



## LAA Military Aviation Museum Tour

June 2022



*LAA tour members, from left to right, are Rick Ross, J.F. Barthelemy, Edwin Prior, Dick Hueschen, Wes Goodman, Charles Laney, Damodar Ambur, and John Berry.*

*By Dick Hueschen, Communications Officer*

On April 21<sup>st</sup>, eight LAA members and one spouse had a guided tour of the privately-owned Military Aviation Museum (MAM), located about five minutes from Pungo, VA, where a strawberry festival is held each year (maybe not the past two years due to COVID-19). This museum has four hangars containing World War I and World War II aircraft including one German hangar that contains German airplanes, including some German research aircraft. Quite a few of the museum aircraft have been restored to flying condition.

Our group assembled in the first building you come to upon arriving at the museum. This building has a Navy hangar and an Army hangar attached to the sides of the central building

packed full of aircraft, with many restored to flying condition.

Our tour, led by one of MAM's docents, started outside this building looking at a couple of World War II aircraft restored to flying condition. At this point in time, one aircraft, a Stearman N2S-3 Kaydet—a Navy trainer—was about to go flying. The aircraft is behind the LAA attending tour members in the photo above.

We saw and heard the engine start and subsequently saw this aircraft take off on the museum's approximately one-mile-long grass runway that is a private runway. The aircraft in flight, soaring above the runway

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## President's Report

*By Dan Palumbo, President*

Thanks in large part to Treasurer Geoff Tennille's tenacity, the LAA is now registered with the IRS as a tax exempt public charity under section 509(a)(2). One reason for working to achieve this classification, besides the tax exempt status, is to take advantage of reduced software license fees offered by several companies. In particular, Microsoft offers a free version of their Microsoft 365 (Office) business edition to non-profits. The free version of this plans comes with enough licenses for our officers and committee chairs. There are benefits to using MS 365. Maybe the most important is the cloud based, shareable storage it provides. The LAA's hard copy archives are now kept somewhere in a file cabinet in NASA Langley's Building 2102 (Cafeteria). The digital archives are spread across several current or former Board members' hard drives. The shared cloud storage provided by MS 365 will give us the means to locate our digital records in one place that is accessible to all Board members. Another benefit of MS 365 is that we will be able to create email addresses in the larcalumni.org domain for all the Officers and committee chairs. These email addresses can be published so anyone can reach us if they need to.

We had a trial of conducting a hybrid meeting from the NACA Room. The trial was considered a success, and there are no kinks we can't work out. While NASA was unable to support in-person attendance for all members at the June meeting, we plan to open the doors (given NASA approval) to all members for our August meeting. This means you'll have the choice of either attending the meeting in person in the NACA Room or from your home through Zoom.

We are working the issue of badges. As of this writing, NASA Langley has

not yet approved issuing Alumni six-month badges, but we hope that will be resolved prior to our August meeting. Finally, the Langley Cafeteria, as you remember it, has not been fully restored. In its place are food vendors which provide an array of different options. The offerings are dynamic. I will provide the latest menu when I poll for registration.

I hope we can have more informal gatherings like the tour of the Military Aviation Museum that eight LAA members attended in April. Refer to Dick Hueschen's newsletter article on [page 1](#). We will still have our picnic in July (see Vicki's article on [page 6](#) for more information) and the winter luncheon but I'd like to see more spontaneous gatherings like the Aviation Museum tour. Tony Pototzky and Damodar Ambur generated a list of possibilities before COVID hit. These included tours of museums (Virginia Air and Space, National Air and Space), fun destinations (Hampton Harbor Cruises, breweries, Bergey's Dairy Farm), and Langley facilities. I will be in touch with you soon to gauge your interest in all the suggestions I've received so far and to ask you what kind of activity you'd like to attend.

In summary, we are faced with a different and somewhat unfamiliar terrain spreading out ahead of us. COVID is still a threat. I am considering getting a second booster as a defensive measure. My thinking is that I will eventually get COVID (if I haven't already) and the vaccine will reduce my chances of having a severe reaction. The vaccine doesn't necessarily limit your ability to spread the disease if you are infected, so be mindful of your circumstances and condition if you plan to meet with others. I look forward to seeing you all in the days ahead. ♦



## The Thrill of Learning

*By Vicki Crisp, Vice President and Programs Chair*

Research is defined as the work undertaken to increase knowledge ultimately leading to the generation of new concepts, methodologies, and understandings. Our alumni have contributed to years of research and have witnessed the creation of new industries, transformation of flight and journeys of discovery within our universe. We not only love to learn, we love to share our learning. The LAA monthly speaker program hosts a breadth of topics drawing upon our alumni's past and present interests as well as their extensive career and community networks.

Last year we heard about Life After Langley, to include career changes as well as fun in retirement. We learned about the Women and the Sea at the Mariners' Museum and the Lewis and Clark Expedition from the Director for the US Army Transportation Museum. We experienced the future through NASA's CFD Vision 2030, Carbon Nanotubes as Structural Materials and the return of the Sonic Boom to everyday flight! We also learned to care for ourselves through Yoga as each new birthday brings change. As each speaker shared their story, we engaged with probing questions to no surprise from all who know we hail from Langley Research Center.

