

HONORING AMERICAN MILITARY AVIATION THROUGH FLIGHT, EXHIBITION AND REMEMBRANCE

DECEMBER 6TH - 2014 SURVIVOR'S PARTY

By Col Tom Howe - Editor

It is actually an Annual Meeting, Awards Ceremony and Survival Party all rolled into one! As a member of the Rocky Mountain Wing CAF you owe it to yourself to gather your family to gather them together and attend. There will be great eats because Cols Bob and Sandi Caskey are in charge and we've seen what they can do when it comes to rolling out the food and good times.

We've certainly "Survived" a rough and different year in the life of our wing. But survive we did! It wasn't

easy - a whole year of new challenges, new efforts, difficult decisions and frequently troubling times. We were faced with some of the most challenging trials a CAF unit can face - and face them we have!

And because this "meeting" stands as the Wing Annual Meeting there is more important work still to do.

Elections will take place to fill the top positions on our staff: Unit (or "Wing" in our case) Leader, Executive Officer and Adjutant. The nominating committee appointed by current Wing Leader Collin Fay has se-

lected an initial slate of candidates and the official election will take place at this meeting for these most important positions (see below.)

Wing Leader Collin and wife Marisa will be leaving Western Colorado to pursue Collin's career in Alaska. We'll all miss them but wish them the best in their latest endeavor. So a new chapter in our wing leadership will have to be chosen to continue the remarkable success we experienced under Collin's guidance. As shown here, be sure to RSVP and attend.



Inside this issue:

2014 RMW Air SHOW SCHEDULE	2
CALL FOR ELECTIONS	2
MAINTENANCE RPT	3
WING LEADERS RPT	4
PHOTO OF THE MONTH	4
STAFF OFFICERS	5
MEET YOUR CANDIDATES	6

SAVE THE DATE OF DECEMBER 6TH FOR OUR RMW ANNUAL SURVIVORS / CHRISTMAS PARTY. WHILE THIS YEAR HAS BEEN TRYING FOR THE UNIT WITH THE DAMAGE TO THE TBM IT HAS HAD ITS SUCCESSES. MANY COLONELS HAVE RESPONDED WITH LABOR AND LOVE TO ASSIST IN RETURNING THE TBM TO FLIGHT STATUS.

CHEF COL BOB CASKEY IS ONCE AGAIN DOING HIS PART PLANNING A DELICIOUS MEAL, STAFF ELECTIONS FOR WING LEADER, EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND ADJUTANT WILL BE HELD. AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED TO DESERVING COLONELS. AN UPDATE ON THE TBM STATUS AND RETURN TO SERVICE WILL BE PRESENTED. OUR PX WILL BE OPEN FOR OUR XMAS PURCHASES. NEW FACES AND OLD FRIENDS WILL BE MEETING .

COLONELS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE INVITED ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. THE COST WILL BE \$15.00 PP PAID AT DOOR BUT WE NEED YOUR RSVP. CONTACT COL GEORGIA THOMPSON 970 921 4088 RVTGLT@EARTHLINK.NET OR COL DOROTHY DUTTON AT 970 858 0452 DORDUTTON@GMAIL.COM WITH YOUR RSVP.



RMW AIR SHOW SCHEDULE - 2014

MONTH	DAYS	LOCATION	SHOW	TBM	CUB	STATUS
Mar	15, 16	Luke AFB, AZ	Open House w/T-Birds			COMPLETED
May	10	Holloman AFB, NM	2014 Open House			GROUNDING
	24, 25	Cannon AFB, NM	Open House w/T-Birds			GROUNDING
June	14	Boulder, CO	Airport Day & Dance			GROUNDING
	20, 21	Twin Falls, ID	Magic Valley Air Show			GROUNDING
	28, 29	Hill AFB, UT	Open House w/T-Birds			GROUNDING
July	26, 27	St. George, UT	Thunder over UT with Blue Angles			GROUNDING
Aug	16	Powell, WY	Airport Open House			GROUNDING
	22, 23	Greely Airport	Rocky Mtn Air Show		PX	COMPLETED
	28, 9/1	Steamboat Springs	Wild West Air Fest 2014		CUB	COMPLETED
Sep	6	Eagle, CO	Wings & Wheels 2014		CUB	COMPLETED
	20, 21	Mountain Home AFB	Open House w/T-Birds			GROUNDING
	27	Elko, NV	Sky Fare 2014			CANCELLED
Oct	4	Prescott, AZ	Open House (?)			GROUNDING
	10, 11, 12	Midland, TX	CAF Airsho 2014			GROUNDING
	25	Bullhead City, AZ	Open House (?)			GROUNDING

The 2014 Air Show Season is over. Sadly, we missed many opportunities to participate because of the unfortunate incident with our TBM "309".

