

***Our Mission: To interpret aviation, particularly that related to New York State, with exhibits and programs that educate, entertain and excite the public***

Volume 27, Issue 3

Fall 2017

## **ESAM COMMEMORATES 90 YEARS OF HISTORY AND INNOVATION AT THE SCHENECTADY COUNTY AIRPORT**

On July 28, 1927 when **Charles Lindbergh** visited the field that was to become the Schenectady County Airport, he was arguably the most famous person in the world. Just two month earlier, on May 20-21, 1927, he had flown the Atlantic solo and non-stop from Roosevelt Field, Long Island to Le Bourget Field, Paris. In Schenectady, he and his airplane, The Spirit of St. Louis, attracted a crowd of 25,000 people.

While we didn't have 25,000 at the museum's commemoration of the 90th anniversary of Lindbergh's visit and the 90th anniversary of the opening of the Schenectady County Airport, we did have thousands of people enjoying the museum's activities on July 28th and 29th. The events began on Friday with an entertaining performance by the **Musicians of Ma'alwyck** followed by a presentation by Charles Lindbergh living history performer **Tim Clark**. Town of **Glenville Supervisor Chris Koetzle** also spoke at the event which was part of the **Town of Glenville's Summer Celebration** series.

Saturday July 29th was filled with events from morning to night. ESAM's Fly-In breakfast drew a large crowd who enjoyed the wide variety of tasty food available. After breakfast the Community Room was transformed into a display area for many local organizations to advertise their activities: **The Costumer, Schenectady County Historical Society, MiSci, Saratoga Automobile Museum** and the **Helderberg Earth and Sky Observatory**. During the day museum and air park tours were offered, Lindbergh's Franklin car was on display, Tim Clark again made his Charles Lindbergh presentation, a flyover and fly in was performed by two SNJ-4s, a Yak and an F4U Corsair. Food and Simulated Reality Vehicle rides were available. In the evening **Georgie Wonder's Orchestra** played at a lovely hangar dance.

**Trustee Peter Russo** led the effort to put together the celebration, with many, many helpers including those listed on page 13 of this newsletter.



**Tim Clark makes his Charles Lindbergh presentation. Also notice on the right side of the photo the Lindbergh Direction Post made by ESAM Trustee John Kolwaite. Photo courtesy of Lynn Chevalier.**

## AerONotes

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**Empire State**

### Aerosciences Museum

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Lawrence McArthur

ESAM is a registered  
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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Members and Friends of ESAM

I hope you are all enjoying "the dog days of summer" as your museum continues its mission of educating, celebrating and looking to the future as the community asset that is ESAM. Since the last issue of Aeronotes, we have accomplished much; yet see many opportunities on the horizon.



**Bud Matthews**

ESAM and Schenectady County Community College co-hosted our third Summer STEM Camp in early July, and this was our best effort yet. This year, over two dozen young scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians were educated in how aviation is impacted by STEM. There were so many volunteers that gave their time and talent that I can't name them all here, but special thanks to **Kev Millington** and **Rachel Gershon Rourke** for leading the charge with SCCC and planning the camp. We also had a wonderful group of instructors, mentors and helpers that moved things along while making sure the kids had fun. We also now have some hard data that can be used for educational grant opportunities for next year.

In late July, ESAM celebrated the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the **Schenectady County Airport** and the visit of **Charles Lindbergh**. Our special thanks to **Peter Russo** for putting his heart and soul, not to mention countless hours, in making this event a true success. Friday evening, we were treated to the **Musicians of Ma'alwick**, and **Tim Clark** who does an outstanding rendition of the life of Charles Lindbergh. On Saturday morning we started with a Fly-In Breakfast, visit by several Warbirds, (including a F4U Corsair that was very cool!) as well as another Lindbergh talk. Many of our good friends from local elected officials, State Assembly, Senate and **Congressman Paul Tonko**. All of them see the benefit ESAM provides to the community, and we are very lucky to have such friends!

