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Board of Directors and Senior Leadership 2
From the Cockpit 5
About the Museum 6
Vision, Mission and Values 6
FY 2021: Year in Review 9
Apollo 15 50th Anniversary Celebration 11
International Air & Space Hall of Fame 13
Education 19
Exhibits 21
Library & Archives 23
Collections 25
Low Speed Wind Tunnel and Technology Center 31
Special Events 32
Financial Review 33
Volunteers, Internships and Docents 34
One Person Can Make A Difference – Is It You? 35
Funding/Corporate Sponsors 36
DEAR FRIENDS,

The dictionary definition of resilient is “able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions.”

When one looks at the San Diego Air & Space Museum, both in the past, and today, we have, and continue to be, the VERY definition of resilient.

In 1978, the Museum literally burned to the ground. During one of the Museum’s most difficult times, we emerged stronger and better than ever before through the help of generous volunteers, donors, staff members and community supporters, moving into the historic Ford Building in Balboa Park, which is now our forever home.

Over the past two years, we have once again been faced with “difficult conditions.” We faced multiple closures and essentially were forced to change how to conduct day-to-day operations, including embracing terms like social distancing, mandatory mask mandates, hand sanitizers, and protective plastic screens.

Yet, each time we were allowed to safely re-open – at last count, four times in all – we were the only institution in Balboa Park to open its doors on the very first day we were allowed to do so.

And we didn’t just open on a limited basis. Each time we re-opened full-speed ahead, with normal business hours, seven days a week, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

How were we able to accomplish such a remarkable feat? The answer is both complicated and stunningly simple; We re-opened thanks to the wonderful volunteers, docents, staff and supporters of this iconic institution, who helped us re-invent ourselves and once again emerge stronger, smarter, healthier and even better than before.

I am honored to be part of such a dedicated, and I am proud to say, “resilient” team.

Over the past two years, we have come together in ways we have not seen since 1978, and we will be forever grateful for the support we have received from so many of our friends. I know I have said this before, but it bears repeating: We simply couldn’t have done it without your support.

So whoever you are – donor, visitor, member, researcher, student, veteran – we’re honored to have you along with us on this amazing ride. You are an important part of the inspiring accomplishments at the San Diego Air & Space Museum, a place to learn, explore, inspire and make memories everyday worth repeating! Please enjoy this annual report and join us in sharing in what we have accomplished as we shape the future together.

JAMES G. KIDRICK
MUSEUM PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
ABOUT THE MUSEUM

The San Diego Air & Space Museum (SDASM) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. Established in 1961, SDASM was the first aero-themed museum to be accredited by the American Association of Museums in 1981 (now the American Alliance of Museums). The Museum is only the twelfth institution in California to be awarded Smithsonian Affiliate status.

In 2007, the Museum was designated by the California State Legislature as California’s official Air & Space Museum and Education Center. The Museum is known throughout the world for its collection of extraordinary and historically significant aircraft, spacecraft and research materials.

More than 120 aircraft and space vehicles are on exhibit at the Museum’s locations in Balboa Park and at the Gillespie Field Annex in El Cajon. The exhibits include rare and unique aircraft engines, instruments, models and equipment, as well as aviation-related medals, trophies, art, uniforms and spacesuits. More than two million artifacts allow visitors to immerse and engage in a rich array of stories from the lives of the men and women who changed the world through flight and space exploration.

VISION

The San Diego Air & Space Museum, one of the world’s premier air and space-themed science centers and museum, inspires our next greatest generations to achieve excellence in their lives by challenging their innate human pioneering spirit and encouraging the necessary risk-taking required to achieve global innovation success.

MISSION

PRESERVE significant artifacts of air and space history and technology.
INSPIRE excellence in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
EDUCATE the public about the historical and social significance of air and space technology and its future promise as a pathway to advanced innovations.
CELEBRATE aviation and space flight history and technology.

