

SWIFT MUSEUM
FOUNDATION, INC.
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2020 EVENT SCHEDULE

Sun-n-Fun
Lakeland, FL
March 31 — April 5

Red River SW
San Marcos, TX
June 25 — 28

Swift National
Athens, TN
Oct. 7 — 10

AirVenture 2020
Oshkosh, WI
July 20 — 26

Swift Museum Foundation, Inc.



Volume LII Issue #2

January 2020

Executive Director Report

by Scott Anderson

It is with great sadness that I must report the passing of two long time Swift members and friends.

Fern Villeneuve of Ontario, Canada, passed away December 25th, 2019. He was 92 years old. There is an excellent tribute to Fern on our web site about his life and his incredible aviation career. Please take a moment to visit the site and read about this man. If you ever had the opportunity to meet him, you know how special he was. If not, the article will give a small insight into the amazing life of this quiet and unassuming gentleman. He loved his wife, his Swift, and the members that knew him. On one hand, a loss. On the other, we were blessed to have Fern Villeneuve be part of our lives.

On January 1st, 2020 we lost **Louis Leftwich**. Lou was 90 years old and had been the caretaker of Swift N33336, serial number 2, that is a focal point of has asked that donations be made to the Swift Museum Foundation in his name. We are so grateful to have received several generous donations from people who knew Lou. Our sympathies go out to his wife, Arvella, and his family.

Our 2020 Raffle will be beginning soon with some changes that should make it even more successful than in the past. Chairman Paul Barnett will have a report on the details in this newsletter.

Please participate in the raffle. As always there will be great prizes, with great odds of winning. You could be one of the lucky winners this year! But you have to play to win!!!

Contact info or aircraft changes: We would like to remind all members that if you have any changes to your contact or aircraft info, please let us know here at Headquarters so we can keep everything current in your file.

Amazon.com shoppers take note: If you shop amazon.com, as many of us do, you can support your SMF with every purchase you make! All you need to do is sign in to amazon through **smile.amazon.com** and Amazon will make a small donation for each and every purchase you make.

This Amazon Smile donation is absolutely free to you! Your cart, items, and total shopping experience is exactly the same. Just sign in to **smile.amazon.com**. Your user ID, password, cart, and shopping history is all the same. So, shop and help your Swift Museum Foundation, Inc. at the same time!

SMF Committees**Executive**

Paul Barnett
Paul Mercandetti
Sam Swift
Scott Anderson

Nominating

Paul Barnett
Pick Freeman
Scott Anderson

Audit

Paul Barnett
Paul Mercandetti
Sam Swift

Finance

Sam Swift
Paul Barnett
Scott Anderson

Fund Raising

Jim "Frog" Jones

Newsletter

Pamela Nunley

Nat'l Convention/Fly-in

Paul Mercandetti
Sandy Mercandetti
Scott Anderson

Parts

Steve Wilson
Ken Coughlin
Steve Roth

Formation

Michael Kennedy
Sandy Mercandetti

Building

Roger Weber
Scott Anderson
Paul Barnett

IT/Web

Tracy Rhodes
Jim Jones

Aging Aircraft

Steve Wilson
Ken Coughlin
Dave Carpenter

Chairman's Report by Paul S. Barnett

I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to serve in the capacity as Chairman of the Board of Directors. Accomplishments have been extraordinary by anyone's measure: we enjoy an incredible museum facility, a world class parts department, and a growing membership.

2020, a year of Perfect Vision, will afford us the opportunity to continue our focus on Operational Excellence, Parts Availability, and Financial Strength.

Parts Availability has been and will continue to be a primary focus as needs continue to grow with restoration efforts on the rise and with the unfortunate mishaps that occur from time to time. Manufacturing costs have increased greatly from what we have enjoyed for decades. This being said, parts production can ONLY be accomplished with financial commitment. We must be clear and concise in our needs and as members. We must be prepared to buy the parts that are going to be produced; to simply say, "it would be nice to have Stock Wing-tips on the shelf" is not going to get us where we need to be....please communicate your wishes, needs, and willingness to BUY.

