



June 2010 Newsletter

AtlanticCanadaAviationMuseum.com

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Unfortunately the June Newsletter has been late in completion due to a number of complications but we hope this will provide a good update of the Museum activities. It covers activities into the summer open season.

Your editor thanks all those who provide the information and photos that make the issues possible.

We again encourage anyone who wishes to send in their annual membership dues and may not have yet done so to take advantage of the information at the end of the issue to do so.

We wish all our members and supporters a great summer.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

“Our opening for the season has gone smoothly. We are fortunate to have an experienced staff with two of the three summer students having a number of years with us.

The new carpet in the Silver Dart Gallery has greatly enhanced the overall appearance of the interior. With the completion of the Jetstar

renovation, including a VHF scanner, and in addition a new radio controlled interactive display on the mezzanine, things are looking very good and functioning very well

It is unfortunate for ACAM as well as a number of other museums that HRM has decided to terminate its Visitor Information Centers next year as a cost saving measure. Our relationship with our VIC guests over the years has been very beneficial to us and, I believe, to them. Soldiering on without them is going to take some wise and prudent action. In that regard we have been offered an opportunity to work in a mutually beneficial way with the aviation department of the Dartmouth branch of the Nova Scotia Community College. This is an opportunity that we need to make the most of.

I anticipate that we will hold our AGM in late September. The time has come as it periodically does, to rethink the roles, tasks, and personnel of the executive. I urgently ask any of you that are prepared to devote some time to the management and representation of ACAM to make that known in order to plan for the ongoing continuity of our operations which have worked so smoothly and well over the past years.

GIFT SHOP REPORT

The Gift Shop is again in full operation with the opening of the Museum for the season.

Manager Dave McMahon reports that he has brought in ACAM branded items such as hats, pens and key fobs. He is also bringing in pins, coasters, clocks, crests, and shirts all with our logo.

Dave invites all to come in and check out these and the many other items carried by the shop.

MEMBERSHIP

We again thank all of those who have sent in their membership dues for 2010. As you know the revenues received are a valuable source of income and are indeed an indication of your continued interest in the Museum.

Membership dues are \$25.00 single and \$30.00 family. A convenient form is included at the end of the Newsletter for sending them in.

SPRING PREPARATIONS

Every spring there is a major effort required to prepare the Museum for the summer season. One of those duties is the cleanup of the property on which the Museum is located.



photo – Michael White

One of ACAM's long term members is Danny MacLaughlin who arrived at the Museum with

his grass mowing equipment to help put the property into good shape for the season.

Danny is one of those who always seems to be around when most needed. When it was time to undertake the very difficult task of moving the Museum's CF-101 Voodoo and the Lockheed Jetstar from the Halifax International Airport to the Museum it was Danny who took on a lead role in the operation. It was again Danny who was key in the relocation of aircraft from the display hangar to allow the entry of the Jetstar and the rearrangement of aircraft on display. Again he was at the former CFB Chatham when it was time to move the Golden Hawk Sabre to Halifax.

It is such people that keep our Museum in operation.



photo – Michael White

Looking good again!

Thanks Danny.

EARLY VISITORS

One of the great pleasures in being involved with the Museum is in the variety of visitors we receive. Some of the early visitors this year follow:



photos – Michael White

The “146” Simulator attracts attention and we also have frequent visitors from the deer population! Michael points out that this one is not a true albino as it lacks pink eyes – impressive though.

WE HAVE AN AUTHOR

As some of you may know our Museum stalwart Michael White has published his first novel – “WHAT ELSE CAN GO WRONG”

A fascinating fictional account of the final flight of a giant US C-5B Galaxie transport sent on a secret mission that had an unfortunate ending.

With very much of Nova Scotia content the novel follows the fortunes of the many people affected by the final hours of the aircraft and its crew.

The novel is available through Michael at mga1937@hotmail.com in a soft cover version at \$17.00 plus \$10.00 postage. It is also available in the Gift Shop as well as from Trafford publishing and can be ordered through many of your local book stores.

It is an interesting and fun read and our congratulations to Michael on a very impressive first effort indeed.

Our thanks also go to Michael for again managing the Museum during the month of May before the regular summer staff was available and your editor’s personal thanks for his many contributions to the Newsletter.

SILVER DART GALLERY CARPETTING

In 2007 a project was undertaken to replace the very worn carpet in the Silver Dart Gallery with new carpeting as part of an effort to upgrade the overall gallery.

Fundraising was undertaken with contributions sought from Museum Members, Supporters and Corporations all of whom have come through in support of this much needed improvement.

A contract was awarded to Commercial Carpet Centre who carried out the work in early May. The old carpeting was removed, old adhesive

removed and the floor leveled as required and the new carpet laid in 12' strips.

