



Logbook

West Texas Wing

Volume 2, Issue 5

September/October 2003

West Texas Wing at work and play

Today is yesterday's tomorrow ... and good times remembered!

By Doris Richeson, WTW Historian

The round engines roared, and the air buzzed with sortie after sortie in a sort of "dress rehearsal" for the main event - Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28. Then things got around to the real thing: It was AIRSHO 2003, starring both "old" and "new." As usual, there was the re-enactment of the air battles of World War II, with the Blastards providing pyrotechnics that touched reality. The Marshallers were there keeping order. The Canadian Snowbirds screamed their jets overhead, and a duo of pilots' special performance matched a jet's speed to a WWII bomber's lumbering gait. Guests were the 484th Bomb Group and the Wasps. Old friends slated their own reunions and rememberings of many good times, in which they could look around and see things different, things same, and things just as they'd always been, save when you remembered the air shows of yore that used to aim their approaches to landing between the palm trees!

It was time to savor the good times, again and again; of this substance many yarns were spun.

"Do you remember Wylie the Coyote?" Someone in WTW not only dreamed up the original Wylie, but made up a stuffed aviator coyote who appeared frequently in cockpits and acquired wife Wylene and a slew of babies, all of whom spawned money! Any time Wylie, who came up "for sale" again and again, or when other family members came up for sale, mega-bucks were pledged toward their ownership. Will Wylie be reincarnated? Will Wylene rise again? Have the babies grown up, or are they just out there on shelves collecting dust?

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2003 O'Club Another Success - Thanks to You!

We want to extend our SPECIAL THANKS to all of our Colonel's Ladies and Colonel's of the West Texas Wing, Guests, and Volunteers in the Colonel's O'Club during AIRSHO '2003.

Your dedication and support to the Colonel's O'Club was outstanding. Hope to see you all next year and with your support this may be our last year in a tent.

Again, Thanks.

Ted & Sharon Short

Colonel's O' Club Committee



The Cactus Cookers fire up the grill at the Breckenridge Airshow, date unknown
(photo courtesy Doris Richeson)

Mark Your Calendars

Flughafen 2003 - Graham, TX
December 5-6, 2003

*Reservations Due **Nov. 15th** (late fee applies after this date)*

WTW Award Nomination Deadline
November 20, 2003

WTW at work & play - *continued*

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The annual West Texas Wing meeting-gathering-party - monikered *Flughafen* - is held every year, more or less on Pearl Harbor anniversary, and has always been an event of considerable awarding and roasting. Besides, where else could you do so much hangar flying, even if the weather is *awful*? (And its celebration is coming upon us again real soon - December 5th and 6th.)

Hijinks took on many faces: The 1990 Flughafen was hosted by West Houston Squadron, and "Adolf" demonstrated his quasi-German skills as he worked up a game plan for Phantom Squadron attendees:

Achtung! Achtung! Achtung! Der reminder from der Phantom Squadron-Staffel for der Amerikaner Colonels und der colonel's frauleins vhat vish to attenden der Flughafen 1990 en der Houston, Texas 12-8-90 and 12-9-90.

Friday 12-7-90

Der bus-trucken vill departen Houston at 1300 (1 pm) unt eta en der Abilene eis 18:30 (6:30 pm) if ve usen der same naviguessor-stein unt he still has der map.

Der colonel's frauleins vill have, for der modest outlay of der Deutchmarks (for Amerikaner colonels ve vill taken der bucks), der food for to stuffen der gut, der brew to stuffen der bladder, der set-ups for der BYOB bunch (who nein drinken der good stuff) un der soft drinks for der sober.

These were the days when Graham's Cactus Squadron engaged in mass migrations: Besides Wings Over Houston, there was the annual bivouac on South Padre Island when Harlingen Headquarters' annual air shows - sometimes over half Cactus' members attended, Reno Air Races and certainly not least, The Breckenridge Air Show. Then there were tours to museums, control towers, aircraft factories, air force bases and more!