VALUES

The San Diego Air & Space Museum adheres to impeccable professional standards as it preserves, interprets, educates and shares its rich aviation and space resources:

• To act as exceptional stewards on behalf of the general public and earn the trust of our donors and members by caring for our collections. Interpret our collections accurately and use society’s generosity in a beneficial manner conducive to the spirit of excellence on behalf of the common good for all.

• To inspire an interest in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and innovation, as well as history. Inspire the necessary risk-taking in future generations to ensure continued exploration of the outer bounds of what can be.

• To educate through public outreach and engagement.

• To honor the legacy of aviation and space flight technology and the men and women who forged the path for others to emulate.
Despite being physically closed to the public for a staggering 178 days in FY2021 due to COVID 19, the Museum remained true to its mission of preserving, inspiring, educating and celebrating aviation and space flight history and innovation through a diverse series of offerings, additions and initiatives.
Apollo 15 Commander Dave Scott.
One-and-Only
50th Anniversary Celebration of Apollo 15

On July 31, 2021, the Museum was honored to host the exclusive, one-and-only in-person 50th Anniversary of Apollo 15 Celebration. The evening featured an expert panel of the men who made history during one of the first truly scientific explorations of the Moon, including Commander Dave Scott, Lead Flight Director, Gerry Griffin and Apollo 15 Science Team member, Jim Head.

During the panel, Scott and Griffin shared never-before-told stories and anecdotes about the training and expert exploration of the Moon, including a fascinating video presentation explaining every step of the mission—from liftoff to the lunar landing and time on the Moon’s surface, to their return to Earth and splashdown—in vivid detail.

Apollo 15 launched at 0936 local time on July 26, 1971, with the objective of exploring the Hadley Apennine region of the Moon, the most scientifically significant site of the entire Apollo program. After a three-day transit and one day in lunar orbit, Commander Scott and Lunar Module Pilot Jim Irwin landed their Lunar Module “Falcon” near Hadley Rille at the base of the Apennine mountains to live and work on the Moon for three days, as Command Module Pilot Al Worden orbited the Moon in the Command Module “Endeavor,” operating a large suite of sophisticated scientific instruments.

Scott and Irwin drove the first Lunar Roving Vehicle to explore three areas of unique geological features on the slopes of Hadley Delta mountain (9,000 feet) and the edge of Hadley Rille (1,000 feet deep, 1.5 miles across). During their three EVAs and roughly 18 hours outside the Lunar Module, they maneuvered the Lunar Rover 3.1 miles from the Lunar Module including up the steep soft slopes (19 degrees) of Hadley Delta mountain. They collected 179 pounds of lunar rocks and soil, among the most significant of which were an anorthosite, the first sample of the primordial crust of the Moon (age 4.5 billion years) often termed the “genesis rock”, and a surprising “friable green clod”, containing the first water discovered on the Moon.
INTERNATIONAL AIR & SPACE HALL OF FAME

The Most Prestigious of its Kind in the World!

Since 1963, the International Air & Space Hall of Fame at the San Diego Air & Space Museum has honored the world’s most significant pilots, crew members, visionaries, inventors, aerospace engineers, business leaders, preservationists, designers and space explorers.

Famous legends such as the Wright Brothers, Charles Lindbergh, Neil Armstrong and Amelia Earhart are honored in the hall, as well as NASA Mercury, Gemini and Apollo astronauts and luminaries who changed the world forever through their adventurous spirit.

To see the entire list of the world’s greatest air and space adventurers, visit: http://sandiegoairandspace.org/exhibits/online-exhibit-page/international-air-space-hall-of-fame.

The International Air & Space Hall of Fame’s distinguished class of 2020 included two groundbreaking and inspirational inductees: Barbara Barrett and Tammie Jo Shults.

