

# COMBAT AIR MUSEUM

## → → → Plane Talk → → →

The Official Newsletter of the Combat Air Museum

Forbes Field Topeka, Kansas

June / July 2008 • Vol. 24, No. 3



### Celebrity Pancake Feed brings together a lot of fun and good food



**FAR LEFT:** (left to right) US Representative Nancy Boyda, Washburn University President Dr. Jerry Farley, Kansas Secretary of Treasury Lynn Jenkins  
**LEFT:** (left to right) City Manager Norton Bonaparte and Head Chef Bob Carmichael

The Celebrity Pancake Feed, our first major fund-raiser for this year, raised a net \$1,700 for the Museum. We collected 613 tickets for the day, and the line of people waiting for pancakes and sausage kept our celebrity flippers busy. Under the tutelage of Head Flipper **Bob Carmichael** of Perkins Restaurant, **Eric Johnson**, Interim President of Metropoli-

tan Topeka Airport Authority and Director of Operations for Forbes Field and Billard Airport, and **John Lee Hooker** of KMAJ FM 107.7 lead things off for the celebrities. (See the full list of 23 flippers on page 6.)

Besides our celebrity flippers, we had other venues of entertainment during the morning. Member **Dan Pulliam** had band students from **Scott**

**"Pancake Feed", con't. on page 4**



**Dan Pulliam's students performed musical selections.**

PHOTOS BY DON MATHERS

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**Combat Air Museum**

Forbes Field • Hangars 602 &amp; 604

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**Museum Hours**

Monday - Saturday

9 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Last Admission 3:30 P.M.

Sunday Noon - 4:30 P.M.

Last Admission 3:30 P.M.

**Plane Talk**, the official newsletter of Combat Air Museum of Topeka, Kansas, is published bi-monthly.

Your questions and comments are welcomed. Submit information for

**Plane Talk** to CAM office.

## All Kansas Air Tour brings aircraft to CAM as part of its recreation of the 1928 Air Tour

Good weather and cooling, strong winds arrived in Topeka on Saturday April 5, the day the **All Kansas Air Tour** flew in to Forbes Field. Earlier in the week, rainstorms had disrupted the tour, causing cancellations of flights to various towns in the western part of the state.

The first aircraft was scheduled to land at Forbes at 9:30 a.m., but that time came and went without any planes. Fortunately, we did have a KC-135E Stratotanker from the **190<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing, Kansas Air National Guard**, on our ramp, and it was open to the public. Several vehicles from the local **Rolling Thunder** chapter of the **Military Vehicles Preservation Association** were also between Hangars 602 and 604. **Stu Entz** had a small tent erected with a number of field equipment items on exhibit.

About 10 a.m., we heard an aircraft engine overhead, and it was the Super Ryan, one of the featured aircraft of the tour, flown by **Mr. Richard Hamlin** of Wellington, Kansas. Not long after, a few more aircraft came in. **Dave Houser** and **Gary Naylor** marshaled the aircraft to their parking areas, and their pilots visited with visitors on the ramp or came into the Conference Center to warm up and get a cup of coffee while talking with other visitors there. From that point on, aircraft arrived in pairs or in threes. By 1 p.m. we had 12 aircraft parked on the ramp. We learned from the pilots that some of them had flown directly from Manhattan to Topeka. Others had flown the leg from Manhattan to Atchison, then on to Topeka. The strong southerly winds were a factor in deciding which legs to fly, as some of the lighter aircraft had slow going against the wind. **Mr. Jim Clark**, flying a Piper Cub, said that he was making good 18 miles per hour over the ground as he landed at Forbes into the strong south wind.

CAM member **Gerry Sibley** flew in his World War II Vultee BT-13 Valiant basic trainer, and a World War II PT-17 Stearman Kaydet primary trainer, piloted by **Mr. Ed Young** of the Kansas Department of Transport-

*Air National Guard KC-135E Stratotanker*





ABOVE: 1942 ST3KR Super Ryan  
LEFT: 1946 Piper Cub



tation, joined it on the ramp. It was Mr. Young's idea to recreate the 1928 Air Tour that was flown to boost Kansas' aviation industry. Other aircraft parked in front of Hangar 604 included two from Kansas State University at Salina College of Technology and Aviation, as well as other examples of Beech, Cessna and Piper aircraft.

Over 200 visitors came through the Museum throughout the morning and mid-afternoon. A number of them were still around when the **108<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion, Kansas Army National Guard** ripple-launched four Blackhawk helicopters from the Guard ramp south of CAM.

