



Fabulous Forties

THE Aeronaut

A FLIGHT INTO 1940's HOLLYWOOD

Friday, September 19, 2008
Wiggins Airways



Valerie Cashin,
Polly and Don Wright,
Dino Vlahakis and
Bea Belkakis



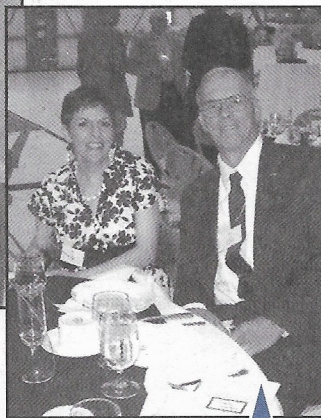
Bob and Carolyn
Schroeder



See story, page 4

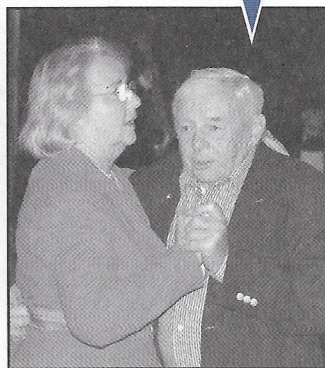


Laura and "Moe"
Quirin on "leave"
from Lumberton, NJ



Marylou & Arnie Symest
celebrate their 50th
wedding anniversary

Gen and Ken Stys



Bob Hough
(?) and his
"can do"
girl Annette
Ricci

Vinny &
Paulette
Devino "in
the Navy"



PHOTOS BY PAUL SCARLETT
& DINO VLAHAKIS

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by Dick Ludders

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New Hampshire Aviation Historical Society

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Friday & Saturday 10:00 am-4:00 pm
Sunday 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

"THE AERONAUT"

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NH Aviation Historical Society
Editors: Carla Ferns • Scott Westover
Design: Susan GB Englert

From the Cockpit

In this day and age, if you want to find out about something you log on to the web. For those of us "of a certain age" who are used to the old days of card catalogs at public libraries, the volume of reference material available and the speed at which it can be accessed, are mind-boggling!

For an organization like the New Hampshire Aviation Historical Society (NHAHS), the web is a real benefit. For instance, I don't know how we ever coordinated meeting dates with diverse, busy groups of people like the Membership Committee or the Board of Directors without e-mail! But without a doubt the most important benefit of the web to the Society is as a point of contact with the rest of the world.

People from anywhere can find out where we are, how to contact us, and what events we have planned. It is critical to the future of the NHAHS that

the Board of Directors has voted to spend the funds necessary to convert the NHAHS web site maintenance from a volunteer-run effort to a professional web master.

this, our real "front door", be maintained to a professional standard that invites inquiries, provides up-to-date information, and welcomes participation in the Society. Recognizing this, the Board of Directors has voted to spend the funds necessary to convert the NHAHS web site maintenance from a volunteer-run effort to a professional web master. Efforts are now underway to revise the "look" and operation of the web site. Be watching at www.nhahs.org for the changes. We're



sure you will find it informative, attractive, and useful!

Also, for the first time there is an ANNUAL FUND envelope included with the newsletter. Proceeds from this initiative will benefit Society and museum programs and exhibits. Please consider NHAHS when you make your year end tax deductible contributions.

On a more somber note, the Society mourns the passing of Gary Leckman, one of our Museum volunteers. I was always impressed with the zest for life that Gary had, despite bouts with cancer that had robbed him of his vocal cords but not his voice! He had become a spokesman for teen anti-smoking programs, making an impression in many young minds as he described his battle using an artificially generated voice. He truly enjoyed being part of the Museum volunteer group. We were glad to have him and already miss him!

Clear skies and calm winds.

J Richard Ludders
Dick Ludders, President

Member News

Welcome, New Members!

