03
Drones: Is the Sky the Limit?
An exhibition about an evolving technology

04
Vet Video Chats
Innovating new ways of reaching veterans

05
Oral History Project
Collecting firsthand accounts that breathe life into the collection
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
There are many ways to get involved at the Intrepid Museum.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER
Interested in volunteering at the Museum? Please contact volunteers@intrepidmuseum.org or 646-381-5058.

HELP OUR COLLECTION GROW
Are you interested in donating objects to the Museum’s collection? Please contact collections@intrepidmuseum.org.

HELP US CONNECT WITH FORMER CREW MEMBERS
Did you or a family member serve on Intrepid? Please contact Matthew Costantino at mcostantino@intrepidmuseum.org or 646-381-5271.

MENTOR YOUNG WOMEN IN STEAM
We are seeking dynamic women from STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) fields to serve as mentors in our GOALS for Girls programs. If you’re interested in sharing your skills with our students, please contact Shay Saleem at ssaleem@intrepidmuseum.org or 646-381-5168.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

“These programs are important not only for sparking my mother’s mind, but also for helping my state of mind.”

The Museum provides opportunities for all visitors to learn from its collection of technologically groundbreaking aircraft and vessels. Its innovative access programs serve as a model for museums across the country. In Stories Within, the Museum engages visitors with dementia and their caregivers. Led by trained Museum staff, small groups explore the Museum and reflect on the history of the ship, its aircraft and the stories of people who served at sea. These multisensory experiences are designed to spark conversation and reflection. Thanks to supporters like you, Stories Within is free for all participants.

Meet Darah Bull, whose mother participates in Stories Within. Here, in a thoughtful letter to our staff, she describes how the program has helped her reconnect with her mother, who has Alzheimer’s disease.

Four years ago, I realized that my mother needed great help, and about three years ago she could no longer live by herself. In those years, we lived in Brewster and NYC while I took care of my mom full-time. Your program saved my life during that time and made my relationship with my mother seem normal. We went to a really cool place to have fun, learn something, be with other people who are dealing with what we are dealing with and have educators treat us with great care and understanding.

What’s especially wonderful about the program is the intimacy of the stories of men and women who experienced life in very different or extraordinary circumstances than most people. The educators have a wonderful way of connecting these stories to our circumstances in a very simple, relatable way. This is especially helpful to those with dementia, but I also enjoy and feel welcome to participate! My mother sang the songs of the 40s, danced at a USO party, held a naval pilot’s head gear and was amazed at the very tight interior of the Concorde. It is great fun for me to see her engaged in the unordinary and for me to have a break from the very challenging and trying life of caregiving.

This past year, we moved my mother from her apartment to a home near me. The move has been very intense and sad. Coming back to one of our old haunts, where my mother is treated with understanding and where we’re given the feeling that there is still a life worth living, is inspiring and fun. There is so much that I cannot do with my mother anymore. For example, she can no longer be an audience member at a Broadway show or opera—she may just start singing out loud with the person on stage. You can imagine the looks we’ve gotten. Even just having a meal at a restaurant can be difficult. When you are caring for someone with Alzheimer’s, these programs are important not only for sparking my mother’s mind, but also for helping my state of mind—in feeling that her disease isn’t just another closed door in life.

Thank you for all you and your educators do, and for creating these incredible programs. I wish more caregivers knew about these programs and how beneficial they are to all those involved.

BELOW: Stories Within engages adults with dementia and their caregivers in conversation and reflection.
INTREPID ADVENTURES
October 14, 15, 28 & 29
Designed for children and their grown-ups, these guided activities explore the history, science and technology behind the Museum’s artifacts. Free with admission. Register online.

ACCESS FAMILY PROGRAMS
October 15
Children with developmental disabilities and their families tour the Museum and do hands-on activities that engage the whole family. Free. Register online.

FAMILY ASTRONOMY NIGHT
October 20
Hear from NASA’s Noah Petro about Apollo 17’s exploration of the moon, and stargaze with telescopes on the flight deck. Free.

MEMBERS-ONLY EVENT: HALLOWEEN FILM SCREENING
October 28
Watch Toy Story of Terror and Hocus Pocus—a double feature that will get you into the Halloween spirit. Between films, hear a talk by a Museum educator about the “magic” of science. RSVP online.

ASTROCAFÉ
November 3
Enjoy drinks and a talk by Anup Singh, an innovator who designed a health monitoring device for multiyear missions in space. Free. Ages 21+.

MEMBERS-ONLY EVENT: DRONES AFTER HOURS
November 30
Join us for light refreshments and a final look at the exhibition Drones: Is the Sky the Limit? before it closes on December 3.

BECOME A MEMBER!

ENJOY GREAT BENEFITS:
• Free priority admission to the Museum all year
• Discounts on tickets, with advance sales for public programs
• Invitations to members-only events, exhibition previews and much more!

