The Missouri Wing Executive Staff

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October/November 2017

1 - Tim Schantz and Dan Schmied adjusting the B-25 carburetor after overhaul.
2 - New septic tank going in.
3 - B-25 being positioned for boost pump work.

Upcoming Events

Oct 28 Smartt Field Open House/ Pumpkin Drop, B25, TBM, L3

PUMPKIN DROP...

Nov 11 Chili Cook Off - 11:30
General Meeting - Election 1:30

Chili Cook Off
The 35th Annual Hangar Dance as usual was a great success. Thanks to Bob Moore for arranging the dance manual, without it I would be lost. During the preparations starting in June, it was a daily reminder of Bob’s dedication to the Dance and Wing. To be successful it takes a lot of cooperation and resourcefulness. Special thanks to Bob Lawrence and Pat Kesler for helping out with the finer details and purchasing the food, soda, and party supplies. And also Mark Statler and Bill Wehmeier for taking care of the water, ice, and drinking water. Where would we be without Mike McEntee’s long hours and hard work in setting up the lights and sound systems, the stage, and flag?

The Saturday before Gary Breneman, Joe Vera Martinez, Nick Talarico, and Bill Wehmeier helped Mike set up the stage after our monthly meeting. Thursday as usual everybody helped clean out the hangar. Special thanks to Charlie Finnegan for going over the floor at least 4 times with the floor scrubber. Weinhardt delivered the tables and chairs around 12:15 Friday and thanks to Bob Lawrence for coming up with the idea of setting them up Friday evening, we were able to get a jump start on that around 2:00 and were done by 6:00. Thanks to Bob Lawrence, Chuck Strand, Mike Marino, Chris Orf, Bob Sanders, Keith Daniels, Mark Schuler, Joe Vera Martinez, Bud Eberhardt, Bill Wehmeier, Pat Kesler, John Fester, Bob Carmack, and Gary Breneman for showing up for that.

Saturday, the big day finally arrives. Tracey and Connie Coffey started the balloon decorating at 11:00 and the rest of the final details were started around 12:30. During the afternoon the movie production crew for the Superman movie filmed their dance scenes. At 6:00 we let the crowd in and at 6:20 we had 5 planes put on a show for them. The Sea Cadets performed the opening ceremony at 7:00 and then Sentimental Journey under the direction of Dr. Dietrich once again, started playing and the Dance was underway.

Parking was handled by Dave Ceglinski, Harold Moss, Don Huster, Chuck Strand, and Gary Breneman. Tim Dexter, Ian Collins, and Bruce Arndt performed the chef duties on the grills while helping keep Kathy Dexter, Landy Collins, and Marty Malinee busy serving the food. Louise Myerpeter and Tommie Fester served the soda and water while John and Connie Coffey, Joe Vera Martinez handled the beer sales. Ticket sales was run by Steve Gossett, Bernie Crouch, Danette Lopp, Jan Michelson, Barb Mohr, and Jo Ann Wehmeier. The silent auction was run by Earl and Sue Burkhardt with Bill Wehmeier who also put out the road signs that afternoon. Nick Talarico took care of the 50/50 sales while Ed Michelson and Dakota Jones ran the museum. Dutch Myerpeter was the MC with Mike working the lights and sound. Suzanne Arndt, John Fester, and Bud Eberhardt worked where needed.

The Dance was over at 11:00 and then the annual miracle occurred with the tables and chairs being taken down and stacked up and hangar swept up by 12:20. The planes and vehicles were put back in the hangar with the help of Dutch, Hubert Looney, and others. At that point we called it a night. Sunday came and Mike started the take down of the lights and sound system with the help of Gary Breneman, Bruce Kreyck, Ian and Landy Collins, at around 11:30. Later they were joined by Nick Talarico, Joe Vera Martinez, John Fester, and Dan Bauer. Then most of us took down the stage and flag and were for the most part finally done. Those of us who were still there got to stay and watch the Creve Couer Camera Club photograph a couple of models with the vehicles and Show Me. Please forgive me for any names I left out, I was lucky to remember my own during the week of activities.

Thanks to all of the volunteers and members for their hard work.

CAF Col. Gerry Spavale
Dance Chairman

2017 Dance Results

Our annual Hangar Dance was another financial success, giving us a profit of $13,247, the highest profit ever. The biggest reason for the increase was because we raised our ticket prices without experiencing any negative effect on sales/attendance. Total ticket sales totaled 616 compared to 604 last year. Most of our revenue areas were up - - with only 50/50 and Sponsors being slightly down.

