

CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE

Estrella Squadron

NEWSLETTER VOL II No. 21

January 28, 1991

...let's see, where was I... Oh Yeah, left for summer home in Pennsylvania after the May 31 meeting which was great. Spent some time in PA getting robbed by lawyers so packed up car and trailer and headed West. Had car and trailer stolen in Amarillo, Texas which was eventually recovered after being driven through a barbed wire fence, left in a plowed field and thoroughly ransacked. Finally staggered into Paso, "bloody but unbowed" although slightly bent. Paso Robles looked awfully good to us, let me tell you.

ON TO BUSINESS !!

The February Meeting will be held at the hangar at 3:00pm on Saturday, February 2nd. It is requested that Staff members try to show up about 1:00pm. No particular work session is planned in advance of the meeting this time but we will devote the meeting to the election of new officers for the coming term. Those nominated by the nominating committee are:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Squadron Leader | Glen Thomson |
| 2. Executive Officer | Gary Corippo |
| 3. Adjutant | Paul Tardiff |
| 4. Finance | Ferne Leslie |
| 5. Operations & Safety | Bill Kitchen |
| 6. PIO & Newsletter | Bruce Toomey |
| 7. Supply | Tom Leatherwood |
| 8. Transport | Keith Bowers |
| 9. PX | Rosemary Netto |
| 10. Facility | George Netto |
| 11. Historian | Dirk Hale |
| 12. Liason | Don Leedom |
| 13. Maintenance | ? |

As always, nominations are welcome from the floor. It is suggested that you give the above list some thought and if you have additional nominees or other suggestions in mind please be prepared to bring these up at the meeting.

A formal entertainment program is not contemplated because of the elections but " Col./Capt." Bill Kitchen has graciously offered to share some of his war time experiences with us which should be most interesting.

We will not have our usual delicious food offering served up by Rosemary and troops since Rosemary will be elsewhere that weekend. Instead, we will have a mid-afternoon dessert treat (which will thoroughly ruin your appetite for dinner) and wives, sweethearts, etc. are being asked to contribute a pie or cookies or something of that nature. Please contact Rosemary if you can contribute.

WARM NEWS

As many of you know, we now have a 167,000 BTU propane heater installed in the hangar, courtesy of some of the usual "can do" group This is big enough to blow your socks off and should help tremendously when we go back to night meetings. It will also be a boon to those who are working on the L-16 who have been doing so at night, on occasion, with gloved hands and chattering teeth.

Speaking of the L-16, there is still room for additional "members", or what have you, in the group that is doing the repair and reconstruction work. These are the ones who will be in charge of who gets to fly the bird since they have made the investment and are putting in the time. There will be ample time available for flying when its finished so if you want to have some real old "grass roots" fun give some thought to joining the group.

ANNUAL MEETING AND BARBEQUE

A fairly firm date has been set for what is tentatively being called our "Second Annual" (Military?) Fly In and Barbeque and that is Saturday, May 18, 1991. It was suggested that one individual be in charge of overseeing the various committees and dear Rosemary Netto was tapped for that signal honor at the last Staff meeting but she hasn't decided whether she wants to take on that much of a headache or not

Last year seemed to work out pretty well with committee heads assigned and volunteers requested for each committee. In the long run, everyone seemed to pitch in help wherever needed but we certainly don't want just a few people saddled with some big major jobs without plenty of help. More on this at the meeting.

FUN STUFF

All the foregoing seems pretty businesslike and no mention has been made of "what its all about". Last Sunday, the 27th an informal "Fly-By" was made over Atascadero at the request of a local Troop Support group. The "Stoof" with Glen Thomson in command and "crew" of Harry

2

Hines, Paul Tardiff, Bruce Toomey, Ryan Marlett and Bob Weiss was accompanied by the T-28 with H. A. "Coop" Cooper and our own awesome Exec, Gary "HP" (ya gotta ask!) Corippo. Also joining from San Luis was Pat Yancey in a beautiful BT-13, and an unknown friend in an equally handsome Stearman. An impressively tight formation was executed by the T-28 crew with the Stoof and we were later informed that the operation was very well received. It goes without saying (almost!) that everyone in the Stoof had a great time but poor Gary looked like he had had better days after thrashing his burned leg around in the T-28.

In early November (unreported by negligent correspondent) the Squadron was represented at the Alameda Naval Air Station's 50th Anniversary by Glen Thomson, Don Leedom, George & Rosemary Netto, Bruce Toomey and one North American T-28. It was a rather quiet affair, sort of a private in-house atmosphere but really quite pleasant with a lot of interesting war birds in attendance. All but Glen flew up in Don Leedom's Bonanza but were forced to divert to Salinas and drive the rest of the way after a transponder problem developed in Don's aircraft. Horrible ground navigation by former East Bay resident Toomey brought the Bonanza crew into Alameda too late for the celebration dinner but the following day was very pleasant and Toomey was more-or-less forgiven for mistaking Livermore for Alameda. As is always the way, Toomey got lucky and was able to join Glenn in the T-28 for the trip back to Paso which was truly an emotional experience for one who had so long dreamed for any kind of ride behind a round engine.

Rag Roundup Time

Not exactly the most glamorous item but a reminder that Stuart Toomey, son of the ground navigator, has been the one supplying red shop rags for the hangar through his manufacturing operation. If you have any at home please bring them in and also pick up any you see lying around the hangar or outside and we'll talk him into a swap for new ones.

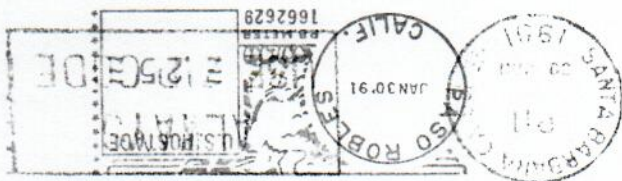
FREEBEE PLUG

Just for the record, Stuart has also allowed his old man to run off all the copies of the Newsletters on his Xerox machine during the past year at no charge to the CAF and this month he is providing all the labels for mailing, on very short notice, like about 20 minutes, since our label supplier, Don Leedom is away, in Germany, I believe. The Pilot Shop, to be part of Toomey Aviation USA, also Stuart's operation, is scheduled for opening on March 1. In the meantime, he has a computer set up for free DUAT use and

would welcome any CAF members who wish to use it. One neat item is that it offers weather printouts decoded into plain English as well as printing out weather depiction charts. There are a few items on the shelves with more on the way, the coffee is FREE so go on over any time.

This is the end. Try to make the meeting. We all need each other!!

JOHN P. DAVIS
3057 S. HIGUERA ST. #11
SAN LUIS OBISPO CA 93401



11