



AIRBASE GEORGIA *Dispatch*



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

November 2024

Education through living history.

Keep 'em flying.

2024 Airbase Georgia Staff Election Results

Congratulations to the Winners of the 2024 Airbase Georgia Staff Election, as follows:

Executive Officer - Col Gerhard Frenz

Operations Officer - Col John Currenti

Adjutant - Col Matt Kenner

Maintenance Officer - Col Randy Hawkins

We would like to sincerely thank all candidates who ran for office. Your willingness to serve is greatly appreciated by the entire membership.

This concludes the 2024 Airbase Georgia staff election process.

2024 Election Committee: Col Yvonne Haley, Col Lorraine Deloach, and Col Charles Burcher.

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Safety Update

By Col Steve Hoofnagle, Safety Officer

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DECEMBER is Winter Holidays Awareness Month

The winter holidays are magical as this is a time of joy, celebration and gratitude for many people. However, this time can also pose some challenges and risks for personal and organizational safety. Here are some tips during Winter Safety Awareness Month to help make sure the season is festive, healthy and safe.

Cybersecurity

Malware attacks (*e.g.*, ransomware, spyware, adware) are generally numerous year-round, but they increase significantly over the holiday season. With staff away from the office, thousands of marketing emails and online shopping opportunities, out-of-office emails that may provide valuable information to criminals, it is not surprising that cyber threat actors consider this time of year as a great “business” opportunity.

- Stay vigilant with “too-good-to-be-true” online offers. Think twice before clicking on a marvelous deal link that is unrealistically good.
- Trust your instincts – if a request from a colleague or a friend seems too strange, it probably is. When in doubt, double-check the information (if possible, directly with the source).
- Do not reuse passwords. If one account is compromised, an attacker will attempt to access other accounts with the same credentials.
- Do not click on tracking number links for unexpected emails. Hover over the link to see where it directs.
- Enable 2-factor authentication on all your accounts for an additional security layer.
- Secure your personal and business devices when you have guests over. Kids (and pets) may cause a lot of trouble without meaning to.

Travel Safety

If you are planning to travel during the holidays, make sure your vehicle is in good condition and ready for winter weather.

- Check your tires, battery, antifreeze, windshield wipers and lights before you hit the road.
- Pack an emergency kit with items such as blankets, flashlights, water, snacks, jumper cables and a first-aid kit.
- Plan your route ahead of time and check the weather and traffic conditions.
- Avoid driving when you are tired, distracted or impaired by alcohol or drugs.
- Always wear your seat belt and follow the speed limit and traffic rules.
- If you encounter snow, ice or fog, slow down and keep a safe distance from other vehicles.

Cont.

Fire Safety

Holiday decorations can be a fun way to express creativity and get into the holiday spirit. However, some decorations can also be hazardous if not used properly.

- Turn off holiday lights at night or when you leave the house.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from flammable materials or consider using flameless candles.
- Water your Christmas tree daily and don't let it dry out. A dry tree is more flammable.
- Make sure your tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights, and not blocking an exit.
- Don't overload extension cords and outlets. Replace all worn, old or damaged appliance cords, and do not run cords under rugs or furniture.
- If you have children or pets, avoid decorations that are small, sharp, or breakable, or that contain toxic substances, such as mistletoe, holly berries, or artificial snow.

Mental Health

Celebrating the holidays with your family and friends can be a great way to relax and have fun. However, it can also be a period of stress, sadness, and loneliness for others. SAMHSA [offers](#) some strategies to help find moments of joy amidst the hustle and bustle this holiday season, including:

1. **Pay attention to your feelings**
Remember that it is okay to feel unhappy during the holidays. Recognizing your feelings is the first step to addressing and nurturing them.
2. **Develop a plan for when you are feeling stressed, sad or lonely**
This plan may include calling a friend or family member, going for a walk, engaging in an activity that brings joy or watching a favorite movie.
3. **Practice self-care**
It is important to schedule time for yourself and activities that recharge your mind and body. This may include reading a good book, working out, spending time in nature and practicing stress management skills, such as deep breathing, meditation and mindfulness.
4. **Connect with community**
If you can't be near loved ones during the holidays, finding a supportive community through clubs, support groups, community centers, local meetups and faith communities can help reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation. Consider scheduling a regular phone call with family and friends as well.
5. **Support others**
During this time of year feelings of grief and loss can amplify. Check in on loved ones who may be alone or struggling during the holiday season. Helping a friend or neighbor not only gives joy to others, but it can improve your own happiness and well-being.
6. **Know when to seek help**
It is important to seek help when mental health struggles are becoming overwhelming and difficult to handle. For more information and resources, visit [SAMHSA](#).

