/teardown information. The new position, Event Coordinator will take the handoff and manage the event through to completion. This person will immediately become the point of contact for the event. They will verify setup timing and layout, make sure the event is staffed, that the event runs smoothly, ensure all financial transactions are completed and that teardown occurs in a timely manner. This is a very important position and I hope to find someone who would like to accept the challenge.

If you are interested in joining this wonderful team to help get us to the next level, please submit your resume to me for consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

kovesci.kim@mapsairmuseum.org



A BIG MAPS THANK YOU to everyone who participated in this year's MAPS raffle. We collected **\$20,100** - the highest ever, surpassing last year's highest total of **\$19,300!** Since 2014, this annual fundraising event has contributed significantly 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	Augustine Young , Medina
\$ 500.00	Peg Deibel , North Canton
\$ 250.00	Leroy Feather , Painesville
\$ 125.00	Marshall Ariza , Clinton
\$ 75.00	Anna Somerville , North Canton
\$ 50.00	Charles Palco , Cuyahoga Falls

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Annual Veterans Program

This year, MAPS will host the 13th Annual Veterans Program on Saturday, November 15th. Mark your calendars and look for more information about the program on MAPS website in early fall 2025.



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

Commemorating 80 Years Since the End of WWII

VE Day - May 8, 1945 is Victory in Europe Day.

This is the day the German forces surrendered to the Allied powers.

VJ Day - August 14, 1945 is Victory Over Japan Day.

This day marks the official surrender of Japanese forces in WWII.

MAPS
AIR MUSEUM

WORLD WAR II WEEKEND

JULY 12-13, 2025



- Allied & German Encampment
- Military Vehicle Show
- Weapons Demonstrations
- Big Band Hangar Dance
- Military Equipment Displays
- Battle Reenactments
- Pancake Breakfast

Plus *VISIT WITH WWII
VETERANS ON SATURDAY*

WORLD WAR II WEEKEND SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, 12 JULY

9:00 am - Gates Open

All Morning - Displays & Demonstrations

11:00am - Battle Reenactment*

1-4:00 pm - Meet the WWII Vets

1-5:00 pm - Military Vehicle Show*

All Afternoon - Displays & Demonstrations

4:00 pm - Battle Reenactment*

5:00 pm - Closing Ceremony

7:00 pm - Hangar Dance featuring
The Northcoast Big Band

**Weather Permitting*

SUNDAY, 13 JULY

8:00 am - MAPS Pancake Breakfast
& World War II Displays

1:00 pm - Closing Ceremony



CREW 1944
5TH RANGERS
WWII REENACTORS



WORLDWAR2REENACTORS.ORG

MAPS
AIR MUSEUM
Where History Takes Flight!

2600 International Pkwy - North Canton, OH

In addition, the Celtic Club Green Man project will be displaying a large banner honoring the Tuskegee Airmen. At 1 PM on Saturday, there will be a short ceremony in front of the giant American Flag. The names of each of the Tuskegee pilots from Ohio will be read. Members of the North Coast Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. will also be present.

MAPS has received permission from the Red Skelton Foundation to have his emotional version of The Pledge of Allegiance read. During WWII, Skelton served in the US Army in Special Services and performed numerous comedy shows for the troops. It was in 1969 that he first performed the iconic self-written monologue about the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lunch will be available from 11 AM to 2 PM in the hangar and will include some familiar foods that were available during WWII despite enforced food rations on all Americans.

On Saturday night from 7-9 PM, the Northcoast Big Band will entertain us in the hangar with music from the Big Band Era. Tickets are available on Eventbrite or at the door. See MAPS website for more information.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kim Kovesci

EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Jerry Patton

MUSEUM DIRECTOR

Debbie Bussinger

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Dave Conner

EVENT COORDINATOR

Kent Kleinknecht

DIRECTORS

Dennis Bachtel (Chair)

Peg Deibel

Bob Hollis

Jim Jackson

Ken Ramsay

Bob Schwartz

Marylou Thompson

MARKETING

Doug Perry

MUSEUM CURATOR

Scott Denniss

GIFT SHOP

Bob Hollis

LIBRARY

Barb Johnston

MEMBERSHIP

Bob Schwartz

MILITARY HISTORY PROGRAM

Debbie Bussinger

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Marylou Thompson

OMM DISPLAYS

James Byerly

PR / PUBLICITY

Mary Ann Nofel

RESTORATION MANAGERS

Ron Duplain

Jim Jackson

SCOUT COORDINATOR

Jim Felner

SAFETY / SECURITY

Dave Conner

TOUR COORDINATOR

Jerry Patton

TREASURER

Roger Herbst

WEBSITE & WEBMASTER

Ron Schultz



Gulf War/Desert Storm Display

By James Byerly, OMM Curator



A new display in the Ohio Military Museum honors a local man, Curtiss R. Holbein. He was born in Canton and graduated in 1970 from Copley High School. He also attended the University of Akron and University of Maryland. Curtiss passed away in 2005 at the age of 52.

