



American Military
Heritage Foundation

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

March 2017 newsletter

Anyone who has lived in Indiana for any period of time will not be shocked by the weather we had during the month of February. Everything from wind chills in the teens to 70 plus. Sometimes one does not know how they should dress for the day let alone trying to plan a work schedule that would make any sense. However, I doubt our conditions are as bad as what our WWII people put up with in the Aleutian Islands. Maybe we just do a lot of complaining when we should just get on with the task at hand. I guess sometimes it must make us feel better if we can complain about something.

During the month of February we were able to remove the other rudder, make a repair, and start preparing both for painting. During this process all hardware, bearings, and anything else related to this particular area will be inspected and replaced as necessary. This is the type of work the maintenance people really love. You may ask why? This is a place where they really get to see improvement and know that they made it better than it was before.

I have spoken to you before about what happens when this plane sits outside all the time. Mother Nature is her biggest enemy and it becomes a challenge for worker bees to keep up with everything time and elements can throw at us. Now, you say to yourself why is he talking about this again? Well, I will try to explain. If you remember, last month I told you we were able to get heat back in the shop again. What an experience, we were able to bring small parts in and work on them in a fairly comfortable space. Allowing us to clean, inspect, paint, or whatever else the particular item might need without freezing, blowing away, or getting wet. By the way this does include the rudders. Now think what that would be like if the entire airplane was inside, with room to work, and all of our tools and equipment available. Ok! Back to reality I slipped into some sort of a fantasy land there.

We did have a board meeting at MQJ on February 18, 2017. Many things were discussed regarding a path forward for the AMHF and how to achieve the goal of a hanger. The following is a list of items/suggestions that the membership should be aware of.

Increase membership while retaining current members.

How to get members interested in working on the plane

Find ways to make our organization more visible.

Have a capital fund drive at least on an annual basis.

Better organization in booking airshows.

New ways to generate revenue. (Open house, hangar dance)

Articles about the plane and or the AMHF suitable for publication.

I have always believed we have the talent within our organization to solve just about any problem that comes up. One of the daunting problems we face is raising money for the hanger. I have worked with groups and we raise two or three thousand dollars and think we have done well. That is not our case, we need to be talking two or three hundred thousand at a time. You understand if we scale back and build just a hanger and work area with maybe small roped off area for some of our museum artifacts we are still looking at a million.

So the board is asking all members and friends of the AMHF for input on how we might be able to achieve any of the above goals. Our membership crosses all kinds of occupations so we should have someone out there who can help solve our problems or knows someone who would be willing to help. There will be another board meeting late March and the date will be announced as soon as it is set.

Have a great Month,

Gaylon

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“My success was not based so much on any great intelligence but on great common sense.”

*Helen Gurley Brown,
Editor and writer*

“Most people do not listen with the intent to understand; they listen with the intent to reply.”

*Stephen R. Covey,
Educator, writer and speaker*