



AIRBASE  
GEORGIA

# Dispatch



AIRBASE GEORGIA, COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE, PEACHTREE CITY, GA

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March 2025

Education through living history.

Keep 'em flying.

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Air Show Scheduling

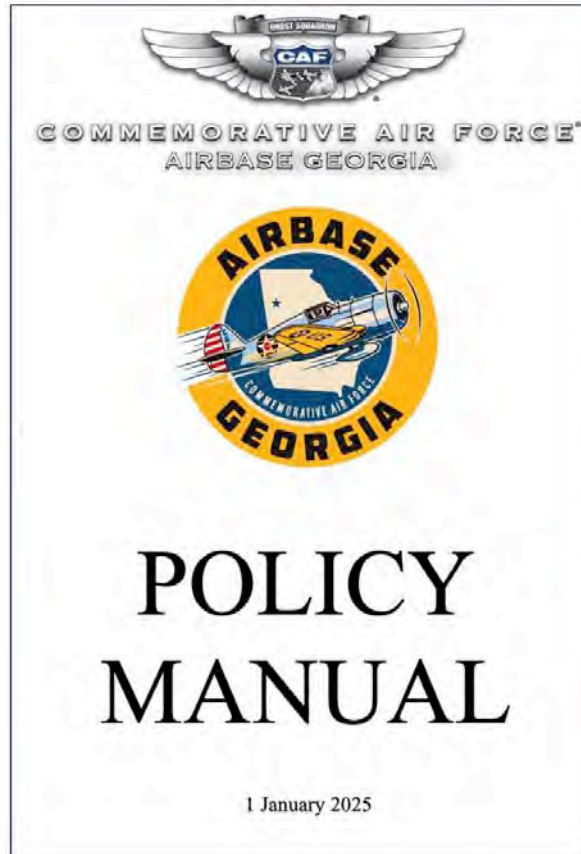
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Facility Rentals

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All Cols should have received the updated Airbase Georgia Policy Manual dated 1 January 2025.

This manual replaces all previously dated versions.

## WHAT'S INSIDE

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# Safety Update

By Col Steve Hoofnagle, Safety Officer

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

770-309-5584 cell

## Safety Update

By Steve Hoofnagle, Safety Officer

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

770-309-5584 cell



We will be holding the Annual Fire Extinguisher Training with the Peachtree City FD on May 31<sup>st</sup> @ 1000h (weather permitting). Plan to be in the Meeting Room before 1000h for the classroom portion, followed by the practical exercises. Dress comfortably. Please watch the website, FB page, and Dispatch for updates. A Hotline will also be sent out as a reminder as we get closer.

## April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

Around the Airbase that equates to vigilance when driving tugs, forklifts, and moving aircraft. Also, be extra cautious driving into and out of the parking areas as we are very crowded.

Please remember to keep the aircraft canopies closed overnight in the Hangar. We've had some severe storms come though (and expect more in April and May). Storm damage to the roof, skylights, and/or sprinkler system could release large quantities of water inside the hangar. A closed canopy could be the difference between a "free wash" and destroyed avionics.



Please send any Safety related questions, comments, or suggestions to "[safety@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:safety@airbasegeorgia.org)". →

# *"We need you - work safely!"*

## SBD is “Flyby Worthy”

At least that is what the folks at the Experimental Aircraft Association determined, featuring our SBD in a two-page spread in EAA’s March *Sport Aviation* magazine. The photo was taken by EAA member Kelley Whitaker at the 2024 Sun ‘n Fun Aerospace Expo at Lakeland Linder Airport, Lakeland, Florida. ➔

### FLYBY

#### FLYBY WORTHY?

Calling all photographers: Do you have a photo that you think should be showcased in EAA *Sport Aviation*? We want to see it! Share your photo with us using the form at [EAA.org/submissions](https://eaa.org/submissions).

