

# WINGS OF OREGON



Oregon Air and Space Museum

90377 Boeing Dr., Eugene, OR 97402

Spring 2013

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### ***From the Prez:***

Got time for a quickie? The museum's newest aircraft is on display in the main hanger. It's called a Quickie. It's a single seat aircraft powered by an Onan engine. It arrived a few weeks ago and it makes a Smart Car look like a limo. More on this later in this issue. Things around the museum have been busy. We had **Senator Ron Wyden** visit the museum and give us a flag that had been flown over our nation's Capitol, as well as the ladies from the VFW gave us a POW/MIA flag. Photos and background story on page #3. **Bob Rathmann** has been making good progress on the Globe Swift. (It's starting to look less like a pile of parts and more like an airplane). May 5th is our annual membership meeting starting at 2PM. Retired **Col. Joe Abbott** has consented to be our guest speaker. Joe will dazzle us with his stories of his time as an Air Force pilot. We also need to elect our directors. The directors then elect the new officers. May 19th **Blue Skies** big band will be playing at the Museum for our Spring dance. The EAA B-17 Aluminum Overcast will be in Eugene May 17-19. The local EAA chapter is hosting it. I do not know where they will be located on the field yet. In September the Museum will be hosting the TACAMO Veterans Reunion (time and date to be announced). Work continues on the Museum's DVD "Oregon's Ordinary Heroes", and we should have good news to share with all of you at the annual meeting. So as the spring rain makes the grass grow and you're stuck inside, think about coming out to the OASM see what's new. You just might end up finding people who like the same things you do. As I said in my last column things are changing at the museum and I sincerely hope that you will come out and be part of that change. See you all on May 5th.

*Bruce Lamont - President, OASM*

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### ***Curator's Corner:***

One of our museum's most popular exhibits is "**The Oregon Aces**", displayed on the North wall of our East hangar. When the museum's construction began it was decided to honor the fighter aces living in Oregon. A lot of record checking revealed that they numbered fourteen, and member **Fred Nott** interviewed each one. They were all very receptive to the idea and each of them contributed memorabilia for the display... such as their own personal insignia, badges and photographs.



Fred created a large, framed display panel for each ace and donated them to the museum. They were initially hung in the front lobby area as Fred finished them, and immediately became a hit with our visitors. We realized that some of the aces were featured on various pieces of aviation art, such as **Rex Barber**, who shot down **Admiral Yamamoto**; the legendary **Marion Carl**, **Oscar Coen**, an American Eagle volunteer, and **Ken Jernstedt** who was a "**Flying Tiger**". Fred procured and donated these art prints for the display.

For the remaining aces, Fred commissioned aviation artists to picture the ace's own aircraft in his personal markings. These too were donated by Fred.

In December of 1991 a dinner was held to honor the aces, and to dedicate the display. All of the aces were invited with the hope that few of them could attend and maybe share some anecdotes with us. We had **Barrett Tillman**, noted author and WWII aviation historian, moderate the evening. Well, folks... twelve of them attended, and it was not a quiet evening. These people are not introverts, and there was much "discussion" as to the merits of the Navy versus the Army Air Force, as well as which aircraft was best. All twelve attending aces gave an individual talk, and they answered a wide variety of questions from the audience. That dinner was over twenty years ago, and unfortunately just about all of these fine gentlemen have taken their last "flight". It was an evening that those of us lucky enough to attend will never forget.

After a few years, it was discovered that an ace living in Oregon had been missed, due to an unlisted address. **Larry "Scrappy" Blumer**, who's claim to fame was downing five Fw-190s in fifteen minutes from his trusty P-38 named "Scrap Iron", was added to the display, along with a painting showing one of the victories that made him an ace in fifteen minutes. Scrappy lived in Springfield and loved to come to our Air Fairs dressed in red, white and blue... chomping on an unlit cigar, and telling stories to anyone who would listen. He had no lack of audience.

The museum added two more aces to the display; **Richard May** and **Francis Fleming**, both Navy aces who visited the museum. **Richard May** was born in Portland, but lived in Washington, and **Francis Fleming**, born in Washington but grew up in Oregon. Once again, **Fred Nott** created the additions and donated them.

