

MAHEC

NEWS

A Newsletter of the Minnesota Aviation History and Education Center

Fall, 2007

MAHEC HISTORY AND FUTURE

Most of you have read and heard about and been part of MAHEC in one way or another. However, what has happened since we last received an up date of things MAHEC.

Numerous changes have taken place. First, one was to find a home. A location where MAHEC could establish an office and library aka Research Center. This was located by every body's friend Noel Allard, Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame when he received an offer from Gary Lysdale, Lysdale Flying Service to occupy the Jack Lysdale Library in Hangar 5, South Saint Paul Airport but perhaps better known to some as Fleming Field.

This was a relief to both organizations as their space needs were increasing. MAHEC has been the recipient of numerous donations of material not only in the way of books, papers, pictures but also model airplanes, large scale model airplanes. If you drop by the Fleming Field Terminal building you will see a group of large-scale airplanes hanging from the ceiling. One of this group a model of the Spirit of St. Louis was built by students in Bloomington who were in a aviation class taught by Ollie Kordahl, the donor of this and 3 other models.

MASM donated it's collection of books including scrap books containing airplane picture cards lots of us collected in our youth. Gary Kuhn the original collector is now working on the pages that have suffered with age. Great collection.

Naturally obvious office furniture and equipment was required and donated. From file cabinet to shelving to computer and printed.

Recently the Wright Flyer built for the 1st Century of Flight celebration locally has been moved from Wings Aviation Museum at Anoka Airport where it has been on display since the celebration to Fleming Field where it is currently stored in space again donated by Gary Lysdale.

Goal is to have the Wright Flyer moved into Hangar 5 and suspended from the hangar ceiling. First off, however, there is need to make some major repairs to damage that occurred during loading, trucking and unloading. With the onset of winter, here about this project has had to be stopped due to lack of a warm work and storage space. Cold weather is also not good for the Flyer but heated space is not easy to locate. Gary has someone working on design for the suspension system to be used. This design work is also being donated which is much appreciated.

Among the list of projects ahead are to build some diarams fitting with aviation and reflecting donated material. First, one probably will be of Fleming Field looking back to the WWII use by the U. S. Navy. Recently Gary Lysdale came up with copies of airport dating back to those days. Thus, interest is this display. Second may be reflecting aviation and farming as the Minnesota Flying Farmers will be centralizing their organizations records in the MAHEC Research Center. Seems to tie together. And than of course there is, well lets see how about or perhaps and many others.

November 26, 2007

Gathering Time 7:00P.M.

Place – Fleming Field Terminal Building

Meeting Time 7:30P.M.

Program Topic

Presenter

October Gathering

Those in attendance enjoyed a presentation by Julie Faber from BRS.

Julie presented an interesting program and with the use of a BRS canister explained how it worked when called upon.

Interesting presentation.

Why did I not know about this presentation.

For the past number of months the only method of notification of meetings, and topics, has been via Email. Now the MAHEC Newsletter is back in publication but only on a Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter schedule.

To allow MAHEC to update you monthly regarding the upcoming program please forward you Email address. This use also helps control the paper and postage costs, which many groups have discovered.

If you do not have Email available pleas notify MAHEC so that at a minimum a one page notice can be sent to you via U.S. Postal Service.

To update MAHEC records respond with above information to President Richard Wicklund via his Email address or MAHEC mailing address listed on following page.

MAHEC NEWS is published by the Minnesota Aviation History and Education Center (MAHEC) for the use, education and enjoyment of members, subscribers and others to whom it is provided. MAHEC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the recognition of the contributions of aviation in social, economic and technological development in the State of Minnesota and worldwide. MAHEC will provide educational opportunities so that these contributions will be remembered, understood and evaluated in their context; and public education about aviation and opportunities for today.

The address of record is:

MAHEC
PO Box 7884
St. Paul, MN 55107-7884

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It's easier to see
the mistakes in
someone
else's
newsletter

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Dick Wicklund

The history of MAHEC to date has been interesting and educational. Educationally one never knows what is going to turn up next. The acquiring necessary file cabinets and book cases, chairs etc. came up rather quickly when the word got out that MAHEC found a home and was ready to begin accepting donations of aviation related stuff. There is still a box of items donated by a friend from church Chuck Rettig who knew he was terminally ill and wanted to see that his boxes of aviation related items went to a good home. Ran out of bookshelf space until recently so can get back at inventorying and placing in open space now available.

In the opening article, it was mentioned that the Minnesota Flying Farmers were preparing to move their records to the MAHEC Research Center. Currently there are two unknowns with this project the first one being when. Currently the files are being reviewed and some of the material being eliminated as it does not have any historical value. Presume that this might take all winter especially if they work on the same schedule as I do. Upon receipt of these records than it will be necessary to determine just how much and what type of shelving or file cabinets will be required. Sure, hope that there is a good 3M Co. surplus sale at the right time. These sales have been a big help in the past.

With the move to Fleming Field MAHEC also has been given the privilege of using the mail conference room in the airport terminal building. MAHEC has used this space once a month 10 months out of the year for meetings and programs. The most recent program was one put on by Julie Faber, Sales Assistant, BRS also located at Fleming Field. Good program especially for those present with little or no knowledge about their product not that many individuals involved in aviation have not heard something about BRS and their emergency chute system for aircraft.

To grow the educational side of MAHEC there is interest in developing programs about various aviation companies, events, locations and of course people and airplanes. The desire is to record these programs and make them available to organizations and schools around the state, aviation orientated, civic groups or historical organizations. Minnesota has a rich history in aviation that should present many opportunities.

From the above you certainly can see a number of interesting projects and ideas needing development. To explore these and getting those moving what is needed are YOU and or your organization or company. Give it a thought and let us talk.