

Museum of Flying

Taking Flight

From the Director-Steve Benesch

Upcoming Events

- New Exhibit-Gallery of Commercial Aviation NOW OPEN
- February 17-Speaker Series Kickoff-SGT Morrie Zager, Command Pilot, LASD Aero Bureau



The close of 2018 brought exciting news to the Museum of Flying. A new management team has soared into action and is looking forward to creating new exhibits, enhancing some existing displays and creating new programs. The newly appointed team includes Mike Machat, Curator and expert aviation historian extraordinaire. Mike will be working to enhance our exhibits with new items from our archive as well as look at exciting new programs.

Joy Ward and Maurice Vasquez will be spearheading special events and creative fundraising. Together we look forward to implementing some very exciting new ideas and innovations in the coming months ahead. We will be bringing you news of these activities in updated forms of communication and social media as well. The new team looks forward to a fantastic 2019 and Celebrating Aviation History of Southern

California. As the new Director of Operations I can assure you that we take this responsibility seriously and look forward to the new challenges ahead and look forward to seeing you in person at the Museum of Flying.



California Aviation Hall of Fame

The new team's effort was quickly in full effect with the 2018 CAHOF induction Ceremony and program that was held at the Museum on November 15th with more than 250 people in attendance. The program honored our

four new inductees with informative biographical videos and entertaining introductions. The MCs for the program were Ramona Cox, noted real life adventurer and Bush Pilot (SkyChickAventures.com),

and Mike Machat newly appointed Curator and Historian (www.mikemachatonline.com). Our *Class of 2018* inductees were: Retired American Airlines Captain

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California Aviation Hall of Fame cont.

FUN FACT: Did you know that in the 1920s', 1930s' and into the 1950s' ninety percent of all commercial air travel were in planes built by the Douglas Aircraft Company right here at the Santa Monica Airport Plant.

and former Chief Pilot, Dr. Angela Masson; highly decorated Air Force combat veteran and 'round-the-world record holder Dick Rutan; retired TWA Captain and famed aviation author Barry Schiff; and Mike Melville, pilot of Scaled Composites' Spaceship One and the

worlds' first civilian astronaut in a privately-built spacecraft. An impressive group and we thank each one for attending and sharing some of their stories with us! Come visit their permanent exhibits now on display at the Museum.



Entrance to our new gallery



Concord display



Service Pin Display

From the Curator-New Permanent Exhibits

Gallery of Commercial Aviation – Slated to open in January 2019 is the Museum's first-ever comprehensive exhibit honoring the exciting world of airline travel. Located in the main entry foyer, this corner-stone exhibit will contain a wide array of

original high-end collectible airliner models and a life-time collection of never-before-seen airline service pins and wings. Complementing the colorful display cases will be large airliner photographs and original Douglas Aircraft Company artwork adorning the

walls with informative new signage as well. Specially designed to recapture the magic and elegance of airline travel during the Golden Age of Commercial Aviation, this exhibit is sure to please adults and children alike.

How Airplanes Are Built – Located in the "Children's Hall" at the North end of the Museum is this self-titled photo display showing the general step-by-step process of how a small private plane was designed,

built, tested, and then delivered to the customer in the days before CADD (computer-aided design and development). Showing the now-classic 1947 Republic Seabee amphibian, a post-World War II family

airplane, this exhibit contains a rare original factory blueprint used in the actual construction of the Seabee.

Douglas In Flight Test – Coming in the first quarter of 2019, this wall-mounted display will include an original large-scale factory model of the Skyrocket from Douglas Headquarters in Santa Monica, and large photo blow-ups of legendary record-breaking Douglas flight

test Aircraft. Expansive easy-to-read signage will complete this exhibit that harkens back to the exciting and pioneering time of the fabled X-Planes flying over the California desert!



New Exhibit: Impact of Airline Deregulation-model aircraft of airlines that are no longer flying

Events and Programs

Speakers Bureau – MOF is proud to announce a new series of programs featuring noted guest speakers on a wide variety of interesting aviation topics. From test pilots to aerospace historians, and experts on everything from

helicopters to women in aviation and the Space Shuttle, these talks will feature not only speaker's presentations, but an entertaining symposium on each topic with extensive opportunities for personal audience

interaction with the speakers themselves. Watch for news of this exciting new series - schedules to be announced.

Curator's Corner – Beginning in February, this new program will feature a one-on-one breakfast discussion with Curator Mike Machat. To be held on a Sunday morning each month, this intimate *Coffee with the Curator* experience offers a unique opportunity to

do some interesting 'hangar flying' with our resident aviation historian. Want to discuss flying in supersonic jet fighters, the development of classic piston-powered airliners, or what it's like landing on an aircraft carrier? If you are an aviation enthusiast or

just curious, this experience is something truly unique.

Tickets to this event include entrance to the Museum and is FREE for members. Keep an eye out for dates and come have *Coffee with the Curator!*

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**Celebrating Southern California's
Aviation History**

**We're on the web
www.museumofflying.org**

Special Events

Did you know that you can rent our Museum for a special event? Our unique venue can make for a very memorable event from corporate parties to private individual events. Past clients include Echoes of Hope, SnapChat, BitCoin, LA Kings, ForceBrands and Porsche Club.

Our Douglas Board Room is also available for rent for small meetings and gatherings.

For more information go to our website or email Joy Ward at joy@museumofflying.org

Support the Museum!

As always, we cannot do what we do without your support. Visits to the Museum and donations will help us to fund all the exciting things we have planned for 2019. Please consider making a donation and help us *Celebrate Southern California's Aviation History*.

MOF in the News

C-SPAN TV Program - We are excited to announce the first nationwide television programming to feature extensive coverage of the Museum of Flying. Curator Mike Machat was interviewed in the Museum's Douglas Boardroom, and gave an in-depth look at the proud history of the Douglas Company and its pervasive impact on the City of Santa Monica over the decades. The program aired the weekend of January 5th and 6th on C-SPAN3

(the history component of that network), this program also highlighted the Museum of Flying. The C-SPAN Production crew spent an entire afternoon filming the interview as well as various Museum exhibits. The interview can be found here: <https://www.c-span.org/video/?455931-1/history-douglas-aviation>.