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President's Report

Exciting things are happening at the QAM!

Only four weeks to go before the Air Show and our volunteers and Plane Captains are gearing up. They will continue to restore their aircraft, manufacturing and assembling parts, sanding, painting and applying the artwork all before they roll out on the ramp on May 17. The Air Guard has added several military planes for the show, including an F-15, F-16 and the F-22 Raptor. Plus, we'll have our 12 aircraft and the Navy Blue Angels. We'll have a great show and we get the Blue Angels again next year!

For any improvements in the quarterly *Scout*, QAM website, or fundraising, we can all thank Kris Gove, who is doing a great job in teaching us how to make money (by not spending any). Kris has also taken over the responsibility for writing the grants that hopefully will allow the QAM to improve the appearance and repairs to the building that are badly needed.

In the coming months several parties have been booked and a wedding in early September. We've also booked our largest event to date for QAM: The annual fundraising event for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ocean State. There will be 200 to 300 people, the top names in Rhode Island restaurants, a World War II-themed wine tasting event using our planes, and singing and dancing. This should be quite an event!

Also, if anyone remembers, last summer National Geographic did a photo/video shoot at the Museum using an "indestructible" chain, pulling both our F-14 Tomcat and the Abbot Tank. The new series *Showdown of the Unbeatables*, will be matching up the product shot at the QAM against "who knows what". The season started Friday, April 4, at 9 p.m. Keep checking the listings to see when the QAM is on TV.

See you at the Quonset Air Show, May 17 & 18!

Regards,

Dave Stecker

President
Quonset Air Museum

Quonset Air Museum

HOURS*

Summer (6/1 - 9/30)
Daily 10 am to 3 pm

Winter (10/1 - 5/30)
Saturday & Sunday Only
10 am to 3 pm

Closed: New Year's Day,
Easter, Thanksgiving Day
and Christmas Day

*Hours subject to change
without notice.

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THE QUONSET SCOUT

Editor

Kris Gove

RHODE ISLAND NATIONAL GUARD OPEN HOUSE

Air Show


Bouncing back after last year's absence, this year's Rhode Island National Guard Air Show and Open House is set to be as spectacular as ever – and the Quonset Air Museum will have prime visibility at the show.

While the Blue Angels, Sean Tucker and a P-51 fly overhead, QAM's fleet will be readily on display and the Plane Captains will all be available to answer questions from the spectators. Fans will also be able to look right inside the cockpits of the aircraft, and in the case of the Sea King, be able to take a full tour inside and out.

This year's show is earlier than usual and performers and fans will fly in on May 17 and 18 at the Quonset State Airport. On the days of the show, the gates open at 9 a.m. and the flying starts at 10 a.m. Also, throughout the weekend, the Gift Shop will be open for the spectators.

Call for Volunteers

The Quonset Air Museum is also in need of experienced volunteers for this year's show. For more information, please email the Museum at support@quonsetairmuseum.com.



The following aircraft will be on display during the show:

- F-4A Phantom
- F-14 Tomcat
- TBM Avenger
- A-4 Blue Angel
- MIG17
- C1A
- A-6 Intruder
- Sea King
- XF-15
- F-6 Hellcat (scale)
- A-4M Skyhawk
- A-7 Corsair

Brick Walk Profile – MAJOR ALBERT T. HOXIE

After reviewing our records of members and Brick Walk donors, I came across the following information: This donor's name is Major Albert T. Hoxie, Retired.

Maj. Hoxie was born in North Kingstown, RI, March 25, 1925. He enlisted in the US Army in 1943 and entered immediately after graduating from North Kingstown High School.

Maj. Hoxie underwent initial basic training at Camp Croft, SC and was assigned to the 97th Infantry Division, where he served as an intelligence specialist in the central European theater of operations, participating in the European and Ruhr campaigns.

Maj. Hoxie was awarded the Silver Star for Gallantry in Action near Cheb, Czechoslovakia on April 25, 1945.

Maj. Hoxie was rotated to the Pacific theater of operations in August of 1945. In April of 1946, he was assigned to the 11th Airborne Division in the Pacific theater where he completed paratrooper and glider training and served as Sergeant

Major of the 11th Airborne Division, Intelligence section.

As a result of his superior work, in 1947 he received a direct appointment as Second Lieutenant from General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander Allied Forces, Pacific. Maj. Hoxie was then assigned to be operations officer of the 11th Airborne Div. intelligence section.