About 11 a.m., **Susan Naylor** fired up a barbecue grill outside the member entrance to Hangar 602 and was soon cooking bratwurst, hot dogs, and hamburgers. Susan ran the grill for the next three hours while daughters **Desiree, Patricia,** and **Rachel** brought the food to the conference room kitchen. **Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority (MTAA)** provided the brats, dogs, burgers, and buns. The following Topeka businesses donated other food and drink for the lunch. **Frito Lay** provided chips; **Ice-Masters, Inc.** provided ice for the sodas; **Coca Cola Dis-**

tributors at Forbes Field provided sodas; and **Reser's Fine Foods** provided potato salad and baked beans.

**Lois Ecord, Mary Naylor,** and **Marlene Urban** served the lunches over the counter from the kitchen. Most people classify eating establishments by numbers of stars. Not this trio. They decided our kitchen should be classed as "three butts max."

Two members of the **National Weather Service** had a table and screen set up in Hangar 602 with flying weather literature and a power point presentation of current aviation weather. They also brought a "tornado making" machine which was very popular with visitors.

About 1:30 p.m., some of the aircraft began departing for Lawrence, the final stop of the day. The

**"Air Tour," con't. on page 11**



Member Gerry Sibley  
and his BT-13 Valiant



## Celebrity Pancake Feed good food, good fun



*A line of people and full tables were a good sign.*

con't. from page 1

**Computer Technology** and **Williams Science and Fine Arts Magnet** schools play several selections. Students from the **Beverly Bernardi Post Conservatory of Dance and Pom** performed dances for the audience.



*Beverly Bernardi Post's dancers tall...  
...and small entertained with their routines.*



*Pancake Feed complaint committee.  
(left to right): Cameron Knox, Ben Bianchino,  
Joe Hastings, Andy Kavanaugh.*



PHOTOS BY DAVE MATHERS

Meteorologists from the local CBS, ABC, and NBC TV affiliates, plus **Dave Relihan** from **WIBW Radio 580 AM** participated in what has become an annual segment of the annual pancake feed. Joining Dave in a pancake catching contest were **Katy Morgan** of **KSNT-TV Channel 27**, **Drew Switzer** of **WIBW-TV Channel 13**, and **Matt Miller** of **KTKA-TV Channel 49**. The meteorologists took the floor to chase and catch pancakes flipped by Bob Carmichael. Bob cut the four contestants no slack.

High or low, fast or slow, Bob served up a number of combinations that kept the weather people scurrying about the floor. Audience participation was used to pick the winner, and for the second year running, Katy Morgan was selected the winner. She was awarded a ribbon. The runners-up were given a T-Shirt from last



*Pancake catching contestants. (left to right) Meteorologists Matt Miller, Katy Morgan, Drew Switzer and Dave Relihan.*

fall's 5K Fun Run. Drew Switzer apparently tried to sway the audience by donning a very large US flag tie before the competition began. There was some mention of red, white, and blue polka dot shorts for next year, and by the time you receive this newsletter, Katy will be in new surroundings in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, so there will be a new winner crowned next year.

In between band-playing, dancing, and pancake-catching, a sound system put up by

member **Jim Leighton** provided background music for the pancake eaters. **Dick Trupp** and **Gene Howerter** used the system to announce celebrity flippers, the band and dancers, and to encourage the participants in the pancake catching contest.

**Don Mathers** and **Bob Crapser** prepped and opened the cockpit of the Grumman Tiger Blue Angel, and Don was busy most of the morning briefing pilots

**"Pancake Feed", con't. on page 6**

*Matt tries a behind-the-back approach.*



*Dave thought it was a dance contest.*



*Katy's plate must have had a hole in it.*



*Despite the master ninj-twister move, that is just syrup on Drew's plate.*





### Celebrity Pancake Feed con't. from page 1

young and old as they tried the Tiger's ejection seat on for size. Many then climbed into the A-4 cockpit on the floor for comparison. Members of the **Military Vehicle Preservation Association** brought several vehicles out and put them outside the front of Hangar 602 for visitors to get around.

