

File

Confederate Air Force

Estrella Squadron Newsletter



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

Volume X Number 3

Paso Robles, California

March 1999

Inside:

March Meeting	Page 1
Mid-Winter Conference	CAF Wing Page 1
A-4 Looking Like an Airplane!!	Page 2
Marty Wright to Head PX	Page 2
Many Thanks to Willa and Dewey Killion	Page 3
New Advertisers!	Page 3
Adjutant Needed	Page 3
CAF Staff Meeting Minutes	Page 4
New Construction	Page 5

March Meeting

The March Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 1999 at the Meeting Building with Social Hour commencing at 6:00pm and Dinner at 7:00pm.

Our program will be another interesting one arranged for by Program Chairman, George Marrett. We will hear from a husband and wife team who have made special arrangements to be here on this day. George B. Lyle a career Air Force Officer who has been everything from a Seaman First Class on a Destroyer to an Air Force Test Pilot will be accompanied by his wife, Mary Joan Whelan who has been a pilot since she was 18 and has had a varied career ranging from being a CFII to an FAA Examiner as well as having been a WASP from 1944 until they were disbanded.

Interestingly enough Mary Joan Whelan was George Lyle's instructor in 1947 before he joined the USAF Cadet program and said she soloed him "because he was too dangerous to fly dual with!"

This should be a lot of fun so lets have a good turnout.

Our dinner, as prepared by Chef John Himes and crew will be corned beef and cabbage and if you remember how good the last corned beef dinner was there will probably be a good crowd for the meal!

Air Show '99 A Sentimental Journey June 13, 1999

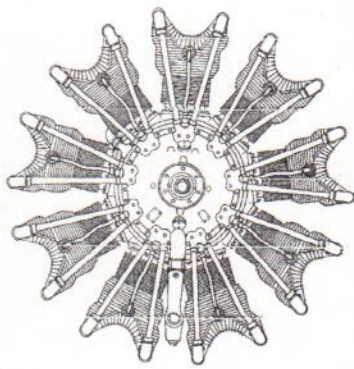
Voice Mail # for Air Show Info
805 227-2142

Again, we are asking that reservations be made for the dinner. Your Flight Leader should be in touch with you but if he misses you or you just don't connect somehow, call Betty Miller at 466-1212, Bruce Toomey at 238-9266 or leave a message on the Hangar phone 227-0440. Reservations will be asked for from now on as a permanent thing because it makes it a whole lot easier to estimate the amount of food necessary and saves us money as a consequence. It can't be too onerous to just pick up the phone and make one call so please do your best.

Mid-Winter CAF Wing Conference Very Rewarding

Over the weekend of February 19 through 21, Staff members Toomey, Miller, Thomson and Himes along with GC Gary Corippo attended the annual Mid-Winter Wing Staff Conference in Midland, Texas.

Always a worthwhile meeting, punctuated by breakout sub discussions on a great variety of pertinent subjects, this years meeting



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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 or Fax to 238-9516 or e-mail to bruce@toomey.com

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was highlighted, for us, by a very open, informative and reasonable examination of some of the problems affecting our relationship with HQ resulting from misunderstandings about the function of the Estrella Warbirds Museum as it relates to the Squadron and the CAF in general.

A number of false assumptions and beliefs were clarified and put to rest on both sides and the ultimate good faith gesture on the part of HQ Staff was to unexpectedly approve the expenditure of Squadron funds for the development of the new kitchen in the Meeting Building. The Squadron, in turn, pledged to make a concerted effort to place the consideration of the CAF's interests in the forefront as concerns the acquisition of artifacts, future aircraft and other possible assets. In addition, a donation of \$1,000 was made on behalf of the Squadron by the attending Staff members toward the new building to house the burgeoning collection of original "nose art" being accumulated by HQ. This was done in the middle of a wide ranging and highly charged vocal plea for funds which was responded to with much good humored enthusiasm by most of the Wings and Squadrons in attendance. Our donation was conspicuously noted by the Staff and went a long way toward confirming our previously stated good intentions about closing the gap between HQ and ourselves.

By the end of the conference we all felt that the early atmosphere of rather antagonistic concern on the part of the HQ Staff had completely turned around and we were warmly treated by all of the Staff members who repeatedly approached us on an individual basis during the balance of the weekend.

We left the conference believing that there is much that can be done to reinforce our relationship with HQ without impairing other considerations.

**Air Show Volunteer
Coordinator**

Judy Crownover

238-3426

e-mail: lolalu@tcsn.net

Warren Bailey To Become Museum Curator

At the February Staff Meeting a motion was approved to offer Warren Bailey the position of Museum Curator.

