



**The IEW had good turn out at Cable Air Show
“D-Day Doll” carried parachutist aloft both days**

Volume 22 Issue 02

February 2012

Calendar

February 2012

Feb 4 Hangar Work Day
Feb 8 **General Meeting**
Feb 11 Sat. Night Hangar Movie
Feb 11&12 **C53 Ground School**
Feb 14 Staff Meeting
Feb 20 Newsletter Deadline

March 2012

Mar 10 Hangar Work Day
Mar 10 Sat. Night Hangar Movie
Mar 14 **General Meeting**
Mar 20 Staff Meeting
Mar 26 Newsletter Deadline
Mar 31 **Riverside Air Show**

*Remember the movies are now
on the second Saturday night.
Come out and enjoy them.*

April 2012

Apr 7 Hangar Work Day
Apr 11 **General Meeting**
Apr 14 Sat. Night Hangar Movie
Apr 17 Staff Meeting
Apr 23 Newsletter Deadline

WINGS

C.O.'s Message

“SAFETY”



Col. Pete Downes, Jr.
Wing Leader

The month of January and the start of the new year lived up to its advance billing as an important kickoff for IEW events and activities. The Cable Air Fair on the 7th and 8th was a successful show of our people, aircraft and spirit. The flagship of our fleet, the C-53 “D-Day Doll,” performed flawlessly on both days while dropping 13 jumpers each day.

Not to be outdone, the PT-22 flew as part of a three ship formation of identical PT-22s, a sight which is becoming rarer as the months and years go by. Lastly, the L-4 was on static display as was the PX and Dave’s WWII Jeep. All in all, a very successful show from both a wing performance and financial standpoint.

Our 8th “Wheels to Warbirds” wing-sponsored cruise on the 28th was equally successful with a variety of automobiles and aircraft on display for the

invited guests and the public. This show, I am happy to say, is fast becoming an IEW signature event. Again, as always, we need your support at these events to make them successful and fun.

I briefed the IEW Staff at the monthly staff meeting on my vision of the path forward to address our two biggest priorities in the coming year, **safety and finances**. The briefing contents were spawned by and are based on the wing members’ and my observations, consistent with CAF Hq regulations, guidelines and Unit Manual constraints. The application of the “IEW Road Map” briefing points will necessitate some wing operational process improvement and administrative realignment. You will begin to

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see this happening in a measured orderly fashion in the next few months.

The preparation and attendance at the International Council of Air Shows (ICAS) convention at Las Vegas in December are beginning to produce results. We are presently working the details and negotiating three shows in Northern California. My thanks to our ICAS team of Bill Prosser, Tom Dix and Eddie Bentley.

The annual C-53 ground school is scheduled for the month of February. Pilot-in-Command/Second-in-Command

school is Saturday the 11th and Crew Chief/Load Master school is Sunday the 12th. The successful completion of this course is mandatory for all PIC, SIC, CC and LMs.

A new year is here and with it new challenges, whether we like it or not. The question is, are we ready? I believe the answer is YES!

Fly Safe
Pete

**Wednesday, February 8th
Program**

Lt. Col. Gevin Harrison, USAF

C-17 Cold Weather Operations

WINGS



The Inland Empire Wing Staff has set the annual C53 Ground School for the weekend of February 11th and 12th, 2012.

The Crew Chief/Loadmaster will be on Sunday, February 12th from 8:00AM to 2:00PM. Lunch will be served. There is a \$15 fee for the class. Any IEW Member interested in working as a crew member for the Doll is encouraged to attend. CAF regulations state that any member wishing to crew a CAF aircraft must attend an annual ground school.

Bud will be back this year to give us the history of the CAF and our C-53. This will be a lot better than that guy who did it last year. Dave will go over the paperwork necessary to make the mission happen. Steve will be dusted off and brought out of retirement to give us fireguard. Ed will go over marshalling and Andy will, once again, do the pre-flight portion. I will stay out of the way so it all goes smoothly.

