

TWA Museum

at 10 Richards Road

NEWSLETTER May 2013

Welcome to the first edition of the TWA Museum Newsletter.

Editors: Pam Blaschum, Karen Martin

The Museum is entering its 2nd year since coming to its new home at 10 NW Richards Road. A lot was accomplished by the Museum committee and volunteers in 2012. You can see the progress photos on the Museum website at <http://twamuseumat10richardsroad.org/index.htm> Many goals have been accomplished that were set for the Museum in 2012.

EVENTS in 2012

On March 3, 2012 the Museum's *Open House* was attended by over 400 visitors. In June 2012 the Museum assisted Signature Flight Support at the ribbon cutting ceremony which was a big success and featured the Kansas City Clipped Wings and Silver Wings organizations in full vintage uniform.



Challenge Air, sponsored by Signature Flight Support, was supported by the Museum and many from the Museum Committee and volunteer group spent the day signing in attending children, assisting them on and off the aircraft for their 30 minute flight and helping in the food service area.

Flight 800 Employee Memorial

One of the Museum's greatest achievements was arranging, with the help of retired employees, to have the Flight 800 Crew Memorial moved from Islip, New York to the Kansas City, TWA Museum in July.

It was reassembled in time for the *Flight 800 Memorial* Service held on July 16, 2012 in the Museum.



There is now a project in the planning stages that will provide a special space for this memorial and other Flight 800 memorabilia the Museum has in storage.

ARCHIVING

At the invitation from Southwest Airlines three committee members, Pam Blaschum, Karen Holden Young and Carol Emert, traveled to Dallas in March to join in the first *Airline Archivists Meeting*.



It was an informative training and brainstorming session for airline history museums across the country. The 2 ½ day event was hosted by Southwest Airlines at their corporate

headquarters. Contacts were made with other museums including Alaska, Delta, and American. Training in archiving artifacts was presented in a professional and informative way and valuable information was brought back for the TWA Museum.



GRANT APPLICATION

A two-day Grant Writing seminar was presented in Kansas City in March and attended by Karen Martin. As future projects are planned, the Museum now has the capability to develop and write for grants to help with expansion projects.

EXPANSION PLANS

There are expansion plans for the TWA Museum with hopes of opening an educational center and small research library. We will soon be receiving a computerized flight simulator which will enable visitors to fly the Connie from the downtown airport.

GIFT SHOP

The Museum now has a fully stocked gift shop, featuring the TWA "Seat Occupied" beach towel, logo shirts, luggage tags, Museum logo baseball caps and other items.

Come take a look. You might find something you want.



VOLUNTEERS

The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner hosted by Karen Holden Young on April 20th was enjoyed

by all who attended. Award certificates were given in appreciation for the hours donated. If you have volunteered and were not at the dinner, please stop into the Museum and pick up your certificate.

The Museum is always in need of more volunteers to assist Committee Members in staffing the Museum. If you are not already volunteering, please consider doing so. Whether you are a former employee, family and friend or just love aviation we welcome any time you are able to give. Contact us at 816-234-1011.

VIDEO HISTORY

Former employees will soon have the opportunity to orally share memories of their career via video recording at the Museum. We will announce the procedures and appointments when this project has been put in place.

FUNDRAISING 2012

The response to the first year of fundraising by letter to former TWA employees and their families was overwhelming! Many more contributions from TWAers were received throughout the year without having received a formal appeal from the Museum. The Museum was the recipient of a large grant from Signature Flight Support. Signature Flight Support leases the Richards Road building from Kansas City and is the benefactor of the TWA Museum space. All of your fund raising response has put us in sound financial standing as the Museum separates from the Platte County Historical Society and obtains its own 501(c)3 organization later this year.

TWA employees had shielded TWA artifacts for decades, protecting and preserving them.

In the 1980s *Platte County Historical Society* created a TWA Museum Chapter under their non-profit status. Between this life saving gesture by the Historical Society and the continuing support of the TWA family and now Signature Flight Support, a TWA Museum is finally a reality and open to the public.

A heartfelt "**THANK YOU**" to each and every one of you!
Zana Allen