

March 2024
NEWSLETTER

816-234-1011
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10 Richards Road
Kansas City, MO 64116
twamuseum.org



OPEN WED-SAT 10-4

Museum

at 10 Richards Road

From the President, Pam Blaschum

Well, **2023** was a banner year for the **TWA Museum**. At year's end, we recorded **4,593** visitors from all over the world. Some came from as far away as **Istanbul** and **Australia**.

It was amazing how so many visitors found us considering the construction of the new Buck O'Neil Bridge, **Signature Flight Support** renovating their lobby, painting the building, replacing the roof, not to mention the misleading highway signage. Congratulations to all our visitors who managed to find their way to our amazing museum! We should have handed out awards!

Putting aside the challenges we faced, I wish to focus on the positive, mainly our **Operations Manager, John Mays**.

I first met John when we had an open house prior to our grand opening, Mar. 3, 2012. I immediately noticed him as he was wearing a TWA wingman shirt, plus he is very handsome! Though he had a full time job and business, he signed up as a volunteer and became our Librarian. Early in 2023, John sold his personal business and became our first **Operations Manager**.

In 10 short months he designed a new website (twamuseum.org), updated our existing exhibits, developed a large tech services exhibit, and acquired a jet engine from Boeing. He also assists with our gift shop mail orders, books all private parties in our Ambassador Club and sends weekly updates to all volunteers. He was also a life-time TWA Platinum member. John is definitely our **MVP!**

John Mays is just A-MAY-ZING.

Thank you for all you do!



Board of Directors

Pam Blaschum-President
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Nancy Sitzmann-Secretary
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Larry Dingman
Viktoria Cross
Caleb Flake

Media Relations

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Newsletter

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TWA Museum Hangar Dance Canceled for 2024

We are very sad to announce that due to circumstances beyond our control, we are no longer able to hold our annual hangar dance in the **Signature Flight Support Hangar**.

We are actively looking for another venue large enough for our event which is difficult without significantly raising our ticket prices which we are trying to avoid.

A Visit from Santa Claus. . .

November 25th, Santa flew his sleigh down to visit the **TWA Museum!** Little children and adults alike enjoyed telling Santa their Christmas wishes! We had a great day and a great turn out. Many of the guests also enjoyed a helicopter ride around the city with **KC Helicopter Tours** located in the same building. Save the date for **Saturday, November 30, 2024 from 11:00-1:00**. Santa has promised to come back and visit again!





ONCE AGAIN AVIATION HISTORY IS HAPPENING IN KANSAS CITY!

The **TWA Museum** and **Signature Flight Support** was pleased to host a Reception honoring Melissa Cooper, the new **Director of Aviation for the City of Kansas City**. The reception was held on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at the TWA Museum. The event was open to the public with light snacks and beverages. Complimentary tours of the museum were given between 12:00 and 4:00 pm.

Melissa Cooper is the first woman to fill the role of Director of Aviation in the history of Kansas City’s Aviation Department. She began her career in the 1990s as a Customer Service Agent with a private airline company. Through her hard work and experience she was promoted into a supervisor role, and ultimately into airport management where she is thriving. She said, “I am truly honored, as a lifetime Kansas City resident, to serve our community and to lead the men and women of the Aviation Department, in pursuit of a first-class airport experience for our business and leisure travelers arriving to and departing from Kansas City.”

While words may never be enough, we want to thank all of our volunteers for their commitment and efforts in making the **Melissa Cooper Day** event a success. This event took a great deal of preparation and planning, and we pulled it off with your help. Our guest count was well over 200 people! It was also satisfying to see a great number of youths visiting us. Thanks also to our friends at **Signature Flight Support** for their sponsorship of the food, and to **Hiland Dairy** for their gracious donation of the beverages.

Thanks to **Emily McMurray** and **Gourmet-ish Catering Services** for the wonderful spread of food!

Special thanks to **Vic Wylde**, Duty Manager – Signature MKC and his wife **Lindsay** for the wonderful cookies!



And we LOVED having the Clipped Wings ladies there!