Our acquisition of the Concorde took a big step forward with the delivery of the nose section, on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Trustee **Dan Wilson** has accepted the very important job, as Project Manager, and we are very fortunate to have him working with **John Panoski** as we plan the installation. Visit the Airpark and see the forward section of the world's largest model!

The ESAM Annual Meeting is set for October 18, 2017 at **The Water's Edge Lighthouse Restaurant** in Glenville. Please make every effort to attend, as we will be sharing our vision for the future, celebrating our accomplishments and recognizing those volunteers that make your museum work.

Thanks and see you all soon!

The following article is excerpted from the July 23, 2017 Daily Gazette.

### **SCHENECTADY COUNTY AIRPORT MARKS LINDBERGH VISIT IN 1927**

At 11:40 a.m. on Thursday morning, July 28, 1927, Charles Lindbergh and the Spirit of St. Louis touched down at the Schenectady County Airport. He was 10 minutes ahead of schedule.

Just more than two months earlier, on May 21, an anxious French crowd of 100,000 searched the skies over Paris looking for a sign of the famous aviator, and worried that perhaps the first solo trans-Atlantic flight in history wasn't going to end well. Fortunately, they were rewarded for their patience when Lindbergh did eventually land in Paris at 10:24 that evening, late but safe. For the 25,000 or so people who showed up at the brand new airport on Route 50 in Glenville to see "Lucky Lindy," the excitement was just as pronounced as in Paris, but without the suspense.

"Charles Lindbergh might be America's most magnetic hero of all time," said Tim Clark, who makes presentations as Lindbergh and will perform two shows next weekend as the Empire State Aerospace Museum celebrates the airport's 90th anniversary. "He came along at an interesting time when the country was looking for a hero. He displayed all the values you want to see in your hero: modesty, courage, sacrifice, and he did it all for the advancement of aviation."

Lindbergh's flight to Schenectady was a short one. He had left Albany earlier that morning - actually the Quentin Roosevelt Airport on Westerlo Island in the Hudson River - and had flown to Schenectady in about two hours, the trip taking a bit longer than you might expect because Lindbergh casually headed up past Troy and Glens Falls to Lake George before circling around back to Schenectady. According to newspaper accounts of the day, Lindbergh said the brand new Western Gateway Bridge from Schenectady to Scotia was as good a landmark as he had seen anywhere, except for the Eiffel Tower. And while 25,000 or so may have crowded into the farm fields around the new airport, thousands more from all around the area must have been looking upward that morning, hoping to catch a glance of The Spirit of St. Louis.

"How many events do we have around here these days that attract 25,000 people," said Bud Matthews, President of the Empire State Aerospace Museum. "Maybe a few rock concerts and the Travers. It was a huge event when Lindbergh came here, and his tour made great news because there were a lot of airports being built in the U.S. around that time. His visit really helped put Schenectady on the map."

Schenectady mayor Alexander T. Blessing welcomed Lindbergh to the airport that day, and other speakers included Martin P. Rice, director of publicity and broadcasting for the General Electric and Schenectady County Chamber of Commerce President John F. Horman.

"He came here to help open up the airport," said Kevin Millington, a past president of the ESAM and currently the group's vice president of education and outreach. "It was still brand new and from the photographs I've seen from that time, the area all around Route 50 was still farmland. It hadn't been developed at all like it is now. Outside of the village of Scotia, it was still very rural and agricultural. A flat wide-open space. A great place for an airport."

Clark, who recently moved to Saratoga Springs from Texas, is still learning about the Capital Region. He's already an expert on Lindbergh.

"I was a docent at the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Love Field in Dallas, and one of the volunteers,

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

who was already doing Jimmy Doolittle, approached me about maybe doing a living history program as Lindbergh," said Clark, a 1971 graduate of The Citadel in South Carolina and a former U.S. Air Force pilot who flew B-52s. "I gave it some thought and decided to go ahead and do it. It kind of took off after that."

Clark recently did a program at the New York State Military Museum in Saratoga Springs, and has worked with ESAM's education program this summer.

