



Mailing Address:

43W624 U.S. Route 30
Sugar Grove, IL 60554

Museum Address:

44W546 U.S. Route 30
Sugar Grove, IL 60554

1-630-466-0888
www.airclassicmuseum.org

Hours:

Monday - Friday: CLOSED
Saturday & Sunday: 10AM-3PM
Group and Private Tours
Available by Appointment

Board of Directors:

Mike Lumen - President
Hank Winkler - VP/Curator
Bill Roth - Treasurer
Steve Ports - Secretary
Ken Kwiatkowski - Mktg/FundRaise
Ray Hicks - Membership, Newsletter
Chuck Newell - Restoration
Bob Gluchman - Restoration
Steve Bartkowski - Director

Next Board Meeting:

March 27, 2021, 8:00 AM

This Week In History: Operation DESERT STORM & The ACM LTVA-7E Corsair II

On loan to Air Classics from the National Naval Aviation Museum, our Corsair II was delivered to the Navy in 1973. Throughout its service life it was based at Naval Air Station Cecil Point,

Jacksonville, FL, serving with several VA (Fixed Wing, Attack) squadrons. Our ship wears the markings of VA-72, known as the Bluehawks.

VA-72 and its sister squadron, VA-46, were the last two active-duty US Navy A-7 squadrons and both participated in Operation DESERT



SHIELD and DESERT STORM in 1991. Operating from the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67), our Corsair II played a part in the successful aerial campaign that made possible an overwhelmingly powerful 100-hour ground war that devastated Iraqi forces and restored Kuwaiti sovereignty.

When the USS Kennedy returned from its DESERT STORM combat cruise, both A-7 squadrons were stood down and the aircraft were sent to a well-earned retirement at NAS Millington, TN.



Featured Exhibit: USAAF High Altitude Gunner's Mittens

These are a matched set of original issue Army Air Force Type A-9A High Altitude Gunner's mittens. With a unique trigger finger design, these were typically used by B-17 and B-24 bomber gunners occupying open waist positions. Flying at altitudes between 25,000 and 30,000 feet, these shearling

"Preserving the Dream"

COVID-19 Relief for ACM

Bill Roth continues to pursue opportunities to receive grants to help offset lost revenues resulting from our COVID-delayed 2020 season and reduced visitor attendance. He applied for several opportunities and was successful in receiving funds from the IL BIG Grant and from Kane County. The combined grants will be a big help in covering our operating costs. Great job Bill!!

2021 Museum Opening

Air Classics Museum will reopen for the 2021 visitor season with regular hours on 10 April. Stay tuned for further announcements and volunteer opportunities to assist with the reopening. The gift shop will be well-stocked – desktop models, unbuilt plastic model kits, books, toys, as well as museum hats & polo shirts!

Volunteer Opportunities

In the weeks before the 10 April opening of the museum, there may be need for help getting the grounds and exhibits cleaned up and ready for visitors. If you are available to assist, please call the museum and leave a message to let us know what days you can help. We will resend with specifics as we get closer to the opening. With COVID-19 vaccinations more available, 2021 promises to be a much better season for our museum!



mittens were essential to protecting the gunner's hands from temperatures as low as -40 degrees Fahrenheit. Replaced by electrically heated gloves later in the war, these mittens are a rare exhibit indeed!

February 25, 2021



We Want YOU To Be A Member



We are actively seeking new members and encouraging all our current/past members to renew their memberships. We are also in the process of updating our membership database so we can keep you informed of current events and volunteer opportunities. There's never been a better time to become a Life Member!! Membership includes free Air Classics water bottle, unlimited free admission to the museum, 10% gift shop discount, access to museum library, and volunteer opportunities. Life Members also receive a 25% discount in the museum gift shop and after-hours rental of museum or its camping/picnic area. Current Annual and Life membership rates are as follows:

Student: \$15
Family: \$50

Individual: \$40
Life: \$350



Pandemic safety measures are still in place, it seems many are shopping online more than ever. Did you know that you can help our museum by doing so? Using smile.Amazon.com when shopping, our museum receives up to 0.5% of the price of your purchase in the form of a donation. Thousands of items are eligible. It's the same Amazon, with the same products and prices. It only takes a few moments to set up. Invite your friends and family too!

