

SWIFT MUSEUM FOUNDATION
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MCMINN CO. AIRPORT (KMMI)

EVENT SCHEDULE

EAA AirVenture
July 24—30
Oshkosh, WI (KOSH)

Triple Tree
September 6—10
Woodruff, SC (SC00)

Swift National 2017
October 4—8
Hosted by RRSW
Cleburne, TX (KCPT)

Swift Museum Foundation, Inc.



Volume XLIX Issue #7

June 2017

Headquarters News — by Pam Nunley, Exec. Director And the winner is.....

First, let me extend a very sincere **THANK YOU** to everyone for your help and support with our 2017 Fund Raising Raffle!! Thanks to you it was a great success! The drawing was held here at Swift Headquarters this past Saturday. For now... here is a list of our winners!

Grand Prize — Sacha Botbol, Beacon, NY
2nd Prize — Mike Harrington, Locust Grove, GA
3rd Prize — David Barker, Lumberton, NC
4th Prize — Dave Carpenter, Berea, KY
5th Prize — John Seubert, Memphis, TN

We will have a full report for you next month. Thank you all again for your help and support with this years event.

Board of Directors Meeting— Your Board of Directors met on Friday to discuss several very important subjects. One of which is the work being done to provide you with new PMA approved parts for you Swifts. These are parts we have been unable to provide for quite some time. We are exploring several different avenues that will make this a reality for Swift. Work is also being done to secure the perpetual preservation of our drawings and data.

We will provide you with more details from the meeting next month and keep you informed as we progress with these upcoming projects. But... for sure, it's a very exciting time for Swift.

Board Chairman's Comments — by Pick Freeman

As your chairman of the Board I'd like to thank each of you that were so kind to send me best wishes for a speedy recovery during my recent hospital incarceration. Thank you, thank you, and thank you. I am back with a full head of steam after the intestinal blockage and the umbilical (belly button) hernia operation. Now I can continue working on my Swift.

My subject for this month's newsletter is landing gear. Four weeks ago before I had my health issues Carol and I came back from a day trip. Turning on the downwind I slowed to 100 mph and put the gear handle down. The gear started down and then we smelled a burnt electrical smell and the gear motor stopped. Well rather than cussing we discussed the problem and I went around and completed a circuit of the pattern with another crosswind and turned to downwind. Meanwhile with aircraft control of utmost concern I pulled out the emergency checklist and went to the secondary gear procedure with the flaps. Lo and behold after two complete flap movements I had two green lights on the gear and no red. So we made a successful approach and landing. I put the plane to bed and went to work on it the following week.

So, thinking of electrical smell, I immediately thought gear relay and changed it with my spare. Dummy me, I wouldn't smell electrical on the forward side of the firewall. So, with aircraft on jacks I tried the gear, but no motor. Darn, a rethink told me it was the gear

SMF Committees**Executive**

Pick Freeman
Paul Barnett
Sam Swift
Pamela Nunley

Nominating

Pick Freeman
Will Roberson
Pamela Nunley

Audit

Pick Freeman
Paul Barnett
Sam Swift

Finance

Sam Swift
Pick Freeman
Pamela Nunley

Fund Raising

Jim "Frog" Jones
Gerry Hampton
Ernie Hansen

Newsletter

Pamela Nunley

Nat'l Convention/Fly-in

Paul Mercandetti
Sandy Mercandetti
Pamela Nunley

Parts

Ernie Hansen
Asa "Bud" Brown
Bo Mabry

Formation

Michael Kennedy
Sandy Mercandetti

Building

Roger Weber
Scott Anderson
Pamela Nunley
Paul Barnett

IT/Web

Tracy Rhodes
Jim Jones

Aging Aircraft

Steve Wilson
Ken Coughlin
Dave Carpenter

switch. If you have never taken out that gear switch, it is one of the hardest things that I have ever done to a Swift. I still haven't been in the tail section and I understand that is the hardest to work back there. But back to the gear switch. I recommend using pillows, a long #2 Philips screwdriver and buckets of patience and cussin'. Having gotten a new switch from Pam, I made the wiring, but not the installation. I wanted to see if the switch would work. I checked the old switch and it worked, but the lever was worn half in two. Now I'm back from the hospital and very carefully following Doctor's orders with no grunts and strains, lying on my back underneath a Swift dashboard. Now I try the gear operation again and it failed. I'm frustrated now and think that it must be the 35 amp circuit breaker. In getting the C/B out it fell off into my hand. This was the a-hah! moment. The wire was burnt in two between the buss bar and the C/B. Another fix with 10 gauge wire and connect between the buss bar and the C/B. Viola!!! Gear works as advertised. Then the really hardest thing to get the landing gear switch back in. I ended up super gluing the little screw to a #2 driver bit to get the threads started on the top and bottom screws. Then the long handled screwdriver got the screws seated properly. I just took gobs of patience and controlled breathing, but all was back together and in fine working order. I got my friendly A & P whose direct supervision I worked under to sign off the reinstallation. Now I can go flying again.

