



Tom Reilly with his favorite mascot Mitchell. Tom is the one in the blue shirt on the left.

UN-SCRAMBLE

Official Bulletin of the Valiant Air Command
October, November & December 2009



Ken Terry, Dan Gryder and Bob James –Test Pilots for Tico Belle

MEMORABLE EVENTS JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER



Tico Belle Restoration Crew with Dan Gryder in turquoise shirt in center



Tico Belle and T-34 Retro Flight Fourth of July 2009



Tico Belle crew members and passengers—12 Sep 2009



Pilots and crew prepare for Tico Belle with Flight Simulator



Bee Haydu, to Pres. Obama's immediate right, VAC Member and former W.A.S.P. at the signing of WASP Congressional Gold Medal bill. Helen Snapp, also a VAC Member and former W.A.S.P was unable to attend.



Tico Belle being stripped with crushed walnut shells..



Celebrating Roger Desplaines Birthday



Celebrating Ann James Birthday



Red, White & Boom Fourth of July 2009



Bob Boswell at Parrish Hospital Vendor Night



Volunteer Ladies in their new blue shirts See Volunteer Coordinator Report



Volunteer Ladies at Gryphon Group Tour 24 June 2009



Col. Terry Yon visited at Cape Canaveral Summer Camp

NOTES TO THE ACQUISITION OF THREE C-47'S

The genesis of our acquisitions of the three aircraft began with a phone call to me from an official with the "Military Assistance Command" in the Pentagon. He was a casual acquaintance that I had met while on active duty in the late 1950's. We had kept in touch due to our interest in aviation. I told him about my involvement in the CAF and later the VAC. Without going into great detail he was directly responsible for the VAC receiving our C-47's and our 10 Fuji aircraft.

All I had to do was fill out the proper government form with the proper key words that he generously supplied. There are dedicated public servants.

The details of the flights as recounted by Capt. Poulsen are correct as set out in his news letters. I can only add the following. I had to be checked out to be "Pilot in Command" by the Danish Air Force in order to fly to the US with an "N" number i.e. U.S. registered aircraft. That took about three days in mostly IFR weather and under the VERY-VERY strict tutelage of Capt. Poulsen who in a former life was probably a slave master on a Roman Galley. With his Teutonic sense of No humor and my Irish sense of the absurd we managed to qualify me, just.

In addition to the crew and normal equipment needed to fly over water for long distances there were at least 15 cases of Danish Carlsberg Pilsner needed for ballast of course. The routine once we got under way. Fly about 8hrs, land somewhere drink and eat about 8hrs, sleep about 8hrs. We underestimated the beer, ran out before we got to Tico. That was remedied on the next trip in August of 1983.

Thanks to the generosity of the Danish Air Force the VAC did not have to buy or rent the extended over the water emergency equipment. That's the good news. The bad news is that after landing at McGuire AFB and off loading it was stolen never to be recovered. Some ramp rat probably pawned it for drugs. The Air force conducted an investigation but could not find out who was responsible. The VAC offered to pay for the loss, but the Danes graciously refused.

C-47 N3240A was the 1st VAC OWNED aircraft to fly in a VAC airshow. At "TICO" 12 and 13 March 1983. Leo Kerwin as PIC with Robbie Robinson Co-Pilot dropped the U.S. Army parachute team the "Golden Knights" two times each day. That aircraft was later sold to VAC member Harry Doan of New Smyrna Beach.

Your humble servant,

F. Leo Kerwin II D.C.



TRIBUTE TO THE C-47 AND OUR TICO BELLE

In 1951 they tried to ground the noble DC-3
Lawyers brought the case before the C.A.B.
The board examined the facts behind their great oak portal
And pronounced these simple words "The Gooney Bird's
Immortal"

The Army toasts their "Sky Train" with scotch and soda
The Tommies raise their glasses high to cheer their old
"Dakota"
Some claim the C-47's best or perhaps the gallant R4D,
Pay no attention to claims; they're all the same noble DC-3

Douglas built the ship to last, but nobody ever expected
This heap would fly and fly, no matter how they wrecked it
While nations fall and men retire and jets go obsolete
The Gooney Bird flies on and on at eleven thousand feet

One crippled plane was fitted out with one wing half the size
But no matter what they do to her the Gooney Bird still flies
She hunched her shoulders then took off (I know this makes
you laugh)
One wing askew and yet she flew, dubbed a "Dc-3 and a
half"

She has her faults but after all, who's perfect in every
sphere
Her heating system was a gem and we loved her for her
gear
Of course the windows leaked a bit when rain came pouring
down
She'd keep you warm but in a storm it's possible you'd
drown

Well now she flies the feeder lines and carries all the freight
She's just an airborne office, a flying twelve ton crate
They patched her up with masking tape, paper clips and
string
And she still flies, she never dies, this Methuselah with
wings

***Modified from "Tribute to the DC-3" Poem written by
Oscar Brand –

N.C. "Bud" Evans



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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.

501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization Educational Museum
Recognized by the Internal Revenue Service

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**USED COMPUTERS NEEDED
PREFERABLY WINDOWS XP OR
NEWER – PLEASE DONATE YOURS
IF YOU NO LONGER NEED IT!!!
THANK YOU!!!**

MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP

Open 7 days a week 9AM-5PM
Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's Day

ADMISSION

Adults \$12.00 Senior/Military \$10.00
Children 5-12 Years \$ 5.00
Special Tour & Family Rates Available

FUTURE EVENTS

03 & 04 October - Cocoa Beach AirShow
10 October - Annual Membership Dinner Meeting
15 October – Flight Safety Briefing – VAC Library
17 October – Kissimmee Air Museum Oktoberfest
C-47 Rides
20 October – Board of Director's Meeting
24 October – VAC – C-47 Rides
31 October – Orlando Executive Airport – Sheltair
Open House – C-47 Rides
07 & 08 November – Veteran's Day Weekend
Open House, Planes, Trains & Automobiles
14 & 15 November – Stuart AirShow
17 November – Board of Director's Meeting
21 November – TICO 2010 AirShow Meeting
03 December – Decorate for Christmas
12 December – Christmas Dinner Party
15 December – Board of Director's Meeting
2010
09 January – AirShow Meeting
19 January – Board of Director's Meeting
16 February – Board of Director's Meeting
12, 13 & 14 March – TICO Warbird AirShow

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Your museum needs your help with locating mannequins. Buying new ones is very expensive. We understand there are lots out there not being used by clothing and department stores when they replace them. We could also use wigs for the mannequins. We would be happy with their castoffs.