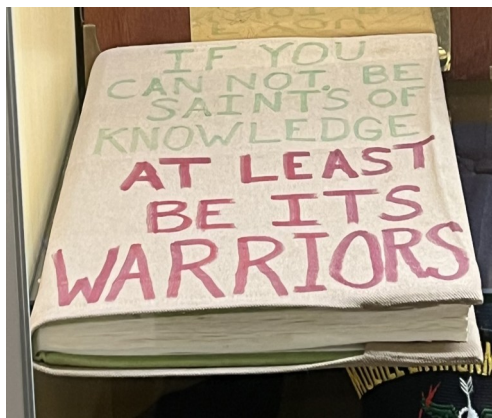
Curtiss joined the Navy in 1978 and served for 22 years, retiring in 2000 as a Aerographer's Mate, Chief Petty Officer. During his time in the Navy, he served in the Gulf War and Desert Storm aboard the Aircraft Carrier, USS Theodore Roosevelt CVN-71 and the Landing Assault Ship, USS Bataan LHD-5.

You may wonder what role an Aerographer's Mate performs. Aerographer's Mates are the Navy's meteorological and oceanographic experts, trained in the science of meteorology and physical oceanography. They also learn to use instruments that monitor weather characteristics such as air pressure, temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction. They are essentially the Navy's weathermen. After data is collected, they then distribute this data to aircraft, ships and shore installations.

Their responsibilities also include preparing up-to-date weather maps, issuing weather forecasts and warnings, conducting weather/oceanographic briefings, preparing balloon-carried instruments and satellites for flight and evaluating and analyzing the data received. They are required to perform preventive maintenance/calibrations on all their equipment.

Curtiss' display features his 1st Class Petty Officer uniform. He was promoted to Chief Petty Officer upon his retirement.

Another interesting artifact in the display is the Charge Book that Curtiss kept. The Charge Book tradition in the Navy, used for CPO (Chief Petty Officer) preparation and initiation, began during World War II. Initially, it was a way for commanding officers to quickly promote deserving sailors and aid them in preparing for the added responsibilities of becoming a CPO. While the exact start date is difficult to pinpoint, the practice became formalized in the late 1950s and early 1960s. While the format and some aspects of the Charge Book have evolved, it remains a significant part of the CPO initiation tradition, serving as a keepsake and a reminder of the trust and expectations placed upon a CPO.



Fly your Flag proudly!

June 14 - Flag Day

July 4th - Independence Day



DIRECTOR'S ELECTION 2025



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 21, 2025 at 11:00 AM in the Banquet Hall.

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. Ken Ramsay has chosen not to run again after 17 years serving on the Board. Four nominations have been received and accepted. The nominees for these positions are: **Denny Bachtel, Ron Gottschalk, Jim Jackson and Marylou Thompson**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Please note that due to the MAPS Car Show being held on Saturday, June 14th, the membership meeting and Director elections will be held on Saturday, June 21st.

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 21st. All website ballots must be received by 4:30 PM on Friday, June 20th.

IN-PERSON VOTING: Proxy ballots will be available in the MAPS office starting on Sunday, May 18, 2024. Ballots will be available on Saturday, June 21st 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) 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 17th and will remain active until 4:30 PM on Friday, June 20th.**

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 11 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 15 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 51 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...***RON GOTTSCHALK**

Education: I was born and raised in Maple Heights, Ohio and graduated from Maple Heights High School. I have attended a number of classes at Tri-C in business as well as GIS (Geographical Information System) software training at Cleveland State.

