



DAKOTA TERRITORY
FAIR MUSEUM



Summer

2026

Volume 54



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About the Museum

When it was founded in 1986, the museum became a place of honoring our past heroes. The men, women and machines that shaped history are all exhibited here. The founders of the air museum wanted it to be a place where one could appreciate the blood, sweat and tears put forth in the past. Not only that, but to see how rich with aviation North Dakota truly is.

Displaying vintage aircraft, war memorabilia, dedications to fallen soldiers, or even restoration projects, the Dakota Territory Air Museum has something to please all. Not only that, but the air museum has hosted many local school tours. In recent years, with generous contributions from Jeff Farstad, Brian Sturm, the Flickinger-Gokey Foundation, and the Trevor Flint Memorial Scholarship, the museum has been able to present scholarships to help those interested in aviation expand their horizon. To figure out how YOU can help the Dakota Territory Air Museum continue to expand, either stop in or visit our website:

www.dakotaterritoryairmuseum.com

Dakota Territory Air Museum, P.O. Box 195,
100 34th Ave. NE, Minot, ND 58702 701-
852-8500

**Cover Photo Courtesy of Moose
Peterson.**

PACE 2026

June 15-19, 2026



This year, we welcomed about 20 kids through our PACE Aviation Camp! This week-long camp features a different theme every day and culminates in a discovery flight at the end of the week courtesy of the Minot Aero Center!

DTAM Welcomes Members of 5th FIS

On June 12, the DTAM welcomed retired members of the 5th FIS and their spouses for a private tour through the museum. This group consisted mostly of retired F-15 pilots who were stationed here in the late 1980s around the time the squadron was deactivated.

Among the group was a retired T-33 pilot and a retired KC-135 pilot! We really enjoyed our time with these wonderful people and thank them for touring the museum!

Photos Courtesy of Stan
"Sundance" Kasprzyk



Volunteer Project:

F-15 Eagle

The static display F-15 Eagle in our air park got a much needed new coat of “air superiority gray” paint! Thanks to a handful of volunteers from the Civil Air Patrol and Minot AFB, led by Darrel Kerzmann, we were able to complete most of the aircraft in one day! All that’s left is applying new decals and repainting some of the details like the tail flashes. The F-15 is just the first of the outdoor aircraft to be repainted. Over the next several years, we are planning on repainting all of the static aircraft in the air park. Interested in volunteering? Send us an email at airmuseum@minot.com and let us know!



P-51B SHILLELAUGH



Shillelaugh is P-51B-10-NA, serial number 42-106602 built in Inglewood, California. This aircraft flew a total of 95 combat missions with the 353rd Fighter Squadron, 354th Fighter Group, 9th Air Force in the European Theater of Operations (ETO) during World War II.

The aircraft was named by Lt. Col. David O'Hara and flown by 19 pilots of the 354th Fighter Group during its 95 combat missions.

On August 16, 1944, Shillelaugh was piloted by triple ace Major Ken Dahlberg who was scrambled from American Landing Strip #31, 4 miles South of Gael, France. An epic aerial melee ensued above the Rambouillet Forest. 24 P-51s of the 354th took on 80 German aircraft. Dahlberg would shoot down three but he took a round in the oil system, safely bailing out in the clouds.

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Dahlberg was fortunate to land on the property of Baron Denis Baudoin. Denis and Madeleine Baudoin happened to be members of the French Resistance and were instrumental in helping Dahlberg evade the German Army and safely return to his unit within 48 hours of bailing out. He was back flying combat missions by August 25, 1944.

The remains of the aircraft were recovered southwest of Paris, on the La Californie property, in 2020. The restoration of Shillelaugh is anticipated to be in time for EAA Airventure 2026.



The information and photos for this article are courtesy of Aircorps Aviation. Visit their website, <https://www.aircorpsaviation.com/project/p-51b-shillelaugh-project-updates/>, for more information!



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