

March '09



FROM THE CROW'S NEST

MISSISSIPPI WING

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This month's meeting...

This month's meeting will be held on Saturday the 21st. It looks like we are finally going to have some good weather, so we're planning to grill out for lunch. If any of you were present the last time I tried to run the grill, you will remember it was not exactly my shining moment in the sun. Well, don't worry guys, this time we will have an experienced man on the job, so the burgers will be coming off the fire hot (and thoroughly cooked) promptly at high noon.

Scuttlebutt has it that a few fellow Colonels will be flying over on Saturday to join us for lunch. If the weather holds, and the dams don't break, we are expecting the Sea Fury from the Memphis squadron, Col. Kimmel from Greenwood flying the Corsair, and possibly even Denny Hickman's P-51 Mustang to boot. So keep your fingers crossed. If this one works out, it should be a heck of a lot of fun.

And to top it off, after we've all had enough of the flying, visiting, and drooling over the hardware, Colonel Hazel Dunham has offered to host a survivor's party. We will have more details for you on Saturday.

2009 winter staff conference...

Earlier this month I had the privilege of representing the Mississippi Wing at HQ in Midland at the 2009 winter staff conference. While there I attended numerous meeting and information sharing sessions. I also was able to spend some time with the boys from Utah who now are the caretakers of our old C-45. They have done a lot of work to the old girl, and are planning to have her on the air show circuit this spring.

Small world isn't it...

While in Midland I met a fellow Colonel by the name of Steve Guenard. We quickly found plenty to talk about as he is finalizing the restoration of a Boeing model B75N1. After spending a couple of hours talking about flying, old airplanes, and the like, the subject of past careers and home-towns had come and gone. Out of the blue, Steve asked me how many Hollingsworths I thought currently live in MS. A little confused where he was going with a question like that, I said probably no more than a dozen that I am aware of. The next words out of his mouth took me by complete surprise. Very matter-of-factly, Steve said, "You know I used to fly with your dad." Needless to say I was absolutely speechless. It has been almost 30 years since my father had flown, so bumping into someone he used to work with was very unexpected.

You see, dad hired-on with Delta Airlines in the early '60s, back when Convair 880 was the flag ship. He was based in New Orleans, until his retirement in 1980. It turns out their paths had crossed a few years earlier when dad was a captain on the baby -9 (the original DC-9). Steve was a FO at the time, but later transferred to Utah. It was interesting to hear some of the stories he shared of those trips. Kind of funny how small the world of aviation can be; and how even after one of us has Gone to Glory, the contrails of our lives can intersect after so many years...

Keep 'em flying - Col. Eric

Stinson 10A Update

Is the 10A nearing completion? Do we see light at the end of a tunnel?



Is it really possible that the little yellow bird might fly again – **this year!** The best way to find out will be to come see for your self.



2009 MS Wing Events Calendar

Here are a few of the events we have on radar for the year . . .

March 28/29	Tyndall AFB
April 4/5	Keesler AFB
April 4/5	Tuscaloosa, AL
May 1/2	NAS New Orleans
May 9/10	Barksdale AFB
May 23	MS Wing Open House
October 9-11	Dixie Wing
October 9/10	FINA-CAF
October 16/17	Slidell, LA
Oct 31/Nov 1	Wings Over Houston

The Yazoo City Fly-In



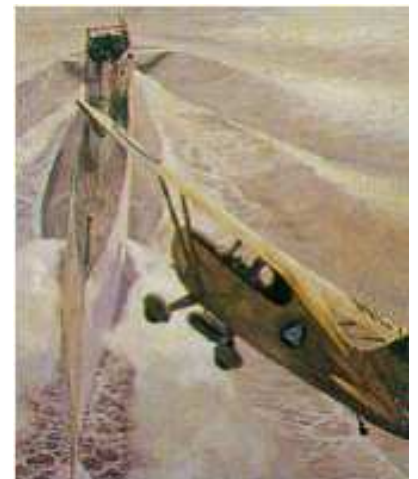
Frank Kimmel represented the Wing very well earlier this month in Yazoo City with the beautiful Corsair. Stan Musick's T-6 also joined in the fun, too, and was seen swooping in from the sun as the Corsair landed – placing the larger plane, trailing its flaps and gear, plainly in his sights – sorry Frank, but you'd have been toast!

National World War II Museum Pass

Just a reminder, that the wing sponsored a membership to the National WWII Museum in New Orleans. As such we hold a card which allows free admittance to 2 adults and 2 children under 18 yrs of age. If you would like to reserve this pass, please contact Col. Hollingsworth.

New CAF and MS Wing Member

Please join me in welcoming Mark Turner into the Mississippi Wing of the CAF. Just this past week, we sent Mark's application for commission to HQ. The future Colonel Turner is an active EMS pilot and is looking forward to getting involved in wing activities. Many of you have already met Mark, but if you have not, please keep an eye out for him on Saturday and make him feel welcome.



-Semper Vigilans