

Friends of the Flight Test Museum



February 2014

Capital Campaign Newsletter

AFA JOINS CAMPAIGN AND DREAM TEAM NEARLY COMPLETE

By Rex Moen, FTHF Capital Campaign Committee Chairperson

The William J. "Pete" Knight Chapter of the Air Force Association has joined forces with the Flight Test Historical Association (FTHF) to raise funds to move the Air Force Flight Test Museum outside the gate of Edwards Air Force Base.

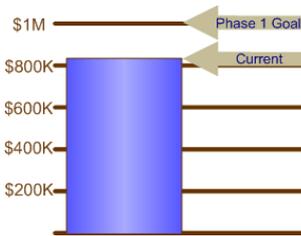
The Pete Knight Chapter has set a goal of a total of 1,000 Life Patrons by December 31, 2016 to support the Air Force Flight Test Museum. A Life Patron is any individual, group, organization or company that contributes \$1,000 or more.

The first crucial deadline is July 1, 2014 to add an additional 176 new Life Patrons. That deadline is in order to secure the "conditional" Hilton Foundation grant of \$300,000. The grant is conditioned on the FTHF raising \$690,000. The FTHF has raised \$514,000 to date and has only five months to raise the remaining \$176,000, and **with your help, we can do it!**

Construction of Phase 1 of the Flight Test Museum can start when we make the \$990,000 goal.

The FTHF had a total of 165 Life Patrons as of the Gathering of Eagles held in October 2013. Those 165 were ACCUMULATED over a period of 30 years from the day the founding of the FTHF on October 1, 1983. Coincidentally, William J. "Pete" Knight was the first Chairman of the FTHF. Those previous funds built the existing museum, the Blackbird Airpark and the Century Circle in addition to helping restore airplanes and artifacts.

Capital Campaign Progress



Save the Date

LA County Airshow
Featuring the Navy's Blue
Angels

March 21-22, 2014
William J. Fox Airfield
Lancaster CA

Blackbird Airpark
Open Cockpit Event
View the cockpits of the

SR-71 and U-2
April 26, 2014
10AM - 4PM

2503 E Avenue P,
Palmdale, CA

Run with History
Half Marathon/10K/5K
May 17, 2014
Historic Edwards Lakebed

LIFE PATRONS –

NINETEEN DOWN AND 176 TO GO TO ACHIEVE PHASE 1 GOAL BY JULY 1ST

By David "Jester" Smith, FTHF 1,000 Life Patrons Task Force Leader

There have been 19 new life patrons in the past 4 months, since the "Gathering of Eagles" function in October. A great big shout-out for these wonderful people, they are going to make a big difference in telling the story of flight test and inspiring future generations.

After we successfully achieve this first goal by July 1st, the Life Patrons Committee will work to meet our campaign goal to have 1,000 Life Patrons by December 31, 2016. The successful Life Patrons campaign along with grants, major gifts, Adopt-a-Plane, Adopt-a-Exhibit, etc. will enable the completion of all three phases of the museum development.

Please recruit your friends, associates, family members, etc. for this great effort, "because you don't want them to be mad at you for not thinking of them and letting them be part of this great effort."

New Life Patrons

Pete Knight Chapter, AFA
Thomas & Janet Berard
Eileen Bjorkman
Edward Burnette
Jimmy Doolittle III
Lisa Gray
Beth Hagenauer

Bob Hoey (Silver)
Wanda Killian
Gail Knight
Rex & Janine Moen
George A. "Bud" Reams
David "Jester" & Denise Smith
Harry Talbot

Art & Roberta Thompson
Jesse L. Tyler
Bill Simone
Donald L. Weiss
Richard A. Wood

Preserve Flight Test History to Inspire Future Generations



The Flight Test Historical Foundation is a private organization. It is not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and it has no government status.



Inspiring Future Generations – STEM Educational Outreach

By Liz Diachun, FTHF Public Relations Group Leader

Beyond simply preserving the history of flight test, it is the mission of FTHF to inspire interest in Science Technology Engineering & Math (STEM). Only through education will the next generation of flight test be created. Our studies have shown that elementary school students have a high level of interest in flight test and space exploration. Through STEM outreach programs, we hope to reach this critical audience.

