Fargo Air Museum Fducation • Preservation • Restoration



Fargo AirSho Named #1 Air Show

The United States Navy Blue Angels named the Fargo AirSho the number one show for 2009. Fargo beat out 34 other cities for the top honor. The announcement was made at the awards luncheon at the International Council of Air Shows (ICAS) annual convention in Las Vegas. The award was accepted by Lt. Col. Mike DePree and Fargo AirSho cochairs Darrol Schroeder and Dick Walstad. Lt. Col. DePree (Dupy) is an officer with the North Dakota Air National Guard Happy Hooligans and served as the liaison with the Blue Angels for their August 22-23 show in Fargo.

The August 2009 show brought in a record breaking crowd, a



line up of great performers and blue skies for a first class weekend.

The 70-person volunteer team met regularly over a two year period to raise funds, schedule performers and work with community leaders to develop the plans.

The #1 Air Show status has already helped the team attract some rare planes for the 2011 show, including The Horsemen, a team of three P-51's, The Blue Angels, a rare P-38, and a Navy Hellcat are already booked for the August 13 & 14th weekend show.

The 2009 show allowed the Fargo AirSho to distribute over \$75,000 to area non-profits and service groups. The Fargo Air Museum received a \$25,000 donation.



(L-R) Darrol Schroeder, Lt. Col. DePree and Dick Walstad.



FW 190 Donation

The FW 190 has a new home at the museum. The half scale flyable model was officially donated by Dave Gierszewski and the late Glen C. Anderson estate. The aircraft originally was owned by Phil Benedict, then purchased by Dave Gierszewski and Bruce Emmel. Emmel sold his interest and Glen wanted to get involved. Dave and Glen spent 13 years building it and flew it for the first time in 1993. Pictured are Dave Gierszewski and Debra Anderson, wife of the late Glen C. Anderson.

Legends
Official Publication of the Fargo Air Museum
Winter 2009-2010

Scenes from the 2009 Fargo AirSho















Budd Larson family buys him a ride on the B-17 for his birthday.



EAA Volunteers study the weather for their upcoming B-17 flight.

EAA 317 Sponsors "Aluminum Overcast"

Olson Sponsors B-17 Flights The local EAA 317 chapter sponsored the B-17 "Aluminum Overcast" tour in July! There was a lot of excitement on the ground as well as the sky! Visitors toured the aircraft and the museum, sat ramp-side to watch the briefings, told old war stories and just hung out for the day to hear the B-17 start up for another round of rides. EAA members and young volunteers at the museum were eager to clean up oil spills, move chalks, give tours or visit with the B-17 crew.

Erik Olson couldn't help but notice one particular 10-year-old volunteer Braden Hagen work relentlessly with the B-17 crew. He made a passing comment as he was leaving the museum, "I sure hope that kid is getting a ride." Olson was told the flights

B-17 Bomber Tour

were full at which point Olson said, "In that case, he can have my seat." Olson sponsored two partial youth flights for Braden Hagen and Damien Gehler with the national EAA association sponsoring the rest. What a surprise for the two boys who did not know they were on the flights until they were called forward for their pre-flight briefing....they have not stopped talking about it since.





Erik Olson with Braden (left) and Damien (right)



Museum Hosts "Blue Angel Fever Weekend"

As part of the Fargo AirSho weekend, the museum offers free admission to visitors as part of the ticket package and hosts the "Meet the Performers" evening at the museum for corporate sponsors and volunteers. This past year, the museum partnered with Applebee's for a fundraising "Blueberry Pancake" breakfast and also added a "Blue Suede Shoes" concert/dance with The Shadows.







The Stinson Reliant V77 was donated to the Fargo Air Museum by Darrel Lowe (former FBO owner in Detroit Lakes) in December 2009. Alex Macdonald, Darrol Schroeder, Toby McPherson, Mark Ringham along with EAA members successfully moved it from Audubon, MN to Casselton, ND - December 2009.

