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BRIEFINGS

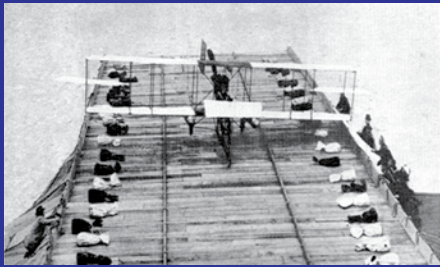


Jan-April 2023

HILLER AVIATION MUSEUM WHERE INSPIRATION TAKES FLIGHT

CITY AT SEA

By Willie Turner



USS Pennsylvania

On a cold January morning in 1911 pilot Eugene Ely cranked-up his Curtiss Pusher aircraft and took off from a temporary airfield in San Bruno, CA, at the Tanforan horse racing track. He made his way around Oyster Point and headed toward his destination floating in the San Francisco Bay just off Goat Island (now called Yerba Buena Island). His target was the USS Pennsylvania, an Armored Cruiser that had a wooden deck installed to allow him to attempt a landing. The makeshift deck was strung with ropes attached to sailor seabags filled with sand that lined the deck. Ely's aircraft had a meat hook installed in order to catch the ropes to stop him. His plane had no brakes. One hundred eleven years ago, on January 18, Ely made the first Naval "Trap," successfully catching the 13th rope and stopping a few feet from the ship's giant smokestack. Many historians credit this feat as the "Birth of Naval Aviation."

Having worked at the Hiller Aviation Museum since its inception, I have told Ely's story many times. It was a remarkable feat that changed military aviation forever. Naval aircraft still use the same concept today, albeit much more complex and advanced.

Last October I was given a rare opportunity to experience Aircraft Carrier Operations firsthand, and to make it even more special, I was able to do it with my

eldest son. We departed Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego, but unlike Ely we weren't flying a rickety biplane. Our chariot was a CV-22 Osprey. The big difference with the CV-22 is that it is a VTOL (Vertical Takeoff and Landing) aircraft so we didn't actually perform a TRAP landing. We simply landed very gently on the deck, much like a helicopter. Our destination was the USS Abraham Lincoln CVN-72, floating about 150 miles off the coast of Mexico.



CV-22 Landing

The next 24 hours was a nonstop whirlwind of activity. Upon landing we were immediately briefed by the ship's Public Affairs team and greeted by the ship's Executive Officer (XO), who is second in command behind the Captain. Our next stop was to be on the deck of the ship and watch the "Carrier Quals" operation, where brand new pilots experience their first solo landings on the carrier. We were presented with our "white" carrier deck attire that consisted of a helmet and flack jacket. The deck of a carrier is full of color, each color representing various jobs performed by sailors. The white apparel represented DV, which stands for Distinguished Visitor, but we knew it really meant Dumb Visitor since we knew absolutely nothing and were at the mercy of the professional sailors to ensure our safety.



Leaping Leprechaun
by helicopter March 12



Spring Model Train Show
April 8 - 16



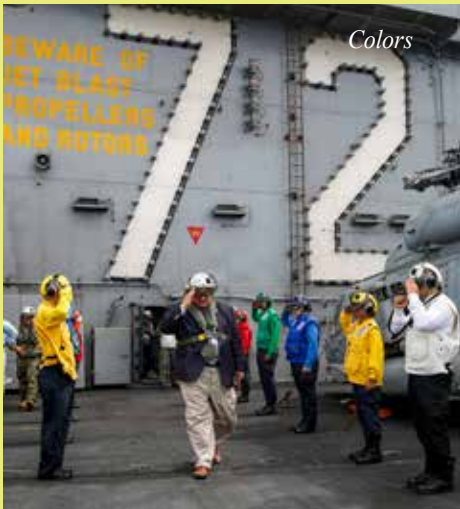
Easter Bunny
by helicopter April 8



Smithsonian Institution
Affiliations Program



The deck of a carrier is an exciting place, and at the same time one of the most dangerous places on earth. The sea of colors seems to move about the deck in a skillfully choreographed dance as the sailors perform their jobs. Each job is critical to the safe execution of the deck operations, and they all take it very seriously. Standing mere feet away from an F-35 or F/A-18 fighter jet landing is the most exhilarating thing I have ever experienced. The feeling of the heat from the jet engines and the sound of the cable ripping across the deck as the jet grabs the 3rd cable (a perfect TRAP) is something I will never forget.



