

Monday Meetings to Move to Wendy's, 22611 Ventura Blvd., Woodland Hills, on Feb 19th

Ron Ross the proprietor of the Wendy's Restaurant in the Platt Village has not been able to renew his lease. The restaurant will cease business on February 26, 2018 and vacate the building on February 28th. (He was outbid by Starbucks, which desired to have a drive-thru in Platt Village)

Wings Over Wendy's will move their Monday meetings on **February 19th** to the Wendy's Restaurant, 22611 Ventura Blvd, Woodland Hills, CA, just 3 miles from Platt Village. Ron Ross is remodeling the Woodland Hills restaurant in January and is going out of his way to accommodate the Wings Over Wendy's meetings.

The details on the layout of the new meeting room will not be determined until after January 16th, the scheduled completion date of the remodel. We will then inform members of the layout and procedures in the February Wings News. Hold back on suggestions and concerns until after the remodel.

We have scheduled the Wings Over Wendy's bi-annual picture to be taken at the Platt Village restaurant on **February 12th**, the date of the last meeting.

The first meeting at the Woodland Hills location will be **President's Day, February 19th**. For historical purposes we plan to also take a group picture outside the new location on that date.

Please wear the Wings Over Wendy's hats and shirts on both dates.

The employees of both restaurants are aware of the closure but please be considerate of their situation.

We have assigned tasks to Wings Over Wendy's members to facilitate the move and operation in the new location. Please cooperate with their carrying out those tasks if asked.



Wendy's Restaurant Woodland Hills

Photos by Harlis Brend

Platt Village Weekly Meeting Chain Broken

Since 2002 the group of veterans, veteran's supporters and aviation aficionados who call themselves *Wings Over Wendy's* have met every week for fifteen years. The chain of weekly meetings was broken in 2017 when Christmas Day fell on a Monday, the traditional day the group meets. The Wendy's Restaurant in the Platt Village closed for the holiday. Several members attended the Tuesday meeting in Tarzana, so in some form the streak continued.

December Speakers December 4, 2017



(Continued Page 2)



Paula Sandling

Lilian Holt

Photos by Harlis Brend

On December 4th, Paula Sandling and Lilian Holt from the San Fernando Valley Ninety-Nines presented Wings Over Wendy's with tins of Christmas cookies. The Ninety-Nines, Inc. was founded November 2, 1929, at Curtiss Field in Valley Stream, Long Island, New York. At that time, there were 117 women pilots worldwide. All were invited to attend a meeting in Long Island to discuss the possibility of establishing an organization of women pilots. Only a handful was able to attend the meeting, however, Louise Thaden was elected secretary and worked tirelessly to keep the group together as they struggled to organize and grow. Of the 117 originally invited, 99 joined to become charter members. The group took its name from the number of charter members and in 1931 elected Amelia Earhart its first president. The Ninety-Nines, Inc., is now an international organization of licensed women pilots from 35 countries – and currently have over 6,500 members throughout the world.

Every year the San Fernando Valley Chapter of The Ninety-Nines participates in a "Cookies to the Tower" program where the members distribute Christmas cookies to the Air Traffic Controllers and other personnel in the local area airport towers. They annually stop by Wings Over Wendy's to include us in their distribution. A poem was read to the group upon the presentation of the cookies.



In remembrance of Pearl Harbor members over 80 in attendance were asked by Ed Reynolds to describe their memory of the day. It ranged from the older learning about the attack as they were out and about on a Sunday to some of the younger not hearing about the attack until the next morning when they went to school.

December 11, 2017



Jackie "Pink Lady" Goldberg

The meeting was visited by the "Pink Lady", Jackie Goldberg, who invited all Wings Over Wendy's members to attend for free a performance of "WE ARE AMERICA," a world premiere musical salute to veterans currently running at the Madrid Theatre in Canoga Park. The cast takes you through a myriad of old standards that your parents and maybe you grew up with, via song and dance. Each song is highlighted by smooth choreography and excellent vocals by a cast comprised of senior citizens age 62 and up.

The musical was performed December 20 to 31. Jackie invited the Wings Over Wendy's members to celebrate New Year's Eve at a special 6PM performance featuring the show, cChampagne and hors d'oeuvres.

Morris Litwack



Photos by Morris Litwack

Morris Litwack reported on the three weeks he and his wife spent in Israel as a member of the Volunteers for Israel (VFI) program with the Israeli organization Sar-El to volunteer on Israel Defense Forces (IDF) supply/logistics bases. Sar-El is an acronym for the Hebrew words Sherut L'Yisrael (Service to Israel). (Continued on Page 3)

Morris and his wife Nancy worked five, 10-hour days each week they were in country with volunteers from throughout the world ranging in age from 18 to 89. They were provided three kosher meals a day and issued army work uniforms. Their specific task was to refurbish Combat Field Packs that weight 60 pounds. They replaced medicines that had expired and tools that needed repair.