Along about this time, Colonel Bob Edwards actually got an interview with the usually-terse Howard Pardue. Pardue was for many years Mr. Breckenridge Air Show, and said of the West Texas Wing, "The West Texas Wing is the greatest group in the CAF. They have had superb leadership since the founding." This statement even though the Breckenridge Big Iron Squadron did a little different thing from the rest of the squadrons.

On flying, Pardue said in the 1990 interview, "I do enjoy other things except flying, but not as much!" Of his most disastrous loss, Pardue, who lost 18-year-old daughter Kimberly in a plane crash, is taciturn indeed, but of other tragedies, "I have lost so many friends during the 34 years I have been flying that I am very callused toward death." Pardue estimated going to some 25 air shows a year, and thus had the ability to ask for reciprocation from his friends when it was Breckenridge Air Show time. In his Naval Air Corps and Marine Corps Reserve flying, Pardue flew round engines, but most of his hours were in jet aircraft. Wildcat, Bearcat, Corsair and more, Pardue has done aerobatics for air show after air show, and was a pilot of the SB2C on its first day of flight after its restoration, completed in 1988.

Big Country Chieftain Bill Masters was one of the founding fathers of the West Texas Wing, and helped combine the Big Country Squadron, the Desert Squadron and Fort Concho Squadron to form the nucleus of the Wing. Masters is well-known for his flying skills. "He can fly *anything*," said a young man among his admirers. Any time there were pilot qualifications to be met, Masters was right in there working to get the pilot not only qualified for the rating but exceeding the requirements.

Nancy Robinson Masters, wife of Bill Masters, authored a book, "Spirits in the Sky," which completely sold out its first printing, with only enough books left for Masters' book signing party. Having been an aviation enthusiast and writer for a number of years, she earned her Private Pilot's rating, and has considerable to say on the subject of flying.

Many of the CAF planes are tail-draggers, and while tricycle landing gear pilots know their job is "mostly" done when the first wheel hits the runway, a tailwheel pilot has to do his rudder dance all the way to the hangar. Nancy Masters quoted, "the secret of being a good tailwheel pilot was to always keep my feet and my fanny moving in the same direction." Nancy Masters subsequently wrote numerous other books, including "All My Downs Have Been Ups,"

Along about this time, Colonel Joe Mabee, then a WTW-er (but later an instigator of the formation of the High Sky Wing), issued a three million dollar challenge which would be a matching fund with Midland-Odessa's generous (and covetous) offer to bring the CAF to Midland-Odessa International Airport after Valley International Airport in Harlingen could no longer act as home to the CAF. WTW pledged to bring forth \$175,000, a goal accomplished with

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WTW at work & play - *continued*

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the efforts of WTW, the squadrons and the Colonel's Ladies. Thus prodigious effort brought the opening of the new CAF Headquarters home to Midland-Odessa on December 7, 1991, the 50th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack. Colonel Frank Harrison, WTW Leader 1990, requested that Wing members host the arriving Headquarters affairs "whenever possible." The move was a tremendous boon to West Texas economy in a time when the oil business, on which most of the economy depended, was in a deep dive. The Midland Reporter-Telegram heralded the coming of the CAF with an insert of four 12-page sections devoted solely to the organization - 48 pages - on December 1, 1991.

When we look about us - as at AIRSHO 2003 - we know that even more memories are being made. We will not walk there again, save in minds that wander back.

WRITER'S NOTE: I can think of this WTW history, now in its fifth of a series, as a scrapbook: Stories of the West Texas Wing abound, and for those who contributed, either in interviews, photos or written material which I have perused for historical data, I am indeed thankful.

At this time, I am seeking historical information from the squadrons. Thus, if you have something to contribute about your unit's past, please e-mail me at richeson2@aol.com, or call me: 940 549-7411.

From the archives of Cactus Colonel Russell Carey, I have gotten much of the material for the preceding article which has been burned in memories but shelved in dusty quarters.

