

DIRIGO FLYER

Vol. VII, No. 6 June 1999

Newsletter of the Maine Aviation Historical Society
P.O. Box 2641, Bangor, Maine 04402 • 207-941-6757 • 1-877-280-MAHS (in state)
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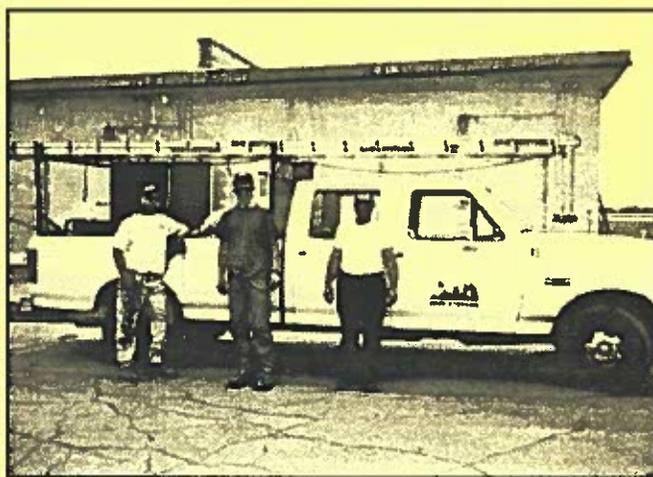
A New Roof for the New Maine Air Museum

By Al Cormier

Thanks to the generosity of two local roofing companies, Bangor Roofing & Sheet Metal Co. and Roof Systems of Maine, the degraded flashings along the dividing walls on Building 98, soon to become the Maine Aviation Museum, have been replaced. Both companies sent crews and the necessary materials to install new flashings along these walls and thus eliminate the largest source of leakage into the building.

Each company selected its own method for making the repairs and, although they knew that these repairs were only temporary, insisted on doing a first class job. "We don't do it any other way," Ike Gasaway of Bangor Roofing told me when I explained that we hoped to have the whole roof renewed before next winter. Work was halted on the first day when it began to rain in the middle of the afternoon, but the crews returned bright and early the next morning and completed the work.

Of course, the best part of the operation is that the work was done for free. When I approached Noel Sirabella of Bangor Roofing and Kevin Griffin of Roof Systems to see if they would volunteer to do the work, they both agreed that the cause was worth their time and effort. It is unfortunate that we couldn't have picked one of the sunny days in April but getting approvals



Roof Systems: (l to r) Rodney Crouse, Ryan Barnett, Joey Salls.

and a ramp pass for myself took time. We had been dependant on the good graces of the maintenance people, next door to our building, for getting access and this was a tremendous imposition on them as they had to leave their work in order to have someone stay with us to cover airport security regulations.

Bob Jarvis and Bill Hughes at the airport office responded quickly to my request for a ramp pass and access through the gate at our building. In less than an hour I had been rushed through all the paperwork and had my pass clipped to my jacket.

This is the first step in getting the building ready to use for a museum. Next will be putting up a security fence around the site and that will enable any of our members and the public inside the airport security fence. Bangor Hydro has been approached and will examine the site to see what we will need for service. The water will have to be turned on at some point but all of this will require permits. The people at the city code enforcement office have been very helpful in outlining the steps that will have to be taken to get up and running.

We have reached the point where we need funding badly. All of the above requirements will require cash, even the permits are not cheap. Now is the time for all good members to come to the aid of their organization.



Bangor Roofing: (l to r) Ike Gasaway, David Burguynne, Chris Trainor, Troy Weeks, Mike Corey.

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Monthly meetings
are held at 9 a.m.
on the second Saturday
of each month
at various locations.
See schedule for details.

