



COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE
The **COMPASS**
MISSOURI WING



P.O. Box 637 • St. Charles, MO 63302 • St. Charles County Smartt Airport
636-250-4515 • Fax 636-250-4515 • www.cafmo.org

**MISSOURI WING
EXECUTIVE STAFF**

WING LEADER

CAF Col. Bob Lawrence
111 W. Essex Ave.
Kirkwood, MO 63122
314-494-7539 cell
314-894-3200 x103 work

ADJUTANT

CAF Col. Bob Moore
6 Hidden Meadow Court
St. Charles, MO 63303
636-928-5546 home
314-486-1205 cell
moorerw@charter.net

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CAF Col. David Thompson
3139 N 1200 E Road
Clifton, IL 60927
815-549-0206 cell
dthompson86@gmail.com

FINANCE

CAF Col. Steve Gossett
4 Limerick Lane
O'Fallon, MO 63366
636-474-9763
314-306-5021

OPERATIONS OFFICER

CAF Col. Jordan Brown
33 North CR 250 West
Brazil, IN 47834
812.239.3653 cell
812.864.2600 work
jordan@jmetalproducts.com

MAINTENANCE OFFICER

CAF Col. Pat Fenwick
6 Heather Drive
St. Peters, MO 63376
636-441-2856

SAFETY OFFICER

CAF Col. ?

PIO OFFICER

CAF Col. Cecilia Holechek
314-920-5118
infocafmo@gmail.com

COMPASS EDITOR

CAF Col. John Coffey
636-946-8444
rfprint@sbcglobal.net

DECEMBER 2016



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Dec 10
Jan 7**

General Meeting - 1:30
Christmas Dinner
Lomardos Restaurant - 6 pm

**Feb 11
Mar 11**

General Meeting - 1:30
General Meeting - 1:30



IT'S A PUZZLEMENT!

(ALSO CALLED A GIFT CERTIFICATE)

There are many special occasions we enjoy each year besides Christmas. Birthdays, anniversaries, and reunions are just some events that fill our calendar. These are always fun times that bring friends and family together.

It's usually very hard to decide what to give to someone to celebrate one of these special occasions. Most of us are already blessed with a lot of the things we enjoy. To surprise them with something special and unique is hard to figure out, thus I call it a "puzzlement".

Here is a suggestion that might solve this for you!

The Missouri Wing is proud to now offer gift certificates for a Living History Flight in either our B-25 "Show-Me" or our TBM "Avenger". These are valid for any of our regularly scheduled flights during the entire 2017 flying season. Full details for buying a certificate are on our website "cafmo.org".

CAF Col. Bob Moore



**Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!!**

**Annual Christmas
Dinner**

January 14th, 2017
Lomardos Restaurant
(across from Lambert Airport)

Doors will open at 6pm
Cost of \$24.00 per person.

Chicken and Roast Beef with Vegetables
Ice cream and ice tea or water
Cash Bar for all those that wish.

Reservations and money to Col Steve Go\$sett by Jan 7.



**Saturday
Dec. 10
General
Meeting
1:30 pm**

WING LEADER'S REPORT

WELCOME TO DECEMBER



This time of year we all look back on a successful airshow season and look forward to the off season projects. Here is where you can help, and we need help. I have always tried to find ways in which our members, that are not active can be more involved. I realize that we have members that are content supporting us through the donations and membership dues however I also know that some of you want to get more from your membership. You, the member that is looking for a way to serve are the ones I am talking to now. This winter we need to work on our museum, we need to meet and develop plans to get further known in the community, I really want to find a strong member to champion Member Activities. All I need is for you to talk to me, listen to some of the things I have rattling around my head and come up with a way for you to serve.

Speaking of membership I am certain that you noticed the renewal envelope that is in this newsletter. It's that time of the year again, for all of us to cough up that \$50..or more...to show your support for the Missouri Wing. Remember to participate in Wing activities and to ensure that the Missouri Wing and the CAF is protected we must all be members in good standing at both the National and Local level. Please do your best to have your dues paid no later than January 31, 2017. If you have any questions on this please see our Adjutant Col Bob Moore or myself.

It is also important this time of year to point out that our airplanes will be going through their annuals. During this there are many components that are taken apart and spread out. There are oils that leak and cause slippery conditions. While we all love to be by the airplanes it is important to observe and respect any areas that are marked off. The Maintenance Teams are more than happy to share with you what is happening and if you can help. However, please do be respectful of limited access to those members and some areas in the event that it is required.

