MINNESOTÀ AIR NATIONAL GUARD HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

### MINNESOTA ANG MUSEUM NEWS

Minnesota Aviation History - Learn of the Past Spring 2015



#### **MUSEUM PHOTO PHANTOM HITTING THE ROAD AGAIN**

by Jim Atwell



We posted an article in our spring 2014 newsletter regarding progress being made to refurbish a trailer to transport the photo phantom to off base venues such as air shows and other events. We are happy to report that the hard work and long hours performed by our volunteers are coming to a fully successful completion. The photo phantom is scheduled for public showings in numerous locations around Minnesota and Wisconsin. Please go to our website: http:// mnangmuseum.org for details on dates and locations. We enjoy inviting the public to sit in the cockpit of a real USAF fighter aircraft and experience viewing all the technology of this aircrafts era. People will have the opportunity to speak with personnel who actually flew and maintained these amazing aircraft. We guarantee a truly remarkable experience.

The Photo Phantom in front of the Minnesota state capitol during the Taste of Minnesota in 2000 brings the experience to the people. *photo by Kirk Ransom* 

#### Also inside:

- New board chairman introduced
- Open visitor days schedule announced
- Hueys are popular with museum friends



#### New tool and work area provides volunteers opportunities



Since late fall 2014, the volunteers have been working hard to set up a maintenance area in hangar four. With the financial assistance of Harry Alton, life member of the museum, and Paul Glazer, the Museum has been able to set up the work area. The museum has purchased new

and used tooling equipment including a bandsaw, belt sander, sheetmetal foot shear, sheetmetal brake, sheetmetal slip roller, paint shaker, drill press, pressure washer, bench grinder, and sixfoot high scaffolding.

With this tooling equipment, the museum volunteers will be able to do more complex repairs and updates on aircraft and equipment. We will be able to cover engine inlets to keep the birds out, manufacture floor boards in the cockpit of the C-97 aircraft, and make numerous sheet metal repairs on other aircraft. The museum volunteers will be able to do the work more quickly and have much better results because of the new work area and equipment.

#### **OUR WISH LIST FOR THE MUSEUM:**

Tents (Open sided "canopy"style)
for gift shop use at offsite events
Mannequins
Portable electric heaters
Portable Generators
Electrical Air Circulation Fans
Laminating Machine
Professional Matt Cutter
MNANG memorabilia from recent deployments

The Minnesota Air National Guard Museum would like to thank the following for their contributions:

- 934th Airlift Wing for the donation of a T-56-7 turboprop engine display
- Bill Flaspeter, retired Chief Master Sgt., for the pilot's manual and round time & distance computer
- Kelly & Lemmons, P.A., Keven Beck, Attorney for legal services
- Karen Wolf new life member
- Harry Alton financial assistance

#### Meet the board - Brian Wyneken

In 2011 I became the Vice Wing Commander for the 133rd Airlift Wing. One of my duties was to serve as an advisor to the Minnesota Air National Guard Historical Foundation board, which I did until my military retirement in September of 2014.

I got to know the board's operation and the members and was very impressed with the progress they were making in the museum operations and their financial management. I had wanted to stay involved, so I was very pleased when several of the board members asked if I would consider becoming a board member.

I have volunteered to help with updating the foundation's "governance" documents: the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws. My background as an attorney has been useful in this regard. I am also interested in helping with up-

dating any business practice and procedure guides, helping me to better understand how the museum operates. I also hope to assist with planning for the 100th anniversary of the Minnesota Air National Guard.

Being involved with the foundation and the museum helps me keep in touch with old friends and provides purpose for continuing to be involved. I very much appreciate this opportunity to serve on the Foundation board.

#### Mission Statement:

The mission of the Minnesota Air National Guard Historical Foundation is to preserve the heritage and traditions of the Minnesota Air National Guard.

