

The Eagle's Scream



Commemorative Air Force Florida Wing



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WING LEADER'S MESSAGE

Colonel Peter Jacobs



The summer has almost passed, and we have much to be thankful for: our Wing benefitted from the herculean efforts of many members at our Day of Remembrance event at the beginning of the summer, and achieved almost the same excellent financial results from our large "yard and garage sale," so ably chaired by Col Ann Conway: last month. My hat is off to all who worked so hard. Pictures elsewhere in this issue show the many tables and items displayed and sold, as well as a few of the many Colonels who helped make this project a success.

On September 16 the Wing will resume its bi-monthly General Dinner Meetings. The Halifax River Yacht Club in Daytona Beach will once again be the excellent venue for our dinner and program, beginning with a cash bar at 6:00 PM. The Wing is extremely fortunate to have noted author and former Navy pilot Bob Gandt as our speaker. Bob is recognized as one of America's leading aviation authors, having written both non-fiction and fiction works (the latest being the history and actions of the aircraft carrier Intrepid). Bob has agreed to also bring some of his books, and will autograph them for buyers. Be sure to come early to meet and chat with Bob. I'm looking forward to a fun and interesting evening.

Work on the TBM progresses, as you will read elsewhere in this issue. We are investigating the possibility of having the TBM fuselage participate as a towed display in the De Land Veterans Day parade. It's a terrific opportunity to recruit new members and display our important restoration project.

Exec. Officer Stan Mitchell and Col. Ward Giddick are working on a plan to conduct ride and photo-in-the-cockpit opportunities at nearby airports this fall. We will also be selling tickets for rides in our L-17 and other warbirds and aircraft at all CAFFL functions. The rides can be scheduled at the pilots' and ride-buyers' convenience. You will be reading much more about this, and information will be posted on our www.CAFFL.org website.

Continued on page 2

Misty Blue, the L-17 Col. Bob Cline donated to the CAF has been re-assigned to the Sky High Wing, and will be leaving De Land in the near future. We will hate to see her go, but welcome the reduction in our operating budget. The re-assignment means our dues and the monies we raise from our various fundraising events will make it easier for the Wing to continue and succeed.

I'm also delighted to report that Wing co-founder and former Wing Leader Col. Dick Russell is recuperating very nicely from his hip replacement surgery. Dick is walking without a cane, driving his car, and will soon be back flying his T-34. He's been at the hangar and is once again a fully participating member in all Wing activities.

We are also happy to announce that the Florida Wing will again have an important presence at the Visiting Nurses Association airshow at Stuart, Florida, the weekend of Nov. 13-15. Mark your calendars, as you will want to attend one of the best airshows in the country, as well as to lend a hand with our part in that display. We'll have our PX there, ably towed by Cols. Fontaine and Montague, aided by Col. Conway, and we'll also have our L-17 Allie-Gator, flown in by Cols. Steve Moddle and Jim Bannerman. As an "extra added attraction," Col. Dick Russell will lead his Retro Group flight of 4 aircraft in their most enjoyable routine to open the airshow.

Future events in which the Wing will participate also include a joint "Fly-In" with our local EAA chapter. Planned for the weekend before Stuart (Nov. 6-8), we will offer rides, photo-in-the-cockpit opportunities, and will develop as large a static display as possible. Col. Stan Mitchell is heading up this effort, and working with the EAA's chairman.

WE have also been invited to the next Vero Beach airshow, and again plan to have our PX and L-17 participate. We also plan to have another "yard and garage sale," in December. Col. Red Lewis, who so graciously permitted us to use his facility on Route 92, has again been a tremendous help by letting us leave our sale goods at his place. THANK YOU, Red; It is exactly these kinds of efforts that will produce the revenue stream needed to keep our Wing financially healthy.

Finally, I'm delighted to advise that the modifications our web-developer Steve Hanna has been making to our website are just about complete. Maintenance of the Bob Robbins Memorial Library collection has been greatly simplified by Steve, enabling Col. Linda Jacobs'

successor to easily update the web-viewable catalog. Our great thanks to Steve for his most valuable contribution to the Wing. In my personal opinion, the Florida Wing's website is now the best of all those in the CAF, Headquarters included!

+++++

Colonel George Baker Selected EAA Warbirds of America Hall of Fame



- For more than half a century, EAA members have pushed the limits of aviation's potential. From vintage to ultralights, homebuilts to warbirds, aerobatics to light-sport aircraft, these visionary aviators have diligently pursued their passion for flight. In the process they have preserved the spirit of

aviation that began more than 100 years ago. To recognize their contributions to the world of recreational flying, each year EAA inducts a group of the most innovative and influential individuals into the EAA Sport Aviation Hall of Fame.