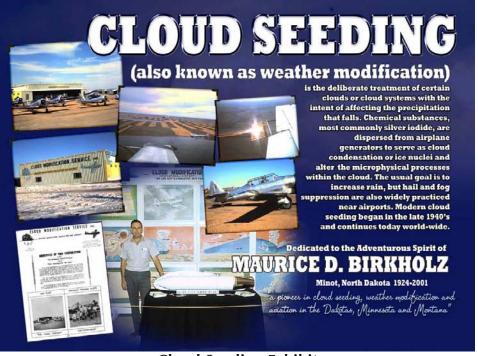


Duggy Goes to Minot

Early one Saturday morning three young volunteers had a surprise "Duggy" flight to the Minot Air show. Dick Walstad had contacted the museum to state the Fargo AirSho had extra seats available on "Duggy" for volunteers to go to the Minot Air show in July. Volunteers Sam Kennedy, Damien Gehler and Mike VanderMulen went on the flight.



Donald C. Cole of Moorhead donated a 1941 J.P. Sauer & Sohn M30 Drilling shot gun. The gun was issued to members of the German Luftwaffe during WWII.



Cloud Seeding Exhibit

The cloud seeding exhibit was designed in memory of Maurice Birkholz by his family. Maurice was an early entrepreneur in cloud seeding in Minot, ND. His wife, Jan, visited the museum a couple of years ago and dropped off a set of giant prints about cloud seeding and weather modification along with the silver iodizer and thought they could be used with educational programs. Their daughter, Kristy, followed up with a description board to go with the exhibit materials. An Eagle Scout project is currently working to build a permanent cabinet to house the exhibit.



The 2009 Santa Fly-In was a partnership with MeritCare and PHI Aeromedical Services.



The Piano Donation is Courtesy of Tom & Carol Kenville and Jerry & Kathy Schroeder. In addition, Jerry has graciously donated a lifetime of piano tuning. Gordy Lindquist is pictured playing the piano for Mid-America Aviation event.

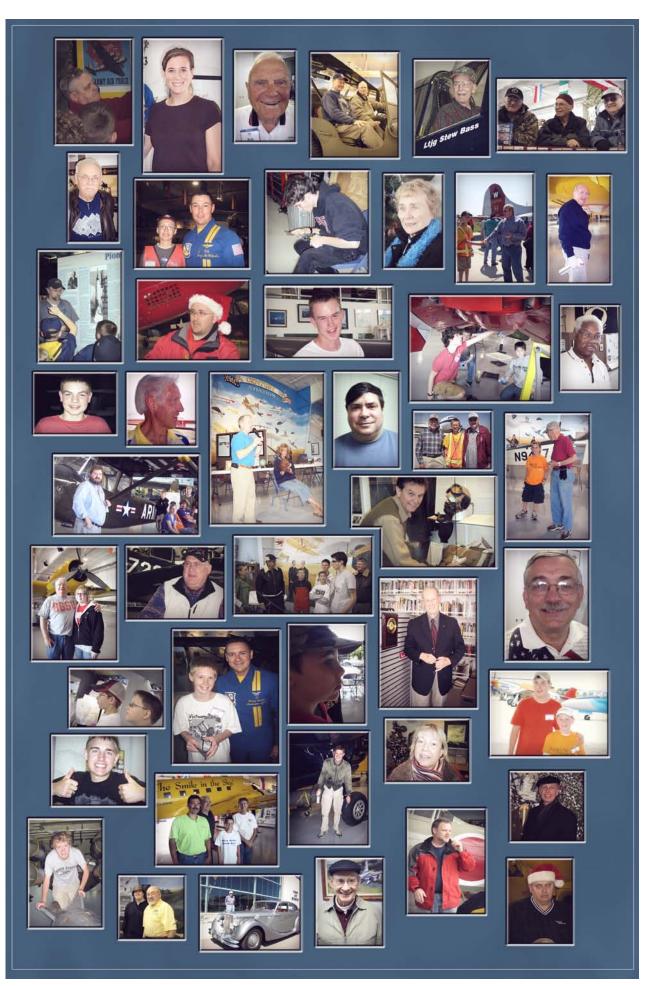
Air Force II Pilot Visit

Sean O'Donnell flies Air Force II out of Andrews Air Force Base primarily for Vice President Joseph Biden. However, he also flies other dignitaries such as US Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and has flown former Vice President Cheney and Former First Lady Laura Bush. One of his most honorable flights was to carry Senator Edward Kennedy to his final resting place at Arlington National Cemetery along with 40 members of the Kennedy family. Sean states it is only called Air Force II when the Vice President is on the plane. He has flown dignitaries diplomatic on missions and to various other locations: however he can not discuss them due to the potential security threats.

