



WASSUP??

October 2008

VOLUNTEER AWARD WINNERS

Ed Young has been selected as our Volunteer of the Quarter for July thru September 2008. Ed helps out in the Research Library doing whatever job floats his way and has been known to come out on days other than Tuesdays and Fridays to help get a project completed. He applies himself to the task(s) at hand and once a project has been assigned to him, we've learned to just stand back and watch him take the project thru to completion. He's a real asset to our "Library Guys" team! And wait until he sees the winter project I have in mind for him.

Team Chiefs are reminded that nominations for the Volunteer of the Quarter award for October thru December 2008 are due in Lou Nigro's office no later than 15 December 2008.

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:

Christian Sabon (remember him?): Christian now works at Costco and is married with children! Christian lives in Clinton Township, officially re-joined us on July 7, 2008, and he's become part of Bob Kozloff's Outdoor Display Team in addition to helping us with Special Projects. *Welcome back Christian...it'll be good to see your smiling face again! And because you said you were interested in displays, I put you on Bob's team...and just because you're on that team doesn't mean we won't be tapping your brain for the trick research questions! And with your EBay experience we can start selling some of our unneeded stuff!*

Jamie Knobelsdorf: First of all, Jamie is a young lady! Jamie is a student, lives in Washington Township, and officially joined us on August 12, 2008. Jamie has offered to assist us as part of our Museum Host Team starting in 2009. *Welcome aboard Jamie. You've been out a few times helping your Aunt Celia clean our Museum in the evening and I know you will be just as friendly and professional helping us out as a Museum host.*

Tom Bell: Tom is a teacher in the Chippewa Valley school system, a former public relations consultant, a former fund raiser for the Archdiocese of Detroit, has an interest in US & military history, lives in Washington MI (less than 10 miles from Jamie Knobelsdorf), and officially joined us on September 11, 2008. Because Tom has a full-time job, his wife works outside their home, and they have children, I've asked him to help us out with something that can be done from his home, namely examining ways we can expand and improve our fund raising efforts. *Welcome to our band of merry men and women Tom. As a former fund raiser for the Archdiocese of Detroit and being personally familiar with the many ways they have of getting into my wallet, fund raising for our Museum should be a piece of cake!*

2008 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 but this display will require some serious corrosion control before it can be repainted (**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**).
- Motorize the R-2800 engine (**old project but underway**).
- 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.

AN EDITORIAL

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

- One of the requirements of maintaining our status as an accredited Museum is keeping "cradle to grave" records of all donations, including equipment used to perform our day-to-day activities.
 - When a well-meaning donor offers a piece of equipment to our Museum and to prevent folks from just turning their junk into our junk, we have to determine if we need it before we can accept the donation offer.
 - If we decide we can use it, the donor has to sign an agreement acknowledging that they are the legal owner of that equipment and that they understand that items offered to the Selfridge Military Air Museum may be accepted only when donated unconditionally, that donations are regarded as free and clear gifts, and once an item has been accepted, it will not be returned. Then, and only then, can we accept the donation.
 - Then we go thru the process of figuring out how to get the equipment to the Museum, putting the equipment on our inventory, assigning an inventory number, and sending them a donation acknowledgement letter.
 - When all this has to be done after the donated equipment is on-site, it makes the process very complicated. That's why Museum Operating Instruction 84-1, Gift Offers to the Museum, was developed which states, in part, "...the Executive Director and the Curator are the only persons at the Museum who officially may accept items offered." As the Curator's position is presently vacant, that leaves it up to me to make sure the process outlined above happens.
- Speaking of Operating Instructions (another requirement for professional accreditation), I sometime wonder why I spent countless hours developing those instructions and countless hours keeping them current when nobody seems to read them and I have to continue to remind folks of what's in them. We have three complete sets of those Operating Instructions; an electronic copy on my computer's hard drive, a printed one in a binder in my office, and a third in a binder in the Multi-Purpose Room in Bldg 1011.
- I'm still getting a lot of "unofficial" emails sent to my Government address (@miself.ang.af.mil) and our Computer Police get understandably concerned when Government computers are used for this kind of email. Please send "unofficial" stuff to my home email address (freighterpilot@comcast.net). Even though we're not a Government organization, I convinced the Base that a Government computer on a Government network is critical to our success and they agreed. Use of it for other than "official" business might force them to take the networked computer away and we would be lost without this capability.

VISITORS PASS RENEWAL

All of those who use the AF Form 75 Visitors Pass to gain access the Base are reminded that in a few weeks they'll need to renew their pass to show an expiration date of 30 June 2009!

I'll be sending an updated list of all volunteers 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, 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.