Each Thursday afternoon they would leave the Israeli Defense Forces Teleshmir Matzrap Base, and travel an hour to Tel Aviv where they stayed in a motel. They had to get use to the shutdown from 2pm on Friday to 5pm on Sunday, which limited their ability to move around and visit the city shops and restaurants. Morris and Nancy had toured Israel in the past, so they understood the situation. They saw armed soldiers, both female and male all over the place.

December 18, 2017

December 18, 2017 was an un usual meeting because not only was it the last meeting in 2017 but it was a Celebration of the Life of Dick Thackston whose birthdate was on the 18th but flew west on October 24, 2017.

Susie Jackson celebrating her father's life



Taps played-David Jackson, Susie Jackson & children
Photo by Harlis Brend

Susie Jackson provided a cake and then read poems and eulogies of her father by members of her family in attendance.

Maja Wolfe: ClearCaptions



Photo Harlis Brend

Maja Wolfe, Title IV ADA Specialist, addressed the meeting about a special phone for those are hard of hearing. The phone, which is a free phone captioning service that provides near real-time call captions of phone conversations for anyone hard-of-hearing or with any form of hearing loss. This free captioning service is provided by ClearCaptions and paid through a fund administered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for anyone hard-of-hearing or with any form of hearing loss.



To obtain the FREE phone contact Maja at (818) 751-4594 or maja.wolfe@clearcaptions.com.

Santa Claus Visted WOW



Ted Davis

Sophie Kidian

We were blessed by the visit of two Santa Claus', Mister and Ms. Sophie Kidian, one of the "Malibu Babes" delivered cookies for the attendees. In addition to the cookies Congressman Tony Cardenas send the group a gift basket which was raffled off.

Holiday Gift Basket



December Group Event **Hanukah Dinner and Festival of Lights**



Barney, Michal Masini, Judy, Bob Bermant, Paul, Ed, Lazar, Barry, Linda, Sharon and Bob Stiles enjoy the food and drinks.



The Wings Over Wendy's group (Note: Claude in the rafters) plus the Benshabat family and friends

On December 19, 2017, 16 Wings Over Wendy's members attended a Hanukkah event hosted by Liat and Avi Benshabat: Bob Bermant, Barry & Linda Chapman, Patric Daly, Don Foster, Barney Leone, Claude Maugein, Judy & Ed Reynolds, Lazar Saunders, Bob Stiles & Sharon Fine, Bob Donovan, Paul Boghossian, Maurice Vasquez and Frank Lopez attended the event. Liat Benshabat, who provided free doughnuts and coffee at the December 11th meeting, provided a buffet dinner and her husband Avi lead the *Festival of Lights* ceremony. The Benshabat's are veterans of the Israeli Army and wanted to give back to US Veterans.

New Bumper Sticker



New bumper stickers will be available for **\$3.00** starting January 1, 2018.

2017 Year in Review

2017 Tours and Events:

Warren Weinstein continued to do an outstanding job of arranging interest tours and events for the group.

January 2017 Event: **Celebration Luncheon**



On January 12, 2017, a group of 190 Wings Over Wendy's members', guests and friends gathered at the 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant at the Van Nuys Airport to celebrate Steve Politis 100th birthday, 15 years of continuous meetings, and honor Ron and Diane Ross, Art Sherman and all our WWII veterans.

February 2017 Events: **Los Angeles Times Tour**



On February 1, 2017, a group of about 35 Wings Over Wendy's members traveled in a bus provided by Councilmember Mitch Englander's office to the historic Los Angeles Times Building, located at 1st and Spring streets in downtown Los Angeles, to tour the facility.

Celebration Breakfast



On February 13, 2017, The Wendy's Company, Customer Experience Department hosted and served a sit down breakfast to 164 Wings Over Wendy's members at the Wendy's Restaurant in West Hills..

April 2017 Tours: **Stagecoach Inn Museum**



On April 13, 2017 19 members drove to Newbury Park to tour the Stagecoach Inn Museum.

Griffith Observatory



On April 26th, Warren arranged another outstanding tour for the group. Twenty-two members drove to the observatory to attend a at the Samuel Oschin Planetarium with its spectacular Zeiss star projector, digital projection systems and reclining seats.

May 2017 Events:

The month of May is the second busiest month for the members of Wings Over Wendy's. It is a time for remembrance.

