



SUMMER 2016 NEWSLETTER

It has been a very busy and productive quarter at Air Heritage!

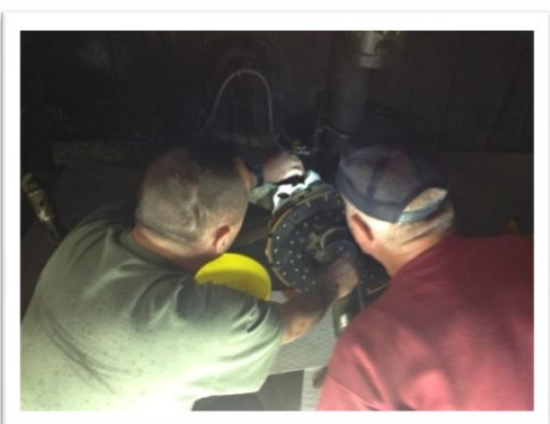
Luck of the Irish has seen quite a few improvements over the past several months. The astrodome has been installed, and the nose art is painted on one side of the nose. Ralph Zinkham has done the artwork, and Greg Werking and Sweet Ole Bill Whipkey did most of the work on the astrodome. The dome allows the navigator to "shoot the stars", the term used for celestial navigation in which the navigator uses a sextant to plot the course using the stars as waypoints, an ancient method that is still in use.



Member Dave Messersmith organized a few work days to push through the remaining sections of paint stripping. Many people came out to help, and were rewarded with a pizza lunch for their efforts!

Thunderpig, our moneymaking movie star, had a rough start this summer. Her number 2 engine simply refused to start, causing her to miss two air shows. Much hard thinking had to be done in the troubleshooting process, but eventually a loose wire was discovered in the magneto. Fixing that allowed her to fulfill her airshow commitments. She also made the trip to Oshkosh, Wisconsin for the giant airshow. Her most recent engine fix will be the replacement of 2 new exciters put on order 10 August by Pat Findley and Bill Maurhoff.

A wide range of aircraft maintenance has been accomplished by many volunteers.



Bill McKendry and Jim Ackley did the brake installation and Bob Gbur was in the cockpit for the bleeding of the brakes



Pat Findlay commands no. 2 to behave.

"Smokin"

The **T-28 Trojan** has been receiving special attention from Bill Slingluff who manufactured a new oil cooling door. Making the piece was difficult due to the multiple curved areas. Bill states that he had to use an “English Wheel” to accomplish the task. Also on the Trojan, Jim Ackley has both canopies off and has been doing extensive anti-corrosion work on the sill and nearby areas.



Crew Chief George Field has pressured washed the Phantom in preparation for a fresh paint job. There are still many surface blemishes and panel adjustments that must get fixed first however, so if anyone is interested in giving George a hand, please let us know.

The Mooney has had her annual inspection, thanks to Ron Marco, certified FAA Inspector. Here we see Bill Schillig taking her out for a spin around the pattern.



Air Heritage is committed to community enrichment serving a wide variety of groups by providing enriching tours of our museum and aircraft restoration projects.

Often these visits result in monetary gifts, such as the \$30 donation presented to Air Heritage by the Job Training of Beaver County group. On a recent Saturday, Boy Scout Troop 344 from Wexford brought a large group of boys for a tour. Shortly after they left, all the Air Heritage crew was sitting down for a break when the Boy Scouts returned with 2 large pizzas and \$41! Thanks to the wonderful spirited Scouts who gave us this treat!

Donations arrive at Air Heritage frequently. One of the most recent acquisitions were many mounted posters and other memorabilia from the early days of aviation in Pennsylvania. Air Heritage gratefully acknowledges the generous donation of these artifacts by Ramona Polen, widow of Peter Polen, a life-long devotee of aviation and flying. Mr. Polen had created many exhibits for the Piper Museum in Lock Haven, PA. In addition, there was quite a collection focusing upon early local airlines, such as *Pennsylvania Airlines* which boasted a regular scheduled flight labeled "*The Morning Midwesterner*" serving routes from Washington D.C., Pittsburgh or Akron to Toledo, Detroit, Chicago and points west and northwest. ***WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP MAKE A DISPLAY TO SHOWCASE THESE ARTIFACTS.*** If you are creative and would like to make the museum showcase something new, please contact Donna Kelly. THANKS!

THE AIR HERITAGE LIBRARIANS are requesting that persons donating materials to the library to **PLEASE** put their names inside the materials. We would like to know where the materials come from to thank the donors.

PIG ROAST

A total of \$2,000 was the profit from this year's Pig Roast, and this money has been placed in the investment fund. Treasurer Jamie Daugherty states that we are in good shape at the mid-year point.

The **FORD TRI-MOTOR** earned \$1,522 from the EAA, and an extra \$300 from the Concerned Veterans for America. We are still waiting on a donation from our bank, Wesbanco.

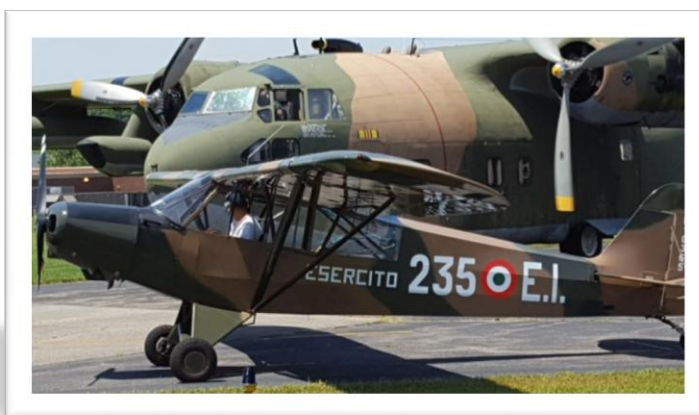
President's Corner

Air Heritage was the recipient of a check for \$1,780 as a result of H&R Block's Non-Profit Referral Program Referral program. We thank Mr. Lee Savio for getting Air Heritage into the program. We thank all the personnel at H&R Block that made this program work for us. This is a big boost towards our goal of "Turning the past into the Present" by restoring vintage aircraft.