TWA Museum Hosts Golf Sponsor Cocktail Party



Thursday, January 11th the **TWA Museum** hosted a cocktail party in the Royal Ambassador Club to thank the individuals and corporations who helped sponsor our **2023 TWA Golf Classic!** The weather was not cooperating that evening and a blizzard was predicted later in the day, so our turn out was limited. However we had a wonderful evening of conversation and excellent food which was provided by **Gourmet-ish** and **Emily McMurray!** Mark your calendars for this year's **TWA Museum Golf Classic on Tuesday, September 10, 2024!**



TWA Museum Hosts Volunteer Dinner

The TWA Museum honored our wonderful volunteers on Sunday, December 10th with a catered dinner by **Gourmet-Ish!** We celebrated **Marcia Lillge** and **Sandy Funk**, two of our dear volunteers that we lost in 2023. One of our Board members, **John Miller** gave a short talk on the vision he is working on for the future of the museum. It was a wonderful evening!



The word is out about how great our museum is! We are always looking for new volunteers!

If you can volunteer 3 hours a week, 10-1 or 1-4 please consider

joining this amazing group of people! Call 816-234-1011 or email the museum

at twajohnmays@gmail.com

Welcome to our newest TWA Museum Volunteers!



Craig Willets was born and raised into an airline family. Both his father and mother worked as cabin attendants until his parents married in 1962 and his mother was forced to quit. Craig's father went on to fly for Piedmont Airlines/USAir until his retirement in 1994. Craig has been a professional pilot flying since 1988 and joined UPS in 1990. He is currently flying an Airbus A-300 as Captain. He and his wife moved to Kansas City in late 2020 and between them we have six kids and two grandkids. Craig's wife is a flight attendant with American Airlines. He loves meeting new people and being a part of something special like TWA.



Lane Sisson began volunteering at the museum in December. He currently attends ADT Flight School at the downtown airport. Most recently Lane has accepted a position with the Line Maintenance department at Signature Flight Support. You will usually find Lane at the Museum on Thursday and Saturday.

PARADISE POINTE

TWA MUSEUM
10 RICHARDS ROAD
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

2024 Annual Golf Fundraiser

**Paradise Pointe Golf Complex
The Posse Course**

Tuesday, September 10, 2024

18212 Golf Course Rd, Smithville, Missouri

- PRE-TEE Breakfast Burritos
- After-Golf Dinner
- Loaded Goodie Bag
- Sponsorship Packages
- Prizes & Fun
- Snacks / Beverages Available
- 18-holes of Golf with Cart

Visit twamuseum.org for more information



Our Museum is proud to participate in the upcoming Airlines International show, which is billed as "the world's largest annual airline history conference and airline collectibles show." The Airlines International event attracts attendees from all over the world, and, of course, brings in tourism dollars as well.

As part of this event, offsite tours will be offered to attendees of the show to our museum for each day of the event. In addition, the museum will host their "Friday Night Under the Props" on June 28, 6 to 9 pm, an attendee-only event with catered BBQ and beer.

For more info about the show, follow this link:

<https://airlinersinternational.org/>



THE TWA Museum is proud to announce The TWA Experience

A special evening for you and your group!

You will begin your experience with cocktails and appetizers in the Ambassador Club

Enjoy a fashion show of Vintage TWA Uniforms!

You are now ready to go through the jetway and board your flight!

Once seated in the cabin you will be treated to a hot towel, sorbet and a glass of Champagne.

Next, you will be served House Salad accompanied by Homemade Artisan Bread and Honey Butter served on Royal Ambassador China.

Your choice of Beef or Chicken Entree

Three Cheese Au Gratin Potatoes

Vegetable Medley

A Fruit & International Cheese Plate

Crème Brûlée with Berries & Whipped Cream

Coffee

Red or White Wine served with Dinner

Catered by Emily McMurray of Gourmet-ish!

\$250 per Person

Minimum number of Guests-12 (Maximum of 25 Guests)



Thinking of Donating Items to the Museum?

Before sending or dropping off items to the museum, please send an email to:
twajohnmays@gmail.com

describing your donation, list of items and pictures if possible.

We will respond as soon as we can!

We truly appreciate the donations we receive but are running out of storage room.



Want to Book a Tour of 10 Guests or More?

Simply follow this link to book your tour online:
<https://twamuseum.org/group-tours>

All group admission prices require a minimum of 10 guests paying in one transaction.

Reservations are required. Please book 72 hours before your visit date.

Group Admission Fees:

Adults (ages 17-59), 10 people or over - \$10.00 each.

Youth and Seniors pay usual rates, regardless of number in the group.

Seniors (age 60+) – \$8.00 / Youth (ages 6-16) – \$7.00

Children (ages 1-5) – FREE

TWA Firsts . . .