Board Members:

Chairman: Brian Wyneken Vice Chairman: Karen Wolf Secretary: Terry Morris

Executive Dir./Dir. of Operations: Mike Drews

Treasurer: Tom Simonet

Members: Ray Pittman, Bob Minish, Rick Heinecke,

Jerry Schultz, Brig. Gen. Greg Haase Wing Advisor: Col. Loren Hubert

Legal Counsel: Kelly & Lemmons, P.A., Joe Kelly

and Kevin Beck

Newsletter editor: Jim Atwell Assistant editor: Mark Moss

#### Museum Hours:

9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Open Visitor Saturdays, open to public. See museum website for dates (http://mnangmuseum.org).
Tours can be arranged through Stan Christianson (stanangmuseum@gmail.com)

or call him at 612-713-2523.

Address all correspondence to: Minnesota Air Guard Museum P.O. Box 11598 St. Paul, MN 55111-0598

(The Minnesota Air National Guard Historical Foundation is a non-profit organization and not affiliated with the Department of Defense, Minnesota National Guard or the 133rd Airlift Wing)

#### **OUR READER INPUT IS IMPORTANT TO US**

We would love hearing from our readers regarding the style, look and format of our newsletters. We are committed to always improving on what we provide as a window to the Minnesota Air National Guard Museum and all it has to offer. For instance, do you prefer a black and white edition or are you happy with the color in our articles? Are six pages enough? Would more be better? Less? Your input is valuable so that we are providing you with the very best of what we have to offer in each and every edition. Additionally, do you want to receive your newsletter by mail or electronically via email? Please let us know your thoughts with an email to: mnangmuseum1@gmail.com or mail it to Minnesota Air National Guard Museum, PO Box 11598, St. Paul, MN 55111.

**Vice Chairman's comments** 

As noted in the Fall newsletter, the museum was hoping for funding to make improvements in our collections management realm. I am happy to report that we were awarded a \$5,373 grant to do just that. We now will be able to buy a new computer, upgrade our PastPerfect software, and purchase a camera which will be used to document our artifacts and archives. We will also enlist the expertise of Museology to write our collections management policy and procedures manual and will receive training in its use. I will reiterate again, anyone who is interested in volunteering to help in the inventory of our artifacts and archives, please let us know by email at mnangmuseum1@gmail.com. The inventory is ready to start now!

The museum is looking to add a new display to celebrate the service of our younger Guard members. We would like to include historic memorabilia from the 1990s to the present day—donations are encouraged that represent deployments during Desert Storm, Bosnia, Somalia, Afghanistan and Iraq, 9/11, and Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy. We would welcome any items you (or someone you know) would like to donate that represents the dedication and spirit of today's Air National Guard. Please contact us by email with any questions or donation ideas.

We are working on our 2014 Annual Report that will be published on-line on our museum website. It is wonderful to see how the museum has done financially and the activities that have been accomplished. We continue to collaborate with other aviation museums and with AirSpaceMN, as we continue to work for a new museum space off of the base. If you would like a hard copy of the Annual Report, please let us know.

Finally, I would like to announce that we have a new Board Chairman. Brian Wyneken, who is featured in our "Meet the Board" this month, will bring a host of strengths to the office. Look for his comments in the next newsletter. *Karen Wolf* 

#### 2015 OPEN VISITOR DAYS SCHEDULE

April 25
May 9 & 23
June 20
July 18
August 8 & 22
September 5 & 26
October 10

This schedule is subject to change so please check our website: (http://mnangmuseum.org) for updates.

