



NEWS

Volume 5 Number 8 Ed Reynolds Publisher

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Email Wings News at Ed_ReynoldsJr@msn.com

August 1, 2018
Judy Reynolds Editor

Big Events in August

16th ANNIVERSARY LUNCH

HONORING:

Dennis McCarthy's article that publicized the meetings
Ron & Diane Ross for providing our meeting space.
Councilmembers' Blumenfield and Englander's support
Faithful attendees for over 15 years: Lee Auger, Don Foster, Art
Sherman, Don Eisenberg, Jimmy Weldon plus our WWII members
Thursday, AUGUST 23rd, 2018 – 11am to 4pm

Knights of Columbus, 21433 Strathern St, Canoga Park,

Master of Ceremonies: Bob Donovan

Entertainment by: BONNIE BOWDEN, Ginger Lyons and a showing

of scenes from *The Donut Dollies* Documentary

\$30 per member (includes tax & tip) Guests (\$40)

Buffett with Choice of: Chicken, Tri-Tip Beef or Vegetarian

RSVP with entrée by: August 13rd: to

Warren Weinstein at Monday Meetings

By phone to: Karen Vegtel: (818) 342-8299 or

By email to: Ed Reynolds: wingsoverwendys@outlook.com

Checks payable to: Wings Over Wendy's; mail to: Ed Reynolds, 23368 Burbank Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Dress: Wings Over Wendy's: shirts & name tags

Veterans Hanger at Wings Over Camarillo Airshow



As in the past years Wings Over Wendy's has been invited to staff the Veterans Hanger at the annual Wings Over Camarillo Airshow with displays of their military experiences. This year Harlis Brend will be assisting Frank Lopez in signing up Wings Over Wendy's veterans that plan to have a table display or are volunteering to setup the displays in the Veterans Hanger.

The following people will have a display:

David Alvarez and Richard Raskoff; Judge Don Foster; Roscoe Frazier; Fred Kaplan, Neil Baliber & Howard Davis; Richard Kinder and Steve Eide; Barney Leone; Elmo Maiden and Thomas Maiden; Ed Reynolds; Art Sherman; Shannon Muchow and Greg Stathatos; David Timmerman; Warren Weinstein; Jimmy Weldon. Assisting are: Ron Boggess, Paul Boghossian, Tony Cubarrubia, and Howard Swerdlick.

In other areas Phil Aune, Harlis Brend; Neal Houston, Frank Lopez and Avery Willis will be supporting the Air Show. Ron and Diane Ross are major sponsors of the show.

All Wings Over Wendy's members are encouraged to attend, visit the Veterans Hangar, aircraft displays, vendor booths and overall enjoy the day.

Gates open at 9:00 AM each day with the Aerial performance from 12:00 PM -4:30 PM.

We hope to see you there.

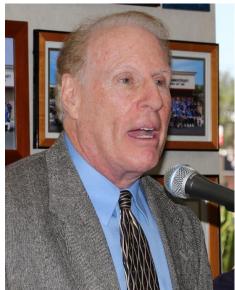
Appreciation for the Boeing Trip Lunch at the Proud Bird

As reported in last month's *Wings News* the group attending the Boeing Satellite Development Facility Tour on June 27th were treated to lunch at the Proud Bird by John Deluca. On July 2nd, Ed Reynolds presented to Warren Weinstein a Certificate of Appreciation to be presented to Mr. Deluca on behalf of Wings Over Wendy's.



Photo by Harlis Brend

July Speakers July 2, 2018



Photos by Harlis Brend

Judge Martin Mogul "DOD Security Clearances"

On July 2nd Judge Martin Mogul addressed the meeting. He is a Federal Administrative Judge for the Department of Defense and a former actor. He started by telling us about his acting experience. A native of Boston he moved to New York City to act in Broadway, and as he put it "off Broadway" and "off – off Broadway" shows. He performed drama, comedy and in musicals. As an example, he sang for us a verse from the song *Man of La Mancha* from the musical.

Martin then told us that he moved to Los Angeles and started to perform in commercials. He recited a line from an Albertson's commercial and then told us about a Japanese liquor commercial he made in which they had him drink the liquor. By lunch time he was getting "woozy" but was receiving a compliment from the Japanese Director that his Japanese lines were getting better. He had parts in movies and even did some stunt work.

At a point in his 30's he decided to change careers and went to Law School, getting his degree and passed the bar on his first try. Liking to perform for an audience no matter the size he took to becoming a tail lawyer and then a Prosecutor for the Department of Defense (DoD). Eventually he was promoted to become an Administrative Judge for the DoD.

