



# The Plastic Whittler



## Our Next Meeting:

Our next meeting will be on **Monday, April 16th at 6:30 pm**, at HobbyTown USA. Note the new time! To respect the needs of our host we are starting this month to meet at 6:30 PM. We'll wrap up around 8 PM and retire to someplace nearby to eat dinner.

## Last Month's Meeting

We had a good turnout with 13 people in attendance. (see photos on page 2) Special guest Ken Warden from Knoxville was present and may join us for more meetings! Don Hixson attended and brought a model of a steam mule along with the fascinating history of it's use. Horton had a nice looking overall orange airliner. Your scribe actually had a new model of Phantom that had



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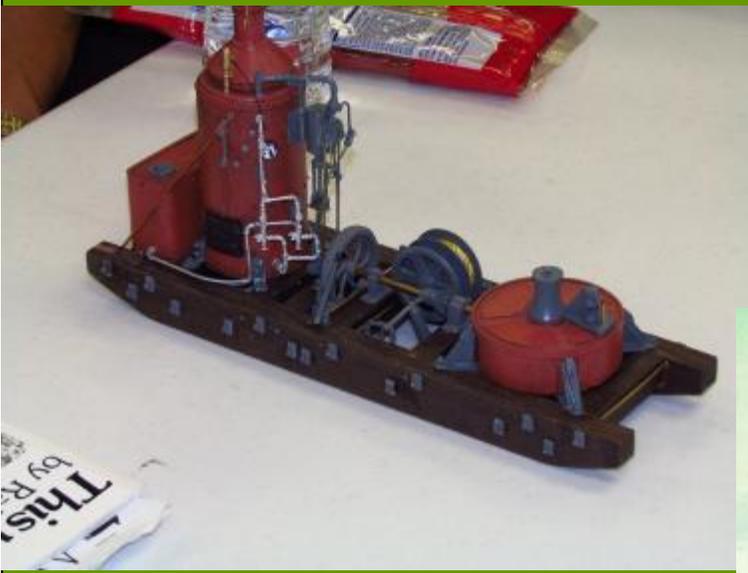
been in his workshop for about 2 years!!! We also voted to give Mike Moore "The Power" to negotiate and execute the best deal for our 2013 show. I can report that much has happened on that front EVEN after the printing of the show flyer on page 6. I'll let Mike reveal these at the meeting Monday night! It's all good!!!!

## In This Issue

There's a little of everything in here this month. A couple of photo essays from the Knoxville and Anniston shows. (More next month from Bryan Webb.) There are a few new show flyers (including our own!) A surprise at least to me was the fact there is a aviation museum here in Hamilton County. Thanks to the kind folks at The Pulse, Chattanooga's alternative newspaper, we are able to reprint an article on that museum. Check it all out and I'll see you at the next meeting. Watch for a T-28 overhead!

UPCOMING EVENTS	DATE
Colombia SC IPMS R-XXII	4/28/2012
IPMS Louisville	5/19/2012
IPMS Warner Robins	6/9/2012
Military Vehicle Preservation Association & AMPS Regional show hosted by AMPS/Atlanta	6/28-30
IPMS Nationals 2012 Orlando Florida	8/8-11/2012
IPMS Huntsville	9/29/2012
<b>IPMS/AMPS/CHATTANOOGA MINI-CONVENTION</b>	<b>1/11&amp;12/2013</b>





**March Meeting  
Photos**



# Mattheiss Van Contest

Jeff has driven us to more than one show in his old trusty minivan. When He shared with me this little contest I new we had to share this opportunity. With a little luck Jeff will get a new van!

Below is a contest thing some friends of ours nominated us to be in with NMEDA. It would be neat if the folks could vote for us as it is a national campaign and the more votes you get, the better your chances. No, we didn't write the bio so most people will wonder why Emily is 12 if she was born in 2009. No, we can't seem to change the bio. Yes, our van is in the shop and we will probably be able to get it back soon but it would still be nice to have a new one as we put on average 2000 miles a month on the one we have. It's a 2004 and we've had it 5 years now.

