



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

SEPTEMBER 2016

**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 Thompsen
 3139 N 1200 E Road
 Clifton, IL 60927
 815-549-0206 cell
 dthompsen86@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@jnmelproducts.com

MAINTENANCE OFFICER

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

SAFETY OFFICER

CAF Col. ?

PIO OFFICER

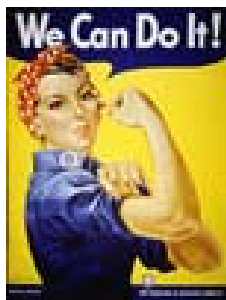
CAF Col. Cecilia Holechek
 314-920-5118
 infocafmo@gmail.com

COMPASS EDITOR

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



See you there!!!



**UNIFORMS
 AND
 COSTUMES**



One of the highlights of the Dance is watching all the people who come dressed in various military uniforms or apparel of the Big Band Era. This is probably the only local event where you have a chance to dress as someone from the past and even receive an award from a group of judges. Why not plan on joining the fun this year and show up in your favorite outfit?! Visit the Wing website for some photos of past dances and get an idea of who (or what) you might want to be.

CAF Col. Gerry Spavale



UPCOMING EVENTS



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

- Sept 2-4 B24 Appearance, Branson, MO B-25, TBM, PX
- Sept 10 General Meeting - 1:30 pm
- Sept 10-11 Camdenton, MO B25, PX
- Sept 17 B-25 LHFE Flight, Smartt Field 10 a.m.
- 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

WING LEADER'S REPORT



FALL IS ALMOST HERE!!!

The fall is finally approaching and that makes for a busy time for the Missouri Wing. The good thing about the fall is that the weather becomes cooler and that makes it more comfortable for what are our busiest months. I know you are all reading this and wondering where and how you can help!!! Over the next 8 weeks we have our Annual Hangar Dance, 4 Weddings, 1 Reunion, our Open House/Pumpkin Drop and 3 airshows.

For a refresher to the current members and a plea to our newer members, this is why we need you. This is going to put a major strain on our members with so much coming up. I know that you are likely saying to yourself that you are not sure where to help, well I am here to tell you... Just call Gerry Spavale or myself and we can find a way for you to help. Our immediate needs are as follows:

Hangar Dance: September 17

If you have been a member for more than a year you know this is when all hands are on deck to make this our largest and most successful event of the year. There are signs hanging on the door of the office that still have many positions available. By the time you receive this I am certain that we will still need help in key positions.

Weddings: Sept 24 and Oct 1

These are going to be on Saturdays but we will still need to do some cleaning on Thursdays and someone will need to be around on Fridays to help meet the deliveries.

A Successful Unit Needs Leadership

As you know it is that time of year for elections. This November we will be holding elections for Finance, Maintenance, Operations, Safety and PIO. All of these positions are required for the Unit to run effectively and to make sure that everything is taken care of. In the next month we will be putting together the Nominating and the Election Committees as required by the CAF Bylaws.

I want you all to think about why you joined the CAF. I would then like you to think about how you can help contribute to the CAF and what Ideas that you have. If you have the ideas and the belief in the organization then this is a way that you can make an impact.

When I decided to run for Executive Officer I had seen an opportunity to serve my friends and fellow members. Then the care and love of our organization caused me to run for Unit Leader. That care and the desire to make the Unit stronger, to spread what we do and preserve the CAF's mission is what keeps me going. That I feel is the prerequisite of being on Staff. Col Fenwick loves the B-25 and that is what he started working on years ago. It is his care of these airplanes and the time he spends making sure all the paperwork is in order that makes him a great Staff Officer. This can be said about so many that served on the Missouri Staff over the decades and I can think of many in our group that could also make that difference. I think some of you know who you are and I really hope to see you run for office to make your impact as well. As a reminder in 2017 the positions that we will vote on are Wing Leader, Adjutant and Executive Officer.

Thanks for all you do, *Bob Lawrence*, Wing Leader



MISSOURI WING'S NEW GATE GUARD



Guard shack being constructed.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

August 12-13 2016



Honor Flight Bluegrass sponsored the B-25 to help celebrate "Spirit of 45" in Louisville with a 2 day event honoring the WW2 veterans. This was for the 71st anniversary of the end of WW2 and the local Honor flight group put on a great 2 day program including B-25 rides for veterans.

