



The Flyer

April 2002
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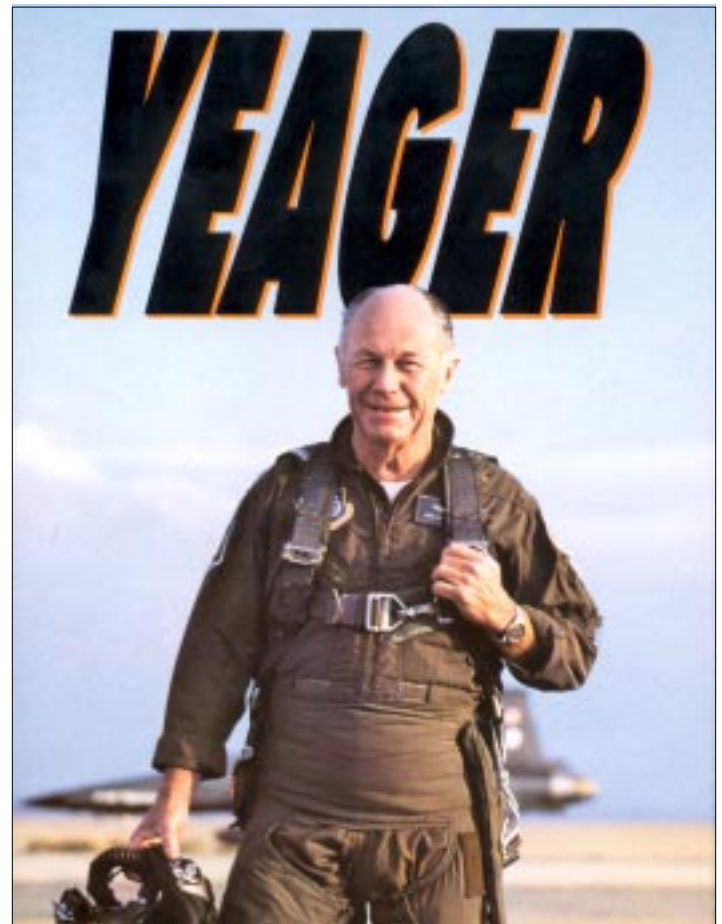
High Sky Wing of the Commemorative Air Force
Midland, Texas - Hangar: 915-563-5112

On the Web at
HighSkyWing.org

Chuck Yeager and Bud Anderson Friday April 26th

Come join two legends of aviation history, Chuck Yeager and Bud Anderson, for *An Evening at the Happy Bottom Riding Club* on Friday, April 26th at 6:30 p.m. in the High Sky Wing hangar.

The dinner is a special fund raising event for the High Sky Wing's new home fund, and the menu will be Texas-style BBQ. Dress is flight suit casual. If you wish to dress in a WWII-era uniform or attire, please do so. Cost per person for the dinner is only fifty dollars.



You can purchase tickets by calling the CAF Gift Shop at 915-567-3011, and tickets will also be available at the door Friday night. We have already had a number of requests for tickets from out of town, so don't wait too late to order yours.

Don't miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime chance to visit with two of the best known pilots of all time, and don't forget your donation benefits our new High Sky Wing home!

From the Back Office

by Col Blake Cowart

On March 9th, the Wing Staff presented our needs and requirements for consideration; should we decide to become a part of the TXDOT facility to be located at a yet to be determined area of the CAF property. I also wish to extend my thanks to Randy Wilson who attend the meeting as the Wing's representative. It allowed the remainder of the staff to focus on preparations for the Black Sheep fund raising dinner.

The HSW Staff will attend the next meeting of the TXDOT Project Group which will be April 26th. We will report those findings in the May newsletter. Until the Group, General Staff and Museum Board decide on a location for this new facility, about all that the Wing can do is raise needed monies for whatever we do.

With that statement made, we need to raise a considerable amount of capital. Your presence at the April fund raiser will be appreciated. I was surprised to see so many new faces at the March Black Sheep event and so few familiar faces. I know that this was a busy time for many families but it was a bit odd to see our Wing members outnumbered by our guests nearly two to one!

I doubt that any one of you bats an eye each year when a young lady asks you to buy a box of cookies or a young scout campaigns his popcorn. We eagerly buy tickets locally for an annual breakfast to buy eye glasses for the needy. To quote an old phrase, charity starts at home. Please try and help support our new home project by attending the Yeager-Anderson fund raiser on Friday, April 26th. Thank you. I'll see you there.

Black Sheep Dinner a Success

by Col Randy Wilson

If you missed the March fund raising dinner with the Black Sheep, you missed not only a great Italian meal, thanks to our own Col Ernie Webb and his helpers, but also a great evening visiting with our speakers and the 100 or so folks who attended the event. We were happy to see a lot of new faces in the audience, and we hope that some of our guests will consider becoming High Sky Wing members, soon.

Col Bob Stine reported a net profit from the dinner and auction of \$1960 — not bad for something that was basically simple, easy and fun! We expect another great dinner with Chuck Yeager and Bud Anderson this month. Please come join us.

As the Props Turn

by Col Randy Wilson

Believe it or not, our SNJ is again flying and I even remembered how to fly her! After ensuring all pieces of required paperwork were signed and with the blessings of our Maintenance Officer and Wing mechanical gurus, I tempted fate and took 101 up for a test flight earlier this month.

Everything seemed to work fine, and the newly rebuilt cylinder stayed firmly attached to the engine, much to my delight. After ensuring that the engine was in good shape it was time to test the rest of the systems, so down came the landing gear and flaps for the first landing.

