

# **LUSCOMBE SILVAIRE “WIN ME” AIRPLANE GIVEAWAY**

## **July , 2009**

The Luscombe Endowment was formed to preserve a significant part of America's aviation industrial heritage by the directors of the DLAHF several years prior to its demise. Don Luscombe pioneered the enclosed cabin monoplane in the 1920's and 1930's with the Monocoupe airplanes. He then developed the personal metal airplane marketplace with the Luscombe Phantom, Silvaire and Sedan models from 1933 into the 1940's. In short, Luscombe revolutionized the light aircraft industry twice in his aviation lifetime. Other manufacturers (Cessna, Piper, and Beech) were forced to develop metal aircraft designs to compete with the advances made by Luscombe in metal monococque construction and airplane durability. Don Luscombe is no longer with us, but his aviation legacy remains on airports throughout the world.

When Luscombe shut down its production facilities in the early 1960's, there were some 6,000 aircraft units delivered and over 4,000 flying. The Luscombe Airplane Type Certificate data and engineering drawings had been locked away with little support provided to the owners and FAA until The Luscombe Foundation negotiated a contract to purchase the Luscombe Type Certificate, support engineering, and tools, for the benefit of the flying public. Luscombe owners worldwide who wish to maintain or restore their airplanes, and preserve the legacy that Don Luscombe left American aviation now have a parts source and support network at the Luscombe Endowment.

The Luscombe Endowment continues the support facility and fleet support originally conceived by the DLAHF. We have a new facility in Gilbert near the Chandler airport, and an airport site. In time we will develop museum quality public displays, and we are working toward improved community and youth education programs. Our future plans as a non-Profit historical archive group includes preserving the Luscombe heritage for future generations. The Luscombe Endowment is active in youth aviation education (Young Eagles) and in aviation educational support generally.

The Luscombe Endowment's support efforts have been very well received. The fruits of our labor indicate a growing number of flying Luscombes in the U.S., as well as in several countries around the world, bringing the estimated total flying Luscombes close to 3000! More importantly, the availability of accurate technical information, and parts, has improved the fleet maintenance and quality of the restorations now viewed at each fly-in gathering.

Public support of these goals and efforts is very necessary for our success. In the last decade of organized operations, the Endowment and its predecessor have raised over \$2,000,000 cash and significantly more in non-cash contributions, which has been reinvested back into parts, Luscombe service support, and Luscombe preservation. The Luscombe Endowment has established itself as the leader in developing a network to provide technical and parts support to owners, restorers, and mechanics maintaining Luscombes. We have embarked upon a public education campaign about aviation and Luscombes that has as its core a youth educational internship program. All of this has happened ONLY because of your support and assistance.

**YOUR DONATIONS AND SUPPORT DETERMINE OUR SUCCESS**  
**THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!!**