



# The Dispatch



AIRBASE GEORGIA, COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE, PEACHTREE CITY, GA  
www.airbasegeorgia.org  www.facebook.com/CAFAirbaseGeorgia  
Col Frank Kalinowski, Editor - fsk47@yahoo.com

April 2021

Education through living history.

Keep 'em flying.

Airbase Leader  
Col Jim Buckley  
wingleader@dixiewing.org

Executive Officer  
Col Jerry Robinette  
xo@dixiewing.org

Adjutant  
Col Gerhard Frenz  
adjutant@dixiewing.org

Finance Officer  
Col Peter Daliere  
finance@dixiewing.org

Maintenance Officer  
Col Randy Hawkins  
maintenance@dixiewing.org

Operations Officer  
Col Joel Perkins  
ops@dixiewing.org

Safety Officer  
Col George Daneker  
safety@dixiewing.org

Development Officer  
Col Chris Madrid  
development@dixiewing.org

Education Officer  
Col Rick Kaczor  
education@dixiewing.org

Recruiting Officer  
Col Jim Dalton  
LawDalton@aol.com

Public Information Officer  
Col Steve Forsyth  
pio@dixiewing.org

Marketing Officer  
marketing@dixiewing.org

Aircraft Rides Officer  
Col Steve Hoofnagle  
rides@dixiewing.org

Air Show Scheduling  
Col Clint Cottrell  
airshow@dixiewing.org

Facility Rentals  
Col Dave Riesselmann  
facilityrentals@dixiewing.org

## From the Left Seat Col Jim Buckley, Airbase Georgia Leader

Spring is here and hopefully the return of air shows. We just booked the Florida International Air Show in Punta Gorda, Florida for October for the SBD and the *Corsair*. Most of the regulars that hang out at the unit have had their second Covid shots, but for myself I am leaving my mask on - at least until the pollen goes away. Recurrent Check rides are the order of the day, with many pilots not flying for a while. Aerobatic re qualifications are scheduled for May 1 at the Raceway airport, Hampton GA. Congratulations to our newest SBD pilot, Jeff Clark. Jeff has been a quiet, long time supporter of many unit activities.



Our *Corsair* is back from over a month out of town, working with the movie industry. Everyone is excited about seeing the movie when it comes out. Needless to say, it earned some well-needed money for the unit. A big, big thanks to crew chief Greg Scott who spent almost the entire time on location with our bird - long days and lots of frustration. It was a "hurry up and wait" type of ordeal.

The P-51 is back on duty at Eglin AFB with the test pilots school. All is going well with Col Stan Musick as the instructor. These events are extremely important as our air show and ride revenue has dried up due to the pandemic. We are scheduled for the annual Reading WWII weekend event for June that was canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic. ➔

Blue Skies to all,

Jim Buckley

## WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 ..... Rides; Recruitment
- 3 ..... Executive Officer Report
- 4 ..... Development Officer Report
- 8 ..... New Logo Selection
- 9 ..... Flags for the Fallen
- 10 ..... SBD on Magazine Cover
- 11 .... University of West Georgia Tour
- 13 .... On the Horizon; **PLANE CRAZY**



# Rides Update

## Col Steve Hoofnagle

### Rides Officer



As reported previously, we have resumed rides in all aircraft, except the P-51!!!

At present we are only doing Rides at the Airbase and on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays by appointment.

We are planning a weeklong joint Rides event with the Gulf Coast Wing following the Atlanta Air Show at the McCollum airport in Cobb County at the end of May. This will be a great OJT opportunity for anyone interested in becoming involved with the Rides Program. Please reach out to me if interested in volunteer-

ing.

Remember that Airbase GA members get a 20% discount on Rides. Contact me for details if you're interested in a ride. ➔

[rides@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:rides@airbasegeorgia.org)

770-309-5584 (new Airbase Georgia Business cell number)

Hoofer



## RECRUITING \* ORIENTATION \* RETENTION

### Col Jim Dalton, Recruiting Officer

Welcome new Cols:

April was a banner month as ten new Cols were sworn in at the monthly Airbase meeting. Let's welcome these new members! ➔

Richard Gallaher

Steve Barnshall

Jack Peters

Chad Goddard

Jim Stearns

Greg Buck

Frank Piasecki

Bob Young

Bill Freyman

Ken Horsley

Semper Fidelis!

Jim

# Executive Officer Report

## Col Jerry Robinette, Executive Officer

As I think everyone is aware, Col Marc Bramblett recently retired from his duties as Chaplain due to health reasons. We sincerely appreciate the excellent job Marc did while serving as Chaplain and will especially miss his unique voice and presentation skills. We wish Marc the best in his "retirement."