Charles & Martha Farmer	Titusville, FL
Philip Bennett	Salem, NH
John Lydiard, III	Amherst, NH
Kevin Mannon	Bedford, NH
Bob Whitcomb	Keene, NH
Robert Drake	Nottingham, NH
Russell & Marjorie Page	No. Haverhill, NH
Dick & Sharon Burpee	Concord, NH
Joel Raskin	Manchester, NH
Lee F Carroll	Gorham, NH
Brian O'Riordan	Derry, NH
Raymond Oullette	Laconia, NH
Dr Charles E Wingate, Jr	Nashua, NH
Caroline E Wingate	Nashua, NH
Charlie Wingate	Windham, NH
Don & Polly Wright	New London, NH
Steve Potter	Newport, NH
Ken Solinsky	Bedford, NH
Wayne Osborne	Nashua, NH
Frank Guimont	Penacook, NH
Scott Stimpert	Amherst, NH
Eric Dole	Norwich, VT
Jeanne Donnelly	Concord, NH
Dave Fraser	Milford, NH
Brian & Gloria McCarthy	Nashua, NH
Paul H Wright & Leslie Horner-Wright	Derry, NH
Warren Mongeon	Gilmanton, NH
Ian Ludders	Weare, NH
Kirk & Judith Leoni	Weare, NH
Ross & Jessica Ludders	Charleston, ME
Michael Devino	Huntington, NY
Peter Devino	Denver, CO
Anthony Devino	Stafford, VA
Steven Devino	East Derry, NH
Maj. Harry Welch	Meredith, NH
Jack Hunter & Jessica Ludders	Seattle, WA
John & Kathy Ludders	Ithaca, NY
Bruce & Vicki Munroe-Ludders	Standish, ME
Hilda Fleisher	Manchester, NH
Dr. David G Stahl	Manchester, NH

Notice to All Members

Your 2009 Membership Directory is set to publish in December. If you have any changes to your contact information please e-mail such to nahs@nahs.org or post mail to NHAHS, PO Box 3653, Concord, NH 03302.

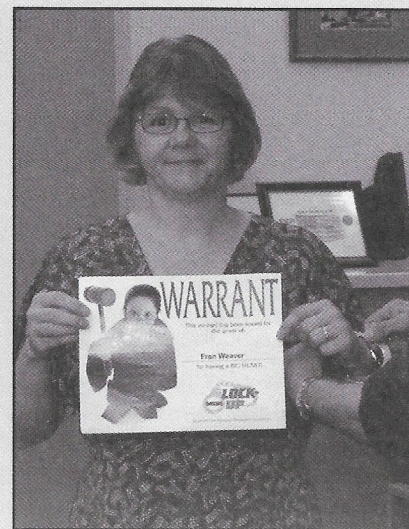
VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

FRAN WEAVER,
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Fran Weaver "came to the rescue" of the membership committee back in 2003 and has since managed to set up a system to maintain and fine tune the membership records and mailings in addition to providing technical support not only for membership but events and the business administrator as well.

A "behind the scenes" volunteer who's work is often not noticed unless it's a renewal letter, (or, oops, a past due letter), event name tag, annual ballot or the membership directory, Fran can and does it all. She is organized, precise and thankfully never says "no"!

When not volunteering her time for NHAHS, Fran is the Administrative Assistant for the Aviation Services Group of Hoyle Tanner & Associates Manchester office. She also donates



HANDCUFFS....what better way to hold on to a volunteer!!

her time to the Salvation Army's bell-ringing campaign, Manchester Animal Shelter Walk-a-Thon, the Red Cross, and MDA Jail Bail (see photo).

Thank you Fran for ALL you do!

In Memorium...

NHAHS loses a "voice"

NHAHS member and Aviation Museum volunteer GARY ALLEN LECKMAN passed away on October 18, 2008 following a long battle with cancer.

Gary found a way to make a positive difference in the lives of young people by becoming an advocate for non-smoking and educating them on the associated dangers. He used his artificially generated voice to drive home the message.

Gary was a speaker with the New Hampshire Lung Association, past president of the Nu Voice Club and started the Breath or Death Foundation.