But because of Project Phoenix, 309 will again grace the skies soon with a completely overhauled "zero time" engine, new paint, many replaced parts and structure. 309 will be a Proud Bird with a Proud CAF Wing behind providing the same support, enthusiasm, and dedication that has made this wing a success for decades.

Be Proud and get ready for the 2015 Air Show Season - Coming Soon!

CALL FOR ELECTIONS

Staff Elections will be held at the **December 6, 2014**, meeting for the two-year term beginning in January 2015, in conjunction with the Annual Survivors/Christmas luncheon.

There are three positions to be filled. The following are the nominees:

Wing Leader _____

Col Dorothy Dutton

Executive Officer _____

Col Bruce Verstraete

Adjutant _____

Col John Mummery

Col Rich Conner

Ballots will be handed out at the meeting to eligible members. Only current dues paid members of the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) who are in good standing with the Unit and Headquarter CAF shall be eligible to vote. Dues must be dated current 30 days prior to the meeting.

Project Phoenix - Maintenance Report

*By Col Rob Duncan
Maintenance Officer*

Progress on the TBM Avenger at our gracious host, CAF Airbase Arizona, remains slow but steady. Vacation times are over, and the crew is going forward with renewed energy. Among the crucial items are the leading edges of the wing. The inboard section was just formed and you can see our skilled AZ volunteer Ray checking its fit to be ... PERFECT! This piece was yet another donation from Group Manufacturing, owned by gracious Dan Norton. Once this piece is in place, then the final outer leading edge will be removed, a new piece similar-

ly formed, and replaced. Then the replacement upper skin can be made, and everything be riveted together topside. Then they will begin on final lower skin repairs. This will likely take through October, so no trips south for additional helpers are planned until after November 1.



Photo by Col Jay Anderson



Photo by Col Jay Anderson

Above: Ray is shown checking the fit of the inboard section of the repaired wing leading edge.
Left: The inboard leading edge shown in place for proper fitting. Next is the outer edge.



Right: The replacement engine mount sporting a new coat of epoxy paint.

This replacement was found by Col Jay Anderson and re-certified.



Photo by Col Jay Anderson



Primary Business Address
PO Box 4125
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Propwash Gazette Editor
Col Tom Howe
Phone: 970-872-7373
Fax: 970-872-7474
e-mail: howet@tds.net

RMWCAF on the Web
www.rmwcaf.org

“Keep 'em Flying”

WING LEADER'S REPORT

By Col Collin Fay

Fall flying weather has been great, and I look forward to having the TBM flying again before next Fall, which I have no doubt it will be. We just finished a flight around the southwest, and I was lucky to meet a volunteer at the War Eagles Air Museum in Santa Teresa, New Mexico (near El Paso) who was intimately familiar with our TBM and the repair efforts underway at Air Base Arizona. This gentleman is also a member of the Arizona Wing and reported favorably on the repair work, in particular the volunteers from both Wings that are working on the plane. Thanks guys!



I mentioned that I am looking forward to the TBM flying again by next Fall, which is true, but I do hope it will be sooner than that. Everyone's expectations are that it will be flying by early in the new year, and I have no reason to doubt that. The engine is ready and should be shipped to Air Base Arizona soon. It is just a matter of manpower now, and we may need some more bodies to work with Col. Anderson in Arizona in