We also need brown and black military type low quarter shoes – size 10 or larger and 3" binder notebooks.
Thank you all very much!!!

COMMANDER

Greetings to Everyone,

It has been hectic around here since the Fourth of July "Red, White, and Boom" and now before we know it, Fall has arrived. I want to thank everyone for all the hard work put forth getting the C-47 "Tico Belle" ready

for its public debut so the Brevard County residents and spectators at the airfield were able to glimpse what we prepared for in our "Return to Flight" motto. Many volunteers, restoration crew, staff, tour guides, VAC members and our own Board of Directors have worked diligently to make this happen and on September 12th we hit the milestone of our first planned and executed revenue-generated flight. A special thanks to Ann James who is handling our sign ups and follow-through, Bob James and Ken Terry for coordinating our maintenance and operations end, and to all those who get the C-47 safely up and back again on the ground. It is a monumental task and everyone has stepped up to the plate.

If you have not stopped by the Museum lately, come in and glance over the PX Gift Shop. We have not only transformed its physical appearance, but we are stocking more inventory than ever before, particularly the models and apparel. So come by and say "hello" to Sandy Brister, Andrea Higginbotham, and Vicki Domagala who have been tagging, making labels, and putting out merchandise for the past couple of months.

I have not talked much lately about AirShow 2010 because of the emphasis on our New Building Hangar site, but it's time to start planning now. We will not be sending out Donation Request letters this year as in the past, so please remember how important the AirShow is to the ongoing efforts at the Museum. I want to thank all of you that have made donations thus far or provided Seed Money. We will start cranking up our efforts next month and get the ball rolling. This year we are attempting to raise money primarily from sponsorships and business donations, so that our fundraising efforts can be focused on the new building.

Speaking of the FDOT Matching Grant, which will allow for the expansion, we are down to the nitty-gritty in getting this project out for bid. It is in the final stages and we hope to break ground soon and maybe have it completed in time for next year's AirShow. So if you haven't made a donation yet, there is still time for you to a brick purchase or choose one of several Membership Level categories. Although the FDOT is providing half of the funds, we are still in need of doing our part to make this happen.

The Valiant Air Command has put in for the TDC Grant, which goes toward our AirShow Fund, and the BCA Grant is being submitted as we speak, which helps with our museum operations throughout the year. It has been a tight economy this year, but the Museum is hanging on. Please support the many activities and events planned between now and the end of the year and encourage your friends to join the VAC!

I wish you all well and hope to see you at the General Membership Dinner, Veterans Day Weekend Open House, and Christmas Dinner.

Blue Skies

Lloyd Morris
Commander

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AVIATING WITH EVANS

F-100C FERRY FLIGHT

Every now and then a test pilot welcomes a simple flight that is considered to be normal by military operational pilots. The fighter aircraft which we tested at Edwards Air Force Base were generally sent directly to the first Operational Squadron to put that particular type aircraft into service once our test flights were completed. The exception to that rule was the F-100C. We finished testing the "A" Model and as a result from those tests the F-100's were modified resulting in a newer version named the F-100C. Some of the major modifications included a larger vertical tail section and a higher thrust engine. Following that programs completion we kept the "C" models as they were our fastest aircraft which we used to fly safety chase on newer test aircraft and "X" Rocket Research aircraft. The F-104's along with the F-101A and the F-102 were entering the test programs and there were Bomber aircraft such as the B-57 and B-52 which required safety chase. The F-86 calibrated pacer and the 2 place TF-86 (The only one in service) were great for supporting the Chase flights on the sub-sonic bomber/cargo aircraft but the F-100's had to be used for chasing the other aircraft. It soon became necessary to use our F-104's that were still in "Flight Testing" phase to fly "safety chase" on the Lockheed Aircraft Companies F-104's.

The F-100D was a much better pilot's aircraft. All of the improvements that had been installed on the "C" model were on the "D" but in addition, landing flaps were added. The initial rationale for not having them on the "A" and "C" models was the extra weight and also because these aircraft were equipped with a "Drag chute" to slow the aircraft after landing. The "A" and "C" models had been primarily designed as high altitude air-to-air combat fighters, however the rapid growth in the aircraft industry aimed at higher speed and higher altitude fighters such as the F-102, F-101A and the F-104's. This convinced the Air Force to require the "C" and "D" model F-100's be equipped with bombing capabilities. The "C" model was then selected to be flown by the Air National Guard: which

leads to the story of another one of the near disastrous adventures that I experienced during my many years of flying.

As soon as we completed our Flight Test program on the F-100D's they were transferred out to operational units. As we still had a requirement for the safety chase mission within the speed and altitude capabilities of the F-100 we retained the F-100C's we had flown during its test program. By the time we were ordered to deliver them to the Air Guard they were fairly "Well-worn" and for some reason the first ones we were ordered to deliver were the oldest with the highest number hours on them.

I was ordered to fly one of the C's to Niagara Falls for delivery to the New York Air National Guard. It would work into a scheduled meeting I had at Republic Aircraft Company in Farmingdale, New York. I was the F-105 Test Pilot at Edwards and periodically traveled to Farmingdale to fly a new F-105 modification or attend program conferences on the "Thud".

We didn't usually fly the "Hun" with external tanks but for this ferry flight they were needed. I filed my flight plan, picked up the necessary paperwork on the transfer and climbed up the ladder to the cockpit.



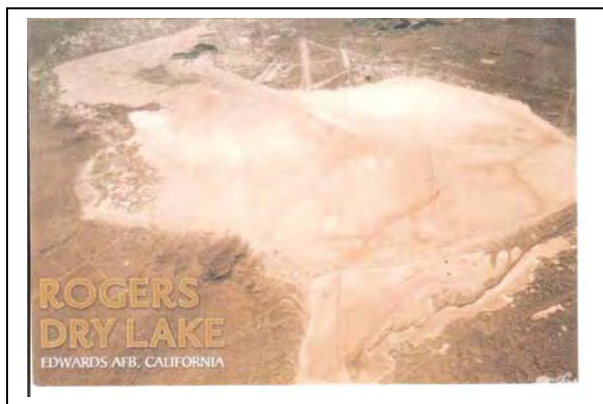
After taxiing the more than 2 miles from the Edwards ramp to the runway and making the necessary pre-take-of checks, I pulled onto the runway and pushed the throttle to full military power. After checking the engine instruments and finding them all to be in the green, I released the brakes and placed the throttle into the after-burner position. The light-off was normal as was the acceleration and lift off. I retracted the landing gear and held the nose almost level so as to accelerate to climb speed. The drag and weight from the two drop tanks required a little more time to reach my climb speed. I settled back mentally to check all

