



COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE



Annual Report **2017**

Sixty Years and Counting

THE COMMEMORATIVE AIR Force (CAF) has an awesome responsibility: For the past 60 years, the CAF has proudly preserved American World War II military aircraft as a means of honoring the stories and sharing the lessons learned from the brave men and

men and a desire to save a few World War II aircraft to honor those who served has grown into what the world knows today as the Commemorative Air Force.

From our humble beginnings in 1957, the CAF has grown into 80 units in 28 states and four foreign countries. At the heart of the CAF today are 12,000-plus volunteers and more than 170 aircraft that are our source of inspiration and excitement. The positive impact that

(Women Airforce Service Pilots) who piloted them, the maintenance personnel who kept them flying, and the engineers and workers who built them.

As we continue to look forward, the CAF will carry on the mission to educate and inspire all generations by honoring the legacy of the men and women who served and sacrificed so much during World War II in the fight for freedom. Using the lessons from the past, we empower the future by helping people reach goals they might otherwise not aspire to achieve.

A core component of fulfilling our vision is the launch of the National Aviation Education Center at CAF headquarters at Dallas Executive Airport. Fundraising for the Education Center is in progress, with ground-breaking projected for the first quarter of 2019. Prototype programs developed at the Education Center will be provided to volunteers in CAF units across the country as new tools to educate and inspire students in their own communities.

Reflecting on the accomplishments of 2017 and looking forward to all that lies ahead, we recognize that what we do to educate, inspire and honor is only possible because of the generous support of many individuals and organizations that contribute to helping the CAF achieve success. We are excited about our future and are proud of our organization's history and contributions toward remembering the Greatest Generation.



Henry "Hank" Coates
PRESIDENT/CEO

women who built, flew and maintained these iconic airplanes in their selfless quest to rid the world of tyranny.

There were many significant anniversaries to commemorate in 2017, including the 60th anniversary of our own organization. What started as five

these aircraft have on the lives of people today is as powerful as it was 75 years ago during World War II.

We're proud of our 60-year role in preserving American military aviation history. We're honored to be entrusted with the stories of the airmen and WASP



JIM KOERNICK

*As we continue to look forward,
the CAF will carry on the mission to
educate, inspire and honor.*



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CAF kicked off the milestone anniversary year by illustrating its history through a limited edition 60-year retrospective about the birth and growth of the organization. In July, a reception was held at EAA AirVenture—America's largest airshow. Hundreds of aviation enthusiasts joined in celebrating the organization which started the warbird movement. In October, the 60th-anniversary celebration continued at the annual CAF Wings Over Dallas WWII Airshow held at the organization's headquarters. This event included an American Air Power aerial parade of dozens of the CAF's prized restored aircraft.

For six decades the CAF has shared stories and flown iconic aircraft to increase awareness of the historical significance of World War II aviation, to honor all of the military and civilians of the Greatest Generation, and to inspire future generations to consider careers in aviation.

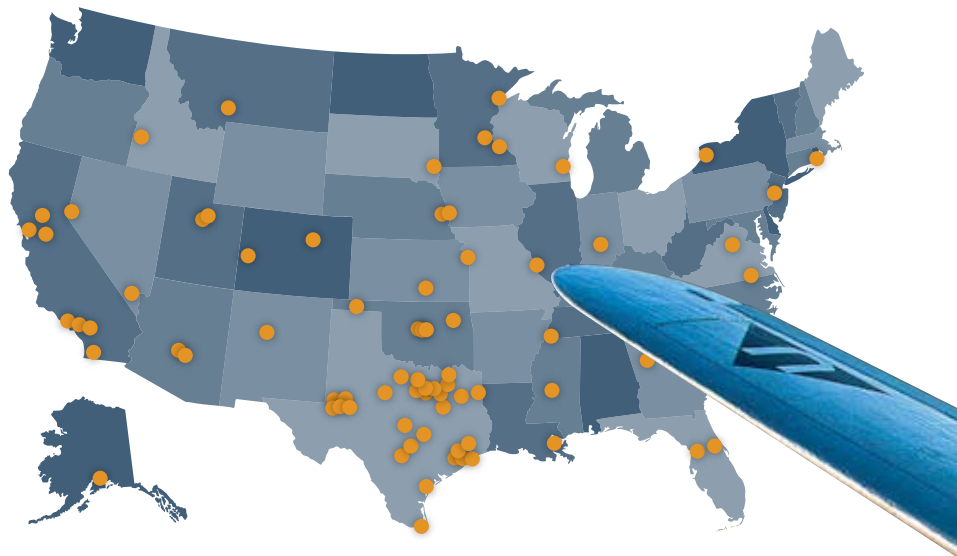
LEFT Consolidated PB4Y-1 Catalina; CAF's pioneer members in front of the P-40 Warhawk; Colonel Culppepper's Flying Circus; Grumman F6F Hellcat and Mitsubishi A6M3 Zero; WWII Tuskegee Airmen volunteering with the CAF Red Tail Squadron

