

# CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE NEWS

## *Estrella Squadron*



All the news that's fit to print and then some!

Volume VI Number 11

Paso Robles, California

November 1995

### November Meeting

The November Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 7, at (hold on to your hats!) finally and at last, our

#### NEW HANGAR!!

For those of you who need directions, go (east, as usual) from Airport Road on Dry Creek Road approximately seven and a half tenths of a mile past the entrance to the old hangar and turn in the gate on the left.

Social Hour will commence at 6:00pm with Dinner at 7:00pm.

Col. Bob Miller will again be in charge of the dinner and the ever faithful Mike Wing will probably supply us with barbecued chicken if the latest reports are accurate.

The place looks great. The hangar is painted, all kinds of dirt has been moved around and smoothed out and, as of today, November 1, the curbs and gutters are in! A lot of base has been added to take care of the dust and, possibly, the rain, the

A-6 is on the pad, the flag pole is up, the light poles are up, the doors are on and. . .well, you'll just have to see for yourselves!

Inside the hangar you won't believe it. The place is HUGE!

There is a kitchen area with counters. There is an actual sink with running water and as of today there is at least one functioning INDOOR TOILET. Now is this plush or what!?!?

Granted, it's temporary but it most certainly is a far cry from what we have been living with and it's OURS!!

It's almost impossible to imagine the amount of work that has been done by the small number of dedicated people who have been working every single day to get this ready!! Old Winnie was right, "Never have so many owed so much to so few!" BE THERE. THIS IS A PARTY!!

### A Special Speaker

Our speaker for the evening is a very special person and local resident, Rolande "Frenchy" Amundson, whom many of you

may have read about or heard of during the past several years.

"Frenchy" was a Resistance fighter as a young girl during WWII. She was smuggled out of France to England for training and then made three parachute drops into occupied France. On her last jump she was captured and endured unspeakable torture and abuse and was not released until 1945. Her story is so fantastic and her attitude and beliefs are so incredible that they must be told by "Frenchy" herself. She has spoken to several local groups and we are very privileged to have her as our guest for this evening.

Please make every effort to be at the meeting. Hearing and being made aware of a bit of history such as this is one of the very reasons for the existence of the CAF.

### The Invader is Here!!

This isn't exactly new news but it is definitely a Big Deal!

If you haven't been out to the hangar area to see OUR A-6 you should do so. To get this big bird

The Estrella Squadron  
Newsletter

is published monthly as an unofficial voluntary contribution. Content and opinion, other than by-line columns, is the sole responsibility of the Editor, Col. Bruce MacE. Toomey unless otherwise noted.

Submission for inclusion are not only welcomed but solicited, including articles, display and classified ads, etc. Please send all submissions to the Editor (by name) at P.O. Box 3065, Paso Robles, CA 93447.

Graphics, computer layout, design and use of photocopying machine as well as paper and other supplies are the contribution of Stuart Toomey and,

Toomey Racing USA  
3044 Propeller Drive  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

(Bruce Toomey has no business connection with or financial interest in Toomey Racing).

on loan for our very own is one heck of an accomplishment.

Those who watched as the airplane came in were in sort of an ambivalent mood. It was a real thrill to stand near it and feel and hear the power of those two mighty jet engines. On the other hand there were also a few misty eyes when it was realized that this was the last time this true combat veteran would ever fire up again.

The A-6 is a wonderful beginning in our efforts to have a representation of "Aircraft through the Ages".



Flight Duty Roster

For the month of November; Mike Flight under the able direction of Col. Bob Miller (434-1888) will be in charge of the November Meeting and the month's activities.

(In view of the fact that Col. Miller will be responsible for the dinner that evening it is suggested that whomever he has designated as his second in command contact Col. Kevin Craig with regard to setting up the Hangar for the meeting

C.O.'s Column

by Col. Jeff Welles

Well, can you believe it? We're finally in the new hangar!

The call to action through our Flight Leaders produced the desired and expected results for the move this past Saturday. Most of us were too busy to get a head count but I would expect that at one time of the day or another, we saw 46 to 60 dedicated Squadron members jumping in and volunteering to move the mass of equipment and material from the old hangar to the new one. Many thanks to all who gave of their time in this effort.

The new hangar seems so much larger until you begin to see how much "stuff" we have accumulated over the past 5 years or so. I think that some of the "stuff" we moved could have been thrown out, but everyone was moving with such efficiency that I think if we had slowed

down to try and evaluate the need for each piece that we would have lost our momentum.

