

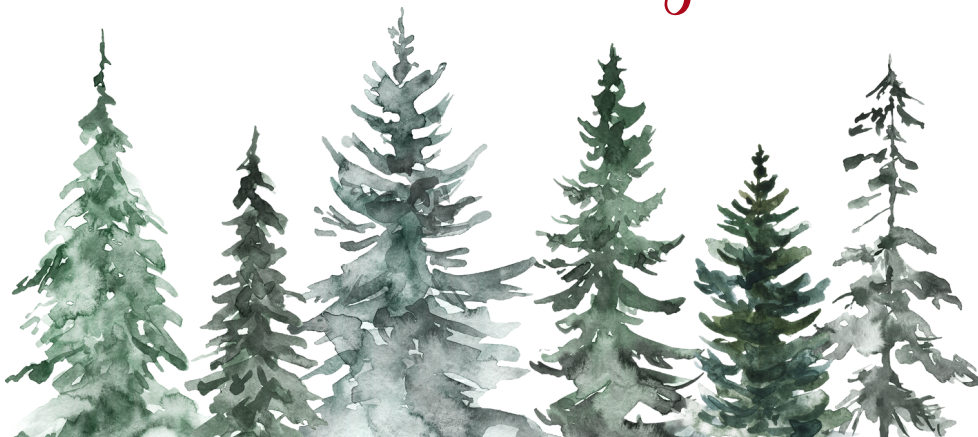


The Army Aviation Museum Foundation  
**PROP & ROTOR**  
Monthly Newsletter

DECEMBER 2023

**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS!**

*The Museum & Gift Shop  
will be Closed on  
Christmas Day*



**PROP  
&  
ROTOR**

MERRY CHRISTMAS

DIRECTOR'S DESK

CURATOR'S CORNER

FOUNDATION UPDATE

BOOK CLUB

GIFT SHOP NEWS

# DIRECTOR'S DESK

ROBERT MITCHELL, MUSEUM DIRECTOR

In the mid-fifties, the Army considered replacing the current observation helicopters, the H-13 Sioux, and the H-23 Raven. Considering breakthroughs in rotor and engine designs would lend themselves to better Observation aircraft, the Army sought to capitalize on the emerging technologies.

There were three initial aircraft tested: the YHO-3 Brantley, the YHO-1 DJ by Sud-Quest of France, and the Hughes 269. All three aircraft were somewhat disappointing; however, the French YHO-1 did have a jet turbine engine and the Hughes 269 would go on to be selected as the Army Primary trainer in the TH-55. But the testing was halted as none of the three aircraft had the power the Army required. The mission of the Army dictates a lot of additional equipment mounted on aircraft which goes straight to power available. Allison was fully aware of these shortcomings and were busy developing a small turbine engine called the 250.



In late 1960 the Army and the Navy teamed up on a "Request for Proposal" for a light four seat helicopter to be used for observation and general purpose, or as they say: Ash and Trash missions that the scouts would later do as part of an indispensable service for Army Aviation. The considered manufactures were narrowed down to: Hughes, Hiller, and Bell. All three had depth in the area of helicopter design and offered viable machines to compete for the contract.

Their prototypes were submitted for evaluation at Camp Rucker. The three finalist airframes were: the Bell YOH-4, the Hiller YOH-5, and the Hughes YOH-6. It appeared that the YOH-5 would be the clear winner, but as so often is the case, everyone was surprised when the Army selected the Hughes YOH-6.



The Army started taking delivery of the OH-6 in 1966 and the aircraft went straight into



combat in Vietnam. Many veterans have told stories about how they couldn't "get rid" of the old Ravins and Sioux's fast enough for the new Cayuse's. The "Loach" as it became known was loved by all that flew it. The mission was the most dangerous flying of

the war. Losses were heavy and the demand for replacement aircraft was high. The cost of replacement OH-6's was increasing, and production was not keeping up with the Army's satisfaction. The Army decided to open a parallel production line producing another Scout aircraft. When the Army approached Mr. Hiller and asked if he would like to do a limited production run of OH-5's he declined. Some believe he was still upset that he did not win the initial competition. The Army then contacted Bell with the same offer. Bell realized how poorly the YOH-4 performed in the fly-off so they went back to work applying improvements to the YOH-4. So, when asked they showed the Army their redesigned aircraft called the 206, we know it better as the OH-58, and the rest they say is history. All these aircraft are on display at the Army Aviation Museum.



# CURATOR'S CORNER

BRYANT MACFARLANE

This is a little different note from me, the next one will be an exploration of our collection as it generally is. December makes a year for me as the curator – and what a year it has been. I have really truly enjoyed this past year and I am excited about many more years to come! We have added quite a few items in the past 12-months, we are updating several exhibits, and populating the TSF – all of which are making our “museum foxhole” a little better every day.

But one of the things that has really made a lasting impact on me has been participating in the events and outreach efforts over the past year. These have been family events for me as my wife and son have participated in one way or another in all of these. National Aviation Day, Night at the Museum, and the Enterprise Christmas Parade have all been a lot of work to get off the ground, but they have left a very fulfilling mark in my life as well. The volunteer support from our members has been nothing short of exceptional and I feel humbled for their willingness to participate. Seeing our little museum family in the museum and out in the community – even if I was a bit exposed on a parade float at the time – is always a pleasure. In short – I'd like to thank you all for the past 12-months. I wish you all a very enjoyable and safe season with friends and family. For maximal enjoyment of the season, I offer you not one but two beverages. These may take a bit more than our standard drinks but this is the perfect time to deliberately slow down and be an active participant in the moment.