BARBARA BARRETT
American business woman, attorney, and diplomat serving as the current United States Secretary of the Air Force. She is an instrument-rated pilot and cattle and bison rancher. As the 25th Secretary of the Air Force, Barrett was in charge of the affairs of the Department of the Air Force, comprising the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force. She also is the former chair of the Aerospace Corporation and a member on the boards of California Institute of Technology, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, RAND Corporation, Smithsonian Institution, Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, and the Lasker Foundation.

TAMMIE JO SHULTS
Retired pilot for Southwest Airlines. Among the first female fighter pilots in the U.S. Navy. Praised for her quick thinking and calm demeanor under pressure during an emergency landing that saved 149 passengers at Philadelphia International Airport. While in the United States Navy in 1985, served as an instructor pilot flying the F/A 18 Hornet and EA-6B Prowler, eventually achieving the rank of lieutenant commander.

“We’re especially pleased to honor these two truly remarkable female aviators as the distinguished Class of 2020 into the Hall of Fame,” said Jim Kidrick, President & CEO. “Aviation and space exploration, as embodied by the honorees in the International Air & Space Hall of Fame, directly represents the human pioneering and exploring spirit.”
PRESENTING INSPIRING FACEBOOK LIVE VIDEO SERIES

The Museum embarked on an ambitious aviation- and space-themed Facebook Live video series last year and earlier this year highlighting some of the most interesting men and women in the world.

The series got off to an amazing start in April 2020 when it hosted the only Apollo 13 50th Anniversary in the world, exactly 50 years to the day of the mission’s historic splash down in 1970. Viewers from around the world were able to hear and see first-hand accounts, anecdotes and never-before-shared stories from six NASA icons; astronauts Jim Lovell and Fred Haise, and Flight Directors Gerry Griffin, Gene Kranz, Glynn Lunney and Milt Windler. The virtual reunion lasted two hours, but easily could have gone twice as long.

Next up in the series was an inspirational interview with former NASA Space Shuttle astronaut Woody Spring in May 2020, just days away from the much anticipated launch of SpaceX and NASA’s of two astronauts from American soil for the first time in nine years. Spring shared the sensations of a space launch and what it was like to travel in space, including performing EVAs (spacewalks).

In July 2020, NASA’s Dr. Jenny Gruber gave an incredibly informative account of NASA’s Artemis Program, which aims to land the first woman and next man on the Moon in 2024. Dr. Gruber is the Cross Program Integration Lead for the Human Landing System for the Artemis Program and expertly shared NASA’s plans for landing men and women on the Moon and exploring the Moon’s surface more extensively in the future.

Next was an interview with famous acrobatic and air show pilot Patty Wagstaff, who entered the prestigious International Air & Space Hall of Fame in 2007. During her video chat, Wagstaff shared stories about her incredible career and her passion for sharing the wonders of aviation to audiences of all ages around the world.

All of the video’s in this one-of-a-kind Facebook Live series are a part of the Museum’s promise to our community to continue to provide the best in aviation and space history, STEM programs, collections, events, and so much more. The videos from this special series can be viewed on the Museum’s Facebook page and YouTube Channel.
ONLINE ACCESS AND PROGRAMMING

During the COVID shutdowns, the Museum strove to accomplish its mission through virtual outreach using various social media sites such as Flickr, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, as well as the Museum’s website. The Museum’s digitized collections from its Library & Archives, consisting of over 408,000 assets, were utilized to support a robust online presence. Thousands of photos, documents and films provided content for our social media accounts and initiatives such as SDASM TV, which highlighted the Museum’s most compelling films and oral histories.

The Museum also introduced initiatives to expand access to its online resources. During the year, the Museum uploaded approximately 16,500 new digitized images and 100 digitized films. To date, there are more than 317,000 images and 6,605 videos offered online. In FY21, the Museum received 31,025,000 views on Flickr and 1,211,256 views on YouTube with 136,000 hours of watch time.