In any case, we now have a new home; and a permanent one at that. When I begin to focus on just what that means, several things come to mind.

First: What a tremendous feeling of pride we, as a Squadron, can take in the accomplishment itself. To think that in just 3 short years this was almost out of the question, suggests to me that we have a group that can accomplish things in a large scale. It also proves that once we set our collective minds to a common goal, that we have great strength, not only in our numbers, but in the skills that each one brings to the group. We can certainly capitalize on this.

Second: What a responsibility we have. To the City: to uphold our financial obligations and our development milestones, in terms of getting the next building (the general purpose meeting building) up and operative in the next 12 months. To all those who have donated their time efforts so unselfishly: we owe it to them to demonstrate that we will fulfill the aspirations that we all have for the growth and stability of our group.

Third: Now that we have a permanent home (the first part of our goals), we can use it as a foundation to fulfill the rest of the goals of our group: the restoration and preservation of World War II aircraft, as a

### Estrella Squadron Staff

Commanding Officer	Col. Jeff Welles
Executive Officer	Col. Hal Chilton
Finance	Col. Rosemary Netto
Adjutant	Col. Bob Singleton
Operations	Col. Glen Thomson
Maintenance	Col. Keith Bowers
Safety	Col. Bruce Toomey
At Large	Col. John Himes

#### Staff Appointments

PIO	Col. Blake Wideman
PX Officer	Willa Killion
Historian	Col. John Davis



tribute to the men and women who built, and who flew them, and the spirit in which these great planes were flown in the defense of our nation.

I think that it is incumbent upon us to maintain our focus and work toward the fulfillment of our stated objectives.

Please help us and find a way to get involved with our next steps.



### Sincere Thanks

Again, we are in the difficult position of trying to express our appreciation, without leaving someone unmentioned, to the many individuals and business friends who helped so much during the time the A-6 crew was here decommissioning the aircraft.

First of all we owe a great deal to Wayne King who made most of

the arrangements for the actual acquisition as well as Gary Corippo for his usual "acquisition" help.

We wish to thank Glen Thomson for fronting the money (on very short notice!) required by the U.S. Navy to cover expenses before they would even come down here!

Thanks to Judy and Gary Corippo for having the crew to dinner on the Thursday arrival of the aircraft.

Thanks to Wayne King again for the loan of his personal car.

Special thanks should be noted with regard to some of our business friends:

Enterprise Rent-A-Car for the FREE use of a van for the crew!

Wilson's Restaurant which provided FREE meals for the crew.

Wally Nissen's Taco Bell which also provided FREE meals for the crew.

Special mention should also be made on behalf of the Lakeside Bed & Breakfast, 9065 Lakeview Drive in Atascadero. Len Swam, the owner of the B&B, offered to put up the crew free of charge during their stay. Unfortunately, we got our signals crossed and the crew was assigned to the Motel 6. Nevertheless, we wish to thank Len for his generous offer.

The membership should know that the cost to obtain the A-6 (crew meals, transportation to their base, accommodations while here, etc.) was reduced to about one third of the official Navy estimate because of the efforts of Judy Corippo

regarding transportation, Glen Thomson's timely help with funds, and the tremendous help of our commercial business sponsors.

Let's keep these business friends in mind when we're spending our money locally!

Please accept the personal apologies of your Editor if others who helped have not been acknowledged!

AIRSHOW JUNE 23, 1996

### Staff Report

(condensed and paraphrased)  
Confederate Air Force, Estrella Squadron Staff Meeting, October 18, 1995.

Present: Cols. Jeff Welles, Squadron Commander, Hal Chilton, Executive Officer, John Davis, Bob Singleton, Glen Thomson, Bruce Toomey, Blake Wideman, Rosemary Netto, John Himes & Obbie Atkinson.

#### Old Business

Minutes of October Meeting reviewed and approved.

#### Treasurer's Report

Report posted on bulletin board and available for all to see.

