



COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE HOUSTON WING

May 2018

Slips & Skids

Wing Leader

"Things work out best for those who make the best of how things work out."

-John Wooden



It's hard to believe May is already here. That means the annual Open House/Warbird Weekend is behind us and the flying season is in full swing. With three Wing aircraft flying, and two under restoration, things are very busy at the hanger these days.

Open House Update

Once again, the 2018 Houston Wing Open House/Warbird Weekend was a success. Saturday's rains made the crowds a little light but Sunday's lovely weather brought the event back to average. The financial objective of the open house is to raise enough money to fund the basic non-flying overhead of the Wing for one year. This includes items such as electricity, water/sewer, insurance and airport fees. We accomplished this objective. While the numbers are still being tabulated, I can say we netted somewhere in excess of 18K. The

Finance Officer will give a detailed report at the May Wing meeting.

One of the highlights on Saturday was the General George Patton impersonator Denny Hair. General Patton and his 'security detail' gave quite a performance for the crowd. We hope to bring him back for next year's Warbird Weekend.

This year we had a focused marketing effort prior to the event and it paid off. A big thanks goes out to our Facebook team of Brian Kosior and Sam Bulger and Sam Hoynes for leading the ad campaigns.

I would also like to thank our sign crew who put out the road signs weeks in advance and had to go out Sunday after the event closed to pick them up for next year.

Many thanks go out to all the members who came out and helped. Thanks goes to our food crew lead by Don and Sherry Johnson, Linda and Bruce Gispanski, Gary and Joyce Hurta, Wes and Gayle Fellows, and Susie Bredlou. The food quality was excellent and



we were able to feed our visitors throughout the day.

Other unsung heroes were the gate crew led by Bill Stone with his son and Bill Roach.



These guys worked out in the sun from start to finish both days collecting parking donations

and answering questions for our visitors. We all owe them many thanks for being the gate keepers of the Open House.

One of the reasons this event was successful was because our members worked together to make it that way. We had aircraft operations, parking, shuttle bus/golf carts, food service, static displays, PX/dog tag sales and outside vendors. We showed the public what we do best and we did it safely. Give yourselves a pat on the back. You all did good.

2018 Wing Directory

Personnel Officer Tammi Lockwood is finalizing the new 2018 Houston Wing Directory. If you have paid your membership dues your name should be in the Directory. There are currently 91 paid members. If you forgot to renew your membership, please send in your check as soon as possible. Tammi will send out an update to the directory in September. You must be current with your CAF and Wing dues to fly in the aircraft.

Keep 'em flying, be safe and have some fun.
-Stan

Eyes On the Horizon!

May 19

Museum Weekend

May 28

AT-6/BT-13

Sugarland/Memorial Oaks,
Flyover

June 2

Museum Weekend

June 8-10

AT-6/BT-13/N3N

Barnstorming in Austin w/ TR
Ground Support/PX needed

June 16

AT-6/BT-13/N3N

Barnstorming in Conroe w/TR
Ground Support/PX needed

Museum Weekend





Houston Wing Pilots conducted a three ship formation flyover of the Operation Lock-n-Load Tournament flyover, Westside Sporting Grounds on 21 Apr. Dave Guggemos lead in his T-34, with me in my Texan, and Ryszard Zadow in Ace with Mike Steiger in his backseat. Bill Roach was airboss on the ground and Sam Bulger planned and coordinated the mission.

Operations Update



The Houston Wing Open House/Warbird Weekend was April 14-15. We had many participants bringing an outstanding selection of fixed and rotary wing flying machines

from other CAF units, museums, and member owned aircraft. Visiting aircraft included everything from the L-4 Cub up to the B-25 bomber and L-39 jet. During the events we had several formation “dawn patrol” flights to let potential visitors know the event was happening. Scott Rozzell led the overall briefing and formation flights on Saturday and Stu McAfee led on Sunday.



Many thanks to the volunteer pilots who showed up early and stayed late to make all the flight operations happen in support of this event that provides much

of our financial support to keep the unit operating year round.

As I write this update we are planning to support the Central Texas Airshow, Draughton-Miller Airport, in Temple, May 4-5-6 with Ace and several member owned aircraft.



Thanks again for all your support for the Wing Operations in 2018. -Nathan

Marketing Report

Where did we leave off last time? Oh yea that’s right, the Warbird Weekend thing, oh yea, I almost forgot. One thing I won’t forget though is how grateful we are to have such a magnificent membership that came out in full force to support their favorite wings major spring event.



Warbird Weekend got off to a cold wet start but finished with a strong finish on sunny Sunday. What impressed me was the fact that people were consistently coming

through the gate on Saturday morning. Because of the weather not many rides were sold Saturday, but Sunday looked like IAH with all the planes coming and going with happy riders experiencing what we do best. An informal poll from the rides desk indicated the vast majority of our customers found out about the event from Facebook. Social media is the way to do advertising today.