Some of our visitors have mentioned aces they feel should be in the display, but the criteria for the exhibit was "Oregon's Living Aces". Next time you walk along that North wall, remember that all seventeen of these "greatest generation" people have visited us. You might also remember our Fred Nott who made the display possible.

Our Aces (in alphabetical order):

1. **Rex Barber** - Terrebone; USAAF - USAF - South Pacific and China - Yamamoto Mission

2. **Jim Billo** - Goldbeach; USN - Western Pacific - USS Enterprise and USS Bunker Hill
3. **Larry "Scrappy" Blumer** - USAAF - Europe; Ace in 15 minutes
4. **Marion Carl** - Roseburg; USMC - Midway Guadalcanal - Korea - Vietnam
5. **Oscar Coen** - Baker City; RAF - USAAF - USAF - Eagle Squadron - Battle of Britain - Europe
6. **Francis Fleming** - USN - WEstern Pacific
7. **Cy Gladden** - Salem; USAAF - Pearl Harbor - South Pacific
8. **Clayton Gross** - Beaverton; USAAF - England - Europe
9. **Ken Jernstedt** - Hood River; Flying Tigers - China
10. **Max Lamb** - Eugene; USAAF - USAF - England - Europe
11. **Richard May** - USN - Western Pacific
12. **Blake Moranville** - Monmouth; USN - USS Hornet - Western Pacific
13. **John Pugh** - Brogan; USAAF - England - Europe - Russia
14. **Glenn Revel** - Ashland; USN - USS Wasp - Western Pacific
15. **Bob Riddle** - Eugene; USAAF - Africa - Italy
16. **George Ruddell** - The Dalles; USAAF - USAF - Aleutians - Western Pacific - Europe - Korea
17. **Bruce Williams** - Salem; USN - USS Lexington - Philippines - Marianas

*David Galbraith - Museum Curator, OASM*



**Senator Ron Wyden visits OASM Open House Event:**

We held an open house event on Saturday, February 23rd which was attended by some 200+ visitors including Oregon's Senior Senator, the **Honorable Ron Wyden**, Eugene's **Mayor, Kitty Piercy**, the Eugene chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and many area citizens. The event grew out of a conversation which occurred in Early November of last year.

Following the Oregon Honor Flight of October, 2012, there was an Honor Flight fundraising dinner held at Shadow Hills Country Club. The event was well attended. OASM's **Gene Troyer** and **Vince Neuman** attended as did Mr. & Mrs. **Art Emmons** and Mr. & Mrs. **Steve Roberts**. A great steak dinner was served. Local writer and columnist **Bob Welch** spoke about the importance of recognizing the veterans who served in WWII and other conflicts. Seated at the table with Vince, Gene and the Roberts' was Ms. **Juine Chada**, the Eugene Field Representative for **Senator Ron Wyden**. During the dinner conversation at that table Ms. Chada was asked about the possibility of OASM acquiring a United States flag that was flown over the U.S. Capitol. Juine said simply "I can do that for you".



Bob Welch



Juine Chada & her Mom

Later in November, Juine attended our hangar dance and brought her mother along. Juine was confident that our flag request would be granted and promised to keep us informed. Early in February

she called Steve and announced that Senator Wyden would like to deliver the flag personally on Saturday, February 23rd. Shortly after learning this we declared that the 23rd would be an Open House event from noon till 4PM. Admission would be free and complimentary soft drinks and popcorn would be on hand.

When word of the event got out, the VFW called to say they wanted to present us with a POW/MIA flag during the Open House event. We made the necessary modifications to our flag pole and, at 12:30PM on the 23rd, the Willamette VFW post members arrived. The flag was presented to OASM President, **Bruce Lamont** by **Sandy Christensen**.