Warren has been a Director of the Travis Air Force Base Historical Society for nine years and President for the last four years. Prior to that he created an in-depth restoration and acquisition program for the Castle Air Force Base Museum. If you have been to either place you have an idea of the breadth of knowledge, ability and background of Warren Bailey.

In the meantime Warren spent 28 years in operations and production including 21 years at the manager and supervisory level in the aviation field. He also spent 10 years in materials and inventory management including inventory control, materials planning and distribution. He also determined and managed disposition action for surplus materials and equipment to reduce inventory utilizing the Defense Redistribution Marketing Organization (DRMO) system.

In talking with Warren about museum possibilities one is immediately struck by the flow of ideas and plans relating to structuring a viable museum here on our site. With his expertise we can really have the kind of operation we only dreamed of before.

Warren wants to relocate to the North County area and those of us who have met and talked with him are

Estrella Squadron Staff

- Commanding Officer
Col. Bruce M. Toomey
- Executive Officer
Col. Elizabeth Renton Miller
- Finance
Col. John Himes
- Adjutant
OPEN
- Operations
Col. Glen Thomson
- Maintenance
Col. Al Schade
- Safety
Col. John Cromwell

Staff Appointments

- PIO
Col. Blake Wideman
- PX Officer
Marty Wright
- Aircraft Restoration Projects
Col. Al Schade
- Historian
OPEN
- Flight Coordinator
Col. Bob Singleton

CAF Hangar
Phone
227-0440

absolutely delighted that he wants to do so

If all goes well Warren should start some time in early March and we are looking forward to working with him with great enthusiasm.

A-4 Looking Like An Airplane!

Doing his usual 12 out of a possible 10, Al Schade, with the help of several volunteers and a large crane, placed the A-4 fuselage on the wing structure over the weekend and the bird looks a whole heck of a lot better than it did sitting rather ingloriously on a couple of barrels and in the wood frame. Al says that it will look a lot better when they swap horizontal stabilizers. Those involved were Fred Thacker, Marty Martin, John Dolan, Bob Kinsell and two new members who are unfortunately unidentified at this point but appreciated nonetheless.

It's a great addition to our "fleet" and we are all grateful to those who spend so much time making all of these things happen.

Marty Wright to Head PX

Relatively new member, Marty Wright has stepped forward to take over the PX from Willa Killion. Marty has evidenced a great interest in expanding the PX and making it bigger and better than ever and this could be a definite boon to the organization. Many of the Squadrons and Wings make a big thing of the PX and we heard several people at the Staff Conference discussing the healthy profits to be made.

We are looking forward to working with Marty and trust that the entire membership will assist him whenever necessary.

Many Thanks to Willa and Dewey Killion

Again we wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to Willa and Dewey for all they have done with regard to the PX to say nothing of a dozen other things they have tackled

Willa has been crawling over boxes of greasy old parts and other impediments in the storage sheds for years trying to keep the PX items in some sort of order with darn little help from the rest of us. Everything seems to get tossed on top of the PX stuff and it hasn't been easy to do the job she was asked to do. I know I speak for the entire membership when I say Thanks and God Bless to both.

New Advertisers!

Please note that after a period of fewer and fewer advertisers we have now added two new ones!

The first is Sonjia Johnston Baer, commercial, multi-engine and instrument pilot and CFI. Sonjia is the daughter of our long-time member, Col. Pete Johnston. We are delighted to have Sonjia as an advertiser and we would like to suggest that some of you who want to upgrade your status as former pilot to current pilot might just give her a call!

Actually Sonjia has been in our ad list for a couple of issues and we apologize to her for not singling her out prior to this issue.

Another new advertiser is an old friend, Joe Modica CFP, son-in-law of beloved former member Paul Tardiff. Joe is a Certified Financial Planner in Atascadero and we are very pleased that he has renewed his connection with our group and hope that he may become a Squadron member in the near future.

Please look for both of our new advertisers in our classified section.

Adjutant Needed

For the past several years we have been fortunate to have the services of Col. John Davis as our Adjutant. John has been a faithful and loyal member and friend, traveling all the way from

Committee Chairs

CAF

Program

George Marrett
466-7640

Dinners

John Himes
466-6680

Membership

Obbie Atkinson
238-9212

Hangar/Grounds

OPEN/
John Kendall

Air Show

Chuck Miller
466-1212

Ground Equipment

Dave Geiger
239-1598

Project Manager

Gary Corippo
238-2090
237-2090

Insurance

Brian Webster
237-0222

Refreshments

Tom Gabele
237-1567

Activities

Linda Hermansen
Maria Goldman

Photo

OPEN

JOINT CAF/EWM

Joint Site Improvements
Glen Thomson

Joint Community Events
Committee
Gary Corippo

SLO for Staff meetings and monthly meetings and always getting his notes in on time for the newsletter.

