



# The Dispatch



AIRBASE GEORGIA, COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE, PEACHTREE CITY, GA  
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February 2021

Education through living history.

Keep 'em flying.

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## WE HAVE A NEW NAME!

New Designation, same Mission. Welcome to Airbase Georgia! We are excited to announce that the Dixie Wing has been granted the designation as an Airbase within the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) organization, and will now transition to Airbase Georgia. Details are on pages 3 - 5.

Cols Chris Madrid and Steve Forsyth apply a temporary sign.



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# From the Left Seat

## Col Jim Buckley, Airbase Georgia Leader

Greetings from Airbase Georgia! Hopefully you already have heard the news. All the staff is very excited about our upgraded status. Please read Chris Madrid's column to get the full story.

Activities are picking up at the wing, but we still don't feel it's safe enough to resume normal operations. The lock down will continue at least until March 15 TH, which means no March members meeting. Both the T-34 and PT-19 annuals have been completed and test flown. The P-63 was test flown for some instrument malfunctions and checked OK. The SBD has been successfully run up and awaits test flight. The P-51 is down for annual and propeller AD note. The Corsair is making money for us in Savanna serving the film industry. Most of the Military shows we had booked, sadly, have already cancelled. Phil Watkiss and Truitt Harper are both still recovering from serious surgery; we all wish them well.

Our contract with WWII Weekend at Reading is still intact; hoping the Covid-19 numbers keep going down. Quite a few Col's have received their first and some second vaccination. Things are looking up, but I believe it's going to be another skinny year for revenue. Looking forward to all of us getting together again.

Blue Skies to all. →



## XO REPORT

### Col Jerry Robinette, Executive Officer

Well, this past year has been a time of disappointments, bad news and health concerns due to Covid-19 which has claimed thousands of lives, cancelled many air shows and other events, and negatively affected our ability to bring in much-needed funds to carry on our mission of educating the public about the aircraft of WWII and the men and women who flew them. There were, however, a few bright spots, such as the Air Force test pilot training contract and the belt-tightening by all of us which allowed us to end the year in a much better position than we had thought possible earlier in the year. And our Corsair is now going to be a movie star!

But never in our wildest dreams (although we had hope), did we expect the news that we received earlier this month. After several years of working toward the possibility of being named a Commemorate Air Force "Airbase," we received word from CAF Headquarters that the Dixie Wing has been chosen as the second CAF location to be designated an Airbase. This honor makes

up for all the disappointments of the past year and we thank CAF Headquarters for the confidence in us to bestow this honor.

I would like to thank each and every one of the Dixie Wing volunteers whose hard work and dedication helped to make this possible. Although we have loved and supported the Dixie Wing for many years, it is thrilling to me to know that I am now a part of AIRBASE GEORGIA! Congratulations to all involved for helping move the Dixie Wing to the next level! AIRBASE GEORGIA – doesn't that sound great?

An explanation of what the appointment to Airbase means to the Dixie Wing will be covered in other reports in this issue of the Dispatch. So, to avoid repetition, I will not go into details in my report. These are truly exciting times. →





## COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE® AIRBASE GEORGIA

Fellow Dixie Wing Members,

It is our honor to share the exciting news that the Dixie Wing has earned Airbase designation. This designation is a direct result of everyone's hard work, growth, success and leadership. We are only the second unit to achieve this milestone and title in the history of the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) since its founding in 1957.

Effective today, February 18th, 2021 we have become "Airbase Georgia" within the CAF

Over the last 35 years, we have become one of the most active units in the CAF, with multiple award-winning aircraft restorations, a maintenance and machine workshop, continuous growth and financial stability. We now operate 7 historic aircraft, and we have a new restoration project underway that will showcase the talents and dedication of our members. We have developed a strong reputation in our local community and throughout the aviation industry, and we have a faithful following on social media. In 2020, we met the COVID-19 challenge by maintaining our fleet while also recruiting 44 new members. It is clear to CAF Headquarters that we are much more than a traditional wing.

For those of you who don't know, a "CAF Airbase is an aviation attraction with a population base of at least 500,000 within a 100-mile radius. The facility must be located on airport grounds and contain interactive and interpretative displays, flying aircraft, aircraft restoration facilities, and host an annual public event such as a Fly In. A CAF Airbase serves as part of the business community as a publicly recognized attraction/destination and education distributor."

