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2022 Event Schedule

West Coast National
Sept. 22 — 24
Jackson, CA

Swift National 2022
Sept. 28 — Oct. 2
SMF Headquarters
Athens, TN

Swift Museum Foundation, Inc.



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Executive Director's Report

By Scott Anderson

With Oshkosh in the rear-view mirror, we now are looking forward to **Swift National 2022!** If you haven't already sent your pre-registration form in, please do that as soon as possible. It is so very important in our planning for the event.

The drawing for our annual raffle is fast approaching so get your tickets soon for a chance (or chances) to win one of five great prizes! Your odds of winning one of them is very good due to the fact that we only offer a limited number of tickets. The actual drawing will be during our Saturday night banquet, which is only six short weeks away. Please support your Swift Museum Foundation. We invest a great deal to make this raffle appealing to participants and help keep your type club growing.

Join us here in September for our National Convention. Fall weather is usually great here in Tennessee and we are always happy to have another opportunity to get together with our extended Swift family!



**Make your plans to
be here!
Enjoy flying, food,
fellowship, and
all things Swift!**

**Many thanks to Steve
Doremus for the nice
photos from Swift
National 2021**



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

Paul Mercandetti
Jim Roberts

Building

Roger Weber
Scott Anderson
Paul Barnett

IT/Web

Tracy Rhodes
Jim Jones

Aging Aircraft

Steve Wilson
Ken Coughlin
Dave Carpenter

2022 Swift National Fly-in and Convention SEPTEMBER 28 — OCTOBER 2

By Paul Mercandetti

We are getting down to the wire! Everything from beer to toilet paper has been ordered in anticipation of your arrival. I hope you have made your plans to join us here in Athens. We're certainly looking forward to seeing you! We will have lots of things for you to do from our usual Forums including Maintenance, Formation, and Safety to Prop Balance checks and Transponder checks. Please sign up for these last two so the people involved can plan accordingly. Prop balancing will not be available due to scheduling conflicts. However, a representative from the manufacturer of the unit will be here on Saturday to demonstrate the unit (that means free) on your aircraft. If it is out of balance you can arrange to have it completed at your home airport by a local guy at your expense.

Lodging — Please let me know if you are told the hotel block is full. In that case I will try to get it extended (**Comfort Inn Athens 423-252-8030 ask for Swift Convention price**).

The **fly-out** this year will be to nearby Crossville airport (KCSV). They are hosting a fly-in event and have asked for a fly-by from us. If there is enough interest, I will put up a multi ship plus single ships much like we did at Tullahoma several years ago. If we get there early enough, we can land but I would like to make sure we get everybody back to MMI for lunch as a minimum guarantee is required by our caterer. Which brings us back to: Please! Sign up early for our event so we can plan for an accurate number of meals.

Last month we attended OSH and it was so good to see such a large turnout. Yes, it made for a hectic arrival and yes, the weather on Saturday was difficult but what else is new. We are resilient and have learned to deal with whatever is thrown at us. Seeing all those beautiful aircraft and wonderful people makes it all worthwhile.

Welcome Our Newest Members of the Swift Museum Family!

Fred Koch — Wisconsin

Boris Efimkin & Irina Novikova — Russia

Edward Mann — Illinois

Jerry Morris — South Carolina

Jose Gonzales — Puerto Rico

John Rettick — Illinois

Jurij Posselt — Germany

Swift Formation Committee Report

By Paul Mercandetti

Last month at Oshkosh EAA AirVenture Sandy and I attended the FAST Board of Directors meeting. Items of interest were an update list by all signatories on current check pilots and a financial report which showed that FAST is still in the black. A dollar value was set as the low bar and if we were to drop below that level each signatory would be assessed an amount to bring us back up. We have not paid into this fund in many years as all of our FAST leadership people are volunteers and there are few expenses (website, printing, etc.).

Of particular importance to us is the name change of our signatory. I took the liberty of changing our name from Swift Formation Committee to **T-35/Swift Formation Committee**. This was necessary as there were a substantial number of signatories present that did not even know what a T-35 was and that we were not just some civilian tag along group that was grandfathered in. **Our T-35's are the reason why we are part of FAST** and FAST is only made up of military type aircraft. This is one of the reasons why I have been adamant about maintaining good records and keeping our flying standards high.

More work needs to be done on the FF&P (FAST Foundation and Principles manual) but it looks like all signatories are moving to adopt a common FAST FF&P with an addendum for differences applicable to each group as necessary. We have already been planning for this move.

After the Board meeting we conducted a Check Pilots meeting attended by T-35/Swift Check Pilots Paul and Sandy Mercandetti, Stan Price, Jerry Kirby, and Don Abbott. Emphasis was placed on briefing and training for emergencies, break-outs, rejoins and how to rejoin an a wingman that has overshoot. Also, as a matter of semantics, an overshoot does not mean that we go above anything. An undershoot or under run is how we perform the maneuver verses an overshoot which is not being able to stop within the confines of the formation and requires permission to rejoin. Everyone should be able to demonstrate an under run. Go-arounds need to be addressed.

The all important topic of aging pilots was discussed. This has not been a problem in our group as our aging pilots have been dropping out of their own accord and not being asked to do so (that can get ugly like trying to take the keys away from Dad) as in some other signatories. Another discussion that received a lot of attention was on how far does a check pilot or training pilot let a situation develop before intervening.

Checkspeedgeardown

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Founded by

Charles E. "Charlie" Nelson
1968

In Memory of Carol Jones



Carol Jones, wife of our SMF President Jim “Frog” Jones, gained her heavenly wings July 31, 2022. Carol was a huge fan of Swift and loved the members that became like family to her. The Swift Museum Foundation was the catalyst that brought her together with “Frog” and together they spent many happy years flying and participating in Swift related events. Her warm and welcoming smile was always a bright spot at any Swift gathering. Whether she was helping out with the many tasks at hand or just visiting with her Swift family, Carol was someone you loved to be around. What a very special, lovely lady who’s kindness, wit, and humor will always be remembered.

Carol was also an animal lover with many pets at home. She and Jim have been actively involved with the Humane Society of Morgan County Georgia for years. The family asks that donations in her name to be made to that organization. Swift has made a donation to honor Carol and we hope that you will do the same. Our thoughts and continued prayers go out to Jim and to Carol’s entire family as they navigate this very difficult time. She will be greatly missed by all of us who were fortunate enough to know her. Godspeed dear friend.

In Memory of Robert R. Webster

Long time Swift member Robert “Bob” Webster of Hardin, Kentucky passed away December 30, 2021. Bob has been the caretaker of Swift N2417B for many years. He was a retired USAF Major serving as a pilot and flying 150 tanker missions over Vietnam. He later worked as a pilot for FedEx for 20 years. Our thoughts prayers go out to Bob’s wife Jewell and his entire family.

In Memory of William J. “ Bill” O’Connell

We are sad to learn of the passing of long time Swift member Bill O’Connell of Redwood City, California. Bill was the caretaker of Swift N853D and was active with the West Coast Swift Wing. Our condolences go out to Bill’s entire family and friends.



AirVenture 2022

By Jim Roberts

EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2022 is in the record books. The turnout for the week-long event was impressive. According to EAA CEO and Chairman Jack Pelton, "This year's attendance was approximately 650,000 people, which was 7 percent more than 2021's attendance, and exceeded the previous record of 642,000 which was set in 2019."

More than 10,000 aircraft arrived at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh and other airports in east-central Wisconsin. At Wittman alone, there were 18,684 aircraft operations in the 11-day period from July 21-31, which is an average of approximately 121 takeoffs/landings per hour when the airport is open.

At least 14 (my estimate) of those aircraft were our members' Swifts. Though group parking was not available this year, some folks managed to tie down near each other, and I saw many of our well-loved birds throughout the vintage parking grounds. One of those beauties belongs to Gary Moore. Gary, from Littleton, CO, represented us well by putting his Swift N80775 on display in front of the Vintage Red Barn for a "Vintage in Review" session. Thanks, Gary!



Gary Moore's Swift N80775 "Vintage in Review"

The Swift forum on Tuesday morning was well-attended, and our table in the type club tent served as a popular gathering spot for "Swifters" from around the globe.....literally. I ran into Juergen Fuchs from Schwetzingen Germany, whom I had corresponded with but never had the pleasure of meeting in person. "Vielen Dank," Juergen for making the pilgrimage to Oshkosh!

Our dinner Tuesday night was one of the best ever, with over sixty-five attendees. The food and drink was fantastic, but the company even better. As always, many thanks to Barb Wilson for arranging this. Don't be surprised if the "Ground Round" restaurant becomes our new go-to spot.

Speaking of restaurants, this was the first time in over twenty years that I failed to have a "brat" in Wisconsin, but dinner at "Wendt's on the Lake" made up for it. If you've never been there, put it on your list. The food is outstanding and the setting on the shore of Lake Winnebago is beautiful. But get there early. As with most Oshkosh eateries, it gets packed after six-o'clock.

It's become a cliché, but the best part of AirVenture is seeing our friends. I came up short in that department, as I was working all week for EAA, writing stories for "AirVenture Today." If I missed you, many apologies, but let's catch up next month at the Swift National Fly-in. You'll be glad you joined us for some great flying, good food, and good friends. Until then, "Blue Skies!"

**Gary Moore's
little piece
of heaven.**



**Happy diners
at the
Swift dinner.**



Jerry Kirby arriving in style!

Transponder and pitot-static checks at Swift Nationals!



Back by popular demand, you can get a transponder and/or pitot-static certification done on Friday, September 30th. The charge for a basic VFR transponder check is \$85. A mode S VFR transponder check is \$100. Either service takes less than 30 minutes. IFR Certification is \$275 with a basic transponder, and \$300 with mode S. The IFR check takes about 2 hours. Amazingly, this is the only thing we're aware of that has not gone up in cost since last year! Even if you're not due for the check for several months, you can't beat the convenience or the price. Please let Jim Roberts know if you plan to take advantage of this opportunity....jimswift46@comcast.net.

More fun, fellowship and Swifts....

AirVenture 2022



Janet Dicker's Swift N80733 Featured on the Vintage "Goodie Bag"



Our Swift table front and center in the Type Club Tent



AirVenture 2022 — Don and James Abbott on the Green Dot