#### WHAT

CAF Airbase Georgia's Douglas SBD-5 Dauntless

#### WHERE

SUN 'n FUN 2024 in Lakeland, Florida

#### PHOTOGRAPHER

Kelley Whitaker, EAA 1571782



18 Sport Aviation March 2025

EAA.org 19

## FLIGHT SAFETY CORNER - COL TONY BERG

There will be a Flight Safety Meeting on Saturday, May 17, 2025 at 10 AM in the Airbase Georgia Meeting Room. The discussion will focus on the final NTSB findings regarding the CAF Wings Over Dallas B-17/P-63 accident on November 12, 2022.

Attendance is voluntary, and all ABGA members are welcome to attend. ➔





# Facility Rentals And Events

## Col Mark Richards, Facility Rental Officer

We are off and running for 2025 with our first big hangar rental event in the books. A big thank you to our aircraft maintenance staff and all the event volunteers who came out to support the Steve Roundy Wright Brothers Awards Banquet on Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup>. Although we have a unique venue for these events, it's our Airbase Georgia people that make the experience special.

There are two more hangar events in March, volunteer help is still needed for each event.

- Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> is the Fayette Fling, Docents, event and parking staff are needed
- Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup> is the Whitewater Baseball Event, Docents, event and parking staff are needed

If you can volunteer for any of these events, please call, text or email me

The Peachtree City Hops & Props event is fast approaching on April 26<sup>th</sup>. This event is another great way to showcase Airbase Georgia, and we will need a big Events and Docent Team. Ticket sales are expected to be 400 (+), and this is an opportunity for us to help support our Peachtree City community as well as our friends and colleagues at the PTC CVB.



Planning for the May 10, 2025, Open House is underway, and we have a great group of people on the planning team. We meet each Saturday at 10:30 to review our progress, brainstorm new ideas and for mutual support. If you would like to volunteer to be part of the planning team, please email, text or call me, or come by and attend the next planning meeting.

Our Welcome & Docent Center has proven to be a great addition to Airbase Georgia. Our visitors have a great first impression of our airbase when entering the facility and our Docents make their experience first class. New Docent members have recently joined the staff, make sure to stop in and thank them for the great job they do telling the story of our airbase and aircraft. ➔

See the complete list of upcoming events through June on the last page ... On The Horizon. Anyone wishing to volunteer for any of these events can contact me by email, text or cell.

# Member Engagement

## Col Marybeth Britton Volunteer Coordinator



### HAPPY SPRING!!

I hope you all had a very fulfilling winter maintenance season! It's time to get the show on the road, and that means ALL HANDS ON DECK! We have many events booked this year for our facility as well as off-site events for airshow season. As a reminder, I'm going to repeat a few things here since it's been a couple of months since you have seen them. But keep reading for new information as well. If you are unsure where to fit in, please reach out to me - [volunteers@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:volunteers@airbasegeorgia.org).

reach out to me -

### CURRENT AREAS OF SERVICE AVAILABLE

We have many opportunities regularly available to our volunteers of which you may be unaware. If you're interested in any of the following service positions, please let me know. If you see other needs and want to assist, please contact me.

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| *Property maintenance/landscaping       | *Data entry/records/clerical       |
| *General cleaning/tidying               | *Event support and planning        |
| *Shop maintenance and organization      | *Welcome center support            |
| *Educational research/tour planning     | *Docent tours                      |
| *Special topic/interest article writing | *Artifact Research/museum curation |
| *Community outreach/marketing           | *Media production/photography      |

### TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are some of our volunteer teams and positions which require training before you can join. We will be offering training soon for those teams and positions. Please watch the operations calendar on our website under the Colonels menu to see when those training sessions will be held. As a reminder, training is required for **Rides Team** and **Marshalling Team**. We also require online training and a background check for **Docent Teams** as well as any other position where you work with the public. This training can be done at any time online. Please let me know if you need assistance getting signed up.

#### Past Training:

Rides team training was held pre-season on February 1<sup>st</sup>. If you missed this training and would like to commit to the rides team, please contact [rides@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:rides@airbasegeorgia.org) for qualification to request makeup training.