Thanks,  
Jeff

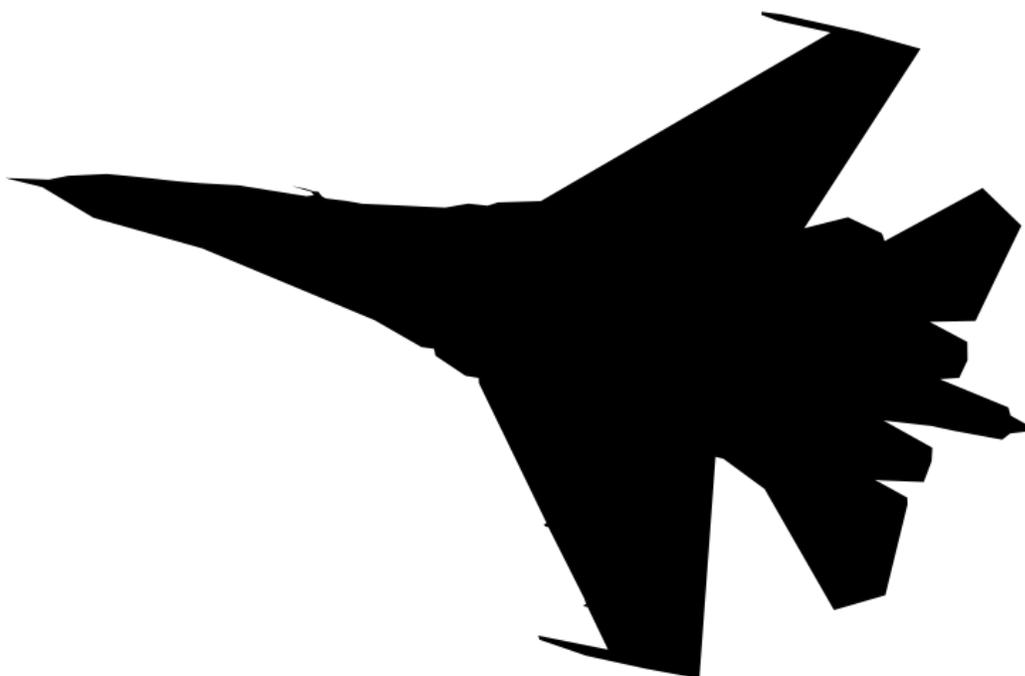
Ok guys! Need some help! A friend has nominated us to win a new wheelchair accessible van. Ours lost the transmission this week. We need your votes! Please go to <http://www.nmeda.com/mobility-awareness-month/heroes/tennessee/east-ridge/435/lisa-mattheiss> or if that doesn't work go to <http://www.nmeda.com/mobility-awareness-month/local-hero-contest> type in our last name it will search for us, then fill out the voting form after you click on our picture. (half a dozen questions) The promo code is 889. You can each vote using the promo code once to give us 5 extra votes each. Then you can vote every day (multiple times if you have multiple IP addresses) :) You can vote once per day til the contest is over May 13th. We would appreciate any and all votes! Thank you!

Lisa Mattheiss

LifeLine, Inc.

Reaching Families with Special Needs with Support, Education, and Resource

[www.LifeLineFamilies.org](http://www.LifeLineFamilies.org)



# Photos from the Knoxville Show



# Photos from the Knoxville Show





# Chattanooga ModelCon 2013

January 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> 2013

**JUST LIKE OUR LAST TWO SHOWS EXCEPT  
IT'LL BE BIGGER, BETTER AND BADDER THAN EVER!  
NEW LOCATION - CHATTANOOGA CONVENTION CENTER  
18,000 SFT TO SPREAD OUT IN!  
MORE MODELS!!!  
MORE VENDORS!!!  
MORE FUN!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Plans include:

- Show rate at the Staybridge Suites next to the Convention Center
- Vendors can be open for business and registration to start early Friday afternoon
- Hospitality Suite at the Staybridge Friday night
- Club Build Challenge II – OOB Academy 1/72 Aircraft
- And more... check out website... updates as plans come together

