



## Desert Squadron's Flughafen 2002

By WTW Historian Doris Richeson

It was a magnificent event any way you viewed it. The beautiful people of the Desert Squadron did everything to make Flughafen 2002 just right for all the participants.

We've all heard that old expression, "You couldn't see the forest for the trees?" It seems somewhat applicable to the Desert Squadron's grand feat, in that we could hardly focus on the Flughafen events for our awing and gaping over the squadron's new hangar "what a beaut" could become inadequate mundane verbiage for those who came and saw.

If you were one of those who missed Flughafen because you didn't want to go "way out there," after you went "way out there" not too long ago for AIRSHO 2002, you missed a great opportunity.

For months, maybe longer, we'd heard Nita and Guy and Ray and Margaret and a few other of the desert pack express their objectivity about working feverishly to fund

the grand hangar project, which they did primarily by running a one-day-a-week bingo game. Lots of long, late hours here.

And then the construction of the hangar itself. Well-planned, the architecture has just a hint of the ante-bellum Southern lines and mouldings of an earlier time.

It's a hangar all right, with a space for hanging planes, some of which "live" there.

At the end of the plane area, we found rest rooms and a meeting room with a kitchen, and a wall going into the "plane room" which can be removed. Everything's designed for mobility and versatility.

The bar in the meeting room had been moved out into the "plane room" for the Flughafen lunch of brisket, sausage, lots of other fine food and desserts.

The walls of the room are lined with the squadron's own wall of honor - Desert Squadron veterans, their kin and friends as they appeared during their wartime service time.

What's this about you can't climb the stairs? Well, Desert has a motorized chair that can

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Desert Squadron's newly-completed hangar

### Mark Your Calendars

- **Wing Staff Conference**  
Midland, TX Feb 21-23

WTW Staff, Member and Col's Ladies Meetings will be held at the Staff Conference - see page 11

# BECOME A MEMBER OF THE WEST TEXAS WING SB2C HELLDIVER GOLD TEAM

<b>Gold Team</b> (Gold Team Patch & Certificate)		\$200.00
<b>300 Club</b> (300 Club Pin)	+\$100.00	
<b>Platinum</b> (Platinum Crew Patch)	+\$100.00	
<b>500 Crew</b> (500 Crew Pin)	+\$100.00	\$500.00 Total
<b>Pearl</b> (Donation Toward Diamond Level)	+\$100.00	
<b>Sapphire</b> (Donation Toward Diamond Level)	+\$100.00	
<b>Emerald</b> (Donation Toward Diamond Level)	+\$100.00	
<b>Ruby</b> (Donation Toward Diamond Level)	+\$100.00	
<b>Diamond</b> (SB2C Diamond Pin)	+\$100.00	\$1000.00 Total
<b>Double Diamond</b> (SB2C Double Diamond Pin)	+\$500.00	\$1500.00 Total
<b>Triple Diamond</b> (Pin to be Designed)	+\$500.00	\$2000.00 Total

The Gold Team is the basic donation for a total of \$200.00. The 500 Crew level is a total donation of \$500.00. The Diamond level is a total donation of \$1,000.00. The Double Diamond level is a total donation of \$1,500.00. The Triple Diamond level is a total donation of \$2,000.00. All donations may be made at accumulative levels of \$100.00. All Gold Team donations are used for maintenance and operation of the SB2C.

The SB2C Gold Team was started by the West Texas Wing for those who wanted to have a part in donating to the aircraft, but not at the levels required by CAF HQ. The Gold Team and associated levels do not count toward a CAF Sponsorship.

For information on CAF Aircraft Sponsorships contact CAF Headquarters.

All donations to the SB2C N92879 are tax deductible. Some employers will honor your donation with a matching donation.

Gold Team donations should be made payable to West Texas Wing - CAF and sent to  
 Martha S. Dillard  
 WTW Finance Officer  
 2605 Murrell Drive  
 Graford, TX 26449



## SB2C Donations Received at Flughafen

WTW Colonels' Ladies .....	\$8500.00 (Sponsorship)
Col Bob Halford .....	\$5000.00 (Sponsorship)
Desert Squadron.....	\$3500.00 (Sponsorship)
Col's Jack & Dell Cannon .....	\$1000.00 (Diamond)
Col William A. Campbell, Jr. ....	\$500.00 (500 Crew)
Col Joe R. "Pete" Hyatt.....	\$500.00 (Sapphire)
Col Mark S. Novak .....	\$500.00 (Triple Diamond)
Col William B. "Bill" Stuessy .....	\$500.00 (Triple Diamond)
Col J. Duff Pitcock.....	\$500.00 (Diamond)



# Desert Squadron's Flughafen 2002

*Continued from Page 1*

climb the stairs, so all those aching bones which won our wars can get upstairs to see what's up there.