I was a little worried that since they started the tour with the best part, the deck operations, that the rest would be anticlimactic, but I was wrong. We toured the Air Boss Tower (the Air Boss is in charge of flight operations), as well as the Bridge where the Captain works and resides when the ship is at sea. We then toured the nuts and bolts of the operation: the hangar deck, the machine shops, aircraft engine maintenance, the anchor room, the brig (jail), ships defense operations, aircraft squadron ready rooms and especially interesting, the mess halls. The ship has seven mess halls to feed the 3,200 sailors on board three meals a

day. By the way, the food was really good! We were told that sleeping wouldn't be a problem because we would be so tired from walking the entire ship all day. They were partially correct. As tired as we were though, our quarters were located directly under the #3 catapult, and night operations ran until 1AM. Imagine you pitch a tent about 10 feet from a railroad track and the train goes by every 45 seconds. Needless to say, 6AM reveille came very early.

There was more touring the next day and then another CV-22 Osprey flight back to NAS North Island. The only disappointing part of the trip was that we never were able to meet the ship's Captain. The Commanding Officer is Capt. Amy Bauernschmidt, the first female to command an aircraft carrier. It would have been a pleasure to meet her, but every time we were scheduled something of greater importance always called her away.

The takeaway from this experience is an even greater appreciation for the men and women that serve in the United States Navy. I was already in awe of the pilots and the skill it takes to land a jet on a moving runway, but my admiration grew for the sailors that live on this giant floating hunk of steel for up to nine months at sea at a time. They live in close quarters, and the average age is between 18-22 years old. I'm certain Eugene Ely would have found this City at Sea quite remarkable.



More about the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier:

- **Commissioned:** 1989
- **Motto:** "Shall Not Parish" a quote from Abraham Lincoln
- **Nickname:** Abe
- **Crew:** 3,200
- **Aircraft on board:** 90 fixed wing and helicopters
- **This carrier was used in the filming of** Top Gun Maverick

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



One of the final elements of museum activity to see improvement in the post-pandemic environment is the return of K-12 school field trips. We

are pleased to see the smiling faces of students and their teachers once again as they explore our aircraft gallery and participate in STEM programming designed to enhance their science curriculum. During the height of the pandemic, such activity had dropped essentially to zero except for distance learning programs and virtual activities. Thanks to the efforts of our VP of Education, Jon Welte, and his team, we are seeing over 4,000 children visiting or planning to visit the museum with their classrooms this academic year.

A flagship educational program for the museum is Aero Design Challenge, an intensive hands-on engineering experience for grades 4-8. Held annually since 2013, Aero Design Challenge celebrates the design thinking process in the world of flight. Offered at no cost to school participants through the generous support of sponsors, including the JetBlue Foundation, and utilizing scores of volunteers from local technology businesses and universities, Aero Design Challenge has engaged over 3,500 participants since its inception. This year over 500 participants have reserved sessions from 19 schools. We look forward to seeing Aero Design Challenge expand significantly in the months and years ahead.

A heartfelt "thank you" goes to all of the many contributors, visitors and museum Members for supporting us and making the museum part of your lives. There are great things coming, and we look forward to seeing you at the Hiller Aviation Museum.

Jeffery Bass, President & CEO

Hiller Aviation Museum is going green with digital eMembership cards.

Members, please visit www.hiller.org/digital-membership for details and download the eMembership App on your Smartphone.



REGISTER NOW

WWW.HILLER.ORG/RUN

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2023



**HILLER
AVIATION
MUSEUM**

Hiller Aviation Museum
Presents



THE
AIRPORT RUNWAY
RUN

2K | 5K | 10K

WALK

JOG

STROLL

on the
San Carlos Airport Runway!

Certified 5K and 10K courses & 2K fun run

**SPONSORSHIPS
NOW AVAILABLE!**

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

BILL YENNE: BUILDING THE B-17

PRESENTATION & BOOK SIGNING
JANUARY 28, 2023, 11 AM



This is the book that the Abwehr would have paid a million dollars for in 1943!

The Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress was one of the greatest aircraft in aviation history. It was the spearhead of the American bombing offensive in Europe from beginning to end, becoming the preeminent symbol of the doctrine of strategic airpower.

