

The Eagle's Scream – Fall 2017 Newsletter

Official publication of the Commemorative Air Force Florida Wing located at Side Laylor Field in Deland, FL

Annual Meeting December 9, 2017 Staff Officers

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Colonels,

Since being appointed as your Florida Wing Leader in October, my goal for the wing is to look to the future.

After 40 years of being a business owner and working with my employees, I have learned to rely on them to help me to come up with ideas to make an organization better.

We have made a few changes around the hangar to promote membership participation. There is a new look to the library areas as we have reorganized the furniture. We have also obtained a corn hole game set for our members to enjoy as well as a flight simulator and a slot token machine.

In the coming months we will be breaking ground on a 5000 sq. ft. educational hangar expansion to coincide with the City's Aviation Village that is now underway behind our hangar.

Over the summer we hosted many successful Scouting events and held an EAA Chapters 635 and 288 Young Eagles Flight for the Boy Scouts Merit Badge Day program. We look forward to hosting these events again in the coming year, but need our members support to make them a success with participation.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Annual Meeting on December 9, 2017.

Butch

PS: To help expand the educational programs that the CAF Florida Wing provides to our community, we not only need you to volunteer your time at these events, we also need funding to make them a success. We hope you will consider<u>matching tax deductible donation</u> to your Florida Wing.

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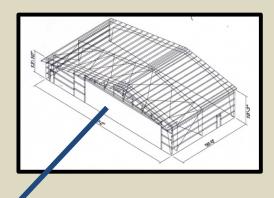
Hangar Expansion and Improvements

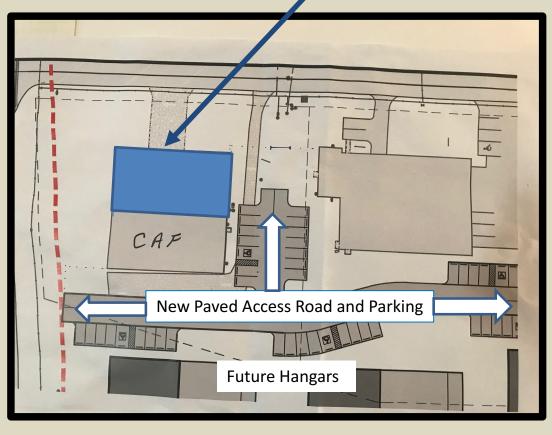
After years of discussion concerning the future of the Florida Wing's hangar, your Staff made a decision to remain in DeLand and expand our existing hangar. This decision was facilitated by the willingness of CAF Col's Butch and Diane Stevens to finance the expansion.

For the past two years the Wing considered moving to New Smyrna Beach municipal airport and building a new hangar. This relocation has been discarded for a number of reasons and the earlier, 2006 effort to expand the existing DeLand hangar was revisited. This past Summer the Staff began informal discussions with the DeLand Airport authorities concerning the future of our hangar within the City's long range Light Sport Aviation Industrial Development.

It was during the course of these informal discussions that CAF Col's Butch and Diane Stevens expressed to the CAF their willingness to donate the funds to expand and improve our hangar. A 5,000 square foot addition will be added to the front of the hangar, the existing hangar doors will be removed and reused once the additional structure is completed. The expansion will provide additional aircraft rental space as well as the floor space for educational and community social gatherings. Additional restrooms will be added to better serve these activities. It is estimated that the expansion will be completed by February 2018.

The design reflects the Airport's current development of the Light Sport Village which began in earnest in October.





Cub Scout Summer Events

The Cub Scouts routinely schedule monthly summer events to keep their members active throughout the summer. In May, CAF Col's Stevens and Sprouse initiated discussions with local Scout Leader Walt Ritterbush and arranged for monthly (June, July, August) Cub Scout events. It was decided that the Wing would host a two to three hour, morning "Introduction to Airplanes" program using the newly acquired Projection Dome.