My thanks to the many members and relatives that worked so hard on this event, not only the night of the dance but the days before and after

CAF Col. Steve Gossett, Financil Officer

Superman Film Crew

The Hangar Dance crowd starting to arrive.
**WING STAFF ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER**

Wing Staff elections will be held at the November 11th General Membership meeting. The following five positions are open for nomination: Unit/Wing Leader, Executive Officer, Adjutant, Education Officer, and Development Officer.

**JOB DESCRIPTIONS:**

**Unit/Wing Leader:** At least two (2) years as a CAF member in good standing, background in military or business management, ability for good public appearance, adept at public speaking and preferably have a background in aviation. He/she shall be responsible for providing overall leadership and direction for the unit. Specific duties: current knowledge of CAF rules and regulations, preparation of Unit meeting agenda, serving as chairman at meetings, appointing various committee members, etc.

**Executive Officer:** Assistant to the Unit Leader and will act in his place during his absence. Specific duties include current knowledge of CAF rules and regulations, meeting facilities, Unit socials, and other duties as may be assigned by the Unit Leader. This officer may be appointed on an annual basis by the Unit Leader and serves as a voting member of the Unit Staff. However, if the Unit Leader chooses to appoint the Executive Officer, the Unit Leader sacrifices his regular voting privilege and can vote only in the case of a tie. If the Executive Officer is duly elected, the Unit Leader retains his usual voting privileges.

**Adjutant:** Shall record and maintain the permanent minutes of all Unit Staff meetings. He/she shall maintain suitable correspondence files concerning the business and activities of the Unit and assure that all required unit reports are submitted to HQ in a timely fashion. Further, he/she shall assist the Unit in the timely preparation and dissemination of such correspondence of a general nature. In coordination with the Finance Officer, he shall maintain the Unit personnel records. He shall advise the Headquarters’ Membership Department of any changes of the Unit membership, and on a semi-annual basis provide a roster of Unit members for verification and updating.

**Education Officer:** Supports the national implementation of the CAF “Rise Above National Educational/Inspirational Programs” at the unit level. These programs are designed to take the lessons of the Tuskegee Airmen, WASP’s and other key marginalized groups within society, during WWII and showcase their struggle to achieve their goals, thereby relating the challenges of the past to the challenges faced today (with emphasis on young people). Supports the development of educational programs at the unit local level and its integration into the community.

**Development Officer:** Responsible for overseeing all development activities for the Unit, including creating a Culture of Philanthropy, and oversight of fundraising activities. This position assesses the potential for success of any fundraising activity/plan, and provides a recommendation to the Unit Officers. Clears all fundraising activities/plan with the Unit Officers, and as appropriate, with CAF Headquarters. Coordinates and ensures appropriate recognition of donors is completed in a timely manner - for both cash and in-kind donations.

**For an expanded explanation of duties** - Go online to the national website (commemorativeairforce.org), log in, click on “Resources” > “Unit Manual” > “Section 2” and then go to the appropriate page number listed below:

- Wing Leader - 2-8
- Adjutant - 2-11
- Executive Officer - 2-11
- Education Officer - 2-14
- Development Officer - 2-13

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*I would like to put your name in the hat for one of these positions, please contact me or any other staff member.* New blood is always good for an organization and no one will get their feelings hurt if you want to volunteer and add your name to the long list of Missouri Wing Staffers...

CAF Col Pat Kesler/Executive Officer

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**CHESTER DAVIS (BOSS****) EX-WING LEADER AND TRUE GENTLEMAN**

While Barb and I were getting ready to celebrating our 50th anniversary with a trip to the West Coast, out of the blue I received a phone call from an old friend and ex-Wing Leader, Chet, who called to check on Korey’s progress. We talked about the Wing, planes, and facilities.

I told him we would be in his area on Sept 12th and being the man he is, he and his wife Bonnie wanted to take us out for dinner. We arranged to meet at our place in Carmel by the sea. I was resting after a long drive that day, when there’s a knock on the door and when I opened the it was like time stood still . Chet stood there and he never changed while I had gotten old and gimp. He and Bonnie found the fountain of youth. Well, we talked about old times, about the members who have Gone West and were in retirement homes.

