

The Aero Historian



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May 2005



A Boeing FB-5 of Marine Squadron VF-6M, one of the exhibits at the Udvar-Hazy Annex. Only 49 FB series were built, including 27 FB-5s. They served briefly from 1925 till about 1930. It was the ancestor of the famous F4B & P-12 series, which served throughout the 1930s. *This* is why they call it the Golden Age.

Aerohistorians Talk the Talk and Walk the Walk

By George Mellinger

And also fly. No, I'm not talking about our numerous pilot members, Macey, Graulty, Seteinbrunn, and others who fly for a job, nor all the rest of us who are "pilots in the heart". I'm talking about the TCAH members who actually flew half-way across the country to walk the walk in the new Udvar-Hazy National Air and Space Museum Annex. And strut the stuff many in their new TCAH Penguin shirts. About a dozen of us flew out of the Humphrey terminal on April 23 at 6:30 AM, returning after fourteen soul-satisfying hours. The numbers are not exact, because TCAHers turned loose amongst the airplanes do not willingly hold still for headcounts or group photos. But half the

leadership was leading from the front. Also present was the newsletter senior editor/cub reporter, who set some sort of record for fanaticism and foolishness by driving in from Sioux Falls having left home about 11:55 on Friday night, and also the newsletter junior editor/circulation manager, who brought along three friends, whom we hope may be moved to join us.

This was the repeat of the flight organized by "Spook" Johns earlier in the year. You remember, the one which filled before we had a chance to register. Some of us who signed up early for this repeat performance worried that the flight might not fill enough and might be cancelled. Not to worry. Another full cabin.

Arriving at Dulles Airport, we were met by shuttle busses which drove us to the museum, and from the minute we got past the glass doors,

best friends left each other in the dust. First thing that greets you are an F4U Corsair hanging from the ceiling, with a P-40E, "Lope's Luck" of the 23 FG, hanging alongside it.

Udvar-Hazy has an exquisite collection of aircraft. True they are missing some of the famous favorites. No Zero, or Messerschmitt, no Mitchell or B-17. The Mustang was a demilitarized P-51C postwar racer, red with embarrassment because its gunports were stopped up. It would have been nice to have seen it refinished as "Kid" Hofer's aircraft. And no Wildcat. But there were other greats, and some real exotic finds. Yes, Enola Gay was there, mounted on large blocks, the nose section protected by a clear plastic sneeze shield, a sad reminder of the political vandals that lurk. The modern section featured a

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TCAH This Month

The monthly meeting will be held Saturday April 9, at Fleming Field, South St. Paul, beginning at 1:30 PM. Vendor baiting will begin about 12:30, so come early. This month we will focus on the French air Forces from 1914 to the present.



General Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2005
by Johannes Allert

April's meeting started 1 hour early so TCAH Members who read the last month's newsletter, could enjoy the pizza prior to the general meeting. Ken Hornby called the meeting to order.

Nordic-Con Raffle - Many thanks go out to the TCAH members who showed up and generously donated kits for the upcoming contest in September. Members still wishing to donate items may contact Jeff Fries. Kits for troops overseas - John Roll is finalizing items to be shipped overseas for the Model Clubs. Information about our project is to be passed on to FSM & IPMS. TCAH Club Shirts - Final designed approved. Members who have signed up for shirts, please pay Tom Norrbohm (\$35). Ken Hornby will have them in time for the trip to Washington DC.. MSM - Minnesota Scale Modelers meet 3rd Tuesday every month at Mississippi Library in Anoka. Icarus Books - George Mellinger hopes to have the dealer up to visit TCAH in May. Air & Space Museum Annex - Trip set for 23 April. Approximately 10 - 12 members signed up. There is still room available. Update on Minnesota Air Guard Museum - Open by May to general public. Members interested in volunteering may contact the museum. TCAH will donate money, but will hold off until after Nordic-Con in September. Military Collection Show - State Fair Grounds April 16-18. AAHS - Membership drive & incentives provided for those interested. Terry Love - Retiring from NWA next month. He & his wife plan to relocate to Kansas City, Kansas by end of summer. White Elephant Contest - 6 members finished their projects. The winner is John Eian with an excellent build of a "Helldiver". Congratulations. TCAH Annual Awards - And the winners are...! Frank Cuden - Newsletter Article of the Year. George Mellinger - Historian of the Year Fletcher Warren - Modeler of the Year Steve Macy - TCAH Member of the Year Noel Allard

