



MILE HIGH VIEW

NEWSLETTER OF THE MILE HIGH WING,
COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE (CAF)

Keep 'Em Flying!

June 2006

The "Annual" Challenge (Continued)

By Col Stan Peterson

We left you with the replacement of one cylinder. Well, make that one cylinder per engine at \$1,500 per cylinder. Carpeting turned out to be a much bigger project as well. In fact, every facet of the inspection turned up areas of considerable need and costs. The jack pads required a compatible, serviceable receptacle, which meant the broken studs and stripped threads had to be repaired and heli-coiled, as did the carburetor heat box on the left engine. All the bolts holding the left main wheel together were found to be a bit short and required replacing. A simple 18" x 1' heat shield for the left engine cost over \$250. Over 30' of worn-out ventilation/heat ducting was replaced. Although the cost for the annual inspection ran rather high, everything checked out, and we came across no "deal-breakers," which could have grounded the airplane, such as the paper work for undocumented modifications that were later found.



Jack Pad

We finally completed the annual inspection and test flew the airplane at 7 pm the night before the Erie Town Fair and the Platte Valley fly-ins. The fly-ins produced a considerable amount of interest and some income. Our Cream Puff performed flawlessly and was our greatest advertisement for rides.

Riding "shot gun" and assisting with the fly-ins was our newly inducted member, Ben Anesi, who has a private pilot's license and is multi-engine rated, with over 300hrs experience. Ben is graduating from CU this summer with a degree in economics. Young blood, aspiring professional pilot with unlimited resources, (right, Ben?) and a tremendous desire to keep the "spirit" alive! What's not to like? In an effort to help Ben attain his commercial license as well as qualify as PIC in the Cream Puff, I recently renewed my multi-engine instructor's rating, which enables me to instruct in the AT-7/C-45. Although several applications were handed out during the fly-ins, I believe we still have a few "Bravo" memberships available, so keep an eye out for opportunities to increase the ranks.

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Newest Member Ben Anesi



Cream Puff on Jack Stands for Gear Testing



The "Annual" Challenge *Continued* (From pg 1)

Some of the best news ever for the Mile High Wing has come in the form of a \$1.2 million grant by the late Charles Gates fund, which has been granted to the Lafayette Foundation to build two hangars, and a 15,000 square-foot museum, which will also include a rather large children's museum. Diane Wallach, Gate's daughter, a trustee for the fund said, "He loved to support projects like this." The Lafayette Foundation is run by Andy Parks, and he has indicated that he would like to provide hangar space for our AT-7/C-45 to be displayed along with Jerry Priddy's WWII collection of memorabilia valued at \$1.5 million. Getting the Cream Puff in out of the elements will greatly enhance our ability to continue the restoration of the airplane. This is something we can all be very proud of, and we're grateful to these most generous foundations.

KEEP 'EM FLYING →



Worn Ventilation Ducting



Carpet Installation Tech

The Flying Season Has Begun!

By Col Mike Kalinowski

Our "Creampuff" participated in its first fly-in of the 2006 season to a tempered success. There was a really big crowd at the Erie airport thanks to the high level of advertisement done for the event and the free airplane rides being given by the EAA. We didn't have them clamoring over one another to pay to ride the C45, but there was interest.

It initially looked like it was going to be a bad day with the first ride only taking one passenger. Stan took off and circled around and made a high speed pass down the flight line, and that was the best advertisement we could get. By the time Stan returned we had a full flight of five lined up for the next flight. Again, away goes Stan. Another high speed pass and more interest generated. A third flight is almost full by the time Stan returned.

We eventually filled a third flight with one small problem. Three of the passengers on this flight want to fly in the right seat. Stan's wife Anne suggested that we may want to charge an additional \$25 for the right seat. A brilliant idea that I think would fly, no pun intended.

After the last flight, we packed up the signs and headed to Platte Valley where two more rides were sold. All in all, a good day with 13 paying customers at \$50 each. The plane and pilot performed flawlessly. A big thanks goes out to our mechanic and the wing members that participated in the push to make sure the plane was flying in time for this event. And another big thanks to Stan's wife Anne for coming out to the event and handling the paperwork and selling the rides. Thanks, Anne!

There is great opportunity at this event, and next year we should plan on bringing the PX trailer. The airport manager would love to have us bring the trailer when we come back next year. As the single source souvenir provider I think we could have a day similar to the Jeffco open house. Now it's off to Newton, Kansas.

KEEP 'EM FLYING →

Calendar of Events

June 3-4, 2006 –

Wings of Remembrance, Newton, KS

June 10-11, 2006 –

Open House, Jeffco Airport

June 17, 2006 – Wing meeting:

10:00 a.m. at Platte Valley Airport

June 24-25, 2006 –

Rocky Mountain Regional Fly-In,
Front Range Airport

July 1, 2006 – Aircraft work day:

10:00 a.m. at Platte Valley Airport

July 15, 2006 – Wing meeting:

10:00 a.m. at Platte Valley Airport

Directions to Platte Valley Airport

Platte Valley Airport is 3 miles northwest of Hudson, Colorado:

- Take I-76 north to Hudson and exit west on Highway 52.
- At CR 41, turn right (north).
- At CR 18, turn left (west).

At the Platte Valley Airpark sign, turn left again.

Wing meetings are normally held on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m.



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