"Generally, my presentation is about an hour long, and I don't get into that much detail about Lindbergh's life," said Clark. "Most of the people in my audience want to know about the flight. But I do touch upon the kidnapping of his daughter, the isolation movement and on the years when he was part of the conservation movement. There's a lot to dig into, and while he's a character not without some controversy, the more I research him the more interesting he became."

### **"YOU'D BETTER GET DOWN HERE AND LOOK AT THIS...."**

With those paraphrased words over the phone to **ESAM's Treasurer Joyce Newkirk, David Buono, Richmor Aviation's Manager** at the Schenectady County Airport, turned what was an otherwise quiet afternoon into a scramble for cameras, phones and car keys.

So after most of the staff convoyed on down to Richmor, what were we getting down there to look at?

A B-25 on the ramp!

It was the kind of break-up-the-day event that any aviation aficionado enjoys so much. The WW II era bomber was on its way from the Midwest to an air show in Maine when it stopped at KSCH for fuel. Lucky us! To see more photos go to ESAM's Facebook page @EmpireStateAerosciencesMuseum.



**A B-25 during its refueling stop at Schenectady County Airport**

## Proxy Form for Annual Meeting

Dear ESAM Member,

The purpose of the Annual Meeting of the Empire State Aerosciences Museum (to be held on October 18, 2017) shall be to elect Trustees of the Corporation, to report on all significant activities of the Corporation during the preceding fiscal year and to conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting. The Record Date for eligibility to vote at this meeting has been fixed at September 30, 2017. Every member as of September 30, 2017 is entitled to vote and may authorize another person to act for such member by written proxy. To insure a quorum at the Annual Meeting, please date, sign and return the Proxy Form below. The ESAM Board Secretary will be custodian of proxies. Every proxy shall be revocable at the pleasure of the member executing it. These signed proxies will be available at the Annual Meeting, and may be retrieved by those members who will be voting in person that night.

Please send or leave your proxy at ESAM, 250 Rudy Chase Drive, Glenville, NY 12302, Attention: Proxy Custodian

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### PROXY FORM

I \_\_\_\_\_ a current member of ESAM hereby authorize my proxy to  
(please print name)  
be voted at the Annual Meeting on October 18, 2017 by:

Please check one:

- ( ) ESAM Proxy Custodian on recommendation of the Board of Directors  
( ) Member designated to represent me

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of designated member (designated member must attend to vote this proxy)

Proxies will be used to determine a quorum. Members present and planning to vote in person are asked to rescind their proxy before the meeting by registering with the Secretary.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

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## 2017 ESAM ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Wednesday, October 18, 2017

### THE WATER'S EDGE LIGHTHOUSE RESTAURANT

Freeman's Bridge Road, Glenville, NY

I would like to make reservations for # \_\_\_\_ ESAM Members and Guests at \$35 per dinner \$ \_\_\_\_

I cannot attend but I would like to make a donation to ESAM. \$ \_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_

**HORS D'OUVRES and CASH BAR at 5:30 pm**

**DINNER at 6:30 pm**

Tossed Green Salad

Entrée Choice of:

- Chicken Francaise
- Stuffed Loin of Pork
- Herb-Crusted Salmon

Warm Pumpkin Pie with Vanilla Ice Cream and Carmel Drizzle

Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Tea and Iced Tea, Rolls, Butter

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your choice of entrées: \_\_\_\_ Chicken, \_\_\_\_ Pork \_\_\_\_ Salmon

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: OCTOBER 13, 2017**

Please make check payable to ESAM and send it along with the completed form to:  
ESAM Annual Meeting, 250 Rudy Chase Drive, Glenville, NY 12302

Guest Speaker:

**DONNA ESPOSITO  
A TRIP TO GUADALCANAL**

**Spouses and friends are welcome**

## LETTERS LIKE THESE WE LIKE TO RECEIVE

Kevin, Rachel & the rest of the team,

What a success the Young Aviators Program was this year! We so enjoyed working with ESAM. Your team of volunteers are exceptional. We look forward to an ongoing partnership and exploring new opportunities. Please pass this on to all involved.

