



The cutoff date for the newsletter is the 25th of each month

Honoring American Military Aviation through Flight, Exhibition and Remembrance



COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE

The official newsletter of
The Central Texas Wing
Commemorative Air Force
1841 Airport Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666
(512) 396-1943

www.cafcentex.com

Volume No. 42

Issue No. 12 – December 2016

Check us out on twitter, Facebook, and Instagram

<https://www.facebook.com/cafcentex>

<https://twitter.com/cafcentex>

<http://instagram.com/cafcentex>



CENTRAL TEXAS WING Staff 2015

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wing Leader | Col. William J. Fier | leader@cafcentex.org |
| Executive Officer | Col. Phil Bonasera | exec@cafcentex.org |
| Operations Officer | Col. Roger Sharp | ops@cafcentex.org |
| Adjutant | Col. Thomas Crawford | adjutant@cafcentex.org |
| Finance Officer | Col. Deena Clausen | finance@cafcentex.org |
| Maintenance Officer | Col. Ray Clausen | maintenance@cafcentex.org |
| Safety Officer | Col. Edward Garland | safety@cafcentex.org |
| PX Officer | Col. Dave Berrio | px@cafcentex.org |
| Media/Public Relations | Col. Ken Mabe | media@cafcentex.org |
| Newsletter Officer | Col. Ernie Lee | newsletter@cafcentex.org |
| Museum Curator | Col. Clint Epley | museum@cafcentex.org |
| Living History/Flight Rides | Col. Dave Berrio | historyflights@cafcentex.org |
| Fundraising chair | Col. Tim Black | fundraising@cafcentex.org |

www.cafcentex.org

NEXT MEETING IS: December 10, 2016 Saturday 4:00 p.m
CAF HANGAR

← Look!

STAFF MEETING: 0900 Saturday December 10, 2016

WING LEADER COMMENTS

By: Col. Bill Fier **Wing Leader**

Col Clint Epley and his team of volunteers provided over 850 attendees at this year's Dinner Dance with a truly memorable evening. The music by Sentimental Journey was exceptionally good and all of the comments I received about the evening were replete with glowing remarks about everything from the dinner and deserts to the great job you've done refurbishing the hangar. While Clint orchestrates and attends to every detail of the evening, it is the dedicated wing members and their significant others (wives, girlfriends, POOSSLQ) that make this such a successful event. Thank you!

At our wing membership meeting on the 19th we elected **James Ellis** to the position of Wing Executive Officer and reelected **Ray Clausen** as our Maintenance Officer and **Ed Garland** as our Safety Officer. Thank you for your commitment!

While **Phil Bonasera** will no longer be serving on the wing staff he has graciously volunteered to continue his great work leading his band of hangar repairmen. Under his leadership a major portion of the second

floor on the South side of the hangar has been made usable for the safe and orderly storage of aircraft parts as well as the decorations for the Dinner Dance and items used during Casino Night and the Golf Tournament.

Phil and his men are now focusing their efforts on the first floor of the North side of the hangar. Their very ambitious goal is to turn the "old GSE and Wood Shop" into a climate controlled, year round work space. I know all the members who have tried to rebuild an aircraft part during the extreme heat of the summer months or freezing temps of January, February and March will appreciate their finished product. Thank you **Phil!** And thank you **Larry, Mitch, Richard, Patrick, James, and Tom.**

As the end of the year approaches I ask you to consider how you can become a more involved member of the Wing. There are many ways to help from home as well as at the hangar. We need help fleshing out the new web site **Joe Enzinger** is developing. Thanks Joe! We also need help with writing grant requests so we can pay for all the improvements that still need to be made to the hangar. Additionally we need help

manning the PX and greeting our visitors. These are but a few of the areas where you could have an impact.

I look forward to hearing from you at bill.fier@centraltexaswing.org

11 February 2017 will be a special day at the hangar for members and their significant other (see above)mark your calendar now.

It's your Wing.....come out and contribute!

Bill



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

By: Col. Phil Bonasera

Greetings from the Exec.

This will be my last monthly message to you all as your executive officer, you lucky devils. **Jim Ellis** will take over as exec starting on January 1. I will however continue to annoy you with messages about the status of our hangar and ongoing projects under the guise of my new title as "facilities director."

Along those lines, you will note that our new focus is in the area of the wood shop and GSE shop. It had been decided some time ago that those spaces were to be heated and air-conditioned so that we all could have a livable workspace year-round. This will require a fair amount of work to secure all the walls that will be the boundary between the heated and non-heated spaces. That work will start in earnest shortly. We intend to get into the exterior walls, fill up the holes, and insulate them. As well as change and improve the doors and other openings to and from these spaces. Hopefully, we can get a lot of this done and get the HVAC hooked up before it starts to get really cold. The upstairs second-floor South project will be on the back burner for a while. Most of the flooring in the west side has been completed and it is now safe to walk up there. There is also a fair amount of space open for storage and other projects if needed. I intend that we will get back to that project after we finish downstairs.

