Air Show highlight, 3 Zeros flying formation. The third Zero, owned by the POF, is the only authentic Japanese Zero in the world complete with its original Sakai engine.

2012 PLANES OF FAME AIR SHOW, A PERSONAL OBSERVATION

Article & Air Show Images By Michael O’Leary

For decades, one air show has remained consistent for its sterling quality and that is the yearly gathering held by the Planes of Fame Air Museum at historic Chino Airport.

This air show has evolved from an informal gathering of flying museum aircraft and Warbirds brought to the event by friends of PoF to today’s professional aerial exhibition that combines some of the world’s rare aircraft with some of the greatest pilots.

In the week preceding the event, I usually try to fly into Chino a couple times to check out what PoF’s skilled crew and band of dedicated volunteers are putting together. The days leading up to the show are usually a frenzy of activity — engine runs are being undertaken, last minute maintenance performed, and early arrivals are directed toward their parking spots. Flight tests are also being done and, if we are lucky, we get airborne with some of planes to get the photos we needed for our magazine articles.

All this pre-show activity illustrates how well PoF functions in bringing together a wide variety of functions — from ticket sales, to vendors, to parking. Creating an air show is a complex business and the successful blending of these elements is testimony to the effectiveness of the PoF staff and volunteers.

The theme of the 2012 show was particularly appropriate since America and the Allies were being pushed back on all fronts. However, the population of the USA came together in a concerted effort to defeat the enemy and as 1942 progressed, there would be major defeats for the Axis. The air show reflected the rapid progression of American airpower and the unique blending of three Japanese Zeros into the show illustrated just how quickly our expanding aeronautic prowess created aircraft to overwhelm an enemy that had seemed undefeatable.

The Planes of Fame air show was also highlighted by the incredible performances of the Horsemen — displaying the power, beauty, and grace of Mustangs and Lightning.

Of course, PoF has become famous for the show’s concluding “Balbo” of a massive fly-by of participating aircraft — a sound and sight that encapsulates the American spirit of World War II.
President’s Message

Thank you to everyone who supported the County of San Bernardino Planes of Fame Air Show this past May. Volunteers, sponsors, air show performers and aircraft owners and of course, those who attended the show were part of another successful show. And that’s not the only time you’ll be able to see a good number of Planes of Fame’s beautiful aircraft take flight this year. We are partnering with the Estrella Warbird Museum in Paso Robles to put on a one day show Saturday, September 29th at the Paso Robles Airport. I hope you’ll plan a visit to join us for this first time effort between the two museums. And of course, we are once again participating in the air show at Apple Valley on October 13th.

Our Living History Events have featured some amazing gentlemen sharing their stories this summer. If you haven’t made it out to the museum lately, schedule your next visit for the first Saturday of October when retired Brigadier General Robert L. “Bob” Cardenas, USAF (retired) will give a presentation on the Flying Wing and P-59. And while you are there, please stop by the Hands-On Aviation Center and say hello to Christina Brown, the museum’s first Education Coordinator, who is working to launch the Aviation Discovery Program at Planes of Fame. Christina will have the HOA open on Saturdays and may just be demonstrating how fun learning math and science with aviation can be.

Looking ahead, I am excited to welcome Mr. Bob Hoover to Planes of Fame for the 6th Annual Taste of Flight, October 27th. Bob will join us for the evening and speak about his illustrious aviation career. We have a surprise (hopefully two) planned for the event so order your tickets today. Better yet, become a sponsor and receive an invitation to the VIP reception to meet Bob Hoover before the event. Money raised at the event, our only fundraiser, will support all the projects and programs at Planes of Fame Air Museum!

Keep ‘em flying!

Steve Hinton
President

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

TOM DOZIER
IS INSPIRED TO PRESERVE MACHINES AND THE MEMORIES OF THOSE WHO BUILT AND FLEW THEM

Driven to share memories of the men who built and flew the flying machines that have served America, Tom Dozier devotes much of his time to video production for Planes of Fame.

“I consider each one a hero, no matter their rank. They served where I couldn’t,” Dozier says. “My reward in working at the museum is people get to see the machines and hear the stories of what they achieved.”

Tom grew up around military bases where his father, Tom, worked as a General Electric tech representative. “He sat me in an F86 when I was 16 months old, and I spent days at the base with him. When I was older, working with Dad at museums and air shows was a great way to share a common interest.”