The trails that come before him are for DoD Security Clearances. Judge Mogul listed the 13 adjudicative guidelines and their relevant disqualifying and mitigating conditions that are used in determining a candidate's eligibility for access to classified information. They are:

Guideline A: Allegiance to the U.S.

Guideline B: Foreign Influence

Guideline C: Foreign Preference

Guideline D: Sexual Behavior

Guideline E: Personal Conduct

Guideline F: Financial Considerations

Guideline G: Alcohol Consumption

Guideline H: Drug Involvement

Guideline I: Psychological Conditions

Guideline J: Criminal Conduct

Guideline K: Handling Protected Information

Guideline L: Outside Activities

Guideline M: Use of Information Technology

The Judge then cited the Concern, Disqualifying Conditions and Mitigating Conditions for each one.

It was a very entertaining and informative presentation. For those that want to learn more about the 13 Adjudicative Guidelines, they are available on line at: https://www.cdse.edu/documents/cdse/job-aid-13-adjudicative-guidelines-v2.pdf.

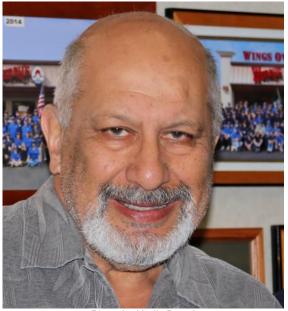


Photo by Harlis Brend

Surprise Visit by our First Benefactor: Dennis Zine

On July 2nd, Dennis Zine visited our meeting to inform Art Sherman and Jimmy Welton that their names are in a Catholic Church Bulletin honoring WWII veteran's. He questioned Art "why as a Jew was he in a Catholic Bulletin," Art responded, "My influence is everywhere!".

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Dennis was the LA City Councilmember for the District when Wings Over Wendy's meetings were started. He provided the "seed money" to start the Wings Over Wendy's bank account. He also is a retired LAPD Motorcycle Officer.

He was asked about the new Marijuana laws as they affect gun ownership. As he understands it, if you apply for Medical Marijuana your name goes into the system approving the sale and use. If you want to buy a gun, the required background check will find your Medical Marijuana application and you will not be approved to purchase the gun.

I guess if you want to smoke you can't shoot or if you want to shoot you can't smoke or something like that.

July 9, 2018



Photo by Harlis Brend

Irving Lautman "WWII POW"

On July 9th Harvey Keenan brought his brother-in-law, Irving Lautman visiting from New Jersey to the meeting. Irving gave us a brief history of his WWII experience. When he was 18yrs old he entered the US Army and was assigned to a replacement unit. He landed on Omaha Beach as an Infantryman replacing the soldiers lost in the initial invasion. Irving fought through France and Belgium, but his luck ran out in Germany near Aachen. He was assigned to the 3rd Armored Division in an Armored Infantry unit that ran out of gas as they crossed into Germany.

His unit was captured in September 1944. They were sent to a POW camp, moved to a second POW camp and then he along with 18 other Jews were sent into the woods as lumberjacks.

When asked how the Germans knew he was Jewish, he told us the International Red Cross interviewed the POWs and gave them Post Cards to mail home. His letter took four months for his parents to receive it and learn that he was a POW. The USO reported to the Germans the names of the Jews in the camps. Irving is not a fan of the International Red Cross.

All the time he was in captivity the Germans would tell them if the US or UK forces got near they would be shot. He lived with a fear from his landing in Normandy that he said didn't end until he saw the Statue of Liberty on his return home.

They talked about trying to escape but none of his group had any idea where they were and none of them spoke German, so they didn't know if they should escape north, south, east or west. When the Germans realized the war was lost, the guards ran away. Irving's group of POWs was discovered and given a truck to drive to an allied airport where they were flown to Camp Lucky Strike.

As we had been told by Richard Kinder several weeks ago, the POW's uniforms were burned, new uniforms issued, and the mess hall opened all the time for the POW to eat all the steaks, ice cream and milkshakes they wanted. Irving figured he had lost 40 plus pounds as a POW.



Photo by Harlis Brend

Jimmy Weldon

(Continued Page 5)

"The History of the Star-Spangled Banner"

Following a video of pictures taken by Harlis Brend of the Memorial Day Parade we were treated to Jimmy Weldon's rousing story on: The History of the Star-Spangled Banner. Jimmy Weldon is an accomplished actor and former television host of the first children's program in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. His career spans nearly 60 years, but he is best known as the voice of the Hanna-Barbera cartoon character "Yakky Doodle" in the Yogi Bear series. He is a veteran of General Patton's 3rd Army in WWII and one of the original members of Wings Over Wendy's.