MAHS Executive Committee Meeting — May 8, 1999 Portland International Jetport, Portland, Maine

President: Scott Grant

Vice President: Pete Hurd

Secretary: Leo Boyle

Museum Committee Chairman: Jim Chichetto

Directors: Don Godfrey, Carl Sederquist

1. The meeting was called to order at 0910 with the above officers and directors present.
2. The last MAHS membership meeting minutes were published in the *Dirigo Flyer* May issue. Moved, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote.
3. Leo Boyle presented the MAHS treasurer's report as: MAHS checking account balance of \$3,160.69. Money market account balance: \$11,988.98. Accounts payable total: less than ten dollars. Moved, seconded, and voted to accept record.
4. Jim Chichetto presented a detailed status report for the MAHS Museum Committee. During this presentation, discussions included:
 - 4.1 Repair of the museum building roof coordinated by Al Cormier.
 - 4.2 Phase I environmental study by city prior to lease signing; discussion of retaining MAHS consultant to review process and advise MAHS of any issues of future concern.
 - 4.3 Draft museum budget still in coordination; not being circulated outside the museum budget committee at this time. Don Saunders has primary responsibility for coordination.
 - 4.4 USN recognition of MAHS museum project as "approved." Brunswick NAS P-3 reserved for transfer to the museum. Rob Rohr is POC for this action; to determine weights/size requirements for ground transport; furnish to Carl Sederquist.
 - 4.5 Loring surplus property being investigated; Al Cormier, Vic Kraft and Pete Hurd to coordinate meeting there during June.
 - 4.6 Acquisition of a Stinson being worked in coordination with Larry Webster.
 - 4.7 MAHS by-laws under review by attorney; the VP to prepare an e-mail version. Members with e-mail capability who want to receive a copy of the current by-laws via e-mail contact NISS@ainop.com or NISS@aol.com.
 - 4.8 MAHS life memberships subject introduced for further study by the executive committee.
 - 4.9 MAHS exhibits at aviation-related events and air shows. Display developments and member support of concern to Scott Grant, he is POC.
5. Meeting adjourned at 1000.

Committee Assignments

The following committee assignments were made at the May Board meeting. We still need volunteers, so choose which committee you can best serve on and sign up at the June meeting.

Education: Peter Hurd, Chairman; Clay Carkin, Rick Alexander, Carl Sederquist, Oscar Blue, Bill and Kathy Cook

Acquisitions: Leo Boyle, John Miller, Scott Grant, Bill and Kathy Cook, Rob Rohr

Fundraising: Don Godfrey, Chairman (south); Ed Armstrong, Chairman (north); Scott Grant, Carl Sederquist, Leo Boyle

Aircraft Recovery: Rob Rohr, Chairman; Bruce Stephenson, Jim Chichetto, Don Martin, Peter Hurd

Displays: Bill and Kathy Cook, Chairmen; Leo Boyle, Al Cormier, Rob Rohr

Staffing: John Garbinski, Chairman

Building: Al Cormier, Chairman

Submitted by VP Peter Hurd

70 Years Ago This Month — June 1929

By Leo Boyle

The world was abuzz with the exciting things going on at Old Orchard Beach, Maine. Not one, but two planes and their daring crews were planning to fly across the Atlantic. A French crew in a Bernard monoplane, L'Oiseau Canari ("Yellowbird") was attempting to make the first successful flight from the beach to Paris, and the first by a French crew. Their successful flight to Spain with the American stowaway Arthur Schreiber has been published in recent *Dirigo Flyers*.

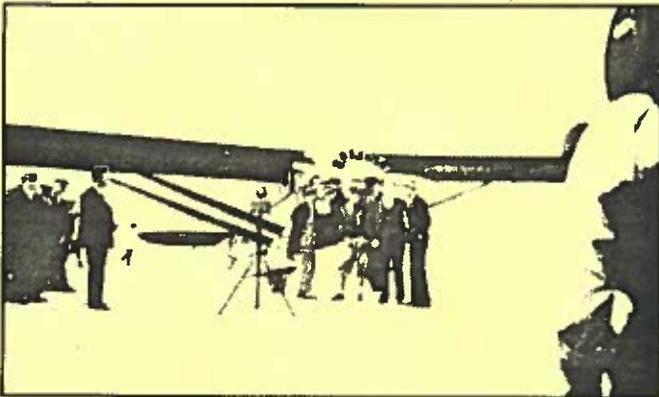
The second plane, a Bellanca J named the "Green Flash," was attempting to fly from the beach to Rome, Italy. Piloted by Roger Williams, with Lewis Yancey as navigator, the "Green Flash" made test flights and was tuned up for its exciting attempt. After the successful take-off of the "Yellowbird" on June 13, 1929, the "Green Flash" made ready to follow. The weather forecast was good, the plane has been fueled in Harry Jones' hangar, the engine warmed up and the two plus miles of hard sand at the beach loomed in front of them. Alas, they hit a water pocket in the sand, the Bellanca ground-looped and was extensively damaged. Luckily, with over 400 gallons of fuel on board there was no fire. Watch next month's *Dirigo Flyer*, for Williams and Yancey didn't