was awarded "TCAH Lifetime Member". He was not available to accept the award in person. It will be mailed to him. Raffle and Show and tell were done. The meeting adjourned at 3pm.

Business Meeting

April 9, 2005

There was no business meeting this month

Treasurer's Report

April 2005
by Tom Norrbohm

Well we spent a lot of money this month! We started the month with just over \$7000 dollars and we are now down to \$6011.34 as of 4-18-05. I wrote 10 checks this month for pizza, shirts and Nordic Con stuff, not to mention the regular newsletter costs. We will also be dropping another \$1500 for the Baghdad model clubs in the near future and that will bring us down to around \$4500 going into the summer. Major Nordic Con expenses will still have to be paid for before Nordic Con in September (table rental, awards and such). So between now and then, we need to tighten our belts a little bit! No change in membership.

From the President

By Ken Hornby

I hope all members had fun at our April Pizza Party. We had less than 1 pizza left over and about 2 liters of pop, so I trust everyone had their fill. I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for keeping our meeting room tidy. There was very little clean-up to do afterwards. I'd like to especially thank Steve Erickson for his initiative in keeping up with the empty pizza boxes and working with the airport personnel to dispose of our trash.

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(President Continued from page 2)

Congratulations once more to all the winners of this year's club awards. If you missed it here they are again:

Frank Cuden - Newsletter Article of the Year

George Mellinger – Historian Article of the Year

Fletcher Warren – Modeler of the Year

Steve Macey – Member of the Year

All the winners are greatly deserving of their respective awards. Fletcher, I believe, is the youngest ever recipient of the Modeler of the Year award and may be the youngest awardee ever.

The White Elephant contest went so well that by popular acclaim, it will be back next year. Several members had expressed an interest in donating kits to the military modeling clubs, in addition to the supplies that TCAH has pledged. The military clubs have specifically asked for armor and car kits, but don't feel shy about expanding their intellectual horizons by giving them "aeroplanes". We will be collecting those kits for the military modeling clubs at the May meeting. If you want to donate anything, bring it this month as we are sending our TCAH package shortly after the May meeting. Roll Models will be mailing three packages of modeling supplies for us, along with any kits, etc. that members may wish to donate.

New TCAH logo shirts are in. I will be bringing them to this month's meeting so bring your payment of \$35.00 to this month's meeting! In the event you can't make the meeting, please mail a check for your

On The Show Table

April 2005

Aircraft		
Merrill Andreson	Aurora 1/48	Albatros C.III
John Dunphy	Academy 1/48	P-36 Hawk
Steve Erickson	Hasegawa 1/48	P-40E
	Trumpeter 1/48	P-40B
Bob Ferreira	OEZ 1/48	MiG-21 MF
	OEZ 1/48	MiG-21bis
Steve Hustad	Hasegawa 1/72	G3M2 Nell
Steve Jatscher	Monogram 1/48	F-117 Stealth
Bernie Kugel	Aurora 1/48	Fokker DR-1
	Heller 1/48	Super Etendard
	Tamiya 1/48	Sea Harrier
Kevin Ledman	1/48	FW-190D-9
	1/48	Ju-87D-8
	1/48	Ki-27
	1/48	Ki-27
Zach Ledman	1/48	Ki-84
Steve Macey	Classic Airframes 1/48	Defiant
George Mellinger	AModel 1/72	Di-6
	AModel	Yak-2
Tom Norrbohm	1/48	F-3F-2
Dennis Strand	1/48	Vought Flying Pancake
Rick Verner	Testors 1/48	Mirage 2000C
	Monogram 1/72	Shuttle
Fletcher Warren	Academy 1/72	BF-109G-14
Ship		
Gary Anderson	Heller 1/50	French Chebec

shirt made out to "TCAH" to Treasurer Tom Norrbohm. If anyone decides at a later date that they would like to order a shirt, we can force them and the cost will be the same; \$35.00 per shirt.