"Let us never forget."

WORK



(Left and Above) Randy Wilson and Ted Short prepare the Helldiver for one of its many missions in support of the CAF and the Wing (photos courtesy Doris Richeson)

PLAY

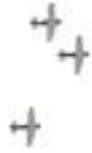


Flughafen 2000 - before the foolishness began ...



... The Foolishness. Identities have been masked to protect the guilty (there were no innocent). (Flughafen photos courtesy Steve Sehnert)

Gone West



Henry J. "Hank" Castle

A native of Abilene, Texas, retired Air Force Colonel Hank Castle passed away on Thursday, October 16. A graduate of the University of Texas, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942 and flew P-51 fighters in the European Theater. Discharged in 1946, he was recalled at the start of the Korean War and accumulated over 200 hours in F-80 and F-84 fighters, and assigned to SAC he flew the P-82 "Twin Mustang", T-33's and F-84's. He also served at NATO bases in England, Norway, Germany and Libya.

An active warbird pilot after his military service, Hank flew an AT-6 at airshows, and was a member of TRARON ONE and was a CAF check pilot. He also was a member of the P-51 Mustang Association, Warbirds of America, the EAA and The Quiet Birdmen.

Hank is survived by his wife Vonnie, daughter Diana Lynn Castle, stepdaughters Susan von Rosenberg and Mina Jo Hawkins, brother Delanoe Castle and cousins and grandchildren and a nephew.

Noris G. Nelson

Noris Nelson passed away on August 6, 2003 in Odessa, Texas. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corp 8th Air Force as a B-17 pilot, flying 16 missions during WWII. Noris was a charter member of the Desert Squadron of the CAF.

He is survived by sons Frank Nelson and Lance Nelson, stepson Gordon Brunner, daughters Gail Jackson and Marty Woody, stepdaughters Janice Canon, Patti Wood and Debbie Homfeld, brother Kay Nelson and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

William F. "Bill" Stepp

Bill Stepp passed away in Odessa, Texas on June 13, 2003. He had been a WWII P-51 Mustang pilot, serving as captain in the Army Air Force. His greatest joy was telling stories of those war years. Later he became a charter member of the West Texas Wing of the CAF and spent many hours touring to tell audiences of those war times and how great we should feel to be Americans.

He was a victim of polio before he was 2 years of age. By exercise and extreme diligence, his mother and father helped him to overcome this handicap, and he was an outstanding basketball and tennis player. He also played semi-professional baseball before volunteering for WWII service.

Bill is survived by his wife, Karen Hubbard Stepp, children Betty Blair, Barbara Neilson, Patton Stepp, Jon Stepp, Kris Stepp, and four grandchildren

"A Wildcat's gone down ..."

Those were the words many of us heard Saturday evening as we were celebrating a fantastic day at the Wings Over Houston airshow.

After a routine photo flight about an hour after the day's air show had ended, CAF pilot William K. Johnson of Parkton, North Carolina was killed when the FM-2 Wildcat fighter he was flying crashed on approach to Ellington Field. There were no casualties on the ground. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

Our sympathies and condolences are extended to his family, friends and fellow members of the Carolinas Wing of the CAF. The Missing Man formation that closed the air show on Sunday was dedicated to his memory.

The CAF press release regarding the crash is available on the Headquarters website, at <http://www.commemorativeairforce.org/news/index.html>

Colonel William B. "Bill" Stuessy Memorial Bench - Update

The fundraising for the memorial bench has reached its goal, and the process of getting the plaque made and installed is underway.

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

We have just completed another labor-intensive AirSho thanks to all of the volunteers. By the time you read this, we should have the accounting completed, checks in, checks out.

Col. John Hess has been assigned as committee chairman to investigate the feasibility of organizing a Traron Training Detachment in the WTW. Based on remarks pertaining to current training sessions and the lack of available/frequent sessions, it appears having a qualified Traron Detachment within the WTW would not only promote the Wing but would benefit several members in the Wing and the CAF.