Work Experience: I worked for The City of Rocky River, Ohio for 34 years. I began as a laborer on the street department and then became the service department dispatcher. I had the opportunity to take a position working for the city engineer on capital improvement projects as well as developing the city's GIS and computer network. In my final years, I was the public works coordinator as well as the city's network administrator. I have been on a number of committees including the Storm Water Management Committee, the Parks and Rec Founda-

tion and the yearly River Day's Festival and Car Show.

Personal: I am married to Lynn, and we have one married daughter and four wonderful grandchildren. After retiring in 2019, we moved from Rocky River to Canton to be closer to family. I was happy to find out about the MAPS Air Museum because I have always been crazy about airplanes, or as my wife says "*just plain crazy*". She should know as we just celebrated our 45th wedding anniversary.

Remarks: This is my 6th year with the MAPS organization, working on numerous aircraft in restoration and lately working in the motor pool on grounds maintenance. I was honored to be nominated to the Board of Directors and hope to help in the future success of the MAPS organization.

JIM R. JACKSON

Personal: Married to Bernice for over 52 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")

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 Ohio State.

Work Experience: I began my career as an RN working in critical care, then moved into nurse management positions which led to hospital and ultimately 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 New Hampshire. 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 wonderful children and three awesome grandchildren.

MAPS: I have been a member of MAPS for 9 years and a Board member for 4 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 staff and volunteers at MAPS and am proud to be part of such an amazing organization.

MAPS Was A Finalist!

The Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau (ASCVB) held its 22nd annual Zenith Awards at the John S. Knight Center on May 7. With nearly 300 attendees, the Zenith Awards luncheon recognized hospitality industry partners throughout Summit County, ranging from attractions and restaurants to hotels and stores.

The event is held during National Travel and Tourism Week, an annual tradition that highlights travel’s essential role in driving economic growth, creating jobs and enhancing quality of life across the United States.

Individuals and organizations within the hospitality and tourism industry can submit nominations for various award categories. Voters, including the general public and industry professionals, cast their votes for the nominees. ASCVB then tabulates the votes and determines the winners based on the highest number of votes received.

The Zenith Awards aim to recognize and celebrate excellence within the Greater Akron and Summit County hospitality and tourism industry.

Debbie Bussinger, Peg Deibel, Doug Perry and Marylou Thompson represented MAPS at the event.

MAPS Air Museum was one of five finalists in the “Hottest Hidden Gem” category.



Chairman's Notes

By Dennis Bachtel, Director Chair

While trying to come up with a subject to write about for this addition of the MAPS quarterly Briefing, it came to mind some of the incredible young women we’ve had the opportunity to work with in the restoration department. While aircraft restoration has traditionally been a male dominated domain, and each of the subjects of this article are at different stages in life, each entered this arena and have embraced and excelled in their endeavors.

The first young woman I’d like to introduce you to is **Anh Pham**, she and her boyfriend Josh came to MAPS while students at Kent State University, both in Kent’s aviation program. Anh was instrumental in the restoration of the Funk aircraft, which is now hanging in the atrium at the Akron Canton Airport. Anh was able to rebuild the delicate wooden wing structure using very small tacks and lots of patience, something none of us old guys have the dexterity or patience to do anymore.

After working around Anh for several months and knowing she was from Vietnam, I finally asked what part of Vietnam she was from and to my surprise she said Hanoi. Being a Vietnam veteran, the name Hanoi took me by surprise, I never contemplated meeting someone from there.

Several months later at a pancake breakfast, Anh introduced me to her father, a pilot in the Vietnamese Air Force. Today Anh and Josh are husband and wife. Anh is the number two person in charge of the Kent State University airport and is well on her way to an exciting aviation career. Best of luck and continued success.

The next young woman is **Mae Murch**. Mae came to MAPS as a member of the Air Force Reserve stationed at Youngstown Vienna Airport, fresh out of C-130 flight engineer training. As a flight engineer she was well trained, but in her words, she didn’t know anything about aircraft, prompting her to volunteer at MAPS to learn more about aircraft in general.

Mae’s ambition was to become an A-10 pilot, but after working in a crew atmosphere on C-130s and with the retirement of the A-10s, she decided she likes working as a crew member. As the Air Force evolves and the C-130 flight engineer position is eliminated, Mae had to alter her plans. Today Mae is in Kansas transitioning to become a boom operator on KC-67 tankers with a new goal of becoming a KC-67 pilot.