Sean was once stationed at Minot AFB and flew the B-52 from '92 to '96. It was there he met his future wife, Veronica Kittleson, originally from Bottineau, ND. From Minot he went on to training command in Oklahoma at Vance AFB until to 2001. He is a commercial pilot for United Airlines; however he is on military leave to fly the Air Force II at the present time.



Sean O'Donnell, his wife Veronica and son Connor visit on a trip to North Dakota.





Two Vietnam Vets Reunite After 40 years

The Vietnam Memorial Exhibit at the Fargo Air Museum was the location for a planned reunion between two Vietnam Veterans. The Veterans hadn't seen each other in forty years. Steve Stanga of Brookings, SD, and Curt Dahl of Moorhead, MN, met while serving in Subic Bay, Philippines, in 1969.

During their respective tours of duty they only encountered each other one other time while serving on different ships. However, their short encounter created quite a bond. Over the years Steve always wondered what had happened to Curt, but he was unsuccessful until a recent search in October 2008. The two corresponded and arranged to meet during the Vietnam exhibit at the Fargo Air Museum. The Vietnam Memorial exhibit was held May 9 – June 15, 2009.



Marine Vietnam Vet from Devil's Lake, ND, speaks to students.



National Eagle Center

National Eagle Center volunteer Bob Snitgen's visit to the Fargo Air Museum's Vietnam Memorial exhibit with Harriet, the 28 year old eagle, was truly a tribute to his father-in-law, Robert Johnson. The last time he was at the museum, his father-in-law was with him. Robert was a Navy Vietnam veteran, who would make the trip with Bob and Harriet each time. Unfortunately, Robert passed away just shortly before the exhibit opened this Snitgen said, "Robert year. always enjoyed the heck out the Vietnam Memorial Exhibit at the museum and often reminisced about his time serving on the Navy carriers while here. I just had to make the trip this year in honor of him."



Am Vets host annual American Patriotism Scholarship Award Program at the museum during the Vietnam Memorial Exhibit.



Vietnam Veteran Ed Milligan shares his Vietnam experiences with a school tour in May 2009.

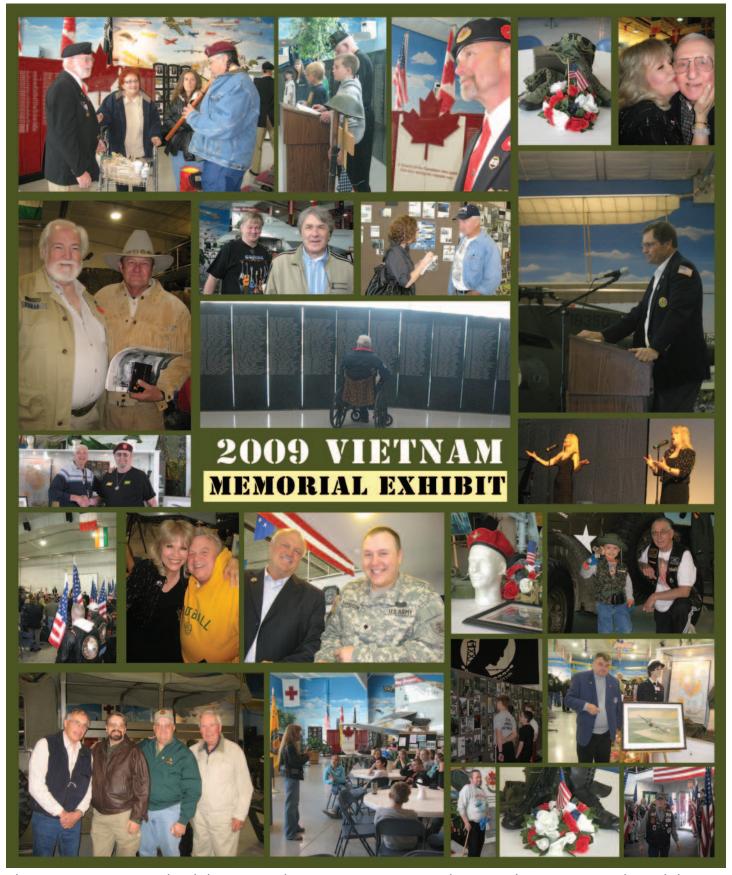


Greg Falde of West Fargo, ND is just one of those kind of guys who likes to give back something to the veterans who have served. He came in one day during the Vietnam Memorial Exhibit and said he had some gifts specifically for Vietnam Veterans. He brought in patches and jackets and distributed them to Vietnam veterans and thanked them for their service.