Starting today and over the next several months we will be reintroducing ourselves as Airbase Georgia to our neighbors and friends. We are sharing the fantastic news on our updated website <https://airbasegeorgia.org> and Facebook page and we are also distributing a media release throughout state and across the nation. Please celebrate our achievement by passing on the info far and wide.

The core mission of Airbase Georgia will always focus on operating World War II and historic aircraft. Our education mission is to honor the Greatest Generation by helping teach World War II history, but we will also inspire future pilots, aviation mechanics and citizens. In late 2019 we created an aviation sector partnership with our local school system and aerospace employers to improve our community impact and help solve the pilot and mechanic shortage. We are currently working with local educators to teach World War II history in the classroom. We also added a partnership with the tourism sector. Our goal is to be embraced as Georgia's World War II Flying Museum. Airbase Georgia clearly identifies us as a Georgia-based organization, which will help us in future outreach and fundraising efforts.

We look forward to celebrating our milestone when we can again safely host a full member meeting. In the meantime, please refer to other information within The Dispatch about Airbase Georgia. We are also working to livestream a future membership meeting. ➔

Keep 'em Flying!

Jim Buckley, Wing Leader  
Jerry Robinette, Executive Officer  
Gerhard Frenz, Adjutant  
Peter Daliere, Finance Officer  
Randy Hawkins, Maintenance Officer

Joel Perkins, Operations Officer  
George Daneker, Safety Officer  
Rick Kaczor, Education Officer  
Chris Madrid, Development Officer





## COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE® AIRBASE GEORGIA

# AIRBASE GEORGIA – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What happened today?

On February 18, 2021 the Dixie Wing was designated “Airbase Georgia” as a unit within the Commemorative Air Force (CAF).

### Why were we designated an Airbase?

The Dixie Wing earned the designation as a result of our awarded achievements, reputation in the aviation industry, community outreach, continuous growth and financial stability over the last 35 years. We are only the second unit in CAF history to receive the title.

### What is a CAF Airbase?

An “Airbase” within the CAF is defined as “An aviation attraction with a population base of at least 500,000 within a 100-mile radius. The facility must be located on airport grounds and contain interactive and interpretative displays, flying aircraft, aircraft restoration facilities, and host an annual public event such as a Fly In. A CAF Airbase serves as part of the business community as a publicly recognized attraction/destination and education distributor.”

### When did the staff vote to adopt “Airbase Georgia” as our new designation?

The staff voted unanimously during the February 6, 2021 staff meeting to adopt the name change.

### Who else knows about our new name?

Airbase Georgia members were notified by Hotline on Feb 18<sup>th</sup>. We are also distributing a media release throughout Georgia and posting the news on our Facebook page. We are sharing the info with the city of Peachtree City, local chambers of commerce, local businesses, tourism, Georgia Department of Education and Georgia Department of Economic Development, and all of our education partners, particularly our local school system.

### Why did we pick “Airbase Georgia?”

Airbase Georgia clearly defines our location and the community we serve, which will help us in our recruiting, marketing, outreach and fundraising efforts.

### Will my membership change?

Your CAF and Dixie Wing dues will apply to Airbase Georgia. ☞

## AIRBASE GEORGIA – FAQ (cont)

### **How much will the change cost the unit?**

We need to update our signage, marketing materials and our wearables. Given the impact of COVID-19 on airshow sales and rides sales, our goal is to minimize our expense, so we are making the changes on an as needed basis. We plan to have our signage updated in the next few weeks.

### **How long will the transition take?**

Besides updating signage, marketing materials and wearables, we have many details that need managing, i.e. forms, notifying vendors and our financial institutions, updating email addresses, etc. The process will take several months.

### **Can I continue to wear my old Dixie Wing shirts?**

Wearing Dixie Wing clothing during hangar workdays is permitted. Members are expected to wear Airbase Georgia shirt, hat and other merchandise at public events, including airshows and events hosted by Airbase Georgia, as the wearables are made available.

### **When will new shirts, hats and wearables be available?**

We will have a timeline to share during our March membership meeting.