He gave us a rendition of the story he tells school children about the lawyer Francis Scott Key in the War of 1812 sent on a mission to exchange prisoners between the US and the English. The American prisoners were being held in a British warship anchored in the Chesapeake Bay. While on the ship he was told by the British Admiral Cochrane that he would agree to the exchange, but the war would be over in the morning. The Admiral had sent a message to the Fort Commander and told him to lower the flag and surrender, or the British Fleet would bombard Fort McHenry.

During the rainy night Key watched the bombardment, anxiously keeping his eye fixed on the flag flown above the fort's ramparts from the British fleet anchored eight miles off shore. The attack lasted well into the early morning hours as the fort withstood the assault.

With the sunrise and the clearing of the smoke Key saw that a large American flag, with fifteen stars and fifteen stripes still flew over the fort. It had been raised in an act of defiance by the Fort's Commander, Major George Armistead.

Since the Fort had not fallen, the British Navy set sail for sea. Key was an amateur poet and penned a poem of what he saw. He visited the Fort and found that every time a British shell would down the flag someone would run out and put it up again.

A group of people read the poem and found that a British drinking song had the cadence that supported the poem. The irony is the combination of the poem and the British drinking tune became our National Anthem.

Jimmy then had Mike play the DVD A Pirate Saves America by Dennis Daily. It tells the story that after failing to obtain a surrender at Fort McHenry the British fleet sailed to New Orleans to support the British Army to capture the port. Andrew Jackson was the commander of New Orleans, and he teamed up with the pirate Jean Lafitte to beat the British.

Jimmy is a great story teller and was a pleasure to hear the stories he tells school children.

July 16, 2018



Photo by Harlis Brend

Paul T. Owens "World Conflict's Impact on Olympics and Sports"

Paul T. Owens, a writer who worked for the New York Times, professional sports teams, politicians, and the Espy Awards.

He started by telling a story of Richard Nixon wanting Vince Lombardi to be his Vice President. He then went on to talk about sports during the World Wars. During both wars the President wanted professional baseball to continue to be played. He has a picture of the Washington Senators marching on the field with baseball bats like rifles. Pro Football had teams merge their players. Pittsburgh merged players with Philadelphia (Steagles) and with the Chicago Cardinals.

Paul worked for Peter Ueberroth on the Los Angles Olympics and he talked about impact conflicts had on the Olympics since WWI, that LA has no 10th Street because the street was named Olympic Boulevard in honor of the 10th Olympics hosted by LA.

He recited the history of the Olympics impacted by wars. In 1916 no games were held because they were scheduled to be held in Germany; 1936 was held in Germany within 100 miles of concentration camps; 1940 no games were held because they were scheduled to held in Tokyo and they were preparing for war; 1944 no games were held because they were scheduled to be held in Germany again.

In 1948 they were held in London and Peter told us that when Bob Mathias was finishing the Decathlon they had to ring the stadium floor with automobiles to use their headlights to light the late events. Russia invaded Hungary in 1956 and during many Olympic events there was physical battles between Hungarian and Russian athletes.

(Continued Page 6)

Eighty percent of the Hungarian athletes immigrated to the United States after the games. In addition to physical contact between the athletes from countries in conflict, Paul told us about the war of words between athletes and between the officials from the countries. He witnessed that especially during the 1984 games.

The United States boycotted the 1980 Olympics over the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan, the Russians boycotted the 1984 games in return and tried to convince China it join the boycott. Paul told us that a lawyer from LA named John Lee flew to China and convinced them to participate in the games.

Paul finished up on a 'soap box' criticizing players and countries that use sporting events to protest political views. His closing remarks sparked a lively Q&A session. He finished by telling the group how much he owes to the veterans that fought in WWII.

July 23, 2018



Photo by Harlis Brend

Neal Render "TV Talk Show Host – Celebrate Hollywood"

Neal Render, a TV Talk Show host visited on July 23rd to solicit veterans to be interviewed on his new LA based show *Celebrate Hollywood with Neal Render*.

Neal, a USAF veteran recently relocated from Chicago where he had a TV show to Los Angeles to create a show here. He joined the American Legion Hollywood Post 43 where he was made aware of Wings Over Wendy's, then at a Reel Cowboys meeting he met Robert Lanthier and Paul Boghossian who encouraged him to attend Wings Over Wendy's meetings.

In 2005 at the age of 18 Neal joined the USAF to train as an EMT. He was "washed out" and reclassified at Keesler AFB where he eventually became a recruiter assigned to southern Louisiana.

As a Recruiter he was fascinated with the stories of the people he met. When he left the USAF in 2014 and was looking for a job in Chicago he found a job in television with the opportunity to celebrate peoples lives by having them tell their stories on live TV.