the gauges and gradually allowed the nose to climb slightly while closing in on my target climb speed. About that time the tower operator screamed an alarm that I was sure was for someone else when he said "F-100 that just took off you are ON FIRE"! I had not quite reached the end of the 15,000 foot runway but my speed was closing on 275 MPH. The Rogers Dry Lake Bed was to my left but I couldn't turn in that direction because the Center Commanders home and those of his top staff officers were on a hill ahead of me to the left. The terrain ahead was rising rough desert and my only options were to eject or wait a few long seconds until I was able to turn towards the lake bed. By this time both my "Engine Over Heat and Fire Lights" were both shining brightly! I was too low to eject and I had to delay jettisoning the heavy external fuel tanks for fear of hitting the General's home. I had retarded the throttle out of afterburner but knew I had to keep fairly high power to make it past the housing area and then turn left to the dry lake bed.

As I have said so many times before; my mind seems to go into an overdrive mode when these types survival situations happen and everything seems to be moving in slow motion. All my reactions and actions are deliberate and to me seem logical for the conditions as they are happening. My airspeed was dropping off due to the fire creating a loss of thrust so as soon as I was clear of "Knob Hill" I jettisoned both external fuel tanks. The F-100 seemed to leap ahead toward that life saving piece of hard surfaced lake bed. The next minute or two were the usual hanging on to the threads of life that occurred during every flying emergency. I waited and waited those intense seconds until I was sure I was going to reach the hard surface and could attempt to lower the landing gear, fortunately the hydraulic system was still working and the landing gear extended and my flight controls continued to operate until I safely touched down and shut the engine down. My touch down speed was a little higher than normal and although my drag chute deployed, there was still enough flame from the fire to burn the chute, destroying its braking power. Although it would seem that the danger was over, that was not exactly true. I knew that I was landing on an unmarked portion of Rogers Dry Lake so there was no assurance that I wouldn't hit one of the "Sink Holes" that dotted the surface of the large dry lake. Once again my "Guardian Angel" was looking after me and I rolled to a safe stop. Getting out of the F-100 without a ladder was not the easiest exercise but I quickly shed my parachute and after installing the seat and canopy ejection safety pins I climbed out using the kick-in foot slot and drop down pole step to reach the ground. It took about 10 minutes for the emergency trucks to reach me but fortunately the engine fire had been

extinguished after the engine was shut down and I enjoyed a long ride back the Test Ops in the Flying Safety Officer Jeep.

A week or so later I delivered a different F-100C to Niagara Falls and had an interesting missed approach and a minimum fuel landing in un-forecast snow showers. Something we seldom experienced at Edwards AFB's and its' dry desert climate.



Take-off was on long runway towards top of picture.
Landing was on upper left of lake bed.

N. C. "Bud" Evans ©

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

The first flight of the TICO BELLE was a very un-eventful one! Yea right! From a maintenance stand point that is a true statement. But otherwise – WOW! She performed like the beauty she is, just purred and purred and purred. June 23, 2009 the maintenance test flights – both of them – were flawless. Just a few minor items, but nothing that should keep her grounded long.

Thanks to Dan Gryder, VAC member, from Griffin, GA that flew here to bring our Tico Belle pilots to current status. He is pictured on the front page with Bob James and myself and also the Restoration Crew. Dan has a DC-3 training school called The DC-3 Net that he has been operating for 8 years. Thank again, Dan!

The time since June 23rd has flown by at a very rapid pace!

As of the night I typed this we have Bob James, Gene McNeely, Bill Lumley, and Paul Schulten checked out as Captains; myself and Bob Boswell as Co-Pilots. Jim Owens is checked out as our Lead Flight Engineer and Tom Etter as our Lead Crew Chief. Sue Konig just finished up at Flight Safety to maintain her qualification as a Purser and has taken over as our

Lead Purser/Flight Attendant/Nurse/?????. She retired from Northwest Airlines and her qualification was about to expire so she hustled up there and passed with flying colors. It was quite an experience, however! I guess Flight Safety has a little different approach than Northwest Airlines. She actually got to ride in a rescue basket and loves to talk about it.

Hey, let's go really retro and call them ---

STEWARDESSES!

What say you?

I talked to Flight Safety about us setting up our own in house program to do initial qualification and recurrent training for our Cabin Staff, same as we are doing for our Pilots. And we will put that into effect ASAP!

The Pilots have all agreed to wear khaki flight suits until such time as we can come up with a better retro uniform for the pilots.

I have seen some pictures floating around that some of the Ladies are suggesting for themselves and they are really cool!

Real 1930's stuff!

We also have Dick Osborne, Art Patstone, Scott Sindelar, and several others about to get finished up and promises from a few more guys they will jump on the band wagon soon. And soon it better be!

We have our FAA LOA's all signed, sealed and delivered and now we can sell rides!

So if you have the slightest interest in helping the VAC make a few bucks by flying the TICO BELLE – PLEASE – give me a call and let's get you started so we can sell those rides!

Also if you have an idea or venue where we can go to sell rides let us know about that.

We are also in need of some more ground crew members for launching and recovering the TICO BELLE for the rides.

As usual this is a plea for more volunteers to help with this project. We need people – period! Come out and play with us!

I spent a great day at Orlando Executive Airport with a bunch of real airplane nuts. Scott Sindelar has a Flight School there. Paul Schulten and I gave about 5 rides each and I think we picked up at least 4 new members out of that day. But the real deal is we may have an opportunity to participate in a big open house there in October. They are still in the planning stages,

MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR

but kinda pencil in the date to bring your favorite Warbird back to another old time VAC stomping grounds. We did get the go ahead for selling TICO BELLE rides that day if they go ahead with the event!

We are trying to set up at least one day every week to give rides out of the Museum; it looks like Saturday will be the day!

There is a book at the counter of the Gift Shop to schedule TICO BELLE flights. ALL flights must be posted in the book and approved by the Operations Officer- in advance.

We are going back to the "old" way of reimbursement for Pilots attending the Air Show in 2010. Each pilot will pay all expenses; make their own reservations for cars, rooms, etc. Submit copies of receipts and checks will be mailed out.