Blaine Aviation Days is May 21-22 from 8am-4pm each day. This year's theme is an L-bird, trainer, and warbird roundup. Entrance is free; there are air-

TCAH Calendar

June - The Korean War started this month, so bring Sabres, MiGs, and other models of the era.

July - A hot month so bring jets of the Middle Eastern wars, Israeli, Syrian, whatever.

August - A vacation Month - So we recognize the airliners that take us there.

September - Contest Month. No theme.

October - School is under way, so this month we focus on trainers

November - Club auction & elections - No theme.

December - Another chilly month, so naturally, Aircraft of the Cold War.

Merrill Anderson Fokker Challenge.

January - Tired of Winter? Its summer in Australia. So we'll honor Australia & New Zealand's Air Forces.

February - Ski-equipped aircraft.

March - The Spanish Civil War. Polikarpovs. Fiats, Heinkels....

April - Bloody April! Bring your World War One models.

planes and food, so you don't have an excuse not to go. In the past, parking has been \$5.00 per vehicle.

NordiCon is on track and planning is moving along smoothly but we can always use more help. Also, we are still accepting kits for the NordiCon raffle.

As a footnote, some of you may have noticed a heavy coating of sawdust and the smell of cut wood at the terminal building last month. This was caused by some unexpected remodeling

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Nordic Con Update

By Johannes Allert

Hello All - The drive for raffle prizes for September's Nordic-con was a great success. Thanks to all for participating. Anyone still interested in donated "stuff", please see Jeff Fries. Nordic-Con mailings have all been sent out to the various clubs within Region V. Packets were also sent out to "The Lost Battalion", "CRM", "Roll Models" and "Flight Decs". So far, the only vendors signed up are Roll Models & Axel. The lighting has been picked up from Rick Swanson, but we still need the leg extensions. If you have them, Please bring them to the May meeting. Trophy packages have been pledged by the following: Roll Models - "Best RAF Subject (WW II) and trophy package. Dennis Strand - "Best Japanese Aviation Subject". Roger Grauly - TBA. Zumbrota Valley Modelers - TBA. RPM - TBA. Anyone else interested in sponsoring a trophy, please contact Tom Norrbohm or Johannes Allert. Cost is \$40. Judging Guidelines still is a WIP. Steve Macy working on. Tables have been ordered by Don Burgoyne. Table clothes are pending. The TCAH Website has been updated with contest info by Dave Pluth. Please direct anyone who is interested in attending to that section. Tours of Wipair and CAF still pending. Ken Hornby is looking into it. CAP Food Tent - Ken Hornby looking into. Minnesota Military Museum display - Ken Hornby looking into. Ken Hornby, Steve Macy & Johannes Allert have made trips to Rochester, Des Moines and possibly Davenport to "spread the Gospel". John Higgins & Gary Johnson to drop off info and talk up contest at the Madison show later in April. Worker bees still needed for set up, judging, security. Members interested, please see Steve Macy or Johannes Allert. Most important - get busy building for the contest.



New Contest

By Dave Pluth

At next month's TCAH meeting I will be proposing a new contest. This one is a bit different that anything we've done in the past so I wanted to give a heads up to the membership so you can think about participating.

If you have seen "Biker Build-off" on the Discovery channel, you will have an easy time understanding this contest as it is patterned off of that idea.

Here goes...