Up there is another meeting room, in which the Friday night mixer was held, with a bar and comfortable seating looking out onto a second story indoor balcony from which one can watch the "plane room" below.

Now if that's not enough, Guy Zellars noted that the hangar walls were "stacked ten feet deep with 'stuff'" and Desert began to ponder its dilemma. So they built even more a storage building, beside their big hangar.

It was time for changing of the guard: 2002 WTW Leader Ron Fountain passed on the giant gavel and executive suitcase to Exec Ted Short, thus ordaining him 2003 WTW Leader. Mark Novak was inducted as Executive Officer, Greg Kinnan accepted the Operations Officer position, and Martha Dillard remains as Finance Officer.

Outgoing WTW Leader Fountain challenged the group to find and sustain new members, noting that the one-time 500-member, 12-

squadron organization now has 272 members and 5 squadrons.

She could have told us she was 52, but she told us she was 82, and it was actually her birthday: Florine Miller Watson was a WASP during WWII, and she gave an absolutely vibrant talk about her war experiences, flying everything the services had, sometimes to the chagrin of the male fly-boys who hadn't the opportunity to switch planes of so often.

She kept asking Ray Pierson if he was going to "shut her down," as she thought of one exciting or humorous tale after another, speaking all verbatim without notes.

Watson has been given awards and accolades too numerous to list, and taught college for 30 years. She and Chris, her husband of 57 years, live in Borger, Texas.

After an afternoon of "hangar flying," the WTW assembled for hospitality, and then moved on to the grand finale banquet, where awards were given, and everyone signed off. It was Desert Squadron's Flughafen 2002. That's history, folks!



## 2002 West Texas Wing Awards

### Kale Webster Memorial Trophy

*West Texas Wing  
Colonel's Ladies*

### Charlie Day Colonel of the Year

*Nita Zellers*

### WTW Colonels Lady of the Year

*Kathy Mizell*

### WTW Special Award

*Doris Richeson*

### Special Recognition Awards

*Cheryl Mogg      Dave Price  
Frank Hodges    David Duncan*



The Kale Webster Memorial Trophy is presented to the West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies

## 2003 West Texas Wing Officers

### WING LEADER

Ted Short - helldivr@charter.net  
817-656-5062

### EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mark Novak - t6\_av8r@yahoo.com  
402-438-1793

### OPERATIONS OFFICER

Greg Kinnan - gkinnan@cox-internet.com  
806-622-9940

### ADJUTANT

Theresa Halford - twhalford@cableone.net  
915-366-0636

### MAINTENANCE OFFICER

J.B. Thorne - jbranch@brazosnet.com  
940-873-4436

### SAFETY OFFICER

Bill Baley - bbtex@worldnet.att.net  
(281) 633-0370

### FINANCE OFFICER

Martha Dillard - wdill@wf.net  
940-779-2434



### 2003 West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies Officers

#### PRESIDENT

Kathy Mizell - kathymizell@mfpoer.com  
972-770-1114 (office)

#### VICE-PRESIDENT

Julie Sinclair - julie.sinclair@verizon.net  
972-596-0029

#### SECRETARY

Martha Dillard - wdill@wf.net  
940-779-2434

#### PROTOCOL (APPOINTED)

Martha Dillard

### APPOINTED POSITIONS

#### DEPUTY LEADER

Ron Fountain - trainerpilot@aol.com  
281-396-7533

#### CHAPLAIN

Brad Gritton - gritton@wf.quik.com  
940-569-0504

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Martha Dillard - wdill@wf.net  
940-779-2434

#### P.I.O.

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Bobby Ruth Pitcock - jdpbrp@digitalpassage.com  
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Doris Richeson - Richeson2@aol.com  
940-549-5041

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Don "Tiny" Malm - TinyBT@aol.com  
915-698-2673

