



The Flyer

November 2005
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High Sky Wing of the Commemorative Air Force
Midland, Texas - Hangar: 432-563-5112

On the Web at
HighSkyWing.org

Wing Meeting and Elections, Thursday, December 8th at 7 p.m. at the Hangar

A Short, Late Newsletter

Due to the holidays and other things going on, this will have to be a short newsletter with just some basic Wing news and events.

First, as noted above, our next Wing meeting will be on Dec. 8th at the hangar and we will also vote for the election of Wing officers then. We hope to have a speaker but I don't have all the details on that.

Please make it out to our last meeting of the year and we hope that all have a very happy and safe holidays.

Wing Elections

Our Nominating Committee has suggested the following candidates for the four Wing offices that come up for election this year:

Executive Officer - Col Ted Claussen
Operations Officer - Col Randy Wilson
Maintenance Officer - Col Bill Coombes
Safety Officer - Col Lyle Thornton

The Nominating Committee felt that it would be a good idea to keep our existing officers in these positions as we get closer to moving into our new home in the Commemorative Center.

Commemorative Center Progress

Construction on the foundation of the Commemorative Center is scheduled to start on or about Dec. 10th to take advantage of significant cost saving while there is a temporary cement plant located next to the airport. Thanks to the work of Col Bill Coombes and others on his committee and at Headquarters, we have finally agreed to a design for the building that fits both our budget and our needs.

Planes & Pilots Status

This is a quick update on both the maintenance and operations status of our planes and pilots. Both the Fairchild's are operational and ready to fly. We have two new pilots awaiting their final letters from HQ to start their transition into the PT-19, Cols Steve Bolin and Lance Sommers, and Lance will also be flying the J2K a.k.a. *The Tar-Baby*.

Lance is a Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) and after he logs a few hours in the Fairchild's, we hope to have him appointed as a CAF Instructor Pilot, to help other pilot candidates safely transition into our planes.

As we have noted before, the battery on our SNJ seems to have been not holding a charge well, so we pulled it out for examination yesterday and found that it needed replacement. Col Dan Duewall is ordering a new battery which should be in this week. We cleaned the battery box and neutralized any acid in it with baking soda, so it should be ready to go back into the SNJ by next weekend.

We also need to repack the SNJ's fuel wobble pump to get it back to full efficiency, and Col Bill Coombes has donated the kit to do this and Col Lance Sommers, who is also an A&P mechanic has offered to help install the kit. We also need to replace the air switch for the Hobbs meter in the SNJ and think that can also be done by Lance, once we get the correct part. Hopefully the SNJ will be back fully operational in the next week or two.

If the weather cooperates, we hope to start flying with Steve and Lance in the PT-19 and get them checked out before it gets too cold to fly in open cockpits for a while.

Keep 'Em Flying!

HIGH SKY WING - CAF
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Above is an example of the excellent work being done on the CAF's B-29 *FiFi* by Col Gary Austin and his dedicated band of volunteers and other helpers. If you haven't visited the B-29 in the main hangar recently, you should stop by to see the progress for yourself.

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

Dec 8 - Nov/Dec Wing Meeting (7pm)

Jan 7 - Wing Staff meeting (10am)

The Wing's annual Awards Banquet will be held in January in place of the regular Wing meeting. More information will be in the Dec. newsletter.

Next Wing Meeting is Thursday, December 8th at 7:00pm in the Hangar