



HONORING AMERICAN MILITARY AVIATION THROUGH FLIGHT, EXHIBITION AND REMEMBRANCE

Colorado Sport Intl. Show

By TBM PIC
Col Rob Duncan

This annual event has always been outstanding, and this year was no exception. But one exception was the fact we were invited to participate in the "Warbirds on Parade" which started the Friday night show at 6 pm. We were joined by Yaks, T6/SNJ's, T-28's and a 90% scale Spitfire replica which sounded good. This was quickly followed by six aerobatic acts whose smoke and shooting fireworks became more spectacular with each act and lit by the setting sun against the cloud-topped Rockies west of Denver. After our own fly-bys were completed, Cols. Duncan and Anderson were joined by Front Range RMW member Ted Hine to set up the tour stairs. Spectators noticed the great view, including the "wall of fire" from the TBM Wing and we had a good flow until the evening show fireworks extravaganza conclusion. We had no power for Ted's lights so we did not set up the PX that night which had many spectators.

The airshow was sponsored again by Colorado Sport Aviation (www.cosportaviation.org) who provided performer

lodging in a brand new Drury hotel with a "Quaker Steak & Lube" sports bar for after-show relaxation. Imagine a sports bar with a car racing motif, and the many TV screens were filled with past airshow videos. Add beer and free food.

We began early on Saturday morning with Front Range RMW member Frank Carrington's arrival, and Don Coleman arrived in his pickup with a few extra PX items. This was a good thing, except that we sold out nearly the entire PX stock on Saturday alone. Sunday's PX sales were brief as we quickly emptied the tables and put

them away. We also had seven paying TBM passengers and gave these rides after the Saturday and Sunday show ended, and again on Monday morning before we left the Denver area for the hour-long flight home.

The Oklahoma City CAF brought their A-26 Invader to the show, and the USAF showed off the F-22 Raptor. Only six airshows were seeing the Raptor this year. Last year the same show had a B-2 fly-by so they must have some "General" support. The heritage flight was a polished P-51B with the Raptor. Click [here](#) check the RMW photo album to see what you missed.



Nighttime air shows are becoming more and more popular. Shown here is '309' catching the fireworks after 'Warbirds on Parade' (operating oil visible). More photos on page 7.



COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE



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Welcome new RMWCAF members:

Col Thomas Dennis
Col Rebecca Dennis

RMW AIR SHOW SCHEDULE - 2012						
MONTH	DAYS	LOCATION	SHOW	TBM	CUB	STATUS
May	26th - 27th	Ogden, UT	Hill AFB Open House w/ Thunderbirds.	■	■	Completed
Jun	16th	Boulder, CO	Open House & Dance	■	■	Completed
Jul	13th - 14th	Rifle, CO	Garfield Co Air Show	■	■	Completed
↓	21st	Delta, CO Westwinds	Deltarado Days	■	■	Completed
↓	28th - 29th	Twin Falls, ID	Air Magic Valley Air Show w/ Blue Angles	■	■	Completed
Aug	17th - 18th	Powell, WY	Wings 'N' Wheels Classic Cars & Air Show	■	■	Completed
↓	24th -28th	RMMA, Broomfield, CO	Colorado Sport Int. Air Show	■	■	Completed
Sep	1st - 3rd	Steamboat Springs, CO	Wild West Air Fest	■	■	Completed
↓	8th	Elko, NV	Elko Sky Fair	■	■	Completed
↓	22nd - 23rd	Grand Junction, CO	Gunfighters Skies w/Blue Angles	■	■	Completed
Oct	13th - 14th	Midland, TX	AIRSHO - CAF	■	■	Confirmed
↓	20th- 21st	El Paso, TX	AMIGO Air Show w/ Thunderbirds	■	■	Doubtful

Air Show Schedule

This year's Air Show Schedule is nearly complete. We've finished a great series of appearances including some long scheduled repeats and even some first time appearances.

As always many thanks to those that work so hard insuring our aircraft are safely ready to go; the PX is packed and complete; the ground crews that ready the launch and meet the air / show crews upon return.

No one single function is more important than another. It takes effort across the board to make these summer schedules a success.

