



WASSUP??

April 2009

VOLUNTEER AWARD WINNER

Mary Lou Pearsall was nominated by Don Hussey and selected as our Volunteer of the Quarter for January thru March 2009. Mary Lou joined us in 2002 and, in addition to going on amazing vacations to exotic locales, has been critical to our success in getting our inventories computerized and has assumed responsibility for keeping the hazardous material listing the Base requires us to maintain and keep current. Both are very frustrating challenges and both required a lot of work to get them where they are today. Thanks Mary Lou, even though you won't take me on one of your cosmic vacations! Team Chiefs are reminded that nominations for the Volunteer of the Quarter award for April thru June 2009 are due in Lou Nigro's office no later than 15 June 2009.

NEW VOLUNTEERS

We continue to be blessed with new people volunteering their time to help us here at the Museum. Since the last issue of the WASSUP, we've added the following:

Gregory Humes: Greg is a young man (he just turned 19), lives in Warren, officially joined us on February 1, 2009, and has become part of our weekend Host Team. *Thanks for joining us Greg. Not only are young men and women welcome additions to our volunteer corps, your ability to operate our Gift Shop cash register will help us a lot.*

Hal Geddes: Hal is older than Greg (Hal just qualified for Medicare in February 2009), lives in St Clair Shores, officially joined us on February 17, 2009, is a former USAF radar technician, and has become part of our weekend Host Team. *Welcome aboard Hal. We just had five of our weekend hosts bail out so bringing you on board on the Team will lessen the load on the remaining hosts.*

2009 GOALS

It never ends...

- SPAD display: The SPAD Hangar is complete and the display was moved from Bldg 1008 to its new Hangar earlier this year. The SPAD Team is in the final stages of completing it and we hope to have everything up and running so guests can view this display in early 2009.
- Repaint the F-102 in Selfridge-specific markings. We received the decals we need courtesy of our friends at the KI Sawyer Museum and the repainting efforts began but had to be cut short because of temperatures. **(old project)**.
- Purge our storage areas of assets that are excess to our current and future needs, a long-term and ongoing effort **(old project)**.
- Developing and installing an Air Traffic Control display **(old project but underway, I think)**.
- Finish ongoing organization efforts in Bldg 1007. The stuff we're storing for STARBASE will hopefully be moved out eventually **(old project)**.
- Training more of our "full-time" volunteers on aircraft corrosion control **(old project)**.
- Cataloguing, digitizing, and filing historic photos **(old project but underway)**.
- Transformation of Bldg 1008 into a Library/Research and storage area. Once Bldg 1008 has been modified, we'll move the Library/Research area from Bldg 1011 into Bldg 1008, freeing up the space they occupied in Bldg 1011 for new displays.

2009 SELFRIDGE AIR SHOW DATE CHANGE

Selfridge officials have moved the dates of the 2009 Air Show and Open House from 13-14 June to 22-23 August. This move was made in coordination with the Thunderbirds in the hopes that we will be on their schedule. Their official schedule will be released by the first week of December.

NEW PASS & ID HOURS

Both the Military ID Card and the Vehicle Registration sections are in the new Visitors Center just north of the Main Gate.

The ID card office is open from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon and from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Tuesdays thru Fridays and they are closed on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays, and Federal holidays. Their phone number is 586-239-5161, ext 1.

The Vehicle Registration section is open from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm on Mondays, 7:30 am to 3:00 pm on Tuesdays thru Saturdays, and they are closed on Sundays and Federal holidays. Their phone number is 586-239-5161, ext 2.

AN EDITORIAL

I need a place to vent. Please don't take these ramblings personally...

- I'll say it again and keep saying it until everyone gets the word! **ONLY THE CURATOR OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CAN ACCEPT A DONATION TO THE MUSEUM!** Do not bring anything from your home or from others that is to be donated to the Museum unless you first come thru me! We keep getting stuff that I have to back door thru the acceptance and inventory process and it's getting a little old trying to figure out what happened and when after the fact.
- Now that Dick Soules has graciously accepted my offer to become our Curator, I had to do some minor tweaking to the wiring diagrams that show who's who in the zoo. The revised wiring diagrams are attached. These diagrams were developed to satisfy my need for organization but remember that, to quote paragraph 2.3 of our Operating Instruction 38-1, "**Cross-functional efforts are encouraged as they are absolutely necessary for the viability and sustainability of the Selfridge Military Air Museum.**"
- The Base requires us to keep an inventory of hazardous/flammable materials and paints. Mary Lou Pearsall and Roger Krings have spent countless hours developing that inventory which isn't worth the paper it's printed on if volunteers bring in stuff, buy stuff, or use/remove stuff like that without telling anyone! Ed Young has the same frustration with maintaining our asset inventory because volunteers add, remove, or move an asset without telling anyone!
- **For those of you who have the Lowe's tax exempt number memorized or on a piece of paper, it has changed!** See me or call me and I'll share it with you. If you just borrow the Lowe's credit card, it'll be on the back of the card where the old one was.