We are in the talking stages of another "mini" Event on April 9 & 10, 2010. A Country Music Festival with top names and Nation Wide Advertising. Not sure just what they are after yet, but it looks as though we will fly a few Warbirds that weekend, so at least pencil it in!

As I finish this up we just completed another C-47 ground school with eight of us participating. If you are interested in this program at all – call!

FLASH - FLASH – FLASH

Be sure and show up at 10:00 AM on the 15th of October for a very special event! Plan to spend several hours with us as we listen and learn!

John Gadzinski Southwest Pilot and all around good guy will talk to us about: Safety; CRM; Normal and Emergency Procedures Handling; and a myriad of other Aviation related subjects. Bring an open mind and be prepared to be amazed!

Everyone is welcome as his talks can (and should be) adapted to just about every facet of life!

John does this as a Professional Speaker, and thanks to Paul Schulten, is presenting to us because he believes in what the VAC stands for.

Thank You Paul and John for your contributions to our efforts.

Blue Side Up
Ken Terry

C47 - On June 23rd of this year we finally returned the "Tico Belle" to the air! My many thanks to all of our maintenance volunteers that made this return to flight possible. It was a long and difficult struggle (just two weeks short of eight years).

I was privileged to make that first flight with Dan Gryder as our check airman. We now (9/14/09) have approximately 17 hours of flight time on her and as one might expect are still working off some discrepancies. One of the major ones was repairing a couple of fuel leaks in the right forward tank. This required the tank to be removed and evaluation showed that we had a weld separation in the rear outboard section and another leak in the low point drain area. The latter required the removal of several pieces and over a hundred bolts, nuts, screws and washers along with several gaskets that would require a time sensitive sealant that set up faster than advertised and complicated the task. The weld was expertly repaired by Tom Reilly. With the tank successfully leak checked it was reinstalled, fueled and the stress panel under the tank bolted in place.

While all this was going on, Ken Terry our Ops officer was working with our local FAA representatives (over several months) to obtain a letter of authorization to conduct local historic/scenic flights (for hire). We hope to help offset the cost of operating the "Belle" in this way.

In that vain we did make our first revenue flight this past Saturday (9/12/09) with eleven paying passengers. All the passengers had a good time and we were blessed with calm weather just in front of a line of thunderstorms moving toward us from the Southwest. Fortunately for us the weather mans' predication was off by several hours. It then appeared that the storms stalled and we never did get the predicted rainstorms.

We are currently planning at least a two week down period during which we hope to put a new paint job on our flagship. It will have the markings of the 437th Troop carrier group, 84th squadron as it did during its action during the Normandy invasion June 6th, 1944.

Our schedule for October and November is shaping up to be a busy one with almost every weekend occupied with air shows, revenue flights or other flying events.

Robert E. James

GRUMMAN GREMLINS

12 September 2009 – The first paying passengers flew in our beloved Flagship “TICO BELLE”. This event was a long time in coming. This has been a dream that has finally come true.

We are back from our family outings and attending to other personal business that takes a lot away from our summer work. We are busy removing the paint from the F11F-1 Tiger. We need to ascertain the amount of underlying corrosion that has to be removed and treated. Some of the other work includes fabrication, and installation of structural repair patches to the damaged areas.

Another project that has begun is the repair of the F-4J McDonnell Phantom. This project involves the fabrication and installation of some structural repair patches to the aircraft.

We will miss Arthur McDonald. He passed to his Father's home on 24 August 2009. He assisted us with the restoration of the Grumman F4F Wildcat and the F9F Panther fighter planes.

Yours truly,
George “Dutch” Graefe
Project Restoration Officer

PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

ELECTION UP-DATE

There were three VAC Board of Directors positions open for the term 2010-2012:

Procurement Director: Bob Frazier, Incumbent
Finance Director: Lora McCabe, Incumbent
Personnel Director: Bob Boswell, Incumbent

Only three Letters of Intent, one from each of the incumbents, was received by the 15 August deadline for submission to seek a position on the VAC Board of Directors. According to our By-laws, the current Board of Directors voted to accept the incumbents for an additional term.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER

General membership as well as the number of Lifetime Members continues to grow. As promised we are continuing to provide perks to our lifetime members. The latest is a VAC Lifetime Member Hat. For those who have not already received their hat, they will be available at the Membership Dinner. Total membership is close to 1200. Volunteers donating their time to the many worthy projects and activities

has also increased and is very much needed and appreciated.

Our general membership dinner will be held in the Main Warbird Display Hangar on Saturday the 10th of October. Cocktails will be served from 5-6 P.M. followed by presentations and dinner.

A sign-up sheet is located at the Gift Shop. Please stop by or call in your reservations to ensure we have the appropriate amount of food and drink.

VIETNAM WARBIRD DISPLAY CENTER

Thanks to your dedicated support the new display hangar is becoming a reality. Ground breaking will occur shortly with construction next. The Board of Directors is working an aggressive schedule to provide for a public dedication at the TICO Warbird AirShow 2010. Yes, this coming March at the “Honoring the Memory” Warbird AirShow. There are a lot of activities that have to fall in line to make this dedication happen. The large public event planned for the dedication will feature, among other activities, a fly-over saluting our military past and present with a special salute to Vietnam Veterans. This will mark the culmination of a multi-year program to acquire this new display area. Also, on that special day, we will unveil the Vietnam Warbird Display Center Contributors Memorials.

There is still an opportunity to contribute to the New Display Center Fund and to purchase Commemorative Bricks for the “Walk of Fame.” The bricks will be used to pave the connecting walkway from the current Warbird Museum to the new Vietnam Display Center, and will also be used to build a decorative garden area by the new center. Each brick can be inscribed with the name or names of your choice.

We acknowledge that given the current economic times that the effort required to secure funding to finish the Warbird Display Hangar will be a tough one. For that reason, I have a special request. Please consider including a tax-deductible contribution of \$50, \$100, \$250 or the most generous amount you can afford. Time is of the essence for us to reach for March dedication goal. Any and all donations are appreciated and will be acknowledged. The new Vietnam Warbird Display Center will provide a legacy for future generations.