It's a labor of love that makes the CAF and the RMW such a success.

Thanks!!

It takes the entire Rocky Mountain Wing to make this work!

Elko, Nevada Sky Fair

By Col Matt McNamara
TBM PIC

Yet again our intrepid aviators- Col's Jay Anderson, Rich Connor and Matt McNamara took to the skies for another adventure, this time to participate in the Skyfair at Elko, Nevada. En-route we stopped to pick up Utah Wing member Col Claire Christensen, as we were a little short on RMW crew.

Our evening arrival in Elko provided us the chance to over eat at the CAP sponsored

BBQ- burgers and brats were the order for the evening, as was great conversation and camaraderie with fellow aviators from throughout the Western U.S.

A beautiful F4U Corsair from Missoula, MT was on display, as well as Ted Contri's P-51 Mustang from Carson City, NV and an OV-10 Bronco belonging to the Cactus Air Force Museum, also in Carson City, NV.

The Utah Wing of the CAF was represented by the CAF



The Utah Wing Member Col Cory Robin's WilgaBeast looks more like a praying mantis in this photo by Col J. Anderson

Stearman flown by Col. Dave Bernard, Steve Gue- nard's SNJ/AT-6 and Cory

Robin's former Polish Air Force Wilga- aka The WilgaBeast!

Continued on page 6

Maintenance Report

Editor's Note: Maintenance Officer Bill Marvel has been out of town — watch for his detailed report next month.

One good sign of a successful aircraft maintenance program is that when necessary

the aircraft will provide good service with no malfunctions.

We've been through four air shows over the past month and both the TBM and the CUB have operated without

incident. That in itself is a tribute to our Wing's maintenance Program.

Only AirSho in Midland left and the TBM is ready to go.

Watch here next month for an

update from Wing Maintenance Officer Col Bill Marvel.

Efforts to Maintain a "Flying Museum"!

By
"Col. Radidio Rob Duncan"

One of the reasons for the TBM Avenger's military use extended well beyond WWII was the spaciousness and adaptability of the radio room in the aircraft belly. There the radio operator sat, making necessary adjustment and incantations to keep the vacuum tube radios alive, and communicating back to the fleet and other aircraft. Today we use all of this space for boxes and boxes of our PX items for sale. It is this space, and the revenue generated from these sales, that helps to keep our TBM still flying.

I few years ago I took this picture of an original, unrestored radio room at a TBM in the Fredericksburg WWII Museum. As you can see, a large radio is prominently mounted below the turret gunner seat. This single box is the primary shortwave transmitter used for voice and Morse code communications. It is an "ART-13" model, and was made by Collins Radio. I framed this picture for display at airshows and help

visualize our "this area was filled with radios" verbal description. The "Real Thing" would be better, but how can we do this and not take away from the cargo area that we need?

First was finding a suitable, but rare ART-13 transmit-

ter. Charlie Huff then assisted in removing the chassis and affixing the knobs, meters, and switches back on the front panel. I then added some piano hinges at the corners, and Jay Anderson added the final touch of battery-operated LED lighting. So the whole unit folds up dur-

ing flight, not taking up any cargo space. After the PX cargo is removed, then the ART-13 is merely unfolded, placed on its no-slip mount, and the LED lighting switched on. It runs for days on two AA cells, and is quite impressive in the darkened radio room.



Radio Operator's position, below the turret gunner seat. Above the telegraph key is the large Collins ART-13 "Auto-tune" transmitter.
The AN/ART-13 operated in CW (code), MCW and AM (voice) modes and covered LF, MF and HF frequencies up to 18.1 MHz. It had ten autotuned VFO tuned channels that could be preset. Power output was approximately 100 watts using an 813 vacuum tube as the final amplifier. Under favorable atmospheric conditions communications could be established between aircraft and ground stations separated by thousands of miles.

ter. Coincidentally I had bought a war surplus ART-13 as my first ham radio back in 1964, but it was long gone and they sold for about \$50 way back then. Today these radios sell for upwards of \$500 – I should have kept mine! I finally found a suitable unit on eBay and using money we have collected selling the donated and dusty "attic junk" bought it on the

Besides radios, I have acquired many other items for more authentic TBM Avenger restoration. Most of these will be installed in the upcoming months and during winter maintenance efforts. Although our TBM has been flying for twenty years, it is finally becoming truly a display worthy of being called a ...