But this book is not about its combat career. This book covers, in minute detail, the design and development of every variant from the XB-17 prototype to the B-17G. This is the story of the production of 12,731 B-17 Flying Fortresses, rolled out in 26 months. By 1944, Boeing had achieved a monthly total in excess of 360 aircraft, with days when as many 16 came off the line.

This is the story not of one endless assembly line, but of three assembly lines, owned and operated by three rival companies—Boeing in Seattle, Douglas Aircraft in Santa Monica, and the Vega Aircraft division of Lockheed in Burbank, California.

This complexity was multiplied, not just the coordination of the building variants of the airplanes themselves. There were components and subassemblies coming from countless subcontractors and suppliers throughout the country. Of course, all of the components and subassemblies, like the overall aircraft—never mind the Wright Cyclone engines—went through numerous changes, dozens of them at every block turn.

Just a few of the stories told are those of the Bendix Chin Turret, the Block Production System, the Cheyenne Tail Turret, the H2X (AN/APS-15) Radar, the Honeywell C1 Autopilot, the Modification Center Concept, the Norden Bombsight, the Seattle Plant 2, the Sperry Ball Turret, the Vega XB-38, the Wright Cyclone variants, and the XB-40/YB-40 Flying Fortress.

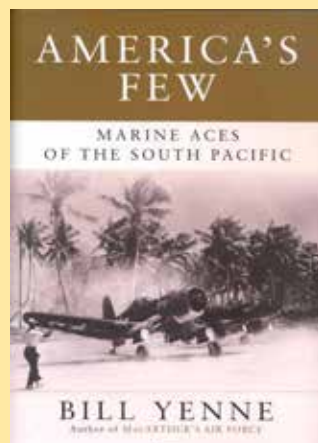
We'll take you inside, deep inside, each variant and the program itself—with little known minutia and the big picture of a remarkable and unforgettable aircraft.

BILL YENNE: AMERICA'S FEW

PRESENTATION & BOOK SIGNING
FEBRUARY 25, 2023, 11 AM

They were America's Few, this handful of US Marine Corps aviators.

The term "Few" is, of course, borrowed from Winston Churchill's iconic characterization of the outnumbered fighter pilots of the Royal Air Force who saved Britain from the Germans in 1940. Like Britain's Few, America's Few were in the right place at the right time to curb the invincibility of an Axis foe. For the American Few in the fall of 1942, the right place was a small, obscure South Pacific island called Guadalcanal which no one could have predicted would be the venue of a turning point in world history.



This is not a story of grand strategy. These have been written, some of them magnificently. These are stories of individual battles, one-on-one battles, battles of the

most personal kind. These are the stories of individual lives of a unique group of men. Many of the stories are told in their own words, in after-action reports written on the day that battles happened!

There are the stories of the Marines with the highest tally of aerial victories. This includes a study in contrasts between Medal of Honor recipients Gregory Boyington and Joseph Jacob Foss. Boyington was a bad boy who could do nothing right—except in combat—while Foss went on to a postwar career as the Governor of South Dakota.

These stories include those of Robert Murray Hanson, born in India, who may well have been the second highest scoring Marine Ace. How? We'll tell the story.

These include stories of Marion Carl, the first Marine ace; of Joe Bauer, arguably the best Marine ace, who disappeared without a trace; of Jim Swett, who shot down seven enemy aircraft in about an hour; and of Harold "Murderous Manny" Segal, who was shot down at sea only to find that his life raft had no paddles. Adrift and homeless, he wound up like Coleridge's Ancient Mariner—and then he killed an albatross, ensuring bad luck!

These are just a few of the stories.