The Wing is also looking to expand our boundaries by working with our new members from Tennessee. I committed to them the Wings support in organizing a Detachment under the Wing in order for them to expand and acquire new members. I have requested these new members to determine their objectives, goals and applicable name for their Detachment. Since a detachment is not limited to a number of members, our support will allow them to gain recognizability and actively pursue membership toward organizing a Squadron/Wing.

The Nimitz Squadron has become a welcome addition to our Wing. They not only suggested a workday on our SNB, but participated in the "fun". Some even stayed over the next day to take in the Dyess Air Show.

Remember, Flughafen is coming up. Get your reservations in and come join the fun.

Officer's Reports

Safety Officer - Bill Baley

Go to www.flightsafety.com to access the website of Flight Safety Foundation International. This organization is dedicated to improving the safety of flight in all categories. Many interesting topics.

Finance Officer - Martha Dillard

Not much to report. Since the Wing Walk for the SB2C is finished we hope we can make some money for the "Beast". We have taken in some money this past summer, but we have had quite a few expenses.

Colonel's Ladies President - Kathy Mizell

The next Ladies meeting will be held in Graham at Flughafen.

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.

Recruiting and Retention - Kathy Mizell

Nothing to report. Still waiting on squadron Recruiting and Retention Officer assignments.

Squadron News

DESERT SQUADRON

PIO - Shirley Lee

From The Squadron Leader

Our squadron has been very busy. Charlie Coskrey took the PT-13 to Big Lake on August 23rd for Santa Rita Day, and Ray Pierson, Tiny Maim, and Ted Short also took planes. Dan Westlund drove one of Ray's vehicles. Bessie Westlund, Guy Zellars, Mark Blodgett and I rode in the parade.

We thank Ray Pierson for donating the two cases we have downstairs. They are trimmed in blue and are a big asset to our room.

The TRARON was a great success this year. At one time we had twenty-nine planes on our ramp and at Roadrunner. Squadron members did a good job keeping everything going for the pilots, and the Colonel's Ladies did an outstanding job on the food.

DESERT SQUADRON *continued*

Charles Coskrey and Bob Halford flew at Airsho. We were well represented in all phases of the show. Ronnie Bamett keeps doing a suburb job. He has one of the biggest jobs of the Airsho. Ray Pierson had several of his vehicles there, as well as one for TRARON. Our squadron was also involved helping to get the O'Club ready for Airsho.

Thank you Desert Squadron for all that you do!

Col Nita Zellars

Desert Squadron Colonel's Ladies:

We now have Airsho behind us. We heard so many praises about our hangar, the delicious meals provided for all and the great hospitality. The marshalling detachment presented an award to Nita for all the support we provide each year. It was a great weekend. I want to thank everyone for all his or her hard work. We would not be as successful without each one of your contributing every year. THANK YOU!!

2004 Hangar Dance

The 2004 Hangar Dance has been set for March 27th at the CAF Hangar. It is time to start thinking about how this year can be great as the previous years. It takes all of us to make this a success.

New Member

The Desert Squadron welcomes new member Norman Witcher and his wife Kay, from Odessa.

Memorial Donations Received:

- In memory of Col. Bill Stepp: Roger Hoestenbach of Houston
- In memory of Noris Nelson and Marge Nelson: Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Bales of Breckenridge, Texas and Col's Richard and Claime Brinkley of Andrews.
- In memory of Col. Noris Nelson: Roger Hoestenbach of Houston, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Kouns of Midland, Col. & Mrs. W.J. Robertson of Kerrville, Jan Wakefield of San Angelo, and Mr. & Mrs. John Wakefield of Florence.