As the last of the pancake eaters dwindled out a little after noon, Museum volunteers began taking down tables and chairs and cleaning up. Bob Carmichael cleaned the griddles and loaded his items into his pickup truck. Everyone worked together to take down, put away, and clean up the hangar, Conference Room, and kitchen. Once the hangar floor was cleared and cleaned, volunteers moved the Panther, Harvard, and Sabre back into the hangar and put all the exhibit accessories around

the aircraft. In short order, there was little to tell that a pancake feed and all its activities had just been held in the hangar – except for that great aroma of pancakes and sausage – which lasted in the hangar through the rest of the weekend.

It was a great morning. The success of this fund-raiser really reflects on the efforts our volunteers and staff put into it, in many ways. It starts with the invitations to prospective flippers, the pre-event publicity, advance ticket sales, pulling aircraft out of the hangar, cleaning and mopping the floor, then setting up the tables and chairs. The day of the event is a busy several hours for everyone working the event. And we do it really well. We put on a good pancake feed. So, a sincere Thank You to all our volunteers who support and work this event. Same time next year, the last Saturday of April 2009, we will do it all again. ➔



*Some youthful flyers took on the Blue Angel... while others stuck with a Primary Trainer.*



### Celebrity Flippers

Eric Johnson	Interim President of Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority and Director of Operations for Forbes Field and Billard Airport
Ron Thornburgh	Kansas Secretary of State
John Lee Hooker	KMAJ FM 107.7
Dr. Jerry Farley	President, Washburn University
H R Cook 1	Manager, Kansas Expocentre
Ted Ensley	Shawnee County Commissioner
Norton Bonaparte	Topeka City Manager
Jim Menge	Manager, Forbes Field Tower
Raymond Irwin	Owner/Operator Heartland Park Topeka Raceway
Lynn Jenkins	Kansas Secretary of the Treasury
Jim Ryun	Kansas miler/former world record holder. Former US Representative
Steve Foreman	Cumulus Broadcasting
Nancy Boyda	US Representative 2 <sup>nd</sup> Congressional District
Dave Relihan	WIBW Radio 580 AM Meteorologist
Ron Harbaugh	Unified School District 501 Spokesman
Ann Mah	District 53, Kansas State Representative
Ben Bauman	KTKA-TV Channel 49 News Anchor
Sophia Spencer	KTKA-TV Channel 49 Meteorologist
Megan Ensley	Miss Capital City
Ben Bianchino	Washburn University Football Player
Grant Hajek	Washburn University Football Player
Joe Hastings	Washburn University Football Player
Andy Kavanaugh	Washburn University Football Player
Cameron Knox	Washburn University Football Player

➔ ➔ ➔

## People are taking notice of our new website design

**Dave Murray** has been receiving e-mail comments regarding the Museum's new website. The following came in during the first week of April.

Subject: CWO Bruce Clapman [CWO Bruce Clapham]

While browsing aircraft at various museums I came across the picture of the RU-8D known as Lonely Ringer 358 by the guys in the 138<sup>th</sup> RRU at Danang Vietnam. I flew many missions in 358 with Mr. Clapman. On one occasion, Mr. Clapman saved our lives when we flew into the propwash of a C-130 during our landing flair. Mr. Clapman was flying co-pilot that day and when the pilot froze Mr. Clapman grabbed the controls and managed to get 358 back in the air and saved our lives. He was a great pilot and a good officer, I have thought of him often and am sorry to hear about his passing.

Take good care of 358, she took good care of us and deserves to be displayed in your museum.

Ron Knight

SP/5 United States Army Security Agency  
138<sup>th</sup> Aviation Co. 224<sup>th</sup> Avn Btn  
Danang Vietnam 1966-67

**Bruce Clapham** is the reason we have *Lonely Ringer* in our collection. He found the RU-8D sitting in a desert salvage yard at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Tucson, Arizona in 1983. It was a shell of its former self, missing its engines, propellers, most instruments and gauges, and some control surfaces. He purchased the hulk and the remains of one other U-8 Seminole through surplus disposal and resurrected 58-1358 to flyable condition.

In 1984, Mr. Clapham called CAM and spoke with **Gene Howerter** about bringing the plane into CAM's collection. After further communication and correspondence with Gene, Mr. Clapham agreed to donate 358 to CAM. On May 4, 1985 Museum member **David Render** flew 358 to Forbes Field. Sadly, Render died in a plane crash less than two months later. In June 1985, Mr. Clapham and his family visited CAM for the first time from Colorado. He became a member and as time and trips allowed continued restoration work on the RU-8D. He also donated a number of pictures of the 138<sup>th</sup> Aviation Company at Da Nang as well as a brief history of the 138<sup>th</sup> and the *Lonely Ringer*.