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

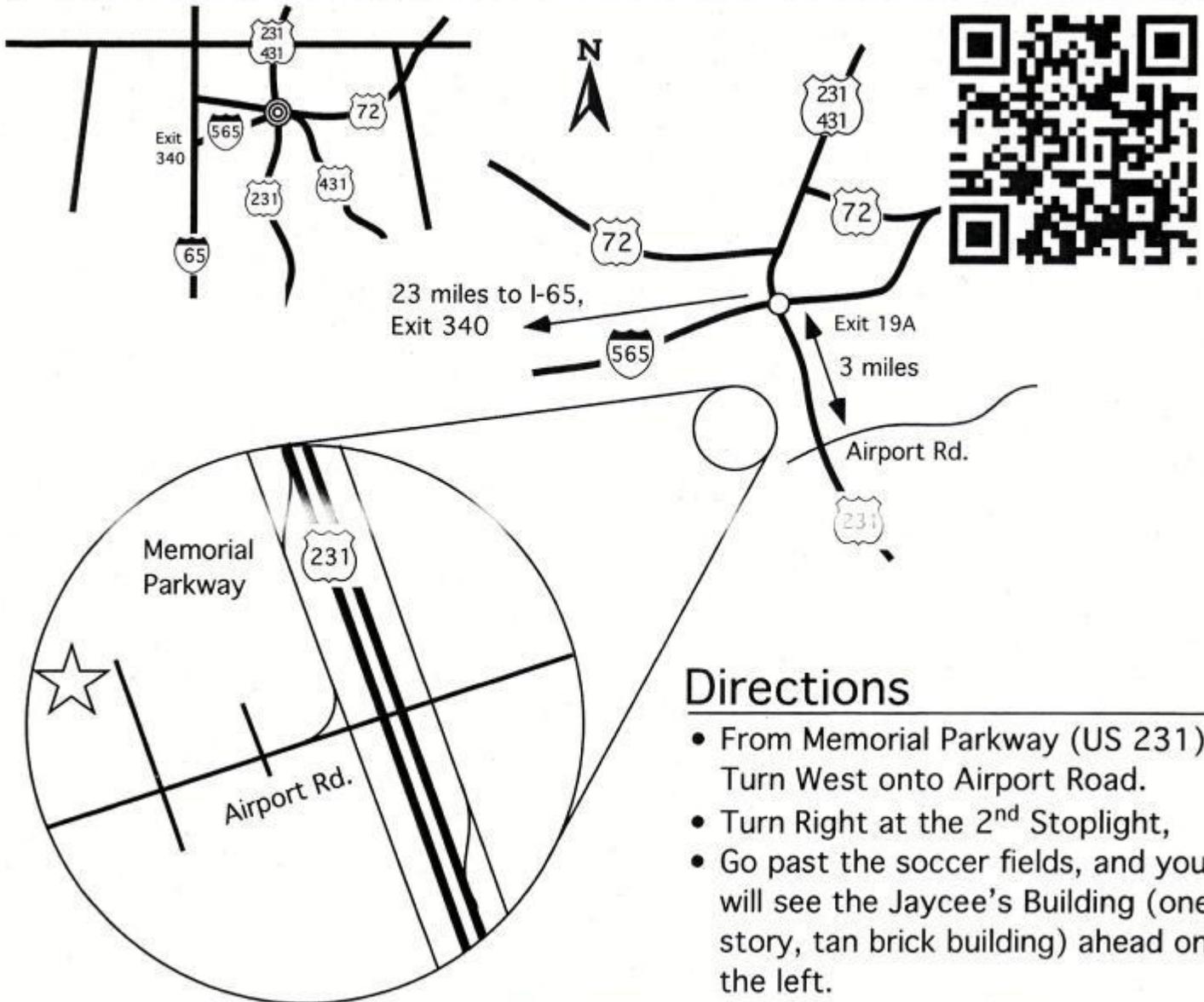
General Contact – Mike Moore [maxwinthrop@yahoo.com](mailto:maxwinthrop@yahoo.com)

Vendor Contact – Jeff Mattheiss [emilyshouse@juno.com](mailto:emilyshouse@juno.com)



# 36TH ANNUAL CONTEST

## 29 SEPTEMBER 2012



### Directions

- From Memorial Parkway (US 231), Turn West onto Airport Road.
- Turn Right at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stoplight,
- Go past the soccer fields, and you will see the Jaycee's Building (one story, tan brick building) ahead on the left.

Rates: \$10.00 for the 1st model, \$2.00 for each add'l  
Juniors \$1.00/model

Vendors Tables: \$25.00 each

Info: Phil Cassibry • 256-837-7293 • vendors@hpmsonline.org

**HUNTSVILLE PLASTIC MODELERS' SOCIETY**  
**[HTTP://WWW.HPMSONLINE.ORG](http://www.hpmsonline.org)**

# Model Contest      SCOTTCON 2012

**Date:** June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
**Time:** 9:00AM until 5:00 PM  
**Robins AFB Museum of Aviation,  
 Warner Robins, GA.**