Chet made reservations at the Mission Ranch. This place is rustic and beautiful and owned by Clint Eastwood who also owns the place we stayed in. Barb and I had the best meal of the entire trip and enjoyed it with great company. After a perfect desert Chet looked at pictures I brought showing things going on at the hangar. This picture was taken outside the restaurant, if you ever get to Carmel be sure to see the town and have dinner at Mission Ranch. You won’t regret it.

Chet works out at the gym 4 days a week, still does stain glass and he and Bonnie are like teenagers. Any time they’re together they are always holding hands and very happy.

For you new guys Chet was responsible for keeping the Missouri Wing in existence during the late 90’s and early 2000’s. After the flood of ’93 we lost two airplanes, museum, hardware, office, parts room and had no money. He was and is a tireless worker. Chet is the man who got the trailer for the temporary museum after the ‘93 flood, then okayed and helped build the existing museum. When he finished we had a new museum, the TBM and meeting room plus several Grants including Jack Taylor of Enterprise Leasing. He did so many things for this organization it takes to long to list.

CAF Col. Lou Tacchi
All three MO Wing aircraft were on the ramp to support Joplin’s biennial event during the 2nd weekend in September. Due to a scheduling conflict, Jordan Brown flew the TBM over on Thursday with Dutch Meyerpeter and Mark Schuler occupying the other seats. Matt Throckmorton followed in his Cessna 310 and then flew Jordan to Dallas for a meeting. They returned to Joplin on Saturday. The B-25 and L-3 departed Smartt Field on Friday. Hubert Looney once again skillfully piloted the L-Bird to its destination (220 nautical miles/253 statute miles). That’s a lonnnnng trip for the little guy! Matt Conrad and I headed west in the Mitchell Friday afternoon with Tom Wagoner, Buddy Welsh, Bob Carmack, David Woodson, Charles Finnegan, and Jim Doucette. The PX was not scheduled.

After bedding down the aircraft, and after following Tom’s Google direction’s for a restaurant and a couple 180’s, we finally located a Longhorn Steakhouse and ended an exciting Friday adventure. The food was good and we all checked into rooms at a newly decorated Laquinta Inn. While checking in, we noticed flashing lights and local police apprehending a white van in front of the hotel entrance. Uh oh! Hubert was the only member not in the lobby, and he had been driving our WHITE rental van! I rushed outside to document this and watched as the uniformed officers were confronting the driver. I got nervous (but still took the picture for posterity and the Wing Bulletin Board)! Just before I started to take the second picture as a back-up, I noticed a figure emerging from the darkness to my right. It was our L-3 pilot and he asked me what was going on. I told him that he was being spread-eagled by the local authorities and it might interfere with his room check-in. We laughed and went inside. Wrong white van…The guys inside were laughing out loud! Whew! Another potential crisis averted!!!

A free Saturday morning breakfast at the hotel started the day and we all headed back to the airport for a nice airshow. None of our aircraft were scheduled to fly during the show on Saturday, but we did pick up some LHFEs and an L-3 flight with a passenger. During the B-25 LHFE, we flew over the town of Carthage where this pilot started his life 70 years ago. I didn’t recognize anything on the ground! In fact, I had told Matt that we had just flown over Joplin until I noticed the big letters “CARTHAGE” in the high school’s football field end zones. I’m a Pilot – not a Naviguesser...

The aerial performers consisted of Kyle Franklin’s Flying Circus, Justin Lewis in his Minijet (a BD-5), The Shetterly Squadron, Matt Younkin in his Twin Beech, Greg and Ashley Shelton (wing walker), and Brian Correll in his bi-plane. The “SHOCKWAVE” put on two performances each day. The Peterbuilt “Shockwave Jet Truck” has three jet engines with a total of 36,000hp and 18,000 lbs of thrust. He does the quarter mile at 256mph in 6.36 seconds! If you like noise, speed, and fire, this truck has it! Guinness Book of World Records lists Shockwave as the fastest full size truck at 376mph. Among the static displays were an A-10 Warthog, the AC-47 “Spooky”, an F-4U Corsair, and a P-51 Mustang along with F-101 Voodoo, F-4E Phantom II, and A-7 Corsair II cockpit displays on wheels. Oh! And there were multiple food vendors and desserts available. I think Jordan and Throck had at least 10 shaved ices during the 2 day show.

Saturday night’s cuisine consisted of drinks and meals at a Texas Roadhouse (which was DIRECTLY across from our hotel……Tom). A discerning waitress named “Jackie” realized just who she was serving at my table of 6 (in our flight suits), and she did an outstanding job of delivering the correct meals and drinks. Our celebrity was highlighted on the receipt with a 10% “LOCAL HERO” discount (see photo) and we honored her awareness with great tips.

