



UN-SCRAMBLE



The Official Newsletter of the Valiant Air Command, Inc.
6600 Tico Road, Titusville, FL 32780 - (321) 268-1941
website: <http://www.valiantaircommand.com>
email: warbirds@valiantaircommand.com

3rd Quarter Review - July, August & September 2019



Our fleet of pedal planes is getting larger with a long term loan from Aden B., age 7. (Yellow plane right end)



The VAC gate-keeper, OV-1 Mohawk, is getting its semi annual bath; the MiG-21 is next.

This beautiful machine was recently donated to the VAC. It is presently parked in the main hangar and I'll bet that most of you have never seen a bomb loader.



Ammo compartment for the XP-82's 6 machine guns. Each of the .50 cal machine guns carried 400 rounds.

MUSEUM AND GIFT SHOP - OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - 9AM TO 5PM

Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day

Adults \$20.00 - Senior 60+ or Military \$18.00 - Students 13 to 18 years old \$10.00

Children 5 to 12 years old \$5.00 - Children under 5 years old FREE - Special Group Tour Rates Available

Statement of Purpose

The Valiant Air Command Inc. was formed to perpetuate the history of aviation, to encourage gathering of men and women in camaraderie, research and Warbird restoration, to serve as an educational tool for young and old alike; and to assure that the memory of those who gave their lives in service to their country shall not perish.

501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization Museum Recognized by the Internal Revenue Service

Future Events • 4th Quarter • 2019

Oct 5	First Session STEM Class VAC Library	Nov 19	VAC BOD meeting - Noon
Oct 12	Fly-in / Drive-in 8:00 to 10:30	Nov 23	Fourth Session STEM Class VAC Library
Oct 15	VAC BOD meeting - Noon	Nov 28	Warbird Air Museum Closed for Thanksgiving.
Oct 19	Second Session STEM Class VAC Library	Dec 7	Fifth Session STEM Class VAC Library
Oct 26	(In Planning) Warbird Air Museum Annual Fund Raiser Event	Dec 13	Christmas Party, Main Hangar, Bring can food donation.
Nov 2	Third Session STEM Class VAC Library	Dec 19	VAC BOD meeting - Noon
Nov 9-10	Veterans Day Weekend Open House, Museum, 9-5 Sat & Sun. No Fly-In / Drive-In Breakfast; Fly-in for Lunch	Dec 25	Warbird Air Museum Closed for Christmas
Nov 16	2nd 2020 Warbird AirShow Team Leader and Volunteer Organizational Meeting - Noon in the Museum Library, lunch provided.	2020 Jan 1	VAC Museum Closed for New Year's Day.

Check the VAC website for last minute changes and/or additions (www.valiantaircommand.com)



Commander's Report

Norm Daniels, Commander
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 (321) 268-1941 ext. 4101

Dear Members and Friends:
 We all survived a long hot summer and a hurricane. Unfortunately, many of the Bahamian Islands did not. Lives were lost as well as property and personal belongings. It will be many months before electrical and water facilities will be available. A massive relief effort has been mounted to supply water, medical supplies, food goods, fuel, generators, tarpaulins and tools, portable hospitals and other basic materials.

We have partnered with Dr. Isaac Silver from Flight Operations at FIT who has graciously provided access to the organization in assembling products and loading products in their aircraft and into our C-47 Tico Belle. FIT has provided some fuel for our aircraft as well. By the time you read this, the TICO Belle will have made many round trips loaded from nose to tail with much-needed merchandise.

I have been asked by many why the Valiant Air Command did not participate in June's Normandy D-Day event and why we chose to participate in the Bahamian relief effort. Frankly, the decision not to

fly to England and Normandy was a financial decision, to participate or not in the relief effort was a moral issue. The Board of Directors supported the decisions.

Many members and volunteers and businesses have (without being asked) donated funds for fuel. The Tico Belle consumes 100 gallons of aviation fuel per hour. Costs per gallon are \$3.45-\$4.65 depending on fueling location.

I am happy to report that Museum traffic has increased, most recently a nice increase due to Tom Reilly's completed XP-82 now on display in our main hangar. This aircraft is the only flying example in the world. Tom has graciously brought this aircraft to the VAC rather than hangar it in Douglas, Georgia. We do not know how long it will remain here as it is for sale.

Our gift shop also has had a sales increase. Anita Varela manager and her team continually source new items to merchandise. Thanks to the PX Team.

