



West Texas Wing

Logbook

Volume 2, Issue 3

May/June 2003

GoFers, Colonel's Ladies and WTW tales...

... Our ladies are all grown up now: be it Colonel, Colonel's Lady...or fighter pilot!

By Doris Richeson - WTW Historian

Filling a distinctly distaff role just didn't seem to fit the West Texas woman's mental image of Confederate Air Force wife or helper, as the energy of these individuals created zeal, vigor, spirit, vivacity...and results!

Jethro Culpeper was the mythical commander of the Confederate Air Force, later to become Commemorative Air Force, and he definitely typified the Colonel who was near all-powerful, but needed good support to get the job done.

The WTW ladies' avowed purpose was "supporting the men," and they went with their men, the *Colonels*, lending a helping hand with whatever the task at hand. But with a little organizational routing they could be more effective collectively than they could individually. They were always going for something for some colonel, or some project, or their special colonel, so originally the WTW ladies were known simply as the *GoFers*.

Perhaps the moniker, GoFers, did not live up to the expectations of the energetic group, and they racked their brains for a name that better represented their group. What to call their organization? Under a mesquite tree at San Angelo's Goodfellow Air Force Base Recreation Camp, someone from Desert Squadron came up with the idea, *Colonel's Ladies*. (Yes, that's where they put the apostrophe, but I always wanted to ask how many ladies one Colonel needs!)

Colonel's Ladies it was - and is to this day. The Colonel's Ladies organization has been a source of funds for nearly every project the CAF has taken on, having raised more than \$50,000 for the WTW's banner project, the SB2C - the only bird of its kind in flying condition - and other causes which typify the CAF's avowed purpose of preserving in flying condition the great birds of World War II.

Must have been one of the Ladies who came up with the idea of wanting to be - not just any Colonel's lady - her particular Colonel's lady, hence the embroideries and name badges which began to spring up, "Mary Smith, Colonel John Smith's Lady." Not every lady was married, however, and with a mischievous streak, some of these ladies came up with a solution: "Mary Hername, Colonel Hisname's Lady."

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Mark Your Calendars

West Texas Wing Staff, Membership &
Colonel's Ladies Meetings - Holiday Inn
Centre, Odessa, Texas
July 25, 2003

Summer Advisory Board - Holiday Inn
Centre, Odessa, Texas
July 25-26, 2003 - see Page 13

DEADLINE for O'Club Hotel Reservations
August 17, 2003 - see Pages 10 & 12

AIRSHO® 2003 - CAF HQ, Midland, TX
September 26-28, 2003

Wings Over Houston® - Ellington Field,
Houston, TX
October 18-19, 2003

Colonel's Ladies History - *continued*

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It was a harmless little hobby that caught on with the ladies: Several of them collected arm patches, wings and shoulder bars from military men from Lt., j.g. to 4-Star General. Some were worn by the ladies, and some were hung in unlikely places like WTW couples' motor homes. This caused a bit of chagrin with some military men, and I remember when someone on the podium gently pointed out that these items should be worn by the military people who had earned them.

"Until we got the gals interested in what we were doing, we were having a hard time getting enough Colonels out to meetings to be able to call it a quorum," stated one WTW Colonel. However, once the *Ladies* got involved, the West Texas Wing rattled with forward motion.

In addition to helping with meeting arrangements and food functions, the ladies ran the BX, which sold mementos, gave out CAF information and answered questions, especially at air shows.

The *Colonel's Ladies* also served food and beverages to air show performers and workers, provided nurses for a first aid tent and sent liaison between the units at the shows.

It's really hot and sweaty up there flying those air shows - and those were many. Air show acts are not flown up there where it's cool and comfy; they're flown at some 500-1,000'. Did anyone ever hear of an air-conditioned warbird? So when those aviators landed back on terra firma, the Colonel's Ladies did indeed look like angels.

Then there were the chili cook-offs and garage sales...anything where the Ladies could raise funds they donated to the CAF itself.

Patsy Edwards was elected leader of the "USO Detachment," sometimes called "USO Troupe," which put on performances featuring everything from "Putting on the Ritz," to hula numbers, to the Andrews Sisters re-enactments. As this group was being formed, there was a need for not only entertainers, but prop hands, choreographers and wardrobe people.

While Van A. Van Wie danced her belly dances ("Put lots of big paper money in there, Colonel!"), the Andrews Sisters re-enactment mimed the songs which entertained the GIs during World War II, and thus entertained air show crowds and other gatherings. Patsy Edwards lined up many an act, and worked hard to procure costumes for whatever the occasion. Vonnie Castle became famous for changing the words of a song to fit place and occasion, including a Tahitian number said to have "rocked the hangar."

The Wing usually had a Christmas party. They regularly needed a Wing meeting and a Colonel's Ladies meeting along about that time. Someone came up with the name *Flughafen*, the German word for hangar, where indeed the event was usually held, combining the above events which were hosted each year by one of WTW's squadrons. The Colonel's Ladies really got into that: They worked on scheduling, furniture arrangements, table decorations, food and entertainment. And thus the event has continued, year after year. The Ladies turned their unbounded energies to introspection and wondered if boundaries really existed.

Maybe it was *time*. After all, women's rights in general had changed, including the right to have credit cards, borrow money without their husbands' approval, etc. So, can you imagine the furor among these hard-working Colonel's Ladies when the CAF in 1979 announced that only colonels would be able to ride in the CAF aircraft. It raised the dander of such active Colonel's Ladies as Panhandle Squadron's Virgie Arnold and Desert Squadron's Marie Pierson, as well as a host of others, who had been going everywhere with their men all along. But women could not be colonels. "Why not?" demanded Marie Pierson. From that day on, the issue knew no rest, and AIRSHO '79 produced a vote that women could become colonels and equal participants in the CAF. And they could ride in CAF aircraft!