Our online [Junior Test Pilot School](#) is up and running! It offers elementary school students interactive learning modules to explore STEM based subjects related to flight test at Edwards Air Force Base.

The new FTHF website now includes [educational resources](#) for K-6 teachers with STEM lesson plans and educational modules exploring the experiments, aircraft, and aerospace advancement at Edwards Air Force Base.

Additionally, we are creating an on-site STEM curriculum for both Blackbird Air Park and the Air Force Flight Test Museum at Edwards. It is our hope that these programs not only teach the history of flight test, but also actively engage and motivate future generations. For additional information, email our Education Director at JTPS@afftcmuseum.org.

Preserving Flight Test History – Photographing the Collection

By Liz Diachun, FTHF Public Relations Group Leader

In support of the Capital Campaign, FTHF Board member, William Simone, has been busily photographing displays of the museum aircraft collection. Each aircraft's history was documented in how it relates to the history of flight test and Edwards AFB. This information was edited and organized by board member Wanda Killian.

This information will be a valuable resource for many years to come. In addition to preserving this visual history of flight test, board member Subash Fernando has assembled the material into an informational brochure for the capital campaign. If you would like to share these brochures with your organizations please email: fthf@antelecom.net

Preserving Flight Test History – Capital Campaign Solicitation Task Forces Have Taken Off

By Rex Moen, FTHF Capital Campaign Committee Chairperson

The Grant Writing Task Force, headed up by Dr. Les Uhazy, is off and running with the awarding of the grant application development contract to Drew & Associates with a 60-day deadline to produce 10 grant applications targeted to the construction of the museum.

Art Thompson leads the Major Gifts Task Force, and is in hot pursuit of gifts of \$50,000 or more to sponsor the STEM classroom and museum galleries, exhibiting aircraft and artifacts from collections, such as the TPS and the Black Aircraft collections.

Rex Moen is working on encouraging our Board Members and Trustees to become Life Patrons as well as working with the Air Force Association on their goal of signing up 1,000 Life Patrons.

Subash Fernando, as leader of the Adopt-a-Plane Task Force, is developing a brochure to solicit \$25,000 sponsors of the museum's historical aircraft and \$15,000 sponsors of exhibits.

The William J. "Pete" Knight Chapter of the Air Force Association, led by their President, 1st Lieutenant Chris Talbot, USAF and their Immediate Past President David Smith, has started on their goal of a total of 1,000 Life Patrons. In addition to their chapter of 400 members, they will solicit support from some 80 or so different civic, service and professional organizations.

Gary Aldrich has received approval from the Combined Federal Campaign for the FTHF, as a 501(c)(3) organization, to participate in the 2014 Combined Federal Campaign. He is now pursuing approval for the various United Way Campaigns within the Los Angeles County and Kern County portion of the Antelope Valley.

afftcmuseum.org



Preserving Flight Test History – Upcoming Events

LA Airshow Night @ The Hanger benefiting FTHF

WHERE: Lancaster Jet Hawks Stadium

WHEN: March 21, 2014

Gates open at 6 pm

WHAT: **A night of family fun celebrating the first ever LA Airshow! All gate proceeds benefit the FTHF's new museum construction fund.**

- Meet and Greet with The Blue Angels
- Red Bull Skydive Team
- Airshow Awards
- Fireworks!
- Music
- Food

General Admission Tickets (\$10) go on sale February 21 at Jethawks.com.



Blackbird Park Open House: SR-71 & U-2 50-Year Cold War Commemoration

WHERE: 2509 E Ave P (at 25th East), Palmdale, CA

WHEN: April 26, 2014; 10 AM to 4 PM

WHAT:

- Q&A with Pilots
- Open Cockpit Viewing!
- Exhibits – Souvenirs
- Aircraft Model & Book Signing by U-2, SR-71, F-117, B-2 & F-22 Pilots



Run with History: Edwards Half Marathon/10K/5K

WHERE: Edwards AFB Lake bed and Flight Line

WHEN: May 17, 2014

Races will start at 0800, the base gate will open for participants at 0400.

WHAT: Several aircraft from the Museum's and current USAF inventories will be put on public display along the route.

All proceeds to benefit the FTHF's efforts to construct a new museum outside of the base's West Gate.

[Register Now](#)...come out and run where history is made every day!



For more information please call the Edwards AFB Fitness Center at 661-275-4961.