Sunday’s schedule was the same as Saturday’s except for the fact the TBM and B-25 flew during the show. The crowd loved hearing those radials and great warbirds and we really impressed the locals. After all, a few of us were their “local heroes”. The banana photo passes were some of the best I have experienced. Hubert and the L-3 left a little early to make it back to Smartt before sunset. The B-25, TBM, and Cessna 310 left Joplin as a 3-ship and the Mitchell led her charges back to an uneventful, pre-sunset recovery in St. Charles. All in all, it was a fun weekend with lots of camaraderie and well-intended harassments of fellow aviators.

CAF Col Pat Kesler
The CAF’s yearly air show, Wings Over Dallas, was held October 6-8 at Dallas Executive Airport. The theme this year was Heavy Bombers of the CAF with an emphasis on the 75th Anniversary of the Doolittle Raid. The B-29, Fifi, was there along with the B-17’s Texas Raiders and Sentimental Journey. All six of the CAF’s B-25’s; Semper Fi, Yellow Rose, Maid in the Shade, Devil Dog, Miss Mitchell and Show Me participated as well.

The Missouri Wing’s TBM and B-25 departed Smartt Field Thursday morning for the flight south. There was a slight headwind but not bad. Two hours and fifty minutes later both airplanes were on the ground in Dallas after a very pleasant flight. I am pleased to report the B-25’s new carburetor is performing perfectly.

Saturday and Sunday featured good weather and great shows. Col John Lohmar, winner of the Reno Gold Race in the T-6 Class this year, did a fantastic job showcasing our TBM Avenger. He performed a sequence with some unfortunate Zeros who jumped him, only to be shot down by Chuck Gardner in the Cavanaugh Museum’s Corsair. Those poor Zeros never win.

Show Me was #6 in the formation of B-25’s. We performed our engine starts in front of the crowd, simulating the start on the Hornet in 1942. Our first pass was a low pass simulating the flight to the target from the carrier. The second pass was the pop up maneuver and bombing run. The third pass was a formation pass and the forth was a “fallout” maneuver simulating the lost airplanes on the Doolittle Raid. We came back for an individual strafing pass and then off to the hold to wait for the B-29 and B-17’s for the 60th Anniversary of the CAF pass to end our part in the show.

It was a nice chance to catch up with friends from other units of the CAF. Several of our pilots have flown Maid in the Shade and it was good to see the Arizona guys. We also made new friends with much of the SoCal Wing’s Semper Fi crew, one of whom came over to fly Show Me with us.

Speaking of the SoCal Wing, I learned a lot from this crew. When the air show ended they brought out bins full of ice, beer, margarita mix and food. Under their wing was a very popular and happy place to be. What an awesome show.

Friday night our own Col Jordan Brown was elected to the CAF staff, joining Bob Lawrence already in that position. Congratulations Jordan!

I want to thank our crew of Pat Fenwick, Buddy Welsh, Bob Carmack, Mark Schuler, Gary Chambers and Matt Geery for taking such great care of the B-25 over the weekend. Dutch and Matt Throckmorton kept the Avenger roaring. It’s always a pleasure to travel with a great crew.

CAF Col. Dave Thompsen
October 12-15 2017

KLOU BOWMAN FIELD, LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY

Bowman field is a historic gem in the city of Louisville, with 3 of it's buildings on the historic landmark register. It was an Army Air Corps training facility during the war. After that, it was, and still is, home to many airplanes and airplane-related businesses. The airport is host to many events and this year's Honor Flight, Spirit of 45 and Bowman Field Heritage festival were all combined into one weekend event.

The crew of the B-25 got the bomber ready for flight in the early afternoon and took off for KLOU around 4:30pm on Thursday. It was IFR with a low overcast over the St Louis area and all the way to KLOU. Permission was granted to file IFR and launch, so off we went. The crew was Matt Conrad, John Fester, Bob Carmack, Buddy Welsch, and Charlie Finnegan.

Upon arrival, we were greeted by a good crowd of anxious people and veterans ready to see some WW2 aircraft. We were parked at “Hangar 5”, which is a man-cave of aviation and airplane enthusiasts. They are a great group of guys and gals and very good hosts including Jeff Thoke and Jeff Daus. They had pizza and liquid refreshments (assorted Kentucky Bourbons) ready for us when we walked in. On to the hotel, but we made a pit stop at Olive Garden to have a little more food……and refreshments.