When you visit the museum again you will note a dramatic change in our 2 main

memorabilia areas. Jem Golden and his volunteer team have made significant improvements since the last Unscramble. Memorabilia donations have also increased and many of these historical items are being incorporated in the revamped displays.

We are pleased to report that our STEM program that reaches out to young people has been a success. We had a great first session with a second session already scheduled. Bill Teixeira has found many willing sponsor instructors and speakers who engage the STEM students at each session.

Our knowledgeable museum tour guides continue to showcase our warbirds with information and in many cases relate their own experiences in these aircraft.

The Board of Directors appreciate the *Continued on page 3*



The Official Newsletter of the Valiant Air Command

Editor

Phyllis Lilienthal

Assistants to the Editor: Louise Kleba & Lorraine Juhl

1st Quarter - Jan, Feb & Mar

Submission deadline - Mar 25th NL Published - April 1st

2nd Quarter - April, May & June

Submission deadline - June 24th NL Published - June 30th

3rd Quarter - July, Aug & Sept

Submission deadline - Sept 24th NL Published - Sept 30th

4th Quarter - Oct, Nov & Dec

Submission deadline Dec 22th NL Published - Dec 30st

Please note:

Items submitted after the submission deadline will not be published or will be published the next month if applicable.

The Editor reserves the right to not publish submitted items.

Commander's Report Continued from page 2

daily thankless task in the upkeep of our 3 hangars, offices and the work required for many client events that are handled by John and Pat Zelniak entailing many hours of work before and after events. Mowing our grounds is deftly handled by Tom Wilke who this summer has kept our grass areas looking very good for our visitors no matter the temperature. Gene Gorell, apart from spraying our ramps and grass areas for weeds, also serves as

our in-house safety inspector for emergency lighting, exit lighting, first aid kits and fire extinguishers to be sure we are in compliance. Phyllis Lilienthal for her patience and her editorial efforts and time spent in preparing the quarterly Unscramble publication.

I can't complete this article without recognizing Joel McGinley who somehow manages to keep our aged fleet of moving equipment in operation.

Save the date and make plans



The 100-hr maintenance is almost completed and now for the run-up. Late news...the run-up was completed successfully and Tico is back to making airlifts to the Bahamas.



August Hot Dawg Day. l to r: Lorraine Juhl, Pat Kerr, Patti Champion, Norm and Barb Rathborne.



Patti Champion and Bill Teixeira manned the VAC display at the Brevard Zoo's Teacher Open House. (Bill is taking the photo)



Roger Desplaines passed recently after a short illness.

For those who did not know him, he was the custodian at the VAC for many years and kept the museum and hangars spotless; they were his pride and joy. He retired from the VAC to move closer to his family in South Florida.



The above photo is from an impromptu birthday party in the VAC break room (circa 2012. He is showing off his favorite food).

There will be a military service in Lake Worth at a later date with a small family gathering. Use this address if you would like to send a card to his family:
The Family of Roger Desplaines
1490 S. Kanner Hwy. Apt. 128
Stuart, Fl. 34994

Richard "Dick" Mercer...

Dick passed recently. He served his country in the Navy and served The Valiant Air Command as a Tour Guide for many years. He had a great big smile for everyone and you could always count on him for a joke. He will be missed.





Facilities Officer's Report

Tom Etter, Facilities Officer
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July - We fixed the flag pole rope, loaned the man-lift to the helicopter school, fixed a main tire on the F-86, junked a bunch of old pallets, worked on the C-47 cargo door, moved some wiring in the motor pool, ran the engines on the C-47 with the crew, moved the F-11 back inside, fixed a toilet with Terry Nies, and showed a couple around the museum. This was just the first day of this month as I hurt my back that afternoon placing parts into the motor pool attic and had to go on sick leave for a month.

August - I was ill for most of August. I did do a layout for the 300 people Grumman party with Virginia, laid out where the XP-82

needed to reside and gave advice to the C-47 crew changing a main tire on the C-47. I also got the Sprinkler Inspection done.

September - We were able to get more work out of me this month between rehab tasks. We got the T-33 out for the Fly-In which ended up being canceled. The quarter saw some of our roof leaks taken care of for the moment with a few more to go. I have made a map of the roof noting exactly where the remaining leaks are so that the Roofers that came out during this quarter will have a better shot at fixing the roof in the next quarter effort.

We have been moving aircraft

around to help protect them during the hurricane and help the C-47, B-25, and XP-82 evacuate for the impending storm.

We are now helping with the 100 hr maintenance on Tico Belle so she can get back to delivering supplies to the Bahamas.