John, as most of you know, has suffered a couple of what he calls mild strokes. He still sounds fine over the phone but, for the time being at least, he is unable to drive and has asked to be relieved from his duties as Adjutant.

We are in great need of someone to take on this position. The individual should be a CAF colonel or one who would consider becoming one. The primary responsibility, as far as our group is concerned, is to take the minutes at the Staff meetings as well as the monthly dinner meetings and type or write them up for publication in the newsletter and for our records. According to HQ directives there are other things that the Adjutant is supposed to do but, traditionally in our group, there are others who have been handling these tasks.

For the immediate future we would very much appreciate someone volunteering to take on the recording of minutes. If the person becomes involved and feels as though he or she could take on the few other duties, that would be a definite plus.

This is really kind of a fun job because you get to be in on all the happenings at the Staff meetings and you get to associate with just a peachy bunch of people (just kidding) and you also know you are doing something very worthwhile for the organization.

Please consider this request and if you are willing to help out please call Betty Miller at 466-1212 or Bruce Toomey at 238-9266.

(If we don't get a volunteer we will have to conscript someone who will, of course, be branded and incarcerated in one of the outside storage boxes and let out only for occasional meals and recreation such as raking rocks.)

Estrella Warbirds Museum

Hours

Wednesday 2 - 4

Saturday 10 - 2

Sunday 12 - 2

CAF Staff Meeting
Minutes, 2-17-99

Edited and paraphrased for length by Ed.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in Hangar A with the following Staff members present: Colonels Toomey, Miller, Himes, Thomson and Cromwell.

Also in attendance were : George Marrett, Col. Chuck Miller, Air Show Director, Col. Corippo, GC, Col. Obbie Atkinson, Membership Chairman, Tom Gabele, Refreshments Chairman and Marty Wright, PX Chairman.

Warren Bailey attended as a guest.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved as read.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurers Report for January was presented by Col. Himes and was approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Building Permit status. Col. Corippo reported that the building permit has been approved and framing should begin the first of the month if all of the required paperwork from the contractor has been filed with the City.

2. TACOM Status. Privacy Act statements for background checks from Toomey, Miller, Thomson and Corippo will be signed on February 18 so that the process can be finalized.

There may be a site visit in March from the TACOM group.

3. Bed Tax Request. Co. Corippo reported that the \$12,000 subsidy request for a Curator was denied by the City Council since two of the five Councilmen had to step down because of their membership status and were unable to vote. The Council did grant us a six month delay in repayment towards the existing loan.

4. Col. Corippo stated that a monetary donation will be forthcoming from the Twisselman family for the use of the meeting hangar for Buster Twisselman's funeral luncheon.

New Business

1. Adjutant Status. Col. Miller reported that she had contacted Col. Dori Foxworthy about filling Col. John Davis' position as Adjutant since he has said he will be unable to complete his term due to health conditions. Col. Foxworthy stated that she would consider it at a later time but was unable to step in at this time.

2. Facility Rental Charges - Col. Miller presented prices of other facilities in the North County (Mid State Fairgrounds, Centennial Park, Templeton VFW and Atascadero Lake Pavilion) and discussion followed. Moved and seconded to appoint a Study Committee to develop pricing consisting of Cols. Himes, Miller and Cromwell. Discussion followed about obtaining security for the new Meeting Building and

Restoration Building. Great Western Alarm will be contacted for an estimate of cost to put in security in both new Buildings.

3. Col. Obbie Atkinson is involved in getting a new Membership brochure completed. There will be a CAF Membership drive coming up with prizes going to the top Recruiters. Details will be coming out soon so watch the newsletter for the latest info. Certain problems were discussed with regard to membership in the L-Bird Bug Smashers group. No action was taken at this time but the use of the L-Birds as a recruiting tool was discussed. More flying members are needed in the group to maintain the planes.

4. Pay Phone

Col. Miller asked that the CAF consider having a pay phone installed outside the Meeting building. It was moved, seconded and approved to have Col. Miller investigate obtaining one.