## Our Volunteers: George Brown story and photo by Terry Morris



George Brown is a 16yr+ volunteer at the Minnesota Air National Guard Museum. He became a volunteer after attending a 1998 military expo held at MSP-IAP. While viewing the aircraft at the expo especially the museum's then owned A-12 Blackbird, he ran into Ron Hokenson who told him about the museum and the restoration work being done by its volunteers. George, who had served in Vietnam on the aircraft

carriers USS Coral Sea and USS Intrepid as an aviation electrician for A-1H Skyraiders, saw a great opportunity to re-employ the skills he had acquired in the Navy. Since then he has been involved with the interior restoration of a number of the museum's aircraft including the C-131, MIG-15, T-28D, and UH-1 just to name a few. Being a former naval aviation specialist, at the museum he is especially proud of his work on our T-28D which was acquired from the US Navy. In addition, George is active in Geocaching and has set up several caches at the museum including one on our F-16.

Interestingly when asked what his favorite airplane is, George will answer the F-7F Tigercat, a sleek Grumman twin engine fighter that entered service with the Navy and Marine Corps at the end of WWII.

When asked what he likes most about being a volunteer, George will immediately answer the camaraderie of the volunteers along with their dedication and competence.

#### You can become a volunteer

Do you want to learn something new?

Are you dreaming about flying but don't know where to start? Did you ever wonder what historic airplanes look like from the inside?

Are you deeply interested in history & research, especially aviation?

Do you have a hard time putting your tools down when restoring and fixing things?

Do you enjoy working with people and listening to historic stories & eye witness accounts not found in any books?

Do you have a passion for sharing knowledge, public education? Do you enjoy planning events?

The Minnesota Air National Guard Museum is looking for great people to join our volunteer team.

Our focus it to preserve the heritage and traditions of the Minnesota's Air National Guard.

That includes maintaining and operating a museum and library. Promote and encourage research into the history, traditions. Take custody, restore, catalogue, and validate historic objects and artifacts. Foster and promote public knowledge and interest in local military history, as part of the continuing military history. Volunteers at the museum can engage in a variety of opportunities to apply diverse skills, learn new skills and meet great people in the process.

#### Become a Volunteer

Volunteer positions are open to all individuals with an interest and commitment of service to the museum who are

# Opportunities include: Face of the Museum and Visitor Experience Behind the scene

Operations
Awareness and education
Docent (Tour Guide)

## **Visitor Experience**Gift shop

Open visitor days

Greeters

## Event Planning and Executions

Special event planning Birthday parties Photographer

#### **Museums Operations**

Administrative assistant
Data entry
Newsletter committee
Photographer

#### **Research and Archiving**

Collections archivist Librarian

#### Maintenance and Artifact Preservation

Museum maintenance Exhibit development and construction Artifact restoration

at least 18 years of age, a US Citizen and able to perform defined duties. Volunteers work independently with other volunteers and with the permanent museum staff.

If you have skills or just simply a passion that could help bring the Minnesota Air National Guard's rich history to others please consider contacting us at 612-713-2523, or fill out the volunteer form at http://mnang-museum.org/about/volunteer/ and email it to mnangmuseum1@gmail.com or mail it to Minnesota Air National Guard Museum, PO Box 11598, St. Paul, MN 55111.

#### BELL UH-1H IROQUOIS U.S. ARMY SERIAL NUMBERS 65-10077 and 64-13882

The Bell UH-1H Iroquois, or better known as the "Huey" was flown by the Minnesota U.S. Army National Guard and Reserve, the pictured helicopter last flew with the U.S. Army National Guard. The UH-1 is a military helicopter powered by a single, turboshaft engine, with a two bladed main and tail rotor. The helicopter was developed by Bell Helicopter to meet the United States requirement for a medical evacuation and utility helicopter in 1952 and first flew on October 20, 1956.

The UH-1 was the first turbine powered helicopter to enter production for the United States military and more than 16,000 have been built worldwide. The first combat operation of the UH-1 was in the service of the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. Approximately 7,000 UH-1 aircraft saw service in Vietnam. During the Vietnam War the UH-1 was used for various purposes. UH-1s tasked with ground attack or armed escort roles were outfitted with rocket launchers and machine guns these gunships were commonly referred to as "Frogs or Hogs" if they carried rockets and "Cobras or Guns" if they had guns. UH-1s tasked for troop transport were often referred to as "Slicks" due to the absence of weapons pods. UH-1s were referred to as "Dust Off" if used for medical evacuation.

