

SPIRIT OF TULSA SQUADRON, CAF

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SPIRIT OF TULSA SQUADRON OFFICERS

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May Meeting Notes

**Squadron Meeting May
14, 2002**

The meeting was called to order by Col. Jim Dagg. The pledge was led by Col. Bill Forester. Members and guests were introduced. The minutes were read by Col. Bob Nichols. They were approved by the membership.

The Treasurer's report was given by Col. Dagg. We currently have \$947 in our account. A hat for donations was passed. Approximately five hundred dollars was collected. Our next opportunity to earn money will be PX sales at the Biplane Expo 2002, in Bartlesville, May 31st through June 1st. PX Officer Col. Bill Kennedy passed around a work schedule for volunteers to sign. The next show after this will be in September.

Col. Dagg thanked Mike Smith for the welding he has done on the PT-19. “Adventures in Sandblasting” were discussed, from the previous Saturday. This also included a recounting of Col. Ray “Thumbs” Whiteman’s knife accident. A lot of effort was extended with little result. Col. Dagg has a quote from a sandblasting company in Sand Springs, who may be hired to finish the job.

Col. Jim Gentry said that the Diamond Lil is now on tour. He also said that the ‘Sound of Music’ a 1940’s style dance band has been secured for the Nov. 9th Hanger Dance. The new FBO Road House, a Texaco dealer, has agreed to help with the gas. Jim is trying to arrange a fly-by for the daytime event. Col. Dagg also told the membership that, Road House has brought pop over to our workers, for the previous two Saturdays.
Thank you, ROAD HOUSE!

Col. Gentry also made presentations to Cadets Scott Edwards, Giuilano Popescu, and Jason

Palowski for the work they had done on ‘Lil’. They received hats and photographs.

Col. Forester showed the sample squadron shirts which we are ordering. They are Polo style. They come in red, white, blue, and navy. They have Spirit of Tulsa with a plane on the left side, name on the right side, and CAF logo on the left sleeve. All work is embroidered not painted. Hanes shirts are \$19.39 and Outer Banks shirts are \$31.27. (OB brand runs a little small.) White hats are \$8.27 and RW&B hats are \$12.24. Orders were taken and more can be placed later.

Col. Dagg has received Jack Hitt’s resignation from the post of Operation’s Officer. Jack stated that he felt like it was time for someone new to get actively involved with the squadron. There was a motion for the existing Nominating Committee to find a replacement. Committee consists of Colonels Bob Nichols, Jack Wells, and Jack Hitt. The motion was passed.

Col. Dagg reminded us that the hold harmless forms must be on file to fly on any CAF aircraft. Cadet’s forms must be notarized. Col. Forester brought his Notary Seal, so the forms can be completed tonight.

The program was then presented by Col. Harold Mueller. Col. Mueller is a fireman, **but** he is also a CAF Blaster. Blaster’s set up the pyrotechnic displays at all CAF air shows.

He showed a video called **Doin’ It Hot and Noisy!** Scenes were shown from a display done at the Midland Air Show, 10/00. The ‘Wall of Fire’ display using gas bags every 5 feet for 3,000 feet was extremely impressive. The utmost attention is given to safety, so no Blasters will be injured. If you are interested in learning more about this group contact Col. Mueller.

The meeting was adjourned. Thirty members and guests attended.

PT – 19 Update
By Jim Gentry

Since our last meeting there has been more progress on our bird. At the close of our last meeting Mike Smith our welder, pilot, member, and a jack of trades, mentioned that he thought that he could persuade his sand blasting man to do the work on our plane. And he did. Not only did he get the job done, he also didn't charge us a single cent to do it. The fuselage is now sandblasted, primed and in the process of being painted. Way to go Mike. I think that Mike needs another raise.

I think that another raise should go to Carl Halfpap and Chuck Heick who have given so much of their time and even money to keep this restoration on track.

One of the fuel tanks is now ready for reinstallation and the second one will be within a week or so. Also, the fuel wobble pump and fuel selector valve have been completed and are ready to be installed.

Progress is also being made on the construction of gluing jigs for the leading edge ribs on the center wing section. Since the wood for the ribs has already arrived, it won't be long until that bit of reconstruction is completed. The engine stand is also nearing completion and should be available before the June

Meeting. It is really impressive how fast things seem to be coming together now.

Dance Committee Report

By Jim Gentry

The dance committee is meeting every other Tuesday evening at 7pm for the present time. As we draw nearer to the date of the dance, those meetings will become more frequent. We welcome anyone and everyone to join us in this labor. Please don't hesitate to give us your ideas and advise.