Bingo

Bingo operations have improved this last month. Attendance has increased since another bingo hall has shut down operations on Monday nights. We had triple sessions on Labor Day and had the largest crowd we have ever had. The aircraft anchors were installed on our ramp, capable of holding 14 aircraft. The following Colonels were responsible for making it happen: John Bell, Bob Whaley, Dan Westlund, Kay Nelson, Charles Coskrey, Henry Lee, and Ray Pierson. Thanks members, your work is much appreciated.

September Meeting Recap

Col. Earl Francell introduced our speaker, Tom Roberts, from Alpine, Texas. Tom served in the 6147th Tactical Control Group in Korea (same group as our own Col. Bob Bell) Bob was in the 49th Squadron, while Tom was in the "other" squadron, the 48th. Roberts was located at K-47, 23 miles NE of Seoul and 13 miles N of the 38th parallel. He primarily flew the T-6, a trainer aircraft. His job was to take ground coordinates and translate them to air coordinates. This procedure was relatively new then; they did not realize the importance of their operations at the time. Each plane was equipped with 3 smoke rockets (no armament) used to mark targets for the "big boys" to come in and take out the target. The whine of their engines caused the Koreans to name them the "Mosquitoes" and most veterans came to refer to them as the Mosquitoes Squadron.

During his time in Korea his squadron was involved in a secret mission to help prove that the Chinese were training Korean troops. Everyone knew the Chinese were involved on the ground, but it could not be proven. Roberts said they would fly out over the Yellow River, which marks the border between Korea and Manchuria, and enter into Chinese airspace (since a B-29 doesn't make a 180 degree turn) yet the Chinese would not bother our planes in order to eliminate having to explain their involvement. The only attack he encountered while at the base was evening runs by "Bedcheck Charlie", a well-known enemy pilot who would toss out hand grenades.

Tom also relayed a hysterical anecdote about almost getting taken out by one of our own planes which had its left gear collapse while landing, causing it to spin around and head right toward Tom who was taking care of business in the "facilities" near the runway.

We appreciated hearing about his wartime experience and he seemed to love catching up with Bob Bell for some real "mosquitoes" reminiscing. THANK YOU

TOM. We enjoyed having you.

CACTUS SQUADRON*PIO - Doris Richeson***Cactus Colonels cook...and cook!**

Where they all coming from?" It was asked 'round the tent as more and more air show attendees paid heed to their growling innards and ambled over to the Cactus Squadron cooking unit to order their cheeseburgers, hamburgers, hot dogs, chili dogs, barbecue, nachos. . .and even desserts.

Special Projects Officer Jack Cannon had ordered a bunch of groceries delivered to satisfy the voracious appetite of the O'Clubbers, yet supplies had to be replenished time and time again, as Cannon and Colonel J.B. Thome journeyed the obstacle course in and out of the air show's cordoned and tightly secured grounds.

Staffing was in short supply, as the expected sign-ups did not occur; thus, those who worked the Cactus concession stayed past their scheduled shifts to get the job done.

Colonel Dave Price again brought his Discount Furniture truck, which was such an irreplaceable asset: the groceries were stored and secured within, some in freezers and refrigerators supplied by Colonel Price, who brought his friend Dave Wright, also helping with the effort.

Business was very good, and the presence of the 484th Bomb Squadron and the Wasps enhanced business even more. The O'Club management made arrangements for those guests to approach the cook line from the rear, and thus an orderly sequence of events could take place.

AIRSHO 2003 was superb ... what we saw of it. There was the jet paced to the speed of an old bomber, and we saw the thrilling performance of the Canadian Snowbirds, and a few bits and pieces.

Thanks to Steve Lenius

The Cactus Squadron's most distant member, Oregonian Steve Lenius, attended AIRSHO 2003, and donated for the silent auction a Life magazine dated March 31, 1941, featuring a cover picture of the XSB2C-1, denoting "experimental" in the days when even aircraft carriers were a novel idea.

Lenius's father was an SB2C pilot, and Lenius proudly wears that aviator's wings.

Thanks, Steve!

