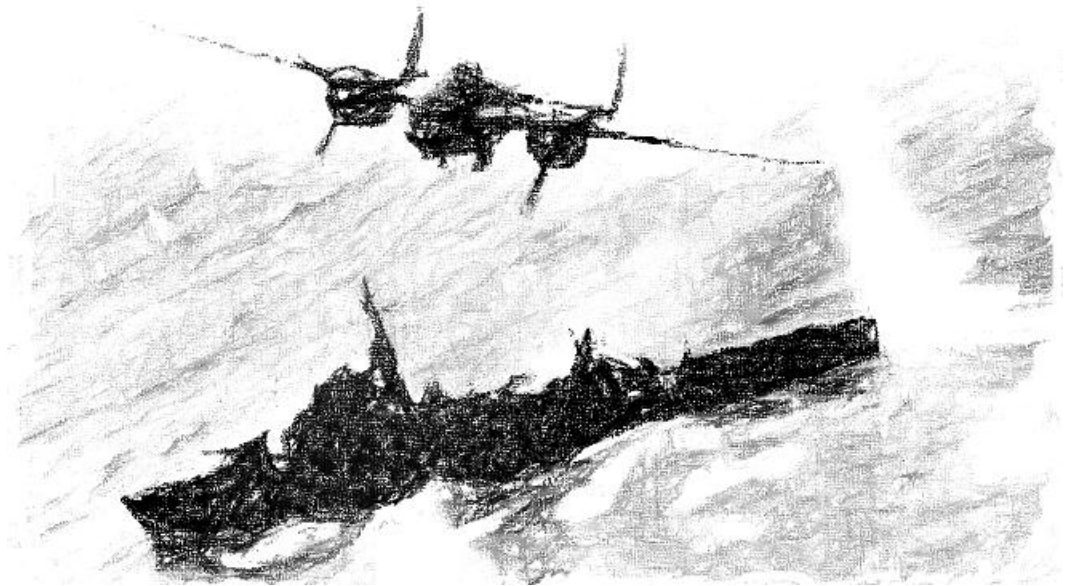


PRESS RELEASE –

The Gathering of
Warbirds and Legends



Our Greatest Generation

Our final times together

www.WarbirdsandLegends.org

HOSTED BY THE PATRIOTIC CITIZENS OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

August 1 – 4, 2013

February 21, 2013 – Topeka, Kan. FULL! The Douglas category is more than full, with a confirmed bevy of venerable DC-3s and C-47s locked in at 17 aircraft. Holding on to Slot Number 1 is “Spooky,” a C-47 gunship, operated by the American Flight Museum of Topeka, Kansas, and one of the Gathering of Warbirds and Legends’ key organizers.

“The American Flight Museum is very excited to host this event,” said Rob Rice, president of the American Flight Museum. “Being part of this event is so important--we can properly salute the men and women who served in WWII and protected the freedom that we enjoy today. As the cost of fuel and parts keeps increasing, it is harder to get a mass gathering of these historic aircraft together. To see them all in a formation is going to be a rare and awesome sight to see. This warbird gathering has turned truly amazing in just the last thirty days as these aircraft have filed in electronically one by one.

“Of course, my favorite is the C-47,” continued Rice, “which we operate but it will be an amazing experience to host and fly with all of these other rare and unique vintage warbirds. Topeka is an ideal location, both geographically, in terms of runway and ramp, and community support. Our entire network team is working hard to host this event here. As the President of the American Flight Museum, I can vouch that we are honored to hold “Gooney Bird” Slot Number 1 and park our bird on that ramp with all of our other close friends from the warbird community. We look forward to showing you all a great time,” commented President Rice earlier this week.

In a media conference call earlier this week, American Flight Museum Vice President and event organizer Brooks Pettit also had this report: “As of this week, we are proud to report that the Grumman series slots are now full, as well as those for the Lockheed series. This is the first time that we know of that all of these unique and rare aircraft--single, authentic copies from these individual manufacturers--will be on the same ramp at the same time. You can see the aircraft listings and status on the front page of the gathering website. If you want to see a lot of world War II aircraft flying together every day, you will not want to miss this,” advised Vice President Pettit.

The Douglas aircraft siblings will travel to Topeka from all over America and include two newly restored historic original Pan Am aircraft, numerous authentic D-Day aircraft, and a host of other workhorses from the fleet that have served well for more than seventy years of duty. In addition to the Douglas DC-3 and C-47 fleet, the convention is proud to announce that the Douglas A-26 medium-range bomber will be on site, and the owners have agreed to offered rides to the general public. This is a unique opportunity to experience flight in this bomber in person. Four riders can be carried in the actual bomb bay area, as well as one rider with the crew in the cockpit.

The planned August gathering is fortunate to be co-located on the field with yet another World War II aircraft museum. The Combat Air Museum of Topeka, Kansas is the largest such museum in the Midwest and features more than 25 authentic military aircraft, as well as thousands of museum artifacts and displays original to the period. The Combat Air Museum will be open to the public during the gathering as well.

The team of organizers has launched both a web site and a Facebook page that give all of the details of this incredible event. Warbird owners interested in participating in the gathering (centrally located in the heartland of America, in Topeka, Kansas, on August 1-4, 2013), can apply for positions, or “slots,” to be awarded based on their aircraft and crew credentials. A special effort has been taken to cater to the media specialists and assist them in gaining access to the planes, the crews, and in-flight positions to capture every thrilling moment.

For more information, see www.WarbirdsandLegends.org, as well as The Gathering of Warbirds and Legends page on Facebook.