In order to enhance our Financial Strength, it's imperative that we have a successful 2020 Raffle and continue to focus on Financial Gifts. I'm excited that we will finally have an Online Raffle Ticket Sales solution for the 2020 Raffle; thereby making it much easier for our membership to sell tickets without physically having tickets "in-hand"....we need to focus on SOLD OUT for our 2020 Raffle.

You have spoken and we have listened:

1. Lower Ticket Price
2. Great Prizes
3. Easy To Sell
4. No longer are you Personally Responsible for keeping track of tickets and money.

How Easy Is It? Beginning February 14, 2020 

1. <https://swiftmuseumfoundation.org/>

2. Click ON LINE Raffle Tickets

3. Enter Quantity of Tickets

4. Enter Name, Email & Phone

5. Click PAY

6. Enter Credit Card Information

Online Ticket Sales will allow us to promote the sale of tickets by simply sending friends and family members a link to the Swift Webpage via phone or email; thereby making the transaction quick and easy. For those who wish to buy tickets with Cash or Check, that may be accomplished by sending the payment method to Swift Headquarters.

Social Media will be CRITICAL to the success of our 2020 Raffle.

I thank you for affording me the opportunity to serve you in the capacity as Chairman; I'm incredibly excited about the future of the Swift Museum Foundation.



(423) 745-9547

Credit card will be run securely via Stripe©



Swift Museum Foundation, Inc.
223 County Road 552
Athens, TN 37303

*Payable SMF Include email and phone...Ticket #'s will be sent via email.

Formation Committee Report

By Paul & Sandy Mercandetti

Keep those cards and letters coming. I mean send in your Proficiency Reports and \$15. I have your Formation Cards all printed ready to send out. I've sent out about 10 already. Get yours now. Find some time to look at your manual and stay current. If you can stand the cold, it's a great time to fly. Your airplane performs really well in cold weather. Don't forget to preheat if necessary.

West Coast Swift Wing Incorporated

By John Johnson

During the 2019 Westover Sutter Creek Swift Fly-In Jackson, CA, several long attending Swifters decided to formalize the organization by incorporating in the State of California and filing for the I.R.S. non-profit status. The incorporation of the *West Coast Swift Wing* will allow the group to conduct business and possess a bank account to assist and maintain funds to promote and support the Westover Sutter Creek Swift Fly-In in the future. The *West Coast Swift Wing* is solely to support the Swift flying events including Westover, Cottage Grove, Diamond Point, or other future locations.

The current officers of the *West Coast Swift Wing* are;

Board Members

Kyle Hook	President
Brad Stahl	Treasurer
John Johnson	Secretary
Al Mc Donald	Central and Northern CA Representative
Karl Johanson	Southern CA, Representative
Gerry Mahoney	OR-WA, Representative

For Sale by SMF — Contact us and Make an Offer
423-745-9547 or swiftmuseumfoundation@aol.com

King KLX 135A GPS/Comm

King KT76A Transponder

Garmin GTX327 Transponder

Hypervox 2 place intercom

AmeriKing 121.5 ELT

Swiftronics fuel totalizer (instrument)

Electric Trim Motor (Nagel Bubble Canopy style)

Certificate for (2) each 164-14300 Cleveland Brake discs and a box of 10 brake linings P/N 066-10500 with new rivets.

Aviator Unlimited Bluemax wristwatch.

Swift Project: Complete firewall aft with some rebuilt parts. Asking \$8,000. Contact Swift HQ's at 423-745-9547 — swiftmuseumfoundation@aol.com

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Honorary President

Jim "Frog" Jones

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Historian

Kenneth B. Coughlin, Jr.