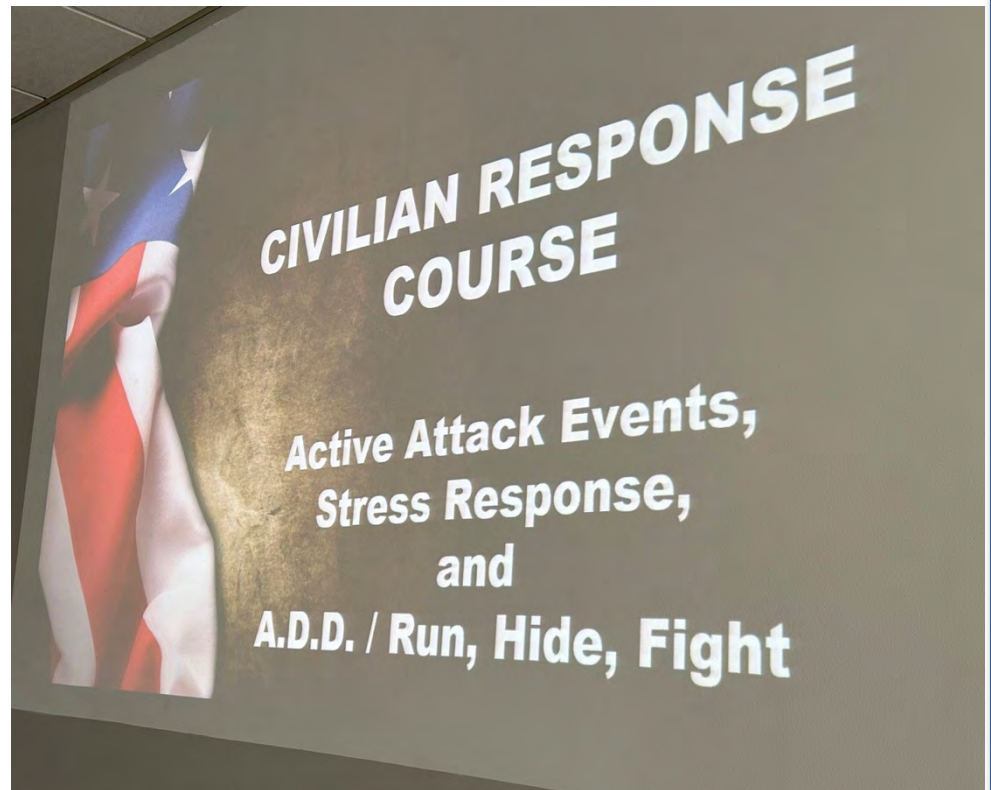
(Courtesy of Alexander S. Lipovtsev)

Cont.

ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

We held our annual Active Shooter Training with the Peachtree City PD following the monthly meeting on 2 November 2024. We had 25 Airbase Georgia Members in attendance. A big thank you to Sergeant Courtney Lumpkin who guided us through this crucial training and reminded us to "RUN, HIDE, FIGHT"! We hope that we never need this guidance, but we are prepared in the event we need it.

There is no General Meeting in December (the Holiday Party substitutes), so we look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday, 4 January 2025. We will present our annual "Ladder Safety" training.



Please send any Safety related questions, comments, or suggestions to "safety@airbasegeorgia.org". ➔

"Safety is as easy as ABC- Always Be Careful!"

EDUCATION OFFICER

Col Jim “Here Comes the Judge” Dalton

This is the time of year when we all reflect and give thanks for the things that have gone right and soon 1/1/2025 we will begin to make resolutions for the things we plan to do better.

So, first the things for which I am personally thankful within the CAFABG family:

- A very safe and profitable flying year, and;
- productive facilities rental program, and;
- My deputy Education Officer, Jane Simpson, and;
- The entire volunteer staff of our organization both elected and appointed, who have stepped up whenever help was needed, and;
- For those that actively participated in our open houses during 2024, and;
- For completion of One year of my term as your Education Officer, and;
- Finally, for our docents, those who have been instrumental in sharing our facilities with our guests throughout this last year.