NIMITZ MEMORIAL SQUADRON*PIOs - Dee & Chuck Wooler***NMS Participates in Grand Opening**

SEPTEMBER 12, 2003 was a wonderful day for the dedication and ribbon cutting for the Hanger Motel and Convention Center. Our thanks to the West Texas Wing and the group from San Marcos for flying their airplanes in for the event. The San Marcos group flew several fly-bys, including the Missing Man Formation. After opening ceremony by several dignitaries, Dick Estenson welcome the Squadron, Wings and all others present. It was a great event for everyone.

A big "Thank You" go to Col Frank Bailey for his work in coordinating the event with Mr. Estenson.

Unit Meeting

SEPTEMBER 13, 2003 was the meeting for the squadron, which was held in the Convention center in the Quonset Room. Col Chuck Beasley, current Executive Officer, opened the meeting. During the staff meeting, the staff requested that Col Beasley replace Col Mike Anthony as Acting Unit Leader.

For those who may not know, Col Anthony has had surgery and will remain in the hospital, followed by rehab, for about eight (8) weeks. Cards can be sent at the following address:

Col Michael Anthony 919 Cinnamon Hill Room 405 San Antonio, Texas 78240

New Members

Please welcome two new members, Col Lou Felps and Col Harold Smith. We are so glad to have them with our squadron.

WEST HOUSTON SQUADRON

PIO - Linda Fountain

27 HOUSTON "HONEYES" & "HUNKS" REPRESENT WHS AT O'CLUB 2003

Houston arrived in full force to support the Squadron and West Texas Wing in the Officers' Club during AIRSHO 2003 in Midland. We tended bar, bussed tables, hauled trash and anything else that needed to be done. Our SPECIAL THANKS to Dick & Nell Harper, Sue Rumel & Son Larry Flick, Mike White, Ron Fountain, Steve Sehnert, Mark & Kim Allen, Matt Gallien & Cindy Melton, Joe Vaught, John & Diane Hess, Frank Stokes, Thomas Reinert & Paige, Ken & Shirley Hyman, Ole Nygren, Tiger Bill Baley, Jim Miles, Skip Warren, Steve Holman, Jim Hornung, Ergun Bilir and Linda Fountain. And Mike Collier flew in the P-63 and dropped a few "tips" in our jar and volunteered his help. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HARD WORK!! (Note: Ask Tiger Bill about his THREE "hot dates" during AIRSHO!!)

VERY SPECIAL THANKS go to Wing Col Brad Gritton for his donation of \$300 to our tip jar! Our friend Brad always manages to help out our "Houston Honeyes" with a donation each year – THANK YOU!!

Col Tiny Malm also receives our SPECIAL THANKS for his donation of \$40 to our gals for taking care of his table and guests in the O'Club. THANK YOU, TINY!!

WHS Pilots Take Off in the "Big Iron"

As many of you already know, Dick Harper has been approved to begin flying the Helldiver, and has racked up several hours in it. He should be ready to help in the campaigning of The Beast for next year's airshow season.

And apparently flying the WHS AT-6 and Gulf Coast Wing's B-17 just wasn't enough for Ken Hyman and Ole Nygren. They have signed on with the B-24 "Diamond Lil" and B-29 "FiFi", and have each made several flights as co-pilot.

Congratulations to all three!

DEW LINE SQUADRON

DEW Line sent their newsletter to the Wing PIO, but unfortunately it was in a format that he was unable to read. We were unable to get this resolved in time for publication.

No reports were received from the Big Country Squadron

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.

Pictures from AIRSHO 2003



The Canadian Snowbirds



Red Nose is flying again



Navy Legacy Flight



Col Greg Kinnan handles the announcer duties for the F-14 demo team - his son Courtney ("Disco") is the RIO



F-14 Demo, high speed photo pass

CALENDAR

FLUGHAFEN 2003
HOSTED BY CACTUS SQUADRON
GRAHAM, TX
DEC. 5-6, 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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Mystery Warbird from page 4 - Fairchild XNQ-1

Designed as a Naval Primary Trainer, this design first flew 18 October 1946. It was conventional gear and powered by a 320hp Lycoming radial engine which gave it a max speed of 170mph.