Oklahoma City, OK
swiftlyken@aol.com

Founded by

Charles E. "Charlie" Nelson
 1968

The following is another wonderful "Swift story" from our Swift family. Be thinking about your special moments and send them in.

In Memory of Wilbert "Bill" Gess & N3754K "You're That One Goose" By Will Gess

I had the fortunate experience of growing up the Son of a Swift owner and Pilot, Wilbert (Bill) Gess. Some of you who were around the "International Swift Association" (as it was called back then) in the 70's and 80's might remember my Father.

Growing up, I was a somewhat rebellious Son heading into my early teens. So deservedly so, there were a lot of times when my Father had to be more of an Authority Figure rather than a Father, even though those roles seemingly go hand in hand. So as a result, we did not always see eye to eye. I was defiant, independent and walked to the beat of my own drum. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree. My father worked hard, 6 days a week, on the 7th day he went flying. Those days, those memories are the ones I cherish the most because on those days, nothing else mattered, we were Father and Son flying the Swift.



I remember one particular Sunday. It was late Fall, the trees were turning, leaves were falling. It was an unusually warm day. Dad woke me up early, "Lets go flying".

We spent the morning doing touch and go's, and generally enjoying the Swift. After we landed we had a ritual that we went through. Hit the pumps, fill her up, take her back to the hangar, wash the bugs off, and put her away until next time.

After we finished the "ritual" we sat down on some lawn chairs just inside the hangar, had some cold sandwiches and soda for lunch. As I said, it was late Fall, there were a lot of geese around the airport. As we sat in our chairs quietly enjoying our lunch, I was watching the geese practicing their "V" formation in preparation for their journey south for the Winter.

As I was watching them my Father broke the quiet and said "You're that one Goose". I was young, maybe 14 years old. I didn't understand what he meant. Just then a large group of geese flew over the roof line of the hangars and my dad said "Look, keep watching". As the geese flew overhead he pointed to "that one goose" flying back inside the "V" and said it again, "You're that one Goose". As I mentioned earlier, my Father and I did not always get along so I wrote this off as him implying that I was lazy or a non-conformist or something along those lines. I didn't respond.

Years later, after my Father had passed, I was sitting with my Mother in the kitchen of her home. We were reminiscing about days gone by. I told my Mother that story. I also told her that I never understood what Dad was saying..."That one Goose". My Mother laughed "That sounds like your Father. Do you understand why that Goose is back there". I had no idea.

My Mother began to explain that when the Geese fly in formation, the ones up in the front, the leaders, are cutting the air, taking on the most resistance and when they get tired, they fall back inside the “V” where there is the least resistance, and rest. When the next leader falls back inside the V the previous one moves to the end of the “V” on one side or the other at the end. By flying this way they can travel much farther than simply flying in a flock.

I still didn’t understand “You’re that one Goose”. My Father always taught my brother and I to be leaders, not followers, blaze the trail, don’t follow it. My Mother told me that this was my Father’s way of calling me a Leader, be a leader, not a follower.

I spent many years during my youth flying with my Father, lots of great memories. But now that I understand what he was trying to tell me, this is my greatest memory of my Father and N3754K.

“Keep the blue side up”, Miss you Dad.

In Memory Fern Villeneuve

As Scott mentioned in his comments, we have lost another long time Swift family member. Fern Villeneuve was one of those extraordinary individuals you only meet once in a lifetime. Fern and his late wife Lynda made many visits to Swift National in their Swift C-GLYN. Their kindness and sweet spirits were always welcomed by all of us. Fern continued his trips to Swift National after Lynda’s passing, most every year up to, and including this past September when Fern piloted his Swift from Ontario, Canada to Athens solo at the age of 92.