B-25 Tour

The B-25 Tour featured "Late Night with the Bomber," which was held the four days prior to the Fargo Airsho.



The Vietnam Memorial Exhibit pays tribute to our veterans who served in Vietnam. The exhibit is a team effort by many partners who work to make this exhibit happen every 2 years. Partners: North Dakota Vietnam Veterans, Dan Thompson, Canadian Vietnam Veterans, North Dakota Military Vehicles Association, Dan Stenvold, Blue Eyed Soul, John Roxbury and his Loach, Christy and Chris Larson, National President Rowan, North Dakota Patriot Guard, Dakota Mobile Military Museum, National Eagle Center, and Vet Center.



The Harwood American Legion Post 297 graciously donated a set of flags to the museum to use for various events.



Author Tom Swenson meets with librarian Fred Quam to discuss his proposed book donation to the museum. Swenson acquired numerous aviation and military books for research on a new book to be released in 2010.



The Fargo Jet Center team partnered with the museum to reset the flying aircraft after the Vietnam Exhibit.



Industrial Builders

Thanks to Paul Diederich and the team at Industrial Builders for the recent work on the Minute Man Missile repair. The missile was donated by Warren and Irene Diederich shortly after the museum opened in 2001.

Marco

Many thanks to Kevin Eide and the team at Marco for the donation of the Sharp AR copier to the museum. During the Fargo AirSho and other events, the copier is a key asset in performing necessary functions!



Border States Paving

Dan Thompson and his team from Border States Paving graciously donated their services this past summer to complete some pavement work in the museum parking lot.



Billy's Upholstery

Billy's Upholstery recently donated new seats for the poly wagon at the Fargo Air Museum. The poly wagon was donated by the Kinsella family as a children's interactive exhibit in 2007. The aircraft is a key attraction for school and toddler groups.

Sun Electric

Sun Electric donated services to fix an outdoor light fixture.

Bill Heck & R.D. Olsen

Come and visit the Pearl Harbor, Air Combat, Air Races, and Uniform Exhibits developed by Bill Heck and R.D. Olsen.



Lost ND WWII "Double Ace" Found Leonard Check

Ozzie Groethe, creator of the North Dakota Wall of Aces at the Fargo Air Museum, has spent years tracking all of the North Dakota fighter aces and this past spring announced he had found a double ace from Williston, ND. Leonard Check was born in Williston and graduated from Williston High School in 1930. He joined the U.S. Army in and completed 1931 that assignment in 1934. He enlisted in the Navy on July 22, 1936 and requested to become a pilot. His first assignment was the USS Enterprise in 1941. He was promoted to squadron commander of a newly formed group of Grumman Hellcat fighter pilots and transferred to the USS Hancock.

In a period of three months, he shot down 10 Japanese aircraft and also had one "probable" and one seriously damaged enemy airplane. On Jan. 4, 1945, while flying over Luzon in the Philippine Islands, he had a less experienced wingman flying with him. The two planes collided, sending both aircraft crashing below.

Besides the Navy Cross, he also was awarded the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal.



Bruin Hi-Lighters Gymnastic Team from Adams and Edmonds, ND, thought it would be fun to "fly" through the air while in the Fargo area.



Lois Dunnigan Jackson

Lois heard a rumor that the L2 was at the Fargo Air Museum and had to make a trip from Grand Forks to check it out. Sure enough, it was the plane her brother owned from 1946-48. Lois remembers flying with her brother Leo in '46 and was tickled to sit in the L2 and reminisce about their flights over 60 years ago.



Lois and her husband at the museum visiting the plane her brother once owned and flew.