Shout it from the rooftops? No, the ladies-become-colonels quietly put the applications out on the flight line - Marie Pierson and Anita Short had made them up - where interested "parties" could pick them up and express interest. The interested "party" would then receive a call-back to receive an invitation to be a guest. These were the steps up the "Colonels" ladder.

As they became Colonels, the ladies joined their men and participated in many of the same projects the men tackled. Even as they did this, the women maintained their Colonel's Ladies organization, and pursued its goal of "supporting their men" with helpful ministrations for personal needs, and undertakings which lined the CAF coffers.

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Colonel's Ladies History - *continued*

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The GoFers had become Colonel's Ladies, with groups within the group, such as USO Troupe, Andrews Sisters Act, etc. However, the Ladies were missing one item of official-dom: a confirmation of the detachment as a unit of the CAF. On April 24, 1989, the CAF's Unit Liaison Officer, Bill Connell, confirmed the WTW's request, and so it was!

Ladies, are you ready for the big time? In true military tradition, the CAF always had an officers' club, which later became the Colonel's O-Club. However, in the CAF's 1991 move from Harlingen to Midland, the CAF left the officers' club behind, and there was no building which could house such at their new West Texas location.

Executive Director Bob Rice found O-Club Chairman Bill Reid, and sparked up the idea of contracting out the O-Club service to local hotels, however, in this undertaking very little money was channeled into CAF coffers, the O-Club's primary purpose, along with colonel support.

Chairman Bill Reid approached Colonel Sharon Short, then Colonel's Ladies president, about the Colonel's Ladies operating the O-Club with a financial arrangement of half profit going to the O-Club and half to the Colonel's Ladies. The first year of operation in the tent realized a 500% increase over previous years in the O-Club account. Graham's Cactus Squadron has operated the O-Club food unit for several years.

The Colonel's Ladies have been of help with every project in which the CAF has participated, and have hosted many reunion groups, entertained the Pearl Harbor Survivors, acted as impromptu hosts of the *Flying Tigers* and more. At AIRSHOW 2003, the ladies are hosting the WASPs and the *484th Bomb Group* reunion, in addition to coordinating a special presentation in the Memorial Garden at CAF Headquarters.

Yes, they can be Colonel's Ladies. They can be Colonels. They can ride in CAF aircraft. And at Flughafen 2002, the Colonel's Ladies organization won the coveted Kale Webster Award, being deemed the most valuable WTW unit of the year.

WRITER'S NOTE: Without good memories and good help, I could not write a history of the West Texas Wing. This month's particular thanks and credits go to Martha Dillard, Anita Short, Sharon Short, and Peggy Webster Wilson, to whom all photo credits are due, as well as comments assimilated from numerous occasions of "hangar flying".

The Colonel's Ladies



The USO Troupe Roasts Howard "Big Daddy" Pardue



Selling
Tickets at
AIRSHO



USO
Troupe
Live On
Stage

Guess The "Mystery" Warbird (Look Close, It MAY Not Be What You Think!)



The answer is ... somewhere else in this newsletter.

Thanks to Col Knox Bishop for suggesting this brainteaser, and for providing the photo and its identification. Please direct any arguments to Knox - the PIO has no idea what the heck this thing is.

Tribute To The DC-3

In fifty-one they tried to ground the noble DC-3
And some lawyers brought the case before the C.A.B.
The board examined all the facts behind their great oak portal
And pronounced these simple words - "The Gooney Bird's
Immortal"

The Army toasts their Sky Train in lousy scotch and soda
The Tommies raise their glasses high to cheer their old Dakota
Some claim the C-47's best, or the gallant R4D
Forget that claim, they're all the same, they're the noble DC-3.

Douglas built the ship to last, but nobody expected
This crazy heap would fly and fly, no matter how they
wrecked it
While nations fall and men retire, and jets go obsolete
The Gooney Bird flies on and on at eleven thousand feet.

No matter what they do to her, the Gooney Bird still flies
One crippled plane was fitted out with one wing half the size
She hunched her shoulders then took off (I know this makes
you laugh)
One wing askew, and yet she flew, the DC-3-and-a-half.

She had her faults, but after all, who's perfect in every sphere?
Her heating system was a gem, we loved her for her gear
Of course the windows leaked a bit when the rain came
pouring down
She'd keep you warm, but in a storm, it's possible you'd
drown.

Well now she flies the feeder lines and carries all the freight
She's just an airborne office, a flying twelve-ton crate
The patched her up with masking tape, with paper clips and
strings
And still she flies, she never dies, Methuselah with wings.

- unknown

The Colonel's O'Club at AIRSHO® 2003

OPEN DAILY
Thursday - Noon
Friday - Sunday : 9AM to Midnight

Bloody Mary
Happy Hour
9AM - 1PM
DAILY!

Margarita
Happy Hour
4PM - 7PM
DAILY!