"Flying Museum".





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"KEEP 'EM FLYING"

**Get Ready! RMWCAF
 2102 Survivor's Party**

Mark your calendar!
December 8, 2012
CAF Museum

WING LEADER'S REPORT

By Col Collin Fay

It is late-September now, and as the morning temperatures become cooler and the aspen leaves turn in the high country, we find ourselves almost at the end of this year's show season. In just three weeks we'll put the TBM in the hangar and start to disassemble it for another winter maintenance season.

Last weekend was the Grand Junction Air Show, a great program on Friday night, and all day on Saturday and Sunday. We had many members show up to help display our aircraft and raise funds through the PX, wing walk, and a couple of TBM rides. We also put our recruiting effort in to high gear and it paid off – we recruited 11 new members over the weekend. Thanks to everyone who helped out, and especially to Bob and Sandy Caskey who



really pushed the recruiting efforts! This air show was the last official "show" of the season, however we will also be taking the TBM "home" to Midland in mid-October to display it with the rest of our "Air Force" fleet.

Two weekends ago, we had a Wing Staff meeting, long overdue due to our busy schedule these last few months. One item of discussion was new staff officers. Several officers have indicated that they will not be continuing in their current positions, and it often helps any organization to have some

"new blood" in leadership positions. This year, we will be filling the positions of Wing Leader, Operations Officer, Maintenance Officer, and Adjutant. We have appointed a nomination committee consisting of Tom Howe, Jay Anderson, and Denis Godfrey to recommend candidates for these staff positions. Please contact one of these members if you are interested in an officer position. Elections will be held in December.

I do want to thank every member of this Wing for their contributions, both large and small toward our continued success. Some of you do a lot, others not so much other than simply the financial contribution of both national and local dues. But, we appreciate everyone contributing as

much as they have to offer. Being a volunteer organization, we don't have the "big stick" (or perhaps that is supposed to be a carrot) to motivate workers that conventional businesses have, so we work with the people and personalities that join up. Each of us has our own incentives, goals, passions, and talents to donate to a volunteer organization, and sometimes one member's does not mesh perfectly with those of others. But we all need to recognize that each of us can only contribute what we have to the operation of this Wing. And some have more time, money, skill, opinions, expertise, etc. to contribute than others. I ask that we all keep in mind the nature of a volunteer organization – what you can provide to the group and vice versa – and that we all work together to keep the Rocky Mountain Wing one of the best in the CAF. Thanks again for your help to "keep 'em flying!"

RMWCAF STAFF OFFICERS

Wing Leader	Collin Fay
Executive Officer	Bruce Verstraete
Finance Officer	Don Coleman
Adjutant	Jerry McDonough
Operations Officer	Rob (Dunc) Duncan
Maintenance Off.	William (Bill) Marvel
Museum & Mess Sergeant	Dorothy Dutton
Safety Officer	Bob Thompson
Judge Advocate	Gerald Feather
Public Information Officers	Denis Godfrey
PX Officer	Georgia Thompson
Newsletter Editor	Tom Howe
TBM Aircraft Coordinator	Bob Thompson
Cub Aircraft Coordinator	Charlie Huff
Facilities Manager	Bruce Verstraete
Recruiting Officer	Bob Caskey

There were lots of reasons America's youth "joined up" - 'Home', 'Mother' & 'Apple Pie' being a few.

A pretty girl may have been reason for a recruitment or two.

Little did they know that ladies would be flying jet's off carriers!



OTHER WWII AIRCRAFT BOTH OURS AND THEIRS



Japan's Yokosuki E14Y has a unique distinction among the Japanese aircraft used during WWII. Watch future issues for more about this plane.

OTHER TORPEDO BOMBERS



This is not another US Navy folding wing aircraft. Even though the markings are US this is actually a Japanese Aichi B7A 'Grace' captured by the United States. The Aichi B7A was designed to replace both the Nakajima B6N and the Yokosuka D4Y on aircraft carriers, but it never saw carrier duty. By the time the 114 planes became operative, the Japanese no longer had any operational aircraft carriers.