### **Will Airbase Georgia have a new logo or patch?**

Airbase Georgia logo concepts have been developed and will be shared in the next few weeks. A timeline for selecting a logo will be provided in early March.

### **Did we receive criticism about our old name that prompted the name change?**

We did not receive criticism or pressure to change our name. Airbase Georgia is a perfect fit for our mission and unique role as Georgia's World War II flying museum.

### **How can I learn more about the adoption of the Airbase Georgia designation?**

Additional info will be published in the upcoming Dispatch. We are also working to livestream a future membership meeting.

### **How can I help?**

Every member can help by passing on the good news with their neighbors, friends and family. ➔

# Rides Update

## Col Steve Hoofnagle

### Facility Maintenance Officer / Rides Officer



We have had to shut down the rides program again due to COVID-19. We hope to restart in late March or early April. We just have to keep an eye on the COVID-19 situation as it unfolds. The maintenance crews are hard at work getting the birds through the Winter Maintenance work and we expect to have ALL Rides aircraft operational when we resume.

We are still selling rides via Rides Certificates. Some happy folks got them for Christmas, Valentine's Day, and for birthday and retirement presents!

Now we just need the weather to warm up and COVID to cool off so we can start making Warbird Dreams come true!

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

Contact Information:

[facility@dixiewing.org](mailto:facility@dixiewing.org) / [rides@dixiewing.org](mailto:rides@dixiewing.org)  
770-309-5584 (new DW Business cell number)

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. ➔

Hoofer

## ATTENTION AIRBASE GEORGIA COLONELS!

In case you have not done so: Your Airbase Georgia dues for 2021 are past due. Your dues for 2021 will remain at \$48.00. We value your involvement with Airbase Georgia and the Commemorative Air Force, and look forward to you continuing to be a member of the organization in the coming year.

Please submit payment now to the Finance Department to remain a member in good standing with Airbase Georgia in 2021. Your dues may be paid by cash, check or credit/debit card. You may also pay online by visiting the website members area and entering your username and password. This will take you to the "dues payment" screen. NOTE: There is a \$1.00 service charge for using the online option for a total payment of \$49.00.

You may stop by the Finance desk at any time and pay your dues in person. If you should decide to mail your dues payment, please use the following address:

**CAF Airbase Georgia - ATTN: DW Dues**  
**1200 Echo Court**  
**Peachtree City, GA 30269**

If you should have questions, please email the Finance Department at: [finance@dixiewing.org](mailto:finance@dixiewing.org).

Thank you in advance for the prompt payment of your 2021 dues.

Col Peter Daliere  
Finance Officer



# Development Officer Update

## Col Chris Madrid



*As Development Officer, one of my priorities this year 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 Airbase Georgia is a resource that impacts the quality of life in Fayette County. Establishing a track record and relationship building are key to all future fundraising plans.*

### NEW CHAPTER, NEW NAME, SAME MISSION

February 18, 2021 marks a new chapter for the Commemorative Air Force (CAF). On that date, the Dixie Wing became Airbase Georgia. The designation as an Airbase is reason for pride and celebration. Airbase Georgia reflects many accomplishments over the last 35 years. More importantly Airbase Georgia is a tribute to every member of our organization who donated talent and treasure and countless hours in the support of our mission to restore, maintain and fly historic aircraft in honor of the Greatest Generation and the nation they served. Our mission to restore and fly World War II aircraft will continue.

### COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

News of the Airbase Georgia designation has already reached many of our friends in the local community, education, tourism and business. Below are emails shared with me since we announced the introduction of Airbase Georgia.

*"Congratulations to you and all of your colleagues at the CAF Airbase Georgia! This is such well-deserved recognition of all of the hard work and extensive collaboration that your team has been doing over so many years. We are incredibly thankful for our partnership with the CAF, and we wish you much continued success in the future."*

*"CONGRATULATIONS to you and your colleagues on the CAF Dixie Wing earning the designation of CAF Airbase Georgia. I very much appreciate your leadership and support as we work collaboratively to inspire, develop and retain local talent for the aerospace/aviation industry."*

*"Congratulations! How exciting."*

*"That is awesome! Congratulations!"*

*"This is great news!! You guys do an awesome job there. You know I love the Air Force!!"*

*"Wonderful news! I love the new name, congratulations."*

*"Congratulations on the new designation. The achievement is a tribute to the exemplary work of the Dixie Wing crew."*

*"WOW! Congratulations!!! This is exciting for you and the Georgia World War II Trail."*



**Development Officer Update (cont.)**

**AIRBASE GEORGIA LOGO** - Logo concepts have been developed and will be shared in the next few weeks. A timeline for selecting a logo will be provided in early March.