Aviation Career Day **May 19, 2017**

Our first group event of the month was on May 19, 2017 where we staffed the Wings Over Wendy's booth at the annual The Sky's the Limit - Aviation Career Day, held by Councilwoman Nury Martinez at the Clay Lacy North Hanger, Van Nuys Airport.



Photo by Mike LaVere

Supporting our booth at the event were: Maurice Portnoy, Paul Boghossian, Roscoe Frazier, Mike LaVere, Tony Cubarrubia, Art Sherman, Kurt Rademacher, Leon Waldman, Lee Auger, Ed Reynolds, Phil Arnie, Barney Leone, Howard Swerdlick and Warren Weinstein. As usual our display drew a large crowd (especially around Barney) and was the envy of the other exhibits.

Senior Symposium at **ONEgeneration** **May 20, 2017**

On Saturday, May 20th, Ed Reynolds, Paul Boghossian, Roscoe Frazier and Don Foster, manned a Wings Over Wendy's booth at the ONEgeneration Senior Symposium to inform senior veterans about our group.



Photo by Ed Reynolds

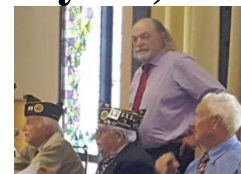
St. Martin-In-the-Fields **Episcopal School** **May 24, 2017**



Ernie Napper, Abe Rosenzweig, Art Sherman & Jimmy Weldon
(Photo by Susan Mansker)

Two dozen of our members attended the Veteran's Memorial Chapel on May 24th at the St. Martin-In-the-Fields Episcopal School, Winnetka, CA.

Valley Beth Shalom Veterans **Shabbat Shiur/Panel Discussion** **May 27, 2017**



Art Sherman speaking with Harvey Keenan standing. (Continued page 6)

On Saturday, May 27th approximately 20 Wings Over Wendy's members attended the Valley Beth Shalom Veterans Shabbat Shiur/Panel Discussion.

Memorial Day Parade May 29, 2017



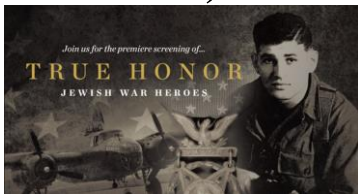
Photo by Ed Reynolds

Al Lewis and Mike LaVere served as Grand Marshals for the 28th Annual Canoga Park Memorial Day Parade. Wings Over Wendy's had two floats (trucks) in the parade. Over forty members participated in the parade.

American Legion Post BBQ

Following the meeting and parade many members attended the American Legion Post 826 annual BBQ where they were treated to good old fashioned hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans, coleslaw and cookies; songs by the Red Hot Ladies; short speeches by Congressman Brad Sherman and State Assemblyman Matt Dababneh.

June 2017 Events & Tour: Premiere Screening June 14, 2017



On Flag Day, June 14th, twenty-two members of Wings Over Wendy's attended the premiere screening of *True Honor, Jewish War Heroes* in the Louis B. Meyer Theater, at the Motion Picture and Television Home.

Norton Simon Museum Tour June 15, 2017



On June 15, 2017 24 members toured the Norton Simon Museum in Pasadena.

Screening of: *Heroes of WW2, The European Campaign* June 15, 2017



Dan Pemberton on behalf of the Thousand Oaks Republican Women Federated, invited Wings Over Wendy's to attend the Thursday, June 15, 2017 Reception, Michael Regan Book signing and screening the video *Heroes of WW2, The European Campaign*. Eight members attended the function.

California State Commanders Veterans Council & SAG-AFTRA Salute to Vets June 17, 2017



Bob Donovan, Lt Gen Thompson, Barney Leone & Ed Reynolds

On June 17th, Barney Leone, Bob Donovan, Ed Reynolds, Jimmy Weldon and Stephanie Pofcher attended an event Honoring: Those Who Served, Those Serving & Those About to Serve at the Palace Theater, downtown LA.

July 2017 Tour Wings Over Wendy's WWII Members Travel to New Orleans July 25 to 28, 2017



Howard Swardlick, Mike LaVere, Jay & Abe Rosenzweig, Gary Roehm & Barney Leone, Gary Sinise, Art Sherman, Matt & Kent Kellegrew, Leon Waldman & USN Capt Steve Sheppard, and Paul Boghossian
(Continued on page 7)

The Gary Sinise Foundation's "Soaring Valor", sponsored a trip on July 25th to 28th, to New Orleans, LA for Wings Over Wendy's World War II veterans and a companion to tour the World War 2 Museum.

August 2017 Events & Tours:

Autry Museum of the American West August 16, 2017



Photo by Mike LaVere

On August 16, 2017 sixteen Wings Over Wendy's members toured the Autry Museum of the American West, Griffith Park, Los Angeles.