EAA Warbirds of America proudly announces its 2009 Hall of Fame inductee. George a long time member of the Florida Wing CAF, is well known for his restoration work on Beechcraft T-34's and flying his aerobatic routine in the unique Curtis-Wright R-3350 powered Hawker "Sky Fury".

He is also recognized for his efforts to inspire future aviators, mechanics, and other warbird enthusiasts, by sharing his vast knowledge of aviation and restoration work.

George was born January 19, 1930 in Hawthorne, NJ and has been flying since the age of 16. He soloed in 1946 while in the eleventh grade in high school. At the age of 20, he started in the aircraft restoration profession, starting with a Culver Cadet.

Over the years George has won numerous awards for his T-34 N341GB, including Grand Champion Warbird, Post WW-II, at EAA AirVenture 2000, along with Reserve Grand Champion Warbird, Post WW-II, at the 2001 & 2002 Sun 'n Fun Fly-Ins. He was also awarded the Golden Wrench for his meticulous restoration work. In 2004, he won a Preservation Award at the Sun 'n Fun Fly-In.

George has been a member of EAA Warbirds of America since 1974 and was a founding member and past commander of the Valiant Air Command. He has flown over 100 different types of aircraft.

Colonel Baker will be recognized at the EAA Sport Aviation Hall of Fame Banquet & Ceremony on Friday, October 16, 2009 in the EAA Museum Eagle Hangar in Oshkosh, WI. A limited number of tickets for the event will be available for purchase at \$50.00 per person. For more information, contact Jo Ann Bauer at 1-800-236-1025.

WING "YARD" SALE A SUCCESS

Colonel Ann Conway, Adjutant



A very special thank you goes out to Colonel Red Lewis for allowing the Wing to set up it's "Not Yo Mama's Yard Sale" at his place of business on International Speedway Boulevard in DeLand on August

21 and 22. We watched with much trepidation when two storms cropped up in the Atlantic as the weekend approached, but fortunately they weren't even a near miss. However, because showers stayed in the forecast for both days and Colonel Red has a large facility, we were permitted to set up inside under cover. Soooo, in truth and in fact, we didn't actually have a yard sale... not even a garage sale...we had a loading platform sale. (Colonel Red has a trucking business). We got everything priced and on the tables on Thursday and did not have to break it all down and haul it back inside on Friday night. How nice was that!!! We did put two to three tables outside both days as a "teaser" which, along with some very nice signs provided by Chris Sostarich and Colonel Stan Mitchell, did a great job of drawing people in.

Our Finance Officer will give you a report, but I think we did rather nicely for a loading platform sale. We had a number of items left over and we plan to do it again in December. Colonel Red has once more graciously allowed us to store our leftovers at his facility. Therefore, we humbly ask that you please start sorting out your unwanted, unused Christmas decorations or stuff you have maybe set aside for "regifting" (uh-huh, I know you do) and tell us where to pick it up. I will send a reminder email later in the year.

I hate to start thanking people by name because for sure I might miss somebody, however I must especially recognize Colonels Alexis Montague, Steve Moddle, Lou Fig, Stan Mitchell and Colonel's Lady Barbara Maiz for coming out on Thursday to help organize, price and set out all the items for sale. Thanks to them we were ready to go on Friday and Saturday at 8AM. Those same folks came back on Friday and Saturday to help with sales along with Colonels Richard Finney (handled the parking both days-tiring, hot job), Dan Proctor, Ted Cary, Frank Purcell, Art Harriman, Earl Leone, Joe Maiz, Peter and Linda Jacobs, Rich Bowe,

Tony Fortune, Ken Brownell, Cadets Jerrid Stottlemeyer and Matthew Middleton and Colonel's Ladies Lily Moddle, Edie Brownell and Chris Mitchell. Colonel Lou Fig, along with some strong backs, even delivered free of charge two large items to purchasers. Colonel Jim Bannerman handled all the pre-event advertising. Steve and Lily Moddle, Lou Fig and Earl Leone returned on Sunday to help me pack up and store remaining items. I am finding it very difficult to find words adequate enough to express my thanks to all of the above for their help so I will simply say "thank you so much." I don't believe I have overlooked anyone, but if I have please let me know and I will certainly acknowledge you in the next edition.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

On Friday night, August 29th, 12 Colonels from our Florida Wing visited the Jackie Robinson ball part in Daytona Beach to watch the Daytona Cubs take on the Clearwater Threshers. Before the game we picnicked on hamburgers, hot dogs, pulled pork, baked beans and potato salad. The food and camaraderie were great but the game left a little to be desired. The Cubs lost by a score of 7 to 1.