**Sandy Christensen** presents POW/MIA flag



TV covers Senator's visit

**Senator Ron Wyden** arrived at 2:00PM and presented the U.S. flag to **Steve Roberts** along with a certificate describing its significance. Eugene **Mayor Kitty Piercy** was present as was most of the OASM board of directors and volunteer staff. Group photos with the Senator and attending veterans were taken by **Art Emmons**. **THANKS Art!** TV coverage of the Senator's presentation was aired by **KEZI** and **KVAL**. Radio public service announcements were provided by **Robb Holloway** and **Bill Lundin** of KPNW's "Wake-Up Call". The flag presentation was followed by a flag-raising ceremony where both new flags were flown at the museum's front entrance.



The following OASM volunteers assembled for a 9:00AM work party to move airplanes and set up tables and seating for the event: **Art Emmons, Dale Roxberg, Bob Osborne, Vince Neuman, Gene Troyer, Alex Wilson-Thomas, Bob Rathmann, Charalyn Glade, Bob Post, Matt Masterman, Dick Clark, "Frenchy" Marcil** and **Steve Roberts**. Other OASM Directors in attendance included **Jack Holcomb, Dean Abbott, George Lamont, Bruce Lamont, Mike Smith, and Harold Hadden**.



While admission to the Open House was free to all attendees, nearly \$600 in gift shop sales and donations were added to the museum's treasury. It was a great event and we thank all who attended and made it possible.



### **Newest Aquisition - "Quickie One"**

One day in early February a visitor to OASM, **Myron Sahleen**, asked if we'd be interested in having his experimental aircraft donated. "Is that a trick question?" asked **Bob Rathmann**. Of course we're delighted to have aircraft donated... particularly complete ones that are ready to put on display. Mr. Saleen's plane is a "Quickie One"... designed by **Burt Rutan** in the late 1970s. Rutan wanted to develop a quick-to-build aircraft for the amateur homebuilder, hence the name "Quickie". There were several variants of the Quickie created over time, but Quickie One was the first.

Powered by a 22 HP Onan air-cooled 2-cylinder "flathead" gas engine, the lightweight Quickie will cruise at about 130 mph and requires very little runway length to get airborne. It is a twin-wing design inspired by the "X-fighters" in the original Star Wars movie. The "Q1" is a "taildragger" with very unusual landing gear. The main wheels are located at the tips of the lower/forward wing... 17 feet apart. The tail wheel is attached to the underside of the tailfin/rudder assembly. This unconventional gear creates challenges for novice pilots as the craft has a pronounced affinity for ground looping if the main wheels do not touch down simultaneously. When the Quickie One ground loops, the prop gets "dinged" and the tail wheel makes an unceremonious exit from the aircraft to the left or right.



Our Quickie One

Our newly acquired Quickie arrived on March 13th, was unloaded by **Bob Rathman**, **Steve Jones** and **Steve Roberts**. **Myron Sahleen** and his friend assembled it in about 20 minutes. It is now

nestled nicely beneath the starboard wing of the Taylor Bullet in the East hangar. It has been dubbed "Son of Bullet" for reasons that should be obvious.



**Steve Jones, Bob Rathman and Myron Sahleen work on OASM's newest acquisition**

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**Volunteer news:**

Welcome - Our Newest Volunteers: **Gordon Smith** of Eugene; **Steve Jones** of Springfield, **Arnold Christensen** of Eugene.

Welcome back **Harold Hadden**! After an extended leave of absence due to illness we are delighted to see Harold back working his Thursday docent shift at OASM. Good to have you back, Harold!

With the arrival of April we switched to summer hours. We are now open Wednesday thru Sunday from noon till 4PM. With summer hours we can use extra help to fill the docent schedule. Please consider volunteering at OASM. It's really an enjoyable way to spend 4 hours a week!

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**New OASM Gift Shop Manager:**

**Charalyn Glade** has accepted the position of Gift Shop Manager/volunteer. She replaces **Tom Winn** who has decided to step down. Charalyn has been a volunteer with us since July of 2012. She has been documenting our operating procedures and volunteer training manuals, and has been operating the "front end" of the Museum for at least 2 days per week since she joined us. Thanks for stepping in to fill a key spot, Charalyn!

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***DID YOU KNOW that your OASM membership gives you a 10% discount in our gift shop... and Museum library visit privileges? The library is filled with aviation-related books and VHS tapes.***

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**Annual Membership Meeting scheduled for May 5, 2013:**

The Museum's annual membership meeting be held will Sunday May 5th at the Museum. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT ALL MEMBERS ATTEND. We must have a quorum to be able to elect our board members. We will also be proposing a couple of changes to the bylaws which also take a vote of the membership. We need the vote of the membership to do this so your attendance is needed. Any member who cannot attend is asked to e-mail your proxy to ;Approve the nominees for the OASM board of directors, and approve the changes to the OASM bylaws. But we would rather have you attend the meeting and see the changes we have been making to our museum.

### **GIFT SHOP DEALS!**

Just released (March 16, 2013)... a new book "Dear Wanda"... Memoirs from WWII by **Onan Hill** of Forest Grove, OR. This short, but compelling non-fiction piece was written in the form of a letter to his bride of 65 years. **Vince Neuman, Gene Troyer** and **Steve Roberts** drove to the Hillsboro, OR book signing on the 16th of March and spent about 90 minutes with **Onan Hill** and his wife Wanda. Onan is one of the 22 WWII vets that is the subject of our "Ordinary Heros" documentary DVD project. Spry and sharp-witted as ever, the Hills are dedicated church-going citizens with many friends who came out to support the book-signing event. **Onan Hill** is one of just 3 surviving WWII vets who appeared in our documentary. We have several copies of Onan's book available right now in the gift shop at \$13/each.

A number of items have been marked down to make room for new products. Please come by if you're looking for birthday gifts for the kids... or vintage, out-of-production model kits for Dad or Grandpa. Also, we've still got a large supply of used aviation-related books that are priced below "Goodwill" rates. When they're gone, they're gone.

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### **New and renewing members:**

We wish to thank the following OASM members for purchasing or renewing their Museum memberships during the past 3 months.

**Cooper Beban (N)   Mike & Bonnie Beller (N)   Jack Coshow (ren)   Jim Drew (ren)   Phil Groshong (ren)   Harold Hadden (ren)   Orin Humphries (ren)   Loraine Karney (ren)   Frenchie Marcil (ren)   Julie Morach (N)   Allen Phillips (ren)   Tom Preuss (ren)   Steve Rast Family (N)   Lorie Richardson (N)**

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### **Projects in the Works:**

The Globe Swift which was donated to us by **Steve Jones** is being re-assembled and painted by **Bob Rathmann**. Bob is making great progress and the aircraft has been on display in the West hangar throughout the restoration process.



### **Oregon's "Ordinary Heros" WWII Documentary DVD Project:**

Getting very close to releasing this wonderful film through our gift shop. Our Board of Directors met on April 10th and approved the duplication costs for 1,000 copies of the film. We could have the product on the gift shop shelves sometime in May.



### **OASM Pin-Back Souvenir Buttons now at the Gift Shop!**

We have several hundred of these custom-made buttons that we are handing out to well-behaved kids (and parents!) when they visit the Museum. They seem to be a big hit and we may make this an annual, collectable handout item. **Come by and get yours while they last!**





# Blue Skies



## Performing a Tribute to Harry James at the Oregon Air & Space Museum

With Special Guest;  
Grayson Fiske on Vibraphone  
Sunday May 19th, 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Admission - \$8

The Oregon Air & Space Museum is located at 90377 Boeing Drive,  
just south of the Eugene airport.



Join us for 2 wonderful hours of Big Band sound and dancing. Refreshments provided ... of course donations are always appreciated... This is always a big hit! Mark your calendar!

Caution... Smile generators ahead:



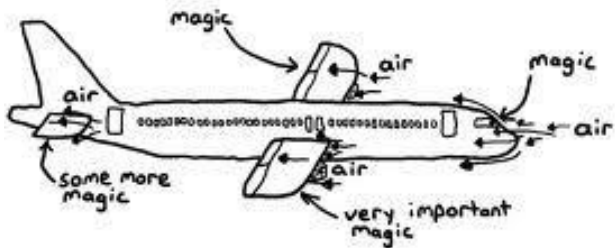
A new tanker arrives on site in Qatar: The newly appointed American Manager tells the local supervisor to ensure that the tanker is clearly labeled: "Diesel Fuel" in Arabic and "No Smoking" in Arabic. This is what he got.