This year builds upon this learning tradition. Did you know that "Hampton Roads" dates back to 1607, when Jamestown was founded? It should then be no surprise that our area is in need of a few upgrades. In February, Lt. Col. Jim Utterback spoke to us about the on-going Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel Expansion project, the largest highway construction project in Virginia's history. Our interests ranged from managing such a transformative project to the application of new technologies, such as the tunnel boring machine. Although we contin-

ued to hold our talks via Zoom into 2022, this talk was well attended!

In March and then May, our very own Dan Palumbo and Ricky Butler shared the complexities and challenges of Early Fault-Tolerant Flight Control Computers and the application of Formal Methods Research, respectively, to enable changes in how we fly. Each reminded us that this work is critical to sustaining safety in the blue sky above!

In April, Kevin Rivers set aside time to talk about Artemis and the Next Generation and why it's personal to him. Kevin showcased several Langley capabilities (wind tunnel testing, water impact testing, systems analyses) and technologies (Navigation Doppler Lidar, radiation protection, autonomous in-space assembly) that are moving the nation toward its goal to return humans to the Moon by 2025.

Our remaining 2022 speakers are highlighted on our website at <https://larcalumni.org/21-events>. Back on-site at Langley's NACA Room, we will hear from:

- Dr. Joel Levine (June): "The Impact of Moon & Mars Dust on Human Exploration."
- Dr. Bobby Braun (August): "The Coming Decade of Planetary Science."
- Geoff Tennille (September): "Information Technology Security."
- Richard Antcliff and Kevin Antcliff (October): "The Journey of Entrepreneurs."
- Shane Dover and Jill Marlowe (November): "How NASA is Adapting to Bold Missions Faster and More Affordably."

I hope you can join us! If you have ideas for 2023, please speak up at our upcoming meetings!!!! ♦

## Treasurer's Report

*By Geoff Tennille, Treasurer*

Since the last newsletter, the LAA has opened a new account with Langley Federal Credit Union (LFCU) and received a 509(a)(2) tax-exempt status, as a public charity, from the IRS. It was necessary to open a new account with LFCU to be in compliance with the tax-exempt status that was requested. This new status falls under IRS section 501(c)(3), which defines the status of charitable organizations.

So, what does this mean for LAA members?

(1) If you currently have an account at LFCU:

- You can now establish a member-to-member link to transfer payments directly from your LFCU account to the LAA LFCU account, without involving the LAA Treasurer;
- You can delete the member-to-member link at any time. Instructions for creating this link are on the LAA website; and
- You can create the transfer link, make the transfer and delete the link in just a couple of minutes.

(2) Your LAA dues are now tax-deductible as a charitable donation, since you receive nothing tangible in return for the payment.

You can also make a tax-deductible donation to support the LAA at any time.

(3) As a tax-exempt organization, the LAA will generally be exempt from sales tax and could take advantage of products from a variety of companies that are offered at reduced or no charge to charitable organizations. ♦

### LAA Military Aviation Museum Tour

*Continued from [page 1](#)*

and the trees, is shown in the photo to the right.

Next, we toured through the English Goxhill control tower (built for the Royal Air Force in Lincolnshire, England) that was disassembled brick-by-brick and brought to the museum for reassembly. The docent said that only a small number of bricks had to be made to complete the reconstruction at the museum.

In August 1942, this control tower and associated airfield were transferred to the United States Army Air Force. According to the MAM website, Goxhill's proudest heritage was its support of the 496<sup>th</sup> Fighter Training Group that trained more than 2,400 replacement fighter pilots for those lost in the European Theater of Operations in World War II. The rooms of this control tower contained many English artifacts of the equipment and furniture that was in such a control tower, as shown in the photo below.

After the Goxhill control tower, we toured the authentic German Luft-



*Stearman N2S-3 Kaydet Navy Trainer*

waffe hangar that was relocated from the Cottbus Army Airfield in Cottbus, Germany. We saw several of the World War II German aircraft and also some German research aircraft. According to the docent, one of the research aircraft was thought to be developed to burn coal dust due to the fuel short-

age that Germany was experiencing. The docent also pointed out some scars on one of the hangar beams due to Allied bombing.

Next, we toured a World War I hangar containing aircraft for that time period. One of the aircraft there was a Curtis Model D Pusher.

The three-hour tour concluded with a look at and description by the docent of selected aircraft in the Navy and Army hangars.

If you have an interest in World War I and II aircraft, this is certainly the museum to visit. A great amount of effort has gone into restoring many of the aircraft to flying condition. If you are up to some excitement, you can purchase a flight in some of the restored aircraft.

For more information about the museum, the aircraft at the museum, and the cost to visit, go to the museum's web site at <https://militaryaviation-museum.org>. ♦



*Equipment and furniture in the English Goxhill control tower*

## Hall of Honor Class of 2022



*NACA & NASA Hall of Honor honoree wall*

*By Duncan McIver, Hall of Honor Chair*

The Hall of Honor (HoH) Team has completed the nomination and preliminary selection phases for the Class of 2022. The final list of nominees recommended by the Selection Committee, headed by Julie Williams-Byrd, is being reviewed by LAA and NASA Langley Senior Management. Thanks again to all who have helped with this important nomination and selection process.