Bruce Clapham died of cancer on May 22, 1989, at the age of 50. On April 16, 1991, CAM held a rededication ceremony of the *Lonely Ringer* in his memory.

To see this posting and others Dave has received, please visit our website at [www.combatairmuseum.org](http://www.combatairmuseum.org).

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### June/July Calendar of Events

#### June

**Monday, June 9**

**Membership Luncheon**

JWECC

11:30 a.m.

Member Gil Marick  
will talk about Alaskan Civil Air  
Patrol work in Southeast Alaska

**Monday - Thursday, June 16 - 19**

**Aviation Education Class**

JWECC

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

#### July

**Monday - Thursday, July 7 - 10**

Aviation Education Class

JWECC

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

There is no Membership Luncheon in July.

The next luncheon is  
Monday, August 11.

→ → →



*The Aerial Cameras Etc. exhibit.*

## Projects continue in the CAM workshop

**Tom Witty** erected his latest exhibit On May 6, placing the **Aerial Cameras, Etc.** along a wall in the northwest area of Hangar 604. **Bill Brichacek** and **Danny San Romani** assisted Tom in setting up the exhibit. It includes three aerial cameras and a 24-inch lens for one of those in the exhibit. A fourth camera recorded images from a radar screen. Control heads and an unopened can of film from 1957 are also in the case.

The rear panel of the exhibit has copies of photos and text that are sectioned off into World War I, World War II, and the Cold War. Some of the images are from our photo collection and from books in our library. A few others Tom acquired from the Museum of the Kansas National Guard, also located on Forbes Field.

The larger cameras in the collection are types that were used by the 90<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> Strategic Reconnaissance Wings that flew from Forbes Air Force Base. The 90<sup>th</sup> flew Boeing RB-29 Superfortresses and RB-47 Stratojets until disestablished in 1960. The 55<sup>th</sup> Wing flew Boeing RB-29s, RB-50 Superfortresses and RB-47s from Forbes until 1966. The 55<sup>th</sup> then moved to Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha (Bellevue), Nebraska and continues to fly reconnaissance missions today.

The cameras were also used on Martin RB-57 Canberra aircraft flown by the 117<sup>th</sup> Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Kansas Air National Guard. The 117<sup>th</sup> first began flying the RB-57s from Hutchinson, Kansas, in 1958, then moved to Forbes Air Force Base in 1967. They continued flying RB-57s until 1971. Today, the 117<sup>th</sup> is the 117<sup>th</sup> Aerial Refueling Squadron, 190<sup>th</sup>

Aerial Refueling Wing with Boeing KC-135R Stratotankers.

On April 11, **Don Dawson**, **Martin Moyer**, **Amos Page**, and **Zak Amos** mounted the 1936 vintage **Pratt & Whitney R-1535-11** radial engine to its new stand. They then mounted the **Lycoming T53-L-11D** turbine engine used in UH-1B, -1C, and -1D Huey helicopters to its new stand. Both engines are in Hangar 604.



*The Lycoming T53-L-11D Huey engine.*





**ABOVE:** *The Bf-109 mock-up looking really good.*

**BELOW:** *The R-1535-11, accepted by the US Army Air Corps 5-29-36.*

**Dave Houser** installed the left wing to the **Link C-3 Instrument Trainer** and **Bob Crapser** refurbished the trainer's instrument panel. A clock and one instrument were missing. Bob worked his computer magic to create the missing faces and install dummy replacements. Dave stopped work on the trainer for the time being and went back to work on the **Bf-109 Messerschmitt mock-up**. It now has its propeller spinner and tail feathers installed, and looks more and more like a real fighter.

During the weekend of April 26-27, **Robert Johnston**, **Lou McCalla** and **Danny San Romani** worked on painting details on the F-84F. Lou brought a lot of experience in making and cutting stencils, masking, and working with detail paint work. They really helped move things along over the weekend. Red, yellow and black paint was applied to the fighter, adding details to and around various panels and static ports. The jet now has a data block under the left side of the canopy. Measurements were taken on the receptacle for the pitot tube, and a new one will be made. We still have one more paint session to go, this one to take care of all the areas where the silver paint needs touching up. Robert then heads off



to some service schools related to his work with the Air National Guard. But once the silver is done, the *Thunderstreak* should be ready for its overall clear coat to finish this project.

