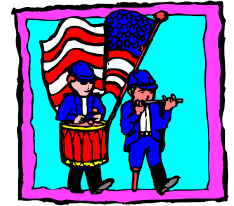




# UN-SCRAMBLE



## Official Bulletin of the Valiant Air Command May 2007

**VALIANT AIR COMMAND**  
Dedicated to restoring military aircraft  
A 501 c(3) Non-Profit Organization

6600 Tico Road  
Titusville, FL 32780-8009  
Phone: 321.268.1941  
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Email: [vacwarbirds@bellsouth.net](mailto:vacwarbirds@bellsouth.net)

### MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP

**Open 7 days a week 9AM – 5 PM**  
Except Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and  
New Year's Day

#### ADMISSION

Adults \$12.00 Seniors/Military \$10.00  
Children 5-12 Years \$5.00  
Special tour & Family Rates available

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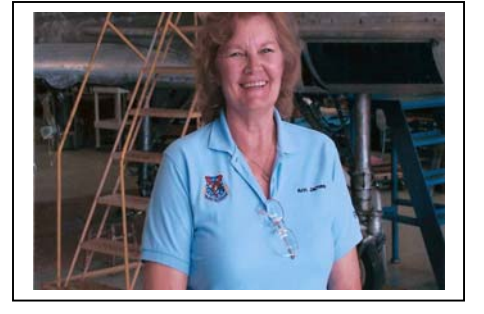
### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The **Valiant Air Command** was formed to perpetuate the history of aviation, to encourage gathering of men and women in camaraderie, research and Warbird restoration. To serve as an educational tool for young and old alike and to assure that the memory of those who gave their lives in service to their country shall not perish.

### ADDRESS CHANGES

**Please remember** to notify the office when you are going to be temporarily away, or if you move. Thank you!

501 © 3 Non Profit Organization  
Educational Museum recognized by  
the Internal Revenue Service.



**“TICO BELLE”  
FIRST WING RAISING  
CEREMONY  
24 APRIL 2007**



**COMMANDER**  
**LLOYD MORRIS**

Hi,

Summer is almost here, or IS here, whichever. Anyway, just a few words...

The Airshow did manage to make a little profit... Not much, but a little. The number of tourists coming into the Museum is still good. The normal trend is that it gets slower in the summer months and then picks up through fall, winter and spring. I would like to say that I am surprised at the number of people contributing funds for next year's Airshow. As you can see, their names are listed below:

The Valiant Air Command thanks the following for their support in contributing funds for the 2008 Airshow:

Mr. and Mrs. George Baker  
Mr. and Mrs. Herman Bayerdorffer  
Mr. Jeff Boyken  
Mr. "Cap" Capito  
Mr. Russell Chamberlain  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Davis  
Mr. Bill Dillard  
Mr. Serge English  
Mr. Don Hussey  
Mr. William F. Jackson  
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin T. Juhl  
Mrs. Ruth Larkin  
(In Memory of Hal Larkin)  
Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Lindsay  
Mr. Bill Lumley  
Mr. Harry McNamara  
Mr. And Mrs. James E. Mack  
Mr. Ron Madonia  
Mr. David Marco  
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Mr. Robert C. Tullius  
Mr. Rene G. VanDeVoorde  
Mr. Paul L. Woodard  
Mr. W. E. Yocum

We appreciate your patronage and helping us to continue the tradition of the VAC Airshow! Without your support, we would find it difficult to continue this worthwhile event. Thank you, once again. It is appreciated more than you know.

Is **YOUR** name on the list?

Lloyd Morris  
Commander

*DEAR JODYLYNN FROM THE  
COMMANDER,*

*MY SINCERE THANKS TO YOU FOR THE  
TERRIFIC JOB YOU DID WITH THE DRY  
GOOD VENDORS AND ESPECIALLY ALL  
THE MANY PREPARATIONS FOR THE  
AIRSHOW AND ALL YEAR!!! THANK YOU!  
THANK YOU! THANK YOU!*

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**BUD EVANS**

**AVIATING with EVANS**

**THE MEANING of QUIET**

There are many times when we seek some peace and quiet time away from the hustle and bustle of life. There was one instance in my life to which that philosophy didn't apply, and it was one of the many incidents that I always remembered as though it happened yesterday. I was flying with the Kentucky Air Guard in 1947. I had



completed my college and was waiting for a reporting date to go back to active duty with the United States Air Force. My new assignment was with the first USAF jet fighter group in California. The Kentucky Air Guard had just been formed and we were equipped with new P-51D's. The memory of WW-II was still fresh in most of the public's mind; and our combat veterans, who were commanding the Kentucky Fighter Group and my Squadron, were organized to maintain the same level of combat readiness. I was just biding my time with no other job other than flying the P-51. I was waiting for my reporting date, which had been delayed several times due to problems with the P-80 jets, which were being delivered to the 1<sup>st</sup> Fighter Group where I was to be assigned.