Melanie Robinson, Kathy Ferrare, and Duncan McIver are leading the planning for the Honoree event scheduled for July 14, 2022 at the H.J.E. Reid Auditorium. They developed a detailed schedule including assignments for other members of the HoH Team. A critical element is the writing of sum-

mary descriptions of the accomplishments of the Honorees that will be included in the honor ceremony program, displayed on the event photographs, and later the photographs on the honoree wall in the NACA Room.

The HoH Team is also developing the event program, which includes distinguished speakers and other supporting participants. The Team continues to believe that an in-person attended event is very important and is developing a hybrid event for safety and for broadening the attendance as possible. This important NASA and LAA celebration should allow for family, friends, and active employees to recognize these outstanding HoH selectees, in person. ♦

## Update on Pete Petersen



*By A. Gary Price*

Former Langley Center Director, Richard (Pete) Petersen (1984-1991), asked the LAA to let his former LaRC colleagues know that he and his wife have relocated from La Jolla, CA to a senior citizen retirement village near Greenville, SC to live closer to his daughter's family. Pete still considers Langley his home. Pete's new address and contact information is:

Richard (Pete) Petersen  
Cascades Verdae  
11 Laurelbrook Court  
Greenville, SC 29607  
[rich4pete@gmail.com](mailto:rich4pete@gmail.com)  
(858) 442-3928 (mobile)

Let me know if you need anything more. All the best and thanks. ♦

## Behind the Scenes with LAA's Hybrid Meetings

*By Rick Ross, Secretary*

May was an exciting month, with the LAA completing a trial hybrid meeting from the NACA room (see article on [page 2](#)). While the trial was a success, we faced many challenges along the way. The first was determining the best approach for hosting the virtual meetings. Should we use Zoom, WebEx, or Microsoft Teams? Use a personal or NASA-provided computer? Stream from the NASA or guest network? After considering logistics and IT security issues, we decided to use a personal comput-

er, connected to the NASA guest network (NASA-Connect), for streaming and recording a Zoom meeting.

The next challenge was physical access. LaRC was still at Stage 2 in the NASA COVID-19 Response Framework, which greatly restricted physical access to the Center. Thanks to Melanie Robinson, we were able to get access to the NACA room.

The final and biggest hurdle was optimizing the audio/visual setup. The

NACA room has a Poly Studio USB video bar (basically, a smart webcam and sound bar), PA system, and projector. The challenge was setting up these systems to look and sound good for both the local and remote participants. We struggled with muffled audio, heavy reverberation, feedback, room acoustics, and equipment issues. Thanks to great support from the conference room support staff, we were able to configure the equipment to provide a quality experience for both local and remote participants. ♦



### Gathering Together Once Again

By Vicki Crisp, VP and Programs Chair

You may have noticed that the LAA did not schedule speakers for the months of July and December. We will instead *gather together once again!*

We are talking to the Board to gain approval for a summer picnic on July 12<sup>th</sup> at The Corner Bistro at The Hamptons Golf Course, 320 Butler Farm Road, Hampton, VA. Donis Anders, a dear friend of the LAA, will be our host for the evening from 4–7 pm. The menu is tentative but the following has been proposed:

#### Meal

Pork BBQ with buns  
Rotisserie chicken with rolls  
Vegetarian option (wrap)  
Cole slaw  
Potato salad  
Individual potato chip packs  
Bistro secret recipe baked beans

#### Drinks

Water, iced tea  
Cash bar

#### Dessert

A surprise

We usually hold our summer picnic on the Langley campus but unfortunately the pandemic continues to constrain full access within the Center. The Corner Bistro is a beautiful location overlooking The Hamptons Golf Course. My hope is that many of us can take advantage of this opportunity to see each other in person. Zoom has served us well, but there's nothing like sharing our laughter in person.

Our December meeting date is the 13<sup>th</sup>; I know we'll be planning a winter luncheon but have no details as yet.

I hope to see you in July! ♦

### The Star-Spangled Banner

By Domenic Maglieri

Everyone knows the opening lyrics to The Star-Spangled Banner, written by Frances Scott Key in 1814, but do you know the three lesser-known stanzas? As you celebrate Independence Day this year, please take some time to read the full lyrics to our national anthem as originally penned. ♦

*O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;  
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?*

*On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep,  
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,  
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,  
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?  
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,  
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream:  
'Tis the star-spangled banner, O long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

*And where is that band who so vauntingly swore  
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,  
A home and a country, should leave us no more?  
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.  
No refuge could save the hireling and slave  
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave,  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

*O thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand  
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation.  
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n rescued land  
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!  
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!*



#### LANGLEY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The LAA Newsletter is published quarterly. Please submit articles for publication to [rick.ross@verizon.net](mailto:rick.ross@verizon.net) no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> of February, May, August, or November for publication the following month. Please contact [mhueschen@gmail.com](mailto:mhueschen@gmail.com) to subscribe or unsubscribe.