TBM Restoration Project

Colonel Dick Russell



All members of the Florida Wing have been involved in fund raising activities for the past few weeks and as a result, work on the TBM Avenger has slowed. Dan Proctor continues to do some bead-blasting of the various parts that will need to be primed and painted before they can be reinstalled.

Ted Cary is doing a wonderful job in overhauling the various hydraulic valves and controls which look like new. Frank Purcell, Stan Mitchell, Rich Bowe, Ward Gidick, Jerrid Stottlemeyer, Mathew Middleton and Richard Finney have been assisting Ted with various jobs assigned by our lead mechanic, Alex Gardner, while he is absent. Finding the old

hydraulic tubes to use as patterns will be an assignment for someone who would like to play an important part. Charlie Cartledge is sending us pictures of the “dress” of the hydraulic lines he has installed on his TBM.

The center fuselage fuel tank has been reinstalled and pressure checked as good. The next task is to re-install the cover plate over this tank since it is a structural member of the fuselage. There are about 100 bolts in this plate and each one will need to be inspected and see a torque wrench and then safety wired. The repair to the bottom of the fuselage is almost complete.

The tail gear has been painted and installed and the main thrust of our efforts, at this time, is to mount the brakes and main landing gear wheels. Once the retract cylinders are painted, they will also be installed and the plane may then be removed from the cradle to rest on its own landing gear.

Our friend Charlie Cartledge in Ohio, who is also restoring a TBM Avenger, has sent some parts to us. There are brake cylinders and a fuel selector valve all which will need to be overhauled. We continue to seek the fittings which will allow us to mount the vertical and horizontal stabilizers and may need to manufacture these items.

We are expecting the turret to be delivered to us in a couple of months and there will be work to do on it including the installation of glass as well as work on other parts.

Once the fuselage is on its wheels and can be moved around, we will have room to work on the good wing which needs to be cleaned and bead-blasted. The other wing needs repair and that task will be addressed in the next few months. If you haven't been out to the hangar for a while we invite you to pay us a visit and get involved. The snowbirds will be arriving shortly, and as always, we welcome them and enjoy seeing their smiling faces.

Steve Moddle, Ken Brownell, Lou Figliuolo, Earl Leone and others are working on the annual inspection of the L-17 Navion.



CAF Financial News

Colonel Linda Jacobs



Hello all! At this point we are in great financial position, due to the combined efforts of all of the members! We have received over 45% of our non-TBM income from our group activities in the form of special events and airshow income. Go Special Events! A Big hat's off to the many people who worked

so hard to put them together. We are looking forward to the events we have planned for the future, including another garage sale in December (tentatively scheduled for Friday and Saturday, the 11th and 12th of December) to keep us in our solid position.

It is with regret that I am going to use this column to request a replacement for my position as your Financial Officer, but my upcoming move to Panama makes it impossible for me to continue past Oct. 30th of this year. The position requires someone willing to put in about a full day's work per week, knowledge of accounting principles and the ability to write the appropriate Thank You letters for contributions. Currently I employ the help of a part time accountant (which I pay for personally) to help with the sales tax reporting, quarterly and annual reports to Midland, and categorization of our budget positions using Quickbooks™. Anyone who knows the latter program probably wouldn't need the assistant, but she works about 4 hours a month keeping things in good order. The Finance officer is also responsible for the use of the credit card program (simple as π), check-writing, audits, letters to members about dues, letters to Midland regarding the TBM expenditures, and the maintenance of records concerning the total value of our airplane reconstruction. Once a year the budget is planned, and monthly reports are made at staff meetings. I have about a month and a half to train someone in the ins and outs of the job, and am willing to do whatever it takes to keep things going until I leave. I will be only an email away, if there are questions (JacobsL221@yahoo.com) Any volunteers? Call (386) 322-0070) or email me directly.

L-17 Maintenance Report

Colonel Steve Moddle



The annual maintenance check is due this month on N2995C “Allie Gator”. It has been started and so far all is going well. A new set of ignition cables has been ordered and has to

be made special as they are not available any other way, old planes can be hard to find parts for. Most engine checks have been completed and all turned out OK. All inspection plates are open and ready to be inspected. Plane needs to be jacked up and the landing gear checked and emergency gear extension checked. Hope to have all items complete and ready for the Inspector to check all our work and it will be ready to fly again. We need to make sure it is completed for the Stuart air show. Till next time.