Tom Etter and Terry Nies cleaning spark plugs. The C-47 has many spark plugs.



Operations Officer's Report

Leigh Lewis, Operations Officer
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I will start off with the highlights. Tico Belle has performed with dignity, thanks to our incredible maintenance team. She has been upgraded to a serious instrument platform with modern radio/navigation by Garmin. What a great upgrade! Our flight crews now have no problem communicating and navigating which makes for a safe flight. That is my job, to make the call that everything is safe. John Makinson has made it possible in a big way.

Mike McCann took the mission to Oshkosh. He made the critical safety calls with Dick Osborne and represented VAC.

We got the request to

partner up with Florida Institute of Technology to assist with the hurricane relief in the Bahamas. This was spearheaded by Isaac Silver, Dean of Aviation at FIT, and a huge volunteer group out of MLB and we accepted the challenge. As a team, Mike Makinson, Mike McCann, Robert Varney, Scott Patton, Tracy Bohrmann and myself flew relief missions to Sandy Point, Marsh Harbor, and North Eleuthera. We were shocked by the devastation and felt for the people that remained to suffer in such difficult conditions.

Our "A" team, back at the VAC, is now getting her ready for another relief flight this week after

the inspection and ready to fly at Zephyrhills over the weekend for a military competition of international teams. We have a busy schedule planned for the next 3 months.

Keep her flying...Thanks to all I did not mention. The list would be too long. Thanks again.



John Makinson and Charlie Hammer are working very hard to complete the 100 hour maintenance and get Tico Belle back flying much needed supplies to the Bahamas.



Maintenance Officer's Report

Marvin Juhl, Maintenance Officer
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For those who haven't heard, we now have two Bell 47 helicopters at our museum. One is a 1953 H-13D1 Army two-seat version based on the commercial model 47D-1, with skid landing gear, stretcher carriers, and a Franklin 6V-335 engine. Army helicopters initially deployed to Korea included the Bell H-13 Sioux, the first in a long line of Army helicopters named for Native American tribes. For those not aware, these were also used in the early part of the Vietnam War until the UH-1 Iroquois "HUEY" took their place. The Bell H-13 Sioux was a single-engine single-rotor light helicopter built by Bell Helicopter. This one was donated to us over a year



ago.

Our second most recently acquired (in September) helicopter was donated by "Sandy" from Edgewater, a 1965 Bell 47G-4A. This helicopter is in flying condition or will be upon completion of an annual inspection. The 47G-4A helicopter was manufactured for commercial use and for Army training. Both of the Bell 47's are painted in OD green with Army insignia. You also might note that the 47G-4A has 3 seats with a larger bubble assembly, is about two feet longer and has a bigger engine, a Lycoming VO-540.

Let's look at the maintenance side of it. First, we'll talk about the H-13D1. We have removed the rotor blades and sent them out to be refurbished, painted and balanced. They have been returned to us in a shipping container waiting to be reinstalled. Also

had the gimbal ring and the stabilizer bar removed and sent out to be inspected refurbished and balanced. They have been returned waiting to be reinstalled. We have removed all rotor components along with the mast for a complete inspection. The transmission is now removed for its inspection. There are parts that need to be sent out for zyglon and/or magnaflux inspection to meet the inspection requirements. The tail rotor has been completed along with the engine overhaul with less than six hours on these two components. When all of the above is completed, next will be certification and flight, when will it all be done? I'm going to hold off on that prediction at this time. Funding is still needed for its completion.

Did you know NASA had a number of Bell 47's during the Apollo program used by astronauts as trainers for the lunar lander?

Now for the Bell 47G-4A maintenance: all it needs is a completed 100 hour inspection with an engine run-up. Upon 100 hour inspection completion, an IA signs off for its annual. Then and only then can it be flown by a certified pilot. We must not forget insurance. This one is the easy button, that is, if we don't find something during the inspection.

The C-47 has just completed its 100-hour inspection and now is making several flights. It's reported by pilots that it truly flies beautifully. A lot of hard work by many volunteers has made this possible. Don't think that we can just relax now, we have to stay on top of it just to make sure it keeps purring. I'm sure many of you know we have to keep these pilots happy and content, even more so the aircraft itself.

As for the TBM, we have completed all of its major discrepancies and are now working the minor ones. I'm confident that you should see the TBM flying by mid-October.

I can't close this part of the newsletter without saying that the VAC maintenance volunteers do an outstanding job to ensure that VAC aircraft are up to top standards before we let them fly. We here at the VAC would like to invite all of those who would love to be part of this great team, all you need to do is just

Would you like to be part of the volunteer restoration crew or how about becoming a Tour Guide? Fill out an application on our website or stop at the Gift Shop and get an application.