Wings Over Wendy's Members Support the Wings Over Camarillo Air Show August 19 & 20, 2017



On Saturday and Sunday, August 19th and 20th Wings Over Wendy's members manned tables with their displays in the Veterans Tent and Hanger. Over two dozen members supported the function over the weekend. Vietnam era (those who served during the period 1955 to 1975) Veterans were awarded a Vietnam War Commemoration lapel pin and bumper sticker.

September 2017 Events and Tours:

Reagan Ranch Center Tour September 14, 2017



On September 14, 2017 fifteen Wings Over Wendy's members toured the Reagan Ranch Center Galleries and Exhibits, Santa Barbara, CA.

Reel Cowboys 20th Annual Silver Spur Awards Show September 15, 2017

2017 Silver Spur Awards Show



It was a packed house at the 2017 Silver Spur Awards Show on September 15th, 2017 at the Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City, CA. Everybody had a wonderful time.

On Friday night, September 15th, the Reel Cowboys invited Wings Over Wendy's veterans and their spouses to be their guests at their 20th Annual Silver Spur Awards Show at the Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City.

Los Angeles Chargers Military Hero of the Week September 17, 2017



Chargers Hero of the Week Ed Reynolds, right, and Wings Over Wendy's members Bob Donovan, Barney Leone, Ed Reynolds and Howard Swerdlick.

Wings Over Wendy's Member
Named "Hero of the Week"



(Continued page 8)

Ed Reynolds, nominated by Councilman Mitch Englander for the Los Angeles Chargers "Hero of the Week" Award for the home opening game. Accompanying Ed to the game was, Bob Donovan, Barney Leone and Howard Swerdlick.

Councilmember Mitchell Englander's 6th Annual - Welcome Back Workshop for Principals

September 28, 2017

A dozen Wings Over Wendy's members attended the Welcome Back Workshop for Principals on September 28, 2017 to promote our **Conversations with Heroes** Program

October 2017 Events & Tours:

Edwards AFB – Group Tour

October 19, 2017



Photo by Harlis Brend

Forty-Two Wings Over Wendy's members toured Edwards AFB on October 19, 2017.

Ventura County Aviation Career Day

October 20, 2017



On Friday, October 20th Wings Over Wendy's manned four tables at the Ventura County Aviation Career Day in the CAF Hangar, Camarillo Airport. Roscoe Frazier had his Vietnam Service Displays, Tom Maiden his Aerospace Engineering display, Elmo Maiden his World War II displays and Ed Reynolds Air Refueling display. They were assisted by Lee Auger, Warren Weinstein, Harlis Brend and Dan Stark.

Justice Armand Arabian Leaders in Public Service Awards Luncheon

October 26, 2017



Twenty-seven WOW members attended the 18th Anniversary Justice Armand Arabian Leaders in Public Service Awards Luncheon at the Warner Center Hilton Hotel on October 26th.

Second Group of Wings Over Wendy's WWII Members Travel to New Orleans

October 24 - 27, 2017



The Gary Sinise Foundation flew a second group of Wings Over Wendy's World War II veterans and a guardian to New Orleans to tour The National WWII Museum. Wings Over Wendy's members on the trip were: Dick Gross, Ira Kanarek, Ethel Margolin, George Rothman and Marty Snyder. Also, Richard Hernandez, who served as Ethel's guardian on the trip.

November 2017 Events:

Castlebay Lane Charter Elementary School Patriotic Assembly

November 1, 2017



On November 1st at the Castlebay Lane Charter Elementary School Patriotic Assembly in Porter Ranch. Bob Stiles, Ed Reynolds, Dick Kinder, Patric Daly and Richard Hernandez attended the assembly

Canoga Park Women's Club Veteran's Luncheon November 4, 2017



On Saturday, November 4th over twenty Wings Over Wendy's members attended the Canoga Park Women's Club Veterans Luncheon.

November 8, 2017 Events: **Carlos Santana Arts Academy Veterans Assembly**



Bill Ratner and Bob Donovan along with members of the VFW and American Legion attended the Carlos Santana Arts Academy Veterans Assembly on Wednesday, November 8, 2017.

San Fernando Valley Academy

Three members of Wings Over Wendy's attended the Veterans Assembly at the San Fernando Valley Academy in Northridge on November 8, 2017.

West Valley Christian School

Also on November 8th, at 11:00am Ron Boggess and David Plumb of Wings Over Wendy's attended the Veterans Day Chapel at the West Valley Christian School, West Hills.

Los Angeles City Council Honors City Veterans

On November 8th in City Hall the Los Angeles City Council members honored veterans leading up to Veterans Day as "Veterans of the Year" in their respective districts. Councilmember Bob Blumenfield nominated Ed Reynolds

from Wings Over Wendy's for the honor in his district.

