

Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Faint or small writing is not suitable for photographing.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

TO:

V...-MAIL

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

FROM

Liberty Aviation Museum
3515 East State Road
Port Clinton, OH 43452

(Sender's complete address above)



LIBERTY AVIATION MUSEUM



V...- Mail

News from the Front.

Welcome to the first issue of **V...- Mail!**

A lot has happened during such a short time since the groundbreaking for our new Museum last October! Construction is nearly complete and the *fun* begins as we will soon be able to occupy the facility to install equipment, artifacts and displays, and most importantly aircraft! The Ford Tri-motor will be the first aircraft to occupy our new hangar followed shortly thereafter by our B-25 "Georgie's Gal".

Now that we finally have a permanent place to call home we can begin the process of working together to offer to the public a world class aviation museum further enriching the heritage of our hometown of Port Clinton, and surrounding communities in the Erie-Ottawa County region.

To use a cliché please pardon our dust as we begin the process to coordinate staff and volunteer functions along with administrative duties.

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This facility is also home to the **Tri-motor Heritage Museum**. Since the early days of aviation this area has played a significant part in our Nation's history. For many years Island Airlines served area residents most famously in the use of Ford Tri-motors for the vital role of transporting people, and goods between the mainland, Erie Islands, and outlying areas. Scheduled flying service was offered without interruption longer than any other air carrier in the history of aviation, a milestone that will probably never be surpassed. For many years the "Tin Goose" was a familiar sight gracing the local skies, reliably and safely shuttling islanders back and forth to the mainland in good weather and bad.

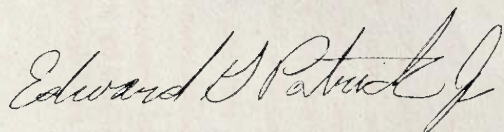
Probably the "greatest generation" in our Nations history were the men and women who defended the world against tyranny and oppression during WWII. Without their deep sacrifice and dedication, most of us would not be here today enjoying the freedoms we now have living in the greatest nation on Earth. A large part of the facility will also focus on this rich period in our history.

We are very fortunate indeed to be working with such a fine compliment of community leadership such as the Erie-Ottawa Regional Airport Authority Board, County Commissioners, and airport staff. Without their enthusiastic support our museum would not have become reality.

At lot of work has been done, and much more is ahead, but with everyone's help and support we can all contribute to make our Museum a source of pride to our membership and the community at large. There will be many levels of participation offered to members in the coming months -stay tuned for postings on how you can volunteer!

Now let's go restore and fly some airplanes!

Sincerely,



Edward G. Patrick Jr.
CEO/ Liberty Aviation Museum

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Welcome Aboard!

I would like to start by saying "Welcome Aboard!!!" to all of the new members of The Liberty Aviation Museum. I have been signing a lot of new member certificates lately and I hope to meet everyone at our grand opening July 20, 21 & 22.

I've been getting a bunch of emails and calls on some items which I'll answer with the best information I have as of today. The B-25 is scheduled to be ready for its first test flight about July 13. We will then put 10 - 15 hours on the airplane before we head back to Ohio to insure the engines and all systems are all working properly. This will make it very tight time wise to be back for the museum opening. To have a beautiful, safe and comfortable B-25 to fly is a very labor intensive project. Having another museums B-25 ahead of ours at the shop pushed our project further down the calendar than we wanted. However, SAFETY must always be first.

Immediately after our grand opening, we will be leaving for Oshkosh for Georgie's Gal major "Warbird" debut. Because of the tight schedule, we will only re-qualify a minimum crew until after our return from Oshkosh.

In closing I would like to introduce two very important members of the Liberty staff/team: Doug Moore is the Tri-Motor Heritage Foundations lead airframe mechanic on the Tri-motor build, and Mike Looney will be on board as our Director of Maintenance/Chief Mechanic for the B-25. We are very fortunate to have these two gentlemen agree to become part of our team. Welcome Mike and Doug!!

That is all for now.

"Ain't no sound like big and round"

Paul Stojkov
President/Chief Pilot

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Liberty Aviation Museum

The Liberty Aviation Museum encompasses all areas of aviation, with an emphasis on the golden age of aviation and WWII.