#### Current Training Scheduled:

May 31<sup>st</sup> - **Fire Extinguisher Training** - this is a requirement for rides team and aircraft operations, but we encourage all members to attend.

Cont.

## Member Engagement (Cont.)

**WHAT IS THERE TO DO?**

We had a wonderful turnout for volunteers at our first event this season which made this event run very smoothly for our guests. Our success is made possible by our volunteers. The efforts put forth by our team make the difference in our events. Many members are unaware of the opportunities available during our events. Here's a short list to give you a better idea.

## On-Site Event Responsibilities:

- Pre-event setup – this includes cleaning the hangar floor after aircraft are moved, setting up tables and chairs, setting up the stage and sound system, ensuring all supplies are in place, placing parking/event signs, and general cleaning.
- Pre-event support – this includes assisting the host party with their setup once they arrive prior to the event, ensuring they have everything they need, and making last minute adjustments to the setup of the tables and chairs.
- Event support – this includes greeting guests and directing them through our facility, answering questions about our organization, emptying trash cans, providing support to caterers and vendors, ensuring restrooms stay stocked and clean, operating golf carts to shuttle guests, directing guests for parking, and general tidying during the event. Docents also are a large piece of event support, especially when we have aircraft on display.
- Post-event breakdown – this includes stacking tables and chairs, cleaning floors, breaking down stage and sound equipment, emptying trash cans, taking down signage, and restoring facility to operating status.

## Off-Site Responsibilities:

*\*Please note, some off-site events are on an invitation-only basis. Certain functions (not listed below) are limited to qualified individuals such as rides team and marshalling teams.*

- Pre-event setup – this includes assisting our PX and Rides team to setup our tables and tents, placing signage in designated spots, unloading supplies from the trailer and truck, and ensuring our area is ready to greet guests.
- Event support – this includes greeting guests and directing them through what we have to offer, answering questions about our organization and aircraft, assisting PX and Rides team as needed, and ensuring our pilots and Operations teams have supplies such as water and lunch.
- Post-event breakdown – this includes packing up supplies, tents, signage, and tables, and assisting the PX, Rides, and Operations team as needed.

Cont.

Member Engagement (Cont.)

**\*\* UPCOMING EVENT OPPORTUNITIES \*\***

All our events are kept on our operations calendar on the Airbase Georgia website. Please login with your colonel ID and then look under the "Colonels" menu. Please check this calendar regularly for opportunities to serve. Special announcements and calls for action will also be sent via hotline emails.

**On-Site Opportunities:**

We have the following private events with which members needed to help with parking, event setup/breakdown, and event service.

**March 27, Thursday – March 28, Friday – Private event – Fayette County Education**

**March 29, Saturday - Private event – Whitewater Baseball**

**April 25, Friday – April 26, Saturday – Private event – PTC CVB Hops & Props**

This is a large event that brings a lot of business and publicity to Airbase Georgia. We need everyone available to assist with this event.

**May 8, Thursday – Private event – Peachtree City CVB-hosted event**

**\*\*NEW DATE\*\* May 10, Saturday 10a-4p – Airbase Georgia Spring Open House\*\***

Planning for this event is well underway and we are tying up loose ends, but we need more volunteers. Please let us know if you would like to be involved. There are a lot of areas to assist with this: welcoming the public, providing direction, parking assistance, golf cart shuttles, presentations, general event setup/breakdown, serving the public, helping with merchandise tables, assisting vendors with setup needs, and much more. Please contact [volunteers@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:volunteers@airbasegeorgia.org) or [facilityrentals@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:facilityrentals@airbasegeorgia.org) to sign up!

**May 24, Saturday – Private event – Dawson Wedding**

**Off-Site Opportunities:**

We have the following off-site events which we are requesting volunteer assistance. Please send an email to [volunteers@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:volunteers@airbasegeorgia.org) if you would like to assist.