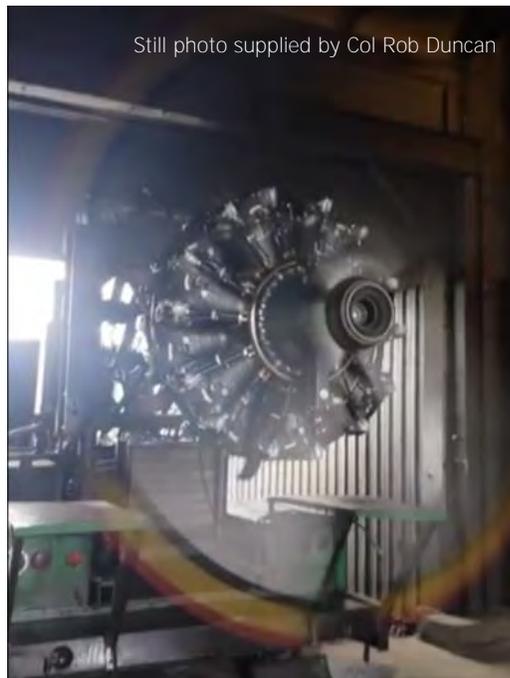
PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Shown here is “309’s” completely overhauled R2600 radial engine running on a test stand after assembly.

The engine was run for about five hours before completing final inspection and being “pickled” for storage and shipment.

The “pickling” process isn’t done with vinegar and dill, but with other preservatives more suited to engine components.

Still photo supplied by Col Rob Duncan



the next few months. If you can help out by lending a hand in Arizona, please contact Col. Duncan to determine the most appropriate time for your involvement. Remember we need to help the effort, not hinder it!

The Nominating Committee has made their recommendations of new RMW staff officers for the 2015/2016 term. This year we will be electing a new Wing Leader, Executive Officer, and Adjutant. Their recommendations appear elsewhere in this newsletter. Also, the Election Committee has outlined the procedures for holding the elections. If you cannot attend the Election Meeting which will be

held concurrently with the Survivors' Party on December 6th, please request an absentee ballot from the Election Committee. Absentee ballots must be requested prior to the Election Meeting on December 6th and returned to the Election Committee by January 5, 2015.

Again, we are all looking forward to the Survivor's Party on the afternoon of December 6th. I hope you can attend. At the party, we'll be handing out awards for exemplary contributions this year, but also for the screw-up award. Please contact me with your suggestions for awards. I look forward to seeing you there!

RMWCAF STAFF OFFICERS

Wing Leader (acting)	Bob Thompson
Wing Leader	Collin Fay
Executive Officer	Bob Caskey
Finance Officer	Robert Toth
Adjutant	Kent Taylor
Operations Officer	Kay Johnson
Maintenance Off.	Rob Duncan
Museum & Mess Sergeant	Dorothy Dutton
Safety Officer	Michael O'Connell
Judge Advocate	Gerald Feather
Public Information Officer	Bruce DeRush
PX Officer	Georgia Thompson
Newsletter Editor	Tom Howe
TBM Aircraft Coordinator	Bob Thompson
Cub Aircraft Coordinator	Charlie Huff
Facilities Manager	Bruce Verstraete
Recruiting Officer	Sandi Caskey

**OTHER WWII AIRCRAFT
BOTH OURS AND THEIRS**

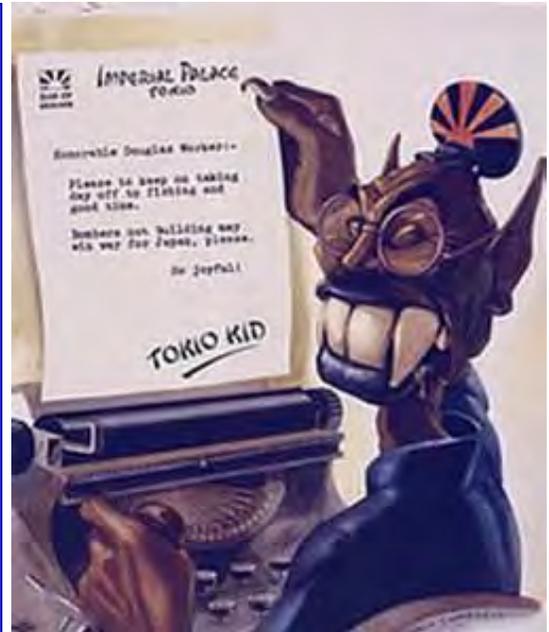
Ki-77, was a Japanese long-distance record aircraft with a remarkably slim fuselage and finely tapered wide-span monoplane wings. Two were built to set long distance records. The first was lost on an attempt from Japan to Europe in 1943. The second set a closed course long distance record of 16,435 Kilometers on July 2, 1944.