**COVID-19 CAUTION CONTINUES** - Effective December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Airbase Georgia hangar is open only to essential maintenance and aircraft operations activities. The decision is based on an increase in COVID-19 cases in Georgia and our desire to protect our members and the public. Members performing at the hangar are always expected to social distance and/or wear masks.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

- Georgia World War Heritage Trail - Airbase Georgia is an affiliate member of the new trail that was announced on Feb 16<sup>th</sup>. The trail will be promoted throughout Georgia, increasing awareness, visitors, donations, and aircraft rides sales when we fully reopen to the public. The trail partners include the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force, Museum of Aviation, National Infantry Museum and WWII Home Front Museum.
- Recruiting & Retention – We have so far recruited 14 new members in 2021. Our next Virtual Recruiting Open House is scheduled for March 10<sup>th</sup> Marc, 7pm. If you know a potential recruit, please contact Jim Dalton ([lawdalton@aol.com](mailto:lawdalton@aol.com)) or Dave Serafin ([dserafin58@comcast.net](mailto:dserafin58@comcast.net)).
- Hangar Tours – Effective Dec 9, 2020, the hangar is closed to the public until further notice. Please refer visitors to the wing website to schedule a tour.
- CAF 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 due to COVID-19.

**EDUCATION & MUSEUM OUTREACH**

- Museum Refresh – Education Officer Rick Kaczor is assembling a team to reorganize the museum exhibit displays around themes that link our aircraft to state curriculum objectives. In addition, our goal is clean the display cases and update exhibit descriptions. If necessary, we will apply for grants to cover potential costs, but the first step is to develop a project plan. If you are interested in assisting, please contact Rick 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.
- University Partnerships - On March 26<sup>th</sup>, we will co-host a virtual tribute to Rosie the Riveter with KSU MHHE is planning to create a video tour of the hangar, aircraft, workshop, and museum for Fall 2021. On March 25<sup>th</sup> the University of West Georgia is adding a tour of the hangar to their student teacher course syllabus in March.





**Development Officer Update (cont.)**

- Fayette County's public elementary and middle schools utilized the Airbase Georgia WWII Home Front lesson plan module and WWII Home Front Resource Trunk in November and December. On Feb 11 a zoom meeting was held with middle and high school history teachers. Our goal is to make the lesson plans available to 100 public-school educators across the State of Georgia by the end of 2021.
- Fayette Aviation, Medicine & Technology Career Exploration - Airbase Georgia is assisting Fayette County Public Schools in connecting educators and their students with employers, experiences, and information to support preparing Georgia students for success in learning, career, and life. The Jan 27<sup>th</sup> session featured military medicine. The final session scheduled for March 10<sup>th</sup> will feature the Air Force Association CyberPatriot program.
- Docent Program – A visit to the hangar is a powerful recruiting tool and introduction to potential donors. Airbase Arizona has shared their docent guidelines with Airbase Georgia. 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 Rick at richard.kaczor@und.edu.

**FUNDRAISING**

- CAF Development Team – Members interested in assisting in fundraising are invited to join the CAF Airbase Georgia Development Team Kick-Off Zoom Meeting on Wed, Mar 3 @ 7pm. Jane Simpson, Steve Forsyth, Philip Beegle and Jim van den Heuval have so far joined the effort. Please contact me if you are interested in joining the Development Team, [chris.madrid@dixiewing.org](mailto:chris.madrid@dixiewing.org)
- Aircraft Rides – Effective Dec 9, 2020 and until further notice, our rides program is suspended.
- Hangar Rental – Dave Riesselmann is our Hangar Rental Officer. Please pass on leads to Dave at [facilityrentals@dixiewing.org](mailto:facilityrentals@dixiewing.org).
- Airshow Sales – COVID-19 has resulted in the cancellation of many Spring and Summer airshow bookings, but we are hopeful that bookings will pick-up in the Fall.