Finance Officer's Report

Tracy Bohrmann, Officer
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The big story is the Bahamas Relief Flights we have been doing in conjunction with Florida Institute of Technology. Everyone has been very generous, members and general public alike helping to pay for fuel for the C-47 to fly from Melbourne International to several points in the Bahamas. To date, we have made 4 trips over to several different airports in the Bahamas. Some areas have been devastated beyond belief. The aid we are delivering has been donated to groups located on the Melbourne Airport. Aid ranges from food to household dry goods, to clothing, to large generators that can be used to power desalinization machinery for drinking water.

A big thank you goes out to our pilots, aircrews and maintenance staff (Leigh Lewis, Rob Varney, Mike McCann, John Makinson, Scott Patton, Charlie Hammer, Tom Etter, Terry Nies, Marvin Juhl, Frank Manion, Terry Rush, George Johnson, Len Blondell and many others)

that have volunteered their time and fly for free, often on their only day off to get the aid to the people that need it.

Donations are still coming in as I write this, and I want to give a huge thank you to everyone who donated their time, money and effort to the cause. Without donated money for fuel, we would be hard-pressed to fly as much as we have. We are planning more flights to the Bahamas later this week and will continue to support this country in their hour of need. In fact, several news stories have come out about the vintage warplane that has been flying aid. Florida Today, Fox 35, Reuters and several others have featured us in their publications. People have stopped me and other Board members in supermarkets and Walmart and asked about our plane and museum. From that standpoint, this is a welcome side effect of this type of work. We did not get into it for media exposure, but it sure doesn't hurt!

These two interesting aircraft came visiting to our Fly-in Breakfast in July



A Robinson R44 helicopter



A prize winning Stinson
Always check with the VAC for last minute cancellation of the event before you take off. The weather is in control!

The STEM Team Report

By Bill Teixeira

Working with students and dedicated Volunteers - what more can one ask for. I truly enjoy our museum, our volunteers and visitors, but especially youth eager to succeed, and I am happy to be your new STEM Coordinator. We started the STEM program two years ago from scratch. We are now starting our second year with great enthusiasm and the great encouragement we received from our students and parents. The Valiant Air Command Inc. has all the tools needed to share with our youth and we have initiated a

STEM program to aid young people in meeting the increasing needs of industry's requirements for skill sets that in general are no longer taught in school systems. In the past year we have attracted the attention of the following: American Space Museum, SpaceTrek at Kennedy Space Center, USATS Flight Training, Women's Pilots 99, Knight Manufacturing, NASA HUNCH Program, obtained a grant from Walmart Inc. and local business community support. One area that could blossom into a great advantage for the community and the youth not only for the area, but for the State of Florida as a whole, is the interest of a State College partnering with us as an education

facility. Much more to take place as we move forward. Yes, we are ready to help young people understand how to work as a team member and get ready for their future. Our STEM team members have a saying "To see a youngster with a smile on their face is the greatest accomplishment a mentor can receive as a reward". Now to the fun stuff. It's about to get busy, so watch us grow.



The 2019 STEM Team and Students

"To Honor the Past, Educate the Future and Preserve Our Heritage"

The Valiant Air Command's Curator, Jem Golden, and volunteers have been very busy revamping the displays and exhibits in Memorabilia Hall

Jem and the team are in the process of revamping the exhibit areas and artifacts to present chronological displays. Additionally, there are new descriptive identifiers further identifying specific facts and/or numbers germane to an artifact or display beginning with World War 1, moving to World War 2, Korea and finally to the Vietnam war area.

Our museum has over 8,000 artifacts along with associated stories. Showing and discussing the who, what, when and why an exhibit or artifact is significant helps fill in the blanks that are not universally offered in schools today. Our STEM program does just that, it fills in the blanks.

Stop by and see the changes and the many new artifacts



"To Honor the Past, Educate the Future and Preserve Our Heritage"

Grumman LM 5 • Apollo 11 50th Anniversary • July 20, 2019

On July 19, 2019, a once in a lifetime situation presented itself at the Warbird Air Museum in Titusville, FL.

Grumman Aerospace personnel, as part of their 50th Anniversary celebration remembering man's first landing on the moon, hosted a BBQ at the Museum.

Their group of 275 included Grumman KSC/Lunar Module Launch Team members, their families, friends and Apollo Astronauts Rusty Schweickart (Apollo 9) and Fred Haise (Apollo 13), both Lunar Module pilots on their respective missions.