I recommend that each Swifter get the blue Maintenance and Operation and Information handbook (pp 14-17) and the Commings Swift Hydraulic manual and read carefully all that you can on our mysterious landing gear and learn all that you can. It is indispensable to all Swifters. That's all that I can put out for this month and I hope the story was valuable. Read those books!!

Kerby Warden — Nov. 3, 1933 – June 4, 2017

We recently lost one of the Swift communities most dedicated members, Kerby Warden. Kerby's obituary stated that "He had a passion for flying his 1946 Swift airplane" and that would probably be an understatement. His other passion was for his wife Gloria and they made many flights together in his little airplane. I first met Kerby in 1994 when he was involved with the planning of the Swift 50th anniversary fly-in in Denton. At that time he was serving as secretary on the Swift Museum Board and had been an active Swifter for quite some time before that date. Kerby would become the first president of the Red River Swift Wing and I think that occurred because Kerby was just a little slower at saying "Not me" as we put the ground work for RRSW together under the Wing of a Swift at Swift Nationals in Athens one year. I sometimes worried about Kerby as we left Athens in marginal weather, some of us climbing above the clouds but Kerby always took the low route, under the clouds, and always managed to make it home. He was also a skilled mechanic and was one of the few pilots I know who carried a cylinder base wrench with him wherever he flew, just to remove that cylinder with the sticky valve and resolve the problem. He loved formation flying and after Gloria's death flew two ship formation flights with Tom Yoder almost every morning. Kerby's background was as a petrochemical engineer and that was quite evident with his methodical approach to solving problems. We have lost another great part the Swift Association's legacy. RIP Kerby and say "Hi" to Gloria. *By Stan Price*



We miss you Kerby. Thank you for so many years of friendship, fellowship, and sharing your love of the Swift and its family. You will always be part of our very special memories.

Frog and Carol's Memorial Day Swift Salute *by Steve Whittenberger*



Carol Jones' hangar at 52A. It was quite a gathering as we had Swifter's from Colorado, Mississippi, Tennessee, Florida, South Carolina and Georgia. They ranged in age from early 20's to well into the late 80's and in experience from a few years in Swiftdom to 40+ years. It was a great mix and one heck of a good time.

Activities got started on Friday as people began to arrive and by late afternoon we had 6 Swifts on the field and we were ready for happy hour and a good dinner at the "Old Ice House" now known as Ricardo's Kouzzina in beautiful downtown Madison for the 14 that arrived the first day. *(Just a note: Madison is likely the most scenic and historically correct small town preservation in the country with blocks of homes and mansions artfully preserved. Not just the main street...all of the old town's original streets and neighborhoods. It was one of the few towns saved from destruction in the Civil War when Gen. Sherman marched from "Atlanta to the Sea at Savannah". That is quite a story in itself and if interested you may find information on the internet.)*



DJ Hernandez

The camaraderie was typical Swift as we talked long into the evening at Ricardo's and just had a great time. Enjoying dinner were Will Roberson, Jim Roberts, Paul Mercandetti, Martin & Annette Van Pelt, John Barber (89 years old) and his friend Audie, Jim & Carol Jones, Bud &



Sylvia Brown, Steve & Joyce Whittenberger, Paul and Celia Vissicher, and Carl Vowell.

On Saturday more Swifter's arrived Saturday as Bo & Gloria Mabry, Daniel



& Sheryl Christian, Jackie & Nancy Fussell, Mike Harrington and his son Colin Harrington. DJ Hernandez flew a Swift from Colorado to Madison on Saturday. Also, several ventured downtown to see beautiful Madison and lunch on the square. At day's end we were all ready for the excellent picnic in the hangar as we watched the sun merge with the horizon.

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Kenneth B. Coughlin, Jr.

Oklahoma City, OK
swiftlyken@aol.com

Founded by

Charles E. "Charlie" Nelson
1968



SFC Ground School led by Sandy & Paul Mercandetti



Early Saturday Paul and Sandy conducted a formation school with good attendance. In attendance were Will Roberson, Jim Roberts, Steve Whittenberger, Daniel McDevitt, Billy Budd, Eric Bulger, Tom Gray, Jim "Frog" Jones. Also attending were Paul Vissicher local RV-8 owner and Gene Christian, who taught The Frog to fly in the Swift. It was a good session and the goal of getting wing checks for Daniel and Billy was finally realized on Monday at the Memorial Day flyover. Jim "Frog" Jones got recurrent as flight lead as well. The briefing, flying and debriefing continued unabated Saturday and Sunday and... as typical...the steep learning curve was in evidence. By Sunday evening and after many flights it all came together just before dinner with Frog leading, Daniel and Billy on the wing and either Jim Roberts or Paul in the #4 position. The flybys were rated very high by those on the ground and the unofficial judge (Lobo Whittenberger), rated the fingertip and diamond well into the high 9s and the trail as the mid 9s. Excellent flying in all and an amazing improvement in just a few flights.