**Hot Coffee And Free
Popcorn All Day!**

**Sunday Night
Raffles**

Saturday Night Dinner

Served 6:00 - 7:30 PM Catered by *Johnny's Barbecue*
\$10 Per Person

Sunday Night "Survivors Party"

Hosted by the **Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**
Band - Entertainment - Food Starts 6:30 PM

LIVE Entertainment

Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Featuring:
Jerry Dugan and "West Wind"
"Andrews Sisters"
"Cherry Jones Dancers" - USO

Food Booth Open Daily

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, BBQ, Nachos, Ice Cream

**The Colonel's O'Club Welcomes
THE 484th BOMB GROUP
And
WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS
(WASP)**

2003 West Texas Wing Officers

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PROTOCOL (APPOINTED)

Martha Dillard

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 **Ted Short - West Texas Wing Leader**

For those Wing members not aware of the latest developments, The Nimitz Memorial Squadron in Fredericksburg voted to join the West Texas Wing. They consist of about 40 members and based on my many meetings with the group, they are our kind of folks. A little zany and a lot of fun. I look forward to air shows and Flughafen's in Fredericksburg.

Other good news is our SB2C is back from the hospital and in better flying shape than in a long, long time. According to Randy Wilson, it is performing stronger than at any time since he has been flying it. The BEAST made its maiden flight to Sheppard Air Force Base Show on June 14-15 and was a big success. The Bleacher Co. in Graham is proceeding with the wing walk-over ramp and we expect its completion by early July. If you check the schedule on our Web Site, you will see we have an aggressive schedule coming up. If any one is interested in assisting at any of the shows, please contact our Operations Officer, Col Greg Kinnan.

I am planning on having a Work Day for our SNB sometime in July, those having a preference please contact me via E-Mail. We only have about 10% of stripping left to complete that job and we need to start on the interior and panel. When the SNB is returned to service the plan is to have it based in Fredericksburg to support our Squadron and its association with the Nimitz Museum.

Till the next time, keep a check on your six.

Ted



Officer's Reports

Executive Officer - Mark Novak

It's time to start thinking about awards. The award descriptions are included in this issue of the Logbook; the nomination forms will be included in the next issue

Safety Officer - Bill Baley

The web site <http://aviation-safety.net/index.shtml> contains information regarding an enormous amount of aviation matters. It includes FAA accident reports as well as a plethora of other aviation-related material.

Maintenance Officer - J.B. Thorne

The "bird" is in the best shape in a long time. The engine is running very strong, and Randy said it is the best it has ever been. We needs to change the battery out, and then the Beast will be ready for the air shows. Dick Harper checked out in the SB2C on June 30 and did very good - way to go, Dick! The wing walk ladder that is being built should be ready any day now.

Recruitment/Retention Officer - Kathy Mizell

Nothing to report. Am still waiting on local squadron Recruiting and Retention Office assignments.

Personnel Officer/PIO - Steve Sehnert

Unit PIO's - please send me those newsletters and any other Squadron news items which might be of interest to the other members of the Wing.

A supplement for the Wing Directory (which was mailed in April) will be mailed out sometime in late July or early August. I tried to fit it into this issue of the Logbook but there just wasn't room! New members will be receiving a full Wing directory.

Colonel's Ladies President - Kathy Mizell

The Colonel's Ladies will meet in Odessa during the Summery Staff Advisory Conference. Notification of meeting date, time, and place will be sent to each Colonel's Lady.

Announcement:

Lt. Col. Mark Novak has been selected to attend the Naval War College in Newport RI. This yearlong school is a requirement for promotion to Full Colonel (Air Force, that is). Only 22 National Guard personnel nationwide were selected to attend the Air, Army or Navy War Colleges.



Squadron News

WEST HOUSTON SQUADRON

PIO - Linda Fountain

April's "Cool Cuisine" Buffet A Real Treat!!

The array of dishes provided by our fantastic Squadron cooks did please the hungry crowd! Our April cooks were Bob & Elizabeth Alford, Fred & Libby Helfrich, Linda Fountain, Ray & Bernadean Jones, Nell & Dick Harper, Shirley Hyman, Dan Leone and George Ross. We'd also like to thank whoever brought the 3 bowls of fruit salad, but they didn't sign the donation sheet. Buffet set up was done by Bernadean Jones, Elizabeth Alford and Linda Fountain. April's "Beverage Babes" were Debbie Gierman and Bernadean Jones. Our *SPECIAL THANKS* go to the clean up crew of Debbie Gierman, Nell Harper, Shirley Hyman and Bernadean Jones. *THANK YOU ALL!!*

WHS PX And "Crew" Attend Nacogdoches Airshow

Gary Hurta - WHS PX Officer

The PX Trailer trundled up to Nacogdoches, Texas, to participate in the local airshow the weekend of April 25 & 26. The "G" forces necessary to move the trailer were provided by Don Johnson and his shiny green SUV with the support of able bodied salesmen Bill Baley, Steve Holman and Joyce and Gary Hurta, all in hot pursuit. This was all done under the watchful eye of Ron Fountain and Tom Reinert who were flying "CAP" in the AT-6. The receipts from the PX sales were a little less than expected, but WHS was well represented, we all had a great time and will be able to provide a few tanks of petrol for our aircraft as needed.

The folks in Nacogdoches do a terrific job with this airshow and have a great venue for its presentation. For those of you who have not been there, the airport is on the outskirts of town, nestled in the piney woods, providing for a very nice setting to let the "Big Iron Boys" do their stuff. This is a recommended trip!

The CAP Visits the CAF

On May 3 and 4, CAP cadets from area detachments visited the West Houston Squadron as part of their training. They were given a short history of the CAF and its mission, and got to spend some time examining our aircraft and talking to some of our pilots. The visit was organized by Steve Holman, and he was assisted by Steve Sehnert, Dick Harper, George Watts, Ron Fountain and Mike White.