Donkeys and a Navion

In the summer of 1951, a herd of donkeys charged across the tarmac of Mexico’s Acapulco airport, tearing into a row of parked, private airplanes. Most of the aircraft, made of wood and fabric, were severely damaged. When one of the donkeys crashed into the left wing of an all-metal Ryan Navion, the collision was so fast and so violent that a main landing gear was lifted 10 inches off the ground. But though the donkey was badly injured, the Navion’s wing suffered only a minor dent. When Salvador Mariscal, Navion’s Latin America distributor, recounted the tale to Ryan’s Bill Wagner—perhaps the most prolific aviation PR man of the 1940s and 1950s—Wagner quickly issued a press release headlined “Navion Demonstrated As ‘Jackass Proof.’ ”

Donkey collisions are perhaps the most obscure way the Navion has proved its durability over the past six decades. Between 1946 and 1951, Ryan Aeronautical and North American Aviation built 2,349 of the 2,469 Navions produced. (Several other companies, most notably the Tubular Service and Engineering Company—TUSCO—built variants that account for the other 120.) Today, an estimated 500 to 600 still fly, kept airworthy by members of the American Navion Society and other groups of enthusiasts who appreciate the curious history of this tough little airplane as much as its handling characteristics. “The Navion is an amazing aircraft,” says David Peters, operations manager at Classic Airworks, an aircraft restoration company. “It’s just a really stout beast. That, combined with its warbird lineage, initially attracted me to the aircraft.... The same care and thought that went into the design of the war machines went into the Navion.”



Commemorative Air Force

Dinner and Membership Meeting

Wednesday, September 16

1800 hrs to 2100 hrs.

Halifax River Yacht Club

331 S. Beach Street, Daytona Beach

Guest Speaker: Bob Gandt

Renowned Author and Pilot Extraordinaire

Menu

Roasted Top Sirloin Au Jus or Shrimp Scampi on Linguini

Green Beans Almondine

Chocolate Chess Pie

Rolls and Coffee or Tea

\$18.50

Call Colonel Ann Conway (386) 673-5742

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PROFESSION _____ COMPANY & TITLE _____

IF RETIRED, PAST PROFESSION _____ COMPANY _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ MARRIED _____ IF YES, SPOUSE'S NAME _____

Please list aviation related skills, business skills, historical/museum skills _____

List CAF members, if any, with whom you are acquainted _____

Print name as you would like it to appear on name tag _____

OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE

1. To acquire, restore, and preserve in flying condition a complete collection of combat aircraft which were flown by all military services of the United States, and selected aircraft of other nations, for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations of Americans.
2. To construct or obtain museum buildings for the permanent protection, maintenance, and display of these historic aircraft, period artifacts, and documents as a tribute to the thousands of men and women who built, serviced, and flew them and to build and organize the "Combat Airman Hall of Fame."
3. To perpetuate the spirit in which such combat aircraft were flown in the defense of our nation, in the memory and hearts of all Americans.
4. To establish an organization having the dedication, enthusiasm, and Esprit de Corps necessary to operate, maintain, and preserve these aircraft as symbols of our American Military Aviation Heritage.

▪ Please remit a total of \$275 with this application. (Annual dues are \$200.00 for National membership with an additional \$75 for Florida Wing Dues).

Annual membership dues of \$200.00 include \$30.00 for a 1-year subscription to Dispatch magazine. If you do not wish to receive Dispatch please check here. (Membership dues will remain \$200.00)

Life Membership

Life membership contribution is \$2,400.00.

\$2,400.00 is enclosed.

Deferred Life Membership ~

\$200.00 is enclosed and I will remit \$200.00 monthly for 11 months.

Charge the above credit card \$200.00 monthly for 12 months.

The COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE is a self-supporting, all-volunteer organization. It is non-profit, tax-exempt and incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas for charitable and educational purposes. You do not need to be a pilot or military veteran to become a member of the CAF. Candidates must be 18 years of age or older.

I certify that the statements made by me in this application are true, to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I will give my full support to the aims and objectives of the COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE and will assist the General Staff in attaining these goals.

_____ Date _____

Applicant's Signature

Please provide this additional information if applicable

Are you a pilot? _____ Total flying hours _____ What aircraft types have you flown? _____

Certificate: Student Private Commercial ATR

Ratings: _____

If you served in the Armed Forces, which branch and what country? _____

Date of Service _____