- 1) At the beginning of the contest anyone who is interested signs up (you need to sign up to participate).
- 2) There is a \$10 entry fee (you will see what this is for down the rules a little bit).
- 3) All the participants names are thrown into a hat and pairings are drawn out. These pairings will be the head to head modeling contest that will take place 3 months from the date of the drawing.
- 4) You can build any model of any scale or type. You could build a diorama or enter a figure or you could just build the next kit that you had intended on building anyway the choice is up to you.
- 5) The model must be completed during the three month build time (for the first round this would include models that you are completing for Nordicon anyway). It could have been previously started.
- 6) At the meeting there will be a people's choice vote for all of the first round pairings.
- 7) The winners will go on to the next round and new pairings will be drawn and the same procedure will take place (with a new set of models).
- 8) The winners of this round will build one final kit and all of the winners will be entered together for a final "Championship" round, which again will be decided by a people's choice vote.
- 9) There will also be a "Best Kit" award. At the final championship round all participants will be asked to bring their kits back in and the people will choose the "Best Model".

10) The winner of the final vote will take 50% of the final prize money. Second place will take 25% of the prize money and the "Best Model" will take 25% of the money.

To summarize, you could actually have to build up to three kits over the course of a nine month period. This is basically a modeling tournament where you could win cash and/or be crowned the TCAH Modeler's Build-off Champion.

I am looking at the following schedule:

Drawing for head to head matchups: June Meeting (this gives you an extra couple months for the first round).

First round voting (models due) and second round draw: October Meeting.

Second round voting (models due): January Meeting.

Final round voting (models due): April Meeting.

If you are interested in participating or you have any comments or suggestions, please drop me an e-mail at dave@pluth.net.

TCAH Supports Troops Clubs Overseas

By Johannes Allert

TCAH voted in March to use some of it's cash to donate supplies to the hobby clubs for service personnel overseas. John Roll & Roll Models has stepped forward to handle the shipping and providing the supplies; however, many members wanted to do more. Many members have wanted to donate kits from their "shelf-of-doom" as a way of further showing their support. Roll Models has requested that persons interested in giving good kits (unbuilts of reasonable quality), can hand them over to him at the May TCAH Meeting . TCAH and Roll Models want to get the shipments overseas by the end of May. In addition to sending supplies & kits, John Roll will enclose a disposable camera in each box so the troops can send back photos. Remember - May is "Operation Shelf-of-Doom Donation". It's a small way of saying thanks to those who do so much for us.

Contest Calendar

- 4-29-05 IPMS R-5 Con
IPMS Quad Cities
Holiday Inn Convention
Center
Davenport IA
Contact: Glen Broman
gbroman@aol.com
- 5-14-05 Alexander Lippisch
Chapter
Hiawatha Community
Center
20 N. Center Point Road
Cedar Rapids, IA
Contact: Jeff Stevens
319-365-3897
jsddesigns@hotmail.com
- 7/20-23-05 IPMS National Hosted
by IPMS/Metro Atlanta
Cobb Galleria Conven-
tion Center
Atlanta, GA
www.ipmsusa2005.org
- 9-10-05 NordicCon
Twin Cities AeroHistori-
ans
South St. Paul, MN
www.aerohistorians.org
- 10-1-05 The Show XI
IPMS Will Cook
James Hart Cafetorium
18211 Aberdeen Street
Homewood, IL 60430
Contact: Ed Mate
915-478-4432
obvi-
ouschoice@juno.com
- 3-18-06 LOCON 2006
IPMS Fort Crook
Mid-America Center
Council Bluffs, IA
Contact: Mike Cavil
402-493-9669
mcavil@tconl.com
- 3-18-06 11th Annual Show
Mad City Modelers
Radisson Inn
517 Grand Canyon Dr.
Madison, WI 54719
Contact: Jim Turek
608-329-7222
jjtmodel@yahoo.com

