

# Flagship Detroit

## June 2011 Newsletter



Tulsa Hangar Dedication



SFO terminal Dedication



San Francisco Terminal Dedication

## Greetings from Flagship Detroit Headquarters!



Photo of Peggy Fairchild posted to  
Flagship Detroit Facebook by  
Gary Brossett



Flyby at Airventure's DC-3 75th  
anniversary event  
Photo by Tim Adams

As I write this newsletter the big props of the Flagship Detroit have been busy stirring up the air enroute to all the events of the first quarter of this year. Although we thought 2011 would be rather slow, it is turning out to be a pretty busy season. In between the heavy inspection (every 150 hours) and the spring ground school/ flight training we have been able to do several events. We have some great photo's on our web ([www.flagshipdetroit.org](http://www.flagshipdetroit.org))

site. Please take a look at all the fun you have missed!

I want to take this time to thank all the volunteers that helped on the inspection when the "Detroit" was at AFW. I don't have all their names, however, I know John Thatcher, Robert Stack, Dave Buffington, Steve Jacobson, Zane Lemon, Tom Taff, Gene Rushing and Jeff Selby were all working along side all the other volunteers to get this important job finished. Thank you all !



Speaking of Alliance, I would like you to take a few moments to say a prayer for our friend and member, Gene Rushing. Gene is undergoing treatment for cancer at MD Anderson in Houston. If you don't know, Gene is an employee for American Airlines at the Alliance maintenance facility in Fort Worth. Gene has been so instrumental, from the very beginning in 2005, in getting almost anything we needed for the "Detroit", and getting it done, when our DC-3 was on the ground at the AA facility at Alliance. Gene and his family will appreciate your thoughts.

To see the latest appearance schedule check the calendar at the [Flagship Detroit website](#)



Our first show as you may know, was Laredo, Texas. It was a really fun time in south Texas. Next, we started the west coast swing. The first segment was a long "transcon" and on the way we stopped at Midland, Texas and Tucson, Arizona. At both places the crews enjoyed the sites of the local attractions, especially the air museums.

Our first event of this tour was LAX for American Airlines. The Detroit was invited to help launch the inaugural AA flight from LAX to Shanghai. As always, we were treated very well by all involved. Thank you, LA, for a great time. After the departure of the AA Boeing 777 bound for China, "Detroit" made it's way up the coast of California to San Francisco.

The SFO event was the opening of a new terminal in SFO where AA is sharing space with Virgin America. The Detroit crew stood out well in some august company including Sir Richard Branson, astronaut Buzz Aldrin and Branson's Spaceship Two. The crew for this trip consisted of Gene and Sheryl Christian, Dave Buffington, Zane and Deanna Lemon, Steve Jacobson and Peggy Fairchild. In SFO, David and JP Gorrell and Tripp Drake and Jake, joined up and local SFO F/A and Detroit supporter, Patti Simmons pitched in to help wherever possible. The crew had a 5 day stay with a number of very scenic membership rides. I'm not sure if they received per diem, but the layover city was great. After many days of showing off the "Detroit" DC-3, they started the trek back to Texas with stops in Chino and Tucson. Next up was a big event at Tulsa, OK featuring the new American Airlines maintenance Hangar 80. As always, Jim Gentry and all the Tulsa volunteers did a nice job getting us everything we needed.

By the way, if you want more detail about all the shows and activities this year, please visit Sheryl and Gene Christians [blog](#). (Or just Google "As the Cyclones Spin".) Sheryl goes into great detail of all the events, including all the up's and downs of the airshow business. Thanks Sheryl and Gene for all the hard work you do for this foundation.



Speaking of writing blogs, this will be my last newsletter for the Flagship Detroit Foundation. As many of you know, I have been a little busy with my day job at Boeing. With trying to keep up with our foundation work, my job and spending time with my family, I have been slow in getting out the news and updates to all our members. Sheryl Christian has graciously agreed to take on the responsibility of writing the quarterly newsletter. Thanks, Sheryl, I know you will do a great job!

So now that we are in June, here is a rundown of what we have done so far in 2011 and what we are planning for the rest of the year. You can also get all this information and more on our web site [FlagshipDetroit.org](http://FlagshipDetroit.org). And, speaking of our website. I want to thank David Gorrell and his wife JP for the wonderful work they have done to keep our website up and running. The amount of information contained throughout our website is immense. Thank you David and Jane for all you do!

We started this year with:

- 🍷 Laredo, TX in early spring - what a Great show !
- 🍷 LAX station visit & SFO terminal dedication Late Spring, Fun !
- 🍷 Tulsa OK fundraiser Late Spring, Always a blast !
- 🍷 Miami AA station visit, - Hot! But fun time .

And now we are off to:

- 🍷 **Cheyenne, WY Frontier Days, July 27th**
- 🍷 **Longmont, CO 15-16th of August**
- 🍷 **Powell, WY 19-20th of August**
- 🍷 **Heber City, UT 21st-22nd of August**
- 🍷 **Grand Canyon Valle Airport, 27th of August**
- 🍷 **Sky Harbor and PHX AA station visit 28-30 August**
- 🍷 **ABQ AA station visit 31st Aug- 2nd September**

Have an idea for an appearance for the Flagship? Take a look at our FaceBook page and post your suggestion!

[FaceBook-FSD](http://FaceBook-FSD)

Or send an email to:

[Airshows@FlagshipDetroit.org](mailto:Airshows@FlagshipDetroit.org)

Also, you may enjoy the additional photos on the Flickr pages:

[flickr.com/photos/dc3detroit/](http://flickr.com/photos/dc3detroit/)

More fall events to come in next newsletter!

With that, As always, I would encourage you to get involved in our operations when you can. It always seems like everyone wants to help and keep our "Detroit" flying to all these wonderful events but somehow our day to day time constraints seem to get in the way. Please continue to support our foundation financially by renewing your membership. As you know, the price of gas and oil for this airplane has sky-rocketed to over \$6 a gallon in many places, as it has at the pump for your cars. Without your financial help, we could not exist. You can renew online at our website, [FlagshipDetroit.org](http://FlagshipDetroit.org) and click on memberships.

In closing this newsletter, I want to once again, thank each and every individual who has contributed to our success. Again, You have given countless hours of labor for our day to day operation and also provided much-needed financial support to our foundation. Thank you, and I hope to see you on the road with the "Detroit".

Sincerely,



George Dennis

Executive Director, The Flagship Detroit Foundation