**May 24, Saturday – May 25, Sunday – Dekalb-Peachtree Airport Rides Day**

Volunteers are needed on both days for this event. If you can work a portion of the event, that helps also!

**LET'S LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR MEMBERS**

It is my goal to learn more about each of our member volunteers. I want to know about your personal interests and what made you join Airbase Georgia. I want to encourage you in your personal life and help you celebrate your achievements. Please send me an email if you have any stories or experiences connected to our mission. Do you know of a new or long-term member who has contributed abundantly to our organization? I want to know their story also. I am hoping to make our volunteer spotlight articles a regular piece going forward. If you want to join me in researching and writing these pieces, I welcome that assistance also.

**>>> [volunteers@airbasegeorgia.org](mailto:volunteers@airbasegeorgia.org) <<<**

***MOST OF ALL, DON'T FORGET TO HAVE FUN! →***



# Scenes From the Hangar

Photos by Col Charles Burcher

The hangar and workshop continue to have a lot of activity this month. Here are just a few of the photos:

Hanging the propeller on the P-51. Cols Andy Cash, Dennis Beach, Rodney Higginbotham, and Mel Duhon.





Scenes From the Hangar cont.

The Stearman is shaping up as it gets a new skin from Cols Mike Lamble, Chris Buzzeo, and Geoff Lelliott..





Scenes From the Hangar cont.

Cols Mike Lamble and Malcolm Lelliott cover the upper part of the fuselage.



## CAF Airbase Georgia Warbirds Take to Skies for 2025 Air Shows and Events

Spring is bringing a unique fleet of World War II-era warbirds out of the hangar for a busy 2025 Commemorative Air Force (CAF) Airbase Georgia season of airshows and events. The aircraft will be on display and will provide aerial performances at airports in the United States between March and November. This year's campaign is dedicated to the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of World War II and 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the U.S. Navy & Marines.

The season kicked off with the Wings & Things Festival and Fly-In March 22 at Douglas, GA., home to the WWII Flight Training Museum. Airbase Georgia will return to Sun 'n Fun and EAA AirVenture, two of the largest and most heavily attended aviation traditions in the United States. Airbase Georgia's FG-1 Corsair is also scheduled to participate in the extremely popular U.S. Navy Legacy Flight Program which matches today's frontline fighters with their predecessors in close flight maneuvers at air shows nationwide.

Following are the scheduled events currently planned this year for CAF Airbase Georgia:

### APRIL

- April 1-6: SUN 'n FUN Aerospace Expo, Lakeland, Fla.
- April 26-27: Air Power Over Hampton Roads, Langley Air Force Base, Va. U.S. Navy Legacy Flight.

### MAY

- May 10: Airbase Georgia Open House, Peachtree City, Ga. "Honoring the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE-Day, Home Front and Armed Forces Week"
- May 24-25: Atlanta Warbird Rides Weekend, PDK Airport, Atlanta, Ga.

### JUNE

- June 5-8: Mid-Atlantic Air Museum WWII Weekend, Reading, Pa.

### JULY

- July 12-13: Geneseo Air Show, Greatest Show on Turf, Geneseo, N.Y.
- July 21-27: EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh, Wis.

### AUGUST

- Aug 16-17: Fagen Fighters Airshow, Granite Falls, Minn., "250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of U.S. Navy & Marines"

### SEPTEMBER

- Sept 12-14: Andrews Airshow, Andrews Air Force Base, Va. U.S. Navy Legacy Flight.
- Sept. 19-20 Oceana Airshow, Virginia Beach, Va., U.S. Navy Legacy Flight.
- Sept. 20-21: East Georgia Warbird Rides Weekend, Athens and Greensboro, Ga.