The overall design theme for the museum lobby will be the golden age of aviation. This includes details such as terrazzo floors, fully tiled period restrooms, belt driven ceiling fans, and period lighting. The Museum will create a timeline carrying patrons from the early stages of aviation into the 1950's and beyond.

The Museum's operational WWII B-25 Bomber will be the cornerstone aircraft of our collection. We will continually work towards adding to our collection of aircraft and artifacts including the cultivation of working relationships with other museums and individuals who operate historic aircraft.

We will continue to add to our collection of WWII period military vehicles which currently includes a U.S. Army Willy's Jeep and Dodge Ambulance, German KubelKar, Horch truck, field kitchen, anti-aircraft gun and several motorcycles. We will also be adding classic civilian vehicles to the collection in the near future.

We will also be displaying on-loan historic items, vehicles and aircraft at the museum.

We are also very happy to have begun a working relationship with the Yankee Air Museum in Michigan. Highlights of operational aircraft include a C-47, B-25 and a B-17. We plan to host numerous events in collaboration with their museum each year.

Tri-Motor Heritage Museum

Housed within the facility is the Tri-Motor Heritage Museum. Their mission is to restore to flying condition a Ford Tri-Motor. Restoration will be conducted in the main hangar as well as in the workshop areas of the facility. This work is being coordinated by project manager Warren Cermack who oversees work by full time mechanic Doug Moore and volunteers from EAA Tin Goose Chapter 1247. The main sponsor for this project is Maurice Hovious. Once completed the Ford Tri-motor will be on permanent operational display at the facility.

The museum will also highlight the history of Island Airlines, primarily during the time that Ford Tri-Motors were used, providing scheduled air service to the area islands. These displays will be housed in the large room just off the main lobby, as well as artifacts on display in the hangar, and throughout the building. The signage on the North side of the Hangar has been recreated to the exact look of the original Island Airlines hangar.

Museum Progress

The museum is rapidly nearing completion with a projected occupancy near the end of June. At that time we will then be able to begin the process of moving in equipment, supplies, museum displays and artifacts leading up to our planned grand opening weekend in July!

A high degree of quality workmanship and attention to detail has been performed during construction by the design/build firm of Janotta & Herner, along with all of the subcontractors on site. Without their dedication we would not have been able to so rapidly turn an empty field into an impressive museum facility.

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Museum Grand Opening 2012

Friday, July 20.

Saturday, July 21.

Sunday, July 22.

(A Schedule of events is included with this newsletter)

Gift Shop

Located just off the main lobby is the Museum gift shop. Items from the Liberty Aviation Museum, Tri-Motor Heritage Museum and Tin Goose Diner will be available within, and online. Numerous items are in the works for our PX and gift shop. This includes t-shirts and hats, decals, patches, pins, prints, lanyards, books and models.

Tin Goose Diner

The Tin Goose Diner is a vintage 1950's stainless steel Diner built by the Jerry O Mahony Diner Co. Originally located in Jim Thorpe PA, she once operated as Steve's Diner, and most recently as the Sunrise Diner until about 2 years ago. The Diner was then purchased and restored by Diversified Diners of Cleveland, Ohio for the museum. The restoration retains the original look and feel of the Diner. We think you will be very impressed indeed with results! The Diner will be open 7 days a week during Museum hours.

Building Fund

Part of our mission will be to raise funds to repay the loan for the construction of the Museum, and the purchase and restoration of our B-25. The cost of the facility has been partially offset by Grants but there is still a long way to go. With this in mind we will continually work to raise funds to pay off this obligation. We encourage everyone to contribute at whatever level they can, and to actively promote our museum to prospective donors.

B-25 Restoration

Our B-25 Mitchell WWII medium Bomber (formerly "Martha Jean") has been undergoing a comprehensive overhaul at Aero Trader in Chino, California since September 2011. Senior Flight Engineer Richard "Shorty" DeWitt volunteered to stay with our B-25 every step of the way working alongside Aero Trader's craftsmen. Renamed "Georgie's Gal" (in honor of our museum's main patron: George Woodling,) work is slated to be completed by early July. Sporting a brand new look complete with new paint scheme and nose art she will be unveiled during our Grand Opening weekend!