**PROGRAM COORDINATION**

- Dixie Dispatch – Now renamed “The Dispatch,” it serves as the primary communications tool for keeping members up to date. All members are encouraged to read the Dispatch. More importantly, Dispatch Editor Frank Kalinowski is seeking articles from members.
- 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 March monthly meeting is scheduled for March 1st, 7pm EST.



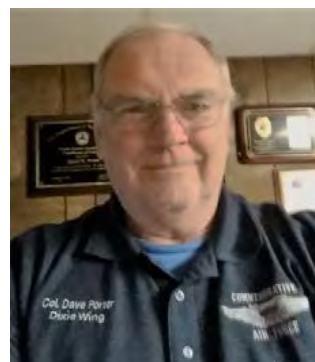
**Development Officer Update (cont.)**

- Planning - Explore Georgia has projected that local, outdoor events will lead the Georgia tourism recovery beginning in 3Q21. We are tentatively planning to kick-off our outreach with our participation in the Atlanta Airshow, but please note that clinic will not be promoted as a public event. The final schedule is contingent on COVID-19, volunteer participation and budgeting. If you are interested in assisting in any of the projects below, please contact me. ➔

<b>Marketing Operations Calendar for 2021</b>	
Hangar Refresh	Jan-June
Reorganize Docent Team for scheduled tours	Jan-June
Virtual Museum Tour Facebook Live series	Jan-Dec
Video Project: 360 Virtual Tour of Aircraft and Hangar	March
Marketing Ops Zoom Meeting (7pm)	1-Mar
Fundraising Team zoom meeting (7pm)	3-Mar
Recruiting Information Night (7pm)	10-Mar
Fayette County Public Schools AIM HIGH! Fayette Career Exploration - Cyber Security	10-Mar
SECAS	18-21 Mar
University of West Georgia student teacher tour	25-Mar
Rosie the Riveter program with Kennesaw State University	26-Mar
Warbird Formation (TRARON) Clinic (Spring)	14-17 Apr
Fayette County Chamber of Commerce Community Expo	14-May
Atlanta Airshow	29-30 May
Vintage Days (Peach State Aerodrome)	5-Jun
Hangar Dance	11-Sep
WWII Heritage Days/Stearman Fly-in	9-Oct
Future Pilots of America (Warm Springs)	Oct
Warbird Formation (TRARON) Clinic (Fall)	11-14 Nov
80 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	5-dec



## From The Bookmaster Col Dave Porter



### THE Breaking Storm

Innocent No More Series  
Book 2  
Andrew Wareham

We continue with *The Breaking Storm*, Book 2 of the Innocent No More series of three books by Andrew Wareham. Book 1, *The Gathering Storm* left Acting Squadron Leader FLT/LT Thomes Stark taking his Hurricane Squadron into Belgium and France fighting a rear-guard action during the Nazi push from Germany and Poland through the Low Countries into France toward the English Channel. Continuing to fall afoul of the top brass, his squadron continued to attack German aircraft. The retreat of the BEF from France and the setting-up of fighter squadrons on the English Channel coast to defend against Nazi bombers is the subject of this book. Most of the characters we met in the first book continue here and their lives develop apace.

Stark continues to run up against entrenched RAF doctrine developed from the experiences of WW I into the late 20s and early 30s when planners were convinced the bomber would always get through. Two specific issues stood out...the spread and convergence of wing-mounted machine guns in fighters. The RAF started the war using the so-called "Dowding Spread" in which guns were adjusted to fire into a wide rectangle that was 12 by 8 ft at 750 ft, because Air Chief Marshal Hugh Dowding advocated such a large pattern to make it more likely that a mediocre fighter pilot would obtain a hit.

Against standing RAF doctrine, Squadron Leader Stark ordered his armorers to adjust the spread to converge at 100 ft. Stark had learned in combat in Spain that to assure kills in high speed modern fighter aircraft, one had to close to within "stone's throw" of the enemy in order to assure a killing shot. The other issue, of course, was noted in the previous review of *The Gathering Clouds* which was the use of the 3-plane "Vic" rather than the newer, proven efficacy of the "finger-four" formation.