Sunday was another busy day with flying, curious townspeople wandering by, lots of Swift talk and more fun. A few departed that day but as usual...with good feelings and memories.

On Memorial Day on Monday ...Frog took the lead with Billy Budd as #2 and Sandy/Paul Mercandetti as #3 and local friend Paul Vissicher, in his RV-8 as #4. The flying and timing were perfect as Swift "Frog" Flight arrived exactly at the last note of the Star Spangled Banner, in a diamond formation, over the Memorial Day ceremony which was held at Madison's Town Park. Paul and Sandy had smoke on board and they flew the missing man departure. Many of those in attendance were very quick to acknowledge the new information on the history of the missing man flyby and were most appreciative of the Swifts and the RV for the salute. There were about 3,000 attending the Memorial Day event.



Historic downtown Madison, GA with Swifts formation overhead.



3 owners of Swift N157TC
Rollie Clark
Charlie Sidenstricker
Jim Jones
20 Yrs. Of ownership



Dinner at "Old Ice House" now known as Ricardo's Kouzzina.
Bud and Sylvia Brown with John Barber

If you ever get into central Georgia you are always invited to stop and chat with Jim and Carol and enjoy Historic Madison. It is only about 60 miles east of Atlanta and is well worth your time. Many thanks to Jim and Carol and SSAG members who sponsored this event and to all who worked hard to make this SSAG fly in a success. It was also great to see old friends and meet new ones who had ventured from near and far to join us. SSAG events are always open for all Swifters anytime and anywhere....and we do have a great time....and that's what it is all about isn't it?

Airventure 2017—Oshkosh

Steve Wilson has informed us that Oshkosh parking should be the same as last year. However, he will have confirmed, detailed information for you within a couple of weeks. We will get this info out to you ASAP.

**Please don't forget to send in your Swift National Pre-registration form below.
We need to know your plans in order to provide you with the best event possible!**

Pre-Registration – Swift National 2017 – Cleburne, TX -- October 4-8

Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____ Swift _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Cell Phone (s) _____ Email _____
 Arrival Day _____ Departure Day _____
 I plan to use Swift Van _____ Drive my Car _____ Rent a car _____

Wednesday October 4 through Sunday October 8, 2017 Cleburne Airport KCPT – Cleburne, TX

Host Hotel: Hampton Inn 817-641-7770 (includes hot breakfast) \$79.00/night King or Double Queen
 \$89.00/night King or Double Queen Suite

Additional rooms available at **Holiday Inn Express 817-641-5300** (includes hot breakfast) \$89.00/night or \$99.00/night for Suites

Car Rental: Enterprise 817-645-6996 – Pre-arranged cars can be picked up at the airport

Silent Auction bidding Wednesday to Saturday
Formation clinic begins Thursday

Activities and Meals – Please indicate those you plan to attend for use in planning only.

***Meal tickets will be available for purchase at Registration upon arrival.**

T-Shirts: No obligation, order purpose only.
Hats: No obligation, order purpose only.

Size(s) _____ # Desired _____
 Yes _____ No _____ # Desired _____

Possible activities if enough interest

	# Persons		
Fly-out: Thursday Ezell Aircraft Restoration - Bridgeport, TX & Lunch	Yes _____	No _____	_____
Fly-out: Cavanaugh Flight Museum – Addison, TX – Date open	Yes _____	No _____	_____
Outing: Friday Bus trip to Ft Worth Stockyards and Dinner	Yes _____	No _____	_____
Outing: Dealy Plaza in Dallas and Lunch - Date open	Yes _____	No _____	_____
Outing: Fossil Rim - Date open	Yes _____	No _____	_____

WEDNESDAY:

Dinner at local restaurant Yes _____ No _____

THURSDAY:

Lunch at Hangar Yes _____ No _____
 Formation Ground School Yes _____ No _____
 Dinner at Hangar Yes _____ No _____

FRIDAY:

Lunch at Hangar Yes _____ No _____
 Dinner at local restaurant
 (For those not going to Ft Worth) Yes _____ No _____

SATURDAY:

Lunch at Hangar Yes _____ No _____
 (Dinner, Awards, Silent Auction & Raffle Drawing) Yes _____ No _____

SUNDAY:

DEPARTURE

Please include your registration fee (pre-Registration \$40 per person. On arrival \$45 per person)

Persons Attending _____ (\$40 each) **Total enclosed \$** _____

Make checks payable to SWIFT MUSEUM FOUNDATION, INC.

Please make a copy for your records & mail this form & your payment to:

SWIFT MUSEUM FOUNDATION, 223 County Rd 552, Athens, TN 37303

VISA, MC, DISCOVER (only) _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ EXP. ____ / ____

Questions? Contact SMF Headquarters 423-745-9547 or swiftlypam@aol.com



Daniel McDevitt's N3847K "Spirit of 46 II"
Basking in the glow of an evening sunset in Madison, Georgia