Obviously, someone had prayed to the correct set of aviation gods, as all of the hydraulic stuff worked, too! And it worked for two more — I was almost in shock. OK, enough poking fun at how little both 101 and I flew last year, at least together. Hopefully this year will see us exercise the SNJ and hopefully the Argus/UC-61, aka Tar-Baby, a good bit more.

We plan to take both SNJs to the Dyess AFB open house, which is Saturday, May 11th. If you are interested in going over in the back seat and helping at the show, please let me know.

We are still looking for other pilots qualified to fly the SNJ. If you know anyone who wants to get involved with the Wing as a pilot, please let me know, and I will get them a copy of our pilot requirements and regs to study. Remember, to act a Pilot-In-Command of the SNJ, you need a good bit of tailwheel time and some of it has to be in an AT-6/SNJ/Harvard or something "equivalent" — whatever that is.

Y'all fly safe. See you at the hangar.

From the Flannel Wrench Locker

by Col Bill Coombes

Bill Coombes, our Maintenance Officer, has had his hands full getting ready for the April fund raising dinner and symposium with Chuck Yeager and Bud Anderson, so I'll report that we are hoping to start work on recovering the tail and wings of the Tar-Baby soon. Bill is planning some hands-on classes and demonstrations of how to work with the dacron fabric and associated sealers and paints, and we hope that a number of Wing members will step forward to learn the process. With a little help, we can move forward towards the day the Tar-Baby will again fly.

Executive Views

by Col Ralph Gillette

You all know about the big shindig on April 26th with Bud Anderson and Chuck Yeager and there is a write up on the Blacksheep dinner elsewhere in this letter. The Wing staff decided that May will be a good time to get back into the swing of things what with the Airsho season rapidly approaching and the usual summer activities stirring around. We will have a non-pot luck dinner for the May 16th meeting. Don't bring anything. There will be hamburgers with the fixins. The usual \$5.00 donation will be appreciated, but no dishes.

We will not have a speaker, the meeting will be used to discuss everything from what's new in the library to what is happening with our new home. Everybody is encouraged to attend so we can get your input and feelings on a number of topics, plus we want to try to renew everybody's spirit in the High Sky Wing.

And speaking of renewing, we want to thank those members who have stepped up to the bar and renewed their memberships. If your name is not on the following list and you have paid your dues, contact one to the Wing staff.

Adams, Jim	Gates, Bill	Roberts, David
Anderle, James	Gillette, Ralph	Roome, John
Archer, James	Gisolo, Linda	Sharp, Ray
Barnhill, Billy	Goeken, William	Shockey, Jerald
Bassham, Morris	Grady, Ernie	Simolke, Mary
Becraft, Sue	Hansen, Bob	Smith, William
Blackburn, Orville	Harrington, Lois	Stephens, Todd
Carter, Becky	Harrison, Martin Neal	Stine, Robert
Cherwin, William	Hawk, Frank	Stogner, Michael
Clark, Courtney	Hutchins, Bettye	Tamney, Ben
Claussen, Carol	Ingrham, David	Tidwell, Mary Alice
Claussen, Ted	Keeseey, John	Trout, Anne
Collier, Kathryn	Larson, Charlotte	Tubb, Terry
Collier, Richard	Linebarger, Dan	Ulvestad, Marilyn
Coombes, Alice	Linebarger, David	Vanden Bosch, Edd
Coombes, George	Linebarger, Gena	Walker, Robert
Coombes, Bill	Linebarger, Jeremy	Wallace, Bruce
Covington, Thomas	Magness, Myles	Ward, Erna
Cowart, Blake	McCracken, Donald	Warrington, Kenneth
Cowley, Bobby	McKown, Tom	Wasiloff, John
Crowder, James	McQueen, Bonnie	Watson, Dr. Clyde III
Cummins, Aaron	Meroney, Bobby	Webb, Ernie
Davis, Charlotte	Moler, Bill	Webb, Robert
Davis, Donald	Moore, James	Wilson, Pat
Davis, Harold	O'Hearn, Megan	Wilson, Randy
Depew, Charles	Parker, Jimmy	
Drennan, Mary Ann	Reneau, Tom	

And the Answer Is...

Mystery Plane #4 is a Timm N2T Tutor, a primary trainer built of plastic-bonded plywood, called Aeromold. The U.S. Navy ordered 262 Tutors, powered by a Continental R-670-4 radial engine of 220 horsepower. Our own George Coombes flew these in training, so next time you see George, ask him about the Timm and what he thought of a plastic and plywood airplane.





Our guests for dinner Friday, April 26th and speakers Saturday, April 27th — Chuck Yeager (left) and his good friend and flying companion Bud Anderson (right), seen enjoying themselves during the shooting of one of Chuck's AC-Delco TV commercials. Call the CAF Gift Shop at 915-567-3011 to get your tickets to the fund raising dinner.

High Sky Wing Elected Officers

Wing Leader: Blake Cowart - 528-1344 cell
 Executive Officer: Ralph Gillette
 Adjutant: Mary Alice Tidwell
 Finance: Bob Stine
 Operations: Randy Wilson - 352-4258 cell
 Maintenance: Bill Coombes - 689-8359 home
 Safety - David Linebarger

Hangar Phone: (915) 563-5112

all numbers are Area Code 915 unless indicated

What's Happening & When

April 26 - Yeager/Anderson dinner
 April 26 - Yeager/Anderson program
 May 2 - Staff meeting
 May 11 - Dyess AFB Open House
 May 16 - Wing meeting
 May 27 - Memorial day
 May 30 & June 1 - Ernie's Blow Out

Next Regular Wing Meeting is Thursday, May 16th at 7:00pm in the Hangar

HIGH SKY WING - CAF
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