#### New Business

Col. Obbie Atkinson, Chairman of the Membership Committee, discussed the concept, purpose and goals of the Flight Leader Program, which he was instrumental in forming, and how it has fared since its inception last year. He also

Committee Chairs

<b>Program</b>		
George Marrett	466-7640	
<b>Dinners</b>		
<b>Membership</b>		
Obbie Atkinson	238-9212	
<b>Air Show</b>		
Ashley Lightfoot	239-4461	
<b>Hangar/Grounds</b>		
Kevin Craig	238-4643	
Bruce Toomey	238-9266	
	238-9516	
<b>Ground Equipment</b>		
Dave Geiger	239-1598	
<b>Project Manager</b>		
Gary Corippo	238-2090	
	238-0888	
<b>Insurance</b>		
Elmer Belmont	466-1062	
<b>Refreshments</b>		
Doug Miner	239-1054	
<b>Activities-OPEN</b>		
<b>Meeting Setup</b>		
By Flights (see Kevin Craig)		
<b>Photo</b>		
Ralph Grasso	237-2813	
<b>Historian</b>		
John Davis	544-6582	
	781-5157	
	x-4008	

Recommendations were made and a discussion ensued which suggested a meeting of Flight Leaders, an appointment of a Staff member as a program supervisor, a need for more activities that would interest more members, more focusing on aircraft restoration and several allied items.

A motion was made that:

1. The Flight Leader Program be continued.
2. A Staff member be appointed to be in charge of the Program.
3. The Flights be reworked with regard to members and procedures.
4. Make a new inventory of members skills and interests
5. The Flights be asked to assist with the hangar move.

The motion was passed.

(Obviously number 5 was a great success because there were a tremendous number of members present on Saturday who managed to move the entire hangar contents in one day!)

Col. Hal Chilton has volunteered to be the Staff member in charge and Col. Bruce Toomey will assist him with the details of the day to day operations of the program.

It was generally agreed that the Program is an excellent tool to further the purpose and goals of the organization.

~~~~~

**Editorial Comment:**

Obviously, all of us are considered to be part of a labor

pool, as well as, in many cases, specialists in certain areas of particular expertise.

Every member is welcome to participate to whatever extent he or she desires and no one should feel any undue pressure. On the other hand, we want to make sure that someone just doesn't fall between the cracks because he or she is uninformed as to what's available that might be of interest to him or her personally.

It is the intention of those who are taking the responsibility for the program to make it worthwhile, pleasant to participate in and a method by which every member can be made to feel comfortable with his or her participation, whether it be heavy involvement or just as a social member.

~~~~~

Additional New Business

Col. Singleton indicated that Nancy Green, who has been conducting the monthly meeting raffle, has been concerned that the raffle was slipping in popularity.

Although we netted only \$63.00 at the October meeting, which was not as good as other months, it was definitely agreed that the raffle is well worth it and worth supporting. It is one easy way to raise some money fairly painlessly.

It was also suggested that we might solicit donated gifts like a free dinner for two to add to the raffle. In any event, the Staff was

offered a number of recommendations for improvement.

Although our membership has increased from 120 to 148 members and the number of Colonels from 25 to 41 (due mostly to Obbie's hard work) with increased recognition from Headquarters, the Flight Leader program has not progressed as well as had been hoped.

unanimous in their praise and support of the excellent job Nancy and her crew have been performing.

Meeting adjourned at 2130.

Ed. Note:

So c'mon guys, cough up a buck or two when Nancy comes around and make this thing worth while. After all, there are three chances to win!!

## Additional Flight

### Leader Info

You will note the short list entitled "Flight Leader Reports" at the top of the page. Col. Bob Singleton, our super efficient keeper of the lists programmed this little report just to show what has been occurring with regard to the monthly totals. We expect this to improve considerably when we reorganize our program.

Speaking of participation (which we are always talking about some place or other in the newsletter!), it is interesting to note that the two Flight Leaders with the best records are two who have had a particular job assignment at the meetings in addition to Flight Leader responsibilities. Col. Doug Miner who is responsible for refreshments and Col. Rosemary Netto who has been our dinner mainstay for years. It kind of makes one think, doesn't it?

JOHN HIMES  
Owner

The **Paper Works**

✕ Printing and Copy Center ✕ Broadcast Mail  
✕ Full Service Direct Mail ✕ The Coupon Tabloid

(905) 466-6680  
FAX (905) 466-4368

5901 Entrada Avenue  
Atascadero, CA 93422

## Boys School Helpers Get Plane Rides

At the last meeting you may remember that I asked for volunteers to take a number of the boys from the Boys School for an airplane ride as a reward for working so hard and so well for the Setup Crew during the Airshow.

This is a tough thing to organize because we have to get permission from Sacramento for an exact day and then recruit the proper number of aircraft owner/members to do the flying on that exact day.

