

Ongoing Museum Remodel

As we all know, the remodel of the No. 1 BFTS Museum is a work in progress. New exhibits are being added and existing are being updated. The Distinguished Cadets biographies have been re-printed and re-framed.



We are always pleased and proud to remember and honor our patriots, and we have been fortunate enough to become a recipient of a collection from a local North Central Texas veteran. Col. James Raymond Almand, Jr., M.D. Retired USAF made his home in Grand Prairie, Texas where his widow, Mary Lynn, still resides. He was very active in the Grand Prairie community where he had his private medical clinic and practice as well as serving the local school sports teams. In addition to his general practice, he was also a surgeon and deeply involved in aviation medicine. He began his military service as a medical officer at Naval Air Stations, Dallas, in 1956 and served in the U S Navy until 1964, later re-enlisting in the USAF at Carswell in 1974 where he continued his service into the next century. He served world wide from Europe, Australia, Central America and the South Pacific. His service as a flight surgeon as well as service on many hospital committees and staffs, gained him tremendous respect over his long career. The Almand family has been kind enough to share some of his memorabilia and with the help of Jon Poort, Peter Taylor and President Rudy Bowling, a beautiful display has been completed in the "Patriots Corner" which provides visitors a glimpse into the life of a flight surgeon.



2017 Flights of Our Fathers Fly-in and Air Show

We were blessed with warm, sunny weather and a large crowd of visitors that were anxious to see the many features of this year's show. There was a Pancake Breakfast, Kids' Zone, Car and Motorcycle Show, Guest Speakers and Book Signings, Rosie the Riveter and Matthew Nethercutt's Half-Track exhibit, as well as the Aerobatic Performances and Static Displays of Warbirds, Vintage and New Aircraft.



Airport Terminal Exhibit



Bomb Train provided by the Lady Liberty Team



T-Shirt Sales at the Terminal



"Rosie the Riveter" exhibit at the Museum



Pecos Bill



Bi-Wing Plane



L-5 Observation Plane



Yellow Rose



T-34 Navy Plane



P-17 Stearman

Rudy and Marilyn's England Trip

In August of this year my wife Marilyn and I took our vacation in England. Prior to our departure, arrangements were made through the British Air Attaché in Washington, DC for us to visit the RAF Hendon Museum and get a "backroom" tour. We arrived at the Museum at 10:00 am and were given a grand tour of the Museum buildings. After our tour, we were allowed into the archival area and shown documents and pictures relating to the No. 1 British Flying Training School in Terrell. They had pictures they shared with us and are now on the walls in our Museum. When the Museum closed at 6:00 pm we left as they closed the doors behind us. It was a wonderful day and our hosts were most gracious. We hope to return the favor when anyone from Hendon comes to Texas.

While we were in London, we also toured the Imperial War Museum and visited Churchill's war rooms. We went out to Bletchley Park where the Brits developed the machine to break the German Enigma machine codes. So much history in Britain! The rest of our vacation was touring the English countryside going up the west coast to Scotland and back down the east coast to London.

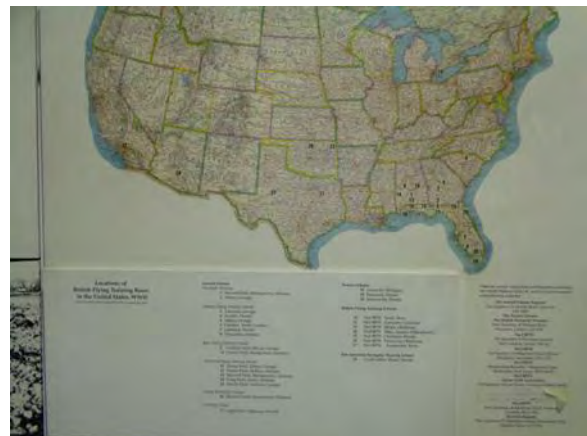
One of the very special highlights of our trip was meeting and dining with a former BFTS Cadet from Course 18, Brian Latham. Brian is now 93 and still very active. He drove over 70 miles to meet us and then drove back to his home in North Wales. He is an accomplished artist and has donated many of his pictures to the Museum. We have several of them framed and on display.

On to Edinburgh where we got to see the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. This is a grand spectacle that is almost impossible to describe. There are many bands, all in colorful uniforms, great music, dancers, a choir and fireworks; all at night at the Castle. The marching is in perfect synchronization and very dramatic with hundreds in participation. Our bucket list now has an added wish. 2018 is the Centenary of the Royal Air Force and we would love to go back and be a part of the celebration.