We are still waiting on final drawings for the ADA compliant unisex bathroom that will be installed downstairs next to the existing men's room. When that project starts we will have to remove the West wall in the cobra den, since that wall will have to be moved back into the den about a foot or so. At that point we will probably have to start transitioning the cobra den up to the officers club. That may take place in the next several months. There will be more will information on the timeline for all this as soon as our plans and bids are sent out and approved. Standby for further details. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your executive officer for the last two years. It has truly been a learning experience and one that I would recommend to any member if you have the time and inclination. Thank you

Phil



OPERATIONS OFFICER'S REPORT

By: Col. Roger Sharp

No report his month



ADJUTANT'S REPORT

By: Col. Tom Crawford

Col Tom Crawford Adjutant

*Minutes of Central Texas Wing Meeting,
November 19, 2016*



The meeting was called to order at 16:00 PM by Wing Leader Col Bill Fier who led the membership reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. The minutes of the last meeting were provided in the newsletter. The minutes were accepted as printed by unanimous vote. Guests/New Members:
Staff Reports:
*Wing Leader Col Bill Fier advised, finance report was pass out. That's All brother (TAB) the money was approved by the foundation and the money is in the CAF account. Basler Aviation advised Engines been shipped out for over haul. Props has been sent out to the prop shop too. Flight controls and fabric have been removed. The flight control materials have been donated by a sponsor for the aircraft. Garmin giving the instruments at a discounted price. Going with disc brakes instead of the old brakes. Seats will be 14 old style airline type seats, but will still have the flat seats against the walls installed. The airline type seats will be used when Wing air crew members fly to events. The airline type seats then can be removed so the interior looks the way it did in World War II. The paint has been donated, still looking for someone to paint the aircraft.
Upstairs above the hangar bathroom work has been on going to repair wall, floors and install shelves for storage.*

CENTEX HIGHLIGHT

Starting work on the first floor under officers club to refurbish the wall, ceilings and the area will be air conditioned for a temperature controlled work area.

ABA bathroom about 95 percent of the drawings completed. Still working other issues.

City of San Marcos is furnishing money to complete the bathroom. Joe Enzinger still working on the new web site and Wing Staff new E mail addresses.

Twelve days of giving is also starting for Valero Golf Tournament. Bill gave us an overview and the procedures we need to know. Applications were left in the Cobra Den to be used for there donations.

Awards Banquet, we need some new idea's for this event.

Executive Officer Col Phil Bonasera was not present.

Adjutant Col Tom Crawford advised that Wing Dues are due. Preferred payment method is check, cash, or credit card in that order. Deena will sent out statements for dues in December.

Operations Officer Col Roger Sharp was not present.

Finance Officer Col Deena Clausen was not present, but wing finance paperwork was handed out to members. Finance report was voted on/approved.

Maintenance Officer Col Ray Clausen was not present.

Col Bill Fier, advised that the C-45 is ready for its check and maintenance flight.

Safety Officer Ed Garland not present.

PX Officer Col Dave Berrio advised that he has some new items for sale in the PX. He is also going to order some new Wing T shirts and jackets.

Special Projects:

Col Clint Epley Dinner Dance overview: Clint advised that preparations for the dance went very good. Short on deserts such as cookies. Had about 850 guests. He also wanted to thank everyone that helped with the dance.

Dates of Major Events in 2017:

March 30, 2017 San Antonio Aviation and Aerospace Hall of Fame requested that we furnish the B-25 Yellow Rose and our P-39 for there awards dinner in San Antonio.

April 1, 2017 Centex Annual Casino Night

June 3, 2017 Centex Annual Antique Car/Airplane Show

September 28, 2017 Centex Annual Golf Tournament

Sick Call/Gone West: Mike Chalk gone west.

Old Business: Wing Elections Volunteering to serve as Executive Officer is Col Jim Ellis. Current safety Officer Col Ed Garland and Maintenance Officer Col Ray Clausen have both agreed to continue to serve in their current positions. Had Wing elections. All three were voted in for the next two years starting January 1, 2017.

New Business: Dec 10-12, 2016 Formation clinic at Central Texas Wing Hangar.

Good of the Wing:

There being no other new business not any items for the good of the Wing not already covered, the meeting was adjourned at 17:12 PM.

Col. Tom Crawford, Adjutant



MAINTENANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

By: Col. Ray Clausen

?????

Ray

PX OFFICER'S REPORT

By: Col. David Berrio



Yo! All,
I have been remiss the last couple of months and plain forgot to get

my input to Ernie. I was focused on preparations for the shows in Dallas and New Orleans and also working the initial 2017 schedule. As of now the 1st show will be Laredo the weekend of 12 February with the Yellow Rose and our C-45. This will likely be the Lone Star Lady's first trip. Yea!!