A Bohemian Barbeque

Imagination Connection, a Mobile Arts Program that brings arts to Seniors and Veterans hosted a creative evening of food, fun and art making at Rosie's BBQ & Grillery, Northridge. Attending the event was Lee Auger, Bob Bermant, Ron Boggess, Bob Donovan, Richard Kinder, Larry Kushner, Barney Leone, Kurt Rademacher, Ed Reynolds, George Rothman, Warren Weinstein, and Bill Wishard.

November 9, 2017 Events: **Woodrow Wilson Middle School Veterans Assembly**

On November 9th, Art Sherman, Abe Rosenzweig and Bob Donovan attended the Woodrow Wilson Middle School Veterans Assembly.

North Valley Military School Veterans Day Pass & Review

On November 9th The North Valley Military Institute held a march in review honoring military veterans. Ed Reynolds, Phil Shapiro and other Wings Over Wendy's members were in attendance.

Canoga Park Elks Lodge Veterans Day Dinner

Three tables of Wings Over Wendy's members attended the Canoga Park Elks Lodge #2190 Veterans Day Dinner and Program, Thursday evening, November 9th.

November 10, 2017 Events:

Oaks Christian School Veterans Day Assembly

On Friday, November 10th, Oaks Christian School, conducted their annual Veterans Day Assembly. Barney Leone lead a group of Wings Over Wendy's veterans attending the assembly.

Ronald Reagan Library Veterans Day Commemoration

On Friday, November 10th The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation held their Veterans Day Commemoration. Many Wings Over Wendy's members attended the event including, Ed & Judy Reynolds, Bob Stiles, and Warren Weinstein.

November 11, 2017 Events:

(Continued on page 10)

SFV Veterans Day Parade



On November 11th a dozen Wings Over Wendy's members manned a truck in the annual San Fernando Valley Veterans Day Parade. As in the past, Fred Kaplan drove the truck which was graciously supplied by Galpin Ford. Lee Auger, Neil Baliber, Tom Bates, Ron Boggess, Barry Chapman, Ernest Dutcher, David Greenberg, Richard Gross, Lezar Saunders, Sam Schultz and Alice Stone, also participated.

MalibuUSA Veterans Day Public Ceremony



Wings Over Wendy's dominated the MalibuUSA Veterans Day Public Ceremony on November 11th. The Malibu Chamber of Congress provided a Shuttle Bus to transport 14 Wings Over Wendy's members from the Platt Village to the Malibu City Hall where the 18th Annual Ceremony was conducted. The Master of Ceremonies was our own Bob Donovan and one of the five veterans speaking on the theme "Honoring Veterans Who Continue to Serve" was Ed Reynolds.

Tony Cardenas Veterans Day Forum



Veterans Day ended after a busy number of activities for the Wings Over Wendy's crowd with a delicious dinner at Congressman Tony Cardenas' Veterans Day Forum. Among those attending the event were: Neil Baliber, Ron Boggess, Paul Boghossian, Kay Deitch, Anarg Frangos, Richard Gross, Neil Houston, Mike & Boots LaVere, Ginger Lyon, Jamie Pellegrini, Ed Reynolds, Phil & Roz Shapiro, Art Sherman, Bob Stiles, Maurice Vasquez, and Nathan Wolfstein.

November 14, 2017 Pomelo Community Charter School Conversations with Heroes

On Tuesday, November 14th Pomelo Community Charter School held their Conversations with Heroes event. It is the most popular event attended by Wings Over Wendy's members with over 40 attending along with First Responders and other veterans.

November 15, 2017 Events: St. Martins Episcopal School Veterans Day Service



Two dozen Wings Over Wendy's members attended the St. Martin Episcopal School's Veterans Day Service.

"A Gathering of Heroes Dinner"

On the evening of November 15th, the Conejo Valley Military Officers Association of America and the Military Order of the World Wars proudly hosted a dinner honoring World War II veterans. Among those honored were Wings Over Wendy's members: Art Sherman, Elmo Maiden Mike LaVere Dick Kinder Ethel Margolin Barney Leone and Leon Waldman.

November 16, 2017 Valley Alternative Magnet School Conversations with Heroes

Attending the sessions on November 16, 2017 at the Valley Alternative Magnet School were Don Foster, Lee Levitan, Ed Reynolds and Phil Shapiro in one classroom and Ron Boggess, Bob Stiles and Maurice Vasquez in the other classroom. Paul Boghossian supported the group.