**The B/G Robert L. Scott Chapter  
 Presents:**

SCOTT CON 2012!  
 Operation Torch  
 Invasion Of North Africa

**POC's:**  
 President: Bill Paul  
[wlpaul@bellsouth.net](mailto:wlpaul@bellsouth.net)  
 478-929-3210  
 Contest Director: Jerry Hall:  
[wrgahall@cox.net](mailto:wrgahall@cox.net)  
 478-329-1435  
 Chapter Contact: Paul Melton  
[pmelton5@windstream.net](mailto:pmelton5@windstream.net)  
 478-956-0128  
 Museum Contact: Bill Paul  
[Bill.Paul@robins.af.mil](mailto:Bill.Paul@robins.af.mil)  
 478-926-5196

**Contest will feature a *special award* for:  
 Any subject connected with Operation Torch:  
 Truck, Car, Aircraft, Ship, Tank, Gun, Figure, Etc.**

**See Contest website : <http://ipmsrlscottcontest.webs.com>**

**Schedule of Events**

• Vendors set up Friday from 3:00 to 5:00 PM and Saturday 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM

**Vendor Table Fees = raffle prize donations for each table.**

**Contact Bill Paul**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Registration & Fees:**

- IPMS members: \$8.00
- Non members: \$10.00
- **Additional models \$1.00 ea.**
- **Juniors: \$5.00 (No limit)**

**Vendors = donations for tables**

- Registration 9:00 to 12:30
- Judging: 1:00PM to 3:30 PM
- Awards: 4:00 PM

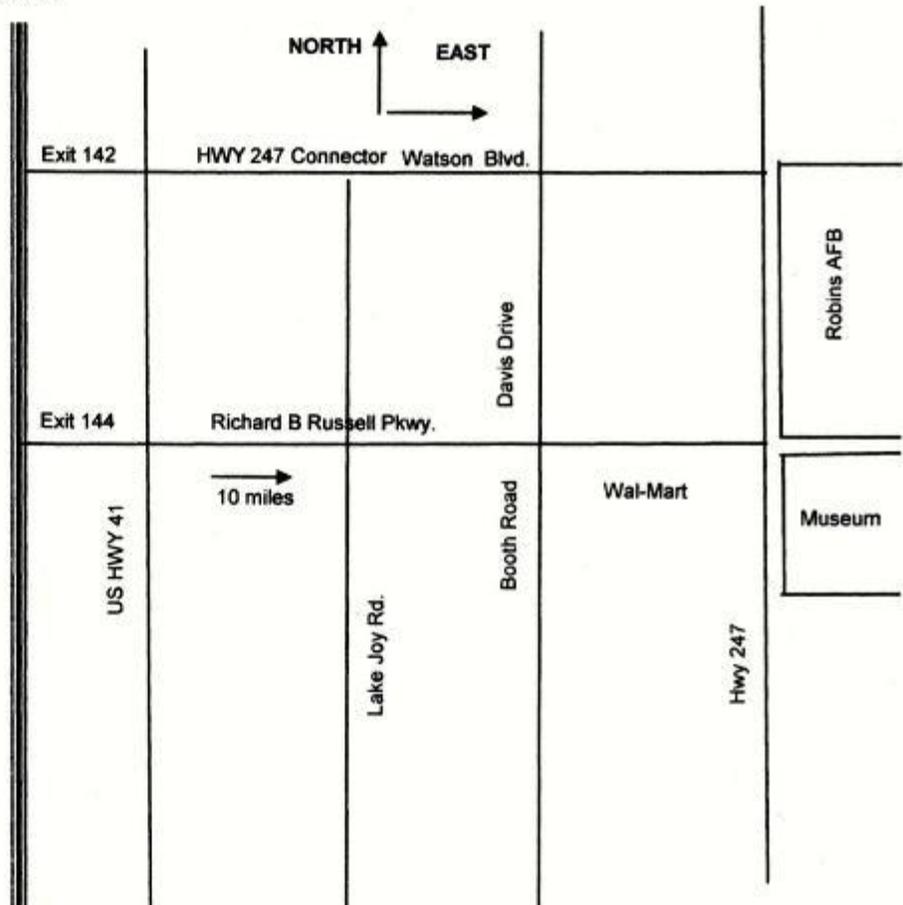
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Raffle prizes: tickets \$1.00  
 6 for \$5.00

**Museum gift shop & restaurant**

90 plus aircraft on display!  
 New WWII Hanger  
 Flight Simulators!  
 Training Simulators!

I-75 N



# Wings Over Hixson

Apr 5, 2012 by [Kinsey Elliot, Pulse Contributor](#) in [On The Cover](#)

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*Hixson Museum of Flight Photo by Lesha Patterson*

Nestled between the Middle Valley Recreation Center and Dallas Bay Skypark is a spectacle much more Huntsville than Hixson. Past the cheering ball fields of kids chomping on Dubble Bubble, you'll find a small, baby blue building with a tacked-on sign that reads "Hixson Flight Museum." Step inside and you'll step back in time.