On all of my local flights I filed for low altitude navigation clearance, and all it meant was that I could legally buzz anywhere in the state I wanted as long as I remained clear of air fields and populated areas. On this particular flight, I had a "wild hair" and soon after take off I headed to the Kentucky River Valley about 70 miles southeast of Standiford Field in Louisville where we were based. It was a beautiful late August day but was very warm. I had often rolled the canopy open about 12 inches to allow some cooling in the cockpit but it also allowed me to hear that great sound of the powerful unique sounding Packard V-1650 P-51 engine.

My planning for the mission had been to fly down to the high hills of central Kentucky and drop into the river valley and fly low level to the North where the Kentucky River emptied into the mighty Ohio River. I had dropped down in the narrow valley and was concentrating on following the winding river staying just above the occasional fisherman and staying under the high tension wires that crossed from the higher ridges. I had planned the mission carefully enough to know which high-tension lines crossing the river were high enough to easily fly under and which ones required climbing above them. There were a couple of large highway bridges that needed to be crossed at high enough altitude so as not to distract drivers. With all this information stored in my brain, I was in total control of my Mustang and all that surrounded me when suddenly everything went dead silent!!! I can tell you that kind of silence can be the loudest "NO SOUND" you can ever experience.

My senses were already at their highest degree of awareness, and my hand automatically moved from the throttle to the fuel selector valve and moved it from the 85-gallon fuselage tank, which was located just behind the cockpit. That tank was used after take-off and was to be used before performing any high "g" maneuvers as it created an extreme aft center of gravity condition. I had been concentrating so intently on "buzzing" that I had forgotten to check the gauge and switch to the wing tanks before the aux tank emptied. When the engine went silent it lasted only the few seconds it took for me to switch the selector valve to the wing tanks to begin to feed fuel back to the engine. I can guarantee you that there is no louder silence than that which I experienced during those very short

seconds! Any pilot who doesn't remember these kinds of memory lapses won't live very long. In all my long years of flying I never let a fuel tank run dry again!

itself, followed by the Lake City Rotary Club Air Show, it has been very busy to say the least!

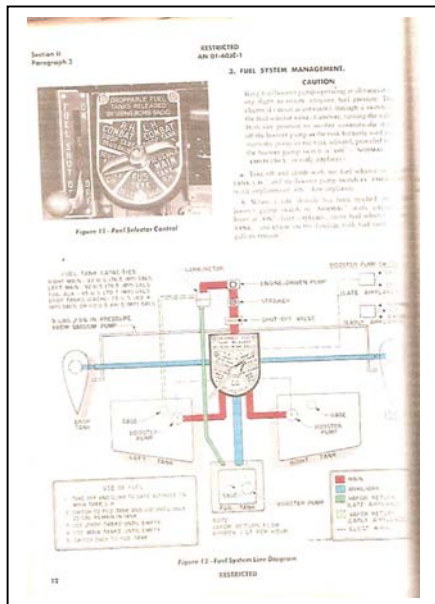
I heard a lot of comments about the attendance at Tico 2007 Airshow. In my opinion, we were much better off than either of the other two events I attended and participated in.

Was our attendance down – most definitely – WHY – my opinion again:

1. Airshow crowds do not like to see accidents.
2. Fuel cost for any kind of travel that is not necessary is far out of control.
3. The younger generations simply do not have the interest level in our Country's History.



Lt. Evans 3<sup>rd</sup> from left on front row



All these reasons – and I am sure there are many more – are why – we as members and custodians of the VAC simply must become more active in our participation in furthering the mission of the VAC. Not just in writing checks. As important as the dollars are, what we need is more workers, not Chiefs – but INDIANS! At the Lake City Show there must have been several hundred volunteer worker bees of all ages from many different organizations.

Sun 'n' Fun of course, always has paid employees to do the grunt work.

N.C. "Bud" Evans ©

Bud Evans  
Executive Officer

**OPERATIONS OFFICER**  
**KEN TERRY**

Starting with the George Baker Annual Fly In just before Sun 'n' Fun, then Sun 'n' Fun

We need to start looking at these and other events and learn what makes them a success and start trying some new directions.

The one need that stands above all others – everywhere – is PEOPLE! People bring in new ideas and new directions.

We now have a supply of VAC Formation Patches (same as the old ones) available for those who have completed the FAST requirements. They are \$10.00 each. Please make your check payable to "Valiant Air Command". In the little memo space provided at the bottom of all checks, please write in "FAST Patch Donation". This will help our book keeping records and provide evidence of a tax deduction for you. Mail it to my attention at the Valiant Air Command, 6600 Tico Road, Titusville, FL 32780.

Blue Side Up!