A veteran of the US Air Force and

US Navy, spending time at the Museum as a docent was truly one of the joys of his life. Even at this venue he was able to educate young visitors who naturally were curious about his "voice".

Gary's quick wit and sense of humor will always be remembered by the many friends he made through NHAHS. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him and in his honor the Society will place a memorial brick in the LEGACY CIRCLE at the Aviation Museum of NH.

NHAHS extends sympathies to the Dinsmore Family on the passing of NHAHS member DANIEL DINSMORE, Intervale, New Hampshire.

Finlay Challenge Update

October 31, 2008 marked the conclusion of the Finlay Foundation Membership Challenge.

NHAHS wishes to thank all of our new members for joining and current members who did such a great job in bringing in sever-

al of those new members. Your support and confidence in our mission are not without notice and we fully accept the responsibility to continue to bring new, entertaining and informative events and programs to fulfill your expectations. *Stay tuned...*

Bob Hough Honored With Exceptional Achievement Award

At the 8th Annual gala on September 19th, NHAHS member Bob Hough was presented with an Exceptional Achievement Award for his continued work with making the Wings of Freedom Tour a reality and success. To quote Jack Ferns who presented the award, "WOF Tour at Manchester Airport and the Aviation Museum of NH would not happen if not for this individual."

For the past three years Bob has taken on the responsibility as "tour manager". Countless hours of time and research go into putting all the pieces together. There is the fourteen page "Security Plan" that has to pass the scrutiny of Manchester Airport, FAA, TSA and Londonderry Police, coordinating the ramp volunteers, control tower and ground operations, radio communications, "comp" rides, aircraft arrivals and departures as well as passenger flights.

In addition, as many of you know, Bob is the creative mind behind the Wright Flyer simulator that has served the Society and New England since the 2003 Centennial of Flight Celebration. During the early beginnings of the Aviation Museum of NH it was the ONLY exhib-

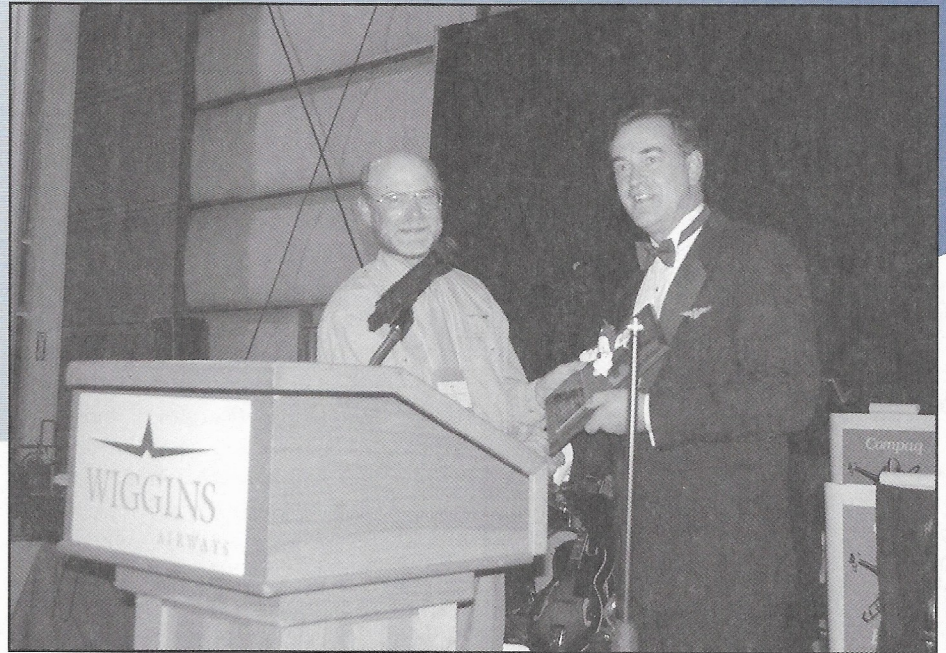


PHOTO BY DINO VLAHAKIS

Jack Ferns, right, presents Exceptional Achievement Award to Bob Hough

it in the main gallery. With the installation of permanent exhibits, "the flyer" has been "on the road" to air shows, museums, grade schools, the Christa McAuliffe Planetarium, Daniel Webster College and even the ballpark.