Denise Zieske, Maria Kotari  
Schenectady County Community College  
Office of Workforce Development and Community Education

Dear Larry,

Thank you for spending your time with us and answering our questions and also teaching us about your gear. The debts we owe you is on payabale (sic).

Sincerely,  
Robert

PS Thank you for your service in the Navy.

May 2, 2017

Dear ESAM staff,

I want to thank you for an outstanding trip once again. The kids really enjoyed their trip to Schenectady. Thank you for the preparation and the enjoyment you all brought forth to our kids.

Mike Quinn  
Frederick Douglas Academy

**From:** Beverly Miller

**To:** ESAM Office

**Cc:** Millington, Kevin; Joyce Newkirk

**Subject:** Re: Tour and SRV ride THANK YOU!!!!

A HUGE Thank you for a wonderful tour of your facility today! Our tour guide was absolutely fabulous! We could not believe how much he knew and how much time he spent with us! We were all totally amazed and impressed! Please extend my appreciation to him...also to you, Vina, for coordinating this event. My British relatives cannot stop talking about what a great tour it was!!

Thanks again,  
Bev

## SUMMER GROUP VISITORS

ESAM was pleased to welcome the following groups over the summer: Malta Summer Rec. Program, Glens Falls High School Special Education Group, Living Resources, Saratoga Senior Center, Scotia Mansion, Woodland Hill Summer Program, Wilton Summer Rec. Program, Greenbush Child Care, Life Kids, RPI Flying Club, Glenville YMCA Summer Camp, Christ the King Lutheran Church Youth Group, Victorian Manor, Mater Cristi School and Shenendehowa High School.

## GRUMMAN F4F WILDCAT

by Kevin Millington

I recently enjoyed a chat with **Donna Esposito**, an avid historian of World War II Pacific Theatre aviation. Donna had just returned from a historical tour of the Pacific Ocean island of Guadalcanal, site of the famous August 1942 battle, and we both felt that the Grumman F4F *Wildcat* played a major role in this early American victory of WW II. As such, I thought I'd profile this famous, and under-rated, fighter.

The *Wildcat* originated from a 1936 request from the U.S. Navy for a new carrier-based monoplane fighter. Grumman Aircraft responded with its XF4F design, which incorporated many of the characteristics of its earlier fighters, namely the FF-1, F2F, and F-3F biplanes, such as a squat-shaped fuselage, a manually operated main landing gear, which retracted into the fuselage, and a rugged construction. The new monoplane featured large wings, providing high lift, and permitting short take-offs and slow speed landings, necessary for carrier operations, as well as good maneuverability. Initially, the Navy selected the Brewster F2A *Buffalo* as its new fighter, but authorized Grumman to build an upgraded prototype of the XF4F. In 1940, the Navy subsequently adopted the F4F *Wildcat* as its new fighter. Initially, the *Wildcat* entered service in late 1940 with Great Britain's Fleet Air Arm (and named *Martlet*); in October 1941 it began equipping U.S. Navy and Marine Corps squadrons. At the onset of American involvement in WW II in December 1941, the *Wildcat* was the only effective U.S. fighter in the Pacific Theatre, where it was operated by the Navy from aircraft carriers, and by the Marine Corps from island land bases.

In combat, the *Wildcat* has frequently been portrayed as inferior to its principal opponent, the Mitsubishi A6M *Zero*. In fact, the *Wildcat* more than held the line against Japanese forces during the early stages of WW II. While the *Zero* was more maneuverable and had a faster climb rate, the *Wildcat* compensated for these deficiencies with its rugged construction, able to absorb heavy battle damage, self-sealing fuel tanks, and its superior armament of four, and later six, .50 caliber machine guns. In addition, Navy and Marine Corps pilots developed very effective tactics when engaging Japanese fighters, such as head-on and diving attacks, as well as a maneuver invented by Navy pilot Jimmy Thatch, known as the "Thatch Weave", whereby two *Wildcats* would cover each other's tail, providing protection from stern attacks. During combat operations, *Wildcat* pilots established a 7:1 kill ratio against Axis opponents. As such, the *Wildcat* has my vote as the most under-rated fighter of the war!