Rudy Bowling, President



Eighth AF in Great Britain Monument



Map of BFTS Schools in the United States



Rudy at the RAF Bomber Command Memorial



Marilyn and Rudy with Brian Latham



Spitfire at the Imperial War Museum



Vampire at the RAF Museum



Bletchley Park



Decoding Machines



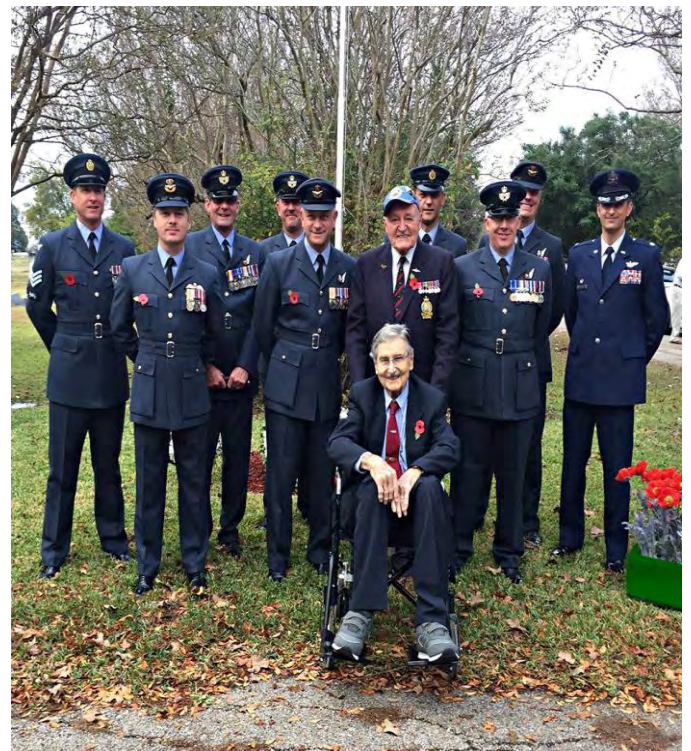
The Royal Edinburgh Military TATTOO 2017



2017 Remembrance Day

The No. 1 British Flying Training School Museum Memorial Observance honoring Fallen Cadets and Instructors of The No. 1 British Flying Training School was held Sunday, November 12, 2017, 3:00 P.M at Oakland Memorial Park, 117 Bradshaw Street, Terrell, Texas. RAF Officers from L-3 Greenville escorted Flt. Lt. Robert F. Reynolds, RAF Ret. as he laid the wreath with Cadet Eric Gill, Course 20, in attendance.

Heritage Tea followed at The No. 1 British Flying Training School Museum, 119 Silent Wings Boulevard, Terrell, Texas 4:00 P.M.





Highlights of 2017

Tours, etc

Twenty-two members of TI Alumni organization visited on July 20, 2017.

A group of Ford Collectors came out to tour the Museum in August.

Garden Estates of Tyler brought a group of residents on Sept. 1st.

We were very pleased to host a large group of students and teachers/parents from the Grapevine Christian School in September.

We had a group of about 20 Silver Ducks from Richland College here on November 10th. We understand there are many planning to come back and bring family with them.

Exodus Education Center, Home School group from Balch Springs, 14 students and 7 mothers, visited November 17th – Delightful children.

Riter C. Hulsey Public Library, Terrell.

We hope to interest some new visitors from attendees to the library. Thanks to Marilyn Bowling and George Cozens for setting up such a great display. We had many visitors sign up for the drawing for an Air Show T-Shirt and the winner, Mayra Cardenas, shown below with her daughter came by the Museum to claim it.



Canteen Meeting Venue

The Rotary Club held their monthly meeting in October. It was the first event using our new Canteen, the perfect venue for small meetings. Tables were set with colorful cloths for the guests to enjoy their catered meal. The meeting was a success, giving our guests the opportunity to see the Museum's progress.



The No. 1 BFTS Museum is hosting the Tuskegee Airmen “Rise Above” exhibit from April 4 – 8, 2018. This immense experience is housed in a climate controlled 53 ft. semi-trailer with expandable sides and equipped with a ramp and hydraulic lift to ensure access to all. Visitors will see, hear and “Feel” what it was like for the legendary Tuskegee Airmen and how they rose above numerous obstacles to achieve their dream of flying and fighting to preserve freedom during World War II. Because of its dynamic 160-degree panoramic screen, the film creates the feeling of being in the cockpit soaring above the clouds in a P-51C Mustang, the signature aircraft of the Tuskegee Airmen.