COST: \$4,700,000

**CREW: 1-4** 

CAPACITY: 3,880 POUNDS INCLUDING 14 TROOPS OR 6 STRETCHERS OR EQUIVALENT CARGO

LENGTH: 57 FEET, 1 INCH WITH ROTORS

WINGSPAN: 48 FEET

HEIGHT: 14 FEET, 5 INCHES MAXIMUM SPEED: 135 MPH

RANGE: 315 MILES

SERVICE CEILING: 19,390 FEET

ARMAMENT: VARIABLE BUT MAY INCLUDE TWO 7.62 MM M60 MACHINE GUNS, OR TWO 7.62 MM GAU-17/A MACHINE GUNS. TWO 7 OR 19 ROUND 2.75 INCH ROCKET PODS.

Interesting Facts: The original designation was HU-1 which led to the helicopters nickname of "Huey". During the Vietnam War 3,305 UH-1s were destroyed. This museum maintains two UH-1H helicopters in its collection, serial numbers 65-10077 and 64-13882. We know that UH-1H 65-10077 saw service in Vietnam during the war. Its first assignment was with the 57th Medical Detachment which was designated the

original "Dust Off" and on July 16, 1967 was damaged by enemy fire while performing a medical evacuation. The damage was just bullet holes in the main rotors and was able to complete the mission.

Later 65-10077 was assigned to the 187th Assault Helicopter Company "Blackhawks" in Tay Ninh South Vietnam. The 187th Assault Helicopter Company supported several ground units, its major support was given to the 25th Infantry Division and the 4/9 Infantry, in particular. 65-10077 was used during the defense of Fire Support Base Burt, where a young Sergeant Oliver Stone was wounded and evacuated out of the battle. He went on to write and produce a movie which culminated in the recount of that battle which was titled "Platoon".



Minnesota ANG museum's UH-1H helicopters in the hangar and (on the cover) outside. *file photos* 

On November 8th, 1968 65-10077 received enemy fire and was shot down due to damage to the fuel system. There were no injuries or additional damage and the aircraft was sling loaded out of the forced landing area and returned to Cu Chi South Vietnam where it was repaired and returned to service. On another mission this UH-1 was one of fifteen used in the mission that ended the day with only five remaining. Two were destroyed and the rest were damaged to the extent that they needed repairs to return to flying service. Inside an access door on the right rear of the helicopter repaired battle damage from small arms fire is still visible

We do not know the history of UH-1 64-13882 however it is highly likely that it also saw service during the Vietnam War. The UH-1 and their gallant crews played a vital role in the Vietnam War.

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## Museum receives donated C-130 T-56 trainer turboprop jet engine



On Feb. 26, 2015 the Minnesota Air National Guard Museum was fortunate to take possession of a T-56 trainer turboprop jet engine from the 934th Airlift Wing, USAF Reserve based at MSP. The T-56 engine is used on C-130B and 130E model aircraft. We plan to display this engine next to the C-130 in the air park. The engine will provide a learning experience for the public about the C-130 and the engine that powers it. We are very thankful to the 934th for this generous donation to the museum.

The Minnesota Air National Guard's 179th Fighter Squadron in Duluth adopted the Bulldog emblem following a contest for the insignia. Designed by Thomas Rydak, The insignia was approved in 1953. Aggressive and tenacious in battle, the bulldog, wearing a flying helmet and leaning on a machine gun, symbolizes the air defense mission of the unit. *Cave Canum* is Latin for "beware of the dog." Being close to the Canadian border, the squadron slogan is "Bulldogs of the Border." The Word "Bulldogs" is also emblazoned on the squadron's current Lockheed F-16C Fighting Falcon fighters.