#### F.E.B. OFFICER

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#### WTW WEBMASTER

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940-549-8410

#### WTW BLASTARDS

Gregg Ulvestad - greggu@nwol.net  
915-687-1413

#### WTW COMMUNICATIONS DETACHMENT

Wallace Dillard - wdill@wf.net  
940-779-2434

### About the 'Logbook'

The 'Logbook' is the bi-monthly newsletter for the West Texas Wing of the CAF. Submitted articles from Wing members are welcomed and encouraged. Materials submitted for publication should be sent to Steve Sehnert at WTWPIO@westhoustonsqdn.org (or at the mailing address shown in the return address of this newsletter) no later than the end of the last month of publication. Please contact me with any suggestions, questions or comments. You can reach me at  
713-625-6419 daytime  
281-578-2561 evenings.

# From The Left Seat

*By Wing Leader Ted Short*

As the new Leader of the WTW for the coming year, I look forward to achieving several goals I have set to help improve the Wing membership, longevity, cohesiveness and sense of achievement by all members. The outpouring of WTW members showing support for our one of a kind aircraft, the SB2C HELLDIVER, at this year's Flughafen was very emotional to me. This dedication to the Wing's goal of keeping the BEAST airworthy is reminiscent of the early years as we tried to rebuild her to flying status. We all owe a great deal of thanks to those who stepped forward.



## Officer's Reports

### Finance Officer

*Martha Dillard*

A good time was had by all who attended Flughafen. At the banquet and over the next few days there were donations made to the SB2C which I would like to acknowledge with a BIG THANK YOU. They are shown on Page 2 of this newsletter.

Col Ron Fountain has designed the Double Diamond level pin. When Col Mark Novak looked at the design, he thought we should add another level to the SB2C Extended Donations, which would be the Triple Diamond level.

There have been other donations which have come in with the dues that have been paid. All of these donations are appreciated. We will have the "beast" back in the air soon with everyone's help and support.

### Maintenance Officer

*J.B. Thorne*

The SB2C's engine is being rebuilt in Arkansas, and it should be ready around the end of December. I will go after it when it is ready.

We are going to need financial help to pay for this, and if any one has some to donate, we sure could use it.

### Training Officer

*Don "Tiny" Malm*

The latest plan is to schedule the training and spring Wing Meeting in Graham in late March or early April; this will be controlled by the SB2C being ready for flight. We may be able to complete Dick Harper's flight check out at same time, and also Mark Novak's.

### Personnel Officer

*Martha Dillard*

The 2003 Dues Update Forms have been mailed. They are being returned at a good pace. Wing dues are due January 1, 2003.

### Colonel's Ladies

*Kathy Mizell*

The Colonel's Ladies met Saturday, December 7, at the Desert Squadron Hangar with 15 Ladies present. Martha Dillard announced that, including the Officer's Club seed money, the Colonel's Ladies had a total of \$15,013 in our savings and checking accounts. We decided to leave the O'Club seed money alone and voted to donate \$8,500 to the Wing for the SB2C Helldiver. This will go a long way to paying for the repair work required after this year's rotation of the aircraft in Midland.

Our main project for 2002 was the raffle quilt.

*Continued on next page*

## Officer's Reports continued

I'm am very happy to report that the quilt was finished in late November and the raffle sales brought in about \$1,500. Jackie Johnson, a co-worker of Col. Bill Campbell, won the raffle drawing that held Saturday evening at the awards dinner. Wing guest WASP Florene Miller Watson drew the winning name.

At the conclusion of the Colonel's Ladies meeting Saturday morning, the election of new officer's was announced. The officer's for 2003 are President: Kathy Mizell; Vice President: Julie Sinclair; Secretary: Martha Dillard. Our next meeting will be held Saturday, February 22 in Midland. That is the weekend of the CAF Winter Staff Conference. The actual time and location will be announced later. Start thinking now of a project we can work on for 2003 to raise funds.

Check out the announcement of awards presented at Flughafen...the Colonel's Ladies were awarded the Kale Webster Memorial Trophy. This is a tremendous honor acknowledging all efforts of Colonel's Ladies

past and present. More information on this award will be coming soon.

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Webmaster

*John Scott*

Squadron PIOs, please remember to send a copy of your updated Unit Officer Roster to me so that the information can be updated on the Wing website.

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Communications Detachment

*Wallace Dillard*

No changes since the last report.



## Re-enlist Today!

Wing Membership forms for 2003 were mailed to all members and Colonel's Ladies in December. If you've lost yours, copies are included in this newsletter.