Thank you to the following VAC Members and business leaders who have contributed to this effort so far:

Millard S. Abbott
Stu Allison
Donald J. “Beetle” Bailey

Herman & Cindy Bayerdorffer
National Geographic Society (TV Productions)
Louisa "Weezie" Barendse
Sam T. Beddingfield
Philip & Marilyn Bettencourt
Bill R. Birch
Paul S. Blau
Jeff Boyken
James G. & Violet M. Brady
Emerson & Natalie Buhlin
Carolina Golf Cars (Phil Eisenhower)
Thomas H. & Elizabeth F. Clarke
Eliot G. Cross
Kelly C. Davidson
Col. William N. Dillard, USAF (Ret)
Jack & Joan Dorrell
Timothy E. Drake, M.D.
Donald F. Eldredge
Serge M. English
J. A. Michael & Peggy A. Field
Dr. Raymond W. Gage
William Geiler
George A. "Dutch" & Peggy Graefe
Robert P. Graveline
Robert "Bob" Gruber & Karen M. Harrington
Bernice Haydu
Ray E. Hickman
Donald L. & Carol J. Hussey
Norm A. & Gaye M. Lindsay
James E. Mack
Hiram E. Mann
Jerry D. & Anita M. McClure
Harry J. McNamara
J. M. Miller Inc. (Eastern Mapping Services and
Vintage Wings)
Capt. Charles R. "Bob" Munsey, Jr. (USN Ret.)
Terry L. Neighbours
Robert H. Nishimura
Walter E. Ohlrich
Michael R. & Annette Osbun
Fran Paika, Jr.
Richard G. Phillips
Frank R. & Betty-Gayle Pound
Joseph M. Rackl
Tom Reilly
Michael G. & Paula Rellihan
Ralph Royce & Nancy C. Shumaker
Randy W. & Kimberly A. Schmitz
Arvid Shook
Slawson Cunningham Whalen & Gaspari, P.L. (Dick
Slawson)
Howard J. & Rhea Stickley
Harry "Wes" & Elizabeth Stowers
John W. Strickland
David & Patricia Sutcliffe
Lee M. Tannenbaum

Albert & Michael Tarter
Domenic L. Taurasi
Rene & Karen Vandevoorde
Robert D. & Donna J. Wall
Paul Woodard
Lt. Col. Robert E. (USAF Ret.) & Pat. R. Woods
Col. Terry A. & Janet Yon, USA (Ret)

VETERANS DAY OPEN HOUSE

Our Annual Veteran's Day Open House at the VAC Warbird Museum will be Saturday and Sunday, 07 and 08 November. Entrance will be free to all members and family of the Military, Active, Reserve, Guard and Retired with an ID Card; and to all residents of Brevard County with their Florida Drivers License or other proof of Brevard residency. Food and Beverage will be available for purchase.

TICO Warbird Airshow 2010

We have already started planning for the next VAC AirShow. The dates are 12, 13 and 14 of March. The theme this year is tied to our new Vietnam Warbird Display Center, "Honoring the Memory". The first General AirShow Meeting of all the Team Leaders and Volunteers will be at Noon on Saturday, 21 November. First Draft of the Task and Responsibility List has been completed and will be available for members to select their area of participation. All Volunteers who would like to take part in the Warbird AirShow are requested to attend this very important organizational meeting. The next and final General AirShow Meeting with all the Volunteers will be on Saturday, the 9th of January.

HOLIDAY CHEER

The holiday season is quickly approaching and brings with it many opportunities to get together and catch up on the past years events, and of course talk about airplanes. One of the best socials is the VAC Christmas Dinner. Mark your calendar for Saturday, 12 December. We will have a social hour with hors d'oeuvres starting at 5:00 PM followed by an exceptional buffet and desserts. Music will be provided for your listening and dining pleasure. See you at the Christmas Party.

TOYS-FOR-TOTS

You can make a difference! Last year the Marine Corps distributed over 15.1 million gifts to 7.6 million less fortunate children across the country. Again this year, as we have in the past, the VAC is supporting the Toys-for-Tots Foundation. We will have a collection box in the Gift Shop and will be accepting gifts for Toys-for-Tots at the Christmas Dinner. Start

looking for that “perfect” donation to bring. A single new unwrapped toy could make a big difference as a gift to one of these children. Please show your support and donate a toy during your next visit to the Warbird Museum or at the Christmas Dinner.

MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

We have made numerous improvements in our Gift Shop. We have added an extensive line of model aircraft that has placed us as one of the top locations in Brevard to shop for high quality models. The expanded line of shirts has something for everyone and the high quality of our aircraft prints and drawings are fast sellers. Stop by your Gift Shop and select a gift for that special aviation person and help the museum grow.

Thank you for your membership and continued support.

WELCOME COLONELS

NEW MEMBERS

Bennett, Duane / Bennett, Joni
Bryant, Ross
Carter, Stephen P.
Cooper, Billy L.
Cramer, Allen
Cramer, Max
Dugger, Sterling K. / Dugger, Carla
Encarnacion, Luis F. / Encarnacion, Adriana
Foraker, Bob / Foraker, Lynn
Garcia, George T. “Tom”, Garcia, Nancy K,
Gell, Gary S. / Sanders, Jamie
Haycock, Charles / Haycock, Lynn
Haney, Michael
Hartman, John / Hartman, Sherry
Henninger, Stephen W.
Moderson, Tina / Moderson, Todd
Moses, Robert G. / Moses, Norma J.
Pengelly, Stan
Petersen, Andrew
Petersen, Randy
Raisch, Chris / Raisch, Lisa
Schellenger, Jonathan H. “Jon” / Schellenger, Megg
Sindelar, Scott T. / Sindelar, Jennifer T.
Tague, Marcia

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

Beck, Preston E. / Beck, Gladys
Koller, Albert / Koller, Carol

RENEWAL MEMBERS

Badger, Lester A.
Barney, Lyle W.

Becker, Fred J.
Beddingfield, Sam
Clements, Charles W.
Eiting, Joshua J. / Eiting, Shirley Poll
Etter, Thomas R. / Etter, Patricia E.
Evans, Norvin C. “Bud” / Evans, Nancy
Goding, Vern H.
Goldhammer, Arthur G.
Graveline, Robert P.
Hart, Richard Allen
Horner, Duke C.
Kirk, John H.
Leathers, Donald A.
Lyons, Rodger V. / Lyons, Jean N.
McGrath, Joseph P. / McGrath, Deborah H.
Moddle, Jr., Stephen S.
Moriarty, Eugene P.
Morris, Lloyd W. / Morris, Gay B.
Owens, James G. / Owens, Genie B.
Patstone, Arthur
Reus, Joseph H.
Rich, Dave
Schulten, Paul E. / Schulten, Lisa G.
Shaffer, Carson L. / Shaffer, Cindy L.
Strickland, John W.
Talley, Thomas N.
Trudick, Stephen M.
Van Poll, Jerry
Wall, Robert D. / Wall, Donna J.