Brezina Donates Battle of Britain Commemorative Art

Ken happened to be at an auction at the O' Gallerie, a private collection and fine antique auction house in downtown Portland, OR, when he saw two Battle of Britain era prints he just had to have! One was the Battle of Britain Commemorative 40 year print (printed in 1980) with the Spitfire and the other was the American Eagle Squadrons that flew over the Battle of Britain. The Spitfire, a 42" x 44" print, made for an interesting drive home to North Dakota! He had to put the seat down, take out the hand rest in the back seat, then place boxes of antiques underneath to keep it propped up to get it home safely. Once home, he realized he did not have an area large enough to display it and thought the museum might be a nice place to donate it.



Boy Scout Andrew Nelson works on dog tags for the Iraq Memorial. To earn his Eagle Scout status, he must plan his project and engage others in the process.



"Wings Over Wahpeton Day"

The "Wings Over Wahpeton" Airshow held May 6, 2009 was a definite WOW! Wahpeton Mayor Jim Sturdevant declared the day "Wings Over Wahpeton Day." It was truly a once in a lifetime airshow for spectators from southeastern North Dakota and Minnesota to enjoy in Wahpeton, ND! The show went from concept to reality when Warren Pietsch contacted Cindy Schrieber-Beck about a

chance opening on the Canadian Snowbird schedule en route to Louisiana in May. The Canadian Snowbirds, Pietsch Air Shows, Air Combat Command A-10 Demo Team from Mesa, AZ, Jim Pietz with his extra 300L, Duggy "the Smile in the Sky" DC-3, P-38 Lightning, P-40 Warhawk, P-51 Mustangs, "Miss Mitchell" B-25 Bomber, TBM Avenger, T-6 Texan, Phil Petrik and the T-28 Trojan along with a B-52 flyby

made up the show. Everyone donated their time and efforts as a tribute to the late Gerry Beck, who died at Osh Kosh in 2007. The Pietsch brothers opened the show with a heart in the sky in memory of Beck. Gerry would have been excited about all the school buses lined up to drop off the 2,000 school children in attendance! There were definitely a lot of "wows" from young and old alike!



M*A*S*H* Bash 2009

The M*A*S*H* Bash was a post "Wings Over Wahpeton" appreciation party for all those who worked and supported the event.

Third Annual Beck Fly-In

Hot Air Balloons Rides Added in 2009

The Third Annual Beck Fly-In at Battle Lake, MN was definitely blue skies over Labor Day weekend! Everything from the P-51 Mustang, T-6, bi-planes, RV's, a helicopter, TBM Avenger and even hot air balloon rides could be found flying around Battle Lake! Pat Kostelecky of Battle Lake, local organizer and close friend of the Beck, family got quite excited about planning the fundraiser that supports the Beck Wing at the Fargo Air Museum, the Battle Lake Community Fund and the Red Tail Project. The Beck Fly-In at Battle Lake is held each year on Saturday over Labor Day weekend.



Seasons Charity Golf Tournament

2009 Annual Season's Charity Classic at Rose Creek was a great success with the proceeds benefiting the Fargo Air Museum! Many thanks to our major \$1,000 sponsors: Scheels, Pepsi, Bank of the West, Hornbachers and Crop Production Services. We would also like to thank our \$250 hole. sponsors: Royal Jewelers, Johnson & Johnson, Sysco, Quality Meats, Payroll Professionals, Clay County Abstract, Reinhart Foods, Ed Phillips and Robert Miller.



Former TBM Pilot Visits Museum

Paul Bennett, a long time member of the museum, resides in St. John's, MI, and makes a trip back each year to visit family and the museum. On each visit he brings a collection of aviation magazines for the Fred Quam Research Library.

This year as he was waiting for the museum to open two other visitors drove up and coincidently, one of them was from his hometown of St. John and the other was from 40 miles south of St. John's. Scott Harding, founder of the National Relief Network, and Brent Churches were in North Dakota on behalf of the National Relief Network. They brought 100 kids to the area in mid-July to help the flood inflicted areas of Valley City and Clausen Springs.

Bennett, a former Navy TBM

pilot, flew off the aircraft carrier Lady Gulf in 1944 several hundred times. Bennett said, the ship "was involved in the biggest battle of all time. There were 4 Japanese fleets moving in on us and it was the carrier that was sunk."