## Squadron News

### Big Country Squadron

*PIO – Charlie Hanna*

A couple of weeks ago, the Galaxy Social Club at ACU rented our hangar for a "Grub". Don't ask me what a grub is, but it looked like a party. At any rate, there were about 250 in attendance and they were catered by Harold's BBQ. I brought this to your attention for a reason: If the conduct and manners of these students are indicative of the next generation then we are leaving things in good hands. Good group!!

Col Don "Tiny" Malm, during the November meeting, informed the squadron that a Grant for \$45,000. had been received to assist in building the Restoration Hangar at Homeplace. The land has been purchased and now we have a place to put the hangar.

### Welcome

To the newest member of the Big Country Squadron, Colonel Robert Sterling.

### Congratulations

To Col Mark and Lorrie Novak who have a brand new future Colonel. Natalie Nichole was born November 9 and weighted in at 8 pounds, 9 ounces. She is exactly what big brother Nick needs to keep him on his toes.

Congratulations on adding another beautiful baby to the Big Country family!

At the October CAF General Membership meeting, Col Buddy Clark received the Commemorative Air Force "Distinguished Service Medal". This is the highest award given by the CAF for extraordinary, meritorious and exceptional services to the CAF.



## Squadron News continued

### Cactus Squadron

PIO - Doris Richeson

#### **Cactus hangar floor all a-gleam**

Who said it couldn't be done? Not the Cacti, although when Project Officer Jack Cannon brought the paint last summer, it seemed a daunting task, with the necessity of stripping the concrete floor of its oils and stains, and then rolling on the glossy coat of gray paint.

A special paint developed especially for hangars and such, and with highly-extolled virtues, the product came with its admonitions and a necessity for care in handling.

But sure enough, at the squadron meeting on Thursday, November 21st, the floor had been stripped, as Cannon proudly noted, and the surface was ready for paint the next day.

Friday, November 22nd, saw Colonels J.B. Thorne,

J. Duff Pitcock, Jack Cannon and John Scott masked for action and moving those rollers in a brigade across the hangar floor.

Yet the good colonels were critical of their project. Perhaps the floor just didn't have enough paint thereon. Yes, there was considerable amount of paint left.

What to do? Who's got a paint sprayer? A good-sized one? Sure enough, one was found, and the paint crew made another effort.

Colonel J. Duff Pitcock summed it up: "It looks exactly like I hoped it would!"

Ain't it gorgeous? You bet!



### Desert Squadron

PIO - Theresa Halford

#### **FROM THE LEADER**

We have lots to be thankful for this year. We are blessed to have a hangar that is almost complete. We have also completed a new storage building. We have a wonderful group of people. It looks like we may get our ramp paved this coming year.

Our PT has been busy again with flyovers. Charlie flew to Big Lake for their Veterans Celebration. He says that the people of Big Lake are so appreciative. I hope next year we will have several of our squadron members participate.

Again we went to the VFW on the 11th for Veterans Day with Ray's military vehicles. Thanks to all for helping with this.

Our garage sales could have been better, but the weather conditions weren't the best. We are now able to start purchasing our padded chairs. Thank you squadron members for all the help and the donations for it.

#### **COLONEL'S LADIES CORNER**

The Desert Squadron has had a GREAT year this year. We have continued to be successful with our Bingo. We have finished the upstairs great room. We had a great hangar dance. We participated in many flyovers, parades, static displays, and air shows. We hosted Traron Formation School the two days prior to Airsho. We will be hosting the West Texas Wing Flughafen this year. Several of our members were recognized at Airsho 2002. The list could go on and on. We may be small, but we are mighty! With all the individual contributions made from our Squadron we have the greatest group of volunteers.

#### **SICK BAY**

The following members have all had surgery. Our prayers are with each one for a fast recovery. Bill Stepp had hip surgery. Fritz Grauerholz had eye surgery. Lee Bell had knee surgery. Bud Forsman had dental surgery. Roger Hoestenbach had neck/back surgery.

Marge Nelson has a stroke last month and is doing very well.



## Squadron News continued

### West Houston Squadron

PIO - Linda Fountain

#### **Museum News**

*From Don Johnson - WHS Field Collections*

Many have contributed to the development of the Museum since its inception in summer 2001 - Jim Hornung and his construction crew, the Charter Donors who sponsored shelves and cabinets with financial support, Bill Willits in the organization of the initial "Collection" of donated materials and artifacts.