We took off on Friday at Odarkthirty to get to LOU in time for our first of 4 scheduled rides for the first day. The crew included Matt Conrad, John Fester, Mark Schuler, Bob Moore, Gary Chambers and Nick Talarico. We arrived on time and were greeted by an anxious crowd of vets and Honor Flight volunteers including Jeff Thoke, Jeff Daus, John Casper, Brian Duffey and many more. Gracious hosts to say the least and before we knew it we were eating pizza and enjoying the company.

Our crew worked hard keeping the flow going for all the flights and visiting with all the veterans. It was a hot day but that didn't dampen the spirits of the crew or the crowd. Many people were on hand to enjoy the airplane rides and watch the veterans turn into teenagers again. That evening there was a hangar banquet/dance with the bomber right outside the hangar doors for ambience. A good meal and cold beverages were had by all. Jeff Daus, hangar owner and Vintage Warbird organizer, gave us full use of his hangar and bar (and large selection of the finest Kentucky Bourbons). What hospitality!

Saturday brought some weather concerns as there was a cold front coming in from the west which was bringing heavy rains and low clouds. There was a move to a larger hangar where the Honor Flight group had a massive display of WW2 items from pictures to guns on display for all to enjoy. There was also a bunch of WW2 vehicles including an old tank. We gave 2 rides in the morning and then after lunch we launched for home to beat the worst of the impending weather.

It was a good thing to have the Garmin 496 with it's XM radar and Foreflight with ADS-B since we had to take off with rain on our course. We were able to navigate through the moisture with ease and returned to Smartt field mid-afternoon.

What a great trip, meeting a lot of WW2 veterans and hearing their first hand accounts of the greatest generation that were in the war. One of the vets was a Pearl Harbor survivor and another was a pilot for Chenault! What an honor to be involved in such a great event in Kentucky.



SPIRIT OF 45 - BOWMAN FIELD, KY

Spirit of 45 held at Bowman Field was great weekend for Missouri Wing CAF! We did six flights for Bluegrass Honor Flight of WWII veterans including Mustang pilot that also flew General Claire Chenault, a purple heart recipient in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam, a B-17 bombardier, and many more unique stories. Kentucky governor, Matt Bevin, stopped by the B-25 with eight of his children and paused for a photo and another with John Fester. WHAS Channel 11 personality, Reed Yadon, interviewed MO Wing members doing a remote for the Saturday morning show.



August 13 at Bowman Field, Kentucky. The C.A.F. B-25, "Show Me!" from St. Louis, MO. flew passenger rides for Blue Grass Honor Flight Veterans and their families. Weather was rather variable, but still managed to get in a few shots. The final photo is a Stewart 51 home built with a Walter's 601 Turbine engine. Tailwinds, and blue skies, *Bob Burns*



SULLIVAN 7TH ANNUAL FLY-IN

Sullivan, MO
August 20, 2016



The forecast the whole week prior to the fly-in was saying a 90% chance of rain on Saturday. The organizers were ready to call it off on Friday but the pilots insisted that we wait and hope for good weather for the show. As luck would have it, the day turned out very good with cooler temperatures and overcast skies but perfect for a fly-in. So all three Mo Wing aircraft launched early Saturday for the 55 nautical mile jaunt to Sullivan.

The L-3 was piloted by Hubert Looney and Matt Throckmorton and they were joined by Bob and Bev Cushman. The TBM was piloted by Clyde Zellers and the crew was Dutch Meyerpeter and Kevin Cotter. The B-25 crew was Stuart Scott, John Fester, Bob Moore, Bob Carmack, Bill Wehmeier, Gerry Spavale, Stephanie Conlon, Dakota Jones and Bruce Arndt.

A good sized crowd came out to see the airplanes and enjoy the Young Eagle rides being given by the local pilots. Over 200 kids were flown that day! For Free! Hope they all become pilots some day.

We all heard many stories from family and friends about their WW2 veterans and their connection to WW2 aircraft. We had 2 gentleman (twins) that shared their story of their parents working at the Fairfax plant where the B-25's were built during the war. The parents met at the plant and dated and then got married. Always enjoy hearing the war stories.

A delicious lunch from Missouri Hick Bar-B-Q was provided for all the crew and volunteers and enjoyed by all. After lunch the B-25 did one LHFE ride which was enjoyed by all. The Fly-In was officially over at 2 so we headed to the gas pump, topped off, and headed home.

Another great showing for the Mo Wing of the CAF!



Pearl Harbor survivor gets a ride in the B-25

COLE COUNTY AIRSHOW 2016

Airshow 2016
Mattoon, Illinois



(The fireball was 35 pounds of AMFO plus 20 gallon of jet fuel for the finale of the air show.)

