

CENTEX HIGHFLIGHT



The cutoff date for the newsletter is the 25th of each month

Place
stamp
here

The official newsletter of
The Central Texas Wing
Commemorative Air Force
1841 Airport Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666
(512) 396-1943
www.centexwing.com
Volume No. 37
Issue No 1, Jan 2011



CENTEX Wing Staff 2011

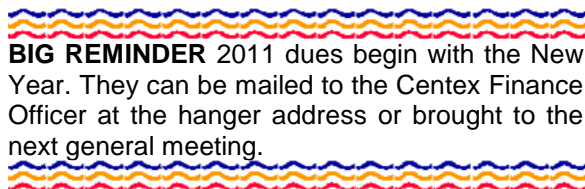
| | | |
|---------------------|---------------|--|
| Wing Leader | Grant Lannon | GLannon@texas.net |
| Executive Officer | Buck Willis | BWStearman@yahoo.com |
| Adjutant | Kelly Klaus | kklaus1@austin.rr.com |
| Operations Officer | Mike Renck | bluehawk15@aol.com |
| Finance Officer | Judy McMillan | heyjude@texas.net |
| Maintenance Officer | Ray Clausen | rayclausen@gvtc.com |
| Safety Officer | Richard Hall | rhall@zakcompanies.com |
| PX Officer | Richard Hall | rhall@zakcompanies.com |



**NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY 8 FEBRUARY
AT THE CAF HANGER AT THE SAN
MARCOS AIRPORT AT 7PM.**

MAIN DISH IS LASAGNE

STAFF MEETING AT 6:30PM ON 7 FEB



BIG REMINDER 2011 dues begin with the New Year. They can be mailed to the Centex Finance Officer at the hanger address or brought to the next general meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE CAT HERDER

**By Grant Lannon
Wing Leader**

The Wing Staff appointed Kelly Klaus Adjutant at the staff meeting on January 10th. We appreciate him stepping up to fill the office vacated by Buck Willis when he was elected Executive Officer. We also have a position open for a newsletter editor now that Ed McCafferty has gone West.

We were all shocked to hear of Ed's heart failure while he was being treated in the hospital. Many of us went to the viewing in San Antonio on January 17th. I brought the January newsletter and a Yellow Rose patch to be put in his pockets when he was buried the next day. The weather was looking bad the next morning but it cleared up just in time for us to make the flight over Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery. I led the flight with Calvin Allen, Joe Enzminger, and Clint Epley on the wing. It was challenging because of avionics problems and the wind direction, which put airliners on final approach to San Antonio International in our flight path for the cemetery. Jim Liles manned the radio on the ground and we made two successful passes. He later said it was the first time he had seen airliners flying over the

cemetery before we did a pass. We will miss Ed but will always admire his courage in taking part in CAF activities despite his long term medical problems!!!

I went to the first meeting of the new Flight Safety Working Group in Irving on January 28th. The CAF has changed the manner in which it is run. The General Staff is now known as the Board of Directors and they set rules of governance for the rest of the organization. Rules of governance are operational guidelines while the details of the CAF operation are determined by paid staff. The Board of Directors does not determine details of day-to-day operation. Typically, issues that require specific expertise will be the focus of the working groups. The Safety Working Groups report to the Safety Committee on issues assigned or issues they develop. The VP of Flight Operations and Safety and the Director of Maintenance and Quality Assurance are members of all Safety Committee and Working Groups. There are four safety working groups; Flight Safety, Flight Line Safety, Explosive Safety, and Industrial/Ground Safety.

At the Safety Working Group I learned from one of the attendees a corollary to "life is like a roll of toilet paper—it goes faster at the end." The subsequent observation is "near the end, each square becomes more critical." We continue to work on the airplanes at the hanger in challenging weather. We have another Young Eagle event February 5th. The Winter Staff Conference is February 25-27th. Several of us are planning on attending. See ya at the hanger!



EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT From Buck Willis

Buck has suggested adding a "sliding scale" fee to the hangar use (rental for events) based on the volume and percentage of the hangar used (for aircraft movement). One group have inquired for use in April and has accepted the additional expense of \$100/fourth of hangar. 16 April is now being reserved for a Sorority Dance Competition (7-10pm)

with 500-600 in the 'theater audience' for \$1400 (half hangar and no alcohol or food).