CALENDAR

JANUARY

TUE – FRI, JAN 3 – 6 & MON JAN 9

Aviation Camp

SUN, JAN 8 • 11 AM

Straw Rockets

SUN, JAN 15 • 10 AM – 12 PM

Kids' Carnival

MON, JAN 16

Aviation Camp

SUN, JAN 22 • 11 AM

Glider Discovery

SAT, JAN 28 • 11 AM

Building the B-17 – Bill Yenne

SUN, JAN 29 • 11 AM

Helicopter Adventure

FEBRUARY

SUN, FEB 5 • 11 AM

Straw Rockets

SUN, FEB 12 • 10 AM – 12 PM

Kids' Carnival – Flying Footballs

SAT, FEB 18 • 9:30 AM – 12 PM

Aero Design Challenge

SUN, FEB 19 • 11 AM

Glider Discovery

MON-FRI, FEB 20 – 24

Aviation Camp

SAT, FEB 25 • 11 AM

America's Few - Bill Yenne

SUN, FEB 26 • 11 AM

Helicopter Adventure

DRONE PLEX • SATURDAY
INVENTION LAB • SATURDAY
FLIGHT SIM ZONE •
11AM

BSA AND GIRL SCOUTS
OFFERED EACH MONTH – 9

OF EVENTS

MARCH

SUN, MARCH 12 • 10 AM – 12 PM
Kids' Carnival – Leaping Leprechaun

SAT, MARCH 18 • 10 AM – 3 PM
Garden Model Train Railroad

SUN, MARCH 19 • 11 AM
Straw Rockets

SUN, MARCH 26 • 11 AM
Glider Discovery

MON – FRI, MARCH 27 – 31
Aviation Camp

APRIL

SUN, APRIL 2 • 11 AM
Water Rocket Rally

MON – FRI, APRIL 3 – 7
Aviation Camp

SAT, APRIL 8 • 10 AM – 12 PM
Easter Bunny by Helicopter

APRIL 8 – 16
Spring Model Train Show

SUN, APRIL 9
Closed for Easter

MON – FRI, APRIL 10 – 14
Aviation Camp

SUN, APRIL 16 • 8 AM
Airport Runway Run

SAT APRIL 22 • 10 AM – 1 PM
E-Waste Drop Off

SUN, APRIL 23 • 10 AM – 12 PM
Kids' Carnival

SUN, APRIL 30 • 11 AM
Water Rocket Rally

YS & SUNDAYS, 11AM-3PM
YS & SUNDAYS, 11AM-3PM
SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS,
1-2PM

OUT PROGRAMS
SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

FLYING FOOTBALL FUN FEST & ROBO BOWL

SUNDAY FEB 12, 10AM-12PM
FOOTBALL DROP AT 12PM



Join the excitement of the big game as the Hiller Aviation Museum explores the combination of football and flight in a family-friendly extravaganza! See a helicopter football drop, participate in the Robo Bowl, split the uprights with an FPV drone, run through the obstacle course, program a robot to carry a football to the end zone in the Invention Lab, and more! Wear your favorite team jersey and get a prize!

Come "Tailgate" party in our newly renovated courtyard. Hotdogs and pizza will be available for purchase. Plenty of time to get home afterwards for the big game! Event included with Museum admission

FLYING LEPRECHAUN



SUN, MAR 12, 10 AM – 12 PM
LEPRECHAUN LANDS AT 12 PM

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the Hiller Aviation Museum with face painting, bounce house, "Pot of Gold" treasure hunt and a Skydiving Leprechaun! Event included with museum admission.

TRAINS & PLANES DISPLAY

SAT, APRIL 8 –
SUN, APR 16
DAILY,
10 AM – 4 PM

Join us for our annual Spring Model Train Show. This year there will be five separate model train layouts set up at the museum.



BAY AREA GARDEN RAILROAD

SATURDAY MARCH 18, 10 AM - 3 PM



The Bay Area Garden Railroad Society's waist high track features live steam locomotives. These railroad engines are designed to be run in anybody's backyard garden. Live steam locomotives have a butane fueled fire that boils water. The resultant steam is then used to power the pistons. This is the same technique full sized locomotives have used for 175 years. Many examples of old time model steam locomotives will be seen running on the track, all the while puffing wonderful plumes of steam.

EASTER BUNNY ARRIVES BY HELICOPTER

SAT, APR 8,
10 AM – 12 PM

Join the Easter Eggstravaganza on Saturday, April 8 from 10 AM – 12 PM, The Bunny arrives at 11AM. Get an Easter Egg straight from the Bunny and enjoy face painting and bounce house. All included with museum admission.





HILLER AVIATION MUSEUM

Garden Steam Model Trains

**Saturday
March 18
11am - 3pm**



Spring Model Train Show

**April 8
through
April 16, 2023**

See up to five exquisitely crafted scale model train displays in a magical world of miniature landscapes, scenery and villages.