When production of the F4F ended in 1944, 7,888 had been manufactured. In 1943, Grumman was so committed to production of its new F6F *Hellcat* that it sub-contracted with General Motor's Eastern Aircraft Division for production of the *Wildcat*. The *Wildcat* participated in most, if not all, of the major battles in the Pacific, and was flown by many notable aces, such as Joe Foss, Butch O'Hare, and Marion Carl. The F4F was powered by a Pratt & Whitney R-1830 radial engine, providing 1,200 horse power, and a top speed of 330 mph and a range of 850 miles.

A true legend of World War II aviation!



F4Fs on Guadalcanal, by U S Navy



### F-14 TOMCAT ASSOCIATION MEMBERS HELP PRESERVE ESAM'S TOMCAT

On August 5th, **Tim Green** and **Steve Mathe** of the **F-14 Tomcat Association** along with ESAM Restoration volunteers **Dave Tripp** and **Rich Bievenue** began the clean up of the F-14 Tomcat at ESAM. This was the first day of many planned over the course of the next couple years to preserve and ultimately repaint ESAM's F-14. Lots of washing, corrosion repair, and prep work will be required before a fresh coat of paint can be applied. Many thanks to Tim, Steve, and the F-14 Tomcat Association for volunteering their time and efforts to preserve our Tomcat.



From left to right, Dave Tripp from ESAM, together with Tim Green and Steve Mathe from the F-14 Tomcat Association start restoration work on ESAM's Tomcat

### ANNUAL MEETING SPEAKER: OUR OWN DONNA ESPOSITO

If you've been paying attention to the media recently, you may have seen or heard the name **Donna Esposito**. In June, Donna, the Director of the ESAM Research Center, took a long-desired trip to the Solomon Islands and Guadalcanal. Events on the trip turned out to be so fascinating that, surprising even to her, Donna was back at Guadalcanal in August during the 75th Anniversary of the beginning of the World War II **Battle of Guadalcanal**.

At ESAM's Annual Meeting on October 18th at the Water's Edge Lighthouse Restaurant, Donna will show us some of the highlights of her trip and tell us how they fit into the history of the Battle of Guadalcanal.

**ESAM THANKS THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WHO HAVE ESTABLISHED OR RENEWED  
THEIR MUSEUM MEMBERSHIPS**

VIP SUPPORTING (\$125)

<b>Mr. Francis Miner</b>	<b>Mr. Sid Ramotar</b>	<b>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joseph Sampson</b>
	<b>Mr. Allen Slaterpryce</b>	

FAMILY (\$50)

<b>Sarah Jean Adams</b>	<b>Mr. Steven Borbee</b>	<b>Clifton Park - Halfmoon Public Library</b>
<b>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Frank and Tracey Falvo</b>	<b>Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lotano</b>	<b>Mr. Tom Nobles</b>
<b>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Stephen Ruggles</b>	<b>Ms. Nancy Taylor</b>	

INDIVIDUAL (\$35)

<b>Mr. John Kolwaite</b>	<b>Mr. Frank Wicks</b>
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SENIOR CITIZENS/STUDENTS (\$30)

<b>Mr. Arthur A. Arro</b>	<b>Ms. Ann-Marie Barker-Schwartz</b>	<b>Mr. William B. Bibby</b>
<b>Mr. Fredric J. Bloomstein</b>	<b>Mr. John Durant</b>	<b>Ms. Theresa Lozier</b>
<b>Mr. Michael Maddalone</b>	<b>Mr. Thomas Stephany</b>	

August 30, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this donation on behalf of our friend **Dr. Elizabeth Veeder**, a lifelong Scotia resident, in celebration of her 100th Birthday on September 2nd, 2017.

Dr. Veeder has had a long time love and experience with flight as she received her pilots license many years ago when the Civil Defense was offering free flying lessons. She was thrilled to have met Amelia Earhart and receive her autograph when Amelia was passing through Scotia.

While she was in medical school she was asked by the WAC's to fly non-combat missions in England. She thought it best at that time to continue her studies but she always had a lifelong love of flying.