May 10th Hangar Sweep And Swab

Steve Sehnert - WHS Adjutant

A successful event in preparation for the Open House! Attending and manning the mops were Steve Holman, Dick Harper, Tony Lupo, Ryan Fairfield, soon-to-be-new-member Tom Lucas, Brigitte Howells, Bill Willits, Bob Merklein, Ken Hyman, Steve Sehnert, Ole Nygren, Frank Stokes, Ron Fountain, Takeshi Katakura, Joe Vaught, and Ray & Bernadean Jones.

The *Stinson* got some intensive-care treatment from Dennis Mark, Wes Fellows, Bob Alford and Bill Roach. Aircraft and display clean-up was left to Ed Vesely, Rich Welsh and Dan Leone. *SPECIAL THANKS* to BERNADEAN "Den Mother" JONES for feeding the crew!

This was a great show of support from Squadron members – *THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HARD WORK!!*

Successful Open House May 17-18

Bob Alford - WHS Sqdn Leader

I want to thank all members that helped with our recent Open House. The numbers are in and it was successful! Attendance was down by half from last year, but through the efforts of some members, sponsors, supporter and company donations were solicited allowing our costs to be almost nothing. Most companies that donated indicated that they would do so again. Again I can't thank those that helped enough; it was a good Open House.

Museum Open House Report

Don Johnson - WHS Field Collections

El Museo thanks the following for serving as Monitors at the Open House: Derek Easterling, Joe Vaught, Nell Harper, Chuck Gruby, George Watts, Frank Stokes, Mary Nygren, Sherry Johnson, Libby Helfrich, Barbara O'Donnell and Bob Merklein. Accolades to *Herr Oberst* Dieter Klein for donating the *SB2C* painting to the *Museo* raffle and, in turn, Bill Baley for being high bidder at \$125 and donating the "Beast" (OK, just the artist's version) to the *Museo* to be put on display.

WEST HOUSTON SQUADRON - continued**"PX" Open House Report***Gary Hurta - WHS PX Officer*

As WHS PX Officer, I want to thank all the volunteers that worked in the PX during the past Squadron Open House event. With the number of people who volunteered, we were able to schedule shifts for both Saturday and Sunday to assure that the PX had adequate coverage. No one had to get in a hurry or work too hard. Why, things were at such a leisurely pace that ace salesman George Ross was able to sell one of the four special chairs that the PX supplied for the *exclusive* use of the PX volunteers. (Way-ta-go-George; now I've got to find another one!) Those who volunteered were: Steve Holman, Nell Harper, Brigitte Howells, Joe Vaught, Derek Easterling, George Watts, Gerri Watts, Nancy Gachman, Birgitta Shook, Sherry Johnson, Linda Fountain and George Ross. Thank you all again!

Photos from the Fly-In...

The lunchtime crowd inside the hangar



Lone Star Flight Museum's beautiful Spitfire

BIG COUNTRY SQUADRON*PIO - Charlie Hanna***Nimitz Memorial Squadron Visits Big Country Squadron**

On April 26, nine members of the Nimitz Memorial Squadron traveled from Fredericksberg to Abilene to meet with representatives of the Wing and examine the SNB.

Scouts visit Homeplace Hangar

On May 17, a group of Scouts visited the Big County Squadron hangar. Lending some excitement to the event, Col David Duncan made a successful emergency landing in a wheat field after an in-flight engine failure.

DEW LINE SQUADRON*PIO - Paul Easterday***2003 Fly-In**

The 2003 DewLine Fly-In has come and gone. When you discount the change in the weather, our Fly-In was a success. The crowds seemed to enjoy the planes. The sponsors appeared to have a great time. The Survivor's Party was a great deal of fun for everyone. Thanks to all the Colonels and their family members that helped make this year's Fly-In a success. We must also give a special thanks to the DewLine Darlin's for all they did to help out. Last we should thank the Civil Air Patrol Cadets for all their help. If you get a chance stop by our sponsors and thank them for all they did. That show of appreciation won't hurt us next year when we ask for their support again. A big thanks for a successful auction and great entertainment, has to go to Col. Glenn Larson, and his intrepid band of hardy bidders. You know there is going to be fun and excitement when you have bidders, bidding not only against all other, but also trying to beat their own last bid. A word to the wise next year, be wary of those flying arms, nodding heads, and especially the mighty twitch of those long ears when it comes to bidding. And if you can't beat them bidding, then you can always stand up and glare at your adversary and out bid them by a nickle or dime at a time. That way you can always check to see if the fearless auctioneer can stay up with the action. Glenn you did a good job. A special thanks to 'Future Col.' Ruth 'Ms. Speed Bidder' Morey, Col. Ted 'Col. Rabbit' Short, Col. Ron 'Stare them down' Fountain, Col. Greg 'I'm going to Hawaii' Hiser, and Col. Bill 'Hurry I am running out of Hundreds' Baley, not only for their

DEWLINE SQUADRON - continued

generous donations, but for the fun they each generated. Don't worry, next year we will be keeping a closer eye on Col. Ted 'Now you know why I only party once a year' Sanchez, the way he holds up the items, and his trips for that orange tasting drink he was enjoying.

Special Thank You

A special thank you to Col. Ted Sanchez. Ted worked very hard this year in getting sponsors for the Fly-In. He has done an outstanding job for the Squadron.

Photos from the Fly-In...