Bob is a life member of the Society who owns and flies his own antique aircraft, often accompanied by his black lab, Chester. NHAHS is indeed fortunate to call Bob Hough a friend and who else would work for chocolate chip cookies!

FALL EVENTS 2008 • September 17-19, 2008

Once again the Fall Events were graced with perfect weather and a great turnout. The Collings Foundation Wings of Freedom Tour "landed" at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport on September 17th for the third consecutive year. This year saw the largest crowd for viewing the aircraft and the museum welcomed over 700 visitors!

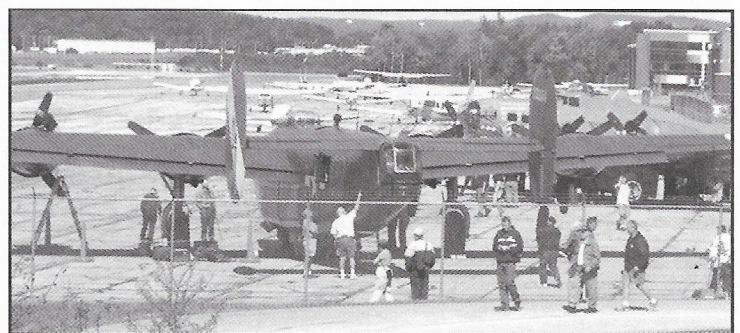
The 8th Annual Fundraising Gala & Silent Auction, "Fabulous Forties" on Friday, September 19th transformed a Wiggins Airways hangar into a 1940's nightclub complete with red carpet, a 21 piece big band and a Navion on static exhibit. Over 150 members and guests wined, dined and shopped the night away. Bravo to those guests who came in period attire, lots of fun, furs and black ties!

These events would not have been possible without the help and financial support of our many donors, sponsors

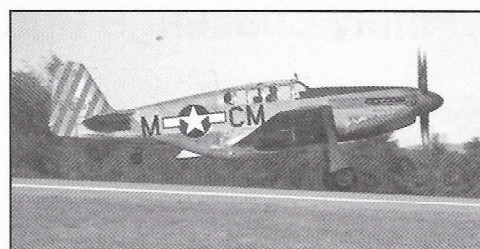
and volunteers. Please take a moment to read the lists of thanks on Page 5. September 2008 marked the most successful Fall Events in the 13 year history of NHAHS.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Visit the updated www.nhahs.org for more event photos coming soon



ABOVE: A healthy crowd at the Wings of Freedom Tour; LEFT: New to the tour for 2008, P-51 "Betty Jane"; BELOW: The parking lot was full!!



Recent Gifts

GRANTS & AWARDS

BAE Systems
 Nashua, NH \$10000.00
 Interactive flight simulator
 Putnam Foundation
 Keene, NH \$2500.00
 Interactive museum exhibits

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Wiggins Airways \$5000.00

GIFTS

Fran Weaver and Steve
 Baldowski, Manchester, NH
 Charles and Martha Farmer,
 Titusville, FL
 Bob Whitcomb, Keene, NH
 Paul Schlieben, Peterborough, NH
 Cdr. Donald Campbell,
 Wentworth, NH
 Thomas Haas, Portsmouth, NH
 Don Shea, Bow, NH
 Valerie Cashin, Charlie Cashin
 Memorial Fund
 Ken Weyler, Kingston, NH
 Dr. David G. Stahl

BRICK CAMPAIGN

Patricia Mitchell, Portsmouth, NH
 Flying Tigers RC Club, Derry, NH

Winning Bidders Silent Auction 2008

Mark Brewer
 Jon & Tonia Cloutier
 Romeo Danais
 Patrick Duffy
 Scott & Aurore Eaton
 Mike Farren
 Jack & Carla Ferns
 Bob & Janet Fortnam
 Ray Grenier
 Jeanne Gerulskis
 Tom Haas
 Kathy Hersh
 Jake & Barbara Johnson
 Larry Labrie
 Gary Laughlin
 Dick & Ann Ludders
 John Lydiard
 Brian McCarthy
 Dave McDonald
 Barbara Miller
 Allan Pattee
 Howie & Judie Pennock
 Robert & Carolyn Schroeder
 Phyllis Stübler
 Rodney Stone
 Fran Weaver
 Gail & Richard Wholey