Bennett also flew the Corsair, a Vultee version of a Fairchild, AT6, MSJ, Taylorcraft, Piper Cubs and a Stearman from Fargo Aircraft as a crop duster in 1949 when Duane Strand was running the operation.



Civil Air Patrol volunteers at the museum for a service project.



Children Love Jelly Belly Visit

Over 200 young day care children from around the region participated in "a Jelly Belly Kind of a Day" at the museum. Professional stunt pilot Kent Pietsch and the 1942 Jelly Belly Interstate Cadet Aircraft were special guests this spring. Sponsored by Seasons at Rose Creek and Hammarback Dusek & Associates.





The Red Tail Run

Terry Goerger of Mantador, ND coordinated the Red Tail Run with proceeds benefiting the Red Tail Project and the Fargo Air Museum. The August 2009 ride went through Abercrombie, Leonard, Geneso, Lisbon and Mantador! Each location rolled out the carpet with their warm hospitality and lots of great food for the riders!



Bob Odegaard signs the first plush Duggy toy for Donna Richtsmeier. The Duggy film shoot took place at the museum in May. Both film and toy are for sale in gift shop.



Volunteer and educator, Andy Hill, gives summer youth groups a tour. Andy spends the school term teaching abroad in Korea. He has a passion for airplanes and WWII history.

Wagner Crafts Custom

Red Tail Guitar



Dan Wagner crafted a custom guitar that was raffled off at Osh Kosh as a donation to the Red Tail Project.

"I chose the theme of the 'Red Tail Project' because it is a success story of overcoming great adversity. I chose the Young Eagles' Program because it puts in place a way for kids to experience a dream. The concept of both is to lift people up and give them opportunity. In building the Red Tail Guitar I wanted to raise awareness and money for the 'Young Eagles Program.

In designing the 'Red Tail Guitar' I wanted everything about the guitar to "mean something." I wanted it to represent the pioneer spirit. The guitar is made out of aromatic red cedar because when American pioneers first moved west they carried their most prized items in a "hope chest". To read more of Dan's story, visit blogs.myspace.com/danroywagner



Stephanie and Tom Wegner donate a series of limited edition fighter ace prints in memory of their husband and father, Christopher Thomas Wegner.

2010 Aviation Hall of

Fame Inductees

The North Dakota Aviation Hall of Fame will induct two new members.

Alexander P. Macdonald, Fargo, and Ron Deck, Hillsboro, ND will be honored at the North Dakota Aviation Council's Upper Midwest Aviation Symposium banquet March 9 in Fargo.

Macdonald became an Air Force pilot in 1952. He returned to North Dakota to serve in various positions in the North Dakota Air National Guard. He has served on the Fargo Airport Authority for 20 years and was a founder of the Fargo Air Museum.

Deck is a pioneer of GPS guidance for aerial application operators in North Dakota. He served as president of the North Dakota Aerial Applicators His business. Association. Sky Tractor, holds annual selfregulating applications and flight safety clinics.



Arends Donates Book Collection to Museum

Volunteer Librarian Fred Quam and FAM member Joe Arends recently visited about loe's treasured aviation book collection. loe was able to attend the Beck Fly-In to watch his favorite warbirds fly one last time. Unfortunately, Joe passed away January 9th, 2010.

Memorial Gifts

Gifts given in loving memory

Richard Ames

David & Ianice Ames Richard & Lilly Berg Merv & Marlene Beynon Eugene & Beverly Fisher Lois Fritz Mike & Jan Haugen Paul & Gayle A. Johnson R. Marshall Johnson Lois Kundert Dennis & Kay Larson Phil & Sue Larson Alex & Joan Macdonald lean A. Neshiem Tibor & Junielle Olah Fred Quam S.K. Sandy & Georgia Sander Darrol & Jean Schroeder Richard Stern/Nancy Torson Valley RC Flyers Isabelle Weaver

John Anderson

Don & Carol Wold

Mery Benyon

Roderick & Audrey Angstman Keith & Marian Bjerke Steve & Gay Blazek Mark & Laverne Czichotzki Ernest & Marlene Bye Dahl Robert & Delores Dalen Richard & Barbara Fisher Friends at State Bank Ken & Bernice Holien Donald & Doris Lusk I.C. Maetzold Stefanie & Michael Pavlicek Darrol & Jean Schroeder Kenneth & Dolores Thoms Dick & Iane Walstad

