



COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE
The **COMPASS**
 MISSOURI WING



P.O. Box 637 • St. Charles, MO 63302 • St. Charles County Smartt Airport
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JULY 2016

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DAV ~ DULUTH, MINNESOTA
JULY 8TH, 2016
THUNDERBIRD PRACTICE



Cockpit view heading to Duluth, Minnesota from ShowMe July 8, 2016.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 9** Speaker 11 am - General Meeting 1:30
- July 9-10** DAV, Duluth, Minnesota B-25
- July 19-24** Souix Fall Air Show, Souix Falls, SD B-25, TBM, PX
- July 30-31** Defenders of Freedom, Omaha, NE B-25, TBM
- Aug 13** Louisville, KY B-25
- Aug 20** Sullivan, Mo. B-25, TBM, L3
- Aug 27** Coles County Air Show, Mattoon, IL B-25, TBM, L3, PX
- Sept 2-4** B24 Appearance, Branson, MO B-25, TBM, PX
- Sept 10-11** Camdenton, MO B25, PX
- Sept 17** **HANGAR DANCE**
- Sept 23-25** Warbirds in Flight, Olathe, KS B-25, TBM, PX
- Oct 1-2** Robbin Air Force Base, Atlanta, GA B-25
- Oct 8** Mountain Home, Arkansas B-25, TBM



- Sept 23 - WWII 314th Infantry - 70th Reunion
- Sept 24 - Redman Wedding
- Oct 1 - Paris Wedding
- Oct 8 - Staggmeier Wedding
- Oct 15 - Harris Wedding

Saturday
July 9
General Meeting
1:30 pm

WING LEADER'S REPORT



A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION

I am certain that I have mentioned that In February I took the position of Chairman of the National Membership Committee. In recent months as I have been working on understanding membership throughout the CAF and in doing so have been subjected to a number of wonderful ideas.

Here at the Missouri Wing I personally feel we have a strong membership and that most Colonels are passionate about our mission. However, we also have many members looking for a way to be more involved. I realize that what a lot of us do in the regular world may not be anything to do with aviation, but we are so much more. I also realize that our needs may outpace what we have internal skills for but we certainly can build on this.

There is a lot of things that we are getting ready to build on here at the Missouri Wing and this is a time that I need you to call me to share with me where you think that you can help. I could list dozens of things that we need help with but I would much rather this be a one on one conversation so that I can identify the best way to utilize your skills.

I look forward to hearing from you all... 314-494-7539 cell
CAF Col. Bob Lawrence



CAF P-40 stopped by Smartt Field for fuel and ended up having to change oil cooler. A bonus viewing for a Thursday workday.

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY OR LATE TO DONATE!!!

It's definitely not too early to think about donating any items you or a friend may have that could be used in our Silent Auction at the **2016 Hangar Dance**. Books, models, aprons, gift baskets, vintage items, pictures, crystal, or anything someone would find interesting or unique is what we're looking for. **We would like to emphasize that these items should be of good quality and, if possible, aviation-oriented.** Many \$\$\$\$\$\$ have been brought in to the Wing because the right someone found that very special piece of memorabilia or perfect "thing" they thought no longer existed.

Dig deep into your closets, basements, and footlockers. Do it! Break the bonds and move on with your life! Let someone else be responsible for care giving to that once prized possession. And guess what? I'll provide a Federal Tax form that you can use to document your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Please bring at least one item to the Wing and feel good about what you're doing for mankind. Besides, it will get you interested in looking at what others have brought and you can perhaps find a special item to take the place (and space) of your donated one. It's called perpetual motion...

CAF Col. Gerry Spavale /Dance Chairman

HANGAR DANCE UPDATE



Work on the **September 17th 2016** Hangar Dance is well underway. This is our **34th** year! Flyers and letters should be going out soon. We still need all of you who helped last year to come out in force again and help make the dance another success.