Airline Chatter

By Terry Love

China Eastern Airlines ordered 5 Airbus A-319s for \$230 million. Bombardier has decided to build their 100-135 seat airliner. After the "go-ahead" was given, it was announced that they would be built in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Shanghai Airlines of China ordered 9 Boeing 787 Dreamliners for \$1.1 Billion. Singapore Airlines ordered 40 new Boeing 737-800s worth about \$2.6 Billion. The deal includes 20 confirmed and 20 options on the 737-800. Air France ordered 7 new Boeing 777 freighters worth \$1.5 Billion. Delta Airlines will retire 24 Boeing 737s this year. United States airlines - all of them combined - burned 18.7 Billion gallons of jet fuel in 2004. Average cost is \$1.62 per gallon. That is almost \$30 Billion for jet fuel in one year. Sky West Airlines, which operates as United Express, Delta Connection, and Continental Connection, ordered 20 Bombardier CRJ-700 regional jets. Cost is \$637 million. Emirates Airlines, the world's fastest growing airline, has 45 Airbus A-380s on order for over \$12 Billion. Emirates is building one of the world's biggest building - a hanger complex on 136 acres on the north side of Dubai International Airport. The \$353 million facility will include 8 hangers that will be about the size of 20 football fields. Boeing expects to deliver 320 airliners this year and 375 to 385 in 2006. Boeing delivered only 285 in 2004, while Airbus delivered 320. Since September 11, 2001, Boeing had delayed delivery of 600 airliners. Detroit, Michigan charges \$3.39 for every thousand pounds of aircraft for landing fees. A fully loaded Boeing 747 weighs about 800,000 pounds. United Airlines is dropping Air Wisconsin as a regional airliner partner. Air Wisconsin bought a large stake in U S Airways - a competitor to

The Master Builder The Master Builder Takes a Movie Break

By Frank Cuden

Dark Blue World has been around for some time now. Only recently did I have a chance to view it and I want to recommend it to our membership. The movie begins in 1939 and initially involves a Czechoslovakian flight instructor and his student, who, it turns out, is a natural pilot. Soon, the German army occupies Czechoslovakia and the pilots wind up flying Spitfires for England. Be warned that most of the movie has English sub-titles however, that is overcome with perhaps the best sound since "Saving Private Ryan" was released. The flying scenes are terrific and the machine gun firing sequences must be heard to be appreciated. One even sees and hears the spent cartridge casings hitting the wing underside as they are ejected from their ports. The sound of bullet strikes on enemy aircraft is also very realistic. As is true with most movies, there is a love triangle but rather than take away from the movie, it is an integral part and tastefully done. Add a well-trained dog and more flying, the movie stands on it's own. Go on and rent a copy. Mine was a DVD so I can't vouch for the sound on the VHS offering. This is one movie well worth seeing. I hope you enjoy it!

United in certain areas of the country. Korean Airlines ordered 10 Boeing 787 Dreamliners with an option for 10 more. Cost is about \$2.6 Billion. Boeing now has 203 confirmed orders from 17 customers for the new 787 Dreamliner. American Airlines is laying off 500 more mechanics at their Kansas City overhaul facilities by June. Icelandic Air has converted an option for five new Boeing 737-800s to a firm order. U S Airways and America West Airlines are discussing a possible merger.

Spraybooth Logic

The Tamigawa Code

By Dave Pluth

I had gotten a call early in the day. Another modeling tragedy had occurred and I had to come in to pick up the pieces. Tragedy strikes modelers every day and kits are warp-sixed or worse. That's enough chit-chat, let's get down to figuring out why this modeler can't finish a model.

I would need to start at the beginning. Where the main body of evidence would be. The workbench.

Examining the workbench I noticed there was a misshapen piece of resin that looked like a piece of a Bearcat cockpit, but the model our victim was last working on was a P-40E, the kit that was called "un-buildable" by many a mere modeler but it looked as if this modeler was going headlong into the challenge. But what about that Bearcat cockpit? Could he have been delusional in those last moments and mixed up the Army and Navy? That's crazy talk!