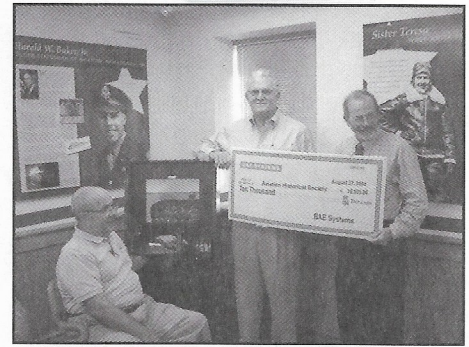
BAE Donates \$10K for Flight Simulator

BAE Systems recently donated \$10,000.00 to support the NH Aviation Historical Society's purchase of a flight simulator.

The simulator will be housed at the Aviation Museum of NH and will allow visitors to conduct navigation exercises, simulate take off and landing, operate communications equipment and navigation controls, and see the effects of aircraft control on an airplane's flight path.

BAE is continuing its support of youth interest in aviation and aerospace through the donation.

John Lydiard, chief of staff for BAE Systems' Nashua based Electronics & Integrated Solutions business, presented the donation during a ceremony at the Aviation Museum.



John Lydiard, center, chief of staff for BAE Systems' Nashua based Electronics & Integrated Solutions business, presents the donation to NHAHS President Dick Ludders, right, during a ceremony at the museum, as Museum Director Vinny Devino and the "sim" look on.

Special Thanks to all our Sponsors, Donors and Volunteers for Making our September Events a Great Success

Platinum Sponsors

Wings of Freedom Tour Underwriter



Gold Sponsor

Opening Reception



Silver Sponsors

Champagne Service



Invitation & Program



Red Carpet & Dessert Buffet



Exclusive Travel Sponsor



In Kind Sponsors



SILENT AUCTION & GALA DONORS

David Allen
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 Common Man Inn
 Cotton
 Currier Museum of Art
 Dave Desilets
 Vinny Devino
 Patrick Duffy
 Jack & Carla Ferns
 Jaye Gibson
 Tom Haas
 Hampshire Pewter
 History Flight
 Hobo Railroad
 JBI Helicopters

Lake Sunapee Country Club
 Ann Ludders
 J. Richard Ludders
 Manchester Historic Association
 Manchester Monarchs
 Mike McKendry
 Mount Washington Resort
 NHAHS
 NH Fisher Cats
 EW Poore
 "Puritan Backroom
 Moe" Quirin
 Rob Holland Air Shows
 Sharkey's Helicopters
 Stefania Small
 Harry Standel
 Southwest Airlines
 Patricia Taylor
 JP Vandersluis
 Vibrometer, Inc

Museum Musings

BY VINNY DEVINO – DIRECTOR

Things have been popping. This past September, due in large part to the publicity generated by the Wings of Freedom Tour, we set new records for attendance at the museum. Attendance for the month hit the 700 mark and we are heading toward a total visitor count of about 2,600 people for 2008, which represents an increase of 400, or nearly 20% over the 2007 numbers. We've also been conducting a visitor survey and the results indicate that, small as it is, people are generally charmed by the building itself, and pleased with the exhibits. As you might expect, the recently added flight simulator draws a lot of attention from visitors of all ages.

However, we are not resting on our laurels. Plans are currently underway to add an exhibit about the history of the New Hampshire Air Guard and Air Force Reserve to the current offerings. Also in the works is a tire from the Space Shuttle being prepared as an exhibit by a group of high school students at Kingswood Regional High School in Wolfeboro, and an air traffic control radar display donated by Daniel Webster College. 2009 will see a continuance of the "Saturday at the Museum"

series of presentations about aeronautical history. Our web site www.nhahs.org is also being given a facelift which will improve its appearance and make it easier to navigate.