RIGHT CAF Founder Lloyd P. Nolen; C-47 *That's All, Brother*; 2017 CAF Wings Over Dallas WWII Airshow; Lloyd Nolen cropdusting in 1963; WWII WASP Jane Doyle



Fiscal Year 2017

THE COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE Companies refers to four corporations which comprise the organization: American Airpower Heritage Flying Museum (AAHFM), "the aircraft"; American Airpower Heritage Museum (AAHM), "the artifacts"; American Airpower Heritage Foundation (AAHF), "the endowment"; and the Commemorative Air Force (CAF), "the Members".



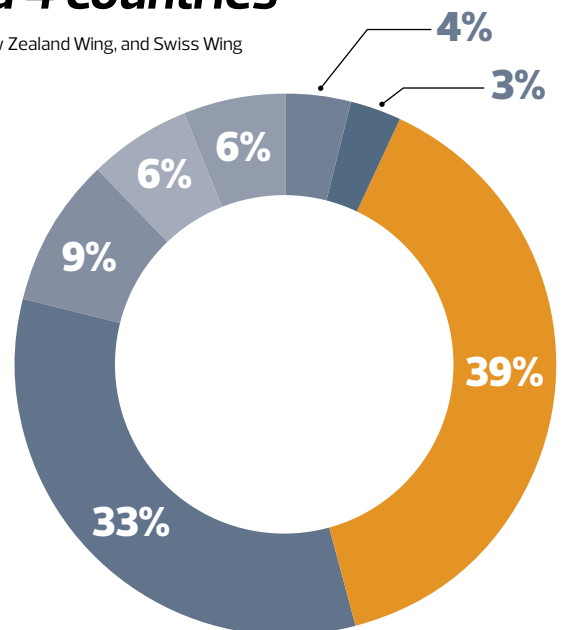
80 units in 28 states and 4 countries*

* Australia Wing, French Wing, New Zealand Wing, and Swiss Wing

2017 Revenue

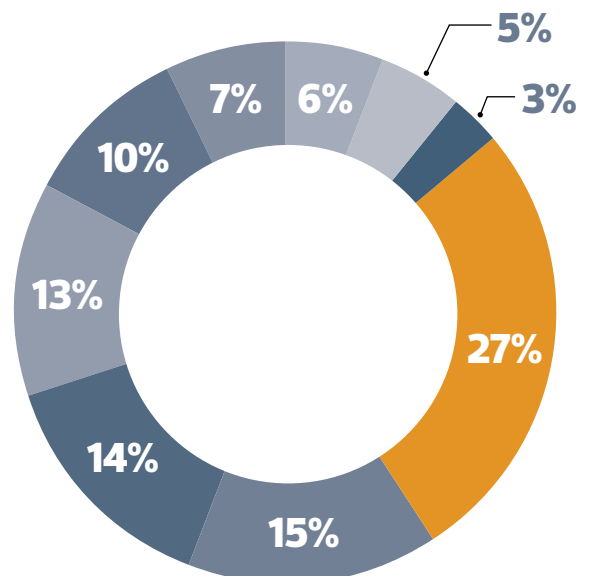
Contributions	\$11,180,883	39%
Airshow, Display & Education*	\$9,306,094	33%
Operating & Merchandising	\$2,665,137	9%
Membership	\$1,741,089	6%
Grants	\$1,625,272	6%
Investment Income	\$1,097,058	4%
Other	\$751,674	3%
TOTAL	\$28,367,207	100%