Further investigation (and a look in the garbage can) showed a full Bearcat kit with large gaps in the wingroot. Good god, who could have filled those gaps? It's impossible, the kit was un-buildable, what was the victim thinking taking on a project of this scope and magnitude? Well we know one thing from the shoe mark that crushed the kit, there was definitely a sense of frustration for this unwilling victim and it also explained the bearcat cockpit which looked as if it was being set aside for some other project.

Looking at his tools, he had it all. Three Dremels, a milling machine, even a mini-lathe, but his completed model shelf was bare. Why did this happen? How did this happen? This was a mystery worthy of Scooby Doo and his friends, but since they weren't available, it was up to me to investigate further.

"It has to be the references" I thought to myself. Peeking around the cornering into what appeared to be an office there were two full walls of books. Books with plans, books made out of plans, books with pictures, books with center-

fold (oops, probably shouldn't be looking at those) and magazines stacked from floor to ceiling, all about aircraft, cars and history.

"I guess that shoots that theory" I reckoned (*reckoned*, a word that Jed Clampet used a lot on the *Beverly Hillbillies*).

"What about his supply of kits? I'll be that he didn't have enough to choose from. That's it!" I said to myself.

As I thought this I noticed that there was a doorway that went beneath the stairwell. The sign said "Danger", but my middle name was "Danger", of course this got me beat up many times as a child, but that is for another episode.

As I opened the door a bright light shone in my eyes and warmth rushed over my face. Was this the famous white light that we hear so much about when someone passes? Was this doorway booby trapped? Was I dead? Umm, no. It was just a large halogen light on an extension stand shining at the doorway. Phew, that was a close one.

As I descended down the hidden stairwell I entered the inner-sanctum where I was greeted with the largest wall of doom known to mankind. Everywhere I looked there were kits. Vintage kits, new kits, airplane kits and figure kits. There were armor tanks and water tanks. There were military, non-military and some things that were paramilitary. There was stuff there that I couldn't even identify as it had started to decompose due to age.

I cried aloud "Another theory foiled! Details, it has to be the details!! He has all these kits but no details for them! Aha! That has to be it! We all know that kit manufacturers don't do enough and that modelers have to add more and more details. That must be it. The victim didn't have the proper details. I'm brilliant!"

Causally walking over to the nearest pile of kits with a sense of peace and accomplishment I picked up one of the aircraft kits. It was a rare one, one that I had always dreamed of having in my collection, but alas it was only a dream.

Opening the kit box I found not one, but six detail sets in the box.

Photoetch, resin and something that looked kind of like chewing gum with some Russian writing on it.

"Noooooooooo!!!" I screamed in frustration. "Decals, that's the only thing left. He didn't have decals."

As my screams stopped echoing in the cavernous dungeon a cat flopped down from the rafters onto a row of lateral files twelve feet wide. With the loud crash I spun to see the labels on the outside of the drawers "DECALS".

Opening each drawer is like a walk through the history of model making. Each drawer has each decal set from every manufacturer known to mankind. Hundreds of decal sets, all in numeric order and cataloged into a master list that was kept in a three ring binder. Each envelope has one or more kit names written on it as if there were being marked for building.

This was too much. I noticed a comfy looking recliner and decided to take a load off and ponder the mystery. As I sat down I noticed a stack of boxes labeled "The Society". Aww, maybe this is it. Our victim is really a member of a cult!! This must be a secret society of non-builders, just like him.

It appears as if this "Society" is quite concerned about growth of itself (it says so right on the outside of the newsletter), which is strange since with the several years of issues all of the officers of the "Society" seem to be the same people, just in different jobs. Hmmm. Curious.

This society must have something to do with our victim's non-building problems, but what? It sure isn't the newsletters occupying him. His issues are almost all brand new (with good reason after reading some of this drivel) so I know he wasn't pre-occupied with these.

