



## **OV-10 BRONCO Association dba/ Fort Worth Veterans Memorial Air Park**

### **Fact Sheet**

March 2008

1. **Mission Statement:** Preserve and perpetuate the history of the Forward Air Control, both ground and airborne, from kites to UAV's. Our emphasis is on the OV-10 Bronco, people who designed, built, flew and maintained the aircraft from its inception in 1962 to the present and the aircraft they controlled from 1968 to the present. Actively collect and maintain a comprehensive data bank of the history of the OV-10, and provide recognition and support to all past and current contributors, suppliers and operators of the aircraft. Acquire an OV-10 for display.
2. The Association's WEB sites at [www.ov-10bronco.net](http://www.ov-10bronco.net), [www.facmuseum.org](http://www.facmuseum.org), [www.FtwVAMP.org](http://www.FtwVAMP.org) and [www.cowtownwarbirdroundup.com](http://www.cowtownwarbirdroundup.com) are visited over 10,000 times per month.
3. The OV-10 Bronco Association (OBA) was incorporated as a Texas Non-Profit Corporation July 10, 1998. It is chartered exclusively for charitable, educational and/or scientific purposes. In October 2007 the Board of Directors made a name change for our public face to the Fort Worth Veterans Memorial Air Park (VMAP) to better reflect the additional aircraft acquired and the expansion of the museum to cover all aspects of forward air control past, present and future.
4. Recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization on 4 Nov 98. Listed with Dun & Bradstreet.
5. The Texas Historical Commission recognized the OBA as a bona fide museum on December 14, 1998.
6. Opened the OV-10 Bronco Association museum in the Vintage Flying Museum hangar in Fort Worth, Texas, May 16, 1999. OBA museum houses the largest collection of OV-10 artifacts in the world.
7. Certified to participate in the Federal Surplus Property Program, May 27, 1999.
8. We have been active with NOTAAM, North Texas Association of Aviation Museums, since early 1999.
9. The Association has over 400 members world wide, including 44 Life Members.
10. The Association has established affiliations with the Yankee Air Museum in Bellville, Michigan; the Carolina Aviation Museum in Charlotte, NC; the Cactus Air Force Museum in Carson City, NV; the Vintage Flying Museum and the B-36 Peacemaker Museum in Fort Worth, TX.
11. The Association has ties through membership, liaison or its Ambassador's program with all former OV-10 groups as well as Air Force Tactical Air Support Squadrons. We have also formed ties to current Marine, Navy and Air Force squadrons involved in Forward Air Control missions. Other membership ties involve former design and test individuals from North American Aviation/Rockwell Corporation; California Department of Forestry; Boeing Aircraft Corporation; NASA; United States Department of State Aviation Division; the Philippine Air Force; the Venezuelan and Colombian Air Forces; as well as groups in Australia, Belgium, and France.
12. Hosts, as its annual fund raiser, the Cowtown War Bird Round-up which provides the public as well as our members with a chance to see modern military aircraft and vintage aircraft some of which performed the Forward Air Controller role. Also sponsor the bi-annual Bronco Fest for the purposes of reuniting

former OV-10 community members and to educate the general public regarding the role and missions of the Bronco worldwide.

13. Provides research assistance and educational services for a wide range of purposes, including; technical assistance, unit or aircraft histories, mission identification and detail and specific personnel background information and location services.
14. Operates a retail merchandise outlet or PX to provide a variety of custom and off the shelf OV-10 and military service related merchandise. Items include books, videos, unit insignia, replicas, clothing, jewelry, works of art and more. Located in the museum ready room.
15. Has produced an educational, all services video, demonstrating the capabilities and uses of the OV-10 Bronco by units of the Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps. Currently assisting in the professional production of a video about the Bronco titled "One Tough Ride", the story of the Bronco which will be premiered in May 2008.
16. The Association has provided research services to; The History Channel, the Naval Museum of New Jersey, the Texas Air Command, the Carolina Aviation Museum, the Department of Defense Joint Task Force on Final Accounting, (POW/MIA accounting), the City of Sydney, Australia, The Colombian Air Force, The Venezuelan Air Force, The Philippine Air Force, museums in France, Belgium, individuals and groups worldwide.
17. Through a corporate sponsor, Maney Aircraft, Inc. distributes the *Cleared Hot* newsletter to VMAP members and others interested in forward air control, here and abroad, quarterly.
18. Attended the 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on Special Air Operations in Maricao, Ven., in April 2000.
19. Became a member of the Fort Worth Aviation Museum Task Force, November 2007.
20. Produced the video "Keys to the Treasure" for the North Texas Association of Aviation Museums.
21. Procured and restored the original OV-10 North American Aviation factory mockup. The restoration was dedicated July 15, 2005. Also acquired for display and preservation the structural tail section of the #4 prototype YOY-10.
22. Approved for participation in the U.S. Navy Static Display Program, July 6, 2000. Since that time the museum has received the following aircraft on loan from the National Museum of Naval Aviation: QF-4S, F-5E, F-14D and A-4C. We expect to receive a RF-8G in the coming months.
23. Have acquired through the General Services Administration and the Texas General Services Administration permanent loan of the following aircraft: A-7B, T-37, F-105F and expect to add an F-111E and TF-102A this year. All will need extensive restoration work.
24. Purchased with private funds two USAF O-2A Skymaster forward air control aircraft both of which have been restored for static display.
25. Established the German Wing of the OV-10 Bronco Association July 8, 2000. The GWOBA is based in Brussels, Belgium and operates two OV-10B's out of Duxford, England.
26. Designated the 16<sup>th</sup> Attack Squadron of the Philippine Air Force as the Philippine Wing of the OV-10 Bronco Association, September 21, 2000.
27. Designated Special Operations Group 15 of the Venezuelan Air Force as the Venezuelan Wing of the OBA, October 20, 2001.
28. Established the Colombian Wing of the OBA through the Colombian OV-10 Pilots Association October 20, 2001.
29. Since 2002, OBA has presented educational programs to its membership and the local community.
30. In October 2003, OBA dedicated its OV-10 Bronco Ready Room educational and museum expansion.

31. May, 2004 announced the formation and development of the Forward Air Controller's Museum. The room was dedicated October 21, 2007 and covers the history of air control from kites to UAV's.
32. Annual memberships are \$40.00 with 3 year and Lifetime memberships available.
33. In July of 2004, OBA established the "FAC Museum Modelers" Chapter of International Plastic Modelers Society for Region 6 to provide programs to the local community.
34. In October 2007 dedicated a USAF OV-10 aircraft as a tribute to Captain Steve Bennett, posthumous Medal of Honor recipient and US Air Force former OV-10 pilot. The memorial commemorates all Forward Air Controllers and the people they served and supported.
35. The Association officers are Jim Hodgson, Pres.; Roy Pitt, Vice Pres.; Tom Kemp, Treasurer; the position of Secretary is currently vacant.
36. Board members: Chuck Burin, Chairman; Jim Hodgson, Dick Gilson, Gordon Evans, Jack Thompson, Admiral Jim Lair, Tom Kemp Terry Tabor, Melvin Clouser and Jim Bloomberg.
37. The Association can be contacted at:

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