To engage with a remote audience during the quarantine period, the Museum launched monthly online exhibits and weekly artifact spotlights, held virtual classes and special events to engage with its community. A sampling of the artifact spotlights includes “Second World War Women’s Poster Collection” and a piece of the moon. The online exhibits included a wide range of topics, including “A Celebration of Latino and Hispanic Aviators” and “High Flying Films” which looked at the history of aviation in motion pictures. All these exhibits strove to put the focus on the San Diego Area. During the year, the Museum created 10 new online exhibits and 36 artifact spotlights featuring the collections.

MUSEUM RECEIVES RARE S-3B VIKING AIRCRAFT FROM NASA

The Museum received a rare S-3B Viking aircraft at its Gillespie Field Annex in July 2021.

Our S-3B was the last flight-worthy Viking in the world. The series, beginning with the S-3A, was originally designed by Lockheed Martin for the U.S. Navy as an anti-submarine warfare (ASW) aircraft with detection capabilities as its primary function. The “B” model was far more capable, adding weapons delivery and re-tanking features to its original mission. The Viking fleet was decommissioned by the U.S. Navy in 2009.

NASA’s S-3B Viking was completely reconfigured in 2006 for flight research purposes. All weapons systems were removed and replaced with civilian avionics, GPS, and satellite communications systems to conduct flight communications research, atmospheric research, oceanic studies, climate change and more.

To learn more about the Museum’s Viking, visit https://www.nasa.gov/feature/glenn/2021/NASA-retires-S-3B-Viking-research-aircraft-from-its-fleet
EDUCATION

The Museum’s Education Department creates authentic learning experiences for explorers of all ages. Grounded in the past, present, and future of aviation and spaceflight, the Education department emphasizes topics in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and encourages critical thinking and innovation to empower future generations to solve real-world problems.

During a time of forced closures due to COVID, the Museum continued to expand and enhance its educational and family programs. The Museum adapted its existing in-person programs to fit a virtual platform to accommodate a remote and distant audience. These new and innovative programs were able to reach students of all ages, in all nine San Diego school districts, as well as students in Arizona and Washington State.

In FY21 the Museum offered 75 educational programs, of which 43 were virtual, reaching 2,284 students (84% decrease from the year before). In the prior year, the Museum held 39 education events and drew in 14,486 participants, an increase of 53 percent from the year before. The decrease in participants can be attributed to the closure and the inability to hold as many in-person programs. However, the Museum was able to increase the total number of programs offered, utilizing all its educators on a full-time basis for its new virtual programming.

The Museum found live-virtual platforms to be limiting in a classroom setting, requiring limits on the number of participants. Due to the nature of teaching project-based activities through a virtual platform, it was necessary to keep the students group size down to 10-12 kids. This helped to ensure that each child was afforded individual attention by the instructor as they were building the daily engineering challenge.

In March 2021, the Museum reopened to the public and was able to start offering in-person summer camps again. In 2021, the Museum held 11 summer camps with a total of 120 attendees. Camp sizes were capped at 12 students in compliance to CDC guidelines.
EXHIBITS

The Museum’s interactive, fun and educational exhibits – both in person and virtually, focus on two equally important narratives; how great teams of dedicated men and women showed pioneering leadership through the advances in air and space technologies, and how the leaps in air and space innovations have impacted every industry worldwide.

While the pandemic kept the crowds away for more than a year, the Museum’s crew created three new exhibits: Reno Air Racing, Milestones of Flight, and WWII Combat Gliders.

RENO AIR RACING

The Museum’s restoration team at Gillespie Field restored and prepared the two Formula One Class and one Sport Biplane Class racers in our collection which now are in the Museum’s Pavilion of Flight. They are arrayed in racing style rounding three of the roof support posts that were painted in black and white checkerboard with the word “Reno” painted in red on each. Below, a large display screen features footage of these aircraft in competition at Reno while signage tells the story of air racing’s evolution in the United States.