"Hey wait, I know what it is..." I said to myself, "it's old man Johnson, the guy who runs the amusement park! He wants to scare everyone away from this place so he can knock it down and build condos!"

"Yeah and I would have gotten away with it too if it wasn't for you

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(Spraybooth Continued from page 6)

kids!" said old man Johnson.

No, no, wait that's the wrong ending, rewind it and try again.

"I know, he's a modeler!! Of course, why didn't I think of this before? He has all the symptoms and the shelf of doom to prove it." I said to myself.

Another mystery solved! Now off to the hobby shop!

The moral of the story is this: Shut up and build!

(President Continued from page 3)

forced upon the airport. Two adolescents were charged with attempted arson in connection with a fire started in the pilots' lounge a few days before our April meeting. The pilots lounge is in an area TCAH doesn't use.

(Museum Continued from page 1)

couple of great juxtapositions, an F-4J of VMFA-232 and a MiG-21F-13, and a MiG-15 and an F-86A. The only nit I can pick is that the green of the MiG's nosecone and dielectric panels was of a too greenish shade and semi-gloss. And there was also a wonderful example of the SA-2 on its transport trailer. Of course the UH-1H Huey was there, though it really looked a little bare without any unit markings. A-6E was present, and a T-33. But the real surprise was the XF-35 advanced tactical fighter.

In addition to the afore-mentioned aircraft, the World War II section included among other treats, an FW-190F and an Arado Ar-234 jet bomber. The Arado deserves special comment because it is positioned so that its cockpit is easily visible. Other treats not often seen include both an F-6F-3 Hellcat and a Kingfisher. Very curious was the P-38 Lightning, in excellent condition, except that the airplane seemed covered with heavy rusted spots, apparently a deliberate if inscrutable decision. The British are represented by a Westland Lysander and a Hurricane IIC.

But the Japanese collection is maybe the best treat of all. There is a partial Nick, the fuselage of a Ki-

45-kai, with the angled cannon arrangement. There is a NiK2-J George in excellent condition, and of course a Baka bomb. The disappointment is a wonderful J1N1-S Gekko, which was unfortunately placed so awkwardly that it could barely be seen, let alone photographed. But they almost made up for that by having the Aichi M6A-1 Seiran submarine-launched float-plane bomber. Not even 3 dozen were ever built. The Golden Age is represented by the Gulfhawk, and the F3F in Gulf colors, The Winnie May, a bunch of racers, and a P-26. And a German Ju-52/m3. Yes, this is history. Can it get better?

Yes, it does. The World War I and early years include a Caudron G.4, and a SPAD.XVI two seater, another rarity. This was the aircraft in which Americans flew the first sortie over the Western front in 1917. And best of all, a Nieuport N.28, finished in the markings of the 94 Pursuit. It would be really nice if someone could inform me who flew Number 8; I'm sure somebody else knows. There were also a variety of early replicas of the earliest flying machines, Wright Flyer, the Langley contraption, etc.

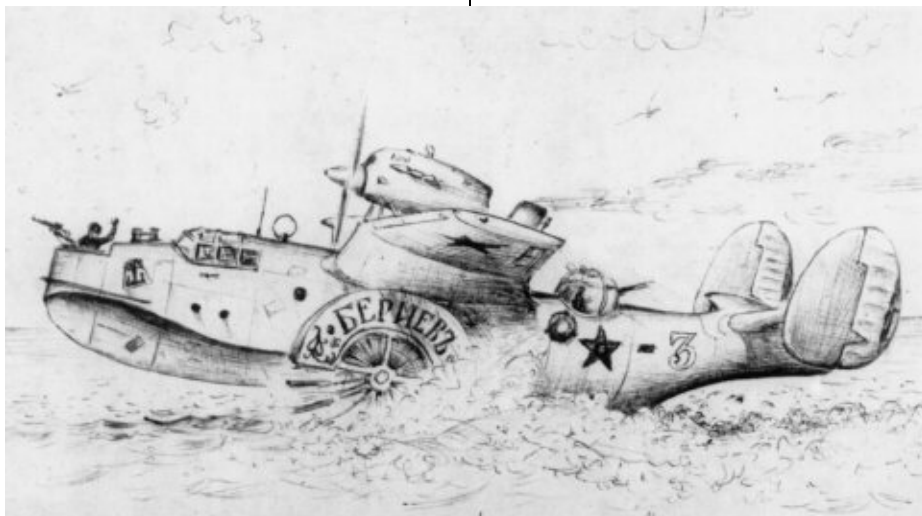
In addition to the Huey in the modern section there is also a small helicopter section. In both senses of the expression, small section, and small helicopters. This included some of the earliest helicopters and autogyros. I was particularly taken by the grotesque Kellett XO-60, one