The Thunder Pig did not make it to two of our scheduled airshows this year due to a number 2 engine start problem. Our experts, from the retired 911th crew and Bob Gbur think that they have it fixed. We were able to take it to Somerset, one week later, and got back to Air Heritage with no problems. The engine start on No 2 is still not as it should be, but we continue to work on it.

Aviation Appreciation Day is 20 August. We could use your help to make this day a success. If you could spare at least a couple of hours to help out on that day, it would be greatly appreciated.

The Ford Tri Motor Weekend was a lot of fun. All of our volunteers got rides in the aircraft. If you did not come out to help, you missed out. I want to extend a very grateful thank you to all who helped out. A special thanks to Donna Kelly who put in an extraordinary amount of work to set this Tri-Motor weekend up.



Air Heritage is sad to announce the passing of one of our dear members, retired Air Force SMSGT John Fahrney. He died very unexpectedly on 29 July, 2016.



The **FORD TRI-MOTOR EVENT WAS FIVE DAYS OF HARD WORK AND FUN**, and the **VOLUNTEERS of AIR HERITAGE** should be very proud of themselves for making the whole thing go so smoothly.

Upon its arrival, the Tri-Motor was swamped with interested workers and visitors.



Ramp Rats Chris Osman and Larry Goggins take a break from hot work on the ramp.



Two 1929
Ford products



FORD TRI-MOTOR EVENT continued...

Our beautiful and highly skilled **Flight Safety Briefers** were fantastic and added a touch of glamour to the event. Thanks to **Lisa Shelton, Hedy Marinacchio, Tammy Peterson, Wanda Zombeck-Couch, and Andrea Peterson Spade** for doing such a great job!



Dale Bonner excelled in his role as Safety Briefer, Historian, flight line guy and P.R. Specialist. Dale really added to the event with his non-stop positive attitude and happy smile. THANKS, DALE!!



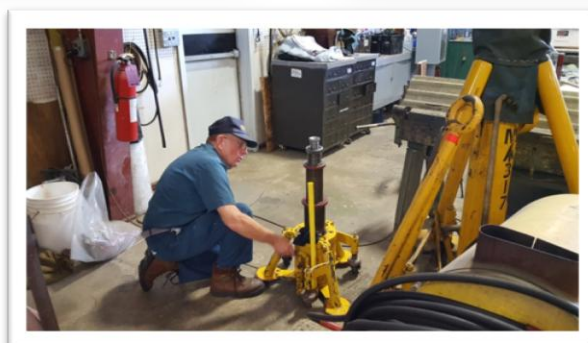
Lois Wyke ran the PX with a little help from **Hedy Marinacchio**, and **Robin and Jim Ackley** sold drinks.

CHECK OUT THE McDonald's RESTAURANT in CHIPPEWA! THE ENTIRE LOBBY HAS BEEN DECORATED IN AIR HERITAGE PHOTOGRAPHS! The photos are very large and show different facets of what Air Heritage is all about. The photographer was our own **Bob Monnick** (the son) and the aerial photos were accomplished by Bob with **Tyler Kahn** flying. Captions were written by **Donna Kelly**. For our help in this, McDonald's donated \$300 toward the Ford Tri-Motor Event. Please stop in and see the great pictures, and thanks to Bob and Tyler!!



Here we see Tyler Kahn sitting in the door of Thunderpig, but what is really great is that he is now in the checkout stages of flying her as well. Tyler has been at the controls twice now, and has accumulated 1.8 hours of flying time on the C-123. Good work, Tyler!!

Teamwork is a vital part of accomplishing the mission Air Heritage. For example, look at the jack that **Ralph Zinkham** found on the internet. He and **Dave Matthews** made a day trip to Kentucky to pick them up. The set was missing one lock nut which finally had to be machined. One of the new jacks can now be seen underneath the tail wheel of the C-47 where it will soon be used to raise the aircraft to allow for a landing gear retraction. Even our member clergyman helped out! Here, the Reverend Gary Brown asks for blessings upon our new jack.



Next Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, 08 September, 2016 at 6:00 PM

Next General Membership Meeting: Thursday, 08 September, 2016 at 7:00 PM

Aviation Appreciation Day is coming up on **August 20th**. This year, along with our regular events, **we will be giving rides in our three smaller aircraft**, the Mooney, The L-21 Piper Supercub, and the Cessna 150. The price will be a set donation amount.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTERS!! YOU ARE MISSING ALL THE FUN!!!



There are all kinds of things to do at Air Heritage. If you are a member and you are not taking advantage of all the great opportunities, well, all I can say is that you are missing out! There is more to do than just aircraft restoration. We have artistic displays that need to be created, stuff to build, things to find, and much, much more! Come in and see what's happening at Air Heritage!!





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2016 Air Heritage Officers and Board Members: President Bill Schillig; Vice-President Ralph Zinkham, Secretary Lois Wyke; Treasurer Jamie Daugherty. Board Members: Jim Ackley, Bob Gbur, Bill McKendry, Jack McMahon, Blaine Trent. Museum Curator: Milt Pettipiece Airshow Coordinator: Jack McMahon Chief Financial Officer: Pete Frontini Newsletter Editor and Writer: Donna J. Kelly

Notice: All members are welcome to submit articles of aviation history.