



# The Flyer

June 2005  
Vol. Thirteen, No. 6

High Sky Wing of the Commemorative Air Force  
Midland, Texas - Hangar: 432-563-5112

On the Web at  
HighSkyWing.org

## Iron Eagle Clay Shoot Results

by Col Gena Linebarger

Our second annual sporting clay shoot and fund raiser netted the Wing over \$6300 and was a great success with 18 teams participating. You will find a number of photos scattered through this issue taken by Col H. A. Tuck of the clay shoot.

At the risk of forgetting someone, I'd like to especially thank the following High Sky Wing members and their families for helping at the event: Susie Day, Mary Alice Tidwell, Lauri Skinner, Ted & Carol Claussen, Jim Moore, Harry Hugley, H. A. Tuck, Blake Cowart, Ed McElrath, Becky Carter and Bob & Phyllis Stine. Our thanks also to Cols Bill Coombes, Randy Wilson and Lyle Thornton who were the hangar team and made the great fly by possible. We also need to say a great big thank you to the dozen or so adults and boys of Boy Scout Troop 233, who provided so much help and support at the event.

We also could not have made this such a success without our financial supporters and underwriters: Outback Steakhouse (who donated the great lunch for everyone), Basic Energy Services, The Bosworth Company, Randy & Pat Wilson, Paris & Kassie Sharp, Albertson's, Village Car Wash & Express Lube, Builders & Homeowners Supply, Gene Shumate, Rusty Hall, Bobbie & Tamara McMorries, Between the Walls, A-1 Embroidery, West Texas Golf Carts, Village Pawn & Coin Shop and Fastsigns.

In addition, the following also donated door prizes: The Bosworth Company, David Pierce Upholstery, Academy Sports, Colortyme, Wal-Mart, Murray's Deli and Between the Walls. Thanks to you all!

I hope to see you all at the next Wing meeting, this coming Thursday, June 23rd. Don't forget to bring a covered dish so we can all enjoy each other's company over dinner. I understand that we have a veteran of the South Pacific theater of WWII as our speaker but unfortunately don't have any other information about him as this goes to press. See you there!



Outback Steakhouse was a major supporter, donating the great lunch for the shooters and workers.



Mary Alice Tidwell and other members worked tirelessly to take as many donations as possible.



Chip Chapman, Ryan Linebarger, Frank McBride and Aaron Allen participate as a team.



Ted Claussen scores for Travis Skinner. Notice that Ted has all the shade! Good planning Ted.



Two members of the first place team in the Triple Ace group are Mike Coleman and Tod Franks. Congratulations guys and we hope to see you again next year.



The Miller Boys team displays their first place plaques for the Double Ace group. Again, thanks to you all.



Lauri Skinner, Gena Linebarger and Susie Day are among the ladies of the Wing who were on hand to register the teams and ensure everyone had a great time.

**Don't Forget!**  
**Your 2005 Wing Dues**  
**are now past due!**



Terri Kelly, of The Bosworth Co., shoots under the watchful eyes of Ed McElrath and Jim Moore.



# HSW Iron Eagle Clay Shoot 2005

## Executive Views

by Col Ted Claussen

Our Memorial Day event was good. We made a little money and had some fun. Everything always goes well when our great volunteers are at work. Thanks to Lyle & Theresa Thornton, Blake Cowart, Elise Coombes, David Linebarger, James Bissett, Haley Houston, Ed McElrath, Becky Carter, Jim Moore, Sue Becraft, H. A. Tuck, Tom Kingon, Penny & Dan Duewall, Miles & Debie Magnus, Mary Alice Tidwell, and Ted & Carol Claussen. Thanks to ALL who were there to help support the wing. Don't forget our June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

## Safety Is No Accident!

by Col Lyle Thornton

During the course of my investigations to put together a wing emergency action plan, I realized that several times in the past, the pilots have had to initiate flight operations on their own. I have had discussions with Bill and Randy and they agree that this is not always a safe situation. I am suggesting that we compile a list of people that would be able to assist with flight operations that occur during the week. This list could be in two sections, one for people that could assist most of the time and a second part for those who could assist part time as their schedules allow. I will have a list available at the wing meeting for everyone to sign up to help.