Following his return to the U.S. in 1947 Maj. Hoxie was assigned to the 82d Airborne Div. at Fort Bragg, NC. In 1953, he was assigned to the Army arctic indoctrination school at Big Delta, AK as an instructor and assistant commandant. He served with this unit until 1955. He then was assigned as an advisor to the Minnesota National Guard. In 1957, he was ordered to Korea as a member of the 1st Cavalry Division as an assistant division intelligence officer. Upon his return to the U.S. in 1959, he was assigned as commander and senior unit adviser at the Lenkalis reserve center in West Hazelton, PA.

After 20 years of service to his

country, Maj. Hoxie's awards and decorations include the following: The Silver Star, Bronze Star, Dept. of the Army Commendation Ribbon (with medal pendant), Army Commendation Medal, with First Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat Infantry badge, Meritorious Unit Citation, French Forreguerre, Senior Parachute Badge, Gliderist Badge, Good Conduct Medal, European-Middle Eastern Theater Medal with two campaign stars, Asiatic-Pacific Medal, WWII Victory Medal, WWII Occupation Medal (Germany and Japan), National Defense Service Medal and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

Any member who wishes to pass along any achievements of a family member to QAM, please pass along to the writer. Remember you too can contribute to the Commemorative Brick Walk section. The cost of each brick is \$100 and is fully tax deductible. Again, contact the writer for more information.

– D.H. Payne



Become a part of Quonset history...

Quonset Air Museum Commemorative Walk

Get your brick today!

The Quonset Air Museum invites you to become a permanent part of the new "Quonset Air Museum Commemorative Walk". You can purchase a memorial brick that will be placed in our newly designated display.

Purchasing a brick is an easy way to remember a loved one, service member, Veteran, or aviation enthusiast that may have served at this historic

location. Please complete an order form, available at the museum, or on our website, and return it to the Museum. Each brick is \$100 and is fully tax deductible (Visa and MasterCard are welcome). If you have any questions, or need more information about this program, please contact Quonset Air Museum Executive Director Dave Payne at (401) 294-9540.

Happy Birthday!



Photos: Kris Gove



Jack Henry Cornell recently celebrated his Disney Planes®-themed Fourth Birthday at the Quonset Air Museum. Jack, Mom and Dad Cornell (Janet and Keith) and about 30 of his closest family and friends celebrated the day with cake, presents and a private tour of the Museum.

Got paint? Neither does the A-6



Here's how you can paint your place in history

Here's a unique way to contribute to the Quonset Air Museum and leave a lasting impression at the same time. QAM needs to raise about \$1,000 to cover the cost of painting the Grumman A-6 Intruder (Plane CPT: Rob Lindberg) on display. The hard restoration is finished, but it needs that final coat of paint to make it a mint-condition example of the work QAM's volunteers continue to do on a regular basis.

Here's where you come in: While the pilot and co-pilot's name will remain, QAM will add the name of the person to the aircraft who contributes the most financial support to the painting effort. You can contribute \$10 or all \$1,000, but whomever has the highest contribution will be highlighted on the A-6 permanently!

For more details, contact David Payne at (401) 294-9540, or visit our website at quonsetairmuseum.com.

Afterburners Arrive

The last known F-4 afterburners are now at QAM

Is a Rolls Royce without its 'Flying Lady' hood ornament really even a Rolls Royce? Does a Model T without its iconic grille deserve to be called a 'Tin Lizzie'? Is a Mopar without a Hemi even a car at all? Of course they are, technically, but there's just something missing,

General Electric to talk about how they might go about acquiring an afterburner assembly. After several dead leads, Stecker cold-called GE and was met with a sea of electronic voice messaging systems that didn't seem to really go anywhere. So, instead of 'pressing

7' for the fifth time, Stecker used the voice recognition software on their system and simply said his own name.

The system dropped him into the voicemail of a Dave Spencer, which sounded similar to his own name (at least the voicemail software thought so). So Stecker left a voicemail anyway and walked away,

called his father Les, now retired, and Les called Dave Stecker. After shooting the breeze for a time, Les gave Stecker a new name to chase down; Mike Solon, from GE.

After more breeze shooting, Solon told Stecker to give him some time to look in the warehouse, but don't hold out any hope. Stecker agreed. Several weeks went by and Stecker had all but given up when he got a call from Solon. Not only did they have one afterburner nozzle left, they actually had one afterburner assembly attached to that nozzle. Solon and GE then offered QAM the afterburner and nozzle to be considered as a 'permanent loan' to the Museum.

