

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Veterans Memorial Air Park is On The Move

FORT WORTH, TX – May 1, 2009. On April 28th, the Fort Worth City Council approved a lease for the Veterans Memorial Air Park (VMAP) of Fort Worth. The air park and museum operated by the VMAP had been located at the Vintage Flying Musuem on Meacham Field.

In their new lease, the VMAP will be making their home in the former classrooms and gym of Our Lady of Guadalupe School at Ross and Long Street on Meacham Field. Over the next two months the volunteers of the VMAP, Forward Air Controller's Musuem and OV-10 Bronco Associaiton will be relocating their collections and aircraft to the new site. Volunteers will be needed for the move.

Newly appointed Executive Director of the VMAP, Jim Hodgson, continued; "We simply outgrew the Vintage Flying Musuem facility and needed more room to grow. We started with a box of pictures and a few books eleven years ago and today we occupy over 2,400 square feet of display space and provide aircraft restoration operations for our collection of fourteen airplanes. We have been negotiating with the City of Fort Worth and the Department of Aviation for several months to complete this phase of our expansion. Everyone has been most helpful in making this all happen."

VMAP just completed its sixth Cowtown Warbird Roundup April 25th. Fifty plus current to classic aircraft flew in for the annual event, including some hot air balloons. Activities for visitors included nearly 50 classic cars, 30 antique tractors, conducting a tractor pull, combat air crew briefings. Visitors were also treated to a sky diving

demonstration by local skydiver, Dana Bowman. Details and pictures will be available soon at the Cowtown Warbird Roundup web site at www.cwr09.com.

In addition to the news of the move to the new facility, the VAMP also announced a couple of staffing changes. Terry Tabor, former Treasurer, was appointed President to replace Jim Hodgson, who had held that position for six years. Hodgson was appointed Executive Director to work on organizing efforts of the planned Fort Worth Aviation Musuem and other organizational duties.

Hodgson also pointed out that he and other members of VMAP had held preliminary discussions with other local aviation museum that had expressed an interest in sharing space with the VMAP. “We look forward to presenting the history of aviation in Fort Worth and North Texas as well as our core interest in the role of Forward Air Controllers in military aviation.”

The move is scheduled for completion by June 30th. No grand opening date of the new facility has yet been set.

The Fort Worth Veteran’s Memorial Air Park, OV-10 Bronco Association and the Forward Air Controller’s Museum are all non-profit 501(c)3 organizations dedicated to the preservation of historic combat aircraft and other aspects of military aviation. In addition, these groups strive to inspire youth to careers in aviation and provide various educational opportunities to the general public. Donations may be made directly to any of these organizations at 505 NW 38th Street, Hangar 33 South, Fort Worth, TX 76106.

www.facmuseum.org

www.ov-10bronco.net