of the last of the autogyros. There were also sections for Commercial aviation and Space exploration.

In addition to the airplanes and the obligatory gift shop, there is also an IMAX theater, showing aviation-theme films. But IMAX is not for everyone, and anyway, why bother when there are real airplanes right at hand?

If there is any legitimate complaint, it must be with the lighting, carefully angled from the floor upward and from above aimed downward, and all around. No matter where, the photographer is shooting directly into a floor light, and at the same time, the lighting is inadequate to light the area of photographs. Tweezer the Geezer was heard to mutter that the curator responsible should die of a thousand X-acto cuts. Fortunately, George was able to sedate Tweezer and then salvage most of his photos with a computer graphics editor. But this should not have been necessary.

Now the follow-up news. The trip was such a success that there is already discussion about the possibility of repeating similar expeditions to other air museums. The Naval Air Museum in Pensacola is one natural choice and the Museum of Flight in Seattle is another. Both sites should be easily accessible by air, and both have excellent collections. And other sites may still be suggested. And next time, let's hope that TCAH learns early.



Well, yes, the Beriev flying boats may seem a little old-fashioned. Another cartoon by Ivan Kudishin of Moscow.

Directions to the Club Meeting Location

Where: South St. Paul Municipal Airport, a.k.a. Fleming Field, located on the southern extremity of South St. Paul, south of I-494, west of Concord Street and East of Highway 52.

If coming from the western Twin Cities going east on 494:

- Exit at the 7th and 5th Avenue exit (Exit No.65)
- Turn right (South) on 7th Ave and go approximately .6 miles to a 4-way Stop sign. This is South Street W. To your left there will be a McDonald's; to your right front there will be a Walgreen's.
- Turn left (East) at the 4-way Stop onto
- South Street W and go approximately .6 miles. Along the way you will encounter three more Stop signs—the third Stop sign (Henry Avenue) will be a "T" intersection. At the "T" intersection on your left will be homes and on your right softball fields.
- Turn right (south) onto Henry Ave. and go approximately .2

miles toward the Fleming Field airport terminal building.

If coming from east Twin Cities on westbound 494:

- Exit at the 7th and 5th Avenue exit (Exit No.65)
- Turn left (South) on 7th Ave and go approximately .6 miles to a 4-way Stop sign. This is South Street W. To your left front there will be a small strip mall; to your right there will be an Amoco station.
- Turn left (East) at the 4-way Stop onto
- South Street W and go approximately .4 miles. Along the way you will encounter two more Stop signs—the third Stop sign (Henry Avenue) will be a "T" intersection. At the "T" intersection on your left will be homes and on your right softball fields.
- Turn right (south) onto Henry Ave. and go approximately .2 miles toward the Fleming Field airport terminal building.

The terminal is on the right with parking available.



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The group is open to aviation enthusiasts from teenagers on up who are interested in aviation modeling, photography, collecting, art and writing. For more information contact Ken Hornby at 651-552-0888

The Twin Cities Aero Historians (TCAH) meet the second Saturday of every month at 1:30pm.

See above for the new meeting locations and directions.

Mail Newsletter material and address changes to the treasurer.