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## Students present their History Day projects

This year's topic was  
**Conflict and Compromise.**

*Susan Sittenauer and Spencer Nemnich  
talk about the WASPs*

Three juniors from Topeka's **Seaman High School** and their instructor, Mrs. **Susan Sittenauer**, were our guests for April's Membership Luncheon. The students, **Spencer Nemnich, Quinton Berggren, and Dustan Boleski**, were also our guest presenters. Susan teaches history at Seaman and requires the juniors in her advanced honors class to prepare a topic for the annual History Day competition, which is a nationwide competition. There are a variety of categories in the junior (middle school/junior high school) and senior (senior high school) levels. Student topics are geared toward a different theme each year. This year it was Conflict and Compromise. Susan said that the students' topics needed to address Conflict or Compromise, or both.

The initial competition is among schools in the city. For all first and second place winners, the next competition is at the state level, held at Washburn University. First and second place finishers from state go on to the national competition at the University of Maryland at College Park. At the time of the luncheon, the state competition was still two weeks away, and Susan had 16

students with 11 projects going to state.

The presentations given at the luncheon were both Digital Video Discs (DVDs) produced by the students. In order to do this, they had to become researchers, interviewers, writers, producers, narrators, recorders, and editors. The research phase of their projects required a lot of emphasis on primary sources, such as interviews or other first person accounts in writings, photos, and so forth. Once all their research materials were compiled and in order, the students produced their DVDs on a computer. They even added background music to their productions, which were 10 minutes long. The entire project had to be their own work.

Spencer and Quinton teamed together to produce a DVD on **Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs)** of World War II. Part of their primary source material included a telephone interview with a WASP. Quinton was able to enjoy his lunch and visit some with members, but had to leave for a track meet before his DVD was played. Spencer fielded all the questions for their project. Dustan's DVD was about the **1962 Cuban Missile**



PHOTOS BY DON MATHERS



***Dustan Boleski talks about  
the Cuban Missile Crisis***

During his questions from the audience Dustan told us a little about the process of producing his DVD with a computer. He said everything began with a script, and as his images and text were added to the DVD, he inserted his narratives and/or background music, as appropriate. He also told us the presentation had to include five parts. First was an introduction, followed by an historical background. He had to include a short term impact and long term impact, and finally, a conclusion. These each had to appear somewhere in the DVD. During the questions, a few members of the audience who were on active military duty during the missile crisis passed on what was happening with their respective units during those 13 days in October 1962.

Susan brought her first History Day students to the Museum in April 2000 and, with the exception of one year, has been back every April since then. Our April luncheons fall between the local and state competitions and give the students an extra opportunity to present their projects before an audience and to participate in a question and answer session. It is a good association between CAM and one of our local schools. We get to hear some excellent presentations, and the students get public speaking experience and hear some related first hand experiences from our audiences.

→ → →

**Crisis.** Both presentations were excellent. After each was played, the audience asked questions of the students and Susan.

We found out that the competitions involve a question and answer period with three judges. The judges concentrate on the sources the students used, such as what kind, what variety, or how many. They might ask what impact the topic had in history in relation to the theme. Susan told us that the questioning usually reveals who did or did not do their own work. Spencer and Quinton would take their WASP presentation on to the state competition.

Due to a conflicting schedule Dustan was not able to enter the initial level of competition, which was unfortunate. He had an outstanding DVD on the Cuban Missile Crisis. He set up his DVD so that the Crisis was reviewed day by day. He used sound bites of memorable quotations made by key players of both the US and Soviet Union from the crisis. Dustan also has a natural voice for narration, and that added to the impact of his DVD.

## ***New Supporters***

Michele, Lucy, Magda,  
& Giorgia Borgarelli  
Tara & Luc Heimbach (from January)  
Douglas & Marsha Lamb  
Larry Madden  
Doug Rands  
Oliene, Ann, Che, Cassidy,  
& Jessica Reyes  
Rev. Troy Scroggins  
Jay, Kathy, & Craig Stevenson  
Gary Zook

## ***Renewing Supporters***

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Jim & Mary Braun  
Marty, Terry, Matthew, Andrew  
& Katherine Braun  
Bill Davis  
Beattie Dickson  
Wayne Dodson  
Paul Idol  
Scotty Larimer  
Becky Norburg-Carter  
Chris, Clarris, &  
Adam Rundel  
Danny San Romani  
James, Kellee, Alexa, &  
Dylan Tinsley  
William Welch

