



Dirigo Flyer

Newsletter of the Maine Aviation Historical Society



Volume XXVI, No. 3

July - September, 2018

New Displays at the Maine Air Museum

This summer has been a busy one at the museum. Several new, exciting displays have been added thanks to donations by MAHS members and other generous Maine citizens. This edition of the *Dirigo Flyer* will introduce the new displays to you, and hopefully entice you to visit the museum to see the displays in person.



Aerial camera system displayed with accessories and a sample photo, taken by James Sewall Co., with this or similar equipment

The newest display at the museum is of a Carl Zeiss RMK A8.5/23 Aerial Camera System, used by the former James Sewall Co. of Old Town, Maine. During the 1970s, these cameras were used in a fleet of three aircraft, consisting of two Piper Aztecs and a Cessna 206. The aircraft crew was made up of a pilot and camera operator. The film size used was 9" x 9", which was later used to produce large prints for mapping purposes or contact prints used in creating topographic maps. This camera system was saved from destruction and brought to the museum by MAHS Vice President, John Miller.

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Published quarterly by the
Maine Aviation Historical Society,
a non-profit (501c3) corporation
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The Maine Air Museum is located at
98 Maine Avenue adjacent to
Bangor International Airport



Museum Item Unveiled

Bob Umberger

What at first glance appears to be a new addition to the museum grounds, in fact arrived in 2013 when a group of MAHS members gathered at the S. Portland home of Tuskegee Airman and longtime MAHS member, Jim Sheppard, with the mission of pulling the old propeller from the back of Jim's garage where it had been stored for many years. Jim couldn't recall just how long it had been stored, but did know when, and to whom, he had given away the one missing blade. The dismantled prop was loaded on a trailer and hauled to the museum with Jim's blessing and an understanding that it would eventually become an exhibit item. (This team effort didn't make the newsletter at the time as there was a lapse in production of the *Dirigo Flyer* back in 2013).

Since 2013, the prop remained tucked away at the museum, awaiting a safe and proper means of mounting it. Earlier this year, the mission was completed with its installation adjacent to the newly completed Museum Memorial Path. This vintage, Hamilton Standard propeller is a fitting addition to the museum, since it is precisely the type that was driven by the four Pratt & Whitney R-2800 radial engines that powered the Douglas DC-6 aircraft which serviced Bangor and other Maine airports. Northeast Airlines took delivery of the DC-6 aircraft starting in 1956, and operated them throughout Maine and New England into the mid-to-late 1960s.

This prop also becomes a tribute to Jim Sheppard with his recent passing. An abbreviated obituary for Jim Sheppard follows on page 7.

A Skyward Passion. . .

Dave Bergquist

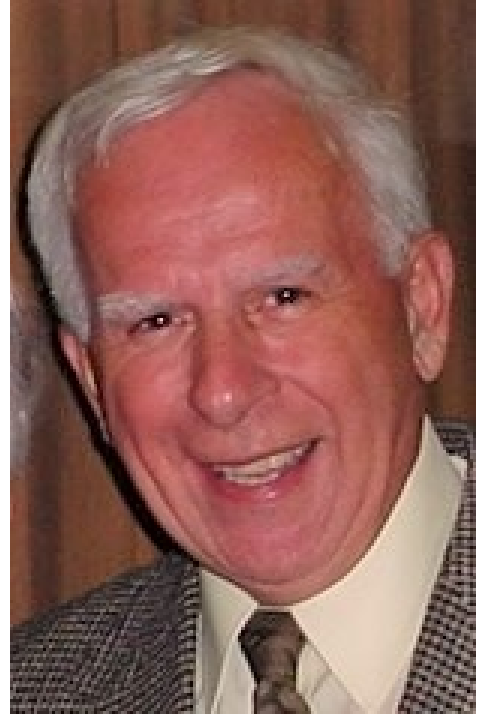
This summer, our museum added an historically significant and important donation – the model airplane collection of Normand O. Bureau. Norm built more than 100 meticulously crafted and exquisitely painted aircraft models over a 30-year period beginning in the 1970s. These models, many in 1:48 scale, represent aircraft from the immediate post WWI period to beyond the Cold War years. Many are models of real aircraft that once were familiar sights to Mainers living near the many Army, Air Force, and Navy military bases located within the state.

Norm Bureau’s career was one of service to his country and his state. After discharge from the United States Marine Corps, where he served seven months in Korea, he served Maine as a state trooper and detective for twenty years, retiring in 1979. In 2011, Norm was honored with the “Legendary Trooper” award, Maine’s highest award for State Police retirees.

Norm has always had a passion for aircraft. Throughout his career in law enforcement in both the public and private sectors (working as a private investigator and insurance claims adjuster), and later, as the sports equipment manager for Bates College, Norm has kept an eye skywards. In 1990, he earned his private pilot license, and thereafter enjoyed flying Cessna 150s and 172s. He also worked part-time at Twitchell’s Airport in Turner, all the while adding to his model collection during his spare time. Norm loved displaying some of his models at different air events around Maine; and he always enjoyed talking with former veterans, many of whom had flown in some of these aircraft.