We're hoping this donation can carry on all the fantastic work that you do. Thanks you.

Sincerely

Kimberly R. Palmerino  
Administrator  
Rely Health Care Services

Editor's Note: this letter came with a \$500 donation to ESAM.

## Young Aviators Summer Camp a HUGE Success!

By Kevin Millington, Vice President/Education Chair

ESAM's Young Aviators Summer Camp was our largest education program of the year, and a resounding success! The Summer Camp, from July 10 – 15 was our third consecutive summer Science, Technology, Engineering and Math program, and our largest yet, bringing twenty-four youth to the museum for a variety of aviation topics – the history of aviation; the forces of flight; and preparation of a flight plan. **Rachel Rourke** again developed the curriculum and oversaw the program, and I cannot thank her enough for such a well-delivered program and great week. Thanks also to all of the volunteers who participated in the program.

In addition to all of the hands-on classes, the program included other elements – **Matt LeClair** arranged and joined us for a tour of **Stratton Air National Guard Base**, including boarding one of the 109<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing's LC-130 Hercules; **Tim Clark** delivered his excellent Charles Lindbergh re-enactment; and **Joel Glickman** arranged for each child to experience a plane ride, with Experimental Aircraft Association pilots donating their time, aircraft, and fuel for flights culminating the week on Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.

For the second year, ESAM conducted the program in partnership with **Schenectady County Community College**. I've always felt that our success at ESAM is closely tied to fostering effective partnerships, and none has been more productive than ours with SCCC. The program was conducted concurrently for two age groups: 8 – 12, and 13 – 16 year olds.

At the end of classes on Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, we held a luncheon celebration, which was certainly a highlight. We were so fortunate to have our elected officials attend, including **Glenville Town Supervisor Chris Koetzle**, **State Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara**, and **State Senator Jim Tedisco**, and all provided the students and ESAM with certificates of excellence. **SCCC Vice President Denise Zieske** and **Maria Kotari** also attended and expressed congratulations to the students and ESAM. In addition, **ESAM President Bud Matthews** presented a wonderful aviation desk clock to each official (which I believe Bud made himself)!

Special thanks to all who participated and volunteered their time, including: **Rachel Rourke**, **Gary Gershon**, **Isaiah Gershon**, **Bob Vasko**, **Frank Hackert**, **John Panoski**, **Joyce Newkirk**, **Brook Battige**, **Roy Busse**, **Tim Clark**, **Matt LeClair**, **Rich Fisher**, **Lynn Chevalier**, **Joel Glickman** and all of the EAA pilots, **Jim Rogers**, and **Bob Vore**.

I am so proud of the success of the program. I think education programs are key to our success at ESAM, and the Board of Trustees, the volunteers and staff could not be more supportive.

Planning (left) and flying (right) at ESAM's Summer STEM camp



Photos courtesy of Lynn Chevalier



### THE CONCORDE MOVE: 2 TRIPS DOWN, 3 TO GO

ESAM now has its second shipment of the half-size Concorde model from the **Cradle of Aviation Museum** on Long Island. This shipment consisted of the nose section. Thanks to **John Panoski, Dan Wilson, Frank Hackert** and **Lucia Specialized Hauling** for carrying out the move. We continue to raise money for the remaining shipments and to cover the cost of rehabilitating, painting and mounting the model. Your donation will be gratefully accepted. To donate send a check with the notation "Concorde" to ESAM, 250 Rudy Chase Drive, Glenville, NY 12302, or donate through GoFundMe at <https://www.gofundme.com/help-bring-the-sst-concorde-to-esam?ssid=805516739&pos=3>.