Walk the narrow path to the open doors and open arms of the volunteers and supporters that keep the museum in order. To your left you'll see eerie pictures of passengers flying above Hixson during last year's tumultuous tornado. To your right you'll see rockets perched appropriately next to rocket launchers. Like any good museum, merchandise is centrally located as you walk through the entryway.

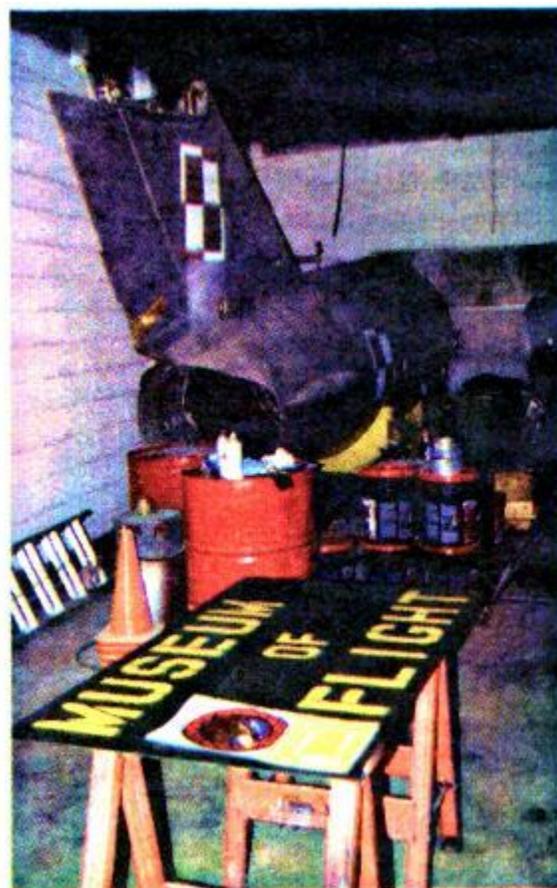
On any given day, you'll find a handful of volunteers, both men and women, swapping stories and working at the museum. I was greeted by Brent "Poncho" Wade on my visit, and he was kind enough to give me an extensive tour with full commentary on each aircraft, which I appreciated both for the information and sincere interest he has for aviation. While at the museum, Wade goes by Poncho, a nickname he was given by other volunteers. After so many hours of service, volunteers go through a kangaroo-court ceremony and receive a quirky nickname. I also met director of operations Jody "Nutty Buddy" Whitmire.

"If you stick around, we'll put a wrench in your hand," said Whitmire. He emphasized that this is a working and flying museum, where volunteers keep maintenance on the aircraft and fly them to retain their order.

Aside from the entry room, the museum has two additional spaces that really take flight. Past the entry is the carefully restored hangar where all of the aircraft are stored, restored and showcased. The Ready Room next door is full of unique aviation memorabilia such as captain chairs, flight suits from the Korean War, and Russian clocks taken from submarines. Whether or not you lived through the Cold War era the museum documents, it's easy to appreciate the features of the museum for the aviation and history itself. What I learned while at the museum was what an unexpected variety of military aircraft have been collected and transported to this tiny Hixson hangar.

Housed at the museum are two military aircraft, the Alpha and Bravo models of the North American T-28 "Trojan," which was designed for pilot training. The Alpha was used by the Air Force and the Bravo was the Navy's version, but both have combat history. Also stationed nearby is a Piper Cub, a general civilian flying plane that was also used by the military, and the L4 Grasshopper, used for sleek observation. A Soviet MiG 17 was used by the Polish Air Force and, once restored, will be the only static display at the museum. The Taylorcraft, made in 1946, is similar to the Cub, but uses a wheel instead of a stick for steering.

Although bound by limited space, the museum has not yet reached its maximum growth. "We're on the Naval surplus list for a static display," said Whitmire. Founder of the museum, Pete O'Hare, hopes to get more aircraft on display, and continue efforts of reaching out to the community, gathering more volunteers, expanding awareness and supporting the Children's Hospital at Erlanger. The collection currently on working display at the museum is comprised of personal planes of the museum's founders and supporters. "It's important we have something physical so that visitors can be in touch with aviation in terms of arts and science," O'Hare said.