Everyone was reminded that the BiPlane Fly-In date is 30 April and will always be the last Sat in April. Six or more Stearman will be flying WWII Pilots at the event! (Donations for fuel donations are now being solicited.) Buck has already invited/claimed Col Sandy Sansing and Dr Tom Mathews to fly with him!

The CENTEX Wing patch design was discussed and the vendor said it would be the exact same price to have a Texas Shaped patch as a round one so consensus was to pursue a design on the Texas Patch. Now the battle is whether the profile of T-6 or P-39 will be used in the design which we should have to see in February.



Gone West

CAF Col. Edward Robert McCafferty died on Wednesday January 12, 2011. He was editor of the CENTEX newsletter, Yellow Rose website, and was a member of the CAF Marshalling detachment. He was active in hanger activities and Yellow Rose flight activities

WE WILL MISS HIM! ED, HOW DID OUR FLIGHT IN YOUR HONOR LOOK FROM HIGH ALTITUDE?



OPERATIONS REPORT

by Mike Renck
Operations Officer

This year seems to be shaping up as a hard year for airshows, and flying in general. Fuel costs are going up, and personal income is not keeping up with rising prices so people are cutting back on entertainment. Just today I received a memo from the US Attorney General placing a freeze on hiring and non-essential spending within the Department of Justice. That's usually not a good sign of things to come!

I expect to see fewer aircraft appearances requested, unless the economy starts to improve. That being said, we have been sent a bid for all of our wing associated aircraft to a proposed show at Coulter Field, near Bryan/College Station. They have not set a date yet, so we shall see if it gels. Grant has another Young Eagle fly day on the books for 5 FEB. Hopefully the weather will be as good as it was on 22 JAN. I don't remember when a YE fly day had such perfect weather! Look for Grant's recap of the activities in this newsletter.

Most of the wing staff will be going to Midland on 26

& 27 FEB for the Wing Staff Conference. We will put a briefing of what we learn in the March newsletter.

If anyone has a lead on any kind of appearance opportunity, please get the contact information to me!



MAINTENANCE REPORT

by Ray Clausen
Maintenance Officer

There is, as usual, lots happening around the hangar. First, I must offer my apologies for my recent lack of information. I have been studying for the FAA test for my Inspection Authorization. That's pretty much the high mark for an aircraft mechanic. The test was pretty tough, but I passed with a really good grade. Now I can get in really big trouble working on airplanes!

The winter inspection season is almost half over now. Both the 310 Late and the 107 Zero are done. There is some minor work being done to both planes, but it is separate from the inspection. The Zero flew 62 hours last year while the Kate flew an impressive 93 hours without missing a lick! Ol' Yeller's oil consumption has dropped to a level considered good for a T-6 and she's as dry as we've ever seen her. She flew 43 hours from June to December. The P-39 parts are ready and we've begun riveting them onto the plane. We hope to start putting the leading edge skin on in a couple of weeks. The P-39 is due for its annual condition inspection and all of the access panels are open for that. Some of the last dents and blemishes are going to be addressed soon. The P-63 keeps moving forward, though more slowly than any of us like. However, the engine plumbing is complete to the point that we will be putting in the oil and coolant this week. One fuel tank is in and the other is ready to be installed permanently. I'll get the fuel selector valve put in and we will put in some fuel to look for leaks. The list of work remaining is growing short and Mike Collier is growing more anxious. The U-3 required a special inspection of the inside of the wings near the landing gear recently. Cracks are causing landing gear to collapse in Cessna 310's, but our passed with flying colors. We do have a problem with a vacuum driven instrument that Clint and I are currently troubleshooting.

I'm sorry that I don't have any great news about the Yellow Rose engine. We are still talking back and forth with Global Engines and CAF Headquarters. Global continues to say it isn't a warranty issue but they don't offer any explanation as to what caused the oil to stop circulating. Midland seems to be at

least as frustrated as I am in dealing with Global. We're working on a new angle and I hope to have some better news in a week or so.

As we can, we've been cleaning up a little around the hangar and are planning changes to the maintenance area when the Cobra work is done. I plan to be much more available at the Cobra Den soon and I hope that will help speed up some of these projects. Hope you can come out and give us a hand sometime soon!



January 2011 Centex Wing Meeting Minutes

Centex Wing Meeting began and opened with Pledge of Allegiance and prayer led by Col. Randy Smith.