But, starting in February, 2002, it was a dedicated bunch of spirited folks, The Brew Crew, who met weekly and provided labor, donated materials, music and fellowship, to make El Museo what it has become - an interesting little side-jaunt into military aviation history.

The Squadron should recognize the tireless efforts of Steve Sehnert, Gary Hurta, Dieter Klein, Ray & Bernadean Jones, Joe Vaught, Derek Easterling, Sherry Johnson and the Door Guy/ Mechanical Wizard, Bill Roach.

#### **Special Thanks**

West Texas Wing Election Committee Chairmen Pete Hyatt (for Wing Colonels) and Linda Fountain (for Wing Colonel's Ladies) extend special thanks to Steve, one of our newest members, for helping with the mail outs for the Wing election. The three of us got the job done Sunday, November 3, and the ballots were mailed out Monday. Thank you, Steve, for your help and support of this Wing project.

#### **Fiesta in October**

What a fabulous array of food we had at our "Mexican Fiesta". The tasty dishes were provided by Sue Rumel, Joan Klein, Bernadean Jones, Linda Judson, Bill & Janis Roach, Dan Leone, Nell & Dick Harper, Gerri Watts, Jackie & Gale Haskins, Debbie Gierman, Joanne Fore and Linda Fountain. We also send SPECIAL THANKS

to Gary & Joyce Hurta and Wes & Gale Fellows for providing the margarita mixins - THANK YOU!! Our Beverage Babe was Gerri Watts and cleaning up was headed by Bernadean Jones and Gerri Watts. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS.

#### **Creative Concoctions**

And once again in November our West Houston chefs did an outstanding job of feeding the crowd that turned out for the annual election of officers. Our fabulous cooks were Jim Hornung & Theresa Thornton, Joyce & Alan Senior, Linda Fountain, Dieter & Joan Klein, Ray & Bernadean Jones, Joanne Fore, Hugh Alexander and Shirley Hyman. Our "Beverage Babes" for November were Shirley Hyman, Joanne Fore & Nancy Gachman - THANK YOU LADIES! And thanks to Bernadean Jones, Shirley Hyman, Joanne Fore & Joyce Senior who helped clean up and wash up the O'Club.

#### **Aircraft Volunteers**

Back in October, the Squadron AT-6 needed it's annual inspection. It's a lot of work to prepare the aircraft to be inspected. On Wednesday, October 16, Ken Hyman, Dick Harper, Ron Fountain and Mike White got the AT-6 taken down and ready for the inspection. They also removed the rest of the floorboards and the cowlings from the C-60. THANK YOU, COLONELS, FOR YOUR HARD WORK!!



No newsletters were received from Dewline Squadron

# Gone West



## Col Jim Levine

Born and raised in Houston, Jim Levine passed away on December 11, 2002. "Jimsy" was a WWII and Korea veteran, flying as an SBD radioman/gunner off the USS Hancock during WWII. Jimsy was instrumental in the eight-year restoration of the N3N "The Real McCoy" assigned to WHS, and for many years served as Safety Officer for the Squadron.

On December 13 a Missing Man formation was flown in Jim's honor by current and former WHS members Cols Ray Jones, Rich Welsh, Dick Harper and Craig Mueller.

## John Dazio

A former member of the West Texas Wing and West Houston Squadron, John Dazio passed away on October 18. John was a Korean War veteran, and served in the Texas Air National Guard with the 111th Fighter Squadron in a variety of aircraft maintenance roles. John was very active with the first aircraft assigned to WHS, "Draggin' Lady", and also in building and operating "Thunderduck", a kid's plane still used to amuse younger visitors to the hangar. Col's Ray Jones, Dick Harper and Dieter Klein participated in a Missing Man flown for John's funeral.

## Felton Havins

Many Cactus Squadron members remember Felton Havins, a resident of Possum Kingdom Lake and owner of Bryson's Aero-Marine. Havins led a very private life in recent years and had considerable health problems. It was his decision to die as he had lived — very privately. So long, Colonel Havins.

## Eugene Stinson

A former West Texas Wing and West Houston Squadron member, Eugene Stinson passed away in April, 2002.