Warren and Irene Diederich

Cindy Schreiber Beck Fargo Jet Center Dennis & Kay Larson Alex & Joan Macdonald

Kenny Evenstad

Merril Knodle Alex & Joan MacDonald Fred Quam

Floyd Hesse

Donald Jr. & Jackie Hesse Nancy Mattison Dan & Mary Thorstad **Corinne Horken**

Darrol & Jean Schroeder

Betty Kummer

Richard M. Ista

Gerald Rice

Ellen Rice Nilson

Allan Scott

Mrs. A. Scott (Mother)

Donald Slayton

Darrol & Jean Schroeder

Arnold Stenberg

Jim & Jan Ulferts Stewart

Don Stockton

Darrol & Jean Schroeder

David Iames Tuntland

Ronald & M. Iean Blilie Alex & Ioan Macdonald

James Winkler

Donald Ackerman Richard & Marlene Ames Erwin & Jean Beilke Merv & Marlene Beynon Don & Peggy Bierdeman Jerry & Pam Bruhn **CPS LTD**

Wayne & Brenda Eklund Amos & Constance Flaagan

Ronald J. Frigstad

Donald & Mary Louise Gronland

Sally & David Harmon Raymond & Dianna Hegle

Corinne Horken

Mark & Laurie Johnson R. Marshall Johnson

James & Janet Kapitan

T.E. Kenville Janice Kjesbo

Tom & Linda Larson

William & Geraldine Lechner

Kenneth & Brenda Lenoue

Dan & Margaret Lindquist

R & M Long

Duane & Jo Anne Lund Alex & Ioan Macdonald

Ian & Kris McDonald

Fred Quam

Darrol & Jean Schroeder Lavonne & Nick Storhaug

The Stradter Center John O. Syverson

Tim & Donna Spencer Verdon

MaryAnn Walen

Anthony Welch William & Lois Winkler

Joan Winkler

Background Image is of WWII B-17 pilot and founding museum member Warren Diederich.

Eargo Air	If you have missed an opportu	
Fargo Air Museum Annual Membership	to renew, please help us sav postage. Mailings will be restri to membership and donors o Thank	cted New Renewal
	THAIIK ,	
Please Check One	Name:	
Senior: \$20		
Senior Dual: \$35		_ State: Zip:
Military/Student with ID: \$20	The state of the s	_ E-mail:
Individual: \$30		
Dual: \$45		
Family: \$55 Grandparent: \$30	to the same of the	e newsietter via U.S. maii.
		0042
	Fargo, ND 58102 701.293	.8043 www.fargoairmuseum.org
Fargo Air Museum	– — — — — Donatior	is are accepted to support our education
raigo, Ali		h restoration and preservation programs.
TVIUSEUM		
Donation		
□ \$25 □ \$250	Name:	
□ \$50 □ \$500	Address:	7/
□ \$100 □ \$1000		State: Zip:
Other		J-mail:
		The Fargo Air Museum is a 501(c)3 non-profit.

Sixth Amelia Earhart Recovery Search: May 2010



Karl Kern, President of KRN, was in Fargo to buy aircraft parts and visited the museum. He shared the story about plans to participate in the sixth Amelia Earhart Aircraft Recovery Search in May 2010 for 30 days with a 30-passenger crew. The search will be led by Rick Gillespie, director of the International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery, which is the world's leading aviation archaeological foundation. For more information about the expedition visit www.tighar.org.

Kern started in aviation in 1969 as a crew chief on a helicopter in Vietnam and then held numerous parts inventory management positions until he purchased his own aircraft parts company in 1980. His company purchases airplane parts from around the world to sell in the States.





Vanity Photo Shoot by Studio 7

The Vanity Photo Shoot, The International Hockey reception, and a Titan pre-Red Hawks game picnic are just a few of the many private events hosted at the museum.



Volunteer Stew Bass gives Jane Alexander, of BOB 95 FM Radio, a tour of the Fargo Air Museum during her visit for the EAA B-17 "Aluminum Overcast" tour.



FARGO AIR MUSEUM 1609 19th Avenue North Fargo, ND 58102 www.fargoairmuseum.org

Return Service Requested

Calender of Events