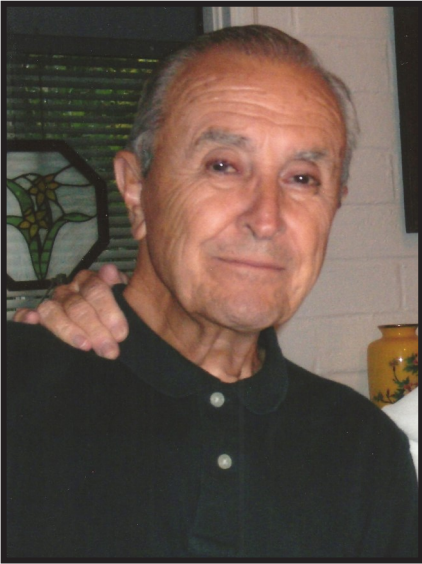
Fern will be greatly missed by all who knew him. A most kind gentleman with love for his sweet wife Lynda, aviation, and his Swift. Below is a link to his remarkable story. Whether you were fortunate to have known Fern or not, it is definitely worth your time to read. Godspeed dear friend.



<https://www.guelphmercury.com/news-story/9792894-pilot-mentor-leader-fern-villeneuve-to-be-remembered-as-absolutely-remarkable/>



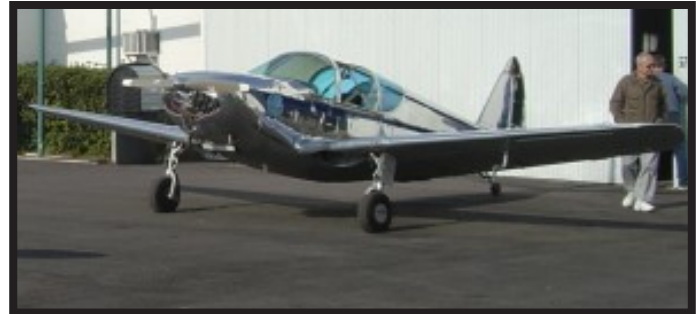
In Memory Louis Leftwich



As previously reported by Scott Anderson, we are saddened at the loss of Lou Leftwich of Winter Park, Florida. Lou was a long time member of our Swift family. He and his lovely wife Arvella have remained friends and loyal supporters of SMF for many years.

After completion of his meticulous restoration to original configuration of historical Globe Swift s/n #2 (certification aircraft), Lou worked with SMF through partial donation to assure it would remain part of Swift history in the Swift Museum for perpetuity. Thank you Lou for your vision and generosity.

Lou will be greatly missed by us all. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Arvella and the entire Leftwich family. Godspeed dear friend. <https://baldwincremation.com/obituaries/louis-leftwich/>



Left: Mark Holliday and Lou preparing for ferry to Swift Museum.

Right: Lou and Charlie Nelson completing the process to acquire SN 2.



Red River Swift Wing Annual Fly-In June 25-28, 2020



RRSW 2020 Annual Fly-In

We'll be trying a new format for the annual gathering this year. Each participant will be responsible for their own lodging, transportation, and meals. While we plan to make this easier on the host location.

Rental car reservations can be made through the FBO with AVIS and Enterprise.

When: Jun 25-28, 2020

Where: San Marcos Regional Airport
San Marcos, Tx. 78666
FBO: Berry Aviation
Phone: 800-229-2379

Hotels: Hampton Inn & Suites San Marcos
106 IH 35, San Marcos, TX 78666

Country Inn and Suites by Radisson
1560 IH 35 South, San Marcos, TX,
78666

Events

- ▶ Dining in historic Greune Texas
- ▶ Wine Tasting at Three Dudes Winery
- ▶ River tour: The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
- ▶ CAF Museum Tour
- ▶ Shopping - Tanger Outlets of San Marcos

Contact:
Vern Rooze: vernon@globeaircraft.com
(512)658-1991

For Sale



SUPER SWIFT N80555

GC1-B Serial Number 58

\$119,900.

210 HP Continental IO-360 D 350 hours SMOH 1360 hours TT since new.
Total Airframe Hours: 2050

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