West Houston's AT-6 made the trip to Amarillo



Col Ted Short's L-6



Former Wing Leader Ron Fountain admires current Wing Leader Ted Short's new hat



DewLine's L-5

CACTUS SQUADRON

PIO - Doris Richeson

AIRSHO 2003 : Cooking Unit to the Fore!

The schedule changed so the Canadian Forces *Snowbirds* could fly at the show; now it is Saturday, September 28th and Sunday, September 29th, with the Cactus cooking unit scheduled for noon Thursday September 26th through Sunday, September 29. Colonel John wants you!

Flughafen 2003 is coming to Graham, TX

It's Friday, December 5th and Saturday, December 6th at the fabulous new *Senior Citizens Center* in Graham. This is a superb facility, and recently provided a "really cool" location for the Graham High School prom.

In Memoriam: Michael Reed

We are advised that Michael Reed, son of former member W. G. "Dub" Reed and Betty Reed, has died after a long illness.

His parents have watched a long vigil over him as he has gone on to eternal rest. Condolences to the Reed family.

No reports were received from the Desert Squadron

Gone West



Bobby Ruth Pitcock

"I don't want to get old." This was Bobby Ruth's personal philosophy, in a lifetime filled with savoring the experiences the world had to offer. And Bobby Ruth lived her life with zest, even to the final days when she either did not know how ill she was, or pretended not to know.

Bobby Ruth Crawford Pitcock was born in Decatur, Texas to Henry and Agnes Crawford, and married J.Duff Pitcock of Graham when she was just eighteen years of age, helping her WWII veteran husband through Texas A&M, and later in his Pitcock Ready-Mix Company, as well as oil and ranching interests the couple shared with family members.

A member of Graham's First United Methodist Church, Bobby Ruth lent a helping hand wherever it was needed, and taught the High Questors Sunday School Class as recently as May 11th, just 12 days prior to her death on May 23rd. She was also active in the Graham Hospital Auxiliary. For many years, Bobby Ruth kept the Study Hall at Graham High School, counseling the "difficult" kids and serving out high praise for those who kept their lives on track.

For some years, Bobby Ruth followed her husband to the Commemorative Air Force functions, and then became CAF Colonel Bobby Ruth Pitcock; as such, she took on many active roles and projects, including PX Officer for the West Texas Wing.

Bobby Ruth and J.Duff had two sons, J.Duff, Jr. (Randy), of Cleburne, and Bob, of Graham, and four grandchildren. Bobby Ruth Crawford Pitcock was a cousin of Colonel Ollie Crawford, who was on CAF Headquarters Staff.

Thanks to Doris Richeson and Pete Hyatt for providing detailed biography information about Bobby Ruth and Bill

Leo Lob

A West Houston Squadron member and former Corsair pilot with at least five confirmed victories over kamikaze fliers in the Pacific, Leo passed away in early June.

Bill Stuessy

William B. (Bill) Stuessy was born September 11, 1941 in Houston, Texas. Bill worked for Brown and Root for over 20 years, becoming Chief Accountant and Treasurer of BARDI (a B & R subsidiary). He eventually retired as Chairman of the Board, President and CEO of Techniflo, Inc.

Bill had a lifelong fascination with aviation and was a life member of the CAF and of the American Airpower Heritage Museum (AAHM). He had served as the West Houston Squadron Finance Officer and Leader and Finance Officer of the West Texas Wing. He had also served on the Wings Over Houston Air Show Executive Committee and as the show's finance officer. Bill was tireless in his volunteer efforts for the CAF. He was a major financial supporter of the CAF/AAHM and of the "Save the Girls" Nose Art Campaign. Bill was a Double Diamond supporter of the SB2C, and was at the front of the line whenever a new support level was announced. He worked in the O'Club at AIRSHO every year, and manned the cook tent at every West Houston Squadron open house. Bill was also very excited about his involvement with Honor Squadrons International, a PBS High-Definition television project currently in the early stages of production for release in 2006. He was an active member of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) and the T-34 Association, and was also a member of the Lone Star Flight Museum.

A five-ship Missing Man flyover at his funeral service was flown by: Ray Jones, Wes Fellows (T-34); Harold Wilson (T-34); Rich Welsh, Bill Baley (BT-13); Dick Harper, Alan Senior (AT-6); and Scott Rozzell, Charles Szalkowski (AT-6).

Funds are being collected for a bench in Bill's memory in the Memorial Garden at CAF HQ. Contact Linda Fountain for more information.

CALENDAR

WEST TEXAS WING MEETINGS
ODESSA HOLIDAY INN CENTRE
ODESSA, TX
JULY 25, 2003

CAF SUMMER ADVISORY BOARD
ODESSA HOLIDAY INN CENTRE
ODESSA, TX
JULY 25-26, 2003

CAF AIRSHO® 2003
CAF HQ
MIDLAND, TX
SEPT. 26-28, 2003



ONLINE RESOURCES

CAF MAIN WEBSITE :
www.commemorativeairforce.org

CAF MEMBERS WEBSITE :
www.ghostsquadron.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

Big Country: www.bigcountrysquadron.org

West Houston: www.westhoustonsgdn.org

SB2C WEBSITE : www.sb2chelldiver.org

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

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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SB2C Schedule

See Back Cover

Hitler built a fortress around Europe, but he forgot to put a roof on it. *- Franklin D. Roosevelt*

Mystery Warbird *from page 4* - Curtiss XP-46A
Although begun in 1939 as a successor to the P-40 (using the more powerful Allison V-1710-39 engine), the XP-46 didn't fly until 1941. It was not successful, but its powerplant was adopted for the P-40 D & E models.

