



COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE HOUSTON WING

March 2019

Slips & Skids

Wing Leader

"Take very little notice of those people who choose to treat you poorly. It is how they are defining their story, not yours." Lei Wah



I recently had a rare chance to be at the hangar with a little time on my hands and found myself once again admiring our aircraft. All of these planes are over 70 years in age and they represent an era in our country when men and

women got things done without computers and cell phones. Engineering and fabrication was done by hand or with simple machines as the labor force during the war years had to be rapidly trained and put to work on the factory floor. The United States had to produce trainer aircraft in great numbers and scour the country to find suitable pilots and instructors to fly them. The military also had to recruit and train thousands of mechanics and support personnel to keep them flying.

We will never really know how stalls, spins, first solo flights, off field landings and

amazing sights these aircraft have provided the Greatest Generation. All military pilots started out in the trainers before they advanced to the big iron. Sadly, there are not very many of either remaining.

The Houston Wing through the Commemorative Air Force mission is truly blessed to have stewardship of these amazing training aircraft. We not only have a wonderful selection of trainer aircraft we can fly but we also can share the experience with the public through our rides program. Maintaining and flying these jewels takes a tremendous amount of volunteer hours and talent. It also takes museum volunteer to tell their story to the public. In return, they offer a look into the technology and mindset of a past generation of people who knew how to get the job done. I would like to thank all volunteers who help keep this great organization alive. Without you this hangar could very well be full of business jets..... Gasp!

If you are interested in seeing more cool warbirds, be sure to volunteer to help out with the upcoming Warbird Weekend/Open House. It will be held April 13 and 14. Set up planned for Friday afternoon and tear down and clean up on Sunday after we close

to the public around 4pm. This is an important event for the Houston Wing.

Be kind to each other and keep em flying,
Stan-

Eyes On the Horizon!

Mar. 16

Museum Day

Mar. 17

Monthly Meeting @ 2pm

Mar. 23

Flyover- Lock n Load

Mar. 23

Proposed- Static Display IAH

Mar. 31

Flyover- Lakewood Yacht Club

Apr. 5

Proposed- Astros Flyover

Apr. 6

Barnstorming- Conroe with TR

Apr. 13-14

Warbird Weekend-All hands on Deck

Apr. 27

Proposed- Orange Fly In

May 11

Smithville Fly In



Operations Update



Houston Wing attendance at the mandatory Annual Ground School 16-17 Feb was excellent. As a reminder, if you were not at this ground school you will not fly a CAF airplane in 2019.

If you attended another CAF Wing's Ground School you can get credit for the CRM portion of the school, but you still need the systems instruction. Please send me an email right away if you attended another Wing ground school and intend to fly a Houston Wing airplane in 2019.

Flight operations included a flyover of the AJCA Golf Tournament on 18 Feb led by Dave Guggemos in his T-34 with Chris Dowell and Craig Hutain in the U3, Gordon Richardson in Ace, Kevin Domingue and Greg Young in the Navion



Upcoming missions include our support of the annual Lock-N-Load Sporting Clays Tournament that supports the Texas Sentinels Foundation for wounded military veterans on 23 Mar. and the Blessing of the Fleet flyover on 31 Mar.

The addition of ADS-B to the transponder system of all aircraft has begun. Wing Staff has selected the AT-6 and N3N as the next aircraft to be modified with ADS-B. Look forward to the rest of the Wing aircraft also being modified prior to the 31 Dec 2019 deadline.

Pilot sponsors and other volunteers can help during aircraft maintenance as directed by the Maintenance Officer. This work can include hands on the aircraft and also help identifying and ordering parts. It takes all of us working together to "Keep 'em flying!"

Thanks again for your support for Wing Operations in 2019! –Nathan



Warbird Weekend

April 13 & 14

10am to 5pm

Mark your calendar now!!!

Safety Moment



Things to keep in mind when you around the Hangar:

-If you see oil on the floor, please clean it up. We have plenty of rags and Varsol around to make the clean quick and easy. Cleaning up the oil not only makes the hangar look presentable to our guests, but it also reduces the chances of any slipping or falling.

-If you see anything that is out of the ordinary around the hangar, then please say something. Safety should always be our number one priority.

-Cell phones. Please do not walk around the hangar while texting or playing games on your cellphone. This is simply not safe for you OR the aircraft. Earbuds are NOT to be used on the hangar floor. If you are outside and an aircraft is running, do not have your cell phone out unless you are snapping a quick picture, then please put it away.

-Pay attention to what is going on around you. Aircraft are dangerous and will hurt you bad or even kill you.

For Warbird Weekend:

-Please pay attention to all Marshalls and follow their directions. We will have lots of aircraft moving at various times in and out of the "Hot box." PLEASE be aware of what is going on around you.