We are also making good progress in organizing the archives and a library.

All of this is being made possible by a group of volunteers whose dedication keeps the museum running. We can always use more help. What are you doing with your spare time?

In addition if you haven't realized it by now, it does take money to run the museum. We cannot survive on what we receive in the way of donations from museum visitors. It is only through the generous giving of their time by our volunteer staff, the generosity of our members, sponsors, and grants we are fortunate enough to receive, that keep the doors open. Keep us in mind when it's time to renew your membership and, if your means allow, put a little extra in the envelope.

Finally, feel free to contact me at avmuseum1@verizon.net with your ideas and comments. Waiting to hear from you.

"Saturday at the Museum"

To make a reservation call the Museum at 603-669-4820 during normal business hours or leave a message. While admission is free, a donation is always appreciated.

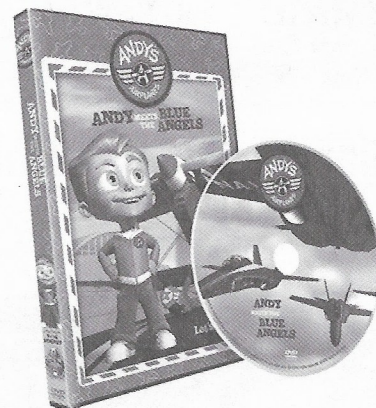
November 22—Aeronautical "Turkeys"

...Stories of some of the most curious and sometimes even bizarre creations that ever took or attempted to take to the air

December 20... "How Moxie Helped Win WWII" (and its connection to Grenier Field); Merrill Lewis presenter. The things you NEVER knew!!!

January 10, 2009... Life as a POW, Col. Robert Fortnam (ret), presenter. Copilot of a B-17 that crashed landed in occupied Holland recounts his 19 months as a POW

February 14... The Evolution of the Aircraft Cockpit, Chuck Gerhan & Vinny Devino, presenters



New in the Museum Gift Shop

Just In Time For Christmas Giving

ANDY'S AIRPLANES

This DVD is a new aviation focused children's series and winner of Parent's Choice Silver Award. This new series is geared toward ages 3 through 8 and their families in a combination of live action and animation that follows the adventures of 8 year old Andy.

Episode 1, "Andy meets the Blue Angels" is now available in the museum shop for \$14.99.

BRICK CAMPAIGN

Honor a Friend, Remember a Relative, Build a Legacy!

Help Build the Society's Foundation Brick by Brick

The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire is home to the New Hampshire Aviation Historical Society. A "Legacy Circle" of 240 bricks mark the entrance to the museum. For \$200.00 per brick you and your family or someone special can become a permanent part of the circle of support for the society.

Each brick will be engraved with a personal message of the donor's preference. All funds received will help strengthen the society's ability to fulfill its mission and serve its members.

For more information on this campaign you may go to www.nhahs.org to download the form or contact Jack Ferns, Brick Campaign Chairman at 603-798-3915.



Bricks already installed in the "Legacy Circle" at the Aviation Museum of NH.

PHOTO BY: DICK LUDDERS

Events Past & Future

Upcoming Events

SATURDAY AT THE MUSEUM

Ongoing, Aviation Museum of NH. See page 6 for 2008-2009 schedule.

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Friday December 12, 2008

Aviation Museum of NH

NOTE: Museum will close at NOON for this function.

MEMBER EVENT

Saturday December 13, 2008

Common Man, Concord, NH 10:30 AM. Amazing U-2 Flight Adventure of Col Chuck Maulsby. Don Wright, former U-2 pilot, presenter.