It is also that time of year for our Annual Christmas Dinner. The 2016 Christmas Dinner will be held Jan. 14 at Lomardos Restaurant as in years past. The doors will open at 6pm with a lower cost of \$24.00 per person. Once again we will have Chicken and Roast Beef, some kind of veggie and potatoe, probably the ice cream and ice tea or water. Cash Bar for all those that wish. We will also have the 2016 Awards, maybe a video or two to share with your spouses and maybe a magic act. Ok, probably not magic but it should still be a fun night. In the past cost was brought up and I am hoping that this is a bit better for those members. As in the past lets get all reservations and money to Col Steve Go\$sett by Jan 7.

Thanks for all you do and remember the January Monthly Meeting will be at the Christmas Dinner.

CAF Col. Bob Lawrence, Wing Leader



Ed Buckles

NEW MEMBER

I am currently working for the state of Illinois. Married and we have five grandchildren. We own a Cessna 172, which I fly as often as I am able. I've been a CAF member for many years.

CAF Col. Ed Buckles

CONGRATULATIONS TO COL PAT FENWICK



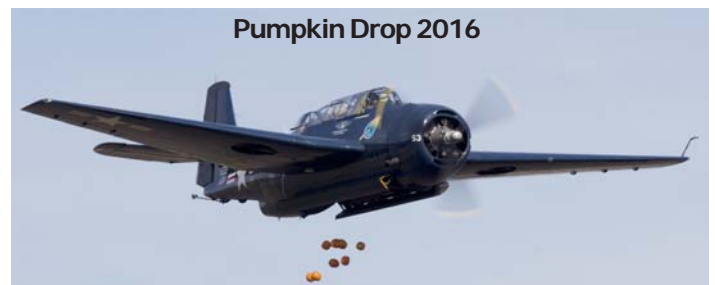
I am very happy to share with the Members of the Missouri Wing that Col Pat Fenwick this year was selected from thousands of CAF Members to be part of the National Maintenance Evaluation Board. The Maintenance Evaluation Board is tasked with ensuring that the Commemorative Air Force has in place a means to identify, put programs in place to ensure the overall safety of the Maintenance program for the fleet. Pat has privately stated to me that he is so thrilled with this appointment that he couldn't sleep for weeks when he was asked. It was like Pat was reliving his favorite Christmas morning!!! I am pretty sure I might get kicked for revealing that secret, completely fictional conversation. But with all honesty, Pat knows the importance of what we do and this gives him a place to impact positive change throughout the Commemorative Air Force.

2017 ELECTIONS

As you were most likely aware the 2017 Elections were held last month. This year we held elections for Finance, Maintenance, Operations and Safety. The position of PIO was also scheduled. After many years of service Col Cecelia Holechek opted to not run as the incumbent. I would like to take this moment to Thank Cecelia for all that she had done in working with the airshows that we visited to get out our name and mission which positively impacted revenue from the LHFE program. The position of PIO is one that is optional for a Wing and this year I had decided to not put this position on the ballot. When you look in the regulations the responsibilities of this position are longer than all the other positions combined. For the foreseeable future we will work with individual members to cover certain aspects. Col Shane Roden, Col Gary Chambers and myself will continue to work Social Media and Col Matt Conrad will be handling the website. Areas in which I will be handling while looking for help from you are with local and destination media outlets for promotion of local events and LHFE tour stops, development of marketing material as well as further needs if and when they present themselves.

In additional news in terms of your Wing Staff, Col David Thompson has stepped aside as the Executive Officer. Again I would like to Thank Dave for his time on the Staff and appreciate the difficulty he had is trying to be on the Missouri Wing staff while living near the Chicago area. As many of you know David flies and drives down as often as he can and that involvement will continue. The Executive Officer position is scheduled for the 2018 elections and in the mean time I have spoken to Col Pat Kesler and he has agreed to fill the term. This is considered a Unit Leader Appointment and as such he will serve on the Staff with no voting privledge. Thank you to Col Kesler for stepping in.

Your 2017 Missouri Wing Staff is as follows: Bob Lawrence (Wing Leader), Bob Moore (Adjutant), Pat Fenwick (Maintenance), Jordan Brown (Operations), Steve Gossett (Finance), Tim Dexter (Safety), Pat Kesler (Executive). I would like to take this time to welcome Col Tim Dexter to his first staff position and we look forward to getting him up to speed.





NEW PARADE BOMBER MODEL

Driving down Interstate 64 near Elberfeld, Indiana, you've probably seen them. Objects, some very large, poised against the sky, pointing into the wind and ready for flight. Driving passed, you wonder, "Are they what I think they are?" It's not that short moments glimpse that's impressive, that's just the teaser. It's what you don't see that's captivating.