Col. Grant Lannon awarded Col. Ron Iberg the "Spirit of Flight" Sandy Sansing Award for his skills and time piloting of the Tora Kate and the P-39 Airacobra.

Col. Lannon also announced Col. Kelly Klaus is appointed to Adjutant position.

New Members/Guests:

Gerald Michell attended meeting as guest.

Executive Officer:

Col. Buck Willis brought up items to increase donations and visitor traffic to the hangar:

- 1) Increase hangar rental for public events.
- 2) The Stearman Fly-In is going to give rides to WWII Veteran Pilots.
- 3) The Wing is working on a new Centex Wing Patch design focusing on the P-39.

Operations Report:

Col. Mike Renck reported there aren't many missions taking place at this time. There is a possible mission near College Station at Coulter Field date TBA.

Finance Report:

Col. Judy McMillan reported annual Wing membership dues are due.

Total revenue collected from Nov. Dinner Dance was \$ 45,081. Net gain from Dinner Dance minus expenses was over \$29,000. Account balance is \$ 51,441.

New San Marcos Airport Managers are requesting quarterly lease payments from donations and/or sales from the Wing. Col. McMillan will confirm this with the city of San Marcos.

Maintenance Report:

Col. Ray Clausen reported the annual for the Kate is complete.

There was a FAA report regarding cracking on the landing gear of Cessna 310's (U-3) and an inspection needed on the gear. The inspection on ours revealed landing gear is sound.

Col. Billy Parkers' Zero had its magneto switch cleaned and should be ready. P-63 work is continuing and cooling plumbing is almost complete.

P-39 has had 2-3 new leading edge riblets remade and they will need to be sent off to be hardened. The Wing has purchased a sheet metal break and shear.

Old Yeller has had new seals installed to stop some minor oil leaks.

"Yellow Rose"

Global Inc. who had rebuilt the Yellow Rose's left engine has opened the engine without CAF supervision. Global stated that in their opinion an "oil-air bubble" had formed and due to oil

starvation caused the left engine failure. Ray has been in contact with the CAF in Midland about this event.

Safety Report:

Col. Richard Hall reported there is a two year inspection ongoing regarding the hangars' sprinkler system. There are 182 sprinkler heads that need to be replaced at some point. **PX:** PX inventory is complete.

Special Projects:

The museum now has a new A/C. Jim McKinley is connecting power wiring to the unit.

Sick Call:

Col. Jim McKinley reported Pat Joplin still in recovery with leg and back pains and is not improving. Col. Bill Bower of the Doolittle Raiders has passed away at his home in Boulder, Colorado at the age of 93. Bower was the last surviving pilot of the Doolittle Raiders to date.

Good of the Wing:

- Col. Mike Colaluca is selling plaques to help raise funds for the Yellow Rose left engine.
- Col. Kelly Klaus announced that "Movie Nights" at the hangar will start up again this Saturday evening also to aid in the Yellow Rose engine fund. This Sat. movie will be Midway.
- Col. Dan Stim has donated a computer to be used in the Library.
- Col. Ron Iberg has donated money to assist in repairs to the P-39.

Upcoming Events:

Jan. 22, Young Eagles group from Del Valley ROTC will be at the hangar. Another group is scheduled Feb 5th from the South Austin School.

Col. William Foster manages the Wing website, www.centexwing.com. The website currently over 6000 hits. To help increase traffic on the website, Col. Foster would like host podcasts of members on the website.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was given by Buzz Perez, and seconded by Jim Liles.

Meeting concluded at approx. 2130 Hrs.



From: "Alison Ender"

<alisonender@grandecom.net>

Date: February 2, 2011 8:48:04 AM CST

To: <alisonender@grandecom.net>

Subject: Texas Military Forces Museum Dinner Dance

Can you broadcast the following to the Wing and to the Yellow Rose Squadron as an FYI... sounds like fun!!

The Texas Military Forces Museum at Camp Mabry is having their Dinner Dance on Feb 12 from 6:30-11 pm. Music will be provided by our favorite swing band "Sentimental Journey." If you want more information or you would like to order tickets online go to www.texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org, click on Dinner Dance. You can also order tickets by calling (512)-782-5659.

Thanks,

Julie Pulcipher

CENTEX HIGHLIGHT