The B7A would have been Japan's largest carrier based aircraft with an empty weight of 8,040 pounds - far short of the TMB at 10,545 pounds.



The Japanese dropped many, many leaflets over New Guinea attempting to get the 'Aussies' fighting there to surrender.

Elko, Nevada Sky Fair



Photo by Col Jay Anderson

Good company for TBM '309'. This Missoula, Montana F4U Corsair shared the ramp with our TBM and others.

Wild West Air Fest - 2012

By Col Rob Duncan - PIC

The Labor Day weekend found our TBM Avenger and crew at the Steamboat Springs Wild West Air Fest yet again this year. As in previous years, a few arrived in the TBM, a few drove their own cars, while others flew their own airplanes to a delightful weekend which celebrates the airport with an Open House. This is not truly an airshow with aerobatic performers, but a simple gathering to show aviation to the local population in conjunction with the town's annual celebration which includes events from an old time stage race, bicycle race, bull riding rodeo, and a huge sidewalk sale.

The CAF Cub was on hand selling many rides along with its big brother TBM. These were flown in by Collin Fay and Bob Thompson. In addition, there was Steve Woods' immaculate Beech 18, Kent Taylor's movie star "Cloud Dancer", Charlie Huff's Kit Fox, Karl Hipp's ocean-

crossing and survival suit sporting Twin Comanche, Tom Howe's Citabria and Rob Duncan's polished Cessna 185 Skywagon which won the Second Place People's Choice award. Besides the "better halves" of the preceding guys, additional crew on hand included Dorothy Dutton, Rich Connor, and Jay Anderson. It makes it so much easier when we have lots of member participation.

Although a C-47 and helicopter competed with our own airplanes' ride sales, both of our aircraft were kept busy with special thanks to the traveling show announcer who interviewed each of our passengers as they stepped away from their flight. Nothing like a gushing personal approval to make the next sale happen. Each evening was spent in strengthening our bonds of CAF friendship at restaurants with good food and a few adult beverages. You can click on [here](#) to view the event photos as taken by Col Jay Anderson.

Continued from page 2

Joining us on the ramp were numerous "back country" airplanes- a Kodiak, several Maule's and Husky's with big tires and a fleet of various aircraft giving EAA Young Eagles rides. Last report was they flew over 120 kids on Saturday! Well done!

The crowd was large and consistent throughout the day keeping both the PX and Wing Walk busy and well funded. The Wing Walk jug was filled to capacity not once but nearly three times! And we came very close to selling out of PX supplies!

Utah Wing Members came over to help out and give us a little break- thanks to Col's Doug Compton and Steve Guenard for their assistance chatting with people on the wing! Both are former military aviators- and Steve's uncle flew TBM's during

WWII- so they had plenty to tell people.

After the show closed at 4 pm, two TBM rides were given to very happy customers- the first pair to go were winners of a raffle conducted by the event organizers. The second ride concluded just before dusk- a long and tiring but fun and fruitful day for the TBM and her crew!

Sunday started with an early arrival at the airport and a very picturesque flight back to Grand Junction.

Many thanks to all involved - including our RMW Mx crew and especially Col's Floyd Suits and Don Coleman for prepping and meeting the airplane, ensuring smooth departures and arrivals!

Already looking forward to next season!



More Sept. Air Show Photos



'309' at Sunset during the "Warbirds on Parade" opening ceremonies during the Colo. Sport Intl. Show



Cub Rides are always popular. Here Cub PIC's Charlie Huff and Collin Fay talk with Steamboat riders.

Sometimes we forget what a "Big Bird" our '309' really is. Here she is taxiing at the Colo. Sport Intl. Show. Yep, she's Big!



It's always nice to be with good friends. Sunset at Elko.



Sarah smiling from the TBM Tur-rent! Steam-boat.



Col Matt McNamara — Ride PIC in Utah Wing's T-6 at Elko.



Col Matt giving rides in multiple machines.



Steamboat PX — Decisions!