The Museum is currently raising funds to cover the large expense of presenting this exhibit to the visitors of the Museum free of charge. All donations, in any amount, will be appreciated. Please plan to visit the Museum during this time in April.



Local Trinity Valley Electric Coop awards a \$500.00 grant toward our Tuskegee Airmen Exhibit. Accepting the check from Laura Melton are Museum President Rudy Bowling, Board Members Raenell Davis and Peter Taylor.



The Social Science Club donated \$250.00. Tori Lucas presented the check to Rudy Bowling and Raenell Davis.

2018 Calendar of Events

Sunday, February 18th – Remembrance Service at the Kiamichi Mountain Memorial in Oklahoma

Sunday, April 1st – 100th Birthdate of the Royal Air Force

Wednesday-Sunday, April 4-8 – Tuskegee Airmen “Rise Above” Exhibit

Saturday, April 7th – Big Band Hangar Dance & Dinner

Saturday, May 26th – Mark Hardin Memorial Air Race

Saturday, June 16th – American Memorial Remembrance Ride

Saturday, September 15th – Battle of Britain Day

Saturday, September 22th – Flights of our Fathers Air Show and Fly-In

Sunday, November 11th – Remembrance Day Celebration

3:00 pm Memorial service at Oakland Cemetery, followed by tea at the Museum

President's Corner

What a wonderful year 2017 has been for No.1 BFTS Museum! We were blessed with good weather for most of our scheduled events.

Marilyn and I were able to attend the Remembrance Ceremony at one of the crash sites in Oklahoma. What a wonderful tribute to the four young cadets who perished on February 20th 1943 near the Town of Antlers. The ceremony is held every year and is hosted by caring local Citizens with support of the Choctaw VFW Color Guard. The event will be held on February 18, 2018 and will mark the 75th anniversary of the tragedy. Our goal is to get as many folks from the Terrell area to attend as a show of appreciation for those in Oklahoma who keep the Story alive. Please contact the Museum if you can join us.

The year 2018 is very significant to the Museum as it is the Centenary of the Royal Air Force which will be celebrated throughout the year in the United Kingdom and at locations in the U. S. It is our intention to make this celebration a part of each of our events this year. We are in contact with members of the RAF who are currently serving in the U.S. to assist in coordinating our events. Watch our website and Facebook.

As you have seen earlier in this Newsletter, we are creating an educational event to coincide with our Hangar Dance during the first week of April. We are raising funds to allow us to present the CAF Red Tail Squadron to bring their Tuskegee Airmen “Rise Above” Exhibit at no charge for young people from all over northeast Texas. Note: Older folks are welcome, too. Dates: April 4th thru 8th, 2018.

While there are many goals for our Museum, we believe we must place a very high priority on our EDUCATION assets. The search for donor funds is intensely competitive and every grant application criteria stresses education.

We want to thank the Board of the George Haddaway Foundation for our grant toward the acquisition of museum software and hardware for use in our efforts to properly catalog the Museum's Collection.

And a very special Thank You and recognition for our IT expert, Lucien Osentowski., who attends to our technology needs with patience and passion. Lucien has served the Museum for five plus years now, and we would be lost without him.

Rudy Bowling, President

Sponsors

Terrell
Aviation



TERRELL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Where Students Come First



AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK OF TEXAS
Your Bank. For Life.



PAVEL FINNEGAN
No. 1 BFTS Museum
Board Member



NANCY PIERCE BARBER
In Memory of Margaret Clayton
And her contribution to Terrell

DR. GWENDOLYN KINES-McLEOD, DDS

The BFTS Link

Fall – Winter 2017-2018

Membership Renewal

The Museum's fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30. For your convenience, you may pay by check (drawn on US bank) or by Pay Pal at www.bftsmuseum.org/donate.php

Annual membership dues:

Family \$50.00
Individual \$35.00
Senior \$25.00

Donation for aircraft acquisition/restoration fund _____
Donation for general Museum operations _____

Return this section with your payment. Thank you!!

Name(s) _____
Address _____

Phone Number _____
Email address _____
Dues Amount _____ Donation Amount _____



**NO.1 BRITISH FLYING TRAINING
SCHOOL MUSEUM
GREETINGS FROM TERRELL, TX!
Visit us at www.bftsmuseum.org**

No. 1 British Flying Training School Museum Inc.
119 Silent Wings Blvd., PO Box 219
Terrell, TX 75160