Trains included with museum admission
650-654-0200 www.hiller.org



ADVENTURE INSPIRES

18TH BENEFIT GALA

Special Thanks



HILLER
AVIATION
MUSEUM

PLATINUM PRESENTING
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Scott Cronce & Deborah Caryle Maxwell

GOLD PREMIER
Ronald & Penny Blake
Alan Eustace & Kathy Kwan
Kate Wormington & Daniel Marusich

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EDUCAT

**AVIATION CAMP—SPECIAL WINTER/
SPRING SESSION GRADES K-5**

**WONDERS OF FLIGHT
JANUARY 16**



**FABULOUS PHYSICS
FEBRUARY 20-24**



**TEST PILOT ACADEMY
MARCH 27 - APRIL 4**



Aviation Camp returns with high-flying fun throughout the school holidays January-April. Each session explores the science and adventure of aviation with hands-on activities, flying model aircraft, realistic flight simulation and opportunities to investigate real aircraft.

Visit www.hiller.org for complete information on each program, or to register online today!

ION PROGRAMS WINTER/SPRING 2023

FAMILY EVENTS

AERO DESIGN CHALLENGE • AGES 9 – 13

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

Explore aeronautical engineering in the Hiller Aviation Museum's annual Aero Design Challenge competition! This year, kids Grades 4-8 experiment with soaring flight, working in small teams to build aircraft able to soar across the museum floor. Participants will complete an aerodynamics lab, museum tour and flight simulation session, then construct and test a working glider and fly it in competition!

There is no cost to participate through the generous support of the JetBlue Foundation, but advanced reservations are required. Additional dates are available to school groups Grades 4-8 – visit www.hiller.org for more information, or to register today.



KIDS' CARNIVAL • AGES 3+

**SUNDAYS, JANUARY 15,
FEBRUARY 12,
MARCH 12, APRIL 23
10 AM – 12 PM**

Join the fun to build and fly a model aircraft, check out in an aircraft cockpit, experiment with wind tunnels and weather permitting paint a full-size airplane! On February 12 the carnival will coincide with the annual Football Fun Fest helicopter football drop, and on March 12 it welcomes the Leaping Leprechaun in a spectacular parachute jump!



STRAW ROCKET WORKSHOP • AGES 5+

**SUNDAYS, JANUARY 8,
FEBRUARY 5, MARCH 19 • 11 AM**

Explore the world of rocketry! Each Rocket Blastoff features an introduction to rocketry and Newton's Third Law of Motion, including an exploration of a real JPL rocket on display at the Hiller Aviation Museum. Following a demonstration, participants construct a high-performance straw rocket, then launch it across the museum with a calibrated burst of air. Event is included with Museum admission.



GLIDER DISCOVERY DAY • AGES 3+

**SUNDAYS, JANUARY 22,
FEBRUARY 19, MARCH 26 •
11 AM**

**WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 18 • 3 PM**

Explore aircraft up-close and personal at Glider Discovery Day! Learn the parts of an airplane, help to assemble a full-size aircraft mockup, and build and fly balsa gliders in a fun-filled investigation of flight.



HELICOPTER ADVENTURE • AGES 3+

**SUNDAYS, JANUARY 29,
FEBRUARY 26 • 11 AM**

Launch a vertical adventure with helicopters! Explore a real, full-sized helicopter and learn how to control an aircraft capable of vertical flight. Make a simple paper helicopter and test fly it in a wind tunnel, and climb aboard the Scorpion helicopter to try out the controls!



WATER ROCKET RALLY • AGES 5+

**SUNDAYS, APRIL 2,
APRIL 30 • 11 AM**

Get ready for blast-off in an exploration of rocket propulsion! Learn about the history of rocketry and check out the JPL-built Thunderbird rocket. Water Rocket launchers use a soda bottle to construct and launch a water-powered rocket! Bring a recycled soda bottle from home (water rocket days only), or purchase one at the Museum's Gift Shop on the day of the event.



All Sunday Family Events are included with Museum admission. Space is limited for some events and no-cost tickets or reservations may be required. Check www.hiller.org for capacity information, or request tickets at the Admissions counter on the day of each program.

AVIATION CAMP • SUMMER 2023

Registration is now open for this summer's Aviation Camp program!
Visit www.hiller.org for more information. Online registration now available.
Make your plans now to join us this summer for an amazing experience in flight!