All went well until just before the flight when two of the four necessary pilot/members were unable to fly because of business conflicts.

There were thirteen boys and supervisors involved which called for at least four airplanes since there has to be a supervisor on board with each of two or three boys. With only two planes we were in trouble and I hated to disappoint the boys.

As the one responsible, I was voicing my concerns at Amelia's, the airport cafe, while waiting for the boys and wondering what to do. Without a minutes hesitation, Marguerite Nunn, the owner of Amelia's said, "I'll be happy to get the 182 out," and with that she left the restaurant and brought the plane over.

Ten minutes later, having heard of my problem after calling my home to see when the flight was supposed to take place, in rolled Wayne King in a Turbo 210 from SAN LUIS!!

Already on the spot were Col. Kenny Finch and Tom O'Hara who had agreed to help out earlier. So now we had our four airplanes!!

To make a long story somewhat shorter, the boys were absolutely ecstatic. None of them had even been in an airplane before and most had never even been to an airport before the Airshow. I was told later by Capt. Greg Lowe, one of the Staff members of the School, that the boys could hardly wait to get to the phones when they got back to camp so they could call their families and tell them all about it. These kids don't have much and something like this means more than we can possibly imagine.

I want to extend my most sincere thanks to Kenny Finch who took time off from work, to Tom O'Hara for taking TWO trips with two sets of boys, and to Marguerite Nunn and Wayne King for just dropping whatever they were doing to help out.

My thanks also to Mike Slason who was an original volunteer but who got stuck with jury duty and to Bob Miller who was more than willing but just had too many business conflicts.

## Member Survey

We are enclosing a member survey as prepared by Col. Bob Singleton. This is similar to ones we have done in the past to upgrade information about our members. We ask that every member fill this out and bring it to the next meeting to turn over to your Flight Leader.

## CAF FLIGHT LEADER REPORTS--PARTICIPATING AT SQUADRON MEETINGS

DUTY MONTH	FLIGHT	FLIGHT LEADER	PHONE													TOTAL
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TO
1995				J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	DATE
JANUARY	ALPHA	BLAKE WIDEMAN	237-2810	18	18	9				6			10			61
FEBRUARY	BRAVO	KIETH BOWERS	239-1854	19		10	11	10	8	14						72
MARCH	DELTA	VERN SMITH	541-8050	12	12	8										32
APRIL	ECHO	BILL EXLINE	543-2067	7	7	8	17	5	10	13	12	7				86
MAY	FOXTROT	MIKE SLASON	237-8848	17	20	6		16					20			79
JUNE	GOLF	DOUG MINER	239-1054		13	9	16	10	22	10	9	13	16			118
JULY	HOTEL	DIRK HALE	237-0819	3	2	2				11						18
AUGUST	JULIET	ROSEMARY NETTO	467-3521	23	28	10		11	11		15					98
SEPTEMBER	KILO	JAMES WOOD	772-1362		6	6	8					13	5			38
OCTOBER	LIMA	BOB SINGLETON	239-2084		35	7	11							17		70
NOVEMBER	MIKE	BOB MILLER	434-1594		23	9										32
DECEMBER	NOVEMBER	DIETER ECKERT	239-0459	6	12											18

If you forget to bring it, please note that it is a self-mailer; fold it in thirds, on the dotted lines, stick a stamp on it and shoot it back.

These surveys do not commit you in any way but they have proven to be invaluable when we have searched, on occasion, for someone with particular skills. Some members are reluctant to volunteer, which is understandable, but others are simply shy about speaking up. We have found several extremely valuable assets among some of the members and they have been of great help to the organization. We promise not to work you to death unless you'll put up with it!!

Please help us out.

## Airport Procedure Problems

It has come to the attention of your Editor, by way of overhearing a phone conversation, that there is some cause for concern regarding the excessive vehicular use of the

taxiways in general by members of our group and of the East/West taxiway in particular, between the old hangar and the new site.

Evidently there have been more than a few complaints about right of way and the fact that on at least one occasion an aircraft was forced to give way to a car.

Roger Oxborrow has been reluctant to make an issue over it because of the fact that he realized that we were heavily involved with the new building etc., but since we are now in the new site we should take another look at the problem.

To put the matter straight, the airport is for aircraft, not vehicle traffic. The fact that we have been making so many runs between the hangar and the new site has obviously upset certain people who are not particularly fond of the CAF in general. Yes, there are always some!