Although the June event had to be cancelled by the Scouts; both the July and August events were well attended and very successful. Activities included the short video, an opportunity to inspect our T-34 aircraft and have their individual photographs taken in the cockpit, assembly of a glider and participation in glider flying contests, a mid-morning snack and the start, taxi, takeoff and hangar flyby of our T-34. Over 40 Cub Scouts and adults participated in the two summer events

The Scout Leaders were uniformly positive in their review of our activities. Assisting CAF Col's Butch and Diane Stevens were the following Wing CAF members: Tom May, "Kaz" Kaczmarczyk, Jon Shay, Trent Smith and Woodie Spouse.

Boy Scout Summer Merit Badge Weekend

Building upon the success of the Wing's 2015 Aviation Merit Badge 3 -day Camporee and Campout, in April the local Scout District leaders proposed another, albeit smaller, weekend hangar campout. After additional planning, it was agreed that this weekend event would begin on Friday Sept 22nd and end Sunday the 24th.

In addition to the Wing conducting another session of Aviation Merit Badge counselling; the Scouts leaders asked if they might take advantage of our hangar facilities and offer additional merit badge counselling opportunities. Many of their scouts had already received their Aviation Merit Badge and our hangar and surrounding area seemed to be an ideal location for other merit badge activities. Their proposal dovetailed with the Wing's goal to expand our educational outreach effort and was readily agreed to. In addition to the Aviation Merit Badge, the following merit badge counselling opportunities were offered: Astronomy, Auto Maintenance, Chess, Coin & Stamp Collecting, Crime Prevention & Fingerprinting, Disabilities Awareness, Electricity, Fire Safety, Geocaching, Home

Repairs, Law, Medicine, Plumbing, Radio, Weather, and Welding. Also assisting, were eleven members of the Aviation Explorer Post 747 led by Ms. Eileen Simoneau!

Due to the dedicated efforts of CAF Col Butch Stevens, those scouts seeking their Aviation Merit Badge were given the opportunity to participate in a EAA Young Eagle flight. This unique opportunity was sponsored by the combined efforts of Spruce Creek EAA Chapter 288 and DeLand EAA Chapter 635!

Thanks to the efforts of your Wing Volunteers* the weekend was a complete success: 107 Scouts received their respective merit badge counselling, including 22 Aviation Merit Badge and EAA Young Eagle flight. The weekend campout was supervised by 33 Scout Leaders and merit badge instructors.

*Wing Volunteers: John Grones, Butch and Diane Stevens, Joe Drach, Don Hollinsworth, "Kaz" and Dustin Kaczmarczyk, Patricia Mickelson, Jon Shay, Trent Smith, and Woodie Sprouse.

Girl Scout Fall Program

On Saturday, October 14, 2017, the Florida Wing members provided a two-session "Introduction to Aviation" Program for Girl Scouts.

A total of 32 Girl Scouts and 21 parents participated in the event. Girl Scout Levels included Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors. Both morning and afternoon sessions included a basic introduction to principles of flight and parts of the airplane, introduction to the flight simulator, a review of preflight operations, and an opportunity to sit in the cockpit and receive an orientation to the aircraft instrument panel. The final component of each session included an overview of women in aviation and their early contributions to flight. Invited guest speakers, Kathy Royer and Lynn O'Donnell, spoke to the group about their careers as airline pilots.

Eleven Wing members^{*} participated in the planning and program presentation. Registration and program publicity was handled by the Girl Scouts of Citrus District Office in Orlando. The program was very well received.

Program evaluations which were completed by both Girl Scouts and parents, indicated that over 90% of attendees would recommend the program to their friends. Thirty-nine indicated that they would be interested in attending another Wing educational program. The opportunities to sit in the plane and to use the flight simulator proved to be very popular with the program participants. Attendees also noted that they particularly liked hearing about the aviation career experiences of guest speakers, Royer and O'Donnell.

* Joe Drach, Dustin Kaczmarczyk, Kaz Kaczmarczyk, Tom May, Pat Mickelson, Trent Smith, Butch Stevens, Diane Stevens, Kathy Royer, Jon Shay, Woodie Sprouse,