2017 Speakers

We heard over **60** speakers tell us their story, tell the story of someone else or tell about an event or service. We had excellent video presentations by: Howard Swerdlick and Mike LaVere on the Memorial Day Parade; Abe Rosenzweig, and Mike LaVere on their Soaring Valor trip.

Trip reports on Soaring Valor by: Ethel Margolin and Richard Hernandez, Jim Henshall, George Rothman Barney Leone, and Leon Waldman. Reports on reunions and Pearl Harbor tour by Barney Leone, and Leon Waldman. Eclipse viewing reports by Jack Norris and Lee Auger.

Technical video presentations on the F-16 by Jim McMichael and Herb Hutchinson. Mission of the USN E-2C Command and Control aircraft by David McAlexander; RAF by Stuart Bird-Wilson; Amelia Earhart by Chris Williamson; USCG Lt Thomas James Eugene Crotty by Monte Merken; The Story of Charles Graffy by Monte Merken; Lt's Ken Taylor and George Welch at Pearl Harbor by Monte Merken; and The History of Air Refueling by Ed Reynolds.

Historical presentations by Boyd Davis on Jimmy Stewart and on John C. Morgan; David Timmerman on Lt Col Larry Powell; Barbara Shultz on Pancho Barnes; Ted Davis on USNR CDR Ross Brubaker.

Outstanding pictures and videos of "War Birds" by Moose Peterson.

Personal stories by: Adam Renteria, Alan Archer, Alice Stone, Bill Wishard, Marvin Quaid, Dan Pemberton, Dave Steinbacher, Dick Kinder, Doug O'Brien, Duke Dao, Jerry Detamore, Kim Ross, Morris Litwack, Monique Torres, Steve Danz, Roscoe Frazier, and Leon Waldman on Eli Baker.

We heard from Politicians: Congressman Tony Cardenas' staff: Kenny LaSalle and Nigel Sanchez, State Senator Bob Hertzberg, LA Mayor's staff: Kevin Taylor, Councilmember Mitchel Englander's staff: Ron Rubine and John Lee. LA City Attorney, Raffy Astvasadoorian. From the VA and Senior Programs: Karcy Bowles, Maja Wolfe, Karla Duff Hull, and Joe Sapien.

Principal David Hussey from El Cameo Real Charter High School and teachers from local schools dropped by to invite us to Veterans' Assemblies. There were representatives inviting us to events at the Canoga Park Women's Club, the Malibu Chamber of Commerce, the Canoga Park Chamber of Commerce, the Elks Lodge, American Legion and other veterans' events.

Gary Sinise's son and son-in-law attended our meetings, as did our local police officers.

Bob Donovan and Karen Vegtal provided us with updates on the status of the Operation Gratitude events.

Never a dull meeting!

2017 Member Profiles

In 2017 19 members or famous people were profiled in the *Wings News*.

FEB: Bob Stiles



1955

Now

FEB: Lazar Saunders



Photo by Ed Reynolds

MAR: Dick Guyer



APR: Paul Boghossian



Photo by Ed Reynolds

APR: George Musser



APR: Ralph Lazo



MAY: Gen Billy Mitchell



JUN: Malcolm Dipperstein



JUL: Howard Davis



Photo by Ed Reynolds

JUL: Chip Stevens



Photo by Ed Reynolds

AUG: Lee Auger



Photo by Harlis Brend

AUG: Marion Lovelace



Photo by Marion Lovelace

AUG: Ray Rosenbaum



Ray on the Midway

Current Happenings

At Camarillo Airport pilots versus managers facing off our control of Camarillo Airport hangars. Current hangar owners at the county's busiest airport take the spacious properties personally—their hangars are not just a place to store and build airplanes but a place to relax over coffee and conversation with fellow pilots and aviation enthusiasts, friends, etc. They can park their prized cars there and have a BBQ. A number of owners call their hangars at the county owned Camarillo airport their “Mancave”—much to their woman's delight. By Plane Peggy.

Clay Lacy Aviation opened 2.5 acres of new ramp space at the Van Nuys Airport. Its completion marks phase one of a 10 million-dollar six-acre expansion and an upgrade project to create Los Angeles's most exclusive and secure private facility.

Independents by PJB- Be your own person-say what you feel—those who judge you don't really care. Those who really care won't judge you.

Would you Believe!

A Camarillo man, Charles Smith, 67, was sentenced to 9 years in prison for fraudulent airplane hangar sale of two hangars he did not own when he worked at Camarillo Airport. In 2005 Smith helped the victim purchase long term leases for two hangars. Then he forged the victim's signature on two leases after transferring them to two other people without the victims' knowledge.

Smith received \$787,000 from the sales. Smith led the victim to believe he still owned the leases to the hangars. Authorities said the restitution hearing was on November 7, 2017 just recently at Ventura Superior Court.