-If you are working the Hot Box or around the aircraft, please keep your eyes out for our guest. They can be easily distracted and sometimes need a gentle reminder to stay off of the aircraft or to not smoke in inappropriate areas.

-The most important thing is to have fun and be safe. Please don't make me have to do paperwork! -Suzie B

Marketing Report



Welcome back friends to another exemplary installment of "As the Wing flies." I'm writing

this on International Women's day with N3N fan girl Jolene as she gets her last chemo treatment today. I've watched her tackle leukemia for the past 9 months head on with grace, humor and amazing strength. Her strength inspires me and we could not have not done it without our friends supporting us.



The website committee will shortly unveil the newly updated website. The website committee, of John Cotter, Frank Vargas, myself and led by Brian Kosior is a shining example of teamwork and organization. The team worked well together and it was a pleasure working with our vendor and wing member Kevin McNulty. Kevin is a great addition to the Houston Wing team and a genuine pleasure to call a friend and work with.

Warbird Weekend 2019 is quickly upon us and we ask that if you can bring a case or water or 12 pack of Dr. Pepper/Sprite/Coke and Diet Coke. Please contact safety officer Suzie Bredlau to see what she needs as she is the point person for those items at Warbird Weekend. Additionally the Houston Wing would like to ask our members that if they know of anyone that would like to place an advertisement in our exceptional Warbird Weekend printed program that we hand out at the gate. Would your employer like to be involved? It will greatly benefit the Wings bottom line. 2019 is proving challenging financially to the Wing as we are experiencing some un-expected aircraft expenses and trying to begin construction on a new interactive educational facility. Sooo, if you know of anyone that would like to be involved in our ever-popular Warbird Weekend by placing an advertisement in our program. Contact me and I will help make it happen.

I would like to thank Frank Vargas for his exceptional organizational and layout skills for the Warbird Weekend event. Frank is a pleasure to work with and is just one of

many people in the Wing that make Warbird Weekend a success. I would also like to thank Sam Hoynes and his sign crew. The Warbird Weekend signs that he and his crew put out the weeks before are one of our most effective marketing tools we have. If you can help Sam and his sign crew I'm sure they would like the additional help. When you see someone working hard at Warbird Weekend (or just around the hangar) thank them for whatever they may be doing. We cannot lose sight of the fact that when we put on events like this that any single members' actions reflect on the entire wing; not to mention the damage it can cause the organization internally. –Sam Bulger

Maintenance



Greetings from the maintenance dept. Work continues in preparation for the upcoming Warbird Weekend. A work party on the BT-13 will address several problems. The N3N is still waiting on brake discs to arrive. The AT-6 is off sight getting an annual. The C-60 is having the final two rear fuel tanks resealed as the front two are completed. Next on the list will be hydraulic leaks. The PT-19 is patiently waiting on her woodcrafter to return, and I wish him a very speedy recovery. Other small jobs continue on the plane though, and the forward instrument panel is next on the list. Also the cadets are making great progress and working on the L-39 cockpit. Every plane will need cleaning now as the pollen will be

a huge problem over the next few weeks. All the planes will be coated in green dust. That will have to be removed likely more than once. Thanks to all the cadets who come out to help keep the planes in museum quality appearance. That is no easy task. As we all know ADS-B is also in the works on several of the planes. Keep 'em flying is the motto of maintenance....Jim

Membership



Last weekend Denise Walker and I had the pleasure to attend the Winter Staff Conference in Dallas. While we collected a lot of information and ideas from our fellow members it was with great pleasure we watched our own J.W. Don Johnson inducted into the CAF's Hall of Fame.

If you have not had the pleasure to meet Don, let us introduce you to him. He joined the CAF in 1999, has been a lifetime

member since 2010, and has served on the Wings Over Houston Board for many years. Don is a champion for the Houston Wing, our aircraft, and is also a member of several other wings. Don served on the General Staff for six years and is now assisting the American Airpower Heritage Flying Museum also. In his spare time, Don is an attorney and runs his own firm.

If you see Don around the hangar, please take a moment to congratulate him. He can usually be found at the grill with our cooking team at Warbird Weekend.

Thank you for your commitment, assistance, your warm welcome to new members and most of all, your knowledge of history.

Tammi Lockwood
Membership Officer

Museum Moment

WWI and WWII Uniforms

For a number of years we have had a WWI Uniform on display in the museum. We knew the identity of the uniform's owner as we had a copy of his discharge from the Army in WWI. This uniform belonged to Sargent James Migliavacca who was in the Quartermaster Corps during WWI. Displayed next to this uniform we had a fur collared winter flight jacket with a patch on it and we had no record or idea of where it came from or what unit the patch signified.

A few years ago after doing some research one of our volunteers located the jacket's patch and we discovered the patch was for the 596th Bombardment Squadron that flew B-26 "Marauder" medium bombers during WWII in Europe.