"Fire and Never Quit" is the theme of this Japanese Poster from WWII. You'll notice the soldier Trampling both the British and US Flags. This poster must have postdated the Japanese invasion of China and southeast Asia.



Several Posters were published featuring a characterization called the "Tokio Kid."

These posters targeted the workplace and production materials by encouraging workers to take more time off and wasting materials that could be recycled. The "Kid" was pretty gross!

**MEET YOUR CANDIDATES!**

The nominating committee appointed by Wing Leader Collin Fay was charged with nominating candidates for the positions of Wing Leader, Executive Officer (XO) and Adjutant.

The following nominees were selected.

For the position of Wing Leader to replace Col Collin Fay is long time CAF and RMW member Col Dorothy Dutton has graciously accepted the nomination. Col Dutton provided this brief biography to the Propwash Gazette:

COL DOROTHY DUTTON

"I have been a member of the CAF for 25 years and the RMW for 24., was PIO for two years, newsletter editor for 12 years, put the museum together several years ago and have conducted tours of the museum for several years. I agreed to run for Wing Leader for one Year and will do my best.

It takes a team to lead a bunch of Colonels such as ours, so the position of XO is as important as Wing Leader. The XO is not only there to fill in when the Wing Leader is disposed, but also to provide council and support to the Wing Leader during the day to day business of directing the Wing. While this submitted bio may have some "tongue-in-cheek" - this XO candidate has CAF credentials galore!

COL BRUCE VERSTRAETE

"Bruce Verstraete is that rather nefarious character often seen lurking around the hangar when no one else is there. He's highly undependable, and probably untrustworthy (don't leave any of your tools laying around). It is unfortunate that the RMW has to stoop to the level of including this

(Continued on Page 6)

PROJECT PHOENIX



Project Phoenix Donation Booth Rifle Airport Fly-in
 Thanks to the initiative of Col Dick Maddock, the Rifle Airport allowed the RMWCAF set up a donation booth at the Rifle Airport annual Fly-in. Other attending Cols were Rich Conner, Bob Thompson, Tom Howe, Bill Marvel, Rob Duncan...
 Every little bit helps!!

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES! (CONTINUED)

(Continued from Page 5)
 man on a ballot and I hope we can do better next year. Anyone who would vote for him should be removed from the Wing.”

The position of Adjutant is more than the Wing Agitator. This Colonel shoulders responsibilities from maintaining the permanent Wing records and correspondence but also maintains and generates the necessary Wing reports to CAF Headquarters including personnel records and membership reports.

We are fortunate to have two active members willing to

stand for election as the Rocky Mountain Wing Adjutant:

COL JOHN MUMMERY

“I have been a member of the Rocky Mountain Wing of the CAF for 3 years. I live in Durango, Colorado and work as the operations manager for BP’s Colorado natural gas operations. I was born and grew up in Bethpage, New York so it is safe to call me a Grumman brat. My dad worked for Grumman and from my earliest days he taught me to memorize all the Grumman ‘cats’ so for me to

participate with supporting a Grumman Avenger is literally a dream come true. I became interested in aviation again when I joined Civil Air Patrol to support my son’s interest. I was in the Durango squadron for 6 years when I heard about CAF and figured I could get an instant promotion from Lieutenant to Colonel! I’ve been very impressed with the CAF in terms of how the organization welcomes and treats new members. My long term goals are to stay with CAF and while not a pilot I feel I can contribute with my management and public relations skills.”

COL RICH CONNER

“I believe that the future of the CAF lies in new members, public education and engagement through exhibition, and having a cohesive membership to be successful. - Accountant and IT professional during the week and aviation enthusiast during the weekend. - Donates time and money when and where able. - Attended 10 out of 11 events with the TBM during 2013. - Have visited the TBM at Falcon field this summer at own expense to assist.”

Be sure to attend the meeting on December 6th and cast your ballot!!!