VISITORS PASS RENEWAL

All of those who use the AF Form 75 Visitors Pass to gain access the Base need to renew their pass to show an expiration date of 30 June 2009!

I sent an updated list of all volunteers to Security in mid November 2008 so your name should be at Pass & ID in the new Visitor's Center (Bldg 901) at the intersection of Hall Road and Jefferson by the end of November. The Pass & ID section is open from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm (closed from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm for lunch) from Tuesday thru Saturday, but closed on Federal holidays. The good news is that Security Police has advised me that the Visitors Pass (AF Form 75) is acceptable for entry to the Base thru the Golf Gate on North River Road! If they don't accept the Visitors Pass (AF Form 75) at the Golf Gate and tell you that you have to go thru the Main Gate, please advise me so I can square away what the real rules are.

To insure that all of our passes expire on the same day and to insure that the information I provide to our Security folks is as accurate as it can be, an updated list of Museum volunteers will be sent to Security again in April 2009 for the period 1 July 2009 to 31 December 2009.

CREDIT/DEBIT CARD FRAUD

When I went to pay our December 2008 credit card bill, I noticed a \$0.25 charge from a company I didn't recognize. The 800-number on the statement had been disconnected and they had no official website.

After a little research, I found out that beginning on or about 20 November 2008, various card holders began complaining about unauthorized "micro-transactions" that were suddenly showing up on their account. There's apparently a wave of fraudsters right now who are taking small amounts out of consumer accounts to test whether the account is good and verify it. First they take somewhere between 19-29 cents. Then, when they've verified the account, they make as many charges as possible before they get noticed.

It appears that the only solution is to call the credit/debit card company, report it as fraud, and have them issue you a new credit/debit card.

NEW CURATOR NAMED

Since Ed Stoll joined Bob Stone in that great Museum in the sky, our Curator position has been vacant. I tried functioning as the Executive Director and the Curator but found that I wasn't able to do either job very effectively.

I am extremely pleased to announce that **Dick Soules** was offered and has accepted that position. And what does a Curator do? Here's what's in a recently developed position description for our Curator. As I explained to Dick, this position description was "borrowed" from the American Association of Museums and can be modified as we see fit. And if you're interested in what the hell I do, see page 4 of this newsletter.

Duties of Curator

1. The care and interpretation of objects belonging to or lent to the Selfridge Military Air Museum, which usually comprises:

- making recommendations for acquisitions either through purchase or gift, for deaccession, and for outgoing loans;
- carrying out research on the collection, including verifying their authenticity, tracing their provenance and judging their quality;
- working with conservators to ensure the safety of the collection and to propose and advise upon any necessary conservation treatments;
- collaborating with museum educators on methods for the presentation of the collection to the public;
- insuring that historical reference material is organized to insure ready access by researchers.

2. The conception, development and organization of exhibitions, which usually includes:

- articulating the rationale and narrative, identifying objects appropriate to the concept and to the mission, scale and resources of the museum;
- writing the catalogue, wall texts and labels;
- planning the exhibition's layout, its order, pacing, groupings, emphasis;
- securing objects for loan;
- arranging other venues when appropriate;
- working collaboratively with other museum staff on the installation design, educational programs, outreach, and publicity.

3. The development and communication of program and collection information, contextual background materials and intellectual rationales in the forms needed by other departments.

Michigan Air Guard Historical Association/Selfridge Military Air Museum

Executive Director's Position Description

The Executive Director is the Chief Executive Officer of the Michigan Air Guard Historical Association and the Selfridge Military Air Museum.

The Executive Director reports to the Board of Directors, and is responsible for the organization's consistent achievement of its mission and financial objectives. In program development and administration, the Executive Director will:

Specific responsibilities:

- Assure that the organization has a long-range strategy which achieves its mission.
- Provide leadership in developing programs, organizational and financial plans with the Board of Directors and staff, and carries out plans and policies authorized by the board.
- Promote active and broad participation by volunteers in all areas of the organization's work.
- Maintain official records and documents, and ensure compliance with federal, state and local regulations.
- Maintain a working knowledge of significant developments and trends in the field.

