



Dirigo Flyer

Newsletter of the Maine Aviation Historical Society

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EDITOR'S COMMENT: This edition of the *Dirigo Flyer* is being assembled on the final day of the Maine Air Museum's 2017 season. The following pages feature the museum in its 16th year of operation: what's new, what's happening, what's ahead, and how it is perceived. Please keep in mind that the museum needs you: your participation, your visits, and your contributions, to continue in existence.

The MAM Memorial Brick Pathway



The Maine Air Museum's Memorial Brick Pathway was completed on August 31, 2017. The stones were professionally set, thanks to several MAM members' donations. There are still many un-engraved stones available for purchase. To add your, or a loved-one's, name to a stone in the pathway, contact MAM President, Chuck Byrum, by email at chuck104@myfairpoint.net.

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The Maine Air Museum is located at
98 Maine Avenue adjacent to
Bangor International Airport

MEMORIAL VISIT



On September 22, 2017, the museum was honored with a visit by lifetime member and contributor, Mary Marois. Mary's visit was in tribute to her late husband, MAHS Director Hank Marois. The photo to the left shows Mary outside the museum with MAHS Director Dee Byrum.



Mary Marois and the Marois' son Steven at lunch before touring the museum



Mary Marois inspecting the Hank Marois viewing platform

Mary, noting how much Hank loved the Maine Air Museum, was kind enough to donate many of Hank's books on aviation, Air Force uniforms, and photographs to the museum. She also made a generous cash donation in Hank's name.

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE MUSEUM



The MAM archives have been cleaned up, and we have painted the walls, base boards, and floor. The back wall now has an airplane mural on it. We are planning to put a false ceiling in. The MAM staff and Ace Camp staff are planning, in the spring of 2018, to have classes for children who have an interest in Maine aviation and the military bases that have been in Maine during all wars.

Chuck Byrum, MAHS President

The Hank Marois Viewing Platform, added to the rear of the museum in 2015, was painted by volunteer, Liz Hodgecamp.

Volunteers like Liz, who contribute their time and talents to the museum, are greatly appreciated. We can always use more volunteers.



ITEMS RECENTLY DONATED TO THE MUSEUM



The “mystery object” pictured on page 6 of the previous *Dirigo Flyer* is (perhaps obviously) the position screen of an air traffic control tower system. It was used at Bangor International Airport and donated to MAM by the FAA. More particularly, it is part of Burroughs Corporation’s Automated Radar Terminal Air Traffic Control System (ARTS II), designed for airports with low to medium density of traffic. Information to the system is initiated by beacon transponders in aircraft.

Unidentified bombshell as it was donated (by Steve Atkins and Kip Nelson) and currently on display in the museum.



A large glass display case was donated by Jim Hassard of the Bangor Police Department’s museum. The case may be used to display models of World War I aircraft. Bob Umberger and Dave Bergquist are in charge of planning the display.

VISITORS TO THE MUSEUM



A child's birthday celebration was held at the Maine Air Museum this summer. A few of the celebrants gathered for the photo at the left.



A family from Corinth enjoyed a picnic after touring the museum.

The Ace Camp toured the MAM on 07/24/2017 with 30 staff and students. They had a lunch in our picnic area. They watched airplanes landing and taking off from our viewing platform. They also took pictures with their cameras. They made a nice donation to the MAM and a great time was had by all.

Chuck Byrum, MAM President

MUSEUM OUTREACH



On August 19, 2017, MAHS Director Bob Umberger (right) and member Andrew Constantine participated in the Biddeford Airport Open House / Fly-in, which was put on by the local EAA chapter. They sold gift shop items from the Maine Air Museum and some used books, taking in \$137.00. “All in all, not a bad day for our organization, good publicity and in keeping with one of our missions of educating and outreach,” according to Bob Umberger. As an added bonus, they were also able to remind a member who came by to renew his membership.

VISITOR'S IMPRESSIONS OF THE MUSEUM

Florida couple visits Air museum, recommends to all

BY TED LUEBBERS
SPECIAL TO THE WEEKLY

As my wife Joan and I travel around the country in our motorhome, we are always looking out for aviation museums. We are both members of the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 534, so we have a keen interest in aviation.

Our home chapter is at the Leesburg International Airport in Leesburg, Florida but during the summer we travel up the East Coast to the state of Maine, where I spent my youth, to escape the Florida heat.

We discovered the Maine Air Museum a couple of years ago and recently stopped by again to renew our membership.

The Maine Air Museum is a bit different from many of the air museums we have visited because there is not a lot of vintage aircraft in a big hangar. What you will find is three tied down older planes outside and a large white rambling building chock full of aviation memorabilia organized in such a way to portray the history of aviation in Maine.

In the past, Maine was a jumping off point for aviation enthusiasts trying to cross the pond to Europe. Although Lindberg didn't begin his flight here, he flew float planes several times to North Haven Island off the coast of Maine to visit his in-laws who summered there. Amelia Earhart came here in March of 1935. She took a

number of Maine women up for their first flight, one of whom was Old Town's Florence Latno, a member of the Maine State Legislature and my Aunt Flo.

During the Second World War, Dow Air Force Base was located in Bangor until it was deactivated in the 1950s. Brunswick Naval Air Station was located in the Southern part of Maine and Loring Air Force Base, part of Strategic Air Command during the Cold War, was in the Northern part of the state. It is plain to see that Maine has a rich military aviation history.

Maine also has a very active "Bush Pilot" community, flying fishermen into remote fishing camps in the North and Western part of the state as well as small commercial aviation outfits servicing some of the offshore Maine islands.

The Bangor International Airport still has a large United States Air National Guard unit and is serviced by several commercial airlines.

We recommend this museum to all aviation history buffs.

The Maine Air Museum is open the first weekend in June until the last weekend in September on Saturdays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Sundays 12 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Maine Air Museum, Bangor International Airport, 98 Maine Ave. www.maineairmuseum.com, 1-877-280-6247, mam@maineairmuseum.com.

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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

Mail payment to:

Maine Aviation Historical Society
PO Box 2641
Bangor, ME 04402-2641

**Maine Aviation Historical Society
Maine Air Museum * Membership Form**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Special Interests: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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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