MILESTONES OF FLIGHT

The Museum’s long-term plan has been to return the 1903 Wright Flyer reproduction to the Rotunda for permanent display. Damaged several years ago, the Flyer was taken to Gillespie Field where restoration commenced and quickly ended with the onset of the pandemic. Work recently began anew and while it will take some time to replace all the fabric and repair minor structural damage before it will be brought back to Balboa Park, the Museum anticipates the aircraft joining the others in the newly created “Milestones of Flight” exhibit. The Flyer will be displayed alongside other historically significant artifacts including the Bell “X-1,” Montgomery’s “Evergreen” glider, Otto Lilienthal’s ornithopter, the Wright’s 1901 and 1902 gliders and the Museum’s flight-worthy replica of the “Spirit of St. Louis.”

WWII GLIDERS

A little-known aspect of the World War II is the role played by the Combat Glider squadrons in both Europe and the Pacific. Most significantly, but not exclusively, the allied forces of the D-Day invasion of Normandy benefitted greatly by the troop-carrying gliders that landed behind enemy lines and engaged the German convoys, softening deliveries of all supplies to the German front. The storied history is explored in the new Combat Gliders exhibit in the WWII gallery. The exhibit also features the historic details of the life on one of those heroic glider pilots, San Diego’s own Carl Gwartney.

The Combat Gliders exhibit was made possible in part through the efforts of one of the Museum’s dedicated docents, Fred Miller.
The Library & Archives has been digitizing items besides photos, such as this poster showing a San Diego made Civil Air Transport Convair 880.
The Museum’s Library & Archives (L&A) houses the nation’s largest private, nonprofit collection of its type. The Museum is known worldwide for its highly successful, continuing efforts to offer its collections for education and research purposes, both on-site and digitally. The Library & Archives is an essential and important resource for aviation authors, historians, researchers and the general public. With more than 400,000 digitized photos, films, and documents now online, the L&A is the largest source in the world for aerospace history.

In FY21, the Museum’s Library & Archives (L&A) answered over 13,500 remote information requests via telephone, mail, and email. Due to COVID-19, the L&A was closed to onsite visitors for the year, but recently reopened its doors on June 15, 2021 to the public. In the last two weeks of the fiscal year, the L&A received three in person researchers after being closed for a year and a half. With the library now open, the Museum looks forward to more in-person visits for the upcoming fiscal year.

During the year, the L&A staff supported the production of various domestic and foreign produced aviation and space related documentaries, including offerings on the National Geographic Channel, Smithsonian Channel, Canada Documentary Channel, Fox News Network, Turner Classic Movies, Ozarks Public Television, and Encyclopedia Britannica. Research inquiries were received from around the world, including England, Norway, Peru, Mexico, Australia, Poland, Canada, Russia, South Africa, Belgium, and Barbados.

Many well-known organizations requested assistance, including the Louisiana Historical Association, the Friends of Magnuson Historic District (Seattle), John Hopkins University, Atchison Amelia Earhart Foundation, League of WW2 Aviation Historians, NPS Pearson Air Museum, and the Conner Prairie Museum.
COLLECTIONS

While the Museum’s gallery floor was absent of visitors for most of the year, the staff focused on improving the facility and caring for the collections. The Museum manages and preserves more than 120 aircraft and tens of millions of related artifacts and archival materials. During FY21, the Museum staff processed 75 new donations (10 curatorial and 65 L&A), scanned 16,500 images, and cataloged more than 60,000 digital files (photos, films, and documents). Staff reconciled incoming and outgoing loans, organized donor records (dating back to 1978), and rehoused and organized collections in need.

Since 2010, the Museum has made digitizing of its collections a priority to reach a larger global audience and to raise awareness of its holdings. To date there are over 400,000 digital assets online available to the public for free. These assets include photos, films and historic documents and newsletters. Each year the Museum adds over 20,000 new assets online through the use of various internet platforms such as Flickr, YouTube, and the Online Archives of California (OAC). For materials that have not yet been digitized, detailed listings and descriptions are created to enable discovery by the public.

