

Aviation Connections: Inaugural Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1, Summer 2010



HH-46D Sea Knight



A-6E Intruder



Biplane Replica



RF-4B Phantom II



F9F-6P Cougar



AV-8A Harrier

ECAHF Moves Forward with Expansion Design— Picture This!

The design for the Eastern Carolina Aviation Heritage Foundation facility expansion was unveiled in January and continues to receive close attention by the ECAHF Board of Directors.

The plans for the expansion include attractive landscaping, and airport taxiway and runway markings that will “land” and then lead visitors to the modern aviation heritage facility, event deck, and covered exhibits.

As visitors approach the new facility, sweeping curved girders supporting protective translucent covers over the Foundation’s outdoor displays will remind one of flight itself. They will also be reminiscent of the massive girders that form the aircraft hangars. And they may also bring to mind the quintessential Marine Corps’ Quonset Huts. The largest of these will form a pedestrian plaza and outdoor display area only a short walk from an outdoor amphitheater.

The sweeping girders

on the outside of the new facility will be refigured into the new interior display area. Here, the “bones” of aircraft—their airframes—will be mimicked by aluminum-colored oval beams supporting the ceiling of the indoor display area, providing a sensation of being nestled in the fuselage of an aircraft. Expansive windows will run the length of the new indoor display area, offering a view of the pedestrian plaza and outdoor display area.

Meeting space as well as expanded aviation heritage display areas will be accommodated in this new addition as well. A raised platform will draw visitors to observe the top of aircraft from a bird’s eye view.

A series of lights will be mounted on the top of the new interior display area. Sky lined against the night sky, they will be reminiscent of runway lighting and will illuminate both the new ECAHF facility and the idea of the importance of aviation to the development of eastern NC and, as well, eastern NC to the development of aviation.

Below is a “sneak peek” at the designs for the expansion. The Architects at Calloway, Johnson, Moore, and West have done an amazing job. The full set of designs will be unveiled at our 2nd Annual Fundraiser, which promises to be as much fun as the last! We hope to see you there!



RQ-2B Pioneer

Special points of interest:

- January Fundraising success!
- Architectural Designs underway
- F-35 EIS comments
- History of Aviation in Eastern Carolina

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Aviation Connections: Looking Back and Moving Forward



ECAHF Chair Sonny Roberts welcomes guests

“We deserve to preserve the story, and the Eastern Carolina Aviation Heritage Foundation is the vehicle to get that done.”

-Eddie Ellis



Eddie Ellis stands before a slide of Babe Ruth at Camp Bryan



Mayor and Mrs. Jimmy Sanders



Former Mayors George Griffin and Don Beaver

On a rare, icy Friday night on January 29, 2010, more than 400 people braved the freezing weather and attended the inaugural Eastern Carolina Aviation Heritage Foundation fundraiser at the Havelock Tourist and Event Center.

The fundraiser was held to emphasize the area’s aviation history and highlight several aviation pioneers from eastern North Carolina, publicize the Aviation Heritage Foundation, increase membership in the Foundation, and raise funds for a planned expansion of the Foundation’s aviation history exhibit display area.

Amongst an antique wooden propeller, a decommissioned tail hook from an electronic attack aircraft based at MCAS Cherry Point, the EA-6B “Prowler”, and a replica of a circa 1931 Marine Corps F4B3 biplane hung from the ceiling, plans were unveiled for a modern, inspirational, aviation-oriented

expansion of the Foundation’s display areas.

Craven County Historian Eddie Ellis was quoted by the Havelock News at the event as saying, “We deserve to preserve the story (of eastern North Carolina’s role in aviation history), and the Eastern Carolina Aviation Heritage Foundation is the vehicle to get that done.”

The Fundraiser’s theme, **“Aviation Connections; Looking Back and Moving Forward”**, featured a guest panel including LtGen Fred McCorkle, USMC (ret), Eddie Ellis, Col Gene Conti, USMC (ret), Mayor Derryl Garner, and Col William “Charlie” Carr, USMC (ret). MajGen Tom Braaten, USMC (ret) MC’d the event.

Against a backdrop configured as a Ready Room, the guests discussed various “adventures”, and (without naming too many), enthralled the spellbound

guests with “...the rest of the story...”

Craven County Historian Eddie Ellis previewed his new book, *Historical Images of Havelock and Cherry Point*, and educated the audience on the area before the Marines “landed”.

The event was artfully catered by **The Flame**, and several very generous donors sponsored the event at the Patron Level, including Rolls Royce North America, Terry Crews Enterprises, and The Flame.

A silent auction, table sponsorships and cash donations resulted in the Foundation raising \$12,800 after expenses.

All of the proceeds went to funding the architectural design of the exhibit expansion.

The Foundation is working hard to design a second event to rival the January 2010 event. The Foundation thanks all who supported the effort— now on to a capital campaign!



Cherry Point's Illustrious History in Military Aviation

Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point in eastern North Carolina has played an important role in Marine Corps aviation history.