## More Photos from Flughafen 2002



The ceremonial "passing of the tie"



Nita Zellars accepts the Charlie Day "Colonel of the Year" award



Guest speaker Florine Miller Watson shares some of her experiences as a WASP

## PLANE FACTS

The North American AT-6 / SNJ "Texan"

### Jack of All Trades

The AT-6 "Texan" family of Advanced Trainers first entered service in 1938, and variants continued in military service until recent times. Known as the SNJ to Navy pilots and as the "Harvard" when flown by Commonwealth nations, it was the dominant advanced trainer for Allied nations during WWII. For simplicity, I will refer to all variations as the "AT-6" here (apologies to the SNJ fans out there).

About 16,000 AT-6's were built, and the majority were used as advanced single-engine flight trainers. However, the versatility of the aircraft led to its being given other roles. With fixed .30 caliber machine guns in the wing and cowl, they became gunnery trainers. With a flexible .30 caliber gun in the rear cockpit, they were used to train gunners who would serve in aircraft like the SBD and SB2C. Some Navy SNJs were equipped with tailhooks for carrier landings. AT-6's were used to tow targets, and were used as utility, liaison, and squadron "hack" aircraft.

After WWII the AT-6 soldiered on in US service into the 1950's. Redesignated the T-6 in 1948, in addition to its role as a trainer it saw combat service as a Forward Air Control (FAC) aircraft in Korea. These "Mosquitos" flew low and slow to find and mark targets for the "fast movers".

Other nations converted AT-6's into ground attack aircraft, or expanded their role as trainers. AT-6's continued to be used as trainers in foreign service until the 1980's.

In civilian life, AT-6's found new roles. Probably the most famous of these is as a racer - they have their own class at Reno. But they have also been used as aerial sprayers, aerobatic performers, and of course just general "fun" private aircraft. Several were reborn as Japanese replicas for the movie "Tora Tora Tora", and many of these are still flown today by the CAF Tora Squadron. Even without including the "Tora" birds, the CAF fleet contains more AT-6/SNJ/Harvards than any other single type of aircraft. Continuing the trainer heritage of the AT-6, CAF regulations require significant AT-6 time before any pilot is allowed to transition into a fighter-type aircraft.

The U.S. Air Force has honored the legacy of the AT-6 by designating its single-engine turboprop trainer the T-6 "Texan II". By all accounts this is a fine aircraft and worthy of the "Texan" name; however, it seems unlikely that it will have the endurance of the old "Pilotmaker".



CAF AT-6 "Ace In The Hole" assigned to the West Houston Squadron



SNJ's on the ramp at Wildwood (NJ) NAS

### From the Colonel's Ladies' "Flight Line Favorites" Cookbook

#### Peach Crisp

2 20 oz. cans sliced cling peaches, drained  
 1/4 tsp nutmeg  
 1/4 tsp cinnamon  
 1/2 cup brown sugar  
 1 cup Quaker oats  
 1/3 cup melted butter

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Place peaches in a 7-inch casserole. Sprinkle with nutmeg and cinnamon. Combine brown sugar, oats and butter in bowl, mix until crumbly. Sprinkle over peaches. Bake for 30 minutes. Serve warm or cold with cream or ice cream.  
 Serves 8.

The Flight Line Favorites Cookbook has more than 200 tried and true recipes. The 7x9 inch size makes this 3-ring binder easy to use. Tabs are provided for each category and each tab has a color-photo of a different WWII aircraft. The Flight Line Favorites cookbook is available for \$10. Make check or money order payable to Colonel's Ladies and mail your order to Colonel's Ladies, 7117 Starnes Road, Ft. Worth, TX 76180.



### Colonel's Ladies Quilt Raffle

Well, the quilt raffle is over. The lucky winner is Jackie Johnson, a co-worker of Col Bill Campbell. Congratulations to Jackie, and thanks are owed to Kathy Mizell and the Colonel's Ladies for conducting this fundraiser.



### Wing Staff Conference

Feb. 22 and 23, 2003

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
 4300 West Highway 80  
 Midland, Texas.

**Special Room Rate:** \$45 per night through Feb. 1, 2003. Call (915) 697-3181.

**Discount Air Fare:** Travel dates are Feb. 15 through Feb. 28, 2003, and the I.D. Code is J-9231. To contact Southwest call Southwest Airlines Group and Meetings Reservations at (800) 433-5368.