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

NIMITZ MEMORIAL SQUADRON

SB2C Memorial Fund Established

From WTW Wing Leader Ted Short

We have established a SB2C Memorial Fund for those wishing to donate to a charity in remembrance of members Gone West. You may make your donations to this fund and remit to Wing Finance Officer Martha Dillard. She will see that it is properly recognized both by the Wing and Headquarters in Contrails.

O'Club Volunteers - Read This NOW!

Hotel space for Airsho this year will be VERY limited. And there have been new procedures for passes put into place.

SEND IN YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION FORM BY AUGUST 15, 2003

Armband and Car Pass requests had to be received by **July 1, 2003** - too late now. In order to get your hotel reservations in the O'Club block, your request must be received by **August 15, 2003**.

Send the completed form included in this Logbook to Sharon Short (WHS members - send it to Linda Fountain).

If you miss these deadlines, neither Sharon nor Linda can help you.

GUIDELINES FOR WEST TEXAS WING AWARDS

Approved by the WEST TEXAS WING Staff - September 1992

KALE WEBSTER MEMORIAL TROPHY: To the Squadron or Detachment that most exemplifies the qualities desired in a CAF Unit and has worked diligently toward helping the WING in achieving and sustaining the goals of the CAF. Work may be in the fields of Aircraft Restoration, Aircraft Maintenance, Museum Construction or support, direct support of CAF Headquarters, Hangar Construction, Airshows and Displays, or any other outstanding effort(s) in support of the CAF.

CHARLIE DAY COLONEL OF THE YEAR : To the WING Colonel(s) who has consistently performed work to help the WING meet it's commitments to the CAF goals and objectives. Usually means that the individual(s) has provided support to a broad spectrum of airshows and other events throughout the WING and National areas and has given consistently and freely of his/her time and talents toward achieving and sustaining the goals and objectives of the CAF.

JACK GAULDING AIRMAN OF THE YEAR : To the WING Colonel who most exemplifies the qualities desired and required of CAF pilots or Maintenance/Restoration personnel. CAF pilots will have given freely of their time in flying one or more CAF aircraft to/from and at multiple airshows in accomplishing the CAF objective of displaying our aircraft to the Nation. All flight must have been accomplished in a safe and accident free manner. Maintenance/Restoration personnel will have given freely of their time and talents in maintaining and restoring CAF aircraft in a manner that brings credit upon the CAF by all that view their work.

JAKE MILLER LEADERSHIP AWARD: To the WING Colonel (not necessarily annually) who has proved leadership and guidance to the WING, Squadrons and Detachments. He/she will have given freely of his/her time and talents in helping to guide and direct the efforts of the WING toward better achieving the harmonious activities of the WING in support of the CAF.

COLONEL'S LADY OF THE YEAR : Annually to the member of the WING COLONEL'S LADIES that exemplifies all those qualities desired in a female member of the WING support crew. She is always there helping with whatever chores may be necessary in accomplishing the work of the WING. She is truly an asset to the WING and CAF.

C. L. "CASEY" KAY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD: To the WING Colonel (not necessarily annually) who most exemplifies the qualities of a CAF Colonel. He/she is involved very deeply in the support of all CAF functions at all levels. He/she is also involved in community service to his/her hometown, county, state and Nation. This person is truly a leader of leaders that is admired by all who know him/her.

SPECIAL AWARDS: To WING Colonels for special acts deserving of recognition as CAF Colonels in performance of CAF duties. Each recommendation will be considered on its own merits.

"E" AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE is based on the "E" Awards of Excellence established in WWII. It has previously been awarded to Ezell Aviation Company for the SB2C "Helldiver" restoration. That example should be used for guidance in any future award of this type.

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION may be awarded for all occasions that merit WING recognition of individuals for work or efforts in support of the WING and CAF.

WEST TEXAS WING COLONEL'S LADIES AWARDS

Approved by the West Texas Wing Staff and Wing Colonel's Ladies Staff July 1999

GLENDAMPBELL LEADERSHIP AWARD: The name of the award was chosen to honor the first President of the West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies. To be presented to the Colonel's Lady (not necessarily annually) who has proved her leadership and guidance to the West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies and/or to a Squadron Colonel's Ladies Detachment. She will have given freely of her time and talents in helping to guide and direct the efforts of the West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies toward better achieving the harmonious activities of the West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies in support of the West Texas Wing, West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies and the Commemorative Air Force.

SHARON SHORT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: The name of the award was chosen to honor the many achievements made by Sharon Short in organizing the operation of the Officers' Club for the benefit of the Colonel's Ladies and West Texas Wing. To be presented to the Colonel's Lady OR Colonel's Ladies Squadron Detachment (not necessarily annually) that most exemplifies the qualities desired in a West Texas Wing Colonel's Lady OR Colonel's Ladies Squadron Detachment that has worked diligently toward helping the West Texas Wing and Colonel's Ladies in achieving and sustaining the goals of the West Texas Wing, West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies and Commemorative Air Force. Work may be in the fields of Aircraft Restoration, Aircraft Maintenance, Museum Construction, Hangar Construction, Airshows, Fly-Ins and Displays, or any other outstanding effort(s) in support of the West Texas Wing, West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies, Colonel's Ladies Squadron Detachment, West Texas Wing Squadron and Commemorative Air Force.