NEW DONATION

LILLIAN BOYER COLLECTION

The San Diego Air & Space Museum’s Library & Archives received a new donation of Lillian Boyer’s Personal Papers. The collection contains photos and documents pertaining to Boyer’s time as a stunt performer. Materials will be available for research once it has been processed and digitized.

Lillian Boyer (1901-1989) was a sensational aerialist during the 1920s. She had her first ride in an airplane in 1921, and on the second ride, she climbed out on the wing. From late 1921 to late 1928, Lillian dazzled huge crowds at fairs in 22 states as she took to the air in a Curtiss Jenny biplane piloted by the well-known flier William S. Brock. Throughout her career, she performed at 352 shows in 41 states and Canada, completing 143 automobile-to-plane changes and 37 parachute jumps.
RESTORATION

The Museum maintains a robust Restoration Department, consisting of highly skilled and dedicated volunteers who contribute their valuable time to the restoration and creation of the Museum’s most important artifacts. Many of the volunteers are former professionals from aerospace companies in the San Diego region. Others are from different professions who are willing to learn the requisite skills needed to build and restore aircraft, ranging from simple gliders to complicated space vehicles. The quality of the Museum’s Restoration department is nationally recognized, noted by its work for the National Museum of Naval Aviation and the Smithsonian’s National Air & Space Museum.

The Restoration Department contributes to the Museum’s ongoing efforts to create and maintain evocative, life-like exhibits. The Restoration Department has two locations, one at its main site in Balboa Park and a second at the Gillespie Field Annex in El Cajon.

While restoration progress slowed dramatically during the pandemic lock-downs, a recent surge in activity by the Museum’s volunteers has produced good progress on several projects. The Museum’s reproduction of Howard Hughes’ famous H-1 Racer proceeds once again with the return of volunteers in the restoration shop at the Balboa Park location. This complicated project will take more time to complete as the volunteers begin to tackle the intricacies of the cockpit, the wing attach process, and all the work firewall forward. Ultimately, the Museum will possess and exhibit one of only two H-1 aircraft in the world.
GILLESPIE FIELD

The Museum's El Cajon site serves as an additional exhibit space for its growing collection, as well as a storage and restoration facility. Located at the northeastern corner of Gillespie Field, visitors can view various aircraft, including many examples of military jets, private sport aircraft and small racing planes. New additions at Gillespie are the S-3 Viking, the P2 Neptune, and Baron Hilton's Staggerwing. The facility is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 9 AM to 4:30 PM. Admission for Adults 12 years and older is $5. Free for anyone under the age of 12.

The restoration shop at Gillespie Field, like the one in the basement of the main Museum building, is staffed by highly skilled volunteers. In addition to repairing various historic aircraft, they are able to build authentic reproductions. Current projects for the year include the FB5 and J-3.

The hangars at Gillespie Field house the Museum's second restoration center. Every restoration project completes its journey at the Annex with paint and decals. Important Restoration work, especially wood and fabric construction, takes place at the Annex. The Gillespie Field Annex also is home to an elaborate model shop staffed by talented volunteers. The team creates museum-quality models from large-scale airliners to rockets and gliders. The Museum turns to the modelers when it is in need of a specialty, such as large-scale models of aircraft too large to fit in the Balboa Park facility.

Three projects at the Gillespie Field Annex are progressing nicely; the Boeing FB-5 reproduction, the flyable Aeronca L-3 “Grasshopper” restoration and the “Holy One” twin rotor helicopter restoration.

The Boeing FB-5, a 1927 military fighter, was originally produced in small numbers for the US Navy and United States Marine Corps. There are only five known to exist today and the Museum’s will become one of the best and most authentic when it is finished. All metal work on the fuselage is now complete. The landing gear has been attached, but the wheels and tires have not been yet fitted yet. The lower wings are ready for final paint and the massive upper wing will shortly be ready to cover with fabric.