Vision for 2025

- Add to our Cadet/Mentor program, and;
- Provide 3 or 4 open houses especially geared toward our Fayette and Coweta County residents, and;
- A possible youth model building program to begin early in 2025, and;
- Expansion of our interactions with the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce, and;
- Expansion of our Cadre of Docents to include some younger members, and;
- Support for a continuing vigorous recruiting program, and;
- Finally, to bring full fruition to our new member orientation & retention efforts.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to each of you,

James J. Dalton, II

Education Officer/CAFABG ➔





Better known to Airbase Georgia members as "General MacArthur," Ken was 68 when he passed away on November 12, 2024. Ken was born and raised in Atlanta, becoming a respected home renovations contractor. He was an avid Civil War reenactment enthusiast, and a consummate portrayer of General Douglas MacArthur. For years, "the General" could be found at military events in the central Georgia area, arriving rain or shine in his WWII Jeep. A service was held on November 18th at Almon Funeral Home.

Kenyon "Ken" Cobb, III



Lt. General E.G. "Buck" Shuler, Jr

December 6, 1936 – October 18, 2024

National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force

Lt. General E.G. "Buck" Shuler, Jr., was a dedicated Air Force leader whose love of aviation began during WWII. He attended The Citadel, majoring in Civil Engineering, and upon completing Air Force ROTC, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1959.

General Shuler earned his wings in 1960, beginning his career as a B-52 pilot, including missions during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He later flew 107 combat missions in Vietnam as an F-4D Phantom II pilot. Throughout his career, he held key roles across Europe, the United States, and Southeast Asia, eventually commanding the Eighth Air Force in 1988, overseeing critical operations during JUST CAUSE and DESERT SHIELD/STORM.

Following his retirement in June 1991, General Shuler played a vital role in founding the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force, guiding its development and serving as its first Chairman and CEO for 12 years. His commitment to preserving the legacy of the Eighth Air Force remains a testament to his enduring dedication to service. General Shuler's contributions to the Air Force and the broader community will be remembered with deep gratitude and respect.

Replica WWII Jeep to be Auctioned at Airbase Georgia Christmas Dinner Dec 7th

A replica WWII Jeep that has been around Airbase Georgia for some time will be part of the silent auction at the annual Christmas Dinner Dec.7. The Airbase staff has decided to auction the Jeep to raise funds for the P-47 Thunderbolt restoration project.

The vehicle is a 1946 Willys CJ2A with an L134 motor and aftermarket MB body, painted in military style. It is two-wheel drive because the front drive shaft is missing. The starter will need to be rebuilt before the Jeep can be operational. For additional information, contact Col Philip Beegle, pbeegle1@gmail.com.

Proceeds from the silent auction will be used to acquire wheel rims and the left leading edge of the P-47. The rims are the only missing pieces keeping the aircraft from standing on its own gear. The P-47 also is the Airbase entry for this year's annual CAF 12 Planes of Christmas fundraising campaign, which was very successful last year.



"This Jeep has been a popular part of several local patriotic events and parades over the years, but it is not an authentic restoration, as our aircraft are," said Airbase Leader Joel Perkins." We chose to make this vehicle available only to our members through this auction, with the goal of raising much-needed funds to continue our work on the P-47."



Stearman Update

Col Jeff Clark

Cols Alastair Taggart & John Miller installing the oil pressure sensor fitting. The sensor is pictured to the right.



Col Mike Lamble starts fabric covering on Stearman.



Photos by Col Charles Burcher.

P-47 Update



Left: Col Chris Buzzeo assembles landing gear component.

Below: Col Steve Shankle assembles the P-47 tail wheel.



Photos by Col Charles Burcher.



Left: Cols Tom Thompson & Gary Spencer assemble a wiring harness for the P-47.

Rosies at Fayette County Historical Society

By Col Jane Simpson

On behalf of Education at Airbase Georgia, Cols Robyn Rosenzweig and Jane Simpson spent our Sunday afternoon (November 17) giving a presentation on the Home Front during WWII to the Fayette County Historical Society. It was well received, with many thanks from those attending. As an interesting note, the items they found most intriguing were our references to our "Horrors of War" trading cards, and the Rosie the Riveter origins. They also found the story behind "Red Lipstick" very amusing! Robyn and I both found the experience very rewarding, and we look forward to other such occasions.

