DAKOTA TERRITORY AIR MUSEUM

Summer 2019 Volume 33



D-DAY PLUS 75

For upwards of a thousand attending, June 6th was a



tribute to honor those from D-Day seventy-five years ago. The Warbird Hangar was full. The ramp was crowded. The weather could not have been better. Canadians and Americans joined forces as they did long ago.

The National Anthems, speeches, stories told, and in the backdrop outside through the open hangar doors



behind the stage, airmen in fatigues from Minot Air Force Base volunteered to be a part of painting the

black and white stripes on the Sky Trooper. It was going on 1830 - 1845 hrs, and the stripes were being finished. Heard from one of the airmen, "Put your airbrakes on;

they aren't quite done in there yet...."

Then, as the last words of the program were spoken and important recognitions were made, the Sky Trooper C47 was slowly towed toward the staging area outside the fence. The P51 and the Spitfire followed.



Clint Romesha, MOH recipient, and John Sinn, riding to the flight line with Dennis Sundby

The North Dakota

Military Vehicle Collector Association brought a large display and put some to use transporting special guests out to the flight line. Dennis Sundby, Ken Yully, and Rory Grenier in particular provided the period correct mode of movement as well as Lyle Torno.



Lynn Aas riding with Rory Grenier



A1942 Ford GTB Bomb Service truck brought by Lyle Torno Ken Yuly photo



An M2 Clerack, part of the Johnny Benter military vehicle collection from Crosby. An honored guest and WW II Veteran, John at 94 is still very active. In 1992, he led the caravan up the AlCan Highway in his Studebaker Deuce-and-a half, the 50th anniversary of the highway critical to winning the War. Photo courtesy of Ken Yuly

More photos from June 6th on pages 4, 5, and 9



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> D.T.A.M. PO Box 195 100 34th Ave. NE Minot, North Dakota, 58702 701-852-8500

Tours anytime with prior Arrangements

Open April - October M T W Th F S 10-5 Sunday 1-5

Admission \$10.00 Family \$20 Active military half price

AROUND THE MUSEUM

For those who attended the D-Day event at the Air Museum, there was an enclosure for a drone flying

demonstration. This was taking place inside the Warbirds hangar. With funding through airplane sales taxes and an aviation fuel tax, the Air Museum has received \$7,930 for equipment relating to unmanned aerial system technology programming for students. This comes through the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission in Bismarck. Students K-12 will have benefit of this opportunity.

Along with that, the Aviation Technology Advisory Committee met May 7th, at the Magic City Campus classroom where Meric Murphy instructs. This advisory committee meets twice a year and listens to what has been done and what is being planned.

This year's priorities were community relations and resources that involved the Minot control tower and the Minot Aero Center. The state curriculum was reviewed and updated as needed. Past accomplishments were noted such as those students who were gaining ratings and passing exams.

The group was informed of students who have been employed at the airport and also of what future needs will be for the program. Staff development and any recommendations were covered.

Their next meeting will be this fall. Committee members are Warren Pietsch, Michelle Saari, Mike Hauf, Jan Hartle, Deanna Stoddard, Bill Kay, Jerald Burtman, Nick Burkart, Austin Greenheck, Matt Dunlevy, Pam Stroklund, and Meric Murphy.

New to the Air Museum Board of Directors this spring are Larry Linrud and Johnathan Rued. They are replacing Leon Basler and Michelle Saari.

Darrell Kerzmann and a list of volunteers have all but completed the refinements to the C47 outdoor static display. Control surfaces that were originally fabric are now metal covered, much to the need for weather protection. Arv and Dave have been doing much of the interior fabrication making it available for visitors to climb inside.

The Education Committee took ACE & PACE to Rugby again.





Passport Aviation Camp Experience is for 5th and 6th grade students; Aviation Camp Experience program is for 3rd and 4th graders. These are national programs but directed at state levels. Our North Dakota Aeronautics Commission is a major sponsor as is the Farstad Foundation.

Director Glenn Blackaby reports that school tour field trips have outnumbered any of the previous years. For the count it appears 1,060 students toured the Air Museum so far this year. The number does not include the ACE and PACE camps which would add significantly.

Meet Brinlee Sisk. Brinlee joined the staff at the Air Museum this spring. She is a Minot native,

a graduate of Minot High in May of 2019, and this fall will be attending Minot State University to begin



studies in radiology.

A beautiful young lady full of enthusiasm and energy, we are happy to have her with us.



1962 M151 owned by Ken Yuly



1943 Weasel used to carry wounded. Owned by Rory Grenier, Grand Forks.



Jake Grenier, 11, came from Grand Forks with his Dad. Maybe a 101st paratrooper; maybe part of the infantry on the beach, he carried his role well standing with his 1944 MB.



A 1944 MB with its .50 caliber owned by Dennis Sundby getting significant attention



An assortment of military trailers as were used to haul supplies on D-Day. Part of the ND Military Vehicle Collector Association display.



Photos this page courtesy of Ken Yuly

would wash off easily.



Bernie Vasquez with Clint Romesha in back, taxis in from the D-Day formation. Note the two kegs.



"Little Horse" P51D; Doouglas C47 Sky Trooper in background. Note: kegs not yet installed.