On Saturday August 27th, the fleet from the Mo. Wing of the CAF departed from SET bound for Mattoon Illinois for the Coles County Airshow. All 3 airplanes were airborne on a beautiful morning after a forecast showed rain for this date all the days prior to the show. We were lucky again, weatherwise, to be able to launch and participate in the show.

The L-3 was crewed by Matt "Doc Throck" Throckmorton and Bob Cushman. The TBM was crewed by Clyde Zellers, Dutch, and Bob Sanders. The B-25 crew was Dave Thompsen, John Fester, Bob Moore, Tom Wagoner, Mike Young, Dan Hartman and Charlie Finnegan.

The airshow had a good lineup of participants including Gene Soucy, Vampire Jet, Jet Powered Truck, Lima Lima T-34's, Pitts Aerobatics among a few. A large crowd came out to see the show and had great weather, for August, for the event. The TBM and B-25 also with the B-25 doing a Doolittle Raid bomb run with live pyro. The TBM flew with the Skyraider entertaining the crowd and had pyro also. With that and photo passes by both of our aircraft, the crowd was pleased.

We met a WW2 vet, Eugene, McClain, who was a mechanic on B-25's during the war while stationed in Corsica. He was present for the Mt. Vesuvius eruption in 1944. What a great guy and he enjoyed being in the cockpit of the bomber!



A little storm dodging on the way home and all aircraft were recovered safely. Another good showing for the Mo Wing.





NEW MEMBER

Tom Rohr

Since I can remember, I watched the horizon for the A-10s performing daily flight maneuvers from Richards-Gebaur AFB. That A10 unit started my love of aircraft. As what happens to most of our youth, the teen years rushed in, pushed out my love of aircraft and ushered in the wonder of girls, cars and freedom. The older I become, I find myself less interested cars and more about learning, teaching and talking history with people. And I think there are very few ways to spark people interest in history other than aircraft and other military vehicles.

In 2015, it seemed I suddenly woke up to find myself 38, married with a 6-year-old son and 4-year-old daughter. From our house in Saint Joseph, Missouri my family and I love watching the ANG 139TH Airlift Wing on daily and nightly flights. All of this would lead me and the family to our first airshow at Heart of American Wing last September. While there on a cool Sunday morning I decided to take a flight in Show Me. Upon landing the crew was greeted on the tarmac by Lt. Col. Dick Cole. As I sat in awe, the crew asked if I would like to meet Lt. Col. Dick Cole on the tarmac with a B-25 behind me? Absolutely stunned by his presence and the generosity of the crew and said yes. After the drive home and making my wife tired of my Lt. Col Dick Cole quick history lessons I jump on the computer to read up on who and what is the CAF.

When I started in the automotive dealership business over 20 years ago, I was asked what I would like to do. I thought turning wrenches would be best suited for me but was not sure. So I made it a point to learn as much as I could about every area and angle. That landed me in the parts side for most of my career. This membership into the CAFMO is where I will still stand. I believe there are many strong people in this wing that will help mentor my skill sets to the area need best to carry this wing into the future.

Tom Rohr



Mike Metzger and Marilyn Bush at the June meeting.

See you at the Hangar Dance!!!



NEW CADET

Patrick Harris



Patrick Harris is 14 yrs old, a Freshman at Marquette High School and a member of the Air Force ROTC. Patrick was exposed to flying through a EAA Young Eagles event at Downtown St. Louis Airport last summer. He currently is taking pilot lessons once a month through St. Charles Flying Services at Smartt Airfield.

Patrick enjoys learning about transportation and has attended several camps through the Challenger Space Center in Ferguson where he was able to build a sea perch.

He lives in Ballwin, MO., has two sisters, three cats, and a dog.



LANDING IN KENTUCKY





COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE
 MISSOURI WING
 P.O. Box 637
 St. Charles, MO 63302-0637



SEPTEMBER 2016

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS !!!



*Get your Hangar Dance
 Tickets NOW !!!
 Invite your family, neighbors
 and friends.*

Help support the biggest
 fundraiser of the year.
 Sign up to help!

*All that is
 missing
 is YOU! >*



BOWMAN FIELD - LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



**Happy
 Birthday**

John Holechek (1) • Mike Marino (3) • Dan Schmied (5) • John Scholes (7)
 Matt Throckmoton (8) • Bev Cushman (14) • Bob Lawrence (23)
 Robert Lewis (25) • Mike Steinhour (25) • John Ellis (29) • Bob Moore (29)

*September
 Birthdays!*

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