We still plan on having door prizes and a Silent Auction so please do everything you can to locate local (or distant) donors so we can have many high-dollar items available. Some items could include tickets to a sporting event such as the Rams, Blues or Cardinals, a weekend at Branson or Lake of the Ozarks, Southwest Airline tickets or some other "priceless" item. Remember, in addition to our thanks, their name will be included on a "Hangar Dance Supporters" display board for all to see at the dance.

Remember, tickets sales will be available through our website, www.cafmo.org, as well as through the mail and Wing. Our fearless Finance Officer has volunteered to handle the mail sales again, so be sure to address your requests to:

CAF Hangar Dance
4 Limerick Lane
O'Fallon, MO 63366

We do have many members that have been supervising/ramrodding different aspects of the dance for decades and would like to pass on the duties to someone else. So please consider volunteering for one of the following Committees and being the member that assumes a little more responsibility just once a year for our biggest event. It's fun, you meet lots of nice people and you get to be a Commanding General for a couple days a year. Here is a list of the committees/committee heads, so please get in touch with me or email me at gspavale@yahoo.com to volunteer.

Ticket Sales/\$Steve Gossett **Food/**Bob Lawrence
Hangar Prep/Cleanup/Gerry Spavale
Stage-Lighting-Sound/Mike McEntee **Parking/?? YOU??**
Drink Sales, Balloons & Decorating/?? YOU??
Silent Auction/Earl & Sue Burkhardt
Door Prizes/??YOU?? **50/50-??YOU??**
Table/Chairs setup/takedown/Everyone

Please get involved – this is the biggest Fund-Raising activity we have in 2015 - and it is always the most enjoyable. Volunteer to help out and email me or give me a call if you have any questions or suggestions. ***This is the one time of the year we need every member's dedication and support.***

CAF Col. Gerry Spavale, Dance Chairman



Lou and Mike (overseen by Bob) building the crossing gate arm.

NEW MEMBERS



Joseph B. Vera Martinez

As a child, during a train trip from my hometown, Santa Barbara, CA, to visit my grandmother in Tucson, AZ in the late '40s, we passed the aircraft boneyard at Davis-Monthan AFB. I could see rows upon rows of P-38s alongside other surplus WWII aircraft and was awestruck. This sparked the beginning of my love of Aviation.

I pursued this interest by building wood and plastic model aircraft throughout my childhood, eventually graduating to control-line model aircraft as a teenager. I had my first experience in the air in a Cessna 170, "Miss Hobbycraft," owned by the flying club sponsor, who was the local hobby shop owner. I continued to build aircraft models as an adult and was fortunate to use my hobby for profit in the mid-70s when Revell plastic models commissioned me to build models that were photographed for the box art of their model kits. Since coming to MO, the hobby has evolved to collecting pre-built plastic and die-cast aircraft and ship models and I plan to resume building, time permitting.

In high school, I was introduced to the Civil Air Patrol and joined the local cadet squadron. As a cadet, I was privileged to attend two summer encampments, March AFB and Norton AFB. We were ferried to both encampments in a C-47, and the highlight was that during the Norton encampment, another cadet and I were chosen for a round trip to Mather AFB in a TB-25. This was unforgettable and cemented my love of the B-25. I eventually moved up to the Senior Member program but left CAP when I relocated to the Los Angeles area to begin my Engineering career as a draftsman for the Douglas Space Systems Division Skybolt missile program.

I worked for them until the program was cancelled and I became a casualty, but after a short time I joined Everest & Jennings, at that time the world's foremost wheelchair manufacturer. This was the start of my 51 year service in the wheelchair industry. The company relocated to Earth City in 1992 and brought me along. Eventually, they were purchased by G-F Health Products, a medical device distributor. Throughout my service, I progressed from draftsman to Senior Designer, Associate Engineer and several engineering management positions until retirement in 2014. Over those years I was privileged to design custom wheelchairs for individual users and design and develop many products for the rehabilitation equipment marketplace.