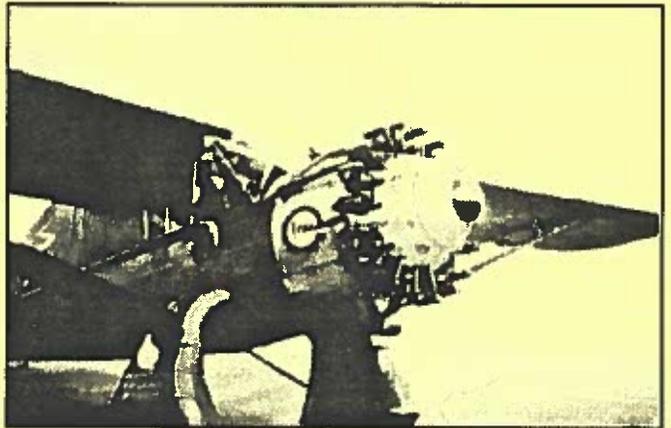
1. "Yellowbird" and "Green Flash" on the beach, June 2, 1929, waiting for the right weather.



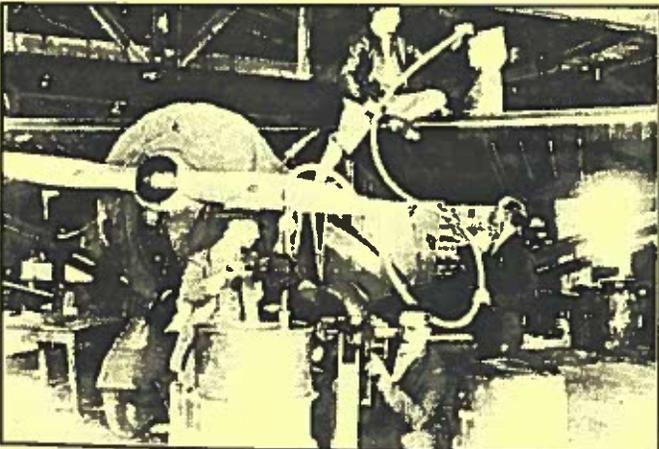
2. Williams (left rear) and Yancey (right front) listen to the weather reports with the "Yellowbird" crew.



3. The crew of the "Green Flash" is interviewed by *Movietone News* before their take-off attempt.



4. Bellanca J "Green Flash" warming up prior to take-off attempt.



5. "Green Flash" is fueled for its trans-Atlantic flight in Harry Jones' hangar.



6. Williams and Yancey inspect the damage to the "Green Flash" after their ground loop.

June Meetings

The Board of Directors will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 12th at John Miller's Antique Airfield. Please make every effort to be present at this meeting. The Museum Board should also plan to attend.

Guest Speaker at June Meeting

We are honored to have as our guest speaker Harry Crosby, author of A Wing and a Prayer.

During World War II he was in the Army Air Corps and later, the Army Air Force, ending up as a lieutenant colonel. As the Group Navigator of the 100th Bomb Group which flew B-17s (Flying Fortresses) in combat from England against Germany, he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross (three times), the Air Medal (seven times), the Croix de Guerre (twice). He was cited by the Norwegian, English and Polish governments. He has been editor of Splasher Six, the newsletter of the 100th Bomb Group Association, for the past 23 years.

After earning his doctorate degree at Stanford University in 1953, he taught writing at the University of Iowa, Boston University and Harvard University. He has written thirteen professional books. This should be an exciting meeting, so plan now to attend.

There is no better place to meet than John's airfield in the warm weather. To get to John's, take exit 43 off I-95 from the south, turn right and take your second right, North Road, about a half mile to the airfield on your left. From the north, turn left across the bridge and again take your second right, North Road, to the airfield.

Fort Mountain C-54 Hike, June 13

For all those planning to go on this hike, please call John Miller at 207-234-2777 ahead of time. Current plans call for hikers to leave Saturday, June 12th, from John's airfield and camp overnight at Katahdin. Since this is an all-day hike, it is important to get an early start. As most of the aircraft is still there, this should be a fun hike.