And by its close association with MCAS Cherry Point, history also flows into the streets of the City of Havelock. The Craven County Historian, Mr. Eddie Ellis, explained in a 2007 column in the Havelock News that Miller Boulevard, one of Havelock's thoroughfares, is named after a former commanding general of MCAS Cherry Point, Brigadier General Ivan W. Miller. Miller commanded MCAS Cherry Point from March 1947 through June of 1950.

The three years of Miller's command was an impor-

tant period in Marine Corps aviation history. Squadrons were returning state-side from World War II combat duty overseas, many of them to be based at MCAS Cherry Point. The Marine Corps was downsizing and adjusting to peacetime operations, a peace that sadly would barely last beyond Miller's tenure in command.

The Marine Corps-including units from MCAS Cherry Point-would once again find itself engaged in bitter combat operations on the Korean peninsula beginning in 1950, only a short five years after the jubilant VE (Victory in Europe) and VJ (Victory in Japan) celebrations rocked America.

But prior to the Korean "police action" and at the

same time his attention was focused on adjusting to a post-war Cherry Point, Miller had to help prepare the Marine Corps for the unceasing march of technology. He ensured MCAS Cherry Point was ready for the coming jet age. Fighter squadrons that had flown propeller-driven aircraft for nearly 40 years were transitioning to the new fangled jets with their much higher speeds, different maintenance procedures, and louder noise.

Brigadier General Ivan W. Miller was a Marine Corps aviation pioneer and a World War II and post-war Marine Corps leader. The next time you drive Miller Boulevard in Havelock, remember his dedicated service to his nation and his role in aviation history in eastern North Carolina.



BGen Ivan W. Miller

"He ensured MCAS Cherry Point was ready for the coming jet age."

Having a reunion? Business Meeting? Wedding or other party?

The 16,000 sqft facility features a 7200sqft main hall able to accommodate 700 for theater seating or 500 in a banquet setting.

It can be configured for classroom or seminar, with available projector and screens.

Smaller conference rooms are available that hold up to 24.

There are 550 hotel rooms within 5 minutes, with a new Holiday Inn Express under construction in the contiguous parking lot.

Call 252-444-4348 for availability, pricing, and reservations.

Cherry Point's FUTURE: F-35B Lightning

On June 12, 2010, the U.S. Navy began taking comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will help make the basing decisions for the new F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

The Navy's preferred alternative brings eight squadrons of F-35Bs to Cherry Point, and three operational and one training squadron to MCAS Beaufort, SC.

Of course, Cherry Point prefers that all eleven squadrons plus the training squadron come to Cherry Point. The legacy aircraft currently at Cherry Point include four EA-6B squadrons and four AV-8B squadrons.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

The Navy is accepting comments either

electronically, or on paper. Tell them we want them ALL! You can comment at

[http:// www.usmcJSFeast.com](http://www.usmcJSFeast.com)

Or you can go to that website and print off the form and send it to:

**USMC F-35B East Coast Basing EIS
P O Box 56488
Jacksonville, FL 32241-6488**



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OUR CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Havelock, NC 28532
Phone: 252-444-4348 or
252-444-7260
Fax: 252-447-0126**

YES! I want to join the Aviation Heritage Partners

**Please complete and select membership.
Send with payment. Do not mail cash.**

MAIL TO:
Eastern Carolina Aviation Heritage Foundation
201 Tourist Center Drive
PO Box 368
Havelock, NC 28532

Or apply online at:
www.ecaviationheritage.com

Checks should be made payable to:
Eastern Carolina Aviation Heritage Foundation.

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Individual & Family Memberships

- Plane Captain** (Active duty military only) **\$25.00**
- Co-Pilot** (Individual, non military) **\$50.00**
- Crew Chief** (Family) **\$75.00**
- Pilot** (Contributor) **\$100.00**
- Squadron CDR** (Corporate) **\$250.00**
- Group CDR** (Associate) **\$500.00**
- Wing CDR** (Sponsor) **\$1,000.00**
- Force CDR** (Friend of ECAHF) **\$1,500.00 +**

Plane Captain-
Membership Board Display
Membership Card
Membership Decal

Co-Pilot-
All of the Above (non-military)

Crew Chief
ATA (family)

Pilot
ATA+ T-Shirt or Hat

Squadron Commander
ATA+Certificate

Group Commander
ATA+ Print

Wing Commander
ATA

Force Commander
ATA+ Letter of Appreciation

NAMING opportunities
are available for sections of the expansion.
Please contact a Board Member or Diane
Miller at 252-444-7260 or
DMiller@HavelockNC.US

If you have already joined the
Foundation and have not yet
received your materials, they
are COMING! We had to order
more!

CONTACT US

Our website:
www.ecaviationheritage.com

*Please consider an annual con-
tribution or an estate donation.*

You can make a contribution to
the Foundation and the Capital
Campaign through our website
with PAYPAL!

We are on FACEBOOK!

Email:
info@ecaviationheritage.com
Or DMiller@HavelockNC.US

Tourist and Event Center:
AOhlensehlen@HavelockNC.US