Mae was born into a military family in Germany and

Article continued on the following page

Chairman's Notes *continued...*

spent much of her youth there. While juggling a full-time position in the Reserves and earning a college degree, she managed to volunteer at MAPS in the restoration department. She was instrumental in the restoration of the H-19 helicopter in its first year of restoration and later worked on the FG-1 Corsair. I believe Mae has been able to learn more about aircraft from her many experiences at MAPS.

The next young woman I'd like to introduce to you is **Nai Consbruck**, she came to MAPS fresh out of high school, with no aviation experience but what was readily apparent was her small stature and her energy. When working on aircraft there is a constant need to wiggle into small places and Nai fit the bill perfectly. Most of the old guys at MAPS are too big and not very flexible anymore.

When we get new people at MAPS I generally don't ask where they're from, but one day I heard someone ask Nai where she was from, her answer was, "Do you mean where do I live or where am I from?" I live in Green but I'm from Siberia. Once again, I never thought I'd meet someone from Siberia.

After working several jobs and volunteering at MAPS, Nai began working at the Akron Canton Airport as a ramper, helping move aircraft, loading baggage and doing the other duties required. She hadn't worked there long when her work ethic and sense of responsibility was recognized, and she was made the lead person on her crew. After volunteering at MAPS and working at the airport, Nai made the decision to make aviation her career.

Today Nai is a student at the Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics, at the Youngstown campus, learning to become an aviation mechanic. Upon graduation in December, she will be a certified A and P mechanic with a bright future ahead of her. Nai is an old soul that fits in well and has become an integral part of MAPS.

Last but not least is **Lydia Ure**. Lydia is the youngest and most recent young woman to join the MAPS restoration team. She and her dad came to MAPS on a Saturday last fall to check out the operation and she hasn't looked back. Lydia teamed up with Dan Williman (affectionately known as Grumpy #1) and they seemed to hit it off well. Dan and Lydia have worked on several projects together.

Lydia is 16 years old and is graduating from Jackson High School this Spring and will be moving on to college to study aeronautical engineering, with a goal of someday working on a Formula 1 race team. Although Lydia's time at MAPS has been somewhat limited of late due to her dad's job transfer, she still makes it in to help when in the area.

Article continued in next column

Although each of these young women are at different stages in their lives and have chosen different career paths in the aviation industry, my hope is that each has gleaned some knowledge and experience from their time at MAPS. All the Grandpa's and Uncle's at MAPS wish each of them the very best in their career choices and their lives.

The "Old Guys" of MAPS restoration are richer from their experience working with these **"Young Women of MAPS Restoration"**

Clearview Developmental Services Partners with MAPS

By Dave Conner, Operations Director

Clearview Developmental Services, whose mission is to provide service and support to individuals with developmental/intellectual disabilities so they can attain self-direction, inclusion, and productivity in many areas of life, have begun to provide MAPS with volunteer work crews to assist the operations staff in a variety of roles.

Beginning in March, Clearview crews, consisting of three to four clients and their supervisor, have been coming every week to help with tasks such as grounds cleaning, hangar and banquet hall cleaning, event set up, cleaning the inside of the C130 cargo bay, and helping with repositioning some of the more permanent hangar aircraft, such as the Goodyear Drake, when needed. Recently, the crew vacuumed and dusted the entire library.

Most of the clients are very excited to come to MAPS because of the unique working environment of the museum that is unlike many of their other work places. One young lady thanked us, while having a big smile on her face, for letting her come to MAPS to help. Other clients, that have now become regulars, routinely give high fives when told they did a good job.

If you are a volunteer or frequent visitor of MAPS, you may see these Clearview crews helping in and around the hangar or tarmac. Do not be afraid to say "Hi" and thank them for their assistance.



Visit their website at :
clearviewdsi.com to learn
more about this wonderful
organization.

Celebrating MAPS WWII Veteran

At the April Membership Meeting, **M.L. Weaver's** 100th birthday was celebrated with a cake and many good wishes! M.L. may be a centenarian but he is definitely young at heart. He has a mischievous twinkle in his eyes, drives a big red pickup truck and the week before the meeting he was out mowing his lawn!



In addition to the cake, a poster was created by **John Harris** that included a short bio of M.L.'s military career as well as pictures of each of the planes he flew and the number of hours he flew each of them.

M.L. has been a MAPS member since 2011 when he started working to restore

the PT-19. His interest in this plane came from his service as an Army Air Corps pilot from 1943 to 1947. He was stationed in Houston, TX at Ellington Field where he flew training missions in the PT-19 as well as the BT-13.