Member Clay Carkin Makes News

Be sure and pick up the latest issue of Air and Space magazine. There is a nice piece about Clay Carkin of Freeport and his middle school science courses and the use of aviation artifacts to keep his students interested and motivated.

Congratulations, Clay Carkin!

New MAHS T-Shirt Available

Our new t-shirts are in the works. These t-shirts will have the MAHS logo on the front breast and will feature Roland Maheu and his Cub, the Maine ANG F-101B Voodoo, the Lockheed P2V Neptune of BNAS and, of course, Nungesser and Coli's "White Bird." Now available: Roland Maheu shirt, L and XL only. \$12.00 plus .66 tax (in state) and \$2.00 postage.



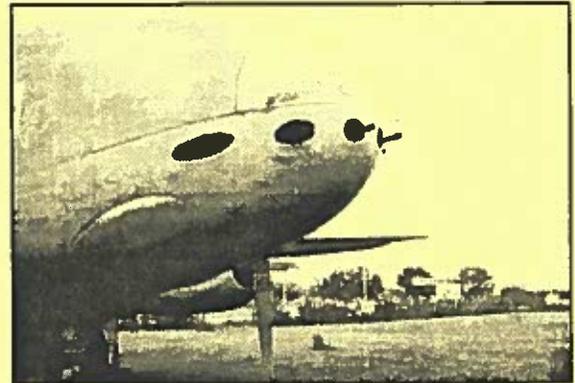
Calling All Volunteers!

We have the need of skilled people to assist the MAM staff in the following duties.

- 1). A heating and cooling expert to assess the system in place and set up a program to bring it on line and project the costs and set up the work sessions and oversee this work.
- 2). An electrician to check the wiring and set up a repair/replacement program and plan the work, then follow through the process.
- 3). On site staffing. As soon as the lease is signed, we will be working with the city to clean out the building and clean it up. Once the general clean-up has taken place, we will work to get the power, water and heat up and running. An office will be opened and staffed to answer the phones and work on projects during the day. As the building gets more useable, more projects will be undertaken.
- 4). Fundraising will be on-going and every member will be asked to help out at some time. What we need now are people willing to start the process moving ahead and doing the person to person contact to spread our message into the business world and the entire state of Maine.
- 5). Come to the next MAHS meeting and we will update you with the latest facts and what you can do to help. We will have a job for everyone.

For more info, you may e-mail me at JimF84F@aol.com or Bill Townsend at Townsend@acadia.net or write to us at MAHS, P.O. Box 2641, Bangor, Maine 04402.