It is also my pleasure to announce that the staff has appointed a long-time Airbase Georgia member as our Chaplain. Please join us as we welcome Col Jerome Kline (pictured below) to his new role as Airbase Georgia Chaplain. Jerome has actively served the Dixie Wing/Airbase Georgia since 2007. He has been a "man of many talents" over the years and has helped with many Airbase projects such as WWII Heritage Days and museum maintenance. Jerome also spent many Thursday nights assisting with our Bingo operation. He also has been very active in keeping up with the status of the WWII Veterans in our area.

Since some of you may not be aware of the duties and responsibilities of the Airbase Georgia Chaplain, I have included to the right the "job description." As you can see, this position is a very important part of ensuring that our members are kept advised of member events within the organization. We know Col Kline will do an admirable job of carrying out these duties.



### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE AIRBASE GEORGIA CHAPLAIN

The Chaplain is appointed by the Airbase Georgia Staff and is responsible for the following:

1. Being well versed in the code of conduct of the CAF and Airbase Georgia.
2. Advising Airbase staff of issues involving members of Airbase Georgia, such as illness, death, special celebrations, etc.
3. Updating staff and members at Airbase Georgia monthly meetings regarding the status of members and to report any new member events.
4. Sending get-well cards to members who are sick or hospitalized, and cards of condolence to the families of members who have "Gone West."
5. Keeping a "Chaplain's Log" of notable happenings involving members, such as sickness, hospitalization, death, etc. Information will include 1) member's name, 2) date, 3) event, 4) action taken and 5) notes relative to the log entry. ➔



# Development Officer Update

## Col Chris Madrid



*As Development Officer, one of my priorities is to support member engagement and project success by assisting members in building plans and teams to implement and sustain their individual projects. Together we can demonstrate to the business, civic and education communities that the CAF Airbase Georgia is a resource that impacts the quality of life in Fayette County and throughout Georgia. Establishing a positive reputation, track record and relationship building are key to all future fundraising success.*

### CAF AIRBASE GEORGIA: BACK IN THE SADDLE

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, CAF Airbase Georgia hosted an in-person membership meeting for the first time in 2021. Over 90 members attended, including many who have not had an opportunity to visit the hangar this year due to COVID-19 precautions. CAF Airbase Georgia remains closed to the public, but we are hopeful that the ongoing COVID-19 vaccine distribution will enable us to reopen to the public this fall. In the interim, we have several projects that can benefit from member involvement.

For interested members, I have provided a link to my [Development Officer Update](#) presented at the April 2021 Membership Meeting.

### REOPENING PREPARATIONS, PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Education Officer Col Rick Kaczor is leading a Museum Refresh Project in anticipation of our Fall Opening. The project goal is to reorganize the museum exhibit displays around themes that link our aircraft to classroom learning objectives. We are also working with Georgia State University to onboard a graduate research assistant. The intern, with the support of GSU faculty, will work with the Museum Refresh Team and provide us with a strategy, guidance and written plans to support our refresh and long-term efforts. The intern will work 10-15 hours week, August 2021-May 2022. Please contact Rick if you are interested in volunteering, [richard.kaczor@und.edu](mailto:richard.kaczor@und.edu).

GSU Graduate Research Assistant Museum Project Scope of Work;

- Exhibit design strategy aligned with the Post Pandemic Refresh plan;
- Artifact inventory plan to be executed by GRA with CAF Dixie Wing volunteers;
- SOPs for ongoing inventory management by volunteer staff;
- Recommendation for digital collection management system for continuity.

**GSU Intern Donation Update** – The cost to onboard the GSU intern is \$4,092 to benefit to the Georgia State University Research Foundation. A member has donated \$2,500 to the project. If you are interested in supporting the project, please contact me.

### CAF AIRBASE GEORGIA TRANSITION UPDATE: LOGO, SIGNS AND SHIRTS

During the April Membership Meeting, the staff introduced a pair of logo concepts for CAF Airbase Georgia. All current CAF Airbase Georgia members are invited to vote for the logo of their choice. The vote will begin at the May 1<sup>st</sup> Membership Meeting and will continue through May 25<sup>th</sup>. The winning logo will be announced at the June Membership Meeting.

As you may have noticed, street and building signage has been updated to reflect CAF Airbase Georgia. If you would like to update your CAF Dixie Wing shirt, our local vendor Uniforms for America can sew "Airbase Georgia" and your name onto your shirt. Members representing CAF Airbase Georgia at airshows and other public events are expected to wear a CAF Airbase



### Development Officer Update (cont.)

Georgia shirt. Uniforms for America is located at 135 Huddleston Road, Peachtree City. Phone: 770-632-0253.