TO JOIN:
Visit intrepidmuseum.org/membership or call 646-381-5030.

VISIT INTREPIDMUSEUM.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION.

ABOVE: Guests enjoy the flight deck after hours.
RIGHT: Two of the Museum’s younger members take an exclusive tour of Growler.
UNMANNED AIRCRAFT—and their inherent potential and controversies—have become a fixture in the headlines. The Museum’s exhibition Drones: Is the Sky the Limit? explores their origins, including early drones launched on Intrepid, and traces the development of this technology to its modern applications. The exhibition opened in May to critical acclaim, with the New York Times calling it “a wide-ranging, fascinating exhibition” and “timely.”

In planning the exhibition, the Museum faced a unique challenge: the content grapples with dynamic technology anchored in the present and poised to shape the future. Though the exhibition looks at the history of drones, much of it is devoted to drone systems and technologies that continue to evolve. For example, one of the drones on display, the Zipline medical delivery drone, was only in its testing stage when the exhibition was conceived but has since been successfully implemented in Rwanda.

To keep content fresh and relevant for visitors seeing the exhibition over the course of its run, the Museum partnered with the Center for the Study of the Drone at Bard College, which examines the opportunities and challenges presented by unmanned vehicles.

A kiosk in the exhibition features a rotating selection of recent articles about drones. The center periodically updates the kiosk so that visitors see developments. Featured items have included drones that are searching for dinosaur fossils in otherwise inaccessible areas, first responder drones, recreational drone-diving and sky-diving experienced through the lens of a drone.

Accompanying the exhibition are programs for K–12 students and camp groups. Classes visit on field trips, and teachers receive materials beforehand and afterward to help them connect students to exhibition content. In Aviation Next, a program for grades 6–12, students learn about technological advances in aviation, compare and contrast manned and unmanned flight and come up with drone designs of their own.

To bring drones into the classroom, the Museum developed a 36-hour course for teachers in partnership with the New York City Department of Education. Drones: A Catalyst for Integrating Engineering, Science and History was held from August 21 through August 26. Museum educators and curators partnered with staff from the Stevens Institute of Technology and Raising Engineering Awareness through the Conduit of History to help teachers incorporate STEM discussions, resources and skills into their classrooms and engage students in new, unexpected ways. The course was made possible by the IEEE Foundation.

The Museum has also hosted a number of public programs to connect the exhibition with current events. On June 27, the Museum welcomed Brett Velicovich and Christopher S. Stewart, co-authors of Drone Warrior, for a spirited discussion about their book. In the workshop Drone On, families learn how drones work and then use basic programming to plan a route for a drone. Workshops were held in June, July and August, and the final ones will be on October 14–15 and December 2–3.

Drones: Is the Sky the Limit? will be open through December 3, 2017. Don’t miss your chance to visit before it closes!

Members receive free admission to the Museum, including the exhibition.
THE MUSEUM IS COMMITTED to honoring our heroes, and an integral part of honoring them is offering support. The Veterans Access Initiative—a constellation of free educational programs, collections projects and events offered year-round—aims to build strong social networks and communities for veterans and their families, ultimately easing the transition back home, breaking down perceived barriers and alleviating the challenges of daily life.

This summer the Museum piloted Vet Video Chats, the latest addition to the Veterans Access Initiative. Vet Video Chats are designed to reach veterans who are unable to physically visit the Museum on their own, especially individuals who require intensive healthcare services at home or in a hospital setting.

This online program highlights objects and spaces within the Museum and invites individuals to ask questions, make comments and share stories. A Museum educator connects with a veteran on Skype or another digital platform and walks the veteran through the Museum. The program can be delivered to individuals or groups, as a stand-alone event or series. Each session focuses on a different space in the Museum and stories of those who served on board.

To pilot Vet Video Chats, Barbara Johnson Stemler, senior manager of access programs, and her team, Charlotte Martin, Sara Lowenburg and Brigid Tuschen, worked with hospitals and local community centers to reach veterans who are interested in this kind of activity. The team set out to tailor the program to each facility. After reviewing and refining the pilot, the Museum will bring Vet Video Chats to a larger audience—reaching far beyond the Museum’s walls to enrich the lives of veterans throughout the country.

To learn more about programs for veterans at the Museum, please visit intrepidmuseum.org/veterans.

“Vet Video Chats make meaningful connections between veterans, their lived experiences, and the Museum’s collection of artifacts, archives and oral histories. Our goal is to create a safe space where people are willing to share their thoughts, questions and stories with a larger community.”

—Barbara Johnson Stemler, Senior Manager of Access Programs

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Intrepid After Hours, Military Family Programs, Vet Video Chats and guided tours tailored for veterans are generously supported by Professional Physical Therapy. If you are interested in making a donation to support these programs, contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at support@intrepidmuseum.org or call 646-381-5279.

LEFT: Museum educator Charlotte Martin tests a Vet Video Chat.