Yikes! Buyer beware!

Whiteman Airport



This is a great place for pilots to base, operate, or service their aircraft.

Whether you live in the local airport or are visiting for business or pleasure. There are various events or activities held at the airport throughout the year or if you'd just like to spend some time watching general aviation There is a grassy park area with picnic tables for bringing a lunch. You can relax and enjoy watching the planes taking off and landing. There's even a rest room. Yeah! Bring the grandkids! You are more than welcome at Whiteman

Airport. "It's your airport" It is located in the heart of the San Fernando Valley. Originally it was Marvin E. Whiteman's in 1946 as a general aviation airport. It is now owned and operated by the County of Los Angeles and is publicly available to general aviation aircraft 24 hours, seven days a week, and is home to 600 based aircraft. Location is at 12653 Osborne St., Pacoima CA. 91331. Phone: 818 896-5271.

By Peggy Jean Bassett

Peggy Jean's Hanger 2017

In March 2017 Peggy Jean Bassett became a monthly columnist to Wings News with her *Peggy Jean's Hanger*. She was a prolific writer, submitting many articles. The following are a list of the articles she wrote for the column:

MAR: “Captains of the Clouds”; Who Shot Down the Red Baron?; “Bless ‘em All” by Fred Godfrey,

APR: Save a Fighter Pilot's Ass; Captain of the Clouds on Valentine's day, 2017; "The Aircraft Mechanic"; 3/20/17
A Birthday Surprise!

MAY: How Airplanes Fly; The U.S. Air Force Song; And the Pilot Said; A Wonderful Warbird Weekend

JUN: Kingcobra Flies Again; The B-29 Superfortress “Doc” Cleared to tour; Harnessing the Sky - A biography of Vice Admiral Frederick M. Trapnell; Shame on Them; June 3rd, will be: Living History Flying Day - F86 Sabre

JUL: Tom Reilly's Twin Mustang, XP-82 is nearing flight status; Barnacle Bill the Pilot; Rare B-25H Flies Again; "I'm an Airplane"; The Condor Squadron; F-16 "Falcon Flips"

AUG: Then and Now: Oxnard AFB to Camarillo Airport;
Wings over Camarillo 2017; Wings Over Camarillo 2017
- The Performers;

SEP: The” Superscooper” is back!; Rare P-38 “Lightning” takes to the skies again; Women in Aviation International; Pilot and Technician Outlook 2017; Mitchells at Dayton; DC-3 Planes Disappear Over The US

OCT: Oldest Surviving U.S. War Veteran; The Best Medium Bomber; Keeping the Mitchells Going; Little Friends of the Mitchell B-25; Super Dad Mitchell Pilot; P.S. For Super Dad-Mitchell Pilot

NOV: American Heroes Air Show; The DC-10 Air Tanker; Iconic DC-10 Airliner; The Charlie Brown and Franz Stigler Incident

DEC: Happy Holidays to All!; Texans, T-6's Flyover and Rolling Thunder at St. Martin's; B-26 Marauder "Charley's Jewel"; The Iconic 747 Retired

Bruce Monkman Articles

During 2017 Bruce Monkman submitted ten articles and a cartoon reflecting on his life in the Army and his interest in WWII. They were:

FEB: The Mighty Eighth Air Force 75th Birthday

MAR: Kilroy Was Here!

APR: This flag does not fly! The Meaning of the "Flag-Draped Coffin"; And the following cartoon:



MAY: Why the harsh landscape of the American West has these enormous concrete arrows across it; Nightwitches; The British Mark V Tank; The Amazing Career of General Billy Mitchell, American Father of the Skies;

JUN: Willow Run Airplane Plant

OCT: Soldiers Test Army's New Sidearm

NOTE: Bruce entered the hospital in October and never recovered from his illness. His contributions to the Wings News in 2016 and 2017 will be missed.

We all want raffle prizes!

Please search your closets and garages and bring your items to the next Wings Over Wendy's meeting. Suggested Items: Military books, magazines, DVD's, tools, etc. **Thank you!**



Bowers Museum Tour **January 10, 2018**

Meet in the Platt Village parking lot at 08:30am to drive by private car to 2002 N Main St., Santa Ana, CA



The Bowers Museum is an art museum located in Orange County, California. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 100,000 objects, and features notable strengths in the areas of pre-Columbian Mesoamerica, Native American art, the art of Asia, Africa, and Oceania, and California plein-air painting. The Bowers organizes and hosts special exhibitions from institutions throughout the world, and travels exhibitions nationally and internationally. The museum has a second campus two blocks south of the main site, Kidseum, a children's museum with a focus on art and archaeology. The Bowers Museum and Kidseum are located in Santa Ana four miles south of Disneyland.