### STEARMAN RESTORATION PROJECT

Team members are now working most Saturdays. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact Project Manager Col Jeff Clark, [Jeffrey.clark@gmail.com](mailto:Jeffrey.clark@gmail.com)

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Recruiting & Retention – We have so far recruited 20 new members in 2021, progress which complements our 44 new members recruited in 2020. Our next Virtual Recruiting Open House is scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>, 7pm. If you know a potential recruit, please contact Cols Jim Dalton ([lawdalton@aol.com](mailto:lawdalton@aol.com)) or Dave Serafin ([dserafin58@comcast.net](mailto:dserafin58@comcast.net)).
- Georgia World War Heritage Trail - The CAF Airbase Georgia is an affiliate member of the new trail that was introduced on Feb 16<sup>th</sup>. The trail partnership is planning a major announcement this fall, which will increase awareness, visitors, donations, and aircraft rides sales when we fully reopen to the public. All members are welcome to visit the trail website at <https://www.georgiawwiitrail.org/>
- Hangar Tours – Effective Dec 9, 2020, the hangar is closed to the public until further notice. Please refer visitors to the wing website for current info.

### EDUCATION & MUSEUM OUTREACH

- University Partnerships - As you may recall from the March Dispatch, on March 26<sup>th</sup>, the Museum of History and Holocaust Education (MHHE) at Kennesaw State University, in partnership with CAF Airbase Georgia, hosted a free, live, virtual event called *Rosie the Riveter: Still Flexing Her Muscles*. The program included a 20-minute segment featuring CAF Airbase Georgia Col Robyn Rosenzweig and the P-63. The program was attended by over 500 students from across Georgia and several other states.

In June, the MHHE will feature Col Willard Womack and Red Nose during the annual Holocaust Workshop in a segment "Paving the Way for Liberation." The segment will explore the contribution of the P-51 Mustang and 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force in liberating the Concentration Camps.

- Fayette County Schools - On April 13 Col Willard Womack met with an 8<sup>th</sup> Grader from Rising Star Middle School who is creating a video tour of CAF Airbase Georgia. The project is another example of CAF Airbase Georgia pursuing the CAF education mission. Even though educators are now focused on completing the current school year, plans are underway for CAF Airbase to connect educators and their students with employers, experiences, and information to support preparing Georgia students for success in learning, career, and life. The program series will include zoom meetings with the United States Air Force, Military Medicine, Air Force Association CyberPatriot Program. Our education outreach is critical to connecting with foundations and employers that might support our restoration mission.
- CEC College & Career Academy Aircraft Walkaround Series – We have struck a partnership with Central Education Center (CEC), a College & Career Academy located in Newnan, GA, to create an aircraft walk-around segments by working with one of Georgia's most respected college and career academies Broadcast Video Production Classes. The segments will be professionally produced and available for our use on an ongoing basis, i.e., posted on our website for distribution to high school aviation students, JRTOC, etc. The program kick-off has been delayed until the

2021-2022 school year due to COVID-19. 🙏

### Development Officer Update (cont.)

- Docent Program - A visit to the hangar is a powerful recruiting tool and introduction to potential donors. Rick Kaczor is working with Willard Womack to review the guidelines and determine how we might repurpose the info for our use in the future. If you are interested in volunteering as a docent, please contact Education Officer Col Rick Kaczor at [richard.kaczor@und.edu](mailto:richard.kaczor@und.edu).
- Website - We have added a new Education tab on [www.airbasegeorgia.org](http://www.airbasegeorgia.org). The tab includes info for scheduling a tour, requesting access to the WWII Home Front lesson plan program and the Living Aviation History Day guest speaker series.

### FUNDRAISING

- CAF Development Team – Members interested in assisting in fundraising are invited to join the CAF Airbase Georgia Development Team Zoom Meeting on Wed, May 19th @ 7pm. Cols Jane Simpson, Steve Forsyth, Rick Kaczor, Philip Beegle, and Jim van den Heuval have so far joined the effort. Jane and I met with a grant writer in February who has offered to coach us regarding the requirements necessary to submit and compete for federal and foundation grants. We are also working on grants from the Georgia Humanities Council and Explore Georgia. Please contact me if you are interested in joining the Development Team, [chris.madrid@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:chris.madrid@airbasegeorgia.org)



**WWIIHD Donation Update** – An anonymous member has donated \$1,000 to WWII Heritage Days. If you are interested in supporting the event, please contact me.

