



The Dispatch



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

Education through living history.

Keep 'em flying.

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From the Left Seat

Col Jim Buckley, Airbase Georgia Leader

The first Airbase Georgia Member appreciation picnic was a big success. Nice weather and not so hot temperatures made it quite pleasant. Georgia Tacos and the Mad Greek made a great combination of choices. It was very well attended, with many new faces.



The SBD and Red Nose are currently in Janesville WI, then off to Oshkosh! AirVenture 2021 should be a sellout with all the pent up demand for post COVID entertainment. As if the mechanic's job is not difficult enough, our guys have been fighting shipping problems. The P-63 propeller we shipped to the overhaul facility arrived damaged and 2 of the 4 blades missing! The new starter we purchased for the LT-6 is now missing after being shipped over 2 weeks ago.

On a brighter note, Cols Matt Kenner and Kevin Korterud have been approved to check out in the T-34. Col Peter Hague has been approved to check out in the SBD. Congratulations guys, glad to be getting some younger blood into the system.

Blue Skies. ➔

Jim Buckley

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RECRUITING * ORIENTATION * RETENTION



Col Jim Dalton, Recruiting Officer

Airbase Georgia of the Commemorative Air Force is a legacy organization, but what does that really mean? In essence it means "education" of all kinds. That is to say that soon the last of our World War Two veterans will pass into eternity. We, who remain, must educate our sons and daughters, our grandchildren and, if we survive, even our great grandchildren to the sacrifices made for this great country of ours!

Additionally, we have the added responsibility to pass the torch of freedom to the next generation so that the spirit and yes "legacy" will continue in an unbroken line. The single way to that end is through our educational outreach. If we don't touch their hearts, their minds and their spirit this organization will not sustain itself. This, then, is the clarion call for each of you to redouble your effort to bring new, younger members to the CAF and Airbase Georgia.

Education is the key. Therefore, we must interface with the youth where they are. We cannot expect them to just wander into a hangar down near the airfield, we must reach out to them and once convinced that our organization is worth their consideration, we must embrace them. We must mentor and nourish their interest. We are the link. ➔

Semper Fidelis

James J. Dalton, II, Attorney

Jim

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“KEEP’EM FLYING!”



JOIN AIRBASE GEORGIA



Welcome New Colonels



Above: Inducted at the June Airbase meeting: L-R James Yeagle, Dave Richardson, Dan Parker

Below: Inducted at the July Airbase meeting: L-R Laura Polbert, Madison Stewart, Emery Lowe, Dennis Beach





Cols Larry Combs and Rodney Higginbotham lend a hand in working on the smoke oil system on B-17G Texas Raiders during the recent Atlanta Air Show at Falcon Field.

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.

AIRSHOW, RIDES AND NEW MEMBER BULL MARKET

Airshows and CAF warbird rides programs across the country are setting attendance and sales records. Red Nose and the SBD are riding the wave, thanks to the hard work of our mechanics, pilots and Rides Officer Col Steve Hoofnagle and his team. We have so far recruited 36 new members in 2021. Cols Jim Dalton and Dave Serafin have recruited 80 new members since January 2020. Many of the members bring much needed talents to the CAF mission in Georgia but have not yet found their niche in our organization. Please introduce yourself to a new face around the hangar. A list of 2020-2021 new members is included in my report.

BRIEFING ROOM REPAIRS

Activity around the hangar continues at a hectic pace. Repairs and updates to the briefing room continue. Ceiling tiles have been replaced and a wall has been installed between the conference room and briefing room. The room will be repainted, and flooring will be installed later this summer. The goal is to reintroduce the Commemorative Air Force and Airbase Georgia to our neighbors, business community and educators this fall.

2021 MEMBER APPRECIATION PICNIC JULY 17TH

Over 150 members and family members attended our July 17th Membership Appreciation Picnic on July 17th. For many, it was the first visit to the hangar and opportunity to meet other members.

Our next membership event is the Christmas Party.