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 : J. B. Thorne 940-873-4436

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 : David Duncan 325-766-3769

NIMITZ MEMORIAL SQUADRON

Second Saturday of each month @ 2:00 P.M.
Conference room in the Nimitz Historical Museum, Fredericksburg, TX
Contact: Mickey Hawran 830-367-2431

SB2C Memorial Fund Established

An SB2C Memorial Fund has been established 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.

SB2C Schedule

End of season - wait till next year!

I'm waiting to be told how cobras, hooks, or vectored thrust help in combat. They're great at air shows, but zero energy is a fighter pilot's nightmare. Shoot your opponent down and his number two will be on your tail thinking it's his birthday -- a target hanging there in the sky with zero energy.

- Ned Firth, Eurofighter

Nomination Form

2003 West Texas Wing Award Nomination

PLEASE CIRCLE THE AWARD FOR WHICH THIS NOMINATION IS SUBMITTED:

KALE WEBSTER MEMORIAL TROPHY

C. L. "CASEY" KAY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
AWARD

CHARLIE DAY COLONEL OF THE YEAR

SPECIAL AWARD

JACK GAULDING AIRMAN OF THE YEAR

"E" AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

JAKE MILLER LEADERSHIP AWARD

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____

Nominated by: _____

Nominated by Unit (name): _____

(Signature of Unit Leader - required if nomination is by a Unit)

State reason(s) for recommendation (i.e. WING achievements, accomplishments or actions for which he/she is to be recognized): (Attach a separate sheet if more room is needed)

CAREFULLY COMPLETE ALL AREAS OF THIS NOMINATION FORM AND SEND TO THE ADDRESS BELOW TO BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 20th. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE CONSIDERED INVALID.

Email (**preferred**) to Mark Novak
t6_av8r@yahoo.com
or
mark.novak@nwc.navy.mil

Regular Mail:
COL GREG KINNAN
P O Box 30351
Amarillo, TX 79120-0351

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.

2003 West Texas Wing Colonel's Ladies Award Nomination

PLEASE CIRCLE THE AWARD FOR WHICH THIS NOMINATION IS SUBMITTED:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| COLONEL'S LADY OF THE YEAR | SHARON SHORT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD |
| GLENDA CAMPBELL LEADERSHIP AWARD | MARTHA DILLARD DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
AWARD |

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____
(Only current, dues paid Ladies, with dues paid Sponsors, are eligible for Awards)

Nominee's Sponsor's name & CAF ID#: _____

Nominated by: _____

Nominated by Unit (name): _____

(Signature of Unit President - required if nomination is by a Unit)

State reason(s) for recommendation (i.e. achievements, accomplishments or actions for which she is to be recognized):

CAREFULLY COMPLETE ALL AREAS OF THIS NOMINATION FORM AND MAIL IT TO THE ADDRESS BELOW TO BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 20th.
INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE CONSIDERED INVALID. Mail forms to:

LINDA FOUNTAIN, AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
6303 MODESTO DRIVE
HOUSTON, TX 77083-1404

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. The Baron 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 WTW Leader Ted Short and Colonel's Ladies President Kathy Mizell will take over to give their crews appropriate briefings.

Come 6 p.m., the Baron will open the doors at Richeson RallyWorks, located at the merge of Highway 16 South and FM 1287, 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"

Mail To:

Cactus Squadron CAF - Flughafen

P.O. Box 861

Graham, TX 76450

Name _____ Colonel # _____

Address: City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Any special needs? _____

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

*prior to November 15th

Silent Auction

There will be a Silent Auction at Flughafen on Saturday. Everyone is welcome to bring items for the auction. If you have any questions, please contact Martha Dillard.



Steve Sehnert
19319 Haystream Dr
Katy, TX 77449

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED