

Museum Update

by Henry Skipper

We have updated the Prelude to War exhibit and replaced the outdated televisions depicting the beginnings of Nazi aggression with new and brighter flat screens.

The B-17 restoration team makes progress on the airplane every week. People comment all the time how much it has changed since their last visit. The progress will continue right up to the final dedication. The Museum has just issued a beautiful Challenge Coin to honor this historic restoration. One can be seen in this newsletter and is available should you want to order one.

In addition to all we are doing with these exhibits, we have been very active with the programs and events that are taking place here at the Museum. We have numerous "Bunking In" programs scheduled with the groups from all over the country. Our 5K race "The Flying Fortress 5K" is scheduled for November 17th and promises to be even more successful than the last two races. We are planning a "Blue Jeans & Bomber Jacket BBQ" to be held this October at the Museum. This is the same theme that we used for the highly successful fundraiser held in Atlanta in May. We had over 300 guests for the Atlanta event and plan on at least that many in Savannah.

The Museum's Character Counts!® education program will begin its third year in August with the beginning of the new school year. The partnership between the Museum and the Savannah Chatham County Public School System has been a great success and is credited with improving discipline throughout the system. We are very proud of our involvement with Character Counts!® The Museum totally funds the program which allows us the opportunity to contribute to the community we serve and make a tangible difference in people's lives.

Finally, our spring fundraising campaign "Stories from our Heroes" was a great success. I want to share with you a letter we received from an anonymous donor. The letter is short but what it says is powerful. Thank you for your support of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum.

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Dear Sirs

I read and liked your Spring 2012 Fold out and it reminded me of a time when America was great and our Country United.

I remember a lot of young boys who went off and some did not come home. They gave their lives and their future for their country.

I really liked the story of Jimmy Stewart. You know he didn't have to go, but he did.

Please ~~to~~ accept my check and keep their memory alive for future generations.