### OCTOBER

- Oct 25: Airbase Georgia Open House, Peachtree City, Ga., "80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the End of WWII, Veterans Da



## CAF Airbase Georgia Warbirds Take to Skies for 2025 Air Shows and Events

### NOVEMBER

- Nov. 1: Cullman Veterans Day Celebration, Cullman, Ala.
- Nov. 6-7: Delta Tech Ops Veterans Day, Atlanta, Ga.
- Nov 8-9: NAS Pensacola Open House, NAS Pensacola, Fla., U.S. Navy Legacy Flight.

“Our mission is to educate, inspire and honor by restoring and flying historic aircraft as a tribute to America’s veterans,” said Airbase Leader Joel Perkins. “This year our goal is to connect 2 million men, women and youth to the stories and legacy of the Greatest Generation.”

For a list of airshows and participating aircraft at each event, visit the CAF Airbase Georgia website [here](#).

### About the CAF Airbase Georgia

CAF Airbase Georgia, based in Peachtree City, Ga., was founded in 1987. The Airbase is one of the largest units of the [Commemorative Air Force](#) (CAF). The group maintains and flies seven vintage military aircraft including a P-51 Mustang, an FG-1D Corsair, an SBD Dauntless, an LT-6 Mosquito, a P-63A Kingcobra, a PT-19 Cornell and a T-34 Mentor. Under restoration are an N2S Stearman and P-47 Thunderbolt. The Airbase, composed of more than 300 volunteer members, is a founding partner of the [Georgia WWII Heritage Trail](#) launched in 2021. The Airbase is part of the CAF, a non-profit, tax-exempt organization that relies on contributions of time and funds to conduct its mission. For more information, go to <https://airbasegeorgia.org/>. →

#### Contact:

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Public Information Officer  
CAF Airbase Georgia  
770-714-7750  
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## Welcome New Col

Ryan McHugh was sworn in as Airbase Georgia’s newest member at the March member meeting. Unfortunately, we did not have a photo at the time of publication.



# ON THE HORIZON .....

April 5, 2025

Staff & Members Meetings

**Special Guest:** Steve Schaffer, Aerospace Director, Georgia Department of Economic Development, will provide an overview of the aerospace industry in Georgia.

April 25-26, 2025

PTC CVB Hops & Props

May 10, 2025

Airbase Georgia Spring Open House

May 17, 2025

Flight Safety Meeting @ 1000 hrs – ABG Meeting Room

## Upcoming ride events for 2025:

April 1-6 Sun 'n Fun in Lakeland, FL

May 10 ABG Open House in Peachtree City, GA

May 24-25 Atlanta Warbird Rides Weekend at Dekalb-Peachtree Airport, Chamblee, GA

June 5-8 Mid-Atlantic Air Museum, WWII Weekend in Reading, PA

July 22-27 EAA AirVenture at Fond du Lac, WI

August 16-17 Fagen Fighters WWII Museum 250th Anniversary of the U.S. Navy & Marines in Granite Falls, MN

September 20-21 Warbird Rides Weekend at Athens/Greensboro, GA

Each event can be found on the Airbase Georgia website under "EVENTS" where more information is provided along with links to book airplane rides.

## UPCOMING HANGAR RENTAL EVENTS:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Event Time / Location</u>
03-23	Young Life Banquet	4p – 9p / Hangar
03-28	FCEF – Fayette Fling	6p – 10p / Hangar
03-29	Whitewater Baseball Hangar Event	5p – 11p / Hangar
04-19	Boy Scout Troop 201 - Aviation Merit Badge	9a – 3p / Tour
04-26	Peach Tree City Hop's & Prop's	4p – 10p / Hangar
05-01	FCBR Spring into Fling Auction	6p – 9p / Meeting Room
05-08	Peachtree City FMA Tour	12p – 4p / Tour
05-10	ABGA Spring Open House	10a – 4p / Facility
05-17	Sean Laughlin Retirement Party	3p – 8p / Meeting Room
05-24	Dawson Wedding & Reception	3p – 10p / Hangar
05-31	ABGA Fire Extinguisher Training	9a – 12p / Meeting Room
06-01	Michael Hulbert Celebration of Life	1p – 5p / Meeting Room