Wing safety is not just a pilot or staff member responsibility; it is all of our responsibilities. We need to pay attention to what we do and how we do it to insure the safety of all of our wing members and our aircraft.

## From the Flannel Wrench Locker

by Col Bill Coombes

A mixed bag this month from the Maintenance Officer....and member of the General Staff. The airplane accident cast a pall over what was a good week. First, both the SNJ's passed their attach angle inspections without any problem Eric (bless his heart) did yeoman's service with this...we did make a huge mess in the hangar however. Kudos go to Tabor White, a new member that Col. Wallace brought out, who jumped in and did a fine job stripping paint off the bottom of the wings: THANK YOU TABOR! Other folks were out, like Lyle Thornton and Jim Moore (always) but...more bad news, our labor pool is drying

up faster than my front yard!

I was looking on the side of 101X, where listed are all the people who helped put that airplane back together, a process that took us YEARS and buckets of MONEY. Sadly, more than half the people listed are no longer with us. Who has stepped up to take their places???. The short answer is, essentially no one. Our membership has declined from over 200 a few years ago to about 140, and the number of "worker bees" has dropped by an even greater percentage. And those of us who are left...well, we're not getting any younger, and working on those airplanes is a big job.

It all comes down to membership, leadership, enthusiasm, and friendship. The Wing staff has to do a better job of recruiting, retaining, and welcoming: the members have to encourage their friends to come out, join up, and GET INVOLVED. This is the same thing that the General Staff and the general membership must do as well. Let's try to get ten new HSW members between now and Airsho...it is up to us.

Jim Moore and I took the Tarbaby to Odessa for the Desert Squadron Open House/Fly-in. Both the Fairchilds are in need of annual inspections in July: thanks to Danny Duewall and Jim we have already done the "firewall forward" part of the inspections on both. I plan on asking Eric to work on them and be the AP/IA of record. Eric is an excellent mechanic and we need to thank him for stepping up (again) and taking care of the airplanes.

I'd like to put together a hangar clean-up event, but, since it is too hot during the day, I'd like to have an evening (after 6 pm) event. Come to the meeting Thursday night and we'll select a time...

All for now....lefty-loosey, righty-tighty!

## As the Props Turn

by Col Randy Wilson

I'm sorry that I have been absent so much these last few weeks but as many of you know, I have had to be in California a great deal of the time helping care for Pat's Dad, who has had a rough time of it and has been in and out of the hospital and other care facilities. He is doing better as of now, and we hope he can finish up some rehab in the next couple of weeks and be able to go back home.

Things have been so hectic that I wasn't even able to get my own flight physical done before it expired last month but I plan to resolve that and be back on flight status as soon as possible.

I have to say both thanks and I'm sorry I wasn't available to Cols Bill Coombes, Jim Moore and the others who pitched in to do the paint stripping and inspection of the SNJ's wing attach points. This was a lot of work and not fun with the combination of heat and chemicals required.

I'm also running a bit late getting this newsletter finished and in the mail but promise to try and get it out a bit earlier next month if I don't have to travel as much and can get everyone's articles earlier, too.

## Bingo???

by Col Bill Coombes

Thanks to the efforts of Mary Alice Tidwell, we now have an opportunity to get back in the bingo business. You all will recall that in the "salad days" of the HSW, we were involved with the Bingo Barn as one of the non-profit operators. Money we received financed the purchase of two airplanes, and gave us a healthy bank balance. As is always the case, the burden of doing bingo fell on a relative few, and then, the golden goose developed a terminal disease and we got out of the bingo business.

However, a new day has dawned. A new outfit (large, state-wide) has bought the Barn and is making it profitable again. We met with the new rep and what he told me was very encouraging. First, we would not have to provide the manpower to be at the Bingo Barn: we can make their employees our employees by making them members of the Museum. Second, they will not let non-profits (like us, like the CAP, like the Boys and Girls Clubs) lose money....they will waive our rent, cover our bonding fee, in short, do everything to assure that we don't get burned. Needless to say, I was impressed.

I will visit with Tami about this...recall that we must partner with the Museum in order to use their tax ID number. More to follow, but it looks like we might have a regular revenue stream once again.