Ken Terry  
Operations Manager

**MAINTENANCE OFFICER**  
**BOB JAMES**

C47 – The "Tico Belle" now has a left wing installed and 98% of the nuts and bolts torqued thanks to the efforts of our dedicated volunteer maintenance crew. Please check out photos of the C47 team elsewhere in this issue of the Unscramble. My thanks to Lester Badger, our crane operator, who delicately handled the lifting operation of the wing. The rest of the crew worked feverously to get enough hardware installed to transfer the load from the crane to the wing attach flanges. Then came the long process of putting in the more than 356 bolts to hold the wing permanently in position. The remaining effort will be to match drill holes in the attach angle in the flap-well area that was replaced due to some previously discovered corrosion in that area. Of course, there are a few other details such as connecting flight control cables, electrical wiring to the wing tip light and the landing light. It was really terrific

to have a wing back on the "Belle". I thought I detected a slightly larger smile on the feminine face of the nose art on the port side of the airplane! The date was April 24<sup>th</sup> 2007 (a great Tuesday).

A week later (May 1<sup>st</sup> 2007) we did a fit check of the starboard wing. However, we found that one of the attach angles that was in an area that suffered substantial damage (bottom wing root) and had a number of holes (20-22) that did not line up properly. We will be reviewing our options for correcting the situation over the next few days. It may require removal of the right wing and replacement of the questionable attach angle. Even with the problem with the right wing, I'm proud of the progress that we have made in the last month.

My thanks again to all of our members that have helped through their physical and financial aid to the restoration project. Without your support we could not have come this far.

Bob James  
Maintenance Officer

**PERSONNEL OFFICER**  
**BOB BOSWELL**

First of all I want to personally welcome our 20 new members who have joined since February and thank all 156 members who have renewed their membership during the same time period.

April is our transition time of year at the VAC. The "Snowbirds" have departed for the summer leaving a much smaller workforce for all our activities. We could use some help from the 12-month locals and the new Summer Florida Residents. There are lots of opportunities to get out of

the house and into aircraft restoration, facility maintenance, tour guides, museum gift shop and general support work. Don't be a "couch potato", get out and get into any one of our fun activities and meet new people with similar interests. If you ever felt like you wanted to help, now is the time.

Due to popular demand, we have reinstated the VAC Lifetime Membership program. Instead of paying annual dues, purchase a Lifetime Membership that gives you all the benefits, plus some special activities and perks. Skip the hassle of the annual paperwork. The program has a tiered payment plan. Ages 0-59 \$1,000.00; ages 60-69 \$750.00 and ages 70 + \$500.00. For additional information or to participate contact Lorraine Juhl at the VAC.

Bob Boswell  
Personnel Officer

**PROCUREMENT OFFICER**  
**BOB FRAZIER**

F11F Tiger - - - We are now making progress on receiving this aircraft. The Pensacola airport and the Navy came together near the end of April and removed the pylon by crane. It was then moved over to the ramp of the Navy's Flying Club. A team of Navy Pensacola Museum Restoration people that we were able to hire is now disassembling the aircraft.

Transportation to move the aircraft to the VAC Museum has been arranged for next week. The F11F Tiger has landed and has been unloaded and put in the restoration hangar.

MISC. - - - We received an interesting request from a British Warbird Museum

fan. A listing of airplanes in our hangar and their serial numbers has been provided.

- - - The Scuba Diving Equipment and 48 Star American Flags are still available if anyone wants them.

Bob Frazier  
Procurement Officer

**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**  
**FRANK POUND**

**VOLUNTEERS**

The VAC has the finest bunch of VOLUNTEERS anywhere! Having been associated with a number of volunteer organizations, I can say that with authority. We have lots of people who do all those jobs without which the Museum, the Airshow and all our other activities would not exist. THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

As I see it, there are VOLUNTEERS and volunteers. And we are lucky enough to have mostly VOLUNTEERS. VOLUNTEERS are those who do whatever is required, whatever is asked of them, anytime, all the time, without expecting any reward, return or acknowledgment. Their reward is knowing that they have helped an amazing institution for the benefit of everyone.

One of our VOLUNTEERS who has been quietly doing his work around the VAC for lots of years without recognition is Arthur "Chris" Christiansen. Chris is expert in electronics, electric circuits, carpentry, and whatever else you need. And he brings his own tools, supplies and equipment. When you visit the VAC Memorabilia area,

you see lots of Chris's work. He has hauled in showcases and other donated items many miles, re-wired sound systems, wired new light systems, and too many others to report. And I suspect few of us know that Chris was up at the crack of dawn every day of the Airshow to unload the PX truck (against his doctor's advice) and worked all day in the PX.