I have followed the CAF and its mission since its origin, seeing them at Air shows, getting a new CAF wall calendar every year, and a supporter of the Red Tail Squadron. I have visited the Wing and museum often since I moved here and always wanted to participate if given the opportunity. Now that I am at a point in my life where I can invest my time however I wish, I am highly pleased to join you and contribute whichever of my skills and experience can be of benefit to the organization.



Mike Metzger

I am the father of 4 kids. 2 of them are on their own already.

I am currently employed as an EMS pilot for Air Methods in Farmington, MO. I have been flying EMS for over 15 years. I learned to fly in my father's Cessna 150 at the age of 13.

I did 26 years in the military. 16 years in the Army, another 6 years in the Air Force flying Combat Rescue and then another 4 years in the National Guard. I've flown almost 20 different helicopters and fixed wing aircraft. Before that I worked for United Airlines as an A&P mechanic.

I really enjoy military history and am looking forward to getting my hands on the airplanes and the history that revolve around them. I am also looking forward to learning how to rebuild a radial engine!

I'm excited to have the opportunity to help out where I can!



< Kyle and Wayne helping Pat change the bad cylinder on the B-25.



^ B-25 blown cylinder.



^ Drone still being worked on.



B-25 taxiing in at Davenport Airshow, Iowa

FROM NUKES TO FRYING PANS



There's nothing better in the morning than waking up to the smell of bacon, and eggs sizzling in a skillet. And don't forget the hash browns, or a batch of golden brown biscuits. With a glass of fresh squeezed OJ, and a hot cup of coffee, it's a great way to start the day. And clean up is a snap with Teflon coated frying pans, pots, and grills.

It wasn't until the 1960s that consumers were first introduced to the idea of a non-stick surface coating on cookware that, according to the advertising, would do away with the chore of cleaning stubborn cooked on foods. Overtime even professional chefs began to accept and use the Teflon coated cookware in their food preparation.

However, the emergence of the non-stick coating we are so familiar with today began with a man named Roy J. Plunkett. He was born in New Carlisle, Ohio in 1910. After graduating with a doctoral degree in chemistry from Ohio State University in 1936 he went to work for DuPont in Deepwater, New Jersey.

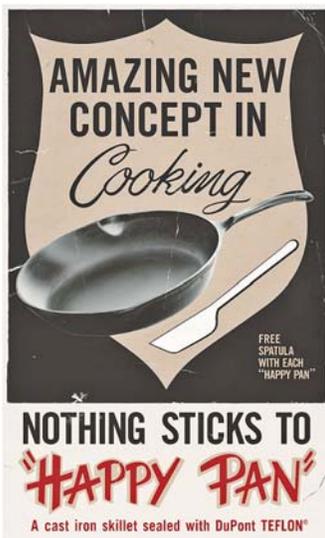
He was assigned the task of trying to find a non-toxic, non-flammable coolant that could be used in refrigerators. One attempt led to the creation of a slippery powder that could withstand temperatures as cold as minus four hundred degrees, and as hot as five hundred degrees Fahrenheit.

His discovery, in scientific terms, was called Polytetrafluoroethylene, and was eventually marketed as Teflon for commercial use. During World War II, development of the first atomic bombs could not have proceeded without it. After extensive testing, Teflon was used in the bombs manufacturing process to make gaskets and linings that could resist the highly corrosive components.

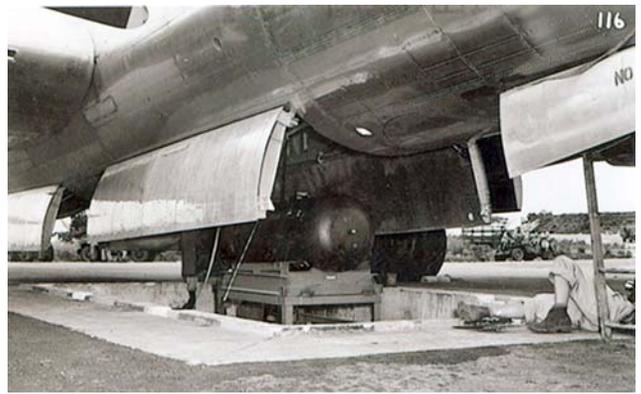
In 1954, two French engineers discovered that cookware coated in Teflon prevented food from sticking to cookware. This discovery led to the first widespread use of Teflon coated products in the United States and abroad. In the late twentieth century scientists developed new ways of utilizing Teflon from sealing pipe threads, to igniters for solid-fuel rocket propellents.