We do need your help though. If anyone has any corporate connections, we are in need of sponsors. If you know of anyone who could donate either quantities of decorations or large amounts of food products, please contact either myself, my wife, or Karen Dagg with that information and we will provide you with an information packet to take to your potential donor explaining the scope of what we are trying to do and what we can do for them in return.

Be sure to be at the next meeting to learn all of the latest details and to see the time line for this event.

Remember; mark your calendars for Saturday, November 9th, Veterans Day weekend as reserved for the squadron. From **0800 till 2300, mark off that entire day.** This is the day of the aircraft display/hangar dance that will bring our squadron much needed funds to complete our restoration Of the PT-19. The countdown is on.

Jim and Karen Dagg, my wife Juli and I are already scheduling vacation Friday, November 8th to set up because of the importance of this event to our squadron. I personally have already recruited 8 folks to assist us with the aircraft during the day and the dance in the evening....and I have only begun. Don't be mistaken, we are undertaking a large exciting project. If you have never been involved in a project of this magnitude.....you will glad you didn't miss out. I have done several of these before and when the day is done.....the feeling accomplishment is just overwhelming...and the fun will be exhilarating.

Just think....we will show respect to those who: fought for our

country (at home and abroad): those who laid down their lives for our country: those who still have war wounds (both physical and mental) from protecting our freedom: those who lost loved ones in the many conflicts: and those who are now serving. We have some of the most gracious patriotic events planned and you will regret not being involved. If you think I am exaggerating, come to the next meeting for in-depth detail.

Don't forget

...NOVEMBER 8th
SET-UP

NOVEMBER 9th
OPEN-HOUSE-----
DANCE

Call me or Jim Dagg if you want to be involved.

I was visiting a War Memorial in Branson, Missouri, and there was a quote on the wall from a soldier as he related to those losing their lives for us.

'I gave up my tomorrow so you could have today'.

Other News

Air Show season is here.

By Bill Kennedy

This past Thursday Friday and Saturday members of our squadron traveled to Bartlesville to set up our PX booth at National Biplane Expo 2002. Col. Kennedy dispatched Jerry and (Rip) Scotty Edwards, Cols Jack Wells, Bob Nichols, Jim Dagg, and Ray Purdum to set up the booth at the exhibit. These people along with Cols Mike Smith, Sam McVay, Bill Kennedy, Bill Forester, Jack Genna, Ray Whiteman and his wife Trisha, Cadet Giuliano Popescu, Karen Dagg, and Juli Gentry took turns at manning the booth.

Although we didn't make a great deal of money, (we did do better than break even) we made a lot of contacts and got the word out as to who we are and what we are trying to do. We also learned a lot from the experience, and we had fun doing it.

Great job team!

What a sound

By Jim Dagg

This may not be exactly WWII or even military, but while at the Biplane

fly in, a few of us had the opportunity to look at a RV-6A, which was powered by a Chevy V-6 engine. We were impressed to say the least when we were told by the pilot that he cruises at 180 to 200 mph on only a little over 7 gal of fuel per hour and has about an 800 mile range on the craft. He has been able to do this for as little as 6,000 dollars firewall forward he says. But the most impressive thing that we observed was when he took off; the sound his engine made could have been easily mistaken for a P-51.



Break out your uniforms for the November Hangar Dance. The young man pictured above is our own, Col. Correy Twilley. Not only is he a CAF member, but he is also extremely active in a

WWII reenactors group. I might also add that he and Bill Kennedy are probably the only two members of our organization who could fit into that uniform.

Diamond Lil to get a new lease on life?

A committee has been set up to study the options for restoring Diamond Lil to her original configuration, as a bomber. This restoration would span several years and would be accomplished while she was in Tulsa for her annual maintenance. The committee is headed by Bill Popejoy. Working with him are assembled some of the most talented aircraft repair people in the world. Lil will certainly be in good hands.

Squadron Leaders Notes

By Jim Dagg

As our squadron continues to grow, I am impressed by not only how much people are willing to do, but the enthusiasm with which they do it. This enthusiasm is

contagious, you can see it spread and grow. It affects all of us and makes what we are doing even more enjoyable. Thanks to all of you who have been working so hard to make this unit what it has become.

More to follow on this later.

June meeting is coming up soon.

Don't forget, the June meeting is just around the corner. **June 11th at 6:30 PM** Tulsa Technology, Riverside Campus, Flag Pole Lobby. Signs will point the way.

Work schedule

We work Saturdays 8:00 am until noon or so.

Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM or so.

And during the week days on your request (within reason) during summer months.

Also, very shortly we will be moving part of our operations over to Tulsa Technology.