MEMBER EVENT

Saturday March 14, 2009; TBA

2008 Programs and Events Made Possible by our Sponsors, Donors, Members and Volunteers

“The Aeronaut”

Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce “Spotlight on Business”

Annual Banquet and Silent Auction

Goffes Falls Heritage Festival

Annual Membership Directory

Library Pass Program

Aviation Night at the Fisher Cats

Member Events—March, June & December

“Buy a Brick Campaign”

Museum Day

Charlie Cashin Day at the Museum

Simulator Interactive Exhibit

Daniel Webster College Aviation Expo

Saturdays at the Museum Lecture Series

The Finlay Challenge

School/Scout/Group Museum Tours

FREE Admission to the Aviation Museum

Wings of Freedom Tour

Aviation Night at the Ballpark

Aviation and professional baseball came together for the first time this past August 14th at the NH Fisher Cats Baseball Stadium.

The New Hampshire Aviation Historical Society (NHAHS) teamed up with the Fisher Cats to host an Aviation theme night. The NH Flying Tigers RC aircraft club and the Manchester & Nashua Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Squadrons also joined us for what turned out to be a great evening of fun.

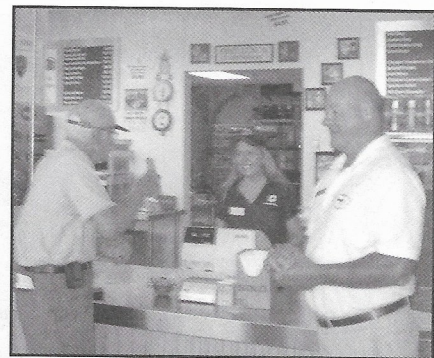
The Flying Tigers provided pre-game entertainment with a remote control mini air show in the outfield and set-up an exciting static display on the concourse. The static display consisted of approximately 20 remote control aircraft of various size and types.

Our own Bob Fortnam was selected to

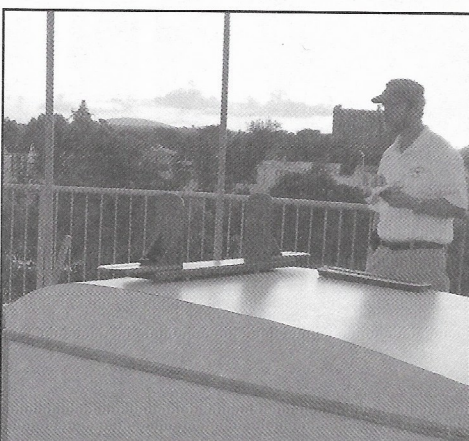
throw out a ceremonial first pitch.

However, the highlight of the evening was the Wright Flyer. NHAHS member Bob Hough set up his Wright Flyer simulator on the main concourse and provided flying lessons to anyone that wanted to test their ability to takeoff and land in Kitty Hawk. There was certainly no shortage of people that wanted to give a try as baseball fans and aviation enthusiasts were lined up all night to test their flying skills. As a matter of fact, Bob was so busy he never had a chance to watch the game.

And last but not least, NHAHS would like to thank DMJM Aviation for sponsoring the event. Due to their generosity and the hard work of the NHAHS volunteers over \$2,000 was raised to help support the Society.



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Paul Scarlett holding down the NHAHS exhibit table; Bob Fortnam, left, and Don Bourassa working (?) the event; Civil Air Patrol honor guard presents colors for the National Anthem; Bob Hough and the ever popular “Wright Flyer”.



NHAHS Membership Application

YES! I want to become a member of the New Hampshire Aviation Historical Society!

Please check the appropriate box and enclose your check for dues made payable to the NH Aviation Historical Society.

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Gift | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 Dual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 Gift | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Corporate (annually) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 gift | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

All memberships & gifts are tax deductible.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Special interests _____

MAIL THIS FORM & PAYMENT TO:
NHAHS
PO BOX 3653 • CONCORD, NH 03302-3653
EMAIL: nhahs@nhahs.org

The Gee Bee Model A Sport Plane (pictured in the society's logo) was the first plane built by the Granville brothers in Boston, Massachusetts. They built nine in Springfield, Massachusetts and finally leading to the famous Gee Bee supersporter racers, one of which established a new world land-air speed record. It was flown by James Doolittle.

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