Located in the backyard of a nondescript older suburban ranch house is an aluminum model Air Force. Perched on top of metal support poles, some as high as 20 feet up, are 20 huge replicas of aircraft ranging from North American P-51s thru a Boeing Tilt Rotor Osprey. You'll find a B-17 a wing span of 8 feet to a Republic A-10 Thunderbolt with a span of 10 feet and weighing almost 250 pounds. Other aircraft types include 2 P47's, F-4U Corsair, B-25 Mitchell, P-38 Lightning, C-47 Dakota, PB4Y Catalina, CH-47 Chinook, Bell UH-1 Huey's, Corbra Gunship, and the Blue Angel C-130 "Fat Albert". Each model has a swivel attached to its fuselage so that the aircraft can rotate into the wind. All of the propellers still rotate freely, and you would not want to be near the Osprey on a windy day, the rotors are very large and swing an impressive 5 foot arc!

These creations were made possible by 78 year old Lloyd "Tud" Krohn. A retired part-time high school shop teacher and full-time hydraulic pumps craftsman. Tud made his first model, the AH-64 Apache in 1996. He has no aviation experience. Nothing in his background to indicate an interest in airplanes or for that matter, model making, but the expertise and craftsmanship is incredible. All of these aircraft were built from scratch. No plans, no blue prints. Tud bought the plastic model, then "reverse engineered" if you would, large scale parts from the small plastic ones. All angles, curves, bends and dihedrals were done by Tud looking at the picture of the model on the box cover. The models range from 1/16 scale to as large as 1/8 scale. What is even more impressive, is that underneath the aluminum skin is actual ribs, stringers and longerons.

Unfortunately as we all know, time and Mother Nature takes its toll on everyone. After being up on the poles for many years, the aluminum and paint were starting to show their age. Lou Tacchi had made contact with Tud several months back, letting him know that if he ever wanted to part with any of the aircraft, especially the B-25, the CAF would be interested. Tud held firm, not now. Fast forward a few weeks, Lou and I re-visited Tud on our way back from Kentucky to confirm our interest in the B-25, and this time Tud said a definite "maybe". We had finally broken the code with Tud, all we had to do was share a beer!

A few months ago Tud called Lou and gave the OK to come down and retrieve the Mitchell from its 15 foot high resting place. We devised a plan, set a date, and were ready. MaGyver would have been proud. A winch, 7/8's inch ratchet, a few wrenches, and a sturdy aluminum ladder and we were all set. What the elements had rusted, we broke free, and less than 90 minutes, we had the 8 foot wingspan model secured to the trailer. To say we got a few looks and thumbs up from drivers and truckers is an understatement!

Tud gave us specific requests that he would like to see honored after the restoration is complete. We agreed to all of them. In a sense, we got the feeling he was giving us one of his "Rembrandts", and we were now the guardians of this timeless piece. What will become of the others is hard to contemplate. Tud has indicated that several organizations have shown a definite interest in some of the aircraft, but none have come to claim them. As Tud has gotten older, he is less agile and arthritis has set in, limiting his ability to build another one. His last one, a P51C Mustang, built about 6 years ago, is a work of art. It is kept inside his workshop, out of the elements, eventually destined to a collector in California. Like his models, people like Tud aren't being produced much anymore. In today's world of computer generated graphics and design, he is a relic. But he is a true craftsman, born with that rare innate sense to see things and build them.

So, if you find yourself on Interstate 64 near Elberfeld, Indiana, stop off and say "Hi" to Tud. He is a friendly fellow, loves to talk, and will gladly give you a tour of the airplanes.

Just make sure you have time for a beer because, "It's Miller Time"!

CAF Col. Mike Marino

Tud >





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DECEMBER 2016



VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION WITH THE ST. CHARLES FAMILY YMCA



On Nov. 11th we once again participated in the St. Charles County Family YMCA celebration and pot luck dinner for Veterans Day. We picked out some items from the museum to display in their lobby. The members really enjoyed being able to see them and were asking questions about what they were and where they came from. Everybody enjoyed some great food while being entertained by the Gateway Harmonica Club of St. Louis.

CAF Col. Gerry Spavale

**HAPPY
 Birthday**

Frank Doerr (4) • Jerry Carpenter (13) • John Everly (16)
 Dan Bauer (20) • Craig O'Mara (22) • Kim Schroer (27) • Ed Reinholtz (29)

December Birthdays!

Compass Deadline: Articles should be submitted by the 24th of the month.