First to organize an airline weather department and employ a professional meteorologist. (1930)

Also, TWA was the first airline to conduct extensive aircraft icing research to determine synoptic free air conditions for icing aircraft. (1932-33)

From the TWA Lover's Kitchen



Creamy Wild Rice and Chicken Soup

1 or 2 sticks butter (your choice)

1 chopped onion

4-5 celery stalks

1-2 sliced mushrooms chopped

Sautee the above ingredients until vegetables are soft (10-15 minutes)

*Add 1 tablespoon Morton's Nature's Seasoning
3 tablespoons "Better than Boullion Chicken Base)*

Add 3-4 cooked and chopped chicken breast or whole roast chicken deboned

2 quarts whipping cream(or 1 quart half and half and 1 quart milk, skim or whole)

2 or 3 bags of Uncle Ben's wild rice microwaved

Simmer until heated through !

Wonderful recipe for a cold night!



History of TWA Flight Attendants

(Enjoy the first installment of the history of the infamous TWA Flight Attendant Uniforms!)

WINTER, 1936-1938 Very firm wool sharkskin in charcoal gray. Single breasted jacket with the epaulets banded with red on the shoulders. The skirt was worn with a red silk blouse. The hat was an overseas style. The red and gold wings were worn both on the hat and on the jacket. Stan Herman, a Kansas City tailor, manufactured this uniform.

SUMMER, 1936-1938 First summer uniform was introduced in the spring of 1936. It was basically the same style as the winter uniform. The fabric was changed to white wool Bedford cord. The jacket had epaulets banded with red on the shoulders and the gold metal wings on the breast pocket. The skirt was originally worn with a long sleeved burgundy sweater blouse that faded onto the white wool and was too hot. It was changed to a white silk blouse with a small burgundy bow tie. TWA paid for the dry cleaning. The hat, an overseas style, had the same embroidered red logo on it. The shoes were plain white oxfords with natural stacked heels.

WINTER, 1939 Designed by Chief Hostess, Gladys Entrekin. It was later sketched by the famed artist George Petty. It was popularly known as the, "Petty Girl", uniform. Winter outfit fabric medium blue charmeen gabardine; the jacket was double breasted with brass blazer type buttons embossed with the TWA logo. The skirt was slightly flared and very graceful. The blouse was of ivory silk, long sleeved with a bishop neckline, and a pleated front. The hat was a new style, high sided with a quilted crown. It featured a cockade of red, gray, and navy ribbon on the side. The wings were worn on the jacket and hat. Accessories included navy pumps and handbag.

SUMMER, 1939 The Petty Girl summer version. It was white charmeen gabardine, double breasted and was worn with a pale blue silk blouse. It was really identical to the winter version except for color. The shoes were white oxfords.



1935-1938



Petty Girl Winter 1939



Petty Girl Summer 1939

Goodbye Lockheed "Connie" 1049G Constellation

Flight Simulator

One of the most popular attractions at our museum has been our Lockheed "Connie" 1049G Constellation flight simulator. The simulator was built specifically for the TWA Museum by the University of Central Missouri-Aviation School and has been a part of our museum since the beginning. Chris Nold, a former TWA Volunteer, developed all of the programming that was utilized in its operation. Guests were able to test their skills at making a takeoff and landing from Kansas City's downtown airport, MKC. Unfortunately, the Sim could only operate on antiquated hardware and software (its operating system was Windows 7). Thus, its continued operation was both costly and limited, as the system, with its current design, could not be upgraded. So, we have made the difficult decision to retire the Connie Sim.

Museum volunteers **Matt Larsen, Larry Dingman, Eric Morse and Dennis Claus** have been working hard on building a new Sim, which will feature a **TWA Boeing 717**. In addition, a second Sim, designed specifically for our younger guests, will feature a **Cessna 175**. The costs of building these Sims was financed by the Museum, and through generous donations from **Matt Larsen, Joe and Belinda Hobbs, and Art and Kathy Lujin**.



"Ellie"-February 15, 2024

THANK YOU!

The TWA Museum would like to thank the following businesses for their support in so many ways!



IWERX for allowing us use of their space for events and their continuing support!



Community America for their history and partnership in the future with the TWA Museum!



Silver Wings International for their generous and consistent donations they make to the TWA Museum!

Chris Funk owner of Picture and Frame Industries is our Treasurer and a member of our Board Directors. Most of the posters you see in the museum, as well as numerous prints, were framed by his company.

Clipped Wings International for their generous donation of \$49,000 to the TWA Museum and their wonderful in-person support at special events!