## Blastards News

by Col David Linebarger

Several of the High Sky Wing members have been busy at their other CAF jobs over the last month. Some of the shows that they supported were Highland Lakes, the first of April, Hollowman AFB, San Marcos, Central Texas air show in Temple, and of course the HSW clay shoot.

The Temple show was almost as big as the Mid-

land show with about 50 member of EOD and Blastards working to produce a great three-day show. This was the first time that the A-bomb was done outside of the home show and it was at night. What a sight to see 20 bombs, two 100 foot walls and an A-bomb going off in 30 seconds at night.

A little about the force that was in the A-bomb — Randy Skinner and I decided to put a plate of steel in the bottom of the hole, as we were on soft dirt and not on rock as here in Midland, so we had a 30"x30"x1/2" piece of plate cut and placed it in the bottom to give us some bounce and it really did do that. When we got back to it ....well it was not in the bottom and looked like a plow disk — what a curve it had now.... Lots of force to do that!

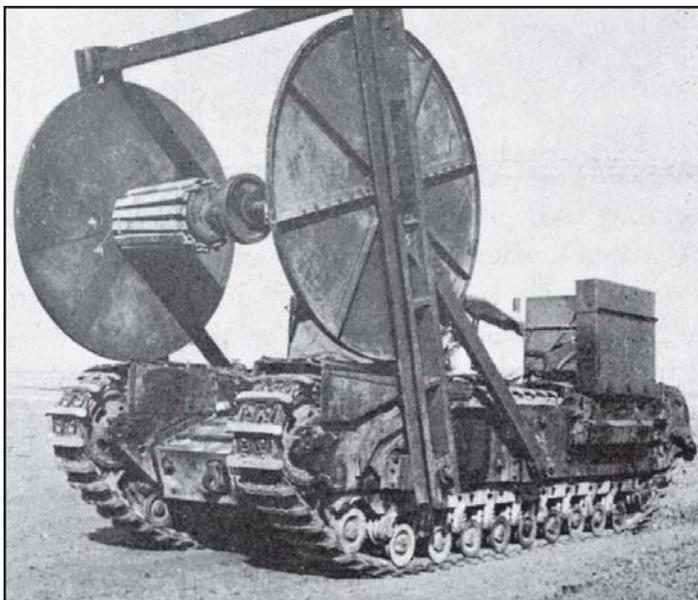
Also we went to Hollowman AFB to shoot for the military and what a show. We did strafes for F-16, F-15 and German Tornados, shot a cluster bomb for the B-1, 4 small spiders for the F-117 and some bombs for Yellow Rose. All in all a good time was had by all. For those who did not make it to the clay shoot the strafing run was impressive to all and the guys on the drilling rig at the end of it well they were impressed also and maybe a little surprised. Some of the member of the Wing that helped at these shows were Randy and Lauri Skinner, David, Gena, Ryan, and Jeremy Linebarger, Dan Linebarger, Patrick and Rhonda Burke, Bruce and Susie Day, Johnny Fayo, Gregg Ulvested, Stuart and Patti Small, Ed McElrath, Clyde Watson and Tom Horton. All the people who helped out at the shows worked long and hard days on the field for no pay and to support the CAF as the funds raised by these people efforts will go back to CAF units at the end of the show season.

Thanks to all who helped as it could not of happened with out their support.



Photo by Col Stuart Small

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## A New Mystery

OK, it is not an airplane but we do have a bunch of Motor Pool types in the Wing, right? What is it?  
Answer at the Wing meeting next Thursday.

## High Sky Wing Elected Officers

Wing Leader: Gena Linebarger - 528-0997 cell

Executive Officer: Ted Claussen

Adjutant: Mary Alice Tidwell

Finance: Bob Stine

Operations: Randy Wilson - 352-4258 cell

Maintenance: Bill Coombes - 689-8359 home

Safety - Lyle Thornton

Hangar Phone: (432) 563-5112

all numbers are Area Code 432 unless indicated

## What's Happening & When

Jun 23 - Wing meeting (7pm)

July 7 - Wing staff meeting (7pm)

July 15-16 - CAF Summer Advisory Mtg

July 28 - Wing meeting (7pm)

Aug 4 - Wing staff meeting (7pm)

Aug 25 - Wing meeting (7pm)

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**Next Wing Meeting is Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm in the Hangar**

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