*The Breaking Storm* highlights Thomas Stark and his multi-national Hurricane squadron as they are forced to fight a rear-guard action against the Luftwaffe back to Dunkirk then across the Channel to coastal RAF bases, setting the stage for the Battle of Britain, the subject of Book 3 in the Innocence No More series. ➔



Fire from the eight machine guns of a Hawker Hurricane is shown converging to a point, then diverging.



# Musings of an Unknown Helicopter Pilot

Origin Unknown

Anything that screws its way into the sky flies according to unnatural principals. You never want to sneak up behind an old high-time helicopter pilot and clap your hands. He will instantly dive for cover and most likely whimper...then get up smack you. There are no old helicopters laying around airports like you see old Airplanes. There is a reason for this. Come to think of it, there are not many old high-time helicopter pilots hanging around airports either so the first issue is problematic. You can always tell a helicopter pilot in anything moving, a train, an airplane, a car or a boat. They never smile, they are always listening to the machine and they always hear something they think is not right.

Helicopter pilots fly in a mode of intensity, actually more like "spring loaded," while waiting for pieces of their ship to fall off.

Flying a helicopter at any altitude over 500 feet is considered reckless and should be avoided. Flying a helicopter at any altitude or condition that precludes a landing in less than 20 seconds is considered outright foolhardy. Remember in a helicopter you have about 1 second to lower the collective in an engine failure before it becomes unrecoverable. Once you've failed this maneuver the machine flies about as well as a 20 case Coke machine. Even a perfectly executed autorotation only gives you a glide ratio slightly better than that of a brick. 180-degree autorotations are a violent and aerobatic maneuver in my opinion and should be avoided.

When your wings are leading, lagging, flapping, precessing and moving faster than your fuselage there's something unnatural going on. Is this the way men were meant to fly?

While hovering, if you start to sink a bit, you pull up on the collective while wisting the throttle, push with your left foot (more torque) and move the stick left (more translating tendency) to hold your spot. If you now need to stop rising, you do the opposite in that order. Sometimes in wind you do this many times each second. Don't you think that's a strange way to fly?

For Helicopters: You never want to feel a sinking feeling in your gut (low "g" pushover) while flying a two bladed under slung teetering rotor system. You are about to do a snap-roll to the right and crash. For that matter, any remotely aerobatic maneuver should be avoided in a Huey. Don't push your luck. It will run out soon enough anyway.

If everything is working fine on your helicopter consider yourself temporarily lucky. Something is about to break.

Way back while I was flying Huey gunships in Vietnam, Harry Reasoner wrote the following about helicopter pilots:

"The thing is, helicopters are different from planes. An airplane by its nature wants to fly, and if not interfered with too strongly by unusual events or by a deliberately incompetent pilot, it will fly. A helicopter does not want to fly. It is maintained in the air by a variety of forces and controls working in opposition to each other, and if there is any disturbance in this delicate balance the helicopter stops flying; immediately and disastrously. There is no such thing as a gliding helicopter.

"This is why being a helicopter pilot is so different from being an airplane pilot, and why in generality, airplane pilots are open, clear-eyed, buoyant extroverts and helicopter pilots are brooding introspective anticipators of trouble."

They know if something bad has not happened it is about to. "Having said all this, I will also tell you that flying in a helicopter is one of the most satisfying and exhilarating experiences I have ever enjoyed.

What I miss most is skimming over the trees at 100 knots + in a light observation helicopter.

And remember the fighter pilot's prayer:

"Lord I pray for the eyes of an eagle, the heart of a lion and the balls of a combat helicopter pilot."

Many years later I know that it was sometimes anything but fun, but now it is something to brag about for those of us who survived the experience.

Basic Helicopter Flying Rules:

1. Try to stay in the middle of the air.
2. Do not go near the edges of it.
3. The edges of the air can be recognized by the appearance of ground, buildings, sea, trees and interstellar space. It is much more difficult to fly there.





## ON THE HORIZON .....

**NO AIRBASE MEETING IN MARCH DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS**

**Other Events: None to report at this time.**

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## *PLANE CRAZY*



Covid restrictions or not, the USAF Demonstration Team promises to make appearances during 2021, even if there may be a few noticeable cutbacks. The most exciting new performance – The Four-Way Stop.