At a time when interest in aviation seems to be decreasing, the opportunity to see aircraft and speak to knowledgeable volunteers can spark a newfound interest of aviation. For that reason, field trips and tours of the museum are offered and encouraged. The museum has been a destination for the Boy Scouts, public and home school students, but museum coordinators would like to see the number of group trips expand.

"If you have an interest in aviation, it will get your foot in the door and you'll have fun," said Whitmire.

Volunteer Brent Wade said that it gives you a chance to be part of something bigger than yourself. If you don't have the handy skills to work on the actual aircraft, there are a variety of ways to volunteer at the museum after becoming a member.

The Hixson Flight Museum supports the Children's Hospital at Erlanger, and funds are raised for the charity at events hosted by the museum. O'Hare was involved with the charity before establishing the museum, and he wanted to continue his support. O'Hare's wife was an administrator at the hospital, an additional reason to support the cause.

O'Hare is a chief warrant officer in the Marine Corps Reserve, and he owns most of the aircraft exhibited, and on loan, to the museum. He flew in Desert Storm, and his great uncle, Butch O'Hare, was the first Navy pilot of World War II to be given the Medal of Honor. Chicago's O'Hare International Airport is named for him.

With his direct dedication to aviation, O'Hare wanted to establish a center for those interested and invested in aviation to gather in his hometown of Hixson. "To be in the country where aviation started, we want people in the community to be able to experience the joy of aviation," O'Hare said.

Only 30 minutes from downtown Chattanooga, the Hixson Flight Museum is right in our own backyard. Cruise on over from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays, to view the in-house displays or test true airspeed with a piloted flight. On a good day, you can experience an aerial view of the region for \$69. Guided tours range from \$5 to \$10, but the photo opportunities and uniqueness of our hometown flight museum make the opportunity priceless.

## Hangar Gala

*Fundraisers at the museum are held throughout the year, but two larger events are hosted in the fall and spring. Coming up on Saturday, April 21, is the second annual Hangar Gala. Tickets are \$100 per person, with proceeds of a silent auction benefiting the Children's Hospital at Erlanger. The catered event includes dinner, cocktails, live music and dancing to obtain a USO Show vibe. "Wings, Wheels, and Water" is another event the museum hosts each September, which includes a car and airplane show. For more information, visit the museum's website at [hixsonflight-museum.com](http://hixsonflight-museum.com)*

Hixson Museum of Flight  
1824 East Crabtree Road, Hixson, TN 37343  
423.228.2FLY

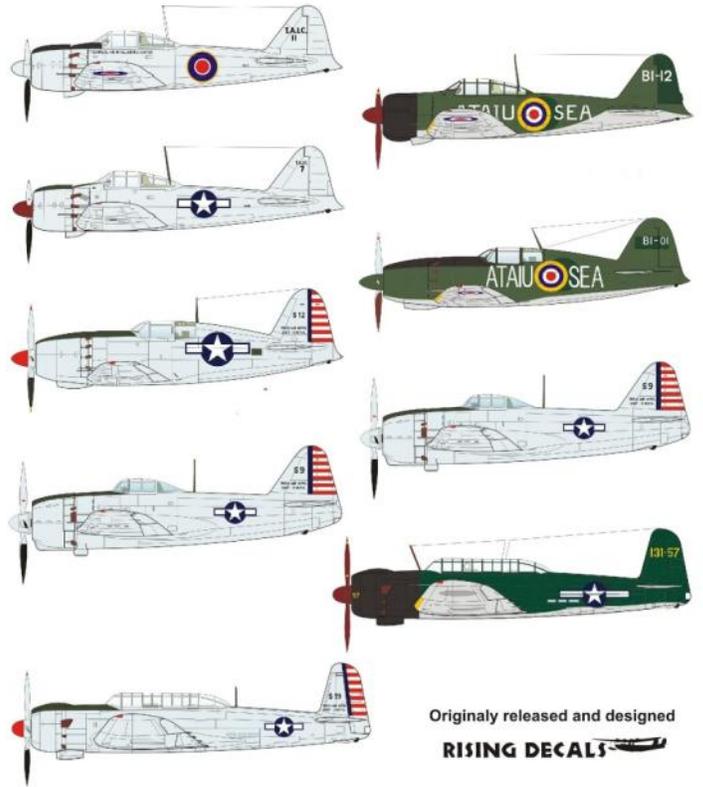


# Dying Sun Pt. 1



Originally released and designed  
**RISING DECALS**

# Dying Sun Pt. 2



Originally released and designed  
**RISING DECALS**

Coming soon from a vendor near you.....