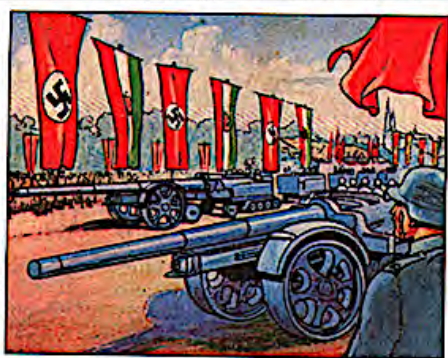
ENTER – "ROSIE THE RIVETER"



Artist:
Norman
Rockwell
Saturday
Evening Post
May 29, 1943



Artist :
J. Howard
Miller
Westinghouse
Electric
1943



285 Sudetens and Czechs Engage in Civil War
Following Hitler's speech assuring Sudeten Germans of his readiness to use force in order to guarantee them their rights, disorders broke out in the German territories, and the Sudeten German Party issued an ultimatum to the Czech Government demanding that the martial law imposed on Sudeten communities be revoked within six hours after 7:30 p. m., September 13, 1938. All peace negotiations between the two factions were broken off. The most serious of the disorders occurred in the Sudeten area near the border north of Eger in the town of Habersparrik. The Sudeten version was that Communists threatened Sudetens in the main section of the town and fighting started. Local policemen tried to quiet the troublemakers, made some arrests. The police station was surrounded, shots rang out and soon the Sudetens had taken possession of the police station. When reinforcements of Czech troops and policemen arrived at least forty were killed.

To know the HORRORS OF WAR is to want PEACE



288 Czech President Surrenders as Mobs Cry "Fight"

On September 21, 1938, the Government of President Eduard Benes "submitted with pain" to "irresistible pressure" and agreed to the amputation of the Sudeten region by Germany, while angry crowds surged outside Hradecny Palace, crying for war. Summary of the Franco-British plan follows: 1. Transfer without plebiscite of areas with over 50 per cent Sudetens, with proviso for adjustment of frontiers where necessary. 2. Possible exchange of populations. 3. International guarantee safeguarding Czech independence. 4. The plan also contained acknowledgment of the sacrifice required by the Czechs in the cause of peace. By the time they had accepted, however, Germany, Hungary and Poland were all making demands which made war seem imminent, and a new Hitler-Chamberlain meeting was arranged at Godesburg.



To know the HORRORS OF WAR is to want PEACE
This is one of the SECOND SERIES of Horrors of War picture cards and true stories of today's warfare. Save to get a complete history. Copyright 1938, Gum, Inc., Phila., Pa. Printed in U.S.A.

Rosies (cont.)

Rosies Robyn and Jane with members of the Fayette County Historical Society. ➤



Facility Rentals And Events

**Col Mark Richards,
Facility Rental Officer**



Airbase Georgia Facility Rentals successfully hosted the second on-site wedding and wedding reception of 2024 on Saturday November 9, 2024. Col Joe Basilone's son, Paul and his bride were married at our airbase in a beautiful military ceremony, and then they enjoyed a night of celebration in the airbase hangar with guests. The Airbase Facilities Team of volunteers came together yet again to make this a celebration to remember, and then they turned around, tore down and set up for the following days Airbase Georgia Open House. I cannot say enough about this team of volunteers who make these events first class Thank You All !!!!

The third and final open house for 2024 was held on Sunday November 10. We fought some not-so-great weather which kept the planes grounded, but the reenactment by our "Women at War" reenactors was very nicely done, congratulations on a job well done. I also want to thank all of those who came out and volunteered in numerous capacities to help make the event a success.

There is only one small meeting room event left for November and then we have several events in December including the Airbase Georgia Annual Christmas Party. Please make sure that you make your reservations no later than November 27.

Look over the upcoming events listed below for December and consider volunteering for one or more of them. Remember, any amount of volunteer time is greatly appreciated and when you volunteer, you help to promote our mission to educate, inspire and honor.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Event Time / Location</u>
12-03	Fayette County School Outing / Tour	9a – 3p / Airbase
12-05	Fayette County School Outing / Tour	9a – 3p / Airbase
12-06	Peachtree City Christmas Luncheon	11a – 2p / Hangar Event
12-07	ABGA Christmas Party	5p – 11p / Hangar Event
12-11	Academy of Aviation Christmas Party	5P – 10p / Meeting Room
12-13	Clothes Less Traveled Christmas Party	4p – 9p / Meeting Room

Anyone wishing to volunteer for any of these events can contact me by email, text or cell. →

Heroes of Aviation

Submitted By Col Casey Roszell

1911 To the Rescue

By LtCol. A.J. D'Amario USAF Ret. From the pages of the American Rifleman, November 2013.