Solon told Stecker that this was an unlikely find, because GE literally has none left. QAM would receive the very last F-4 afterburner and nozzle in GE's warehouse. Solon found the assembly in a dusty crate in an underground tunnel warehouse in Ohio that used to be an engine-

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Photo: Kris Gove

Like Christmas in March, from left, John Boscardin, Al Guay and QAM President Dave Stecker crack open the crate from International Engine Parts that contains the second-to-last known J-79-8 afterburner nozzle.

right? Classic cars need all their parts to complete the package.

So do classic aircraft.

As work continued on the F4-A Phantom (Plane CPT: Jeff Smith / Al Guay), a big question hung in the hangar of just how the Quonset Air Museum (QAM) was going to go about wrangling a couple of rare, multi-thousand-dollar afterburner nozzles for an aircraft that was born more than half a century ago. You just don't see J-79-8s at yard sales anymore.

This is where serendipity and a small state with a big impact prevail. On a whim, QAM President Dave Stecker attempted several times to connect with someone at

not expecting anything from it.

But then he got a call.

Sure enough, Dave Spencer from GE was on the line. "I've got good news and bad news, but this is probably the best call you've made in your life," Spencer said. "The bad news is, I'm in the IT department and have nothing to do with manufacturing. The good news is, my father, Les Spencer, was the head design engineer for the J-79-8."

Over time, that engine has proven impossible to come by, since most were shredded or ground up to make new engines. But Dave Spencer



Photo: Kris Gove

The GE J-79-8 afterburner nozzle awaits installation after it arrived from southern California.

Bird's Eye View to raffle free Lighthouse Tour

For the sixth consecutive year, Jeff Codman, of Bird's Eye View Helicopters in Newport, RI, is helping the Quonset Air Museum raise money by raffling a free Lighthouse Tour at the 2014 Rhode Island Air National Guard Air Show.

For \$5, Air Show fans will have the opportunity to enter the raffle to win a full Lighthouse Tour for two, a package worth

\$290. The lucky winners will receive a 25-minute flight around southern Rhode Island, which covers 45 statute miles, including Beavertail Lighthouse, in Jamestown, the Coast Guard Lighthouse in Point Judith and other historical sites along Rhode Island's southern shore.

So take a chance to win "An experience to remember." Check them out at www.riaerial.com.



Afterburners Arrive

AFTERBURNERS, from Page 6



Photo: Kris Gove

The GE J-79-8 afterburner assembly, complete with nozzle, arrived in a crate from General Electric in March.

building facility during World War II.

If that weren't exciting enough, GE

officials also pointed to a company in southern California, International Engine Parts (IEP), that had another afterburner nozzle for sale. After speaking with the president of the company, Mr. Elmo Iadevaia Jr., it was soon learned that Iadevaia Jr.'s father, Elmo Iadevaia Sr., 85, had in fact served at Quonset Point during World War II.

"Mr. Iadevaia Sr. was an Aviation Mechanic who enlisted in the USMC and served during WWII," Stecker said. "After his tour of duty, he returned to QPNAS, was assigned to the Purchasing Department and spent the following 10 years gaining

experience on jet engines, including the J-57, J-79 and J-65." Iadevaia Sr. went on to establish IEP in California in 1957.

Stecker said that Elmo Iadevaia Jr., now CEO of IEP, graciously offered the J-79-8 afterburner nozzle to QAM as a tribute to his father and his service during and following World War II.

Both afterburner nozzles and the assembly have arrived safely from GE and IEP and are currently being worked on and will be assembled and attached to QAM's F-4A in the coming months.

— Kris Gove

Sponsor Spotlight



Check out QAM's book selections!

For your reading pleasure, we have the following books for sale at the museum store.

The Lucky Blue Angel, by Robert Flynn. – \$15

An excellent children's coloring book. Autographed by the author.

Secret and Dangerous: Raid of the Son Tav POW Camp, by William A Guenon Jr. – \$19

Autographed and written by the pilot from this raid. A great book from a real hero of the Vietnam War.

WOW; Anthology of the B-24's\8th Air Force, by Ralph Welsh. – \$18

Again we have the honor of having the privilege of having in our inventory, a coloring book authored by the son of a WWII hero, James Verinis Jr., Jim's dad, Capt. James Verinis Sr., was the co-pilot of the famous B-17, *Memphis Belle*. This coloring book is dedicated to the Captain's dog Stuka, his Scottish Terrier. This is a great book for children. – \$15



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