### **MUSEUM ATTENDANCE**

The Public Relations Department is working specifically to increase the number of guests to the Museum; Augie Holmquist is a professional at public relations, and has made lots of great contacts through his work with the Chambers of Commerce, Tourism Commission and other groups. He recently arranged a closed circuit TV commercial, which can be seen every quarter hour in area motel rooms. We're also working on increasing groups to visit the Museum. Schools, churches, children's organizations, veteran's associations – any group you can think of - is a welcome group at the Museum. Crystal, Ginger and Sandy in the Museum Shop have greatly reduced rates for groups, so if you know of any who would enjoy the Museum, suggest they call the ladies in the Museum Gift Shop.

The Museum is also a great venue for evening meetings. Ann James – another VOLUNTEER of the first order – has been extremely busy lately setting up for lots of aviation and other meetings. So if you know of an organization which would like to combine their regular dinner meeting with the added feature of an outstanding museum, call Ann.

### **EVENTS COORDINATOR** **ANN JAMES**

Many thanks to the hostesses Jean Felton and Joanne Baxter and the bakers for the month of April 2007 for serving the Gryphon Group.

### **Bakers for the month of May:**

May 2 – Ann James

May 9 – Gay Lindsay & Ann James

May 16 – Joan Dorrell & Marilyn Bettencourt

May 24 – Margaret Towe

May 31 – Marilyn Bettencourt

Thank you ladies! You are SO appreciated!

### **VAC MEMBERS ON THE MEND**

Sincere get well wishes to Ruth Larkin recovering from her recent fall and hospital stay.

Leo Kordick, we're glad you're home from the hospital and sincerely hope you're feeling better!

Ann James  
Events Coordinator

### **FROM the FRONT COUNTER** **CRYSTAL, GINGER & SANDY**

Happy Mother's Day! Hope everyone has a beautiful day!





We're gearing up for our Annual Memorial Weekend Open House with the hot dog stand out front.

We sure could use extra people as Tour Guides, sell hot dogs, or help in the Gift Shop. Any help is appreciated.

Open House will be Sat., Sun. & Mon.  
26, 27 & 28 May 2007 from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The Hot Dog Stand will be open from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Hot dog, chips and soft drink \$3.00. Thanks to ALL who helped us at the Airshow, we're looking forward to next year.

Crystal, Ginger & Sandy  
Museum Gift Shop

Have you seen Mayday and Piper in our Museum Gift Shop? They're waiting to see you!!!

We have something new for the Unscramble this month. If your niche is puzzles and you enjoy making as well as solving them why not submit one for the Unscramble. This would be a great way to volunteer and you could do it from your home if you are unable to travel or live too far away. Puzzles must be Warbird or Museum related. Please mail your puzzle (doesn't have to be Word Search) to the VAC, Attention: Lorraine and we will publish it in a future edition. Our next puzzle will be all about Warbirds.

### VAC Volunteers - Your niche is here!

Y N Q G Z B P D S B Y H G S L G T  
 D P O P N A S C C H R R G I I N R  
 U E G I R I I T P V O X N G B I A  
 C B C K T H T A O U S B I N R K N  
 V L I O P A R E N L A U S M A A S  
 Z N E A R G R D K R I S I A R B P  
 G H R A O A S O T R T P T K Y H O  
 I G Z T N K T E T N A V R I F G R  
 X Z O P E I N I A S V M E N E T T  
 X H X E W D N R N B E G V G I I A  
 P K P Y I A G G Z G C R D J H U T  
 A E C N D M A I N T E N A N C E I  
 R G G E D I U G R U O T P W W Q O  
 R S T N E V E L A I C E P S E W N  
 P A I N T I N G T I R O T A R U C  
 X T Y P I N G N I L I F H A C U O  
 I I Z F E X M F O L O G S K Y O K

Do you have a skill or interest you would like to contribute to the VAC in your spare time? This puzzle has just a few, I'm sure you can think of more. This is just one idea!

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| ADVERTISING    | MAINTENANCE    |
| BAKING         | MARKETING      |
| BARTENDING     | PAINTING       |
| CLEANING       | PARKING        |
| CREW CHIEF     | PHOTOGRAPHY    |
| CURATOR        | PILOTS         |
| DECORATING     | RESTORATION    |
| FILING         | SIGN MAKING    |
| GRANTS         | SPECIAL EVENTS |
| GRAPHICS       | TOUR GUIDE     |
| GROUNDSCKEEPER | TRANSPORTATION |
| LIBRARY        | TYPING         |

Solution in next issue!

*UN-SCRAMBLE*

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**VALIANT AIR COMMAND OPEN HOUSE**

The Valiant Air Command Warbird Museum will be hosting an open house Memorial Day weekend. There will be free admission to the Museum for all military active or retired. Also all Brevard County residents will be admitted free. I.D. required. The hours of the open house will be 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., Sat., Sun., and Mon. 26 – 28 May 2007.

Fly-bys are anticipated each day.  
Refreshments will be available.  
For information call (321) 268-1941