RIGHT: Connecting via Skype, an educator provides a tour for veterans who are unable to visit the Museum.
THE MUSEUM LAUNCHED its Oral History Project in May 2013. Its goal is to collect the stories of those who served on Intrepid and the submarine Growler, as well as individuals connected to the space shuttle Enterprise and the supersonic airliner Concorde. These oral histories are a core component of our collection and infuse passion and humanity into the technology on display at the Museum.

This year alone, the Museum collected more than 20 oral histories, five of which shed light on the history of Growler. Our collection now includes more than 140 recorded stories.

Here are a few highlights from this year’s efforts:

• Two staff members traveled to South Dakota to interview Harold Thune, a World War II fighter pilot who flew the F6F Hellcat from Intrepid with Air Group 18. Harold gave vivid descriptions of his experience flying from Intrepid, including a harrowing story about finding the ship in a storm.

• Charles Feeney served on Intrepid in 1956 as an aircraft mechanic with squadron VA-83. He shared exciting stories about the ports of call he visited, including Greece for his 21st birthday. He remembers laying a hand on the Parthenon, seeing Zeus and having an epiphany: he must go home and marry his girlfriend. He did. Charles’s stories provide a poignant glimpse into the personal experiences of life in service.

• Staff traveled to Jacksonville, Florida, to interview a trio of pilots from squadron VA-15. Jerry “Possum” Terrell, Robert “Bo” Smith and Pete Schoeffel all flew A-4 Skyhawks on missions over North Vietnam. Pete was shot down and spent several years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. These pilots offer insight into an intense period in Intrepid’s history, when the ship was involved in combat operations.

In 2018, the Museum will organize additional programs and events to expand the Oral History Project and develop new ways to share these significant stories with visitors and the general public.

We are grateful to Museum trustee James L. Nederlander for a leadership gift that enabled our staff to travel to former crew members and record these oral histories. If you would like to learn more about the Oral History Project, please visit intrepidmuseum.org/oralhistoryproject.

ABOVE: Ben Levinsohn, manager of the volunteer and docent program, interviews former crew member Errol Kellum.

BELOW: Harold Thune seated inside the cockpit of his Grumman F6F Hellcat.
LOOKING BACK & LOOKING AHEAD: INTREPID’S 75TH

ON DECEMBER 1, 1941—just six days before the attack on Pearl Harbor brought the United States into World War II—the keel for USS Intrepid was laid and construction began. After the attack, construction of the ship hastened, and on August 16, 1943, carrying more than 3,000 men of the Greatest Generation, Intrepid set sail to join the American fleet in the Pacific. It went on to serve in the Vietnam War, Cold War and Space Race, and in 1974, after three decades of service, the ship was decommissioned.

Intrepid then embarked on a new mission: in 1982, it opened as a world-class history and science museum in New York City. Now, more than one million visitors walk onto its gangways each year and are immersed in its history—right where it all took place.

The year 2018 marks the 75th anniversary of Intrepid’s commissioning. Intrepid’s history is America’s history, and throughout the year, the Museum will present rich cultural and education programs to commemorate and celebrate this triumphant ship. These offerings will provide opportunities for the public to contemplate our nation’s history alongside that of Intrepid, hear from former crew members about their experiences, and tell their own stories and the stories of loved ones who served.

Programs of note in 2018 will include a pop-up exhibition on Intrepid’s history and highlights from the Museum’s collection, a budding playwright research residency for students from settlement houses in the city, the annual Fleet Week festival—including the Salute to Freedom gala and Memorial Day Ceremony—and a new performance series highlighting the different eras of Intrepid’s service.

The culmination of this yearlong celebration will take place from Thursday, August 16, through Sunday, August 19, 2018. During this weekend, the Museum will host special programs to mark the 75th anniversary of the day the ship was commissioned, including a ceremony and dinner for former crew members, oral history workshops, public performances and a Seats of Honor dedication ceremony in the Allison & Howard Lutnick Theater exclusively for former crew members and their families.

Visit intrepidmuseum.org/75 for updates on the exciting programs the Museum will offer throughout the year.

INTREPID MUSEUM LEGACY SOCIETY

Chart a course for future generations by joining the Intrepid Museum’s Legacy Society. The Legacy Society recognizes some of the Museum’s most forward-thinking and philanthropic supporters, who have shown their passion for science and history by including the Museum in their estate plans.

If you are interested in learning more about the Legacy Society and planned giving, please visit intrepidmuseum.org/legacysociety or call 646-381-5279.
FRED LUGAR served on board Intrepid as a radarman second class during the Vietnam War. While on liberty in Japan, he bought this tiny teacup and saucer, measuring only two inches in diameter, as a souvenir. The saucer depicts the Hakone Ropeway with a view toward Mount Fuji, which is shown in full on the gilded cup. Souvenirs like this reflect the countries and traditions that crew members learned about during their service.