MARTHA DILLARD DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD: The name of the award was chosen to honor Martha's many years of dedicated service to the West Texas Wing, Colonel's Ladies and CAF. To be presented to the Colonel's Lady (not necessarily annually) who most exemplifies the qualities of a West Texas Wing Colonel's Lady. She is involved very deeply in the support of all West Texas Wing, West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies, West Texas Wing Squadron and CAF functions at all levels. She will have given freely of her time and talents in promoting the objectives of the West Texas Wing and Colonel's Ladies.

O'Club Volunteer Reservations

This year we have (2) two hotels willing to give us good rates. The Parkway Inn and the Day's Inn are next door to each other. We have used both hotels in the past so most of you are familiar with them.

- **Fill in the requested information completely.**
- **Fill out the form *completely* and *correctly* and return to Sharon Short (West Houston Sqdn - send to Linda Fountain).**
- **If the form is not completed or correct, it will be thrown away and you will not receive a room!**
- **If you have to cancel, you must give Sharon 72-hour notice or you will be charged for the full original reservation.**

IMPORTANT DATA – ALL BLANKS MUST BE COMPLETED

Name					
Address					
City		St		Zip	
Telephone	()				
Arrival Date		Departure Date			
Number Arm Bands		Number Car Passes			

SELECT ONE:

	PARKWAY INN/ ODESSA - \$36.00/night (not per person)
	DAY'S INN/ODESSA - \$42.00/night (not per person)

SELECT ROOM TYPE:

King (1 bed)		Smoking		Non-Smoking	
Queen (1 bed)		Smoking		Non-Smoking	
Queen (2 beds)		Smoking		Non-Smoking	

DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2003 FOR ARMBAND AND CAR PASSES HAS PASSED

FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO SHARON SHORT NO LATER THAN AUGUST 15, 2003

West Houston Squadron Members
Send your forms to Linda
Fountain, not to Sharon. The same
deadlines apply!

**Sharon Short
7117 Starnes Road
Fort Worth, TX 76180
(817) 656-5052 Home Phone and FAX**

IMPORTANT - HOTEL ROOM CANCELLATIONS

If you wish to cancel your reservations, you must do so **72 hours prior to the scheduled arrival date** or you will be billed for all days reserved!

Remember that Airsho is in September this year - Friday, Sept. 26 - Sunday, Sept. 28!

The Red Baron does his sortie on December 5th and 6th ...

The Baron's gathering: FLUGHAFEN 2003!

The Red Baron flew over the Cactus Squadron and sighted as his target every member of the West Texas Wing for Flughafen 2003. Baron John Scott promises essen, trinken and fun, and invites you to his Grand Welcome Party - any time after 4 p.m. - on Friday, December 5th. He will be serving snack foods and beverages at the Cactus Squadron hangar, Graham Municipal Airport.

Guten nacht! Lodging will be at Gateway Inn (940-549-0222), and Rodeway Inn (940-549-8320); Cacti will have several lodging availabilities at members' homes, on a first-ask, first-serve basis. In most cases, the Baron's breakfast will be part of your stay.

Saturday noon, December 6th, Red Baron's cohorts will attempt to fill all attendees with enough wurst and mittagessen to last at least until dinner time.

Then Baron Scott will turn things over to WTW Leader Ted Short, and Colonel's Ladies President Kathy Mizell to give their crews appropriate briefings.

Come 6 p.m., the Baron will open the doors on Graham's beautiful new Senior Citizens' Center, 1000 First Street, for sipping and mingling. Dinner will be prepared by the Baron's henchmen, Tillman, Tillman & Tillman, after which there will be an awards ceremony and silent auction.

HOUSING: Cactus Gasthausen: jcannon@wf.net;

Gateway Inn 940 549-0222: Single \$46.33/41.81, Queen \$51.98/47.46, King or 2 beds \$54.24/51.98 prices are without/with AARP

Rodeway Inn 940-549-8320: Single \$46.33, King or 2 beds \$50.85

Rodeway has no AARP discounts. All prices include 13% tax.

Be sure to specify smoking preference; state "Cactus Squadron."

REGISTRATION: \$30 per person until November 15 (\$50 late registration). Make checks out to "Cactus Squadron"

Name _____ Colonel # _____

Address: City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Any special needs? _____

Number of persons _____ x \$30.00* per person = _____

*prior to November 15th

CAF Summer Advisory Board

When: July 25-26, 2003

Where: Holiday Inn Centre, Odessa, Texas

Registration Fee: \$40, includes Friday night dinner and Saturday lunch

The Holiday Inn has reserved a block of rooms for CAF members at a special rate of \$55 per night. Reservations must be made before July 11, 2003, to take advantage of these rates. For reservations, call (432) 362-2311.

Members flying to Midland on Southwest Airlines for the conference can receive a 10 percent discount on most of their already low fares by calling Southwest Airlines Group and Meetings Reservations at (800) 433-5368, reference ID Code S0146.

Wing Staff, General Membership and Colonel's Ladies meeting will also be held on Friday night. The Staff meeting will be held around 5 PM, with the General Membership meeting to follow. Exact times and locations will be posted in the lobby.

