

D-DAY DOLL AT THE NAS LEMOORE AIR SHOW
In-flight view looking forward from open hatch

Volume 21 Issue 12

December 2011

Calendar

December 2011

<i>Dec 3</i>	Hangar Work Day
<i>Dec 10</i>	IEW Holiday Party
<i>Dec 16</i>	Fri. Night Hangar Movie
<i>Dec 20</i>	Staff Meeting
<i>Dec 26</i>	Newsletter Deadline

January 2012

<i>Jan 7 & 8</i>	Cable Air Show
<i>Jan 7</i>	Hangar Work Day
<i>Jan 11</i>	General Meeting
<i>Jan 14</i>	Sat. Night Hangar Movie
<i>Jan 17</i>	Staff Meeting
<i>Jan 23</i>	Newsletter Deadline

February 2012

<i>Feb 4</i>	Hangar Work Day
<i>Feb 8</i>	General Meeting
<i>Feb 11</i>	Sat. Night Hangar Movie
<i>Feb 14</i>	Staff Meeting
<i>Feb 20</i>	Newsletter Deadline

WINGS

C.O.'s Message

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Col. Ed Cleveland
Wing Leader

Can you believe how fast this year has gone by! Didn't we just have a Christmas Party? How time flies when you are having fun. We have had so much fun this year that I don't know where to start.

How about all of those great air shows we have attended starting with the Cable show in January all the way to the Veterans Day Tribute at Flabob in November. Somewhere in between those two shows we managed to fit in a couple dozen events where our airplanes got to show off and our members were able to tag along just for the fun of it.

Where else can you go and enjoy the history we here at the Inland Empire Wing have been so blessed to take charge of for the Commemorative Air Force so the general public can enjoy it also.

I feel very privileged to hang out with such a happy and fun loving group of people with the goal of preserving our nation's flying military history. I thank

you one and all for making my time as your leader a pleasant and

happy experience. Each of you has a very special place in my heart. I can truly call each one of you my friend. You are the real leaders of the IEW. Our efforts would go nowhere without you.

We here at the IEW have a great new staff on board to take us to more exciting places in the future. I know that you, the members, will stand behind Pete, Bill, Steve, Andy, Mike, Tom Garcia, Dave and all of the committee members as they lead us on to the new fun places so we can continue to give the public a peek at what so many take for granted.

Keep up the good work. Have fun. Enjoy life to the fullest. Make lots of friends, I have.

Keep 'em-flying
Banger

WINGS

Hello to All,

Our Christmas dinner is days away! Yikes! Hank and I have developed a menu-traditional turkey dinner – with Hank's usual expertise. I get to be his sous chef (that's NOT soused chef) and his team is already in preparation.



WE NEED YOU! I will begin calling soon for hors d'oeuvres and desserts. If you are coming, and can tell me now what you will bring, just reply to my e-mail and it's a done deal llindgren@hotmail.com or call at 951-781-9825.

In preparation for the Christmas Party and a new beginning in 2012, we are having a Clean Up and Lunch Saturday, December 3rd. The biggest job is to sweep down the chipping hangar paint and vacuum it up. We'll use the scissorlift and shop brooms. First, the planes have to come out so I'm looking for all the help I can get. My thought is to start at 8:00 and end with lunch at noon.

Please consider a half day of elbow grease for the IEW!

Additionally, I will be at the hangar around 9AM, Saturday, December 10th to set up tables, the tree, and decorate. Hope to see you there... remember it's always a party when we work together!

Finally, we will have a Silent Auction – no live auction-please consider bringing something, and DON'T clean your closet, this is not a white elephant gift thing. This dinner serves as one of our major fundraisers to Keep 'em Flying for IEWCAF.

As always, your contributions of time, talent, and \$ are fabulous and greatly appreciated.

See You soon,
Col. Linda Lindgren



WINGS



Saturday
Dec. 10th 2011

IEW
CHRISTMAS PARTY

Social hour 5:00 p.m.
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Inland Empire Wing Hangar

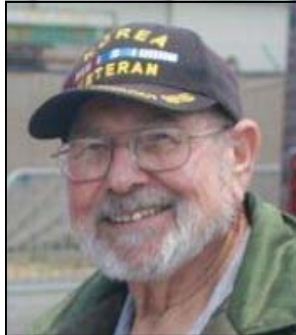
There will be a silent auction of special items donated by members and friends. Please bring your items to be auctioned and by tradition a small trinket to help decorate our special tree. A donation of Unit support for the "Money Tree" will be appreciated.

Following dinner there will be a very special Unit awards ceremony to recognize those who have contributed the most to the Unit.

*Come out and have
a great evening!*



WINGS



HOW I GOT HERE!

Part XVI

by

Col. Bud Ukes

My 17 years with Beckman Instruments in Fullerton, CA were very thrilling to me. It seemed as if there was something new every day that would get my attention. A new breakthrough in miniaturization or a new missile to control or something. Remember in the late '60s computers were mostly a dream.

One of the most exciting projects I worked on was actually caused by a system failure that caused a Helipot product to get cooked. And at a most crucial time. This happening was highly classified at the time and not many knew about this. NASA had just launched the first satellite to orbit the Moon. Just as it launched the tracking station at Kona Point, HI went off the air due to a system malfunction. This would not have been too serious, except Kona Point was the only station that could signal the satellite to change trajectory to return to Earth.

I was in charge of all Government activity for Helipot Division of Beckman Instruments at that time and I got the emergency call for replacement parts. The part in question was a very complex potentiometer that normally required eight weeks to manufacture. We had 24 hours. We started three units to insure we would get at least one good unit. (We actually got two good ones.) The cost of salary for the management team that just watched this unit get built exceeded the cost of the unit. I think every manager from Dr. Beckman himself down to me was there watching a young lady inspector do the final tests to

(Continued on page 7)

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(Continued from page 6)

pass the unit.