Johnny Benter was given the honor of tugging the C47 back to the hangar following his ride. His M2 Clerack is a fully tracked vehicle designed to tow aircraft on primitive airfields. It was equipped with a 10,000 lb winch with 300 ft cable, an auxiliary generator (3KW, 110 Volts, DC), and an air compressor (3 stage, 16.7 CFPM, 2.000 PSI.) This example was restorerd to perfection at his shop in Crosby. Ken Yuly photo



Just some important people standing around, visiting.



There's an interesting history to "KILROY Was Here." One of the stripers thought it fitting to show up Thursday. It was.



For a modest amount you would get a t-shirt, and a stainless embossed mug full of brew from either of these kegs. Check the shadow. He must have thought it would be good, too.







Volunteers and guests June 6, 2019

5th Maintenance Squadron

SrA James Kaznowski A1C William Kellum A1C Bryce Borgelt A1C Sande Ofseur

A1C David Adams

A1C Dejuan Jones

SrA Abraham Carrillo

Amn Melissa Meade

A1C Katelynn Miller

SSgt Meghan Mitchell

705th Munitions Squadron

SrA Nathaniel Miller SrA Steven Baily SrA Samuel Reynolds A1C Gabe Maynard

Speakers

Dan Haff, emcee Col Brad Cockrane, Wing Cmndr Lt Col Jose Casteneda Consul Pengelly, Canada John Benter, WWII Veteran

Honored Guests

Lynn Aas John Sinn Ed Zilli John Benter

Special Guest

Clint Romesha

Soloists National Anthems

Melissa Salchen, Canada Richard Reuer, US

Honor Guard

American Legion Post 26

Invasion Stripes

Zack Hazuka

Military Vehicles

Lyle Torno Dennis Sundby Ken Yuly **Rory Gremier** Jake Grenier John Benter

2019 Community Events

Each of the following events will be promoted through radio, television, print, and social media outlets that will include direct recognition for our sponsors. Food and beverages will be served by the Little Chicago Pub District, and bi-plane rides will be available at all events.

July 4 – Yogi Day Spirit of the Plains

Sponsorship Needs - \$75,000

During this Independence Day celebration, the skies over the Minot International Airport will be honored with a demonstration from the Canadian Forces Snowbirds and other Airshow acts to celebrate the Spirit of the Plains and our country's independence.

July 17 - Wings & Wheels

Sponsorship Needs - \$2,500

The Dakota Cruisers Car Club will join the museum's Wings & Wheels event with a display of approximately 100 antique and hotrod vehicles. The Dakota Territory Air Museum will fly an aircraft from its collection during the event.

August 17 – DTAM's 23rd Annual Sweepstakes Drawing

The museum will celebrate its 23rd Annual Sweepstakes with a barbeque and drawing for its 23rd annual grand prize - a 1947 Aeronca Champ!

September 19 -Women, Wine & Wings

Sponsorship Needs - \$2,500

The museum event celebrates the contributions of women in aviation past and present! Food and drinks are a part of a presentation that features women who have made an impact in the aviation industry.

October 19 - Night at the Museum Hangar Dance

Sponsorship Needs - \$5,000 + Silent Auction Items

The Night at the Museum Hangar Dance will be the museum's final event for the season with food, music, silent auction, dancing, and re-enactments of famous aviators of the past.

Preserving the past to educate and inspire today!

Contact Robin Brekhus 520-234-3901



We'll leave this one full sized to salute Lynn Aas, 98; John Sinn, 98; John Benter, 94; and Ed Zilli, 96. Pilot for the flight was Casey Odegard. Photo courtesy of Eloise Ogden and the Minot Daily News



The Warbird Hangar was full with many standing. In the background is Lope's Hope II, a P51B.



Many took the opportunity to meet and visit with Clint Romesha, MOH.



We got lucky! We found this really nice airplane for DAKOTA TERRITORY AIR MUSEUM'S 23RD ANNUAL SWEESTAKES – GRAND PRIZE!

...and, it's a beauty!

You could be lucky too!



as of:

5/17 - Alec Toy - Livermore, CA 5/24 - Eugene Connor - Greenwood, DE

5/30 – Edward Chromczak – Beacon Falls, CT 6/7 – Jody Morgan – Lakeside, CA 6/14 – John Rosenfeld – Anchorage, AK



Remember when these two airlines served Minot?
Frontier came and went; North Central is not the flying goose anymore but was absorbed into so many it finally serves as a history for Delta.



The Snowbirds, Thunderbirds, Blue Angels; the Snowbirds will be performing in the July 4th Airshow.





Models on display depicting Frontier and North Central Airlines



Coming soon will be two significant displays that Glenn has been working on the past many months. To honor all the women who worked to help win the War will be a "Rosie the Riveter" panel with stories and signatures from many who participated. Please call the Air Museum, 701-852-8500, if you can in any way help keep this part of history alive.

The second display in the works is that of the late Joe Foss. The two Grumman Wildcats on display for the season are like that which he flew. An American hero from South Dakota often visited North Dakota on hunting trips as well as for business.



These graphics and other souvenirs are available in the Air Museum gift shop.