O'Club Volunteer Reservation Status as of June 16

PARKWAY INN - ODESSA (915) 332-4224

MONDAY SEPT. 22	TUESDAY SEPT. 23	WEDNESDAY SEPT. 24	THURSDAY SEPT. 25	FRIDAY SEPT. 26	SATURDAY SEPT. 27	SUNDAY SEPT. 28	TYPE OF ROOM
Ted Short	Ted Short	Ted Short	Ted Short	Ted Short	Ted Short	Ted Short	K/NS
	(WASP)		John Scott	John Scott	John Scott		K/NS
			Eleanor Gunderson	Eleanor Gunderson	Eleanor Gunderson		D/NS
			Laura Babineaux	Laura Babineaux	Laura Babineaux	Laura Babineaux	K/SM
				Bill Master	Bill Master	Bill Master	K/NS
		Kathy Mizell	Kathy Mizell	Kathy Mizell	Kathy Mizell	Kathy Mizell	D/SM
				John Mizell	John Mizell		K/NS
				Ben Mizell	Ben Mizell		K/NS
				Mark Novak	Mark Novak	Mark Novak	K/NS
				Bob Province	Bob Province	Bob Province	D/NS
				Gary Province	Gary Province	Gary Province	K/NS
		Wallace Dillard	Wallace Dillard	Wallace Dillard	Wallace Dillard	Wallace Dillard	K/SM downstairs
			Nancy Johnson	Nancy Johnson	Nancy Johnson	Nancy Johnson	S/SM downstairs
				Bruce Bradford	Bruce Bradford	Bruce Bradford	Q/SM
				Wayne Arnold	Wayne Arnold	Wayne Arnold	K/SM
		Al Lintz	Al Lintz	Al Lintz	Al Lintz	Al Lintz	K/SM
		Joe DeCosta	Joe DeCosta	Joe DeCosta	Joe DeCosta	Joe DeCosta	K/SM
			Richard Prideaux	Richard Prideaux	Richard Prideaux	Richard Prideaux	K/NS
	(WASP)		Madge Moore	Madge Moore	Madge Moore		D/NS
	(WASP)		Dorothy Lucas	Dorothy Lucas	Dorothy Lucas		D/NS
				Harold Patterson	Harold Patterson		K/NS
				Phil Taylor	Phil Taylor		K/NS

DAYS INN - ODESSA (432) 335-8000

MONDAY SEPT. 22	TUESDAY SEPT. 23	WEDNESDAY SEPT. 24	THURSDAY SEPT. 25	FRIDAY SEPT. 26	SATURDAY SEPT. 27	SUNDAY SEPT. 28	TYPE OF ROOM
		Jack Cannon	Jack Cannon	Jack Cannon	Jack Cannon	Jack Cannon	K/NS
				Greg Kinnan	Greg Kinnan	Greg Kinnan	K/SM
			Cheryl Mogg	Cheryl Mogg	Cheryl Mogg	Cheryl Mogg	D/NS
				Roy Armstrong	Roy Armstrong	Roy Armstrong	D/NS
			Pat Cernosek	Pat Cernosek	Pat Cernosek	Pat Cernosek	K/NS
			Sue Wylen	Sue Wylen	Sue Wylen	Sue Wylen	K/NS
			J. Duff Pitcock	J. Duff Pitcock	J. Duff Pitcock	J. Duff Pitcock	K/NS refridg.
Bill Baley	Bill Baley	Bill Baley	Bill Baley	Bill Baley	Bill Baley	Bill Baley	K/NS
			Hugh Alexander	Hugh Alexander	Hugh Alexander	Hugh Alexander	D/SM
			Dick Harper	Dick Harper	Dick Harper	Dick Harper	D/NS
			Linda Fountain	Linda Fountain	Linda Fountain	Linda Fountain	D/SM
			Sue Rumel	Sue Rumel	Sue Rumel	Sue Rumel	D/SM
			Troylene Magee	Troylene Magee	Troylene Magee	Troylene Magee	D/SM
			Mike White	Mike White	Mike White	Mike White	D/NS
				Ron Fountain	Ron Fountain		K/SM
				Steve Sehnert	Steve Sehnert	Steve Sehnert	D/NS
			Mark Allen	Mark Allen	Mark Allen	Mark Allen	K/NS
				Matt Gallien	Matt Gallien		K/NS
				Joe Vaught	Joe Vaught		K/NS
				Rich Welsh	Rich Welsh		K/NS
			Thomas Reinert	Thomas Reinert	Thomas Reinert		D/SM
			Frank Stokes	Frank Stokes	Frank Stokes	Frank Stokes	K/SM
				Steve Holman	Steve Holman	Steve Holman	K/NS
				Bill Roach	Bill Roach		K/NS
			John Hess	John Hess	John Hess	John Hess	K/NS
			Ken Hyman	Ken Hyman	Ken Hyman	Ken Hyman	D/NS
			Doris Richeson	Doris Richeson	Doris Richeson		K/NS
				John Webb	John Webb	John Webb	K/SM

K=King	Q=Queen
D=Double	S=Single
NS=Non-Smoking	
SM=Smoking	



SB2C Schedule

Event	Location	Date	Status
Terre Haute Air Fair	Terre Haute, IN	July 12-13	CONFIRMED
Dayton Air Show	Dayton, OH	July 17-20	CONFIRMED
EAA Airventure	Oshkosh, WI	Aug. 3-8	CONFIRMED
Yankee Air Museum	Detroit, MI	Aug. 8-10	CONFIRMED
Dyess AFB Open House	Abilene, TX	Aug. 16	CONFIRMED
Indianapolis Air Show	Indianapolis, IN	Sept. 7-8	CONFIRMED
CAF AIRSHO® 2003	Midland, TX	Sept. 27-28	CONFIRMED
Wings Over Houston®	Houston, TX	Oct. 18-19	CONFIRMED
N'Awlins Airshow	New Orleans, LA	Nov. 1-2	Tentative