

CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE

Estrella Squadron

NEWSLETTER VOL I No.3

April 27,1990

GREAT NEWS

Those of you who attended the meeting of April 3 had the distinct pleasure of being able to get together in our own hangar!!

Thanks to a considerable number of members and non-member volunteers, trenches were dug, wires were laid, pipes were placed, grounds were raked, floors were swept, conduit was installed, wires were pulled, lamps were re-wired, cleaned hung and hooked up, memo boards were hung, plans were drawn and displayed AND ...Whew!!!! a whole lot more as well. To accomplish all this in such a short time is something that I'm sure a great many people thought would never happen.

Since the last meeting even more has been done; phone lines pulled through to the hangar, running water installed, a fantastic cement apron poured in front of the hangar, a beautiful sign painted and ready to be raised... well, it goes on and on. If anyone had any doubts about the Estrella Squadron of the Confederate Air Force getting it together, take a look brothers.. we are in BUSINESS!!!

A FEW THOUGHTS...

Obviously, a tremendous amount of work has been done by a number of people. As is the case in most organizations, the amount of work has been great but the numbers have been few. There are those who have been out at the hangar day after day and there are a lot more of us who have not been out at all or infrequently at best. The writer, regrettably, numbers himself among the latter so no fingers are being pointed at anyone else specifically. Suffice it to say that just a little more involvement by a few more people would help all of us to accomplish a great deal more.

MAY 26th

Our Hangar Dedication Day, barbeque etc. is fast approaching. A number of working groups have been

(2)

established under different people, all of whom can use any amount of help you can offer:

Set-Up (tables, chairs, counters etc)- Gary Corripo
Small directional signs etc. - Paul Tardiff
Parking barricades - Nels Miller
Auto parking - Keith Bowers
Airplane parking - Bill Price
Clean-up - Bruce Toomey
PX Sales - Ferne Leslie
Tickets - Glen Thomson

There will obviously be more help needed for things that haven't even been thought of yet so anyone with any expertise in any area who can help will be most welcome. PLEASE, this is not just an idle request. Try to give whatever time you can afford. Contact anyone on the above list if you think you can offer some help. If all else fails, contact Glen Thomson who is coordinating most of the overall activities.

CHAPTER DUES

It has been agreed that, to help us get off the ground and to have a little running money, annual Squadron dues in the amount of \$35.00 will be instituted. We need Squadron dues as soon as we can get them and we are being asked to bring a check, cash or other legal tender(?) to the May 1 meeting. As you know, CAF national membership dues go to Headquarters. Out of the initial membership fee of \$200.00, Headquarters is putting aside \$40.00 which is earmarked for an aircraft which will be eventually assigned to our Squadron. While we are all looking forward to this it does not put any money in the Squadron bank account, consequently, we need at least a small base for our own Squadron expenses.

SUMMER ADVISORY BOARD MEETING -JUNE 15 - 17. 1990

We are reminded that the above function will be hosted by the Omaha, Nebraska Great Plains Wing and it sounds like a humdinger. The highlight of the activities will be a no host lunch at the Officers Club and a tour of SAC Headquarters at Offutt AFB which will include the Underground Command Center. Also included are several Briefings specifically for CAF and Air Force Association members who will be there as well. The AFA, by the way, is very interested in establishing freindly working relations with the CAF and the cooperation could strengthen both organizations. This really is an incredible opportunity and all those interested should contact Glen Thomson as soon as possible. There is excellent commercial air service to Omaha and the Red Lion Inn is offering rooms at \$58.00 per night, double or single occupancy and transportation to and from the Airport.

BITS AND PIECES

The S2 is back as you can see by even a quick glance at the airport while passing!!! It looks really great parked in front of OUR hangar but BOY it is a BIG MOTHER.

Another superb vehicle has been added to our Motor Pool (hey Gary, only kidding!!) It really WILL be great and Keith Bowers has got the engine loosened up a bit and says it actually has compression. A new set of tires and some judicious Bowers black magic and it will probably be running all over the airport.

A FINAL THOUGHT OR TWO (OR THREE!)

The thought probably crosses some of our minds that we are being asked to devote a lot of free time to our little endeavor but, in reality, an awful lot has been accomplished in a very short time by a few people. Some who might have a real interest in joining as Colonels may have been sort of hanging back a little to see if, indeed, anything was going to get off the ground. Just a look at what has been happening should dispel any thoughts of hesitation at this point.

This so-called "newsletter" is being sent to approximately 90 people who have signed in at various meetings at one time or another. There are always new signatures so there is obviously a considerable amount of interest in the area in what we are doing. Those of us who have already joined the CAF and our local Squadron are sincerely interested in welcoming those of you who have shown such an interest and ask that you join us.

The initial fees are a bit heavy, as any of us on a limited retirement budget will acknowledge but at a little over \$16.00 a month from now on I personally think I'm having one hell of a lot of fun and getting to know and enjoy some really fine people. Besides, where else can you pay for the opportunity to rake rocks and sweep asphalt taxiways and dig trenches and listen to big old round engines?!

This letter and maybe one more after the barbecue will go out to the whole list. After that, to save money, it will be limited to members only.

Join Us. We still have a lot to do but a lot of it is fun stuff now and all of us would like to have your help and support and friendship.