HONORING THE PAST, PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE, GSU INTERN

As mentioned in my previous reports, Education Officer Col Rick Kaczor is leading a Museum Refresh Project in anticipation of our Fall Opening. Peter Hague has joined the effort by prepping the museum. The concept is to reorganize the museum exhibit displays around themes that link our aircraft to classroom learning objectives.

A Georgia State University Graduate Research Assistant in Public History, 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, September 2021-May 2022. Please contact Rick if you are interested in volunteering, 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.



Development Officer Update (cont.)

***GSU Intern Donation Update** – The cost to onboard the GSU intern is \$4,092 to benefit to the Georgia State University Research Foundation. Two members have generously funded the project.*

CAF AIRBASE GEORGIA TRANSITION UPDATE: LOGO, Warbird T-shirts, AND UNIFORM SHIRTS

Voting for the new CAF Airbase Georgia logo concluded on June 30th. A total of 70 ballots were submitted, with 45 members voting for the winning logo. The winner was announced at the July 3 membership meeting. Plans for patches will be announced next month.



If you would like to purchase or customize a new CAF Airbase Georgia polo shirt, local business Uniforms for America can sew "Airbase Georgia" and your name onto an existing CAF Dixie Wing shirt. Polo shirts are also available through the CAF website. Members representing CAF Airbase Georgia at airshows and other public events are expected to wear a CAF Airbase Georgia shirt. Uniforms for America is located at 135 Huddleston Road, Peachtree City. Phone: 770-632-0253.

CAF Airbase Georgia warbird t-shirts are available for purchase through the PX.



STEARMAN RESTORATION PROJECT

The project team will meet immediately following the August 6th Member Meeting. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact Project Manager Col Jeff Clark, Jeffrey.clark@gmail.com

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Recruiting & Retention – Our next Virtual Recruiting Open House is scheduled for August 4th 7pm. If you know a potential recruit, please contact Col Jim Dalton (lawdalton@aol.com) or Col Dave Serafin (dserafin58@comcast.net).
- Georgia World War Heritage Trail – Plans are underway to mark the 80th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor in December with events at the various locations. The trail partnership is planning a major announcement this Fall, which will increase for CAF Airbase Georgia awareness, visitors, donations, and aircraft rides sales when briefing room renovations are complete and we fully reopen to the public. Souvenir Trail Passports will be provided to visitors when we fully reopen. 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 general public. In the meantime, members are welcome to host friends and families. If you host guests, please be sure to ask them to sign the guest book so that we can add them to our visitor data base.



Development Officer Update (cont.)

EDUCATION & MUSEUM OUTREACH

- University Partnerships – We are working with the Museum of History and Holocaust Education (MHHE) at Kennesaw State University will create a video of the SBD and Kate with Col Willard Womack describing their role at Pearl Harbor.
- Fayette County and Forsyth County Schools – Education Officer Col Rick Kaczor and I are meeting with Fayette school staff this summer to prep for next year. We are also reaching out to all 13 high schools in Georgia with Aviation and Maintenance pathways. 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.
- Docent Program - A visit to the hangar is a powerful recruiting tool and introduction to potential donors. Col 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.
- Website - We have added a new Education tab on 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.
- CAF Airbase Georgia was featured in West Georgia Woman magazine.



AIRSHOWS & FUNDRAISING

2021 Airshow & Rides Schedule

July 23-25 - Janesville Warbird Weekend (P51)

July 26-Aug 1 - EAA AirVenture

July 27-Aug 1 - Fond du Lac Warbird Rides (P-51 and SBD)

Aug 28 - Georgia Mountain Warbird Weekend

Oct 9 - WWII Heritage Days Rides Day
Oct 14-17 - FL International Airshow (FG1D, SBD)

Nov 3-5 - Delta Air Lines Veteran's Day

Nov 11-14 - TRARON Formation Clinic



Development Officer Update (cont.)