He circulated a sign-up list to gather names of WOW members for him to interview at a later date.

On July 30th he conducted his first interview with Warren Weinstein.

Flight of Old 666



The meeting ended with the showing of the YouTube documentary "Flight of Old 666" the story of the B-17 flight during WWII where the crew, flew alone on a photo recon mission in the Solomon Islands fought off 17 Japanese Zeros and landed safely although severely damaged.

Two members of the crew (Pilot, Capt. Jay Zeamer and Bombardier, 2ndLt Joe Sarnoski) were awarded the Medal of Honor. It was a fascinating video but not completely accurate. The following is reported to be as accurate account as possible.

The Eager Beavers

Capt Jay Zeamer and his crew, the Eager Beavers, were a B-17 bomber crew stationed in Australia and New Guinea in 1942-43. So named for Zeamer's constant volunteering for missions, they served during the crucial early period in the war in the southwest Pacific, defending Australia from invasion by the Japanese before pivoting to take the offensive against Japan.

They are the most highly decorated air crew in American history. The following is the outgrowth of over twenty years of research for a feature film screenplay Clint Hayes completed and a forthcoming novel adaptation of that screenplay.

Many mistakes and myths created in early accounts of the Eager Beavers have been passed down over the decades. Clint Hayes corrects the record to create a more accurate portrait of Zeamer's crew and their experiences.

For one, they weren't a crew of misfits and screw-offs. On the contrary, according to official records and the crew itself, a few of whom Hayes had the privilege and pleasure of interviewing in the 1990s, as well as over twenty family members, the crew was quite the opposite. In fact, Zeamer and Sarnoski, his bombardier, hand-picked the crew in an effort to weed out the screw-offs and misfits. They wanted professional men who weren't afraid of Zeamer's aggressive flying, and they found them. (Continued Page 7)

As for the plane, according to the crew, a letter to a war correspondent at the time from Zeamer and a report and diagram of his of the plane, as well as the squadron morning report on the day of the mission, '666 had sixteen mounted .50s, with two or three spares on board. Zeamer and the crew found it was faster to dump a jammed gun and replace it than to try to unjam it. The plane wasn't rescued from the junk yard, but it was notorious for getting shot up and just plain bad luck—the 8th Photo Recon Squadron referred to it as a "Hard Luck Hattie"—and had been put out of action for a period of time at the beginning of 1943 before being repaired and made flightworthy again by the 8th. It came to Zeamer's attention in May 1943 when it was transferred to the 65th BS.

July 30, 2018



Our Very Active WWII Veterans Celebrate Birthdays

We finished the meeting and the month by celebrating the 97th birthday for Art Sherman and the 99th birthday for Elmo Maiden. Art has faithfully attended the Monday meetings since he learned of them from Dennis McCarthy's *Los Angeles Daily News* article in August 2002. After Fred Blechman flew west in November 2007, Art took over running the meetings for eight years. Under his leadership the meetings grew to over 80 people every Monday. Art was instrumental in establishing a second meeting on Tuesdays in the Tarzana Community Center and he faithfully attends those meetings every Tuesday. In 2015 he handed the rubber mallet to Ed Reynolds.

Elmo Maiden and his brother Clint started attending the meetings when they moved from a lunch/afternoon meeting to the current morning meeting in August 2004. Elmo has been faithfully attending ever since. His brother flew west in 2009 and Elmo continued to attend. When his son retired in Texas and moved to Thousand Oaks he started attending the meeting as does Elmo's daughter when she is not teaching. The Maiden's are a very faithful family. Despite his age Elmo rarely misses a meeting or an event.

Happy birthday to both, and we look forward to a big celebration for Elmo's 100th birthday next July.

PROFILE



Photos by Duke Dao Written by Duke Dao

SLO Duc "Duke" Dao "Behind the Badge at Topanga-21"

ON THIS DAY...

On July 7th, twenty-one years ago was a Monday. I was twenty-five years old and one hundred and eighty-five pounds. I was probably in the best shape of my life. This day was my first day with the Los Angeles Police Department. I remember standing at attention and trying my best not make any movement as I stood tall along with forty of LAPD Recruit Class of 7-97. I was lost and wandering what the heck was going on when we were told to form in a line by height, and then chaos hit. A female instructor got in my face, more like looking up my nostril and drilling me (shouting or more like yelling) about my hair cut. I froze and didn't know what to say and she got louder. I later learned this was the tradition of the LAPD black line. (Continued Page 8)

(I didn't have SIRI or Google to ask what to expect. I was thinking to myself, wow, I spent 20 bucks on a high and tight crew cut at Supercuts. I was definitely not LOL moment but oh s--t). When I got home that day, I lost