Concorde first took to the air in 1969, the product of a deal between the British and French governments and the manufacturers Aérospatiale and the British Aircraft Corporation—its name being French for "agreement" or "harmony". With its delta wing and turbojet engines, Concorde could hit Mach 2 and carry passengers between New York and London in under three hours, allowing west-bound travelers, as British Airways pointed out, to arrive before they left. The plane's speed caused the fuselage to heat up and expand, and it would stretch to almost a foot longer while in flight. Its curious nose was the result of an engineering solution. The delta-wing configuration required a high nose angle during take off and landing, and with such a long pointed nose, the pilot's view would be dramatically obstructed. The solution was a "droop nose" that could be mechanically lowered by 12.5 degrees from horizontal. Scheduled flights began in January 1976, delayed by a number of factors including the 1973 Oil Crisis. Only Air France and British Airways purchased Concorde, heavily subsidized by their respective governments, although a few other airlines had brief arrangements to use their planes.



ESAM Trustees John Panoski (left) and Dan Wilson (right) pose with the nose section of the Concorde model after it arrives at ESAM

## "WINGS" (1927) 90th ANNIVERSARY EVENT

The 1927 silent film "**Wings**" was the first motion picture to receive the coveted **Academy Award for Best Picture**. In its day it established a new standard of excellence for spectacularly filmed aviation action. **Director William Wellman** was himself a decorated World War I aviator serving with the **Lafayette Flying Corp** and achieving two kills prior to being shot down. Given that background Wellman was relentless in his drive for realism and authentic detail when shooting flying scenes. Actor and co-star **Richard Arlen** was also a World War I pilot and directed much of his own flying in the film.

Besides being the birth year for Schenectady Airport and the year of Charles Lindbergh's historic flight, 1927 was also the first full year of operation for **Proctors Theatre** and the year "**Wings**" was released by Paramount Pictures. It is fitting therefore that Proctors present this award winning film in 2017 and join ESAM in celebrating the 90th anniversary of these great events of 1927.

The movie showing is scheduled for Monday November 27 at 6:30 PM, admission price is set at \$10. The silent film will be accompanied by an original live musical score by **Avery Tunningley** performed on Proctors' Wurlitzer pipe organ as it was for the very first showing of "**Wings**" there in 1927. The film will be preceded by a short presentation recognizing the significance of the year 1927 in the history of Schenectady County.



## THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS AT ESAM'S 90TH CELEBRATION

Here is a list of the people who volunteered at the Celebration of 90 Years of History and Innovation at the Schenectady County Airport. If any names have been inadvertently omitted, please let the office know.

**Peter Russo, Michael Collins, Bud Matthews, Jim Liguori, Ryan Sprague, Frank Hackert, John Kolwaite, Fred Lee, John Panoski, Lynn Chevalier, Marv Weiss, Kevin Millington, Robert Secrete, Paul Gillespie, Sue Gillespie, Kaylee Gillespie, Gary Gershon, Bill Smith, Donna Esposito, Joyce Newkirk, Dave Tripp, Sandy Tripp, Jeff Smith, Rich Bievenue, Bob Vore, Debbie Beranek, Sara Jean Adams, Rich Fisher, Dorie McArthur, Larry McArthur, Kathryn Matthews, Tom Urquhart and Clem Schimikowski.**



The Empire State  
Aerosciences Museum  
is supported in part by :

### **Business Benefactors**

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### **Friends of ESAM**

The Family of Carl Battaglia\*  
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Robert Eggleston  
Mr. & Mrs. John Ericson  
James Gargiulo  
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Hannay  
Chester & Ann Matthews  
David Montana  
\*Mrs. Charles Moore  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Newkirk  
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice York

### **Galaxy Club Members**

Edward and Roberta Barili  
Frank Hackert  
John Hackert  
James LoDolce  
Kevin Millington  
Ralph Rosenthal  
\*Mr. & Mrs. Jansz Vander Veer

\* ESAM Charter Member



**An F4U on the ESAM tarmac (top) and a view of the Hangar Dance (bottom) at ESAM's celebration of 90 Years of History and Innovation at the Schenectady County Airport** Photos courtesy of Lynn Chevalier

## MEMORIAL DONATIONS

The Empire State Aerosciences Museum thanks the following people for their donations to the museum's memorial funds.