- Airshow Sales -Airshow Marketing Officer Clint Cottrell continues to mine opportunities. We have added a rides day at Ellijay.
- Aircraft Rides - *Effective March 6th, aircraft rides are reopened for business. If you are interested in assisting with the rides program, please contact Rides Officer Col Steve Hoofnagle at rides@airbasegeorgia.org. In the meantime, Rides Officer Steve Hoofnagle has many previously purchased rides to fulfill.*
- Social Media - Facebook and Instagram are critical to CAF Airbase Georgia rides, airshow sales and fundraising efforts. Our focus in July has been promoting rides at Janesville and Oshkosh. Closer to home, we are targeting history and aviation buffs in the Atlanta DMA with the goal of increasing awareness of Airbase Georgia. Advertising for our 1940s Hangar Dance fundraiser and WWII Heritage Days will begin in August. Overall, in the last 30 days Facebook followers have increased 1.8% to 38,350. More importantly, impressions have increased 35% to 679,000.

You can help increase our social media presence by sharing a CAF Airbase Georgia post with your friends. Finally, if you have photos or videos you want to post on our Facebook page, please email them to Col Kevin McNulty at kevin@netweaveonline.com. You can also text photos to 941.737.8575. If texting videos, try to keep them under 30 seconds long - much longer and your phone may compress the image which degrades the video quality



WWII Heritage Days (October 9) – On May 5th we announced WWII Heritage Days. WWIIHD is our annual open house where many people meet the CAF for the first time. The 2021 theme will combine a Stearman Fly-in and a Tribute to Rosie the Riveter. Our goal is to host 20+ warbirds and transform the event into an annual fly-in. Warbird Rides will be heavily promoted in advance. wwiideays.org and online registration are now live. 20 organizations and over 100 volunteers have so far registered, and we have distributed a media release announcing sponsorship opportunities

WWIIHD Sponsorship –If you are interested in supporting the event, please contact me.

- Keep 'em Flying 1940s Hangar Dance (Sept 25, 6p-11pm) ticket sales are now live. CAF Airbase Georgia Members are eligible for \$50 tickets through Aug 31, max 2 tickets per member. Tickets for the public are \$75. All tickets must be purchased online. Reserved tables will also be available. All ticket prices increase to \$100 effective Sept 1st. To purchase by check, please contact Col Lorraine Deloach, lorrainedeloachcaf@gmail.com.



Development Officer Update (cont.)

- Next WWIIHD and 1940s Hangar Dance Meeting: July 31 (at the hangar), Aug 3 & 17 @ 7pm via zoom.

2021 WWII Heritage Days Team

Chris Madrid	Lynne Lasher
Dave Riesselmann	Mike Daly
Dave Serafin	Mike Wewers
Dick Hyde	Peter Hauge
Jane Simpson	Rick Kaczor
Jeff Clark	Robyn Rosenzweig
Jeff Johnson	Scott Paul
Jim Dalton	Steve Forsyth
Jim van den Heuval	Steve Hoofnagle
Joel Perkins	Willard Womack
John Wilhoff	Ken Horsley
Lee Johnson	Lorraine Deloach
Libby Heath	Jerome Kline
Bill Bateman	

- **Hangar Rental** – The renovations taking place in the briefing room will support the planned reopening of the hangar for rentals this Fall. Please contact Hangar Rental Officer Dave Riesselmann if you are interested in assisting with the profitable program. Please pass on leads to Dave, facilityrentals@airbasegeorgia.org.

PROGRAM COORDINATION

CAF Development Team – Members interested in assisting in fundraising are invited to join

the CAF Airbase Georgia Development Team Zoom Meeting Aug 2 @6:0pm. Jane Simpson, Steve Forsyth, Rick Kaczor, Philip Beegle, and Jim van den Heuval have so far joined the effort. We are developing a list of small grants opportunities, to include the Georgia Humanities Council and Explore Georgia. Please contact me if you are interested in joining the Development Team,

chris.madrid@airbasegeorgia.org

- **Dispatch** - The Dispatch is the primary communications tool for keeping members up to date. All members are encouraged to read the Dispatch. 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. Next Meeting: Aug 2, 7pm EST.



