



## News Release

Media Contact:

Wade McNabb

931.455.1974

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

Brad Hood

[www.T-34.com](http://www.T-34.com)

### **Beechcraft Heritage Museum Celebrates 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with T-34 Homecoming**

TULLAHOMA, TN. (Jan 18, 2008) - The Beechcraft Heritage Museum is planning a special celebration during its annual convention October 15-19, as 2008 marks the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding. Joining in this celebration are members of the T-34 Owners Association.

The event will bring together an estimated 100 examples of both vintage and modern Beechcraft models, with as many as 80 additional beautifully restored T-34 Mentor aircraft. During the event, attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about operating and maintaining their preferred Beechcraft model, as well as enjoy a relaxing atmosphere for flying and socializing.

"This event is unlike any other aviation event, in that it isn't an air show, or a trade show, but a venue where one can enjoy visiting with old friends, and making new ones", said Michael Greenblatt, President of the Foundation. "We're very pleased that the T-34 Owners Association has accepted our invitation to be part of this year's celebration".

The Beechcraft Heritage Museum was conceived in June of 1973, as aviation legend Louise Thaden addressed a crowd of enthusiastic Beechcraft Model 17 owners, and encouraged them to preserve the legacy of the distinctively original and beautiful aircraft design which became affectionately known as the "Staggerwing". Thirty-five years later, the museum is committed to preserving the rich history of all aircraft produced under the Beechcraft name.

Between 1948 and 1958, Beech Aircraft Co. produced the Model 45 "Mentor", which the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Navy designated as the T-34A and T-34B, respectively. A turbine powered variant, known as the T-34C "Turbine Mentor" was delivered to the U.S. Navy between 1975 and 1990. These were the basic training aircraft used by military pilot candidates in the initial stages of their flying career, before progressing to either fighter or bomber aircraft. Today hundreds of civilian pilots are lucky enough to own and fly this wonderful piece of military aviation history.

Owner Brad Hood summed up what the T-34 Homecoming means to the association, "It has been some time since current T-34 owners have gathered together in a really major way. This year, however, the association hopes to come out in force and celebrate one common sentiment – The Beechcraft T-34 is back!"

All Beechcraft enthusiasts, owners, pilots and their guests are invited to attend this 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and T-34 Homecoming. Event details may be found on-line at either [www.beechcraftheritagemuseum.org](http://www.beechcraftheritagemuseum.org), or [www.T-34.com](http://www.T-34.com) .

The Beechcraft Heritage Museum is a tax-exempt, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation, and one-of-a-kind aircraft museum open to the general public, with 1,250 members, 60,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of display area, and over 20 aircraft. Located 70 miles southeast of Nashville, Tennessee at the Tullahoma Regional Airport (THA), the museum's facilities are available for aviation, corporate, or other special events.

The T-34 Owners Association is made up of a board of directors and membership that has the mission of preserving the famous Mentor. This association supports members with a monthly publication (Mentor Monitor) and a website (T-34.com), which are designed to be focal points for owners to learn and express themselves with respect to the safety and operation of their aircraft.

###

Filename: Beechcraft Heritage Museum News Release FINAL.doc  
Directory: C:\Documents and Settings\MCNABBW\My Documents\1  
Staggerwing Museum Foundation\Beechcraft Heritage 35th T-34  
Homecoming  
Template: C:\Documents and Settings\MCNABBW\Application  
Data\Microsoft\Templates\Normal.dot  
Title:  
Subject:  
Author: Wade McNabb  
Keywords:  
Comments:  
Creation Date: 1/10/2008 11:41:00 PM  
Change Number: 27  
Last Saved On: 1/16/2008 1:28:00 PM  
Last Saved By: Wade McNabb  
Total Editing Time: 160 Minutes  
Last Printed On: 1/16/2008 1:28:00 PM  
As of Last Complete Printing  
Number of Pages: 2  
Number of Words: 556 (approx.)  
Number of Characters: 3,175 (approx.)