In communications, the Executive Director will:

- See that the board is kept fully informed on the condition of the organization and all important factors influencing it.
- Publicize the activities of the organization, its programs and goals.
- Establish sound working relationships and cooperative arrangements with military organizations and community groups.
- Represent the programs and point of view of the organization to agencies, organizations, and the general public.

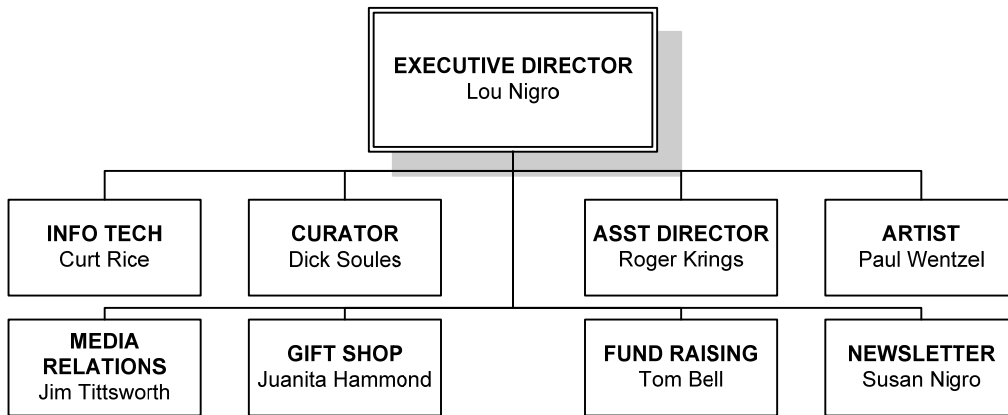
In relations with staff, the Executive Director will:

- Be responsible for the recruitment, employment, and release of all personnel.
- Strive to ensure that job descriptions are developed, that regular performance evaluations are held, and that sound human resource practices are in place.
- See that an effective management team, with appropriate provision for succession, is in place.
- Encourage volunteer development and education, and assist program staff in relating their specialized work to the total program of the organization.
- Maintain a climate which attracts, keeps, and motivates a diverse staff of top quality people.

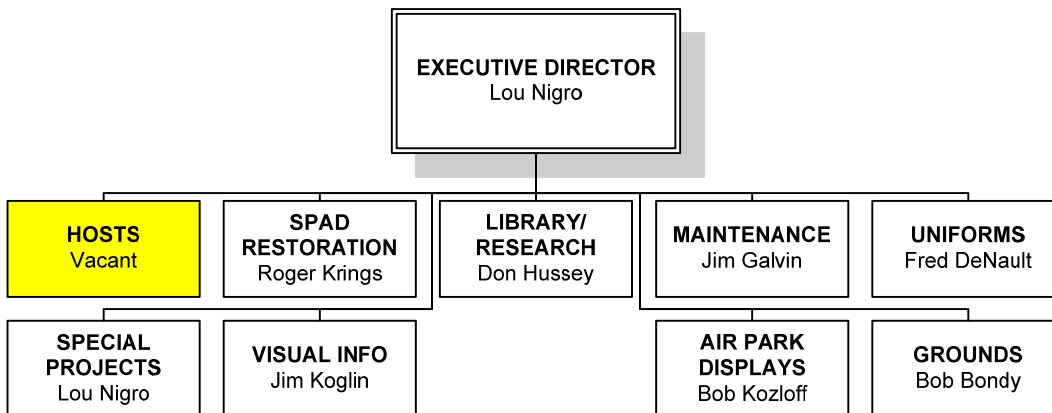
In budget and finance, the Executive Director will:

- Be responsible for developing and maintaining sound financial practices.
- Work with the staff and the board in preparing a budget and insure that the organization operates within budget guidelines.
- Ensure that adequate funds are available to permit the organization to carry out its work.
- Jointly, with the President and Secretary of the Board of Directors, conduct official correspondence of the organization, and jointly, with designated officers, execute legal documents.
- Maintain official financial records and documents, and ensure compliance with federal, state and local regulations.

SPECIAL ASSISTANTS



FUNCTIONAL TEAMS



Executive Director
Lou Nigro

