

A.M.H.F.

**Dedicated to preserving, in flying condition, a vintage PV-2 Harpoon in memory of all who fought in the air on behalf of the United States of America**

**News Letter March 2015**



Greetings to members & friends of the AMHF,

February is now in the books and we need not look back on it any more mainly because there is nothing we can do to change or improve it. March started off with 9 inches of snow in my drive way, at least it was the nice fluffy kind and went real well with the snow blower. My grandmother used to say, "She had heard lots of talk about the weather but not much done about it." That certainty has been true for 2015.

The chafe material and chafe tape has arrived from Aero-Tech so if we can get some sort of a break in the weather we can start getting the inboard bays ready for the fuel cells when they arrive. During the next couple of months we are going to have to use all of our time to the best of our ability in order to complete this project on time and start the air show season.

Present work going on is boxing, shelving, and inventoring all of the items Rich and Glen acquired from a donor to the AMHF. It was a substantial amount of material and was greatly appreciated. We can still use help completing this task, so if you see the work notice come out and have some spare time come on out and join us. The coffee pot will be on, probably some snacks, and no shortage of, well I just can't say. However, all of you being highly educated individuals I'm sure you will no doubt figure it out.



If we can't have some fun as we pass through this life we might as well just quit. That is why I am including this picture. It was sent in by Steve R. and it is entitled, as you can see, Army pilots waiting turn in the simulator. Steve are you sure you didn't doctor this picture and change it from Navy to Army?

**"Don't get mad. Don't get even. Get stronger, faster and more powerful. Fill yourself with knowledge and empathy and an indomitable spirit, because no one else can do that for you. In the end, it's your life, your choice and your world. Give 110%, always."**

*Apolo Ohno,  
American speed skater*

Rescue of a crashed DC-3 from the snow and ice.

[https://www.youtube.com/embed/9ruArctYYbM?feature=player\\_detailpage](https://www.youtube.com/embed/9ruArctYYbM?feature=player_detailpage)

If you have not seen this it is well worth the time to watch it. It makes MQJ look like working in a wonderful place. This was also submitted by Steve R. Don't be bashful, if you run onto something you think the members might be interest in viewing e-mail it and it just might appear in a newsletter. It can be serious or it can have some humor

As I told you last month I was going to try and introduce a Board member each month so all of the members and friends of the AMHF would know something about each of the Board of Directors This month it is the President Richard Suiter.

Your BOD is as follows:

Richard Suiter - president

Glen Matejcek - vice president

Paula King - secretary

Ted Osterreich - treasurer

Donn Starkey

Steve Montani

Gaylon Piercy

Roy Pellegrin - Advisor to the board and works with grants.

Well that takes care of it for this time I hope you enjoy the interview with Rich and you might learn something about him you didn't know.

Stay safe and enjoy life to the fullest,

Gaylon

## **Interview with Richard Suiter**

*What is your back ground schooling, work, and hobbies, anything else we could mention that others might not know about you?*

I am a native of Hallam, Nebraska. After high school I enlisted in the Air Force where I worked on some of the latest radar systems available at the time. During this time I received the equivalent of an associate's degree in electronics through an accelerated program at Keesler Air Force Base. After leaving service I worked in television repair for a period of time. From there I went into the field of weights and measures and retired from there after 38 years of which the first 27 years were spent in Nebraska. After retiring from National Institute of Weights and measures I had all of this spare time so I formed Richard Suiter Consulting an LLC registered with the state of Indiana. I now work as a private consultant assisting companies and individuals in the areas of weights and measures regulations, standards, testing procedures, and equipment requirements.

*Now I understand you don't own a jeep. However, you are in the process of restoring an International pickup truck.*

The pickup is a half-ton 1955 International R100 that my dad bought new to haul feed, ice, (both a ton plus at a time) and other items from Lincoln to the grocery store he and my mom had in a small rural community in Nebraska. It is rather unique in that it has a working automatic transmission. In 1955 it was the only truck available with an automatic.

*What caused you to join the AMHF?*

It is Gaylon's fault! I came to the Indy Air Show and toured "Hot Stuff" while it still had only one engine. Gaylon was inside doing tours. I asked him if additional help was needed. Big mistake! The rest is history.

*How long have you been associated with the AMHF?*

I have been involved with the AMHF since 2008.

*How long have you served on the BOD?*

*I have served on the BOD since 2009.*

*Can you give other members a good reason to step up and fill a director's seat?*

We can always use people with a fresh perspective and new ideas. It is also good for members to share the work from the administrative side of the organization. Until you have been there you may not realize how much work a non-profit organization requires

*If a person walked up to you and asked about joining the organization what advice would you give him in regards to the work and historical significance of the plane? How about the clothes they would need if he worked on it?*

The Harpoon is one of the more rare planes from WWII. Many visitors have no idea of the important role the squadrons of these planes played. When people learn about what these squadrons did they are completely amazed.

Don't wear anything you aren't willing to sacrifice. Oil stains never completely come out, no matter what the detergent commercials say.

*What would you like to see take place in the future or changes you believe the BOD could act on to make it even a better organization?*

Finding a less volatile source of funding would certainly relieve some of the uncertainty for survival and continued success of our mission. Getting the plane under cover would be a huge step forward for both those working on it and the long term protection of the plane itself.



Scott

Rich