### CHESTER MATTHEWS, SR. MEMORIAL FUND

Shirley Harding & Debra DeCosta	David & Mary Ann Kritz
Chester & Katherine Matthews, Jr.	John A. Matthews
Lawrence & Doraleen McArthur	Margaret Moore
Robert & Joyce Newkirk	Thomas Rutkowski & Mary Ann Kritz
Janet Sachs/Ann Denton/Andrew Caldwell	John & Joyce Yates

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The Hackert Family

### GUY A. HAM, JR MEMORIAL FUND

Diana Ham and Tom Nobles

### LT. COL. (RET) THOMAS NOEL MEMORIAL FUND

109th Air National Guard Auxiliary	Burnt Hill-Ballston Lake American Legion
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Alexander	Paul & Marge Banaszewski
Ryan Bartley	Kehr Family
Stephen & Sherri Ruggles	Jean Slaboden

### RICHARD PHILLIPS MEMORIAL FUND

109th Air National Guard Auxiliary

### RAYMOND ZIMMONS MEMORIAL FUND

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Rodd

## ESAM Membership Application

Please check one: NEW MEMBERSHIP ☐ RENEWAL ☐

#### ANNUAL DUES:

##### INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY

☐ Senior Citizen/Student \$30  
☐ Individual \$35  
☐ Family \$50

##### VIP:

☐ Contributing \$75  
☐ Supporting \$125  
☐ Sustaining \$275  
☐ Galaxy Club \$500  
☐ Friend of ESAM \$1,000

##### BUSINESS

☐ Supporter \$250  
☐ Patron \$500  
☐ Benefactor \$1,000  
☐ Not for Profit/School \$100  
☐ Small Business \$100

Name

Address

City  State  Zip

Phone: Home (  )

Work (  )

E-mail address

**Please make your check payable to ESAM**

**Mail to ESAM, 250 Rudy Chase Drive,  
Glenville, NY 12302**

If your company offers a matching gift program, please contact them with the amount of your gift.

Empire State Aerosciences Museum  
250 Rudy Chase Drive  
Glenville, NY 12302

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## **HAPPENINGS AT THE AIR MUSEUM**

### **MUSEUM HOURS –**

Winter Hours: Friday through Sunday 10 AM to 4 PM

**General Museum Admission** – \$8 per adult; \$6 per senior and military; \$5 age 6-16; under 6 free when accompanied by an adult

**Simulated Reality Vehicle (SRV) – Ride:** \$5

**Jansz Vander Veer Research Center/Library Hours** – Friday 9 AM to 12 noon & Saturday 10 AM to 12 noon

**September 11, Monday - Board of Trustees Meeting:** 7 PM. ESAM Community Room

**September 16, Saturday - Pancake Breakfast:** 8:30-10:30 AM. All you can eat: \$8 (\$4 for kids under 12). Menu varies with pancakes or French toast, sausage, eggs,

applesauce, juice and coffee. The public is invited to attend.

**Pilots:** Tower Frequency 121.30; Ground 121.90. Land at Schenectady County Airport and taxi to Richmor Aviation North. Browse the Museum beginning at 10 AM. Museum Admission: \$8 per adult; \$6 per senior and military; \$5 age 6-16; under 6 free when accompanied by an adult.

**October, 18, Wednesday - ESAM Annual Meeting:** 5:30 Cash Bar, 6:30 Dinner. \$35 per person. Speaker Donna Esposito.

**October 21, Saturday - Pancake Breakfast:** 8:30-10:30 AM. All you can eat: \$8 (\$4 for kids under 12). Menu varies with pancakes or French toast, sausage, eggs, applesauce, juice and coffee. The public is invited to attend. **Pilots:** Tower Frequency 121.30; Ground 121.90. Land at Schenectady County Airport and taxi to Richmor Aviation North. Browse the Museum beginning at 10 AM. Museum Admission: \$8 per adult; \$6 per senior and military; \$5 age 6-16; under 6 free when accompanied by an adult.

**November 27, Monday - Wings:** 6:30 PM. \$10. Winner of the first Academy Award for Best Picture, at Proctors with live organ music.

December, tbd - **Christmas is in the Air**



**Did you see Uncle ESAM  
(aka Rich Fisher) at the July 29th  
celebration? Joyce Newkirk did!**