

STAY UPDATED

**Walker** Aviation Museum

www.wafbmuseum.org

# NEWSLETTER

MAY  
2022



Please donate today to keep our museum running [gofundme.com/WalkerMuseum](https://gofundme.com/WalkerMuseum).

## Current Museum Status

The Walker Aviation Museum in the Roswell Air Terminal was closed from April 2020 to October 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic and a flood that damaged the museum in late May 2021. It took about 100 days for the flooded museum to be repaired and open. Thanks to an Xcel Energy Foundation grant, the museum acquired two Edustation flight simulators from StemPilot, Inc.. The museum also acquired a computer, large screen, speaker system, desk and a "Stand Steady" adjustable height screen holder. From these two systems visiting students are shown YouTube videos to introduce them to 10 potential STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) civilian and military careers. These video include: ENMU – Roswell Aviation Maintenance Technician Program and the Krumland Auto Group and ENMU-R Auto Mechanic Program. The students get an opportunity to fly a Cessna 172 aircraft on the flight simulators. As of mid-March 2022 approximately 65 students have flown the simulators and received the STEM career briefings.

Currently the museum is open Monday through Friday for about 2 hours prior to midday flight departure

## Exciting Things Are Happening



# NEWSLETTER

times. If there are 2 midday flights then we are open for about 3 to 4 hours. Since we currently do not have any employees, the museum is manned by a few volunteers from the Board of Directors and a few other volunteers. There is a potential plan in the development stage to coordinate with nearby University High School to have some students man the museum during the evening hours while they complete a course in museum operation or facility management.

The museum board members are working hard to get more local young people scheduled to attend the orientations. Some board members are teaming up with the local Experimental Aircraft Association and the local Civil Air Patrol in order to assist each other with their mission to assist the local youth.

## Museum Location & Layout Status

The museum is in the process of upgrading and organizing its displays. A corner room in the museum will be organized to display the Atlas F ballistic missile that was operational at 12 locations surrounding Roswell, NM from about September 1962 till 1965.



## F-105 Status

Congressman Steve Pearce arranged for the transport of the F105 to Hobbs. They have begun the extensive body work repairs on the plane and will include it in the Veterans Memorial Dedication Ceremony in Hobbs on Monday, May 30th at 1 .m. 5120 Jack Gomez Blvd., Hobbs. We are so happy it will be on display in a worthwhile memorial for everyone to see.

## Contact

Phone :  
575.347.2464

Address :  
P.O. Box 4080  
Roswell, NM 88202

Web & Email :  
[www.wafbmuseum.org](http://www.wafbmuseum.org)  
[info@wafbmuseum.org](mailto:info@wafbmuseum.org)  
[facebook.com/walkeraviationmuseum](https://facebook.com/walkeraviationmuseum)

## We are Working to Grow our Board

Need additional adults to join the Walker Aviation Museum Foundation Board of Directors. We are also looking for enthusiastic volunteers to assist in manning the museum for about 2 to 4 hours a few times per month. We also need volunteers to assist in briefing visiting students on the history of WAFB, assisting the students in flying the flight simulators and running the computer to brief students on civilian and military STEM careers.

## Fundraising

Due to the small number of Board of Directors, the annual Golf Tournament to raise money was cancelled. Fund raising will be from individual or company contributions. Contributors will be recognized via an attractive signs at the museum and through our monthly 720 to 755 AM radio program on the first Tuesday of each month on 106.5, Talk FM.



Please donate today to keep our museum running  
[gofundme.com/WalkerMuseum](https://gofundme.com/WalkerMuseum)





## Flag Flying for Veterans

On 24 Feb 2022, two of the museum board members flew the American Flag at the Roswell Air Terminal for Clifford Ray Thrasher, a member of the 686th Radar Group during the 1950s. The flag, along with a certificate and a few photos were then forwarded to his son and wife in Collinwood, TN.



On April 18, we flew another memorial flag. Walker Aviation Museum was honored to fly the Star-Spangled Ambassador over the old Walker Air Force Base. Richard E. Parks, CMSGT, USAF, Retired is the owner of the flag. He was stationed at WAFB from 1963 to 1967 with the 6th OMS Bomber Branch.



Thank you, Mr. Thrasher & Mr. Parks, for allowing us this opportunity to be a part of these flag's travels!



Robert Sherman and Bob Donnell are our wonderful volunteers who are making these flag-raising events possible.