The crew at Gillespie Field also is moving closer to getting the Museum’s Aeronca L-3 “Grasshopper” back into the air, nearly 80 years after it was originally produced. The wings are covered, as is the fuselage. Interior work on the instrument panel, wiring, rigging, and finishing is proceeding and the volunteers are anxious to get to the firewall forward portion of the project. The engine will be inspected and likely overhauled since it has been seven or eight years since it last ran. Upon completion, the Aeronca will serve as the Museum’s flying ambassador at local airshows and other aviation events.

“Holy One,” the Boeing/Vertol twin rotor helicopter is the third major restoration project underway at the Annex. While little progress was made during the pandemic, a few of the crew have returned and, although slow at this point, they are again moving ahead on the restoration of this historic machine. For those not familiar with its history, this helicopter landed by invitation of the Pope in St. Peters Square in 1958 where it was blessed by the Pontiff after performing a daring rescue mission near Rome after a natural disaster in the area.
LOW SPEED WIND TUNNEL & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

The Museum operates the San Diego Air & Space Technology Center/Low Speed Wind Tunnel (LSWT) on the eastern edge of Lindbergh Field in downtown San Diego. The facility plays a key role in aircraft development and research by providing aerodynamic test services for aircraft manufacturers from around the globe.

Considered by many one of the most historic buildings in San Diego, the Wind Tunnel began operations in 1947 as a division of Consolidated Vultee. The facility has been owned and operated by a distinguished list of industry giants, including Convair, General Dynamics and Lockheed. In 1994, Allied Aerospace/Micro Craft acquired it and operated the facility until 2006, when the Museum assumed ownership and operations.

Over the years, the LSWT has conducted aero-testing for numerous military and civilian development programs, including the F-106, B-58, F-111, F-16, Global Hawk UAV, Tomahawk Cruise Missile and Advanced Cruise Missile. Today, the LSWT serves the testing needs of Cessna, Boeing, Gulfstream, Northrop Grumman, General Atomics, Raytheon and Lockheed Martin. The engineers and crew at LSWT are busy conducting aero-tests for multiple clients with highly-innovative developmental products in both aerospace and general industry.

The US Olympic Cycling, Ski and Luge teams also frequently utilize the facility to develop specialized equipment and to optimize their technique as a part of their training to compete on the world stage.

The LSWT helped to usher in the “Jet Age” in 1947 and remains to this day a vital asset available to the aerospace industry in its development of the technologies necessary to shape the future of air and space travel.
SPECIAL EVENTS

The Museum is home to one of San Diego’s leading special events venues. Widely-known for its exceptional third-party events, the Museum’s experienced Special Events team produces first-class corporate and personal occasions, each embracing the Museum’s ambiance, entertainment and education opportunities. The Museum offers an exclusive setting for reunions, conventions, holiday parties, corporate events, weddings, receptions, tradeshows and more.

ACCOMMODATIONS INCLUDE:

- **SIT-DOWN DINNERS FOR 700**
- **STANDING RECEPTION/FOOD STATIONS FOR 1,500**
- **STAGE, UP LIGHTING AND STATE-OF-THE-ART AUDIO-VISUAL SYSTEM**
- **TABLES, CHAIRS, BARS, COCKTAIL TABLES AND LINENS**
- **FULL ACCESS TO MUSEUM EXHIBITS**
- **INTERACTIVE FLIGHT SIMULATORS**
- **3D/4D THEATER (ONE OF ONLY FOUR IN SAN DIEGO AND THE ONLY ONE IN BALBOA PARK)**
- **INTERACTIVE APOLLO ASTRONAUT THEMED PHOTO BOOTH**
- **PERSONAL DOCENT-LED TOURS**
- **FLIGHT PATH GRILL/OBSERVATION DECK**
- **FREE PARKING**