He also flew the (brand new at the time) C-47. They were delivered in a matter of hours from the production factory directly to Houston. Navigators were being flown from the warfront back to Houston for advanced training and M.L. was flying the C-47 so they could get that training.

In 2012, MAPS acquired a BT-13 Valiant and began restoration. The plane was completed in 2020 and was dedicated to M.L. Weaver who flew 105.14

hours in a B-13. Normally, training aircraft did not have nose art, but to honor M.L., we decided to put nose art on the airplane. M.L. had said the Canton School buses flew better than the BT-13 - thus the name—M.L.'s Schoolbus!



THANK YOU



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As MAPS received the B-13 Valiant in 2012



Above and below: after restoration in 2020





Restoration Magic!



By Marylou Thompson, Briefing Editor

I'm sure you've all been amazed at the incredible transformation on some of the planes MAPS has acquired. There is no doubt that the restoration crew performs magic - but did you know they also perform miracles?

On a recent sunny day in April, just such a miracle occurred!



Back in September 2024, the F-104D Starfighter was featured in Restoration Magic. If you recall, MAPS was able to acquire the plane after it was severely damaged by a tornado that ripped through Dayton, OH where

the plane was housed outside the restoration hangar of the National Museum of the USAF.

Since the plane arrived at MAPS, the restoration crew has been working tirelessly to bring her back to her former beauty. Since the weather has been less than ideal for working on a plane outside, the F-104D has been housed in the hangar.

With the beginning of "event season" at MAPS and hangar space at a premium, it was decided to relocate the plane to the restoration building. Any easy decision - not such an easy task! The challenge was to see if it would fit through the restoration door!

The Starfighter is 54' 9" long and 13' 6" high at the tail.



No way it's going to fit!!

Here's where the miracle comes in! The only way to get the tail in was to lift the nose. Plywood ramps were created and the plane was slowly backed in, ramp by ramp, inch by inch.



The next challenge was to clear the over head pipes, avoid the support beams and maneuver her around the corner!



Watch the overhead pipes!

Careful of the support beam!



That's a tight corner Dave!

Continued on next page.

Restoration Magic *continued...*



Two pics by
Ken Ramsay

A miracle indeed! She now sits snugly in her temporary quarters.

They say it takes a village, and moving the Starfighter proves that to be true!

The restoration crew that performed a miracle that sunny day in April:

- ★ Bruce Beatty
- ★ Dave Conner (tug operator extraordinaire)
- ★ John Gilbert
- ★ Mark Hanna
- ★ Jim Jackson
- ★ Rick Sarno
- ★ Bob Stoller – Crew Chief

Become a MAPS Member!

By Debbie Bussinger, Museum Director

Membership dues and contributions support the work of the MAPS Air Museum Mission to educate the community about history, primarily aviation and its impact on man.

With your help over the years, MAPS has grown to include all aspects of military history. This is accomplished by obtaining and restoring aircraft, accepting donations of military artifacts and books from individuals and their families, conducting oral history interviews related to military history, and helping individuals research the military history of family members.

We also support organizations such as Scout Troop 330/350; Troop 7335; Crew 1944 Reenactors; Civil Air Patrol's Akron-Canton Cadet Squadron and Division Six, Eastern Great Lakes, District 9ER Coast Guard Auxiliary by bringing them into the MAPS Family.

Although we have updated our admission fee over the past 10 or more years, we have not made any changes to MAPS Membership dues since I became a member in 2012. As of July 1, we will be increasing prices on all our memberships and adding a new type of membership.

Currently our Lifetime Membership covers individuals and families with dependent children under 18 years of age. The change to lifetime membership will differentiate between Individual and Family Membership.

If you have thought about getting a Lifetime Membership the time to do it is now. As of July 1, 2025, the following pricing will be in effect for all membership dues:

- ◆ Student \$25
- ◆ Individual \$50
- ◆ Family \$60 - includes children under 18
- ◆ Senior Individual \$40
- ◆ Senior Family \$50 – includes grandkids under 18
- ◆ Lifetime:
 - ◆ Lifetime Individual \$500
 - ◆ Lifetime Family \$600

Please see MAPS website under the Join or Give Tab to see all the benefits associated with each type of membership.

Your contributions as members and volunteers are a large part of our success and we thank you!