Our Lockheed P2V-3 Neptune in Florida

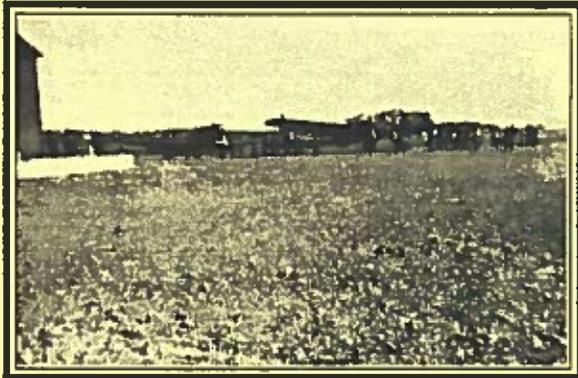


Upcoming MAHS Meetings and Calendar of Events

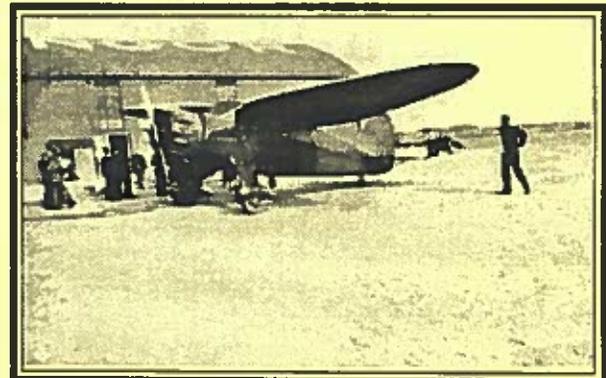
June 12	10 a.m.	MAHS Meeting, John Miller's Antique Airfield, 115 North Road, Newburgh, ME.
June 13	All Day	MAHS hike to Fort Mountain C-54 Crash Site.
June 13	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: Custom and Hot Rod Show, Old Aeroplane Show.
June 26-27	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: WWII Era Aircraft, Auto Show.*
July 3-4	All Day	Great Lewiston-Auburn Air Show, Lewiston-Auburn Airport.*
July 10	10 a.m.	MAHS Meeting.
July 11	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: '50s and '60s Auto Show, Old Aeroplane Show.
July 24-25	All Day	Great State o' Maine Air Show, Blue Angels, BNAS, Brunswick, Maine.*
July 24-25	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: Truck, Tractor and Old Aeroplane Show.
July 28-Aug. 3	All Day	Oshkosh Fly-In, Oshkosh, WI.
July 31-Aug. 1	All Day	Fly-In, Central Maine Regional Airport, Norridgewock, ME.
August 7-8	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: Transportation Spectacular and Aerobatic Show.*
August 14	10 a.m.	MAHS Meeting.
August 21	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: New England Automobile Auction.
September 5	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: Motorcycle and Old Aeroplane Show.
September 11	10 a.m.	MAHS Meeting.
September 19	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: Convertibles and Old Aeroplane Show.
October 3	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: Foreign Auto Festival and Old Aeroplane Show.
October 9-10	All Day	Northeast Aero Historicans Meeting, Owls Head and Samoset Resort.
October 17	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: Ford vs. Chevy Meet and Old Aeroplane Show.
October 31	All Day	Owls Head Transportation Museum: Great Fall Auction and Open House.
November 13	10 a.m.	MAHS Meeting
December 11	10 a.m.	MAHS Meeting

* We will have a booth at these events. Volunteers needed!

From the Al Cormier Collection ...



A Boeing Y1B-17 and a North American BT-9A at Bangor in 1940.

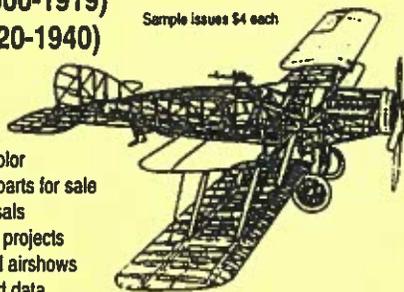


A pretty Stinson Reliant at Bangor Airport about 1940.

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Welcome New Member!

291. **John Greaney (Sport Aviation)**

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Aerobat Aviation Gallery

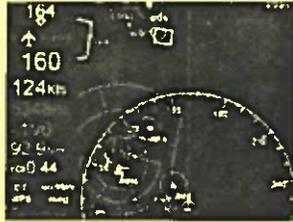
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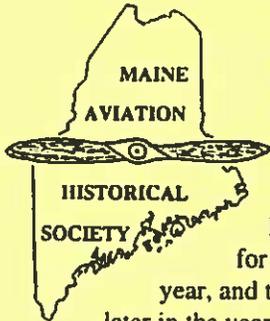
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1999

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Special Interests _____

E-mail _____
Phone _____

Dues will be for the calendar year, and those joining later in the year will receive all newsletters retroactive to January of that year. All renewal of dues shall be due on January 1st.

Annual membership includes *12 monthly newsletters!* Mail payment to: MAHS
101 Monroe Avenue, Westbrook, ME
04092-4020

Membership	Dues	Benefits
Regular	\$20 annual	Newsletter, Patch, Museum Admission
Family	\$30 annual	Newsletter, Patch, Museum Admission
Corporate	\$50 annual	Newsletter, Patch, Museum Admission
Supporting	\$100 annual	Newsletter, Patch, Museum Admission, 4 Free Passes
Lifetime	\$500*	Newsletter, Patch, Lifetime Membership Number, Museum Admission, 10 Free Passes

* (2 annual \$250 payments)

Maine Aviation Historical Society
P.O. Box 2641
Bangor, ME 04402

June Meeting

Saturday, June 12, 1999
10 a.m.

John Miller's Antique Airfield
115 North Road
Newburgh, Maine