Now that Warbird Weekend is in the books its time to focus on revamping the website and starting the new hangar campaign. If anyone has any ideas shoot me an email. The next big events coming up are the Memorial Day flyovers and we're barnstorming in Austin with Texas Raiders and Devil Dog on June 8th, 9th & 10th. Let's go on a road trip and have some fun with our friends.

Till next time, see y'all around the hangar.
-Sam Bulger

Maintenance



Greetings once again from the Houston Wing Maintenance Department. I am very pleased to report that winter/spring maintenance is completed. The AT-6, BT-13 and N3N are all operational again. Work

continues on the PT-19 and painting of the fuselage has reached the cockpit areas. This makes things

somewhat more complicated. The engine control quadrants were removed, cleaned, and are being



repainted currently. Engine control rods have been removed, cleaned and painted. So far, one control rod bearing failed inspection. Next step is all the flight control rods and bell cranks. That work should conclude in the next few weeks. The rear and forward instrument panels will be removed to make painting easier and for their repaint and/or replacement. I shall also remove the elevator trim controls and cables. The cables and chains need to be cleaned and oiled. The engine is

completed for the plane and will be shipped here in May. The propeller should be



ready by June. I expect that the fuselage will



be ready to recover by early summer. And that brings us to another up-coming project.

The fabric on the N3N is getting old and tired and is causing problems. Therefore we are planning on recovering the N3N wings and horizontal after completion of the PT-19. This summer I would like to have some volunteers who would like to learn fabric rib stitching to attend fabric school with me. I will be putting together videos and as much



information as I can on this process, and then we shall go out and practice on the frames that we have in the hangar. It is far easier to do when working as teams. I would like around 10-12 people who would seriously like to do this. It is tedious and time consuming. It takes dedication to get it done. Let me know if you are interested.

And the final World War Two plane in the hangar is the C-60 and work has begun again to get her ready to fly. The left carburetor has been removed and sent out for repair. I have begun the process of disassembly and reseal of the main gear actuator end caps. Also work on the "Approved Flight Manual" continues at the FAA. One more little World War Two trainer is on my list for May, and annual of the PT-22 will occur. Maintenance

is always on the job, and these old planes always need something.....See you at the hangar. -Jim

Social Media Report

As predicted in last months' report, we did reach our goal of 1,500 followers by Warbird Weekend. We have actually just now broken 1,700! We have been steadily climbing for six months, and I hope that this continues.

I feel that we used Facebook to the best of our ability to promote Warbird Weekend. We put up pictures and videos of the



event, which drew a lot of attention on Saturday evening and into Sunday. After the event, we posted a lot of pictures of our



members and volunteers that helped to make the weekend run smoothly. We used those

pictures to send out some thanks as well. It was brought to my attention that some areas/participants were not covered in the posts, and my sincere apologies for that. No one was left out on purpose. This was my first time covering the event, and we all learn as we go. I look forward to covering it all next year

Thank you to all of those people who have been sending in your pictures! Keep them coming! -Brian

Museum Moment

Museum - Quiz

What's Your AF IQ? Vol. 1

Following are the questions and answers to our extracted questionnaire from AIR FORCE magazine, July 1944 Issue;

1. In ditching a B-17, the top turret gunner should place his guns facing

- a. Backward
- b. To the right
- c. Forward
- d. To the left

2. If an engine exhaust black smoke, it means that

- a. The mixture in the carburetor is too rich
- b. There is a leak in the exhaust stack
- c. The mixture in the carburetor is too lean
- d. There is an excessive air leak in the bleeds

3. The location of the 6th Air Force headquarters is

- a. Hawaii
- b. Alaska
- c. The Canal Zone
- d. The Solomons

4. A tandem airplane is a plane which has

- a. More than two engines
- b. Two seats, one behind the other
- c. A retractable landing gear
- d. Twin tail booms

5. Eglin Field is located in

- a. Oklahoma
- b. Texas
- c. California
- d. Florida

6. The E6B is

- a. The night-fighter version of the P-38
- b. A navigational computer
- c. The military terminology used to refer to the 75mm gun in the B-25
- d. An anti-aircraft gun

7. The approximate oil pressure in pounds per square inch necessary to feather a prop is

- a. 150
- b. 250
- c. 400
- d. 600





-May 20: Wing Meeting begins at 2:00pm

-After the meeting, stick around for lunch. Please bring your favorite Italian dish to share!

-Volunteering is what we do best! Coming out to the hangar for museum days is a great way to meet your fellow members and to share your talent with us. We hope to see you soon!



- Answers:**
1. (c) Forward. To assist the pilot and co-pilot in leaving the plane.
 2. (a) The mixture in the carburetor is too rich.
 3. (c) The Canal Zone
 4. (b) Two seats, one behind the other.
 5. (d) Florida
 6. (b) A navigational computer
 7. (c) 400



Staff Directory

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