This unit was then special packed, taken by police escort to LAX where it was flown to Kona Point. The transmitter was hooked up, turned on and without time to test anything, a signal was sent to the Moon satellite and it turned and came home with very valuable information needed to send a man to the Moon. Wow! That was a very exciting day. I actually received a NASA Citation for making this happen.

My career in the Electronics Industry ended with the development of micro miniature resistor networks in Dual Inline Pin devices (DIPS) and Single Inline Pin devices (SIPS). I get kinda nostalgic when I get coffee and donuts and we talk about dipping and sipping. As I left the industry we were taking resistor networks about the size of a 1 foot cube and reducing them to about a quarter inch square. I never was successful in welding a wire you could not see to a spot on a board you could not see, however we did find a lot of ladies that were professional knitters that could do this type of work.

I had now spent over 20 years working for other people and felt it was time for me to go

out on my own. I was tired of the stress involved with design work so I basically started a hobby company manufacturing smokeless burning lamp oil (Reel-Glo Lamp Oil) and nostalgic oil lamp holders. This was actually fun with no stress. Yea! But be one day late delivering and find out about a whole new area of stress.

The oil lamp holders evolved into manufacturing oak picture frames. I fell into a scheme to supply artists that sold in art and craft shows with all their framing needs. Since artists are not the best business types I was able to secure their business by making it as easy as possible to get their supplies from my company which I had named U.S. Associates. (USA).

This was a long and successful adventure with a major manufacturing plant in Riverside, CA. In 1999 I woke up to the fact that I had 18 employees and a huge plant. I looked at Bernice and said, "This ain't a hobby anymore." The company was sold and I thought I retired.

Next chapter will cover how I got introduced to the CAF and my many adventures with "old airplanes."



WINGS



XO TAILS

by Colonel Pete Downes, Jr.
IEW Executive Officer

Part III of a Four-Part Series

Continuing my thoughts from Part II, another benefit of personal/organizational integrity is its effect on airshow/event bookings, sponsor recruitment and ultimately flight safety. If we are booked, we will make every effort to show up on time. Sponsors need to know we do what we agreed to do in terms of presentations, signs, banners, etc.

However, the most important benefit of integrity is the positive effect it has on flight safety. The pilot in command has to know that the aircraft is ready to fly and all ground pre-flight checklists have been completed with no open or missed items. Strict adherence to checklists confirms the maintenance status/configuration of the aircraft. This is of paramount importance on old historical aircraft and systems. They demand no less of us.

The message: **Make Integrity, and thereby Flight Safety, a Cornerstone of Our Wing!**

WINGS



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

What do you do with no air shows on the horizon and some time on your hands? A bad question to ask, it had been a while since we dedicated a day to just trimming the growth in and around the front of the hangar. Saturday we had an opportunity to do just that, so with the coffee pot going and a bag of donuts we all began to remove the excess foliage. We worked 'til 11:30 or 12:00 filling our dumpster, Chris's truck a couple of times and the bucket on the front of the airport skip loader. When all was said and done we made a huge improvement and it looks like someone actually lives there. I would like to thank those that came out to lend a hand, one of our new members and T-6 sponsor Chris LaFave, Ryan Robinson an electronic engineering student at California Baptist College – and he is not even a member. He said he just likes to get his hands dirty. He has also come out several times to help clean the grease off the C-53. I think he earned a ride. Also Dave and Anthony Mihelich and myself – when you have a good turnout it takes much less time to get the job done.

Thanks again
Andy Conley

WINGS



More "Mission Accomplished" photos by Andy Conley.



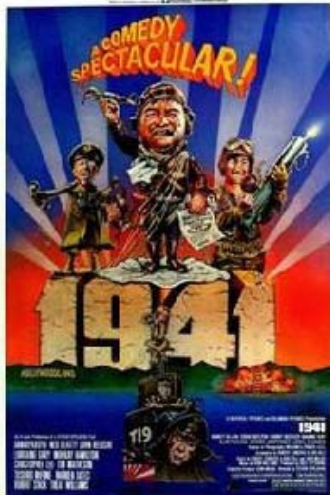
WINGS



MOVIE NIGHT



**INLAND EMPIRE WING/CAF
A 501C-3 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
"LEST WE FORGET!"**



DECEMBER 16, 2011

"1941"

DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM

MOVIE STARTS AT 7 PM

MOVIE & POPCORN ARE FREE

**HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS, PIZZA, CHIPS, CANDY,
ICE CREAM, SODA, WATER, & COFFEE
AVAILABLE FOR DONATION
(MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

6936 FLIGHT ROAD, HANGAR S, RIVERSIDE, 92504





IEW planes Pull Double Duty

The IEW planes are always a popular attraction wherever they appear.. Who doesn't want to have their picture taken with one of our rare warbirds?

So it should be no surprise that Ron and Kim Karsting of Studio Eighteen 37 wanted to do a private model shoot with our planes. The following is some of the shots taken that day.



More photos by Ron and Kim Karsting of Studio Eighteen 37.



More photos by Ron and Kim Karsting of Studio Eighteen 37.



NGS



IEW News

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WINGS



Christmas Party
“Saturday” December 10th
CAF Hangar — Riverside Airport
Social hour 5 p.m. - Dinner 6 p.m.

Dinner by
“Hank Schmel”

Menu:

A Christmas Feast

Turkey

and all the Trimmings



\$15.00 per person

A reservation made is a reservation paid

WINGS

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