CURRENT EXHIBITION - SEP 30, 2017 – JAN 28, 2018

ENDURANCE: THE ANTARCTIC LEGACY OF SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON AND FRANK HURLEY

Endurance presents Frank Hurley's photographs of the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition (1914-1917) undertaken by renowned explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton and his crew. 100 years after the epic expedition,



Departed in 2017

In 2017 **fourteen** members of Wings Over Wendy's flew to the great beyond. They were:

Al Olivari	03/17/1918 to 01/05/2017
Hugh Stevens	02/28/1923 to 01/11/2017
Eli Baker	11/20/1920 to 02/05/2017
Doug Rankin	12/26/1926 to 02/20/2017
George Musser	02/15/1931 to 03/07/2017
Peter Howenstein	01/03/1925 to 05/25/2017
Abe Alkana	08/31/1924 to 06/23/2017
Jack Schneider	06/13/1924 to 07/02/2017
Donna Brend	07/02/1941 to 08/06/2017
Cliff Wolf	04/14/1919 to 08/14/2017
George Stone	04/24/1927 to 09/23/2017
Dick Thackston	12/18/1924 to 10/24/2017
John DeBrauwere	10/16/1928 to 11/06/2017
Bruce Monkman	03/19/1921 to 12/17/2017

In Memoriam

We lost a faithful World War II veteran member during the month of December 2017.

Bruce Monkman

April 19, 1921 to December 17, 2017

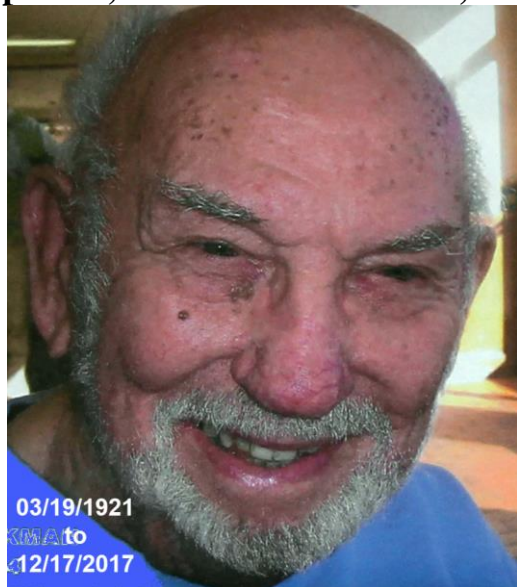


Photo by Harlis Brend

Bruce Monkman, a World War II US Army veteran of armored units in North Africa and Sicily in the 3rd Infantry Division, passed away on December 17, 2017. Bruce was Richard Raskoff's father-in-law and a frequent contributor to Wings News with articles about World War II and armored vehicles in particular. His contributions and life will be missed. His daughter, Sally will arrange a Celebration of His Life in the spring.

2017 New Attendees

In 2017 **fifty-two** new people started attending the Wings Over Wendy's meetings. They were:

George Rothman	Alan Archer
Todd Anderson	Hal Landy
Olfredo Castillo	Michael Sugar
Martin Light	Jim McMichael
Charles Othold	Bill Ratner
Ginger Lyon	Sam Mulley
Tom Carey	Larry Albucher
Carl Smith	Harry Smith
Bob Callahan	Steve Eide
Marge Callahan	Dave Worley
Louis Netza	Jeffrey Taylor
Bob Johnston	Steve Danz
Steve Holohan	Jay Guerrero
Joyce Pearson	Dave Boger
Abe Brownstein	John Boiko
Bill Wishard	Liliane Pofcher
Tom Bates	Mark Casala
Ron Boggess	Carl Ehrlich
Herbert Dodge	Tom Guzman
David McAlexander	Julio Jimenez
Chris Voronin	Henry Sideman
Bruce Eacrett	Dorthea Ulyate
Doug O'Brien	Dan Pemberton
Larry Kushner	David Freeman
Ray Ives	Manny Iglesias
Glen Gates	Bob Dager

Prayers

Unfortunately, several of our most active members were hospitalized or are either in Nursing Homes or at home recuperating from their injuries or illnesses. Our prayers are for a speedy recovery and a return to our meetings:

Ellie Harrison	Mort Green
Lee Levitan	Ed Moreno
Richard Myers	Steve Politis

**WOW's monthly food drive is
Monday, January 8th.**



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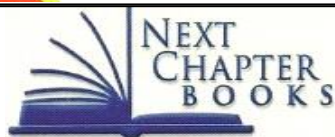
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