- WWII Heritage Days (Oct 9) and 1940s Hangar Dance Fundraiser (Sept 11) – Planning for both events is underway. The 2021 WWIIHD theme will combine a Stearman Fly-in with a Tribute to Rosie the Riveter. Our planned announcement was postponed due to the pause in COVID-19 vaccine distribution. Look for a WWIIHD media release later this month. In the meantime, the team is meeting every other week and we are soliciting input from past participants. Our next meeting is planned for Tues, April 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm.
- Aircraft Rides – Effective March 6<sup>th</sup>, aircraft rides are reopened for business. The upcoming Atlanta Airshow will provide opportunities for the public to purchase a ride in a CAF Airbase Georgia warbird. Following the airshow, May 24-27, B-17 Texas Raiders and CAF Airbase Georgia will join forces at a Warbird Expo Tour stop May 24-27 at Cobb County Airport. If you are interested in assisting, please contact Rides Officer Steve Hoofnagle at [rides@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:rides@airbasegeorgia.org) or [chris.madrid@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:chris.madrid@airbasegeorgia.org). In the meantime, Rides Officer Col Steve Hoofnagle has many previously purchased rides to fulfill.
- Hangar Rental – Col Dave Riesselmann is our Hangar Rental Officer. Please pass on leads to Dave, [facilityrentals@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:facilityrentals@airbasegeorgia.org).
- Airshow Sales – While COVID-19 has resulted in the cancellation of numerous Spring and Summer shows across the nation, there are signs that late Summer may see the beginning of the return of airshows. Airshow Marketing Officer Col Clint Cottrell continues to mine opportunities.

### PROGRAM COORDINATION

- **Dispatch** - The Dispatch is the primary communications tool for keeping members up to date. All members are encouraged to read the Dispatch. Dispatch Editor Col Frank Kalinowski is seeking articles from members.





### Development Officer Update (cont.)

- Marketing & Fundraising Ops Team - The mission of the team is to coordinate plans for promoting the wing fundraising and education outreach programs and look for ways to encourage other members to participate in wing projects. The May monthly meeting is scheduled for May 3, 7pm EST.

### IN THE PATTERN: Other Local Aviation Events

- Atlanta Airshow (May 22-23) - For the first time since 2015 Peachtree City and Falcon Field will host an airshow. CAF Airbase Georgia is involved as a contractor, but please note we are not a producer or sponsor of the event. If you are interested in volunteering for the airshow, visit the airshow website <https://airshowatlanta.com>



***FOLLOW THE***  
**WWII HERITAGE TRAIL**  
***LEARN HOW GEORGIANS***  
***HELPED WIN***  
***THE WAR***

**AS AMERICA MOBILIZED FOR WAR,  
GEORGIANS ANSWERED THE CALL.**

---

Overseas, they experienced the harsh realities of war. At home, they worked in factories and shipyards, trained servicemen, and supported those on the front lines.

Explore how Georgians rose to the challenge and did their part to defend freedom and democracy.

***VISIT***  
**[georgiawwiitrail.org](http://georgiawwiitrail.org)**

# *I WANT YOU TO HELP SELECT A NEW LOGO ...*



All current members of Commemorative Air Force Airbase Georgia are invited to vote for a new unit logo May 1, 2021 - May 31, 2021. Ballots will be distributed during the May 1<sup>st</sup> Membership Meeting and via Hotline for those who cannot attend the meeting.

Additional details will be shared during the May Membership Meeting.





# NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MIGHTY EIGHTH AIR FORCE



Our friends at the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force are honoring and remembering the 26,000 airmen of the Eighth Air Force in World War II who never returned home with *Flags for the Fallen: 26,000 flags | One Mission*.

This unique memorial flag garden of remembrance includes a 48-star American flag for each of the 26,000 men lost. The men of the Eighth in WWII served, and many are buried, under this flag.

The public is invited to experience the garden beginning Thursday, May 27 through Monday, May 31, Memorial Day.

The mission of the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force is to preserve and share the stories of the heroes of the Eighth; each of these flags represents a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice.

To see the full details of how you can participate, plus an inspiring video, go to:  
<https://www.mightyeighth.org/flagsforthefallen>

Be sure to share this information on your social media sites.



Our SBD graces the cover of the May issue of AVIATION HISTORY.





Pre-service teachers from the University of West Georgia toured the Airbase facilities in late March. Photos by Col Charles Burcher.



Above: Col Willard Womack starts off with a presentation before leading the group (right) into the machine shop. Below: Col Robyn Rosenzweig explains the tubular structure of the *Stearman* fuselage.







Above: Col Willard Womack explains the ammunition feed mechanisms on the P-51. Left: Col Rick Kaczor looks in as a happy student experiences the cockpit of our P-63. Below: Looks as though everyone was pretty happy with the tour.





## ON THE HORIZON .....

May 1	10am Staff Meeting; 1pm Airbase members meeting
May 22-23	Atlanta Air Show, Falcon Field
June 5	10am Staff Meeting; 1pm Airbase members meeting
July 3	10am Staff Meeting; 1pm Airbase members meeting
August 7	10am Staff Meeting; 1pm Airbase members meeting

---

## ***PLANE CRAZY***

Bob soon found a way to ease the void he felt after retiring from the airlines.