1940s Hangar Dance and WWIIHD yard signs courtesy of Mike McGowan are available at the hangar in the AV closet.



Development Officer Update (cont.)

Joe Weigle

2020 NEW MEMBERS

Alisha Lockwood
Melvin Williams
Thomas Sullivan
Matthew Howell
Mark Delessdernier
Gregory Bergan
Dawn Patrick
Donald R Graham
Frank Piasecki
Justin Zgoda
James Allen Yeagle
Michael S vetter
John Gossett
Matthew Davis
Josh Bloom
Jeff Anderson
Sidney Blankenship
Vince Garland
Peter Hague
Andy Cash
James Arnold
Scott W Ducker
Matt Fagan
Cheryl Buchanan
Lorraine Deloach
John Gerring Jr
Jerry Patterson
John Urbik
Jeff Schmidt
Richard Gallaher
Chris Hamilton
Keith Bransky
Chad Goddard
Christopher Plourde
Casey J Graybeal
Rick Shacklett
Erin Dalton
Melvin Silver
William Line
Benjamin Seal
Nathaniel Lewis
John Howell

2021 NEW MEMBERS

Philip F Bowden
J Phillip Webb
Deon S Winston
Gregory R Buck
Jim Stearns
Ronald Gause
Robert Edwards
Frank Piasecki
John R Peters III
Robert W Young
Stephen J Barnshaw
Bill Freyman
Finton F Thompson
Steven R Charles
James B Zazas
Scott Kirby
Derek Smith
Richard D Gipson
Michael Bugden
David Richardson
Denise Mckay
William Cook
Trevor Colburn S
Fulton Rivers
Jerold Watts
Adrian Cybriwsky
James Yeagle
Dan Parker
Derrick Vermillion
Dennis Beach
Emery Lowe
Madison Steward
Anne-Marie Dalton
Laura Tolbert
Douglas Linville II
Christopher R Batey
Lance Hill



COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE®
AIRBASE GEORGIA

Cheerfully presents

Sept. 25, 2021
6pm-11pm

Keep 'em Flying

1940s Hangar Dance
& Dinner Fundraiser

★★★★★ **FEATURING** ★★★★★

PEACHTREE JAZZ EDITION

Performing Standards Made Famous by
Glen Miller, Tommy Dorsey and Benny Goodman

Black Tie,
1940s Attire
& Historic Uniforms
Encouraged

Tickets \$75
Before
August 1, 2021

Tickets \$100
After
August 1, 2021

Reserved Tables
are
Available

TICKETS ONLINE PURCHASE ONLY BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021 AT WWW.WWIIDAYS.ORG

WWW.WWIIDAYS.ORG

WWII



COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE
AIRBASE GEORGIA

HERITAGE DAYS

09

OCTOBER
9AM-5PM

HONORING ROSIE

THE RIVETER



\$10

FOR ADULTS

\$5 FOR AGES 11-17

WELCOMING ALL
STEARMAN AIRCRAFT TO FLY-IN!

WWII AIRCRAFT, MILITARY VEHICLES, REENACTORS, EXHIBITS AND DEMOS
THIS 17TH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE & FUNDRAISING EVENT IS AT
ATLANTA REGIONAL AIRPORT-FALCON FIELD IN PEACHTREE CITY, GA



ON THE HORIZON

August 7	10am Staff Meeting; 1pm Airbase members meeting
September 4	10am Staff Meeting; 1pm Airbase members meeting
September 25	1940s Hangar Dance
October 2	10am Staff Meeting; 1pm Airbase members meeting
October 9	WORLD WAR II HERITAGE DAYS
November 6	10am Staff Meeting; 1pm Airbase members meeting



Col Willard Womack captured this rare photo of our four main aircraft.