Retired because of health reasons, Tom became a regular PoF volunteer in 2008, worked on the Veterans History Project, the monthly events and in 2010 was asked to set up a video department. He was also asked to help and guide teenagers who were showing up on Saturdays to work. They worked on the X2 “Starbuster.” “While the young people have been able to see progress on the restoration, Tom is most proud of their life progress.

“One is in boot camp, another in college and another in flight school,” he says of “his” kids. “It’s easy to help ourselves but hard to help others.”

The video productions that Tom is known for actually were started at El Toro when it hosted the Marine Corps Jay W Hubbard Aviation Museum, the official command museum of the Third Marine Air Wing. The museum’s founding director, Harry Gann, asked him to make some videos from footage they had. That request launched a determination to share historic as well as current video footage. He has produced over 200 videos since 1992.

Today Tom’s video collection – including many selected from around the world – is seen on www.flybynightvideos.com in some 220 countries. He has also set up the Planes of Fame’s YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/user/PoFmuseum, which has been seen in over 160 countries, and he is currently working on the Planes of Fame 2012 air show video.
The 2012 launch of the Aviation Discovery Program (ADP) brings a comprehensive education program to the already world-renowned museum. Supported by dedicated volunteers, ADP’s mission is to provide a safe and structured environment to explore the science and history of flight through programs which inspire and educate.

The expansion of the ADP provides an umbrella program to highlight the Hands-on Aviation Center (HOAC) which opened in 2010 and gives young people direct experience with scientific aviation principles and introduces them to the history of flight. The Planes of Fame education program is an exciting combination of classroom learning, hands-on experiences, and a campus of airplanes from all eras of aviation history.

The ADP will use a comprehensive curriculum, including the resources of the museum itself, to spark interest and imagination in history, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). These STEM programs reflect California state framework standards for K-12 and give students primary sources for understanding concepts they learn in their classrooms.

Imagine young people walking into the Maloney Hangar seeing for the first time some of the rarest and most historic aircraft of the 20th century. They will see Boeing’s P-26 Peashooter and then the N9M flying wing and wonder, “how can both of those fly?” Imagine those students touring the museum to appreciate the history and function of such a wide variety of aircraft. Imagine them being able to “hear, feel, and touch” aviation by building aircraft engines and learning how they work.

The ADP strategic plan for 2012 includes expanding participation in the total learning experience offered by the Planes of Fame Museum. Strengthening connections with local schools and youth organizations is a key component of the plan. Building on donations, grants, and fund-raising, a major objective is to build a sustainable program. Most exciting is the addition of a part-time coordinator to provide presence in the HOAC, handle communication, coordinate visits, and build curriculum.

The mission of Planes of Fame includes encouraging interest in the aviation world and its professions. We want to encourage young people to consider careers as engineers, mechanics and pilots.

We encourage you to visit the Planes of Fame Air Museum, experience the HOAC, and watch our children’s program grow.

Questions about the program can be e-mailed to the Aviation Discovery Program Coordinator, Christina Brown, at Christina.Brown@planesoffame.org.

Sponsorship is a great way to help a child achieve his or her goals of a better education and lasting career in aviation and aeronautics. If you would like more information about donating to the ADP program, please call (909) 597-4754.

**6th Annual ‘Taste of Flight’**

**October 27, 2012**

It’s time for the event of the year! And this year’s Special Keynote is aviation legend Robert A. “Bob” Hoover, called by General Jimmy Doolittle “the greatest stick and rudder man who ever lived.” Wine and beer tasting, historic pilot stories, dinner catered by Spaggi’s, a live and silent auction of amazing items – for ticket information and to bid online, visit: www.planesoffame.org

It’s all great fun and for the good cause of raising money towards Planes of Fame Air Museum’s mission to preserve aviation history. Sponsorships and table reservations are available, inquiries: Karen Hinton at (909) 597-4754 or e-mail to: karen.hinton@planesoffame.org
BIG THANKS TO RECENT DONORS

An unusual attraction was the presence of two dual-control TF-51D Mustangs. Daryl Bond’s Lady Jo is a regular participant at Chino. The PoF’s Yak-3 has become one of Steven Hinton’s favorite aircraft, “It’s small, very responsive, and really fast!”

The Grumman TBF Avenger - a key aircraft during the early days of WWII. John Maloney displays the Avenger with the bomb bay open.

2012 PoF AIR SHOW IMAGES BY MICHAEL O’LEARY

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