## 509 th WPS USAF Weapons School KC-135 Visit



The 509th Refueling Squadron from Fairchild AFB, WA visited the Roswell Air Center between 3 and 5 March 2020. Approximately 30 local students were given a briefing on their mission and were

given a tour of the KC-135. Some of the students visited the Walker Aviation Museum to receive a WAFB history briefing, operate the flight simulators and received a briefing on 10 potential STEM careers.



## Wall Mounted Touch Screens

We now have two wall mounted touch screen computers that provide our visitors a 2 minute history of Walker Air Force Base and a 2 minute history of the 579th Atlas F ballistic missile squadron assigned to Walker AFB from 1961 to 1965. Additional subjects are scheduled to be added by May 2022.



## New Storage Site

Due to extensive flood damage in May 2021, the Walker Aviation Museum storage site was moved to the new U-Haul storage facility on South Main Street. This is an excellent climate controlled storage site for museum items not currently on display.



## Working with Military Recruiters

In order to support the Roswell Independent School District's focus on providing students exposure to potential STEM career opportunities some WAMF Board members are coordinating with the regional US Army, US Army National Guard, US Marine Corps, US Air Force and US Navy recruiters to provide assistance and information to students that may want to pursue a military STEM career that could include highly technical and career enhanced training along with financial aid to pursue further college training upon leaving or staying in the military.



## Thank you!

Bob Donnell and Robert Sherman have been working non-stop with museum improvements. These gentlemen have been working on repairs, getting the STEM education going, touch screens, layout and so much more. Please be sure to thank them for all their efforts! They keep us going!





The museum was successful in obtaining a significant grant from Xcel Energy Foundation to purchase two flight simulators from StemPilot, Inc. in 2021. The Walker Aviation Museum Foundation will be applying for additional grant support to enhance the museum experience in 2023.



## Always Looking for Support

We are still located on the right as you enter the Roswell Air Terminal from the main north door. (1 Jerry Smith Circle, Roswell, NM 88203)

Please visit our web site: [www.wafbmuseum.org](http://www.wafbmuseum.org)  
Telephone: 575-347-2464  
Facebook at [facebook.com/walkeraviationmuseum](https://facebook.com/walkeraviationmuseum)  
Email: [walkeramuseum@gmail.com](mailto:walkeramuseum@gmail.com)

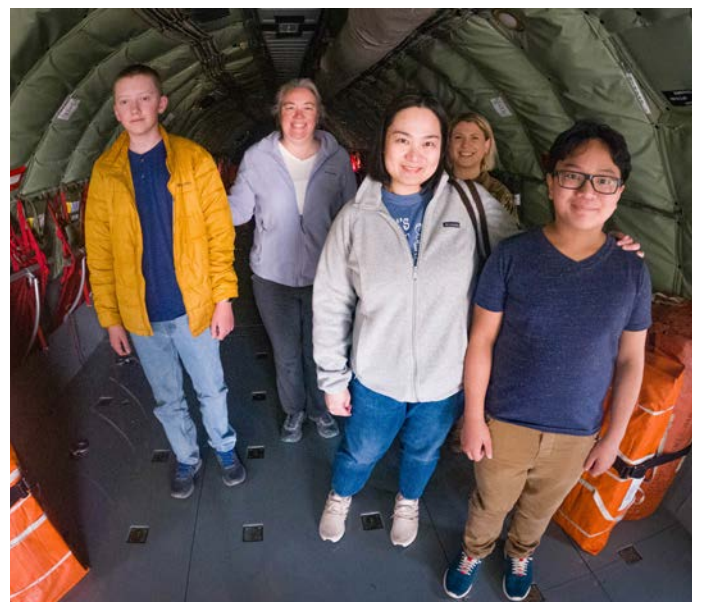
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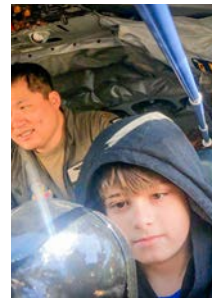
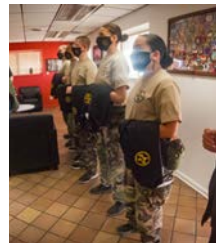
Membership categories to help us keep our doors open include: basic (\$50), student (\$25), family (\$75), senior (\$45), veteran (\$30) and corporate or group (\$200 - \$1000). Mailing address: WAMF, P.O. Box 4080, Roswell, NM 88202-4080.



## More photos from the 509th visit



## More photos from the 509th visit



1 Jerry Smith Circle  
Roswell, New Mexico 88203