Exciting News!

Kent State University Classes to Begin at MAPS this Fall

By Jerry Patton, Education Director

One of the primary organizational goals of MAPS is to educate the youth as to the importance of history. Along those same lines, it's also important to provide any education pertaining to aviation to the public. Current and future projections continue to show aviation as one of the fastest growing career opportunities. With the aging workforce and mandatory retirements, the airlines, the military, and the FAA, are looking at critical shortages in all of the above mentioned career fields.

Kent State has long been a leading university in various Aeronautical majors. However, there are some problems for students from our local area. They have never had the opportunity to take the freshman level Aeronautical classes away from KSU's main campus. Even Kent's regional campuses like Stark, have never offered those freshman level Aeronautical classes. This often led to students who are ready for junior level coursework, having to take the freshman level Aeronautics classes once they get there. This then left those students behind their counterparts that started at the main campus. At Kent State's airport, flight time is at a premium for all aviation students, so in many cases it becomes a bottleneck. This is critical because regional campus students who should be doing their flight training in years three and four, often find themselves trying to fit the freshman Aeronautics courses into their schedules. These freshman level courses are the prerequisites for flight training. Not only does this delay when a regional campus student can start flight training, but it can in many cases also delay their ability to graduate on time.

I contacted KSU to see if there was a way to begin offering college classes for high school students here at MAPS. Kent State agreed that this would be an opportunity. Begin offering freshman level courses in aviation on a local level, and give high school students a chance to earn college credit while channeling those prospective aviation students to Kent State.

The College Credit Plus or CCP program for high school students has been around for a while and it's fairly simple. It allows qualified students the opportunity to enroll in college courses while still attending high school. The best part of the deal is that the students incur no cost to take the classes, and in some cases they can earn up to 30 semester hours for free while still in high school. Most

area high schools have students taking advantage of this program and earning credits that can be used at the college, Kent State in this instance, or transferred to other institutions after graduating from high school. The students take freshman level courses in Math, Science,, English or other subjects, leading to different career paths.

A specific course list for the career path of Aeronautical Studies has never been developed. So last September, several MAPS personnel, Kent State, and guidance and administrators from Green and Jackson High Schools met to begin talks as to how this will all come together. Kent State and the high schools looked at courses that are already available and the new Aeronautics freshman level courses that could be taught here at MAPS. A career path for Aeronautics was developed and submitted to both Green and Jackson for board approval; by January, they were introduced at both high schools during CCP sign ups for next year. Students must meet their home school's requirements, GPA e.g., to participate as well as be accepted for enrollment at KSU. Kent State has also invited other surrounding district, North Canton being one of them.

Prerequisite college courses (College Algebra for Calculus, Trigonometry, Research Writing and English) will be taught either at Kent Stark, the home school, or online, with the list of Aeronautics classes taught by Kent State teachers, here at MAPS. These courses include, Introduction to Aeronautics, Introduction to Aviation Management, Aviation Weather, and Elements of Flight Theory I and II. Flight Theory is the requirement for passing the FAA Private Pilot written exam and is the prerequisite for Private Pilot Flight. All of these Aeronautics classes are key for a student to arrive on Kent's Main campus ready for their next stage, which is the actual flight training.

The final go ahead for the classes has been given, as students are signing up for AERN 15000, Introduction to Aeronautics. This first class will start the week of August 18th and run until December 8th. The class will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 PM to 2:15 PM in the Mohawk classroom. Currently there are 9 students from Jackson, 3 from North Canton, and 1 from Tusky Valley signed up to attend. More are expected to be added from Green.

Article continued on the next page

KSU *continued...*

There is still a lot of work to be done. Along with a user agreement between MAPS and KSU, an infrastructure improvement project for MAPS' technology is also currently in progress. It will improve internet connectivity and the overall technology in both the Mohawk and Prowler classrooms. Other details to be finalized are: KSU's faculty access, high school student access and technology usage, parking, security and the overall student policy itself.

The class in the fall is a humble beginning, but a step in the right direction. Once the word gets around, I believe there will be a need to add more classes and/or sections of these classes. As of now, we have the ability to increase attendance if necessary.

In regards to these classes, there are two sayings that come to mind. As cliché as they sound, "The Sky's the Limit" and "If you build it, they will come" seem appropriate.



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 regular admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families (up to 5 members), including National Guard and Reserve.