Now that we are in the new Hangar, however, we should make every effort to use the entrance gate rather than the

taxiway. We don't need any enemies and being a good neighbor is a great way to make good friends. There are more and more businesses being built along Dry Creek Road and by setting a good example rather than a bad one we can go a long way toward building a good image. Enough said!!?

## L-Bird Shares for Sale!

We are informed that there is one share available in the L-5 and possibly two in the L-16.

Dick Griffith has a share in the L-5 for sale and made the comment that the aircraft has never been in better shape. This is a great opportunity so call Dick at 434-2124 if you are interested.

Glen Thomson is also offering up his share in the L-16. This is a wonderful chance for someone to get into some fun flying or to start again if he or she had been away from flying for a while and would like to get into it again.



Tue. thru Sat. 9:00AM - 4:00PM  
Closed Sunday & Monday

ESTRELLA SQUADRON--CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE  
MEMBER INTEREST SURVEY

I am interested in participating in all of the following activities which I have marked with an "X":

- 1. Aircraft restoration and maintenance
- 2. Representing the squadron at airshows away from home
- 3. Working as a team member on our own airshows
- 4. Helping to build and maintain hangars and other facilities that we need for our tasks
- 5. Participating in Squadron and Museum meetings and other group activities
  - a. As part of the program and/or planning
  - b. On the many tasks to make the meeting a success (cooking, serving, setting up tables, cleanup, etc)
- 6. Representing the squadron in civic events (parades, festivals, etc)
- 7. Becomming a Squadron Officer or member of the Staff
- 8. Heiping out on fund raising tasks (raffles, soliciting donations, selling PX items, etc)
- 9. Perform maintenance and repair of Squadron/Museum ground equipment (trucks, tugs, auxiliary power units, etc)
- 10. Other tasks not mentioned above

fold here

fold here

I have training and/or experience in the following fields which may be useful:

Please add any comments, questions or complaints you have about the Squadron and its operation:

Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Flight \_\_\_\_\_ please print

Flight Leaders: Please return these to Bob Singleton, Adjutant 239-2084

fold here

---



---



---

Place postage here

Confederate Air Force  
P.O. Box 570  
Paso Robles CA 93447

8



FAACRS  
#AQ 3R380L

Eric Struve  
President

Ph (805) 544-8358  
Fax (805) 544-7058

981 Airport Drive  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

CUSTOM BUSINESS CARDS • COFFEE MUGS • CALENDARS • SPORTS BOTTLES • PEY'S • HATS • T-SHIRTS • MOUNTAIN CUPS • CHECKBOOKS •

# THAT'S ADVERTISING

"SPECIALTY ADVERTISING PRODUCTS WITH AN IMPACT"

Blaine Parkening  
1126 Morro Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

PHONE  
805-546-9054  
FAX  
805-541-4900

BUTTONS • T-SHIRTS • PENS & PENCILS • KEY TAGS • GOLF TEE'S • MUGS • SHOPPING BAGS •



AIRCRAFT HANGARS  
FARM / RANCH  
COMMERCIAL

Alan R. Lewis  
VICE PRESIDENT

FAX: (805) 238-0648  
(805) 238-6801  
P.O. BOX 368  
PASO ROBLES, CA 93447  
PASO ROBLES AIRPORT



BOB MILLER  
(805) 434-1888

Well Drilling  
Pump Sales & Service  
Complete Machine Shop

301 North Main  
Templeton, CA 93465  
State License No. 324634

**THE GUTTERMAN**  
Seamless Aluminum Rain Gutters  
North County: 466-7013  
San Luis Obispo • 5 cities • Morro Bay  
Los Osos • Cambria • Cayucos  
Call toll free 1-800-420-4484  
Dave Yarnold Lic. # 592066

**WARREN E. CRAIN**  
PROFESSIONAL PILOT  
805-466-5537

Commercial Services • Search • Flight Instruction



JUDY CORIPPO  
Travel Consultant

Johansen's Travel Service  
8740 Pueblo Ave., Suite C • Atascadero, CA 93422  
(805) 461-1222 (Bus.) (Res.) (805) 238-2090  
(805) 461-9024 (Bus. FAX) (Res. FAX) (805) 238-7403



Confederate Air Force  
P.O. Box 570  
Paso Robles CA 93447

To: COL. JOHN DAVIS  
3057 S. Higuera St. #11  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401