On my first solo flight at K-13, Suwan, Korea, in June 1952, I took off in an F-80 Shooting Star. It was not a combat mission. All I had to do was go up and have fun boring holes in the sky for about an hour and a half.

Immediately after takeoff, I felt the left wing was heavy and determined that the left tip fuel tank was not feeding properly or not at all. Afraid it might fall off and rupture during landing, potentially melting asphalt on the runway, the tower would not let me land with the full tank. I was instructed to make a bomb run and drop the whole tank.

Arriving at the bomb range, I set up my bomb-release switches to release the tank. Flying over the impact area, I pushed the button but nothing happened. I tried a second time and again there was no response. On my next pass, I tried the manual release handle but to no avail. Making one final run, I used the button we called the "panic button" because it allegedly released everything hanging on the airplane. It worked as advertised and dumped everything, save my errant left tip tank.

The tower control officer advised me that if I couldn't get rid of the tank or its contents, I should give them my location, eject and await pickup.

Well, pilots really hate to punch out of a perfectly flyable airplane and I figured I still had one option worth trying.

The canopy of an F-80 can be opened in flight up to about 220 MPH. So I opened the canopy and unholstered my G.I. issue Colt M1911 .45 automatic.

Now, liquid fuel will not burn, at least not like vapors, so I aimed for the part of the tank I was sure would be full of

liquid. Firing my first shot, I had no idea where the bullet went--perhaps airborne, high-speed physics were at work, or maybe just my nerves. But my next three shots punctured the tank, passing through the fuel and exiting cleanly out the far side of the 24" wide tank.

For the next thirty minutes, I flew with the left wing down in a series of circles to drain the fuel and slowly return to base. By the time I got to the airstrip the tank was empty. I made a routine landing. As far as I know, I am the only pilot in the Air Force who ever shot his own plane to correct a malfunction.

Thank goodness for my .45.

Lt.Col. A.J. D'Amario, USAF Ret. Florida ➔





Members are invited to reserve their complimentary Christmas Dinner tickets. Each Airbase Georgia member is entitled to two complimentary tickets. Additional tickets are \$45 each to be paid upon arrival. Reservation deadline is November 27.



The [Commemorative Air Force \(CAF\) Airbase Base Georgia](#) is again participating in the 2024 “[Twelve Planes of Christmas](#)”, the Commemorative Air Force’s annual online giving campaign to support the organization’s education mission of restoring and flying vintage military aircraft. Airbase Georgia has two aircraft in the program this year, the Republic P-47N *Thunderbolt* fighter and Boeing N2S *Stearman* Kaydet. The campaign to raise funds for the two aircraft begins December 1 and continues through December 31, 2024.

The campaign gives the public an opportunity to donate to Airbase Georgia’s P-47N. The aircraft is one of the original aircraft acquired by CAF founder Lloyd P. Nolen in 1963. The *Thunderbolt* did not see combat during World War II. After the war, the aircraft was assigned to the Puerto Rico Air National Guard before transfer to the Nicaraguan Air Force, eventually seeing combat in Central America.

The *Stearman* project will also be included in the campaign. Dedicated to “Rosie the Riveter,” the cultural icon representing women who worked in factories and shipyards during World War II, helping transform America into the Arsenal of Democracy.



The goal is to raise \$50,000 for the P-47N to help purchase rims and leading edges for the wings. During the same period, Airbase Georgia is seeking \$10,000 for the *Stearman*. 12 Planes of Christmas has raised over \$265,000 for the two projects since 2021.

The campaign will be promoted on Commemorative Air Force social media, CAF Airbase Georgia social media and media relations. Members can help Airbase Georgia reach our fundraising goal by sharing information with colleagues, friends and family.

For more information, contact Development Officer Chris Madrid, chris.madrid@airbasegeorgia.org.

Welcome, New Cols



Tanner Thonen with Recruiting Officer Dave Serafin.



Jordon Barton and Dave Serafin.



ON THE HORIZON

December 7, 2024

January 4, 2025

February 1, 2025

Airbase Georgia Christmas Party

Staff & Members Meetings

Staff & Members Meetings