To learn more about hosting your next special event at the San Diego Air & Space Museum, call (619) 234-8291, ext. 116 or 117.
### Operating Revenue and Support:

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<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>3,855,028</td>
<td>5,651,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting services:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>1,191,148</td>
<td>1,029,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>134,709</td>
<td>513,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td>5,180,885</td>
<td>7,194,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase (decrease) in Operations</td>
<td>(50,341)</td>
<td>(389,659)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Non-Operating Revenue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment return</td>
<td>651,920</td>
<td>118,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/decrease in Net Assets</td>
<td>601,579</td>
<td>(270,739)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, Beginning</strong></td>
<td>7,486,514</td>
<td>7,757,253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, Ending</strong></td>
<td>$8,088,093</td>
<td>$7,486,514</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VOLUNTEERS, INTERNSHIPS & DOCENTS

Of all of the incredible assets at the Museum, the men and women who make up its core Volunteers and Docents are easily the most valuable. They constitute a remarkable group and are a critical resource to understanding the Museum’s distinguished past, a vital driver of its every-day activities, and a key force in driving its future success. They are the true heart and soul of the Museum.

VOLUNTEERS

The Museum benefits greatly from the hardworking and unselfish Volunteers. Every department of the Museum benefits from the support and expertise of its Volunteers – from Docent-led tours, to restoration efforts, education, special events, Library & Archives, collection care and research.

DOCENTS

Of all the Volunteers who give their time to make the Museum successful, Docents most frequently come in contact with visitors, serving as guides and teachers and sharing the excitement of flight and space exploration with Museum guests. Docents guide both scheduled and unscheduled tours through the Museum and Restoration area, and also make themselves available throughout the Museum’s galleries to enhance the visitor experience.

BEAM ACCESSIBILITY TOUR

In addition to on-site tours, the Museum also offers an innovative and exciting program which widens access to previously underserved populations through the BEAM Accessibility Tour. The BEAM allows visitors to enjoy the Museum through a virtual presence device, allowing them to telecommute from remote locations by using personal computers to “drive” the BEAM. Virtual visitors are accompanied by qualified docents who guide the visitors on real-time, interactive tours of the Museum. These virtual tours are offered at no cost to those unable to visit the Museum due to medical or physical disabilities. The BEAM program also is offered, at a nominal fee, to members of the general population who are unable to visit the Museum in person.
ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. IS IT YOU?

Your contribution to the Museum ensures both present and future generations are energized by the achievements of the pioneers of aviation and space exploration. Financial gifts support the Museum’s exhibits, collections and education programs with an emphasis on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

The Museum offers several donation options:

CASH DONATIONS
You can support the Museum by mail or online. You can designate a gift to a project or program, or make a gift in the memory of a loved one at http://sandiegoairandspace.org/support/donate/donate.

MEMBERSHIP
Becoming a member allows you to make unlimited visits and offers great value and benefits, including invitations to special “members-only” events and discounts on ticketed events such as the annual Hall of Fame Celebration. Select your level at http://sandiegoairandspace.org/support/become-a-member.

ESTATE PLANNING
Enjoy the prestige and lifelong personal satisfaction of making a gift through your estate. You don’t need to be wealthy to establish a tax-advantaged gift. Some of the avenues available to you to make a significant gift now or later include Wills/Bequests, Appreciated Assets, Life Insurance, Retirement Plans and Charitable Trusts.

IN-KIND DONATIONS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
Donations of aviation-related materials – or your time – are always welcome. Potential donations are screened and accepted in accordance with the Museum’s Collection Management Policy. Gifts are considered outright donations, to be used in the best interest of the Museum and the public, and they become the sole and irrevocable property of the San Diego Air & Space Museum. Contact Katrina at kpescador@sdasm.org.

The Museum is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with Tax ID 95-2253027. Gifts to the Museum are tax deductible.
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