

Taking Flight

Museum Celebrates International Women's Day

EXPANDED HOURS

**Museum is now open
Wednesday-Sunday
10-5**

Upcoming Events

- New Exhibit-Gallery of Commercial Aviation NOW OPEN
- June 23, 2019-Speaker Series Tony Chong "History of Northrop Grumman"
- August 11, 2019 Speaker Series Mike Machat "Flying Aboard the Concorde"

Friday, March 8th was designated as "International Women's Day," and to commemorate this event, Air France flew two Jumbo Jets to Los Angeles with all-women flight and cabin crews. A 600-passenger double-decker Airbus A380 flew to LAX from Paris, while a Boeing 777-300ER was flown in from Tahiti. The A380 crewmembers, accompanied by members of the local chapter

of The 99s Women Pilots Organization toured the Museum the next day, and Airbus Senior Captain Christine Debouzy gave an enlightening presentation about the A380 in our Museum theatre. A good time was had by all!



Speakers Bureau Audiences Growing Steadily



Air Force Lt. Col. Gary Aldrich gives informative presentation on Test Pilots in the second of the Museum's new Speaker Series programs.

Inaugurating this new program in February was Los Angeles County Sheriff helicopter command pilot SGT Morrie Zager who captivated the theatre crowd with a riveting presentation on the use of rotary-wing aircraft in law enforcement. A short symposium-format discussion was held after the Pow-

erPoint segment, followed by an informative question-and-answer period.

Second in this series was a program on U.S. Air Force flight test activities given by Lt. Col. Gary Aldrich, Master Instructor at the USAF Test Pilot School at Edwards AFB. Col. Aldrich's program

included several exciting videos showing various types of aircraft being test flown, and he entertained a standing-room-only audience in the Museum theatre with stories of the numerous test programs he participated in.

From the Curator

Latest Exhibits Give the Museum an Exciting New Look

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.

With the recent installation of the "Gallery of Commercial Aviation" exhibit in the main entry foyer, the "How Airplanes Are Built" display located in the 'Children's Hall' at the North end of the Museum, and bold new graphics for the McDonnell Douglas DC-10 winglet, the Museum of Flying is acquiring a bright new look. Here are the latest additions to the roster of exciting new displays and exhibits:

Douglas In Experimental Flight Test



Douglas Skystreak and Skyrocket factory models hang above new Flight Test exhibit.

Dedicated March 24th in conjunction with our test pilot Guest Speaker from Edwards Air Force Base, this photo panel and model display highlights legendary record-breaking Douglas flight test aircraft built right here in Santa Monica. The

transonic D-558-1 Skystreak, supersonic D-558-2 Skyrocket, and needle-nose X-3 Stiletto are just some of the radical-looking Douglas research aircraft featured in this exhibit, along with a tribute to famed DAC test pilot, and former Malibu resident, Bill

Bridgeman. Be sure to visit this display located right next to the windows at the north end of the Museum.

Celebrating Vintage Plastic Models



Top shelf of the new vintage model display features an original 1959 build-up of Revell's Lockheed P2V-7 Neptune patrol bomber.

Any aviation-minded boy growing up in the 1950s and 1960s built model planes, and lots of them! Today, any surviving kits of that magical era are now prized collectibles commanding big prices at model shows worldwide. Located just inside the Museum's main entrance is a dedicated display case housing some of the rarest and most nostalgic model kits ever seen in public. Future exhibits rotating through this display will include historic vintage

models of commercial airliners, aircraft of the U.S. Navy, airplanes built by the Douglas Aircraft Company, and guided missiles of the Cold War era.

Airlines After Deregulation

Airlines After Deregulation – The U.S. Deregulation Act of 1978 turned the airline industry upside down as air fares dropped, countless new airlines were formed, and existing routes rapidly expanded. Unfortunately, there was also labor strife and operating losses as more than

100 new airlines failed, ‘legacy’ carriers were merged, and coveted overseas routes were sold-off. Our display case houses 52 models of airlines that all share one sobering fact – despite their proud, historic, and famous names, they are no longer flying!



Michael Nulty, holding his nephew Tommy Young, views a Museum display honoring models donated by the family of airline executive Thom Nulty. Tommy is Nulty’s grandson; Michael is his son. The display case holds over fifty models of airlines that no longer exist.

MOF VOLUNTEERS - AN INTERVIEW WITH THE CURATOR

“Absolutely the most fun I’ve had since working at Douglas Aircraft Long Beach many years ago!” said Museum of Flying Curator, Mike Machat, when asked about his job creating new aviation content for the Museum. Mike recently sat down with our newsletter staff to share some thoughts on what it’s like interacting with the Museum’s dedicated Volunteers who work tirelessly on everything from building displays and exhibits to aircraft restoration and repair. When asked about the Volunteers’ contribution to the Museum’s

overall new look, Mike replied, “Literally every new display and exhibit you see is the result of a terrific collaboration between myself, Museum Director of Operations, Steve Benesch, and the Volunteer Staff headed by Mr. Bill Eyre. Bill, and fellow Volunteers Julie Morris, Charlie Calleja, and Pasan Kahandawa, serve as the primary support team for installation and maintenance of all the Museum’s new exhibits.

“I simply couldn’t do this job without them,” says Machat. “We meet

every Sunday morning to discuss upcoming projects or how to solve existing problems, and the ideas resulting from those talks always lead us to good solutions. I’ve presented many new ideas to the team, and after having everyone’s input and suggestions, the concept is invariably stronger and more dynamic than what I first

thought of.” Machat says you can see the effect of this collaborative process by viewing all the latest exhibits now featured throughout the Museum.

It’s an exciting time for the Museum of Flying, and our Volunteers are a big part of the story. Looking ahead, we’re working on some unique exhibits and never-before-seen displays for summer and fall debuts.



Volunteers and Museum Staff working on Douglas World Cruiser model

3100 Airport Avenue
Santa Monica, California 90404

Phone: 310-398-2500
Email: info@museumofflying.org



**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*.

Coming Attractions

Flight Suit Patch Flown aboard the Space Shuttle – This display will feature a history of the U.S. Space Program plus a rare and historic artifact actually flown in Space. This flight suit patch was carried on the 100th mission of an American manned spacecraft which rendezvoused with the Russian Mir Space Station in 1997. Donated by the NASA Astronaut who commanded that mission, this patch will be displayed next to a 25-inch-high scale model of the Space Shuttle Atlantis.

“How Did The Factory Disappear?” - Many Museum visitors and local residents know that Douglas built thousands of airplanes in Santa Monica during World War II, but did you know the plant was invisible from the air? Douglas engineers, working with set designers and builders from Warner Brothers Studios in nearby Culver City constructed an elaborate and highly realistic ‘city’ directly above the Douglas plant to hide the factory from enemy aircraft if they attacked the West Coast. This photo display will show that camouflaged city in vivid detail.

Airline Wings and Cap Badges – Not many aviation museums can say they have an original cap badge worn by the pilot of a Pan American China Clipper flying boat, but our Museum can now make that claim! Derived from a private donation of more than 250 pilot wings and cap badges, this incredible display will provide Museum visitors with a living history of commercial airlines dating back to the 1930s.