A huge part of the project was the relocation of the many display cabinets, dioramas and vertical panels to one end of the Gallery while the carpet was laid in one area and then moved back to the completed areas. Along with this was the movement of the three helicopters as required to allow the work to proceed.

All of this very difficult task was carried out by our Museum volunteers whose efforts are greatly appreciated.



photo – Ron Cunningham

Carpet being laid under the CF-104



photo – Michael White

Final result near the "104"

On Saturday June 26th a dedication was held at the Museum followed by a BBQ to recognize the achievement and the efforts of so many. A

plaque was dedicated listing all the individuals and corporations that made this very worthwhile project possible.



photo – Ron Cunningham

Plaque recognizing all those involved



photo – Michael White

Some of those who gathered for the event

Unfortunately the national organization of women pilots – the "NINETY NINES", a long term supporter of the Museum, had hoped to

be present with a plaque recognizing the achievement but were prevented from doing so by travel arrangements brought about by the G-20 event in Toronto. They plan to be here at a later date.

Many thanks to Ron Cunningham for his leadership in this very successful effort and to his wife Margie and daughter Clare in preparing for the dedication.

NEW IN THE MARITIME SKIES



The Navy welcomes the preproduction version of the new CH148 “Cyclone” Helicopter to Shearwater – at last the replacement for the venerable “Sea King”



New Brunswick’s Forest Protection Limited welcomed its latest version of the Air Tractor AT-802F to join its fire fighting fleet – the amphibious “Fire Boss”. The aircraft has a power increase over the standard 802F of some

240 shp with its 1600 shp P&W PT6A-67RF and loads water into its 820 US Gallon fuselage mounted hopper from probes located in the floats.

Unfortunately FPL has experienced the loss of TBM Avenger Tanker 22 in a crash that also took the life of pilot Ron Clowes. Indications from preliminary reports are that there was no apparent mechanical failure involved.

This reduces the FPL fleet of Avengers to two which continue to serve their fire fighting role

PROGRESS REPORTS

Lockheed Jetstar



photo – Dave McMahon

Certainly the major project news of this month is the completion of the restoration of this fascinating aircraft and its availability for onboard visiting. Much has been accomplished in preparing this fascinating aircraft for full access by Museum visitors.

Its use in Prime Ministerial travel is well known and adds to its interest. It also gives those who might never experience a flight in such an aircraft a great experience.

Much has been accomplished over the past few years in thoroughly restoring the interior to remove any evidence of its previous long period in outdoor storage.

The past winter was particularly active in this project with the installation of new carpeting

along with restoration of interior lighting and window curtains, final cockpit restoration and clear locked panels to provide full cockpit viewing without entry, a VHF Scanner with local radio traffic playing, elevation of landing gear on supports, touch up painting where required, clearing of the area around and under the aircraft and cleaning and buffing of upper wing surfaces.



photos – Michael White

Don Hirtle and Steve Cochrane lead much of this years efforts on the project but virtually all of our volunteers had some part in bringing this aircraft to full display status

Thanks to all involved.

Cessna L-19 Birddog



photo – Colin Wilmschurst

Work on the L-19 continued over the winter months and this exciting restoration is now awaiting final painting as the opportunity arises.

Since its acquisition by the Museum the aircraft has been largely dismantled, components restored, and carefully reassembled

Colin Wilmshurst continues his leadership and personal effort in this project which will give the Museum a very effective example of a light aircraft in the service of our armed forces.

Piper PA-38 Tomahawk



photo – Bill Leeming

The aircraft has now been reassembled and a stand is being developed that will allow it to be placed on display in an elevated position in much the manner that the Ercoupe has been displayed so effectively.

The quality of the paint job is evident in the photo thanks again to the good work of our friends in Fredericton Jerry Wilcox and the Stickles Brothers Don and Robin.



photo – Frank MacLoon

Andrew Sloat, Robin and Don Stickles



photo – Frank MacLoon

Jerry Wilcox with Bill Leeming and Don Henry

Working model “Cub” Simulator

The remote control “Cub” Simulator has been completed and is now located in the mezzanine area of the Silver Dart Gallery.

It’s a very unique effort to give an opportunity to understand the control functions of a light aircraft through the use of remotely controlled LED lights and control surfaces to identify the control elements involved.

It is a project which has involved a number of Museum volunteers including Rob Macilrieth, Don Hirtle, Gene Hamilton, and Colin Wilmshurst.





photos – Colin Wilmshurst

The Simulator provides both entertainment and an educational experience and is much appreciated.

MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Name: _____

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Membership Number: _____

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Single \$25.00 Family \$30.00

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