Signature Flight Support for their continued support in all our endeavors!



Thank you to our Caterer Emily McMurray of "Gourmet-ish", for helping us with the many events that we host!

Also thank you to our wonderful TWA former employees, Friends of the Museum, and all those who have donated items and money to make sure we preserve the history of TWA here in Kansas City, as well as the world.





Museum Legacy Society

The TWA Museum Legacy Society has been established to provide you the opportunity to commit a gift during your lifetime that will help preserve the TWA Museum for years to come!

Dying is not something we want to think about. However, if we want to have a say in what happens after our passing, we need to make sure our wishes are known ahead of time. If in lieu of flowers you would like Memorial Donations made to the TWA Museum in your memory or the memory of a loved one, make sure that your loved ones are told of your wishes or if you would like to leave part of your estate to the museum, make sure it is put in your will or trust to that effect.

All of the memorial Donations are tax deductible as the Museum is a 501C3 nonprofit.

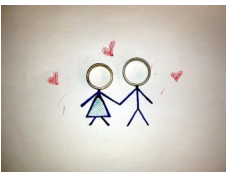
Need to Conduct Some Research?

The museum offers several links and resources in which to perform research. The museum's archives website and digital collection is a great place to start. Most of the information that you seek may be found by searching through the resources offered here:

<https://twamuseum.org/research>

<http://www.twamuseumarchives.org/>

MAKE YOUR PROM OR ENGAGEMENT A SPECIAL MEMORY AT THE TWA MUSEUM



We have had several requests for **Prom and Engagement Pictures** to be taken with Ellie, in our **vintage phone booths** or in the **Ambassador Club**. Now we can include our **Cabin Trainer!** We

love to get our pictures out there and welcome the opportunity for those special moments in time. A \$25.00 donation is suggested for personal phone photos and a \$50.00 donation for professional photographers. Reservations are recommended so we can secure the volunteers we need to help with this one of a kind opportunity. Call the Museum at **816-234-1011** to make your reservation!



TWA Museum Hours

Wednesday - Saturday 10 AM to 4 PM

Zana Allen
 Joe Ballweg
 Dianna Bennett
 Pam Blaschum
 Margo Cabillonar
 Larry Chalberg, Sr
 Dennis Claus
 Kevin Clossick
 Sandra Clouser
 John Coleman
 Jawn Collins
 Larry Dingman
 Robert Eckerle
 Chris Elkins
 Carol Emert
 Keith Epperson
 Caleb Flake
 Margie Foley
 Chris Funk
 Judy Gerling
 Joe & Belinda Hobbs
 Matt Larsen
 Janet Lhuiller
 Larry Lillge
 Don Lueke
 Art Lujin
 Gary Mayden
 John Mays
 Conner McCollim
 Lori Moore
 David Morningstar
 Eric Morse
 Mark Murtha
 Nina Newberry
 Shelley Tork Raker
 Ray Rowe
 Frank Ruege, Jr
 Lane Sisson
 Nancy Sitzmann
 Jay Stewart
 Mark Townsend
 Pam Tucker
 Alice Wasko
 Chelsey Willetts
 Craig Willetts
 Steve Wood

TWA Museum Volunteers

TWA Museum Volunteers

TWA Museum Volunteers

TWA Museum
10 NW Richards Rd
Kansas City, MO 64116-4253

Friend of the Museum

Additionally, if you would like to become a Friend of the Museum, please choose from the options below:

Individual - \$45.00

Benefits: Member card, unlimited free museum admission 1 year, a 10% discount in the gift shop and online sales, and advance notice to special events and exhibits.

(Senior \$35.00)

Benefits: Member card, unlimited free museum admission for family members 1 year, a 10% discount in the gift shop and online sales, and advance notice to special events and exhibits.

(Senior \$65.00)

Founders Club-\$2,500.00

Benefits: Member card, free family entry life of donor, 20% discount on all merchandise, newsletter, advance notice of special events and exhibits, PERMANENT RECOGNITION on beautiful plaque displayed in the TWA Museum.

Donation Form

Your support ensures that the Legacy of TWA and it's influence on early aviation remains intact within future generations, and for that WE THANK YOU!

If you would like to make a donation through this newsletter, please fill out the following form and mail it to the volunteers at:

TWA Museum

10 Richards Road, Suite 110

Kansas City, Missouri 64116

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

_____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ \$750 _____ \$1000 _____ Other _____