### Wing Meetings at Winter Staff Conference

#### WTW Staff

Friday, February 21 at 5:00 PM

#### WTW General Membership Meeting

Friday, February 21 at 8:00 PM

*(locations to be posted at the hotel)*

#### WTW Col's Ladies Meeting

Saturday, February 22 at 12:00 noon  
 in the hotel restaurant

## CALENDAR

### WING STAFF CONFERENCE

HOLIDAY INN HOTEL & SUITES  
MIDLAND, TX  
FEBRUARY 21-23, 2003

### WEST HOUSTON SQUADRON OPEN HOUSE

WEST HOUSTON AIRPORT  
HOUSTON, TX  
MAY 17-18, 2003



## ONLINE RESOURCES

CAF MAIN WEBSITE :

[www.commemorativeairforce.org](http://www.commemorativeairforce.org)

CAF MEMBERS WEBSITE :

[www.ghostsquadrone.org](http://www.ghostsquadrone.org)

WEST TEXAS WING WEBSITE :

<http://mywebpage.netscape.com/westtexaswing/Home+Page.htm> (note that the full address must be typed on one line).

SQUADRON WEBSITES :

Cactus: [www.wf.net/~jwscott](http://www.wf.net/~jwscott)

Big Country: [www.bigcountrysquadron.org](http://www.bigcountrysquadron.org)

West Houston: [www.westhoustonssqdn.org](http://www.westhoustonssqdn.org)

SB2C WEBSITE : [www.sb2chelldiver.org](http://www.sb2chelldiver.org)

The 'electronic edition' of the Logbook (Acrobat PDF format) is available at the West Houston Squadron website.

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*Does your squadron have an upcoming event? Or do you know of an event of interest to Wing members? Has your unit website changed? Let the Wing PIO know!*

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We have the enemy surrounded. We are dug in and have overwhelming numbers. But enemy airpower is mauling us badly. We will have to withdraw.

— a Japanese infantry commander, situation report to headquarters, Burma, WW II

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## Squadron Meeting Information

### WEST HOUSTON SQUADRON

Third Sunday of each month @ 2:00 PM, Hangar B-5 at West Houston Airport

Contact : Bob Alford 281-265-2949

### CACTUS SQUADRON

Third Thursday of each month @ 6:30 PM at Cactus Hangar, Graham Municipal Airport

Contact : John Scott 940-549-8410

### DESERT SQUADRON

Third Thursday of each month @ 6:30 PM social hour, 7:00 PM dinner. 8:00 PM meeting, at Desert Squadron Hangar at Schlemeyer Field, Odessa

Contact : Nita Zellars 915-550-9202

### DEW LINE SQUADRON

Date and Location varies monthly

Contact : Tom Nichols Home: (806) 372-9755

Office: (806) 355-9741

### BIG COUNTRY SQUADRON

Second Tuesday of each month @ 7:00 PM, Homeplace Hangar at Elmdale Airport, Abilene

Contact : Jim Dobbs 915-676-1878

## SB2C Schedule

The SB2C is down due to maintenance issues.



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**Dues Notice**

2003 WEST TEXAS WING DUES – due 1 Jan 2003 ..... \$ 30.00

You must be a current CAF regular, life, or Honorary member to be eligible for WTW membership. To be an active, voting member of a West Texas Wing Squadron, you must also be a member of the West Texas Wing.

Tax deductible contributions will be accepted by the West Texas Wing for any specified Commemorative Air Force aircraft or project. If you wish to make a contribution along with your wing dues, please specify the aircraft and/or project along with the amounts(s) and include in your check total.

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_  
Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to the SB2C Helldiver \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_  
Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to the WTW JRB \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_  
Extra copies of the Wing Membership Directory cost \$5.00 each. Send \_\_\_\_\_ copies @ \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to the WEST TEXAS WING- CAF and mail with this form to:

**WEST TEXAS WING  
MARTHA S. DILLARD  
2605 MURRELL DRIVE  
GRAFORD, TX 76449**

**Please fill in ALL INFORMATION** on yourself below: **PLEASE PRINT**

Col \_\_\_\_\_ Serial # \_\_\_\_\_ Life Mbr # \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Off \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email(show CASE sensitive) \_\_\_\_\_

CAF dues expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

CAF Aircraft Sponsored: \_\_\_\_\_

WWII A/C Owned: \_\_\_\_\_

Other A/C Owned: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Wings, Squadrons, & Detachment Memberships: \_\_\_\_\_

