

Texada Aviation Museum

C/O Texada Arts Culture & Tourism Society

PO Box 27, Van Anda, B.C.

Hangar\Unit 107, Texada Airport

VON 3K0



TAM Year-end Review: 2018

It's a great pleasure to be writing the first of what I hope will be a series of reviews about the Texada Aviation Museum. There's no doubt that I may miss some information as there is lots to present, but I hope that everyone will help me fill in the latest if I go off in the wrong directions or fail to mention items that are important!

The TAM is a great example of the current intention to make something pretty awesome out of very little. The TAM received a big financial boost thanks to the generous grant from the Canada/BC 150 Project. The funding provided the financing for cabinetry and building of the displays, tool benches and equipment to suspend the AirBuzz Mk I and the newly acquired Rasmussen Mini Max.

Donation of Mini Max to TAM

Which brings to mind, a thank you to Knud Rasmussen for generously donating his beloved ultralight Mini Max to the AeroSpace Camp. The blue fabric and wood airplane is about to be suspended as a static exhibit to be admired and appreciated by all who see it "flying" on its own hoisting system. It will be lowered periodically for cleaning and occasionally displayed on the ground.

Kudos

This year has been a great experience for the volunteers who worked so hard to put the museum here. Without the volunteers, it certainly would not be the little gem it has become.

First of all, the kudos go out to Gerry and David Johnson for many hours of cabinet making, painting and metal polishing and more, like placing the many exhibits in the wall areas where room and angles of viewing presented unnatural challenges. Other challenges include making the most of the space that needs to be shared with art, mobile displays, and suspending aircraft to save floor space. A major project was to motorize the lifting mechanisms that do the job of lifting and lowering the AirBuzz Mk I and the Minimax... Jim Johnson gets a big thank you as well for his work in helping to raise and rig the Amateur Radio Antenna. The radios (donated to the AeroSpace Camp from Jack Paddock's estate by Elsie Paddock) all tested out as serviceable! Sincere thanks to Jack and Elsie. Thanks to all who have so generously donated so much equipment and so many books and magazines for the library.



Books and more Books

The Museum Library is getting more shelving as the number of aviation books now is in excess of one thousand tomes. The long job of classification is about to start, so the staff can post book titles on the website. Hopefully, pilots and aviation aficionados will thus be aware of what books are available so they can borrow whatever their tastes dictate. A membership fee of \$10.00 will permit members to borrow books and participate in special meetings pertinent to the business of the museum.

Drive for Modern Astronomy Books, DVDs and Equipment

During AeroSpace Camp's the ten year development the astronomy aspect of the curriculum has been limited. Hopefully the public can be encouraged to donate newer magazines and possibly books and videos that are more modern.

A recent generous donation of a very high quality 15 x Bausch and Lomb telescope from Mr. Larry Dawe is a most welcome acquisition. The telescope will be used for scanning the skies during the evenings of the Camps at the airport where there is minimal light pollution.

Development

During early spring of 2018, the Texada Museum was just an idea. By December of 2018, the museum was actively in the “business” of displaying all kinds of aircraft models, components, art and of course the dioramas. The Library has become stocked with over a thousand books and publications ranging from children’s fiction to technical instructional books and videos. Plans are being made to construct more shelving units on wheels to allow for the growing collection of books.



Storage room is at a premium, so an addition to the rear of the hangar was recently built to store lumber and larger pieces of equipment. As planned since the beginning of the hangar project, a radio “shack” has been located on the mezzanine. Besides the radio equipment, it contains the solar collector charging controls and deep cycle batteries to power the hangar’s emergency lighting. The ham radios also serve as a back-up communication system for Emergency Services on Texada.

Additions to collections

Recent addition of digital photos includes a large collection of images of the iconic Avro CF-100 Canuck. Nearly one hundred photos ranging from the early 1950s to the 1970s records a vast number of different squadrons’ markings and poses of the old “CF-Clunk”. These will be put on a streaming display on the hangar’s monitor during the Fly-In and public display days. A smaller but nevertheless spectacular photo collection of CF 101 Voodoo interceptors also was acquired.

An RCAF officer’s uniform has been donated to the TAM by Dennis and Toni Senft. It will be displayed as soon as we acquire a mannequin. An RCAF squadron badge and rank badge/ button collection is being assembled. Donations to this project are welcome.



Best of 2019 to all,

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5th January, 2019

RE: Texada Aviation Museum (TAM) Library

We have quickly accumulated nearly a thousand books, manuals and aviation related documents. Our original plan to have a 12 foot x 8 foot reading room and library is quickly becoming a re-planning situation; all shelves are now full... but it is good. We are cataloguing the collection and will make it available for people to borrow when we have completed that.

Please feel free to come to the hangar and browse, check out the aviation displays and have a coffee. Flight simulator rides (by donation) are available by appointment daily from 10 AM - 8PM.

Memberships to the museum and the library will be available 15th January.

Doby Dobrostanski