Souvenir T-shirts were given to the attendees



Roger Vizioli, organizer of the Apollo 11 50th Anniversary event



Patricia Muszynski, in charge of registration and gifts



Approximately 280 people attended



Shirts, hats and memorabilia



"Uber" VAC style



An unusual sight...many, many cars parked on the ramp

Valiant Air Command Welcomes The Only Flying Example of a Rare XP-82 Warbird

After a 12-year painstaking restoration process, master aircraft restorer Tom Reilly has the only airworthy example of the Army Air Force (AAF) P-82 Twin Mustang. This unique and impressive Warbird has joined the collection of the Valiant Air Command Warbird Air Museum, at 6600 Tico Road, Titusville, FL.

Photos of the XP-82 flying in and being parked in the main hangar for display



STEM Appreciation Day cookout at VAC



Bill Teixeira opens the ceremonies



Raising the flag



Dalton Kaylor plays the trumpet as the flag is raised



Pledge of Allegiance



STEM Student Koshena Nemband presents VAC Commander Norm Daniels with a plaque of appreciation



Chef Malcolm prepares the hot dogs and hamburgers with tender loving care



Team Member Fran Cottle presents each STEM Student with a photo of the graduating class

Gift Shop News

Anita, Maureen, Rich & Lorraine.
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 (321) 268-1941 ext. 4112

Hope everyone had a great summer and was able to keep cool.

Christmas is fast approaching and we have a lot of new items in the Gift Shop. Santa sez "Help me out and make the VAC Gift Shop your first stop for Christmas shopping and stocking stuffers".

Our Florida winter is almost upon us. We have long, comfortable women's nite shirts in stock - one size fits all! They make a wonderful gift for that someone special in your life.



We had one of our Vendors that makes die-cast Postage Stamp



planes come in; he asked what plane would we like to see made to add to their catalog. I told him our Tico

Belle would be nice. He went out in the hangar and took pictures and a few months later it was in the new catalog that came out; it even has the nose art on the front of the plane. They are \$29.95 and all members get 10% off; you can get 20% off if you come to the Fly-in Breakfast.

We want to welcome Sales Associate, Maureen to the Gift Shop. She is doing a great job and we are glad to have her here. Stop in and say hi and welcome her to the VAC.



We are going to have a yard sale again this year on Veterans Day weekend, November 9th & 10th. Like last year it will be items from our Museum, but we are also going to be letting others sell their items. Tables are \$10 and if you bring your own table it is \$5 for the space. Space is going to be limited so sign up soon. We need at least 4 volunteers to help with the yard sale on both days. Please let us know if you can help



Key chain stocking stuffers



Rubber Duckies are always good stocking stuffers



Metal plane models



Wood plane puzzles



FRONT



BACK

2019 Air Show T-shirts
 50% OFF

Members get 10% OFF store wide



Modern version of the old Erector Set



World War II version of Monopoly

WWII Monopoly
 Item # 16128
 Retail: \$39.99
 Wholesale: \$24.00
 Min. Order: 6
 Order Multiple: 6



MERRY CHRISTMAS from Anita, Maureen, Rich and Lorraine



The bears are trending, get yours before they are gone



WARBIRD AIR MUSEUM

OPEN HOUSE - FREE ADMISSION *

NOVEMBER 9TH & 10TH

Flybys • Displays • Memorabilia
Food & Drink Available For Purchase
Car Clubs • Model Trains & Planes
Combat Pilots On Hand
Radio Controlled Airplanes

VETERANS DAY WEEKEND OPEN HOUSE PLANES - TRAINS - AUTOMOBILES

Free * FOR ALL US MILITARY VETERANS (PAST & PRESENT)

Free * FOR FAMILY MEMBERS ACCOMPANYING VETERANS

Check out the
Yard Sale in the
parking lot while
you are here.

Free * FOR ALL FLORIDA RESIDENTS

Please bring a
non-perishable food donation
for a local food bank

Saturday & Sunday
9am to 5pm

Warbird Air Museum, 6600 Tico Road, Titusville, FL 32780
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What is under the hood of the XP-82 Twin Mustang, it's a Merlin V1650. Now you know!



9/13/19 -The VAC Ambassadors were at the Patrick Air Force Base 72nd Anniversary party



A visitor checking out the Norton Bomb Sight at the VAC display



L to R: Barb Rathborne, Norm Rathborne, Malcolm Cater, Patti Champion and Lorraine Juhl

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