If you are interested, you must contact us to reserve a seat.
Contact: **Andy Conley** (951) 788-9941 a.conley@wans.net
Mike Lindgren (951) 781-9825 llindgren@hotmail.com

Thanks.

Keep 'em Flying,
Mike

WINGS



How I GOT HERE!

Part XVIII

by

Col. Bud Ukes

Although I now thought I had really made some inroads to the Confederate Air Force, I was surprised at how protective they were of their name, logos and symbols. I met with the Gift Shop Manager, Dave, at Midland and he was very interested in some of my designs. I was then baffled by his reluctance to order anything. OK! I'll try a different approach.

Booking into the 1990 Airsho as a vendor, I had a very good showing of selling framed pictures of the CAF airplanes. I negotiated with Dave to have him take what was left over for the Gift shop at a reduced price. This helped me as I went home with an empty truck and helped the gift shop make some extra money.

I found out later that almost everything I left was gone within 3 months. Reorder? No! I was frustrated, but kept to my plan. Airsho91 was again a great year for framed CAF air-

plane pictures. Again I sold at discount what was left to the gift shop and everyone seemed happy.

I had designed some special tributes to specific CAF planes and presented samples to headquarters. They checked me out and I was presented with written authorization to use all the CAF names, logos and symbols with proper protection for copyrights. I now was free to approach the various units showing them tributes for their airplanes. Went real well.

I was asked why I was not a member of the CAF and I had to explain that the CAF had a rule that you could not be a member AND supply merchandise to them. This was changed in 1993 to you could not be a PX Officer and supply the unit. I decided that, OK, you would not let me be a member for three years, so in three years I'll join. Sure enough at Airsho96 I was

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kidnapped and became a member.

While all this was going on, I had started to attend the Inland Empire Wing meetings and got quite involved. After 1996 when I became a member I was asked to become PIO and to help with the PX. I introduced the IEW to some of my designs and ever since starting to show them in the PX we've had a very prosperous and beneficial relationship.

And here we are some 16 years and a lot of fun later working to insure the continued success of The Inland Empire Wing and the Commemorative Air Force.

I've had a very pleasant journey with the CAF and especially with IEW to get here. Although all groups will have their ups and downs, the time spent with the group has been mostly positive and good. I really enjoy being with you even if you make fun of my ability to talk, talk

and talk some more. So, let's all enjoy what we have coming and it looks like it will be a lot of fun for many, many, years to come.

Bless you all and thank you for allowing me into your thoughts.

Bud (LOUD PIPES)

Ukes



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PT-22 "146" Takes to the Air

by
Col. Terry Freedman

Well, after twelve some-odd years I finally finished my PT-22 "146". Chris Nehus was kind enough to come over to Cable Airport on the second of January and do the annual. I flew it twice that day and he flew it once. Just some minor fixes to accomplish, it still needs some rigging attention and I am still working on the engine break-in.

The Cable Air Show was the following weekend so I wanted to get at least five hours on it and an oil change and adjust the valves before I flew it at the air show. I accomplished all that on Friday the 6th.

Flew several formation flights with Doug Schuster in the CAF Ryan "269" and Chris Nehus. Nehus brought his PT-22 "596" over Saturday morning, so we had a three-ship both days and a four-ship on Saturday with Carter Teeters in the Stearman.

Terry Freedman



Photo by Frank Mormillo

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Photo by Larry Bledsoe

IEW volunteers helped make the “Wheels to Warbirds”
Wing-sponsored cruise on the 28th a success.



Photo by Larry Bledsoe

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Wheels to Warbirds
Photos by
Col. Camm Kirk



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MOVIE NIGHT



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

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2012

DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM MOVIE STARTS AT 7 PM



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“Wednesday” February 8th

CAF Hangar — Riverside Airport

Social hour 6 p.m. - Dinner 7 p.m.

Dinner by
“The Wing”

Menu:

**Oven Baked Chicken,
Grandma's Potato Salad,
Bourbon St. Baked Beans,
Fresh Fruit Bites,
and Dessert**



\$12.00 per person

A reservation made is a reservation paid

WINGS

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