Supporting the Capital Campaign

Century Circle Brick Paver Program

Every brick tells a story

The aircraft and historic collections at the Museum are inspiring and will serve to educate many for years to come.

You can play an important role in preserving that history by purchasing a personally engraved brick paver for the Century Circle Walk, where it will be displayed for all who pass through to see.

The Century Circle, located outside the base's West Gate, is a display area for the Century Series Fighter test aircraft: F-100, F-101, F-102, F-104, F-105, and the F-106.

The purchase of your paver will help to inspire and educate so that flight test history is alive for years to come.

Whether celebrating a career achievement, memorializing a loved one, or commemorating a retirement, we all have a story to tell. Inspire future generations, with your Century Circle Paver!

Become a Life-Time or Corporate Patron:

- Platinum - \$25,000
- Gold - \$15,000
- Silver - \$5,000
- Bronze – \$1,000

Visit <http://aftcmuseum.org/>
or call (661) 258-1658 for more details

aftcmuseum.org

Preserving Flight Test History – Collection Spotlight



T-38A – S/N 61-0810

The Northrop T-38 Talon is a twin-engine, high-altitude, supersonic jet trainer used in a variety of roles because of its design, economy of operations, ease of maintenance, high performance and exceptional safety record. Air Education and Training Command is the primary user of the T-38 for joint specialized undergraduate pilot training. Air Combat Command, Air Force Materiel Command and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration also use the T-38A in various roles.

The T-38 has swept wings, a streamlined fuselage and tricycle landing gear with a steerable nose wheel. Two independent hydraulic systems power the ailerons, rudder and other flight control surfaces. Critical aircraft components are waist high and can be easily reached by maintenance crews.

The T-38C incorporates a "glass cockpit" with integrated avionics displays, head-up display and an electronic "no drop bomb" scoring system. The AT-38B has a gun sight and practice bomb dispenser. The instructor and student sit in tandem on rocket-powered ejection seats in a pressurized, air-conditioned cockpit.

The T-38 needs as little as 2,300 feet (695.2 meters) of runway to take off and can climb from sea level to nearly 30,000 feet (9,068 meters) in one minute. T-38s modified by the propulsion modernization program have approximately 19 percent more thrust, reducing takeoff distance by 9 percent.

The Talon first flew in 1959. More than 1,100 were delivered to the Air Force between 1961 and 1972 when production ended. As the T-38 fleet has aged, specific airframe, engine and system components have been modified or replaced. Pacer Classic is the name given to a sustainment program that integrates essential modifications, and includes major structural replacements into one process.

Test pilots and flight test engineers are trained in T-38s at the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. Air Force Materiel Command uses the T-38 to test experimental equipment such as electrical and weapon systems.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration uses T-38 aircraft as trainers for astronauts and as observers and chase planes on programs such as the space shuttle.

On 19 February 1962, the museum's Talon, piloted by USAF Major Walter F. Daniel, eclipsed the 3000 (9,842.52 feet) in 35.624 seconds, 6000, 9000 and 12,000-meter world marks formerly held by the F-104 Starfighter since December 1958. The Talon climbed to those altitudes from a standing start faster than other aircraft has done under official timing and internationally recognized rules.

Jacob Huck recently led a group of volunteers to restore the Talon on display outside of the museum. Huck, a sophomore student at Desert Junior Senior High School, planned the aircraft restoration project to meet his Eagle Scout leadership requirement. The project, completed over two weekends in September and October 2013, included removing oxidation on the aircraft and applying a coat of polish; as well as creating hand-mixed cement slabs to support the permanent display. As Jacob noted, "The T-38 is part of Air Force history."



Jacob Huck and his team with 61-0810 on display at the Museum



Eagle Scout Jacob Huck

TECHNICAL NOTES:

Span: 25 ft. 3 in.

Length: 46 ft. 4 in.

Height: 12 ft. 10 in.

Gross Weight: 7,164 lb.

Armament: None

Engines: Two General Electric J85-GE-5 turbojet engines, each with 2,680 lb. of dry thrust; 3,850 lb. with afterburners

Crew: Two

Maximum speed: 812 mph

Cruising speed: 578 mph

Range: 1,093 miles

Service ceiling: 53,600 ft.

Climb Rate: 30,000 ft./min.

aftcmuseum.org