Bob Boswell
AirShow Chairman

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

We are delighted to welcome a long time member and active airshow participant to our volunteer office staff. Ruthe Middleton has graciously offered to help out with our, ever increasing, office tasks. We thank you and welcome you, Ruthe!!

Don't the ladies look sharp in their new crew uniforms in the cover photo. Our VAC staff and volunteers are sprucing up for all the events that take place around the Museum.

Thanks ladies – you look sharp!

Also want to thank **Gun Godbeer, Karen Sylvester** and **Sherry Tillotsen** as our “**Tico Belle Flight Attendants.**” These ladies have many years of work experience and graciously volunteered to fly on our Maiden Voyage of the **Tico Belle** with passengers on September 12, 2009. They were a great help and organized our first guests quickly and safely. They were a big hit with the passengers as they pointed out the Cape, the ships in Port Canaveral and Cocoa

Beach as seen from the air. Ladies, you are very much appreciated by all of our air and ground crew.

Thanks!!

GET WELL WISHES

We continue to keep Marilyn Bettencourt and Lloyd Morris' brother, Mike in our prayers for recovery. We wish a speedy recovery for C-47 Restoration Team Member Tom Hay.

WEDDING BELLS

Our best wishes go to Harry and Mimi McNamara. They were married on 12 September. Harry is a member of our C-47 Restoration Team!

Ken Terry & Sue Konig will tie the knot on 13 October 2009.

George Damoff & Ro Anne Davis exchanged their vows 12 July 2009 and will return to Florida soon.

GRYPHON BAKING SCHEDULE

The Gryphon Group hosted our VAC members and especially our baking ladies to a tour of their security training facility earlier this summer. It was amazing to watch the procedures they have implemented to keep our soldiers trained to do their best. Thank you to Brian Skelly of the Gryphon Group for the excellent tour and for his time and dedication to our soldiers.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW BAKERS

This month we welcome new bakers (and Queen of the brownies) Carolyn Henninger. She joined us after her husband, Steve, became a volunteer to the museum as well. Her friend Joan Beyerman also joined us a week later. We are so thankful for each of these ladies who have joined our other hard working crew to bring home made items for our soldiers whenever they are in our care.

Please note the schedule below for the next few months. As always, if you have a schedule problem – just call me or Jean.

OCT. NOV. DEC.

06	03	01	Jean, Karen, Gun
13	10	08	Gaye, Joanne, Joani B.
20	17	15	Joan D., Lorraine, Jenny
27	24	22	Frances, Margaret, Carolyn
		29	Ailene, Ann

Thank you all again for all your efforts to make our lunch room “smell a little bit like home cooking” for our soldiers while they are away from their home.

MEMBERS & FRIENDS GONE WEST

Robert E. Burnham, past member of the VAC passed to his Father's home 03 July 2009.

A Memorial Service was held for Paul Vasconi at the Museum on 03 July. As President of the Air America Foundation and C-123 Restoration Project, Paul was constantly involved in working, promoting and/or purchasing items for the aircraft. He was an amazing coordinator of volunteers and was always surrounded by friends. We all miss you, Paul.

William E. Bagwell, Jr., VAC member since 1983 passed to his Father's home 07 July 2009.

Arthur F. McDonald passed to his Father's home 24 August 2009. Arthur was a VAC member and a volunteer with the Grumman Gemlins Restoration team.

Guy W. Snyder, VAC member passed to his Father's home 18 June 2009. He was also a member of Silent Wings Museum in Snyder, Texas.

Larry Dehmlow and Hatcher M. James, Jr.



Hatcher M. James, Jr. – Service -August 26, 2009.
Larry Dehmlow – Service August 29, 2009. Two very special **American Heroes** were lost this past month. Hatcher James (left) and Larry Dehmlow (right) were both Pearl Harbor survivors and very active here at the museum and in our annual airshow military review. Both were here last year with our Open House to chat and visit with the visitors. Each one was eager to share his story and reach out to the young people with their living history. Each was dedicated to the Pearl Harbor Survivors' Organization and to many other historical groups. Our WWII parade grows smaller each year. You will be missed.

Ann

FACILITIES DIRECTOR

The past two months have been a busy time at the Valiant Air Command with normal every day items, septic tank problems, plumbing/water leaks, sidewalk cleaning, painting, etc., etc. Of course the big news is the Tico Belle is up and flying after eight years of rebuilding.

The gift shop has taken on a new improved look thanks to the efforts of our commander and sales have improved as a result. The aircraft in the display hangar are in constant repositioning as we try to place as many aircraft inside for our customers viewing comfort and to protect them in case Mother Nature decides to bestow a hurricane upon us.

One area that still needs attention is our motorized equipment. We are in desperate need of help in this area so if you or someone you know is able to volunteer and has the skills to maintain and upgrade this equipment please call the VAC.

Norm Lindsay

PROCUREMENT OFFICER

The summer doldrums slowed Procurement Activities, but the vacation time added visits to several Warbird Museums: Carolinas in North Carolina; Kalamazoo in Michigan; Army's Helicopter Museum in Alabama and a short trip to Oshkosh AirShow.

AH-1 COBRA --- Currently efforts are underway with the U.S. Army to obtain loan of a Cobra (Vietnam era) for static display in the new hangar. Progress is slow based on military requirements. None are currently available for loan.

OV-10 BRONCO --- With help from Robert "Flea" Meyer, we are in contact with the U.S. Dept. of State (Aviation Section) on their planned release of eleven (11) older OV-10 aircraft. The aircraft will be transferred to the Government Surplus Agency (GSA) for further disposition. However, GSA often puts active items up for sale. We are trying to establish contact with the appropriate office.

CERTIFICATION --- Revised and updated sets of applications and accreditation documents have been prepared and resubmitted to the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps Museums. Request was from the services.

L-5 SENTINEL --- The Lycoming #435 engine for the L-5 disassembled airplane that was donated to the VAC last year has arrived. Both will be a future restoration project.

SATURN MISSILE ENGINES --- A donation offer of two (2) rocket engines from the Saturn missile has been received. Inspection of the 1st stage and a 2nd stage engine suggests their physical size and condition poses space and manpower problems as well as not being true warbird airplane systems.

Bob Frazier

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

Another busy period in the Public Relations shop. Lots of outreach visits; school tours are starting to materialize and with the C-47 starting to give rides, we are doing lots of publicity associated with that. We are still trying to generate interest from the Shore Excursion Desk on the Carnival Pride vessel that docks at Port Canaveral each Wednesday.

