

General Stafford's 80th Birthday Celebration



On September 17th and 18th, the museum held a huge two-day celebration for General Stafford's 80th birthday, in which several former astronauts, NASA personnel, and notable dignitaries flew in to help celebrate. The special guests in attendance included George Abbey, JC Elliot, Neil Armstrong, Cap. Gene Cernan, Alan Bean, Walt Cunningham, Maj. Gen. Joe Engle, Fred Haise Jr., Col. Jack Lousma, Cap. James Lovell, Cap. Bruce McCandless II, and Rep. Harold Wright. The day started with 200 elementary school students coming to hear stories and ask General Stafford questions. He told the students exciting stories about his time spent in space.

Then, the museum held a private luncheon for the corporate sponsors, astronauts, and dignitaries. Our corporate sponsors

included Axiom, Class of 1948, Dr. Badgett, JAFSC, MerlinOne, Omega Watch, ProFab, Sager Financial, Seagate, SWOSU Foundation, and Wells Fargo. After the private luncheon, the corporate sponsors, astronauts, and dignitaries received a special tour led by General Stafford!

Later that day, the museum Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers hosted a special VIP dinner in the Ballroom at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. While the guests mingled before dinner, the museum held a silent auction sponsored by Omega Watch and other private donors. Guests were able to bid on an Omega Speedmaster Watch and other autographed NASA and space memorabilia. The program that evening involved each astronaut standing up and sharing some flattering and some questionable

stories about General Stafford. In the midst of the fun stories, 'Marilyn Monroe' surprised General Stafford with a special singing of Happy Birthday Mr. Astronaut, leaving him red-faced and the crowd laughing.

On the second day of the event, the museum opened bright and early and invited the public to come help General Stafford celebrate. The day kicked off with a delicious pancake breakfast. Throughout the celebration, there were several activities including a fly-in, car show, helicopter rides, hamburgers, hot dogs, and a live performance by the Alex Damon Band.

The highlight of the day came when General Stafford cut his birthday cake to the tune of the public singing Happy Birthday. The event proved to be successful and General Stafford appreciated all who came out.

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New Additions to Coming to the Museum!

- Interactive Kiosks from Early flight- Rockets of the World
- Hands-on Exhibits
- Nature of Flight Exhibit
- Oklahoma careers in Aviation Exhibit

New Awning



Come and check out the new awning extending from the front doors of the museum!

Our magnificent awning was finished over Thanksgiving weekend. It provides a great entrance to the Stafford Air & Space

Museum, as well as protecting our visitors from the elements.

With an 18 foot clearance, the new awning is visible from the highway and accommodates the full height of tour buses.

This entrance helps to reduce the reverse

“Potemkin Village” effect that we have had for so long. Our reverse “Potemkin Village” effect means that the outside of the museum seems to be less magnificent than the inside of the museum.

We are so proud of the museum that General

Stafford has put together and we want to present it in the way that it deserves to be presented! Therefore, our entryway is now on its way to matching the quality of the museum inside.

A Grand Entrance!

Apollo Boilerplate

The Apollo Boilerplate will be finding a new home! We are moving it to its permanent display location. There will be bricks made available to personalize which will be placed around the base of the Boilerplate as a walkway.

The Boilerplate will be displayed on top of a mural of the Earth, depicting the Apollo Command Module reentering the Earth’s

atmosphere after a successful completion of a mission in space.

This Boilerplate was used by NASA and the United States Navy to test the weight and balance of the Apollo Command Module during a splashdown into the ocean.

This artifact is on loan from the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.



Above:
Boilerplate in its current position.

Education Center Additions

Work has begun on the new Nature of Flight mezzanine in the Rose and Tom Luczo Education Center! Activities in this area will be for kids of all ages.

The entire area will be filled with hands-on experiences to compare man-made flight technologies with their natural inspirations. The displays will include sections on navigation, camouflage, communication, and structure. Each section will have its own fun activities to show the comparisons.

The museum is very excited for this new addition to the Rose and Tom Luczo Education Center! Please visit our growing exhibit, with the first installment in early 2011.



More Additions...



Another new addition to the museum are our new touch screen computer kiosks! As you go through the museum, the new touch screens will give you additional information and fun videos about the Wright Flyer, F-86, F-16, and our thermonuclear bomb.

The museum also received another amazing donation from General Stafford. Located in the Apollo era are six new storyboards detailing the Apollo X and Apollo-Soyuz missions. Included in the storyboards are pictures and flown artifacts, depicting a pictorial history of the missions.

“Fright Flight”

On October 28th and 29th, the museum celebrated its first annual “Fright Flight.” The museum collaborated with the food pantry and the pregnancy care center to get donations, such as canned food items and diapers. These items served as the entrance fee for the festivities.

The late Wiley Post and Amelia Earhart led the tours of the haunted museum. Visitors who opted into the tour followed Post and Earhart through the haunted museum and experienced the mannequins coming to life all around them in the museum. During the tour, screams of terror

and fright filled the museum.

Other, less scary, activities for the entire family included a Halloween movie, carving ‘pumpkins,’ a costume contest, and various other crafts in the Apollo Conference Room.

In the Rose and Tom Luczo Education Center, we had bobbing for apples

along with ‘Captain Kreeps.’ It was a wonderful time for the staff, the volunteers, and everyone who came to visit!



Changing Experiences...

Phone: 580.772.5871
Fax: 580.772.0498
Email: director@staffordmuseum.com
staffordmuseum.com

Let Your Imagination Take Flight!



Tami Martyn, Ph.D.
Education Director

Nathan Davenport
Museum Coordinator



Admission Prices:

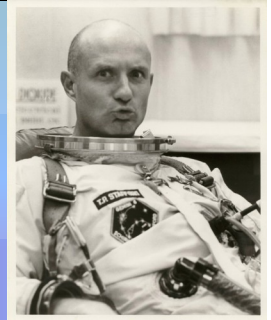
\$2.00 for Students

\$7.00 for Adults

\$5.00 for Seniors 55+

Children 5 and under are free!

The first Sunday of every
month is **FREE!**



Birthday Party Rentals:

\$50 for Members

\$100 for Non-Members

Scouts: \$30/Den

Groups: \$150/Pack



Upcoming Events:

February 5: Volunteer Brunch

February 23: NASA Workshop 8 am-5 pm

March 5: Volunteer Brunch

March 16-17: SASM Robotics Camp

March 31: STARBASE Education Training

April 2: Volunteer Brunch

May 7: Volunteer Brunch

For information on any of these scheduled events, please go to our website or call 580.772.5871

Upcoming Robotics Camp!

March 16-17

The museum is hosting a Robotics Camp. Get an Introduction to Robotics, from design to the functions of robotics. Camp will meet from 11-4:30 pm for 6th-9th grade students over Spring Break.

Come check it out!

Only \$35 per student!