T-shirts - In between I was working with the company to get a better grade Wing T-shirt and a new Maintenance T-shirt for use by those folks authorized to perform maintenance on standard category aircraft. The new T-shirts will be a better quality, won't fade as quick, and will be a bit longer so they don't pull out of your pants when you bend over. The only down side is the longer T-shirts only come in Large and up. Those folks wearing a small or medium must stand straight at all times. Lol ☺.

CAF Blue Shirt - Gregg Roberts has been working on finding a new source for a better quality CAF Shirt that is longer and will stand up to more than one washing. He is currently having samples made to show the membership so we can press forward and solve that issue.

Wing Jackets – It's that time of year. If you would like to order a Wing Jacket please let me know ASAP. Once I have at least 5 orders I will send it in. Orders must be paid in advance.

Annual PX inventory – I am intentionally not ordering until I complete the required inventory. When it is completed and turned in I will be restocking and adding some new items.

PX Volunteers – I want to thank everyone that has pitched in to help in the gift shop. It is a very important source of income for our wing and your willingness to help is appreciated. I especially want to thank Pat, Charlene, Buzz, Eleanor, and Brittney.

CENTEX HIGHLIGHT

SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT**By: Col. Ed Garland**Aviation Safety

The FAA has announced the date for the change to the ICAO Flight Plan Form 7233-4. It will become effective in January 2017. If you use one of the EFB software programs such as ForeFlight or Garmin to file your flight plan, they will automatically ask you for the appropriate information and send it to the FAA in the proper format. If you call it in on the phone, the FAA will be asking you for some information that you may not be familiar with. I recommend that you look at www.faa.gov/.../fs/res_links/media/ICAO_Flight_Plan_Filing.pdf to give you all the information you will need to know how to fill in the form or give the FSS folks the right information.

We are in that time of the year where we as flight crew need to worry about icing, especially if we are flying in the clouds since none of our aircraft have deicing equipment. I strongly recommend that if you think that you are going to be in the clouds, that you call the FSS and get a good forecast to include icing conditions for your route of flight.

Ground Safety

As we get into the Christmas spirit and begin decorating, please keep in mind some of the following safety tips.

- If you are getting a live Christmas tree, be sure and keep it in lots of water. Check the water often and add it as needed; the tree will soak up a lot of water. If the tree starts drying out and losing lots of needles, it is time to take it down. Dry trees are major fire hazards as the picture below shows. This picture was taken less than 30 seconds after the fire started.



- Inspect all of your light strings, especially the outdoor ones that take a real beating in our December weather, for any damage. If they are frayed or damaged in any way, throw them out and get new ones. There are no trophies for who has the oldest light string!
- Lots of our decorations outside require ladders and we all know they can be dangerous. Don't try to be a hero and try putting up decorations on top of the roof while balancing with no hands on a ladder 15 feet up in the air.
- If you are like my wife, we have lots of candles around the house this time of year. There have been several times over the years that we have gone to bed without checking that all of the candles are out so they burned all night. Needless to say, that can be very hazardous. Also, keep them away from flammable objects such as lamp shades, books and paper on the desk. I make it a habit to walk thru every room in the house during December before going to bed to make sure that all of the lights, both exterior and interior are turned off and all of the candles are out.

Finally, we will all be going to parties throughout the next month. PLEASE be safe on the road. We all know the rules about drinking and driving. Let's follow them. And most of all, watch out for the folks on

the road that are not following the rules. We need everyone back alive and in one piece next year.

On a personal note, I want to thank all of you for the efforts you have gone thru to make our hangar safer and looking great. Please remember that safety is not a one-time affair. We need everyone's help to keep it going next year.

On behalf of my wife and myself, I want to wish each and every one of you a safe and Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Your fearless Safety Officer,

Ed Garland.



FUNDRAISING

By: Col. Tim Black

At the present time, we are working on the "Birdies for Charity"

fundraising program through the Valero Texas Open Golf Tournament. An email was sent out to all wing members explaining the program and providing a link for people to donate. Please refer to that email for program details, but if you have questions, contact me. Along with the "Birdies for Charity" drive, Valero holds a "12 Days of Giving" which runs from December 1st to 12th. During this time, anyone who purchases a Good Any Day ticket to the tournament for \$20 online at www.valerotexasopen.com, can select the Central Texas Wing as their charity of choice. By doing this, our wing receives \$10 for each ticket purchased. The charity that has the most tickets purchased will receive an additional \$2500. Please encourage anyone you know that is planning on attending the tournament to purchase their ticket between Dec. 1st and 12th. The Commemorative Air Force will begin their "12 Planes of Christmas" fundraising drive beginning December 1st running through December 31st. The Central Texas Wing has selected our BT-13 as the plane

we wish to have donations made to. You will see more information on this beginning December 1st.

Thanks for all the support to our fundraising drives throughout the year. Wishing your family a Happy Holiday Season, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!
Tim

**CENTRAL TEXAS WING CALENDAR
2017**

September

29

Annual CenTex Golf Classic

Onion Creek Golf Club

November

12

Central Texas Wing Veterans Day Hangar Dance

CENTEX HIGHLIGHT