We have begun working on our Veteran's Day Open House lineup 7-8 November, so watch the website for that. And, speaking of the website, if you have not visited lately, please check it out. We've added and updated a lot of areas. Thanks to Dave Rich our great webmaster, we continue to improve.

We've got several group tours lined up and catering events as well. Our tour guide program continues to be healthy and we've added about a dozen. If YOU have an interest in passing along the history and helping educate the public, give me a call.

It's never too early to start airshow planning and we are already working on the Poster and Program for next year's airshow.

Finally we are coordinating a couple of film ventures with the C-47. One interesting one involves filming a scene for an upcoming movie called "USS Sea Viper" -- you can do a search online and see a movie trailer that's already posted. Again, it's a very hectic time and seems like, as we slip into the fall, the pace will only increase so grab the throttles and tighten your seatbelt.

Terry Yon

EVENTS COORDINATOR

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Months of July, August, and September were busy ones at the VAC. The Fourth of July was deemed a success and everyone worked hard to make it go off with a bang, in spite of the wind and rain!

On July 15th, the Space Coast EDC hosted their Quarterly Meeting in the Main Hangar with 230

persons in attendance and a Shuttle Landing to top off the evening. Mayor Tulley was one of the guest speakers. The next morning, Rick Svetkoff and FIT had 24 gifted High Schools students who were part of the Governor's School of Florida's summer camp at KSC and they were treated to viewing their mounted camera (project) aboard the Starfighter 104.

We held a special birthday "breakfast" surprise for Roger Desplaines and shortly thereafter, Ann James' birthday in the library following the Gryphon Luncheon. We caught her off guard with a cake and gift certificate. Thanks to everyone for volunteering and joining in on the fun.

Two visits from ERAU kept the Tour Guides hopping. We had several groups over the summer, including the Space Coast Hog motorcyclists.

Bob Boswell and Lorraine Juhl stayed busy attending several Vendor Fairs, such as at the Jess Parrish Medical Center, Titus Nites in downtown Titusville, and the Brevard Zoo Teacher's Open House Night. They did a wonderful job promoting the VAC's many programs, Museum, Vietnam Warbird Hangar, and Tours specials.

Bud Evans, Frank Pound, and Phyllis Lackey attended the BCA's "Fall for the Arts" Premiere Street Party on September 24th. Honoree Michael Powell, Executive Director of the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority was chosen by the VAC as a person who really made special efforts this year to further the Museum's expansion and long-term growth as a tenant at the Airport.

During the month of October, we have the Cocoa Beach Air Show during the 3rd and 4th with the Golden Knights, a C-123, and the F-16 Viper East Team....with maybe even a possible "Meet and Greet" as the VAC assists with the "before and after" show times. Check the website for details.

The annual General Membership Dinner will be in the Main Hangar on October 10th with Dr. Erik Kramer as guest speaker.

On October 15th, John Gadzinski will be making a Safety Presentation in the VAC's Library which we will try to advertise publicly for interested pilots.

Oktoberfest at the Kissimmee Air Museum on Oct. 17th will allow us to promote C-47 rides and for a second time, the C-47 will be planning rides for takeoff from the VAC on the 24th. Thanks to everyone for keeping the "Tico Belle" up where it belongs.

For those who helped with the Valkaria Air Fest in February, they will be holding an "Appreciation BBQ"

on October 24th from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, as brought to our attention by VAC member Joe Cross. He does a lot of volunteering (even apart from the VAC) in the community and also is a supporter of Nana's House 5K Run/Walk-A-Thon on October 10th.

On the evening of Saturday, October 24th, the Brevard County Bar Association will hold a private Social Event/Dinner from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM in the Memorabilia Room and on the NW side of the Main Hangar, outside, in "Oktoberfest" fashion. Curator Frank Pound is scheduled as a Guest Speaker and anyone who would like to volunteer for setup, please get in touch with me. We should be busy, especially after the C-47 rides earlier that day.

Halloween concludes October with a SheltAir Open House at Orlando Executive Airport on the 31st with SheltAir supporting a local charity, "Russell Home." There will be hot dogs, trick-or-treating, static aircraft displays, our own C-47 rides in addition to their C-172 rides. Channel 13 will be covering the event and it's OPEN TO THE PUBLIC from 10 AM to 2 PM so get out and enjoy the holiday!

In November, the VAC will have Open House on the 7th and 8th, the Stuart AirShow is the 14th and 15th, AirShow Meeting on November 21st for key personnel/volunteers, and of course, the Museum will close in observance of Thanksgiving Day on the 26th.

The annual VAC Christmas Dinner on the 12th will follow a Pearl Harbor Day Special Event on the 7th, requested by four co-sponsors: North Brevard Funeral Home & Oaklawn Memorial Gardens, Hospice of St. Francis, Royal Oaks Nursing & Rehab Center and Benton House, an assisted living facility. It's in the earliest of planning stages, but Col. Danny McKnight will be the featured guest speaker and we're looking at an afternoon event. Bud Evans and Bob Boswell are planning the Daedalian Dinner at the VAC on the 19th. More info on these events will be available in early October.

Requests for events for January through September 2010 have already been coming in so the VAC will remain busy! We can always use volunteers so please don't hesitate to offer your help wherever and whenever possible. Enjoy the Holiday Season.

See Ya Soon!