→ → →

**Join the  
Combat Air  
Museum!**

## **Join us for the next Membership Luncheon June 9th**

Our guest speaker for the June Membership Luncheon will be **Mr. Gil Marick**. Gil is a member of the Museum and, until moving to Kansas, lived in Alaska for 31 years. Gil will be talking about his association with the Alaskan Civil Air Patrol and the role CAP plays in Southeast Alaska. Gil also wants to tell us a bit about his stepmother and her part in the Greek Resistance during World War II. →

## ***2008 Events Calendar***

*Event dates subject to change.*

*NOTE: Dates for the June and  
July Aviation Education Classes  
have changed*

### **June**

16 - 19 Aviation Education Class

### **July**

7 – 10 Aviation Education Class

### **August**

4 – 7 Aviation Education Class

### **September**

26 – Winged Foot 5K Run/Walk

→ → →

Visit our website at  
[www.combatairmuseum.org](http://www.combatairmuseum.org)





*PT-17 Stearman Kaydet getting gas.*

## Air Tour reinacts 1928 event

### con't. from page 3

military vehicles convoyed out through the gate south of Hangar 604, and by 3 p.m., the KC-135E was the only aircraft on our ramp.

It was closed up and towed back to the north end of the field. What had been a rather busy place for several hours, was back to a normal, relatively quiet, and windy, Saturday.

The event proved to be very successful, and the folks who came out to see the aircraft seemed to enjoy their time at the Museum. The same can be said of the pilots who flew in. Talking with a few of them, we learned that planes joined and departed the Air Tour at different places, and others that had registered for the Tour never took part. The largest number of aircraft was on the beginning leg. So, the twelve aircraft we had on the ground was a good number for our leg of the tour.

We thank all of our volunteers who worked the event and to MTAA for suggesting the gathering of planes at the Museum. We thank the several Topeka businesses for providing food for the lunch. And we thank the over 200 people who came to the Museum to see some classics of aviation history, many of them built by aviation companies that call Kansas home.



### *Visitors*

**During March**  
the Museum had  
**887 visitors**  
**from 31 states**  
and  
Australia  
Canada  
Ireland  
Switzerland

**During April**  
we had  
**778 visitors**  
**from 32 states**  
and  
Canada  
Great Britain  
New Zealand



*1946 Cessna 140*

## Ads on Cox cable increase promotion for the Museum

On April 9, **Dick Trupp**, **Gene Howerter**, and **Martin Moyer** attended a Tourism Exposition on behalf of Combat Air Museum at the Great Overland Station in Topeka. The exposition was open to the general public to showcase attractions in Topeka and the surrounding area. Dick, Gene and Martin took a large, portable art screen of the Eighth US Army Air Force in World War II as a backdrop and took our museum storyboards as well as museum brochures. The event lasted through the day and all three of our volunteers talked with the numbers of people who visited the various booths set up at the station. It was another good opportunity to promote the Museum.

Speaking of promotions, Gene has seen that our City Bed (Transient) Tax money has been going to good use. The primary intent of the tax being distributed to various attractions/events in Topeka is that it be used for promoting the attraction. For example, we are not to use the tax money for doing infrastructure work at the Museum. We can use it for brochures or ads or other promotional materials. For those of you who are local and regional COX Communications cable customers, you may have seen how some of that tax money is currently being put to work for CAM. Gene contacted COX Communications and, after several meetings and discussions, worked out a contract to put an ad/commercial on the COX cable network. We now have a 30-second spot that has been running since April on COX

cable. It appears on channels such as AMC, Discovery, History, Hallmark, and others. COX produced the 30-second spot at the Museum. This meets the city's requirements, and we are not using general funds money to do this type of promotional advertising.

The receipt of Bed Tax money is not automatic. Each year we have to submit what amounts to a grant request asking for money from the Transient Tax. And we are competing with other attractions to get the money. Once we receive funds from the Bed Tax we are accountable to the city on how we spend it and have to submit a report with receipts. The city disperses the money on a quarterly basis. The report from the end of one quarter has to be submitted, reviewed, and approved before the next quarter's allocation is made. For Gene and **Lois Ecord**, there is a lot of documentation and tracking to be done. In short, the program involves a lot of paperwork. But we have been through a few cycles, now, and know what is expected and when. Gene and Lois really make the effort to get the necessary documentation done and keep us in good standing with the program.

The receipt of the Bed Tax money has allowed us to expand our means and methods of promoting the Museum to a broader base of people, and Gene is looking into other venues that will further spread our exposure to the public. ➔



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