More than 2,000 museums and other cultural institutions across the United States participate in the program.

The 2025 Blue Star Museums program begins on Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 17, 2025 and ends on Labor Day, Monday, September 1, 2025. Please note that this does not apply to special events held at the MAPS Air Museum.

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

Upcoming Events

JUNE

WED, JUN 11	DIRECTOR MEETING	1 PM
SAT, JUN 7	ANNUAL CAR SHOW	9 AM - 2 PM
SAT, JUN 21	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM
	ANNUAL MEETING/ELECTIONS	
SAT, JUN 28	FORD TRI-MOTOR VISIT	9 AM - 5 PM

JULY

WED, JUL 9	DIRECTOR MEETING	1 PM
SAT, JUL 12 & SUN, JUL 13	WWII WEEKEND (SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE INFO)	
SUN, JUL 13	PANCAKE BREAKFAST	8 AM - 1 PM
FRI, JUL 19 & SAT, JUL 20	ASMIC MILITARY INSIGNIA SHOW	FRI 12 PM - 5 PM / SAT 8:30 AM - 3 PM

AUGUST

WED, AUG 6	DIRECTOR MEETING	1 PM
SAT, AUG 9	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM

SEPTEMBER

WED, SEP 10	DIRECTOR MEETING	1 PM
SAT, SEP 13	MEMBERSHIP MEETING	11 AM
SUN, SEP 14	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. Occasionally dates change due to scheduling conflicts - other websites 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!

What Is AMERICA 250 and How Does It Involve MAPS?

By Doug Perry, MAPS Marketing Manager

The U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission was created by Congress in 2016 to plan and facilitate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The mission is to inspire Americans to reflect on our past, strengthen our love of country, and renew our commitment to the ideals of democracy with programs that educate, engage, and unify us as a nation. This is a multi-year project and is an opportunity to reflect on our past and honor the contributions of all Americans from our beginning to the present time. And, to consider the future for the generations to come.

The State of Ohio got onboard in March of 2022 with the creation of America 250 - Ohio Commission. This commission was created to “honor, recognize, celebrate, and highlight” Ohioans’ stories from all 88 counties - from the many Native American tribes who called Ohio home to the present day - and highlight the many significant contributions Ohioans have made to our Nation’s history.



So how does this effort involve MAPS? Well, just take a look again at our Mission Statement: We are “dedicated to educating the public about history, particularly aviation history, and its impact of society”. Toward that end we have become involved by being on the America 250 - Ohio’s Air and Space Trail along with more than 30 other organizations like the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, International Women’s Air & Space Museum, the Armstrong Air & Space Museum, the Great Lakes Science Center/NASA Glenn Visitor Center, the WACO Air Museum, and many more.

Although our displays and aircraft tell many stories of Ohioans, a true treasure is the original 1909 William Martin Glider on display. William, a local farmer from Canton, was a self-taught aeronautical engineer and built the first mono-winged aircraft that could fly. William holds two important U.S. patents involving both aircraft and engine design.

Also featured in the exhibit is a door from the barn in which Martin built his aircraft. Having experimented with aeronautics since 1887, he applied for a U.S. patent on January 3, 1908, and made his first flight in the glider, powered by the family plow horse (a first) a year later, at an altitude of about 20 feet for a distance of approximately 200 feet. Another important first was Martin’s wife, Almina, because she weighted less than William, making the first of many flights in April of 1909, becoming the first woman to fly a heavier-than-air craft. This same glider was displayed next to the Spirit of St. Louis at the Smithsonian Institute for nearly 30 years before arriving back in Stark County at the McKinley Presidential Library and Museum. It was subsequently loaned to MAPS for restoration and eventual display in 2002.

This is just one of many amazing and inspiring stories of Ohioan’s you’ll experience at MAPS.



MAPS is also involved with the Celebrate 250/Stark County Project through participation in the Stark County Historical Group, comprised of representatives of museums, libraries, Stark Parks, Visit Canton and other agencies, that support telling Stark County’s history. Beginning in Fall 2025 and proceeding through 2026, the United States’ 250th Anniversary, this group will be celebrating the historical significance of the last 250 years in Stark County in various ways: short clip documentaries produced by Red Point Productions that will highlight significant artifacts, sites and stories; debuts of a sampling of these short clips, including MAPS highlights such as the Martin Glider, in late 2025 at the historic Palace, Lions and Lincoln Theaters;

monthly 250 features at museums, libraries, etc.; and multiple showings of the various short clips throughout the county and year. More information will be provided as details of Celebrate 250/Stark County are developed.

