



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

October 2017 Newsletter

Well the fall season is upon us and temperatures are starting their downward trend. So now we will be complaining about how cold it is rather than how hot it is. September was a very unusual month to say the least. However, in the world of the Harpoon it would just be considered normal to mundane.

We have completed the D check and are now waiting on Mr. Miller to meet with us go over all of the paper work and do the sign off so we can maybe do some crew training and try to raise a little more money before the first snow flies. This means we will need to put about \$1,200 worth of fuel on board for double checking all of the tanks and have fuel to fly with. All engine runs have worked well and all seems in order. Therefore, next month the report will read we are flying again and waiting for air show bookings. I believe this will be the first year we are not putting the plane back together in April wondering if we can make an airshow.

Some other interesting happenings during September, FIFI was at MQJ for several days giving rides and tours. So we went out and opened up the plane for tours and the PX for sales. That produced some much needed revenue for us. We were able to visit the B29 and talk with the members of the crew. They were also over to

the Harpoon to check it out. They took several pieces of literature and even bought a couple of shirts. I believe we made several new friends for the Harpoon. Picture was taken from FIFI by Paula.



Then a week or so later on Saturday morning I was turning into MQJ to open up for our usual work day and there is a sign reading Air Expo. Then I see tents, port-a-johns, and people walking around on the ramp. Hello! First I had heard anything about an air-expo. As far as we knew it had been totally canceled. I get out to the plane and we have people standing around wondering when they can see the plane, my thought was we are losing revenue, so I call Rich to see how far away he is then inform Steve what is going on. I then call my wife at the orchard, she had planned a day off, to see if she could go home and pick up our change for the PX and come help. Well I was able to get the plane open, Rich made it down a little quicker and Sandy made it up from Shelbyville with our change, cash box, and took over the PX. Now that we have things somewhat under control we get on the phone and see who else might be able to come help. Again we made many new friends, a new member, and some much needed revenue.

We were also invited to visit the local EAA chapter, located on MQJ, and talk with them about the AMHF. We visited with them on September 21 and made some more friends. Rich, Steve, David, and I attended their meeting. We gave a talk on the AMHF then opened up the plane for them to look at.

Sometime after the first of the year we are to make a presentation at the WWII round table. I do not have a lot of details on this yet but will let you know as they become available.

With all of this going on we could use some help on putting together a couple of real nice presentations we could use when invited someplace. Mr. Starkey is willing to put a power point presentation together if we can provide him with a script to go from. I have provided him with the notes I used at the EAA meeting. However, I think we could use one for adults and maybe one for middle and high school. Jenny and Paula have always been willing to help me out with squadrons, facts and figures along with other related items. It would be nice if we had some other people interested in the historic aspect of the Harpoon to come together and work on this and create a well done presentation. Any takers? It can only help the organization become better if done correctly.

On another note we have a significant bill coming due the end of the year. One of our members has told me they will match \$1,000 dollars donated by other members towards the bill and another \$500 dollar match towards the hanger fund. They said perhaps if they could get something started it could grow into something bigger. So far nothing seems to be working for us. The only stipulation on this is the money is strictly for the tanks and the hangar fund.

On a sad note we had one of our WWII veterans make his last journey. In September of 2014 newsletter I did an interview with Jessie Gene Reed. He served on board the USS Coos-Bay seaplane tender. He made his final voyage September 2017.

“If you've got an idea, start today. There's no better time than now to get going. That doesn't mean quit your job and jump into your idea 100% from day one, but there's always small progress that can be made to start the movement.”

*Kevin Systrom,
Entrepreneur*

As you can see we had many things go on with the Harpoon this past month.

Have a great month,

Gaylon

Note: The plane last month was a British Wellington bomber with a degaussing ring. That is what I have been told.