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The two items above are reprinted with permission of *Pacific Flyer* editor, **Wayman Dunlap**



how planes fly



**DID YOU KNOW** that your OASM membership credential is honored for free admission to the Seattle Museum of Flight (Seattle, WA)?

**Membership Expired???** ..Stop by the museum or mail in the Membership form on the last page of this issue to stay connected thru our newsletter. **We'll extend your membership for 12 full months from the time you renew.** We really need your continued support to keep our doors open. **THANKS!**

**OASM admission rates for non-members:**

|                   |      |
|-------------------|------|
| Adults (18-61yrs) | \$7  |
| Senior (62yrs+)   | \$6  |
| Kids (6-17yrs)    | \$3  |
| Kids (under 6yrs) | free |

**OASM tour rates (10 or more - scheduled in advance)**

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Adults                    | \$6 |
| Seniors (62yrs+)          | \$5 |
| Student                   | \$3 |
| Adults (on student tours) | \$4 |

**Museum hours - Summer (April thru October)**  
 Wednesday thru Sunday - Noon till 4:00pm  
 Closed on some major holidays, so call ahead. **Closed Sundays (November thru March)**

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**Oregon Air & Space Museum**  
 90377 Boeing Dr., Eugene, OR 97402  
 (541) 461-1101 Website: [www.OASM.info](http://www.OASM.info)  
 An IRS 501.c.3 non-profit educational organization dedicated to advancing interest and knowledge in our rich aviation heritage and participation in its promising future.

**WINGS of OREGON** is a quarterly newsletter available to members and friends of OASM who have email addresses, and which addresses they are willing to share with OASM. All personal contact information provided to OASM is securely guarded and used only by OASM volunteers to communicate Museum business and events. We do not share our Member and Friends info with anyone.

**PUBLISHER:** Steve Roberts

**Oregon Air & Space Museum**  
 Officers and Trustees:

President: Bruce Lamont  
 Treasurer: Mike Holcomb  
 Curator: Dave Galbraith  
 Facilities Director: Bob Rathmann  
 Director Emeritus: Jack Holcomb  
 Directors: Dean Abbott; David Galbraith; Harold Hadden; Mike Holcomb; Bruce Lamont; George Lamont; Juanita Metzler; Vince Neuman; Bob Rathmann; Mike Smith

Operations Team:  
 Charalyn Glade; Bob Rathmann; Steve Roberts  
 Gift Shop Manager:  
 Charalyn Glade

**Consider an OASM membership as a gift for your aviation-loving family members and friends!**

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE  
OREGON AIR & SPACE MUSEUM**

The Oregon Air & Space Museum opened in August of 1991. It is dedicated to the acquisition and display of various aircraft and artifacts depicting the history of aviation and space technology for the education of all who visit.

**MEMBERSHIPS:** Several categories of memberships allow families and individuals to play a key role in preserving our aviation heritage. In addition, members receive the Museum's newsletter "Wings of Oregon", free admission to the museum, invitations to special events, and access to the museum library and videotape collection. The member(s) also receive free admission to Pearson Airpark Museum, in Vancouver, WA, and The Museum of Flight in Seattle, WA.

The Oregon Air & Space Museum is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation. All memberships and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

*Please print legibly*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

MONTH OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

Current annual membership dues are:

\$60 Sustaining

\$45 Family

\$35 Individual

\$35 Seniors Family (2 individuals over 60)

PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE TO VOLUNTEER AT THE  
MUSEUM ON WEEKENDS: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ WEEKDAYS: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

For more information call the museum at 461-1101. We welcome your participation.

Mail to: OREGON AIR & SPACE MUSEUM  
90377 Boeing Drive  
Eugene, OR 97402

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_