About three years ago during one of our Open Saturdays a lady came through the museum and was explaining to her children that one of these uniforms was her their grandfathers and the one next to it was their great grandfather's uniform. She explained that her father Jim Migliavacca was a TSgt and flight engineer on B-26s during WWII. She later sent us some copies of information about these two men which included a copy of a photo of the two of them (father and son) standing side by side in their military uniforms from both World Wars.

2019 Houston Wing Hangar Dance Report

Hey Buddy, where is this hangar dance?



I have to say it was quite the evening. The weather which had been so bad for so long cleared up.



Attendance rivaled the big dances of the past

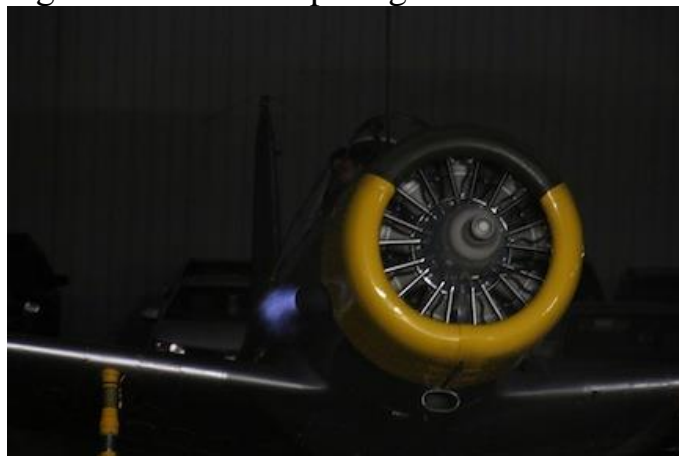


We hope you come by our Wing's Museum to see some of the unusual artifacts we have on display as our museum continues to grow. Our Museum volunteers will be happy to show you around the museum and will answer any questions you might have.

-Sam Hoynes



...And a surprise for the guests that night...The BT-13 spitting fire.....



And I had some fun too....



Until next year, and the 75th anniversary of the end of World War Two.....Jim

Meeting Potluck

It's Rodeo time Houston!!! Let's feast on some good old BBQ. Cook up your best chicken, pork, or beef and slather it in sauce. We sure bet it will be finger lickin' good!

If grillin' isn't your thing, we could always use some sides. Potato salad, coleslaw, mashed tatters and corn are always appreciated. Don't forget the dessert!

But it does not start there. Many pitch in and make this event happen. I want to thank all of you from the cadets, to the members and staff who make this work so well. You make this much easier for me to do, and I really appreciate your efforts. I also want to thank the members who just came out to support the event and enjoy the evening. I hope you had as much fun as I did. I think pictures speak a thousand words, so I shall just let them speak for themselves.....Thanks to Susan Vaculik for the pictures....

WARBIRD WEEKEND 2019

April 13-14

At West Houston Airport
Presented by the

FEATURING
THE B-17

TEXAS
RAIDERS



Over 25 vintage aircraft

WARBIRD RIDES

GET YOUR DISCOUNT
TICKETS ONLINE
TODAY OR \$20 AT
THE GATE PER CAR



WWW.HOUSTONWING.ORG OR
FACEBOOK CAFHOUSTONWING

and INTRODUCING



"LITTLE RAIDER"

Rides available



"CH-46"

PLANES FROM THE



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SB2C
HELLDIVER



COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE

Sat only

CAR SHOW



WARBIRD RIDES



HOUSTON WING DUES - \$ 50.00



You must be a current CAF regular, life, or Honorary member to be eligible for Houston Wing membership.

Tax deductible contributions will be accepted by the Houston 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.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Houston Wing Dues

Amount: \$50.00

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to: _____ Amount: _____

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to the AT-6 Amount: _____

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to the BT-13 Amount: _____

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to the N3N Amount: _____

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to the PT-19 Amount: _____

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to the C-60 Amount: _____

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to the L-17 Amount: _____

TOTAL: _____

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

COL. STEVE SPARKS
18000 Groeschke Road - Hangar B-5
Houston, TX. 77084

Name: _____ Nickname: _____
First MI Last

RENEWING MEMBERS - Please fill in any information which has changed in the past year
NEW MEMBERS - Please fill in all applicable information

Address: _____ Phone numbers (include area code):

Home: _____

Office: _____
City State ZIP

Email Address: _____ Fax: _____

Spouse: _____ Cell: _____

CAF Col. Number: _____ CAF Life Number: _____ Birthday (mm/dd/yy): _____

WHS Staff _____ Past Unit Staff _____

Office Interest: _____ Office: _____

Note: Phone Numbers and Email Addresses will be published in the Directory. If you do not want a phone number or email address published, do not provide it!

CAF Aircraft Sponsored: _____

WWII Aircraft Owned: _____

Other Aircraft Owned: _____

Squadrons, Wings and
Detachments: _____

Interests: _____

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