## The Après ski a 'la Le Prieur

12 oz whole milk  
6oz green Chartreuse  
4oz brandy  
2oz chopped dark chocolate  
1 vanilla bean split lengthwise  
1 cinnamon stick

Combine all in a medium saucepan and stir constantly over a medium-low heat until chocolate is melted. Remove from heat and discard the vanilla bean and cinnamon stick. Whisk until frothy and ladle into warmed mugs. Garnish with nutmeg – and bonus points for a marshmallow topper.

## Benjamin's Seatbelt The “A Engine” Mix

6 tbsp salted butter  
3 tbsp dark brown sugar (maple syrup or coconut sugar also work well)  
1 tsp cinnamon  
.25 tsp nutmeg  
.25 tsp allspice

Mix all ingredients and use immediately or refrigerate.

1.5 tbsp of “A Engine” mix  
2oz dark rum  
6oz hot water

In a heat resistant mug add all ingredients and stir until mix is dissolved.



# FOUNDATION UPDATE

LEAH DUNKLE, EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from all of us at the Foundation! We've had lots of commotion already this season and it's not slowing down. We were very excited to be part of the Enterprise Christmas Parade on November 28th and even more excited that we won first place! Thank you to everyone who volunteered to be part of this event and thank you to the City of Enterprise for a great event! You can find more pictures and watch the entire parade on our Facebook page.



Tell your friends and Bring the Kids!! Jingle will be here LIVE from 12-3 on Saturday, December 16th! Then come back next week to see Jingle & Company, LIVE with Special Guests at our Annual Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 20th from 10-3!

## Santa Claus is Coming to the Museum!

Wednesday, December 20th from 10:00 - 3:00

### Jingle + Company

### Rockin' Holiday Dance Party



Wednesday  
December 20th  
10:00 - 3:00

*Holiday Scavenger Hunt*  
*Now - December 31st!*

**Jingle LIVE**

Saturday, December 16  
Wednesday, December 20

Jingle & Co. Live \* Holiday Crafts \* Games \* Music \* Prizes



[www.armyaviationmuseum.org](http://www.armyaviationmuseum.org)

[aamfcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:aamfcoordinator@gmail.com)

334-598-2508







We celebrated our volunteers on December 4th with our annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast. Our volunteers logged almost 4,000 hours in 2023! Way to go everyone! We are so proud of you and appreciate what you do for the Army Aviation Museum and the Foundation.

Bob Mitchell and Chris Carlile presented Presidential Service Awards and pins to qualifying volunteers and each volunteer received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Museum Foundation. Our Presidential Service Award recipients for 2023 were Sue Baum - Bronze, John Farmer - Bronze, Kay Zayas - Bronze, George Baum - Silver, Kurt Bench - Silver, Don Doherty - Silver, Joe Licina - Silver, Fred Zayas - Silver and Tom Rudolph - Gold - with over 500 hours in 2023! Congratulations to all of you!





Coming Back January 2024!\*

Hosted by the Army Aviation Branch Historian and our Curator, our monthly online conversation will focus deeply on the book's subject matter and its connection with Army Aviation history! Registration and access are free, but to really participate, you'll need to read the selected book in our curated monthly book selection.

## Subscribe to Our YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/@ArmyAviationMuseumFoundation>

By purchasing a book in our Gift Shop, all proceeds support the preservation and presentation of Army Aviation's materiel culture history to the world!

[www.armyaviationmuseum.org](http://www.armyaviationmuseum.org) (click "shop")

\*Subscribe to our YouTube Channel to watch NOW





# Gift Shop

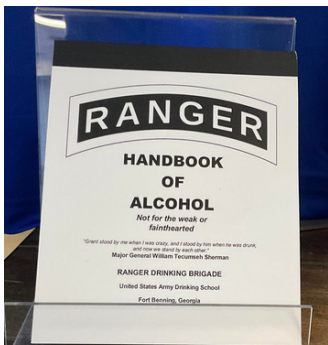
## GIFT SHOP NEWS

JOAN VARNER, GIFT SHOP MANAGER

Greetings from the Army Aviation Museum Gift Shop!  
We have new items available!

### Hellfire Missile

Comes in two sizes both small and large with bases, two different style bases that you can choose that can be wall hung or place on a counter top. With the large missile it has a compartment to hide a bottle and an area to mount a coin. The smaller missile is replica of the large missile scaled down.



### Ranger Handbook

From the aviation fuelers comes their second book, the ranger handbook of alcohol. A unique play in words, cheers!

Glass bead hand painted holiday bracelets in six varieties.







Long sleeve Fort  
Novosel t-shirt  
with retro design.



Aircraft available now in 10kt gold.



Locally hand crafted flag  
coin holders in both large  
and small sizes.

Army glass beaded bracelet in  
adult and children sizes.



Comfort washed  
sweatshirt with hood and  
pocket in two colors.  
(Concrete and salt water)



Can't make it into the store?  
We got you covered...shop online and we'll ship it to you!

No matter how you shop, all proceeds support the  
US Army Aviation Museum.



*Shop with us online*  
[WWW.ARMYAVIATIONMUSEUM.ORG](http://WWW.ARMYAVIATIONMUSEUM.ORG)  
Click 'Shop'