Because of Plunkett's accidental discovery World War II was brought to an end, although at a great cost. The cities of Hiroshima, and Nagasaki were completely destroyed because of the Japanese governments refusal to accept defeat. But, in the end, many more American and Japanese lives were saved by avoiding an invasion of Japan.

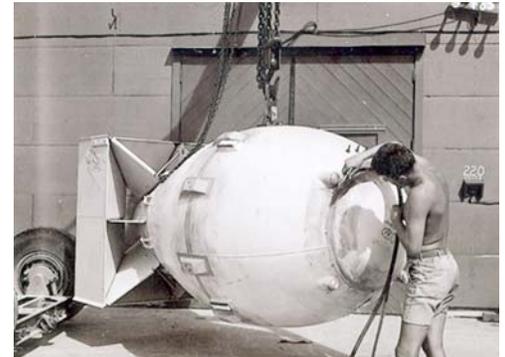
Submitted by CAF COL. John Holechek



< An early advertisement introducing Teflon coated cookware.



"Little Boy" being raised for loading into the Enola Gay's bomb bay.



The polar cap of the "Fat Man" bomb being sprayed with a plastic (Teflon?) paint in front of Assembly building Number 2.

AMBULANCE DRIVER TURNED GENERAL



Susan Travers was an English socialite living in France when WWII broke out. She trained as a nurse for the French Red Cross and became an ambulance driver. When France fell to the Nazis, she escaped to London via Finland and joined the Free French Forces. In 1941, Travers was sent with the French Foreign Legion as a driver to Syria and then to North Africa. She was assigned to drive Colonel Marie-Pierre Koenig.

In Libya, her unit was besieged by Rommel's Afrika Corps, but Travers refused to be evacuated with the other female personnel. After hiding for 15 days in sand pits, the unit decided to make a break at night. The enemy noticed the escaping convoy when a land mine went off. Driving the lead vehicle with Koenig, Travers took off at breakneck speed under machine gun fire and broke through the enemy lines, leading 2,500 troops to the safety of an Allied encampment hours later. Amazingly, she and Koenig arrived unhurt in a vehicle riddled with bullet holes.

Travers was promoted to General, and served in Italy, Germany, and France during the remainder of the war. She was wounded once during that period driving over a land mine. After the war, Travers applied to become an official member of the French Foreign Legion. She did not specify her sex on the application, and it was accepted, rubber-stamped by an officer who knew and admired her. Travers was the only woman ever to serve with the Legion as an official member, and was posted to Vietnam during the First Indo-China War. Some of her awards were the *Légion d'honneur*, *Croix de Guerre* and *Médaille Militaire*.

Submitted by CAF COL. John Holechek

**QUAD CITIES
AIR SHOW 2016
DAVENPORT, IA
JUNE 25-26 2016**



The B-25 was able to make it to the DVN airshow this year thanks to a lot of work from our mechanics and helpers. A cylinder blew a week and a half before the show and Pat Fenwick and a couple of his mechanics from work, and some of our guys, replaced the cylinder and got the plane ready for action. Thanks to Jordan for his help and for the test flight, and Pat Kessler was the SIC. "When the goin gets tough, the tough get goin". How true this was for the guys fixing the plane! Great job!

Jack Hardin was our host again this year and he did a great job, much appreciated. He provided a golf cart for our "shuttling" back and forth to the latrine and food tent. The food and drink he provided was outstanding again this year. Hats off to Jack and his crew at In-Tolerance.