This past July, Norm sold his Lewiston home of 61 years due to advancing years. He wanted his passion to live on, however, as part of his legacy. And what better way to do that than to donate his

collection of over 80 model airplanes to the Maine Air Museum where future generations can visualize and appreciate the advancements in military aircraft over the years.



*Normand O. Bureau
Lewiston, Maine*

Many of Norm’s models are already on display in the main room of the museum and are encased by era and war.



Below are some of the models in the WWII showcase:



PT-17 STEARMAN



F 4U4 CORSAIR



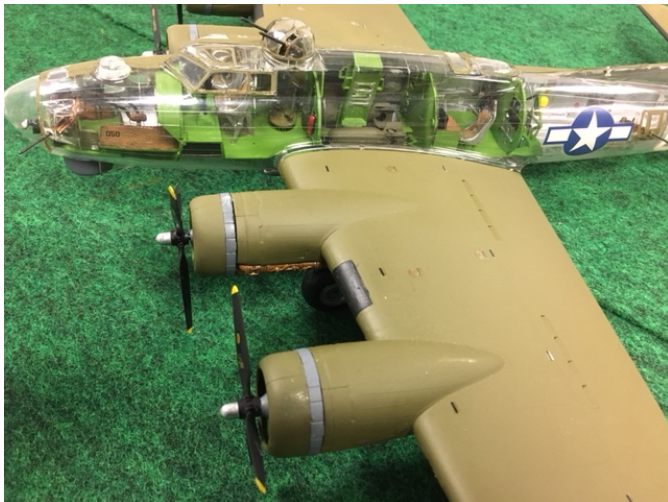
P51D MUSTANG



P-47D THUNDERBOLT



Catalina



←B-17



MOSQUITO

The following are some of the Cold War era models in the old oak showcase:





The actual aircraft, represented by these models, helped the United States establish world peace and secure its place among the nations of the world.

Special thanks are owed to: Chuck Byrum for securing the collection; Jim Nelligan for unpacking the many boxes that arrived at the museum; Bob Umberger for donating, and Bob Littlefield for fixing up, the display cases; and

Dave Bergquist for cleaning and repairing each model as necessary prior to its display.

Finally, our thanks to Normand O. Bureau for his generous gift, and to Norm’s son, Tom Bureau, for graciously transporting the many models.

Next time you are in Bangor on a weekend, be sure to stop by and view the Normand O. Bureau Model Aircraft Collection. You’ll be glad you did!



USAF B-1 bomber taxiing on the runway behind the MAM. Taken by Bob Littlefield, September 1, 2018

Maine's "Tuskegee Airman"

MAHS Member # 183

James A. Sheppard Jr., 93 (1924 - 2018)

The Aviation Community has lost a valued member with the passing of Jim Sheppard. From his childhood to the end of his life, he was involved with aviation as a hands-on participant. In his later years, he remained active by supporting various aviation organizations, as well as providing audiences, both young and old, with talks about his service and interesting career. The most influential and proudest period for Jim was his time serving his county with the famed WWII Red Tails, commonly referred to as the "Tuskegee Airmen." Jim's war service elevated him to Crew Chief status for the 301st Fighter Squadron's P-47's and P-51's. After the war, he worked for Lockheed Aviation as a flight engineer, continued his military service in the USAF Reserves, and continued to advance his aviation career until retirement as a FAA Maintenance Safety Inspector. Jim was a long time MAHS member, and especially enjoyed helping with the MAHS/MAM displays & booths at the Portland Jetport aviation events.

Recipient of Congressional Gold Medal (2007); FAA Certifications: Private Pilot; Aviation Mechanic; Sr. Parachute Rigger.

BOOKS BY MAHS AUTHORS

The following books, written by Maine Aviation Historical Society members, are available for purchase during summer months at the Maine Air Museum Gift Shop. They are now, also generally available for purchase through Amazon online throughout the year.

With an Angel by My Side, by Alfred Cormier

Early Wings Over Maine, by John Davis

The United States Air Force in Maine, Progeny of the Cold War, by John Garbinski

Bangor in World War II, by David Bergquist



All dues expire on June 30th of each year. If joining mid-year, pay \$2.00 for each remaining month

Annual membership includes quarterly newsletters

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Maine Air Museum * Membership Form**

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Membership	Dues	Benefits
Regular	\$25 annual	Newsletter, Museum Admission
Family	\$35 annual	Newsletter, Museum Admission
Corporate	\$100 annual	Newsletter, Museum Admission
Supporting	\$100 annual	Newsletter, Museum Admission
Lifetime	\$500*	Newsletter, Lifetime Membership
	*2 annual \$250 payments	Museum Admission

We need volunteers-docents, mechanics, maintenance, librarians and exhibit specialists, etc.

- Please call me. I want to be active in the organization.
- I cannot join now, but would like to help. I enclose a check for _____
(Contributions over \$20 are tax deductible within the limits of the law)
- I wish to support and obtain membership by purchasing a memorial brick

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MAINE AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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