*Event Sponsorship, Ticket Sales, Aircraft Rides, Aircraft Tours, and Appearance Fees



2017 Expenses

Aircraft Maintenance & Restoration	\$7,258,947	27%
Airshow, Display & Education	\$4,127,309	15%
Operations & Facilities	\$3,754,098	14%
Personnel	\$3,396,430	13%
Fundraising	\$2,665,990	10%
General & Administration	\$1,815,827	7%
Contracted Services	\$1,493,981	6%
Other	\$1,459,885	5%
Membership & Marketing	\$852,900	3%
TOTAL	\$26,825,367	100%



Growth of Net Assets: \$1,541,840



1,000,000+
volunteer hours



270,000+
Facebook fans



MOOSE PETERSON



300
airshows/
events/displays



12,384
members
worldwide



172 aircraft
cared for

Doolittle Raid 75th Anniversary

ON APRIL 18, 1942, LESS THAN 20 WEEKS AFTER THE bombing of Pearl Harbor, 80 volunteer airmen in 16 B-25's landed the first blows on Japanese soil, bombing six targets. This critical mission, executed shortly after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, was crucial in unifying the country and creating confidence that freedom would win over tyranny.

In 2017, the Commemorative Air Force participated in three celebrations of the 75th anniversary of this historic event—two of which were attended by Lt. Col. Richard "Dick" Cole, Doolittle's co-pilot and the sole living member of the 80-man team.

Each event was unique, beginning in April at The National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton, OH, which included a fly-over and missing man formation. The July commemoration at EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, WI included 11 B-25's participating in a dusk reenactment of the raid on Japan complete with pyrotechnics.

Finally, the CAF Wings Over Dallas WWII Airshow commemoration was notable as the first time all six CAF-owned B-25's were together. Visitors at Wings Over Dallas also experienced daily reenactments of the famed Doolittle Raid as the B-25 bombers roared to life in close proximity, just as they were nestled together 75 years earlier on the deck of the *USS Hornet*.



Believe and Achieve

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH (STEM) are not new concepts; they have been explored, applied, and developed for the advancement of civilization since the beginning of time. The amazing machines that the Commemorative Air Force restores and flies were created in a time when computing power was limited to a slide-rule in the hands of an engineer.

This spirit of education through aviation and empowerment through inspiration has taken a more prominent role in the mission of the Commemorative Air Force in recent years. Below are just a few of the high-impact programs that reached tens of thousands of people in 2017.

RISE ABOVE Program

The Tuskegee Airmen was the first, all African-American fighter squadron to be formed in what was in 1941 still a segregated military. This group of airmen, who comprised one of the most decorated units in the Army Air Corps, showed the world that race was not an indicator of competency. Their story of rising above obstacles to achieve greatness is the essence of RISE ABOVE programming that reached nearly 40,000 students in 2017. The RISE ABOVE: Red Tail program promotes the building blocks of courage, character, persistence and empowerment through the life lessons demonstrated by the Tuskegee Airmen.

Family Fun Zone at CAF Wings Over Dallas WWII Airshow

Thousands of families visited the Family Fun Zone during the three-day event. Numerous community organizations partnered with the CAF, together providing innovative learning through experiential aviation STEM-related hands-on activities. Youth of all ages experienced a variety of aviation topics from the dynamics of flight, to modeling, to simulators and more.

Immersive Dome Theaters

Leveraging the latest in multimedia technology, the portable dome theater was activated as an interactive mobile classroom. The dome, accommodating up to 40 students, features an immersive surround projection environment to show videos, slides, presentations and films.

The National Aviation Education Center

An initial concept of the proposed National Aviation Education Center was unveiled in late 2017. Fundraising efforts continue toward the goal of building this aviation learning center of excellence on the CAF campus at the Dallas Executive Airport. When complete, the education center will feature hangar-based classrooms and workshops, distance learning options, STEM programs as part of school curricula, summer camps and more.





COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE

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Educate. Inspire. Honor.