All three airplanes from the Mo Wing would be attending the show, so Friday morning was a busy scene at Smartt Field. The L-3 took off early to beat the heat and winds and made it there ok. The pilots were Matt Throckmorton and Jim Abbitt. The TBM was piloted by Clyde Zellers and the crew was Keith and Josh Daniels. The B-25 was piloted by Dave Thompsen and John Fester and the crew was Buddy Welsh, Bob Carmack, Bob Moore, Hannah Thompsen, Katie Thompsen and Jim Doucette.

The PX attended the show also, it was piloted by Bob Lawrence and SIC was Hubert Looney. Thanks to those guys for a long journey north to sell our goods and generate some income.

The L-3 made 2 stops on the way for fuel at Jacksonville and Galesburg. The kind folks at DVN found a T-hangar for the bird so it could avoid the weather over the weekend. Due to unfavorable winds and storms around St. Charles after the show, the crew opted to stay over Sunday night and came home on Monday morning. Clear skies and favorable winds allowed the crew to make it home in 4 hrs with just one fuel stop in Macomb. During the show the L-3 was well visited by the crowd and had a lot of spectators with direct or indirect connection with the L-3. The crew had a fun and gratifying weekend sharing the plane and hanging with the Mo Wing airshow friends.

The TBM crew was kept busy with Dawn Patrol flights and a large, continuous flow of spectators wanting to take a look at the plane. The TBM is always a show favorite for WW2 aviation fans.

As soon as we landed on Friday, the B-25 and TBM were loaded up with passengers and off we went over the city and river for a nice ride for all. Saturday and Sunday morning we participated in the "Dawn Patrol" with a load of passengers in the B-25 and TBM. This was to make noise and remind the area residents that there was an airshow going on.....and it worked. Big crowds each day enjoyed looking at all three airplanes and all the other static displays. Tora Tora Tora was the big event at this years show, along with demonstrations by the F-18 and F-16 jets. The Golden Knights started each show with a group jump and the American Flag streaming down while the National Anthem was played.

There was a large dinner/awards ceremony on Friday night in downtown Davenport for all involved in the airshow. Ken Hopper has been in charge of this show for all of the 30 years it has been done. He gave out awards to his volunteers and air show performers and provided a great meal and drinks for all. Many thanks to him and his crew for all that they have done over the last 30 years!!

After Tora ended on Sunday the B-25 and TBM hurried off to beat the storms at SET. We made it home just in time and got the planes back in the hangars.

A great weekend for an airshow and the Mo Wing planes and crews represented the Commemorative Air Force well.

CAF Col. John Fester



This was one group of satisfied customers at Davenport.

A FEW SMARTT HAPPENINGS



Porch on O Club getting replaced. Thanks Steve



Mary White who worked on B-25s at the bomber plant in Fairfax, KS just celebrated her 90th birthday.

Happy Birthday, Mary!

Speaker Series

We would like to thank Mr. Ben Nothstine for sharing his experience in Europe last weekend. An additional Thank you to CAF Col. Bill Wehmeier for introducing the Missouri Wing to this fine gentleman.



We all know that Hubert loves to hang around the airport and apparently he enjoyed hanging around off of buildings back in the day.



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JULY
 2016

**HOME
 OF THE
 FREE
 BECAUSE
 OF THE
 BRAVE**

4TH OF JULY PARADE - O'FALLON, MISSOURI



Bob Kalal (6) • Dick Hyde (7) • Norval Seeley (8) • Tee Baur (8) • Hubert Looney (12)
 Stuart Scott (12) • TR Proven (18) • Wanda Weaver (19) • Cecilia Holechek (23)
 Stephani Conoon (24) • Jack Seeman (24) • Joe Racine (25) • Nick Talarico (26)
 Lou Tacchi (30) • Lennie Kratzer (31)

July Birthdays!

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