Phyllis Lackey



ORLANDO EXECUTIVE AIRPORT

SHELTAIR AVIATION SERVICES

OPEN HOUSE

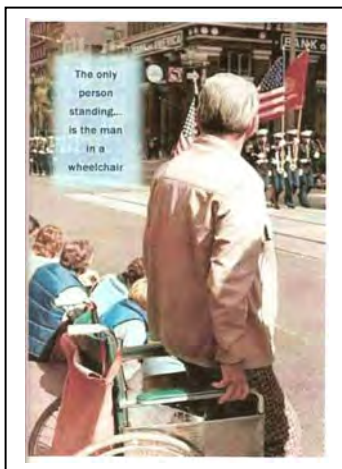
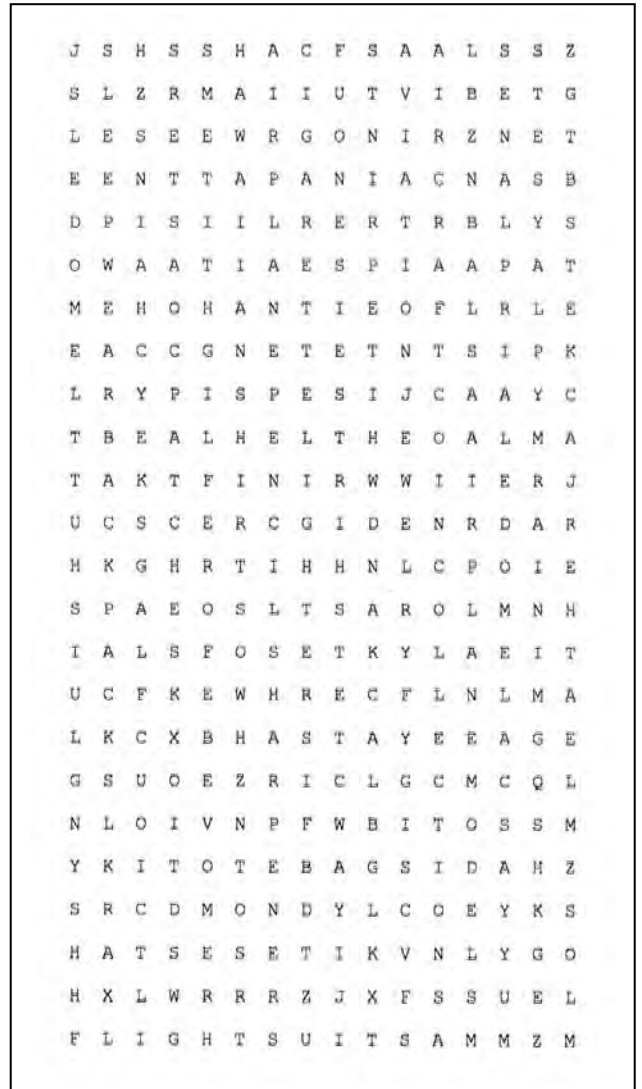
Saturday, October 31, 2009 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
 Local Charity – “Russell Home,” Mastercraft Dealer Display,
 Trick-or-Treat – Candy
 Bounce House,
 Hot Dogs, Local News (Channel 13),
 Mass Mailer from Sheltair
 Fun Spot, C-47 Rides / PX / VAC Display,
 Static A/C Displays, Aircraft Rides in C-172,
 Flight School Open House,
 Cessna Dealer Displays



AIRCRAFT CLASSIFICATION SYMBOLS SOLUTION		
A	d	12
Q	j	1
AH	b	9
T	f	13
C	g	8
KC	p	2
E	q	7
L	h	17
RC	m	14
UH	o	15
F	t	20
U	e	4
AC	i	3
HH	l	19
P	r	18
B	s	5
O	c	11
TBM	n	16
PBY	k	10
X	a	6

Are you looking for a unique gift for that special someone for Christmas? Please consider shopping at your Museum Gift Shop. We have several new items and also items on special sale. In the word search below, you will find several items – one may be just what you’re looking for.

MUSEUM GIFT SHOP ITEMS



- Aircraft Coin Collections
- Airplane Pencil Sharpeners
- Aviation Jewelry
- Back Packs
- Balsa Airplane Models
- Black and White Prints
- Books
- Cigarette Lighters
- Coasters
- Flags
- Flightsuits
- Gliders
- Hats
- Hawaiian Shirts
- Key Chains
- Kites
- Leather Jackets
- Mini Army Playsets
- Mugs
- Onesies
- Patches
- Remove Before Flight Items
- Scale Model Airplanes
- Shuttle Models
- Sleepwear
- Tote Bags
- T-Shirts

DON'T MISS THESE EVENTS

On Thursday, October 15, at 10 AM the Valiant Air Command (VAC) will host a free safety seminar, “**Ways to Make Flying Safer**” in the Warbird Air Museum at the Space Coast Regional Airport, Titusville, FL. The speaker will be Southwest Airlines **Capt John Gadzinski**. Capt. Gadzinski serves as an Air Safety Investigator and Air Safety Director of the Coalition of Airline Pilots Association (CAPA). Capt Gadzinski has participated in accident investigations, safety workshops, and frequently speaks on the subject. Call the VAC at 321-268-1941.



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2009

STARTS AT 5 PM

Cocktail/Social Hour – Cash bar

Guest Speaker: Dr. Erik Kramer
“Dutch Civilians in Japanese
Concentration Camps during WWII”

Menu

Vegetable & Relish Tray

Fruit & Cheeses

Spinach Dip

Assorted Rolls and butter

Tossed Garden Salad with House Dressing

Prime Rib, Twice Baked Potatoes, Green Beans

Chicken Florentine, Wild Rice, Roasted Vegetables

Assorted Mini Tortes

Iced Tea and Coffee

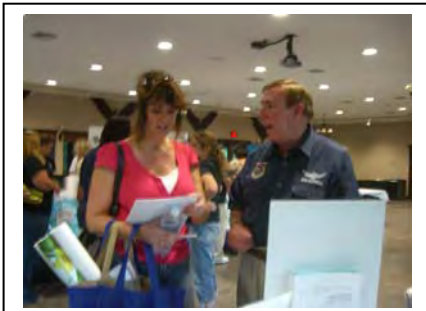
\$20 per person

Come enjoy this special night!

RSVP Sign-up Sheet in PX Gift Shop

Call 321-268-1941

MORE EVENTS DURING JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER



Bob Boswell explains Vietnam Memorial Center to a teacher at Brevard Zoo's Teacher's Open House Night.



Governors' School of Florida for Gifted High School Students visits the VAC.



Florida Institute of Technology (F.I.T.) students fly-in for VAC visit.



Aircraft F.I.T. students flew in to visit VAC.



Italian film crew equivalent to PBS filming documentary of Avenger Flight 19.

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**ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER
SATURDAY, 10 OCTOBER
BEGINS AT 5:00 PM WITH SOCIAL HOUR
IN THE MAIN HANGAR**

**VALIANT AIR COMMAND OPEN HOUSE
VETERAN'S DAY 07 & 08 NOVEMBER 9 AM to 5 PM
"PLANES, TRAINS & AUTOMOBILES"
FREE ADMISSION**

**TICO WARBIRD AIRSHOW 2010 MEETING
SATURDAY, 21 NOVEMBER AT NOON IN THE VAC LIBRARY**

**VAC CHRISTMAS DINNER
SATURDAY 12 DECEMBER
BEGINS WITH SOCIAL HOUR AT 5:00 PM**