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PT Boats

One of the more unusual aspects of our aviation museum is the acquisition of not one, but two of the thirteen known U.S. built WWII MTB's (Motor Torpedo Boats) remaining in existence. PT-724 was acquired last year and is slated for complete restoration sometime in the future. Sister boat: PT-728 was recently acquired this Spring and will be arriving by late June. She is operational and will be placed into service by July! She is one of only two PT's still operational, and the only boat certified to carry passengers. Both boats will be ported in downtown Port Clinton at Brand's Marina. Watch future newsletters on how you can volunteer!

Memberships

In the coming months we will be developing different levels of membership in support of our museum and its purpose. Watch for updates in future newsletters.

Newsletter

Over the next few months our newsletter "V...-Mail" will expand in scope and dimension, both online, and in print.

Events Schedule

In future issues of the newsletter -both online and in print -we will be updating our events list to keep members up to date on Museum happenings. A separate Grand Opening event schedule is included with this newsletter.

Uniforms

Staff uniforms - Museum & Diner

We will be making available staff shirts in order for the public to clearly identify our museum volunteers and employees.

Period Uniforms -For use on flight line, special events, etc.

Part of our mission is to display our aircraft and vehicles to the public in the most historically authentic way. We can also better convey a historical perspective by having our volunteers dress in appropriate period attire.

We encourage our volunteers to dress in appropriate period clothing whenever possible, and will also make available period uniforms in our PX. In the near future we will be providing a list of vendors who provide such clothing as well as items that will be available through our PX.

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Staff Contacts

We are still working to install telephone, FAX, and computer service in the museum. We should have everything in place by the next newsletter and will publish museum contact information at that time. Our current email contacts are noted below.

President/Lead Pilot:	Paul Stojkov	chiefpilot@libertyaviationmuseum.org
CEO:	Edward Patrick	CEO@libertyaviationmuseum.org
Secretary:	Peggy Stojkov.	dispatch@libertyaviationmuseum.org
Web/IT/Design:	Thomas Durdella	it@libertyaviationmuseum.org
Public Relations Officer:	Jeff Sondles	jeffsondles@libertyaviationmuseum.org
Chief of Aircraft Maintenance:	Mike Looney	mechanic@libertyaviationmuseum.org

Online Services

Museum Website: www.libertyaviationmuseum.org

Tin Goose Diner Website: www.tingoosediner.com

Facebook: Liberty Aviation Museum and the Tin Goose Diner are both on Facebook. "Like" our pages to keep up with all the latest developments, photos and more.

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Schedule of Events

Yankee Air Museum B-17 appearance (at Liberty Aviation Museum.) June 27th

Liberty Aviation Museum Grand Opening. July 20, 21 & 22.

EAA Airventure Oshkosh. July 21st thru July 29th.

B-25 Georgie's Gal in attendance.

Tri-motor Fly-in. June 28 thru July 4th

Erie-Ottawa County Airport - Main Hangar

EAA's Ford Tri-motor will be available for rides.

Thunder Over Michigan Air Show. Aug 4, 5 & 6th.

B-25 Georgie's Gal in attendance

"Rise Above" Travelling Exhibit. August 9th thru 12th

Erie-Ottawa County Airport - Main Hangar

Commemorative Air Force's Red Tail Squadron P-51 Mustang, and Exhibit trailer on display highlighting the achievements of the Tuskegee Airmen during WWII.

D-Day Conneaut. Aug 17, 18, & 19.

Conneaut, Ohio - Lakefront Park

B-25 Georgie's Gal, along with museum WWII vehicles in attendance.

Probably the finest annual WWII historical public display reenactment battle in the world combining land, sea and air components.

An Evening with Amelia Air Art. August 17, 18 & 19

Liberty Aviation Museum Facility

Greater Port Clinton area Arts Council Arts festival event.

Ohio Bike Week. Sept 15th

Liberty Aviation Museum Facility

The seasons Bike Week finale will culminate at our facility with the giveaway of a custom Harley Davidson Fatboy with a WWII fighter bomber design theme!

Cleveland National Air Show Weekend. Sept 1, 2 & 3

Burke Lakefront Airport, Cleveland, Ohio

PT-728 appearance with the USS Cod. (Tentative.)

Piston Power Show. Cleveland IX Center. Oct 5, 6 & 7.

B-25 Georgie's Gal appearance.

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