On Friday morning, the TBM was making it’s way to KLOU with a crew of JP Melor, Dutch and Bob Sanders. They arrived mid-morning just in time to see all the WW2 veterans that were gathering to go for a ride in the bomber. Four rides of WW2 veterans took place over the course of the day. There were 19 vets that were there for rides and each one had a great story to tell. What an honor and privilege it was to fly these guys on a beautiful day in Kentucky.

After a fun day of flying the veterans and another visit to Hangar 5, we were off to a local watering hole for more food and refreshments. Matt Throckmorton and Kathy Melor joined us as they had flown in the T-6 to be at the show also.

Saturday we were moved across the field in front of the original terminal for the air show. There were a bunch of vintage aircraft and others, including our warbirds, and a lot of old cars for the crowd to enjoy. The weather was perfect and the people started pouring in. Bob Carmack was in a panic as so many people were wanting to take a bomber ride and a TBM ride. We ended up doing 4 full rides in the bomber and two in the TBM! During the second ride, the cold front, with 40 mph gusts came through and scattered the crowd and the vendor tents. The winds changed so much we had taken off on 24 but landed on 31.

The show ended at 4 and both planes fueled up and waited for the low clouds to part so we could launch together. We were able to get out together and had an uneventful flight home. Another great weekend show for the CAF Mo Wing!

CAF Col. John Fester

Back to the hotel we went, but again, the courtesy car detoured us to a famous eating establishment for more refreshments and food first. Good camaraderie and many jokes going around, discussing the days work.

Group of WWII Vets.

Sunday morning brought a cold front with cold air and a low overcast with rain later that morning. We thought the day would be a wash, but the crowd still came out and the weather was just barely good enough to do rides, of which we did 3 more in the bomber and one in the TBM! During the second ride, the cold front, with 40 mph gusts came through and scattered the crowd and the vendor tents. The winds changed so much we had taken off on 24 but landed on 31.

The show ended at 4 and both planes fueled up and waited for the low clouds to part so we could launch together. We were able to get out together and had an uneventful flight home. Another great weekend show for the CAF Mo Wing!

CAF Col. John Fester

We had another great hangar dance. Thanks to all who volunteered their time and effort to make the dance a success. Although we had one injury reported, overall the dance was safe as we provided our guest with a great experience. As expected, our planes were a big hit with the crowd.

A big thanks to Bruce and Ian (the grill masters) to manning the grills and cooking the food.

CAF Col. Tim Dexter

SAFETY

Carmack asleep from all the stress.
HILDE McENTEE

It is with great sadness we inform the membership of the loss of Hilde McEntee, wife of Col. Mike McEntee. Hilde was always seen helping Mike as well as the Wing on many of our events and always with a smile. Her voice filled with laughter will be greatly missed. Please keep Mike and all their family and friends in your thoughts.

WORLD WAR II CONTROL TOWER
(USAAC Pacific Islands Replica)
It’s time to get out the cookbooks, find your favorite chili recipe, and join us for the 7th Annual Chili Cook-off on Saturday, November 11th at 11:00 AM in the B-25 hangar. By the time we get everything set up, plugged in, and organized, the event will probably see its first chili-to-mouth movement around 11:30 to Noonish. The General Meeting and elections will follow at 1:30 PM. Yes..... Beano will be available.

Please bring a crock pot of your favorite chili to enter in the cook-off. Not a cook, but know someone who is? Then bring them and their chili along for a good time and a chance to claim the prize for the best chili! “Chili-inspired" menu items and desserts are highly recommended and desired.

The Unit will provide the cheese, cracker and onions.

Friends and family are welcome to join us for this seasonal celebration! Can’t wait to see everyone!

CAF Col. Bob Lawrence, Wing Leader

October Birthdays
Paul Gardner (1) • Lou Niederberger (2) • Hannah Tompsen (4) • Gordon Glodo (5)
Peter Sherwin (10) • Pat Fenwick (10) • Bud Eberhardt (22) • John Lohmar (26)

November Birthdays
Pat Kesler (1) • Steven Newcombe (2) • Tim Dexter (3) • Alvin Kaser (7)
Kevin Cotter (8) • Robert Cushman (13) • John Coffey (14)
Jim Pearo (27) • Russell Rosenthal (28) • Jim Hatcher (30)