5. Col. Toomey said that we have received a request from the Atascadero Mom's Club for a special tour of the facility on Wednesday, March 10.

6. A request from the American Cancer Society for the F-4 for the children's Cancer Camp in Cambria for June 4 has been received. The F-4 will be located in the Pinedorado Park area for young cancer patients to be able to see and get into. The theme for this year's Camp is "Reach for the Stars". It was moved, seconded and approved to grant this request as a donation from the CAF Estrella Squadron to the American Cancer Society. Col. Toomey will report on the current status of the F-4 at the next scheduled Staff meeting.

7. Squadron Member Marty Wright was introduced as the new volunteer to take over the operations of the PX.

8. Warren Bailey was introduced as the Curator candidate and offered a brief

background and some of his ideas to revitalize interest in the artifacts that have been loaned to the group. It was moved, seconded and approved to set up an agreement with Mr. Bailey to act as Curator for the Museum.

9. Col. Chuck Miller presented his preliminary Air Show Expense Budget. He will have an Air Show Income Budget at the next meeting for review so that the completed budget can be sent to CAF HQ in Midland.

10. The Navy League was extremely satisfied with the use of the facilities for their Black History Month speaker, Col. William Campbell, former Tuskegee Airman. The motion was made, seconded and approved to release the \$2.00 per meal surcharge to them as was agreed upon when the arrangements were originally made in November of 1998. This was to help the Navy League with their expenses in obtaining Col. Campbell as their speaker including the printed invitations. This came to a total of \$280. and was gratefully received.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00p.

Respectively submitted,

Col. Elizabeth Miller, Acting Secretary

New Construction

Apparently the lumber for the new construction inside the Meeting Building is on hand and work could commence at any time. By the time of our March meeting you may see all kinds of new things out there! This would be a boon because we really need to get the Meeting Hall finished. It's pretty rough trying to hold meeting there without the proper lighting and heat but once the walls are up we can really make a push for completion.

CAF FLIGHTS---MASTER SCHEDULE

12/22/98

MONTH	##### DINNER MEETING #####	## DOCENT PROGRAM ##		
	DUTY FLIGHTS & FLIGHT LEADERS	BACKUP FLIGHTS	DUTY FLIGHTS	BACKUP FLIGHTS
JAN	ALPHA Co FLIGHT LDR: COL BLAKE WIDEMAN 237-2810 Co FLIGHT LDR: MARIA GOLDMAN 466-0779	BRAVO * *	HOTEL	JULIETT * *
FEB	BRAVO Co FLIGHT LDR: RAY BARKSDALE 238-0917 Co FLIGHT LDR: JACK COMPERE 238-9609	ALPHA	JULIETT	HOTEL
MAR	DELTA Co FLIGHT LDR: COL JOHN KENDALL 239-8029 Co FLIGHT LDR: WALT MARTIN 239-5833	ECHO * *	KILO	LIMA * *
APR	ECHO Co FLIGHT LDR: COL RON MULLISEN 528-4686 Co FLIGHT LDR: BILL CARLSON 595-7935	DELTA	LIMA	KILO
MAY	FOXTROT Co FLIGHT LDR: TOM WEISS 239-2637 Co FLIGHT LDR: COL CONRAD MARTIN 226-9058	GOLF * *	MIKE	NOVEMBER * *
JUNE	GOLF Co FLIGHT LDR: COL DOUG MINER 239-1054 Co FLIGHT LEADER: AL DAVIS 238-3732	FOXTROT	NOVEMBER	MIKE
JULY	HOTEL Co FLIGHT LDR: DIRK HALE 237-0819 Co FLIGHT LDR: ANDREW HENRY 237-2740	JULIETT * *	ALPHA	BRAVO * *
AUG	JULIETT Co FLIGHT LDR: EDWIN VINCIK 466-3758 Co FLIGHT LDR: RON THOMPSON 237-2904	HOTEL	BRAVO	ALPHA
SEPT	KILO Co FLIGHT LDR: LARRY CAMPO 238-7702 Co FLIGHT LDR: COL CATHERINE DAVIS 466-2666	LIMA * *	DELTA	ECHO * *
OCT	LIMA Co FLIGHT LDR: COL BOB SINGLETON 239-2084 Co FLIGHT LDR: ARNOLD HERMANSEN 467-3343	KILO	ECHO	DELTA
NOV	MIKE Co FLIGHT LDR: COL KENNY FINCH 238-1199 Co FLIGHT LDR: COL GARY MORRISON 434-1673	NOVEMBER * *	FOXTROT	GOLF * *
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