As we approach 2026, and July 4, 2026 specifically, it will be an exciting time and a great opportunity for us to renew our dedication to the MAPS mission.

MAPS Anniversaries

February 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025

*** designates Family Membership*

30 YEARS

Haught, Gary**

25 YEARS

Kohan, James

Wrenick, Frank

20 YEARS

Horvath, John

Kraig, Paul

Pete Jr., Lewis

15 YEARS

Hackbarth, Todd

Martin, Leonard**

Novak, Ted

Rawson, Blake**

10 YEARS

Austin, Robert**

Bluhm, Neal

Hollis, Jeremy**

Kutinsky, George**

Lee, Terry **

Marshall, Chad**

Mitchell, James**

Nervo, Pete**

Norris, Charles**

Skinner, Margaret**

5 YEARS

Long, Brandon

Nichols, Sandy*

Schoeppner, Richard

CONGRATULATIONS

Thank You For Your Continued Support!

5-Year Members Missing

In the September to November 2024 issue of the Briefing, the whole list of 5-year anniversaries was inadvertently omitted.

Many thanks to Mary Setny, a 5-year member, for bringing this to our attention. MAPS values our membership and we feel badly for this error and apologize to the nine members listed below.

Thomas Bradley

Jodie Davis

Larry Hummel

Michael Keenan

David Kmetko

Gary LaGuardia

John McCammon

Mary Setny

Scott Thompson

We sincerely appreciate all of our members and the continued support they provide to MAPS.

New Members

February 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025

*** designates Family Membership*

Amato, Adam**

Begue, David**

Brinkerhoff, William

Cipriano, Belinda**

Collier, Shelly**

Ferry, William

Fisk, Shawn

Forrer, Rebecca**

Fox, Craig

Heffebower, Joseph**

Hill, Jacob

Himes, Michael**

Koziol, Daniel**

Ma, Stan

McBride, Amanda**

McEndree, Dennis**

Roarty, Conner

Roskos, Wayne**

Stanbro, Donald**

Swegheimer, Charlotte

Swihart, Tomothy**

Taylor, Steven**

Thatcher, Isaac**

Winter, Zachary**



A Warm MAPS Welcome!



Current Volunteer Needs

MAPS is currently looking for volunteers in the following areas:

- ◆ Archival Database Entry, Scanning, etc.
- ◆ Event Monitoring (includes evenings and week-ends)
- ◆ Exhibit Case Assembly
- ◆ Gift Shop
- ◆ Tour Guide

If you have the time, talent, want to learn something new or just want to be around the awesome people who volunteer at MAPS, please email or call:

volunteer@mapsarimuseum.org
330-896-6332

Volunteers are key to our success!



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Mark Your CALENDAR



14th Annual Don Sitts/MAPS Air Museum Car Show

Saturday, June 7th

Car Registration 8 AM Show 9:00 AM - 2 PM

No pre-registration. All makes, models and years welcome! Come and show off your car! The first 300 through the gate receive dash plaques.

Come early to see all the cars! Last year we had over 500 cars on display! There will be food available, served by Scout Troops 330/335 and 7335, an ice cream truck and a 50/50 raffle.

Ford Tri-Motor Visits MAPS

Saturday, June 28th

9:00 AM - 5 PM

Come see or ride in a 1928 Ford Tri-Motor airplane! One of only 199 built and 8 that are still flying. Normal Admission prices into the Museum apply. However, if a ride is purchased on the Tri-Motor, then the rider plus ONE guest has FREE admission into MAPS Air Museum too! See MAPS website for more info.

WWII Weekend Plus Summer Pancake Breakfast

Saturday and Sunday, July 12th & 13th

See Page 3 and MAPS website for detailed information on this exciting weekend, filled with events you won't want to miss, plus a Hangar Dance!

American Society of Military Insignia (ASMIC) Show

Friday, July 18th 12 - 5 PM and

Saturday, July 19th 8:30 AM - 3 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.

As with all our special events, not only do you get to enjoy the event, but you also have full access to the museum - over 60 aircraft, the Gallery of Heroes, the Ohio Military Museum, MAPS Art Gallery and The Super Sabre Gallery.