Please give name(s) of any WTW Col. that "Went West" during 2002 \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to become an active participant in a WTW Detachment, circle your choice(s):

- |                |                  |                |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Blastards      | Colonel's Ladies | Communications |
| Helldiver Crew | USO Troupe       | JRB Crew       |

Would you like to serve on the WTW Staff? If so, please indicate the job(s) or responsibilities for which you desire:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# New Zealand Communiqué

*The following letter was given to us at AIRSHO 2002, but due to space considerations could not be published in the September/October newsletter. However, it is worth the wait...*

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Col Ron Burr. I am a flying Col with the South Pacific Wing of the Commemorative Air Force N.Z. based at North Shore Airfield, which is situated in a small rural area known as Dairy Flat. The reason for my visit was two fold. One to get a rating on the Beech 18 and secondly, but properly the most important to me to meet fellow CAF members and share the comradeship of the CAF.

And what does the CAF mean to me and why did I join?

It is just over a year ago since that terrible day of Sept 11th. A showing to the world of just what a cowardice act of terrorism can do, but like the attack on Pearl Harbor to which it was likened by many people around the world, it not only united the people of America, it made the sleeping giant more determined to crush the terrorist hub forever.

The CAF serves as a reminder to me of what a determined bunch of dedicated people can do. Keep the planes that defended their nation and also helped the allies defeat the enemies of World War II in pristine flying condition. I myself fly an aeroplane older than me. An SNJT6 or J bird as it was more commonly known among the Navy carrier pilots of WWII. It is painted as a USNM aircraft and carries the registration ZK USM meaning NZ United States Marines. Every time I fly her, I feel proud to be flying a bit of history and displaying a reminder to our NZ folk of how the U.S.A helped us as a nation by defending the Islands of the Pacific from those invasions from the Japanese during WWII.

We recently celebrated the 60th anniversary of the landing of the first batch of U.S.A. servicemen on NZ soil at a small rural town called Warkworth. It was here that they prepared themselves for battle, many to die on foreign soil for our freedom. I was not even born then. It is to these people, or heroes of the world as I call them, that I today owe my peace and freedom as each and every one of you does.

And how do I as a New Zealander see America.

To me I see America and remember the country as this:

In America every day is a new beginning, every sunset is merely the latest milestone on a voyage that never ends, for this is the land that has never become but is always in the act of becoming. Our National Anthem is God Defend NZ.

To you as Americans I say God Bless America, for you are the strength of the world.



**WEST TEXAS WING COLONEL'S LADIES  
DUES FOR 2003 PAYABLE NOW ..... \$10.00**

All Lady Colonels and spouses of WTW Colonels are invited and encouraged to become members of the *West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies Detachment*. The *Colonel's Ladies* organization assists the *West Texas Wing Colonels* in carrying out the aims and goals of the *Commemorative Air Force*. The *Colonel's Ladies* create an environment of enthusiasm, optimism, good will, friendship and cheerfulness among its members and associates to effectively carry out the objectives of the *Commemorative Air Force*.

To be eligible for membership in the *Colonel's Ladies Detachment*, you must be a Colonel in the CAF and a member of the *West Texas Wing*, **OR** be sponsored by a Colonel who is a current member of the *West Texas Wing*. A Colonel may only sponsor one Lady.

Please fill out this form and send to the address below by **FEBRUARY 28, 2003** to be included in the West Texas Wing Directory.

**COLONEL'S LADIES APPLICATION & INFORMATION UPDATE:**  
**PLEASE PRINT**

Date of Application/Renewal (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Are you also a CAF Colonel? Yes No Serial # \_\_\_\_\_ Life# \_\_\_\_\_

No. of years in Col. Ladies \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Office ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Home ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Sponsoring Colonel: \_\_\_\_\_ CAF/SN \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: If you have changed Sponsors for any reason, NOTIFY WING PERSONNEL IMMEDIATELY**

Member of Col. Ladies Squadrons: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to serve as a member of the **COLONEL'S LADIES WING STAFF**, please circle the position(s) you are interested in:

President      **Vice-President**      Secretary      Project Officer      Newsletter      Other

MAIL APPLICATION WITH PAYMENT TO:

**WEST TEXAS WING COLONEL'S LADIES  
MARTHA S. DILLARD  
2605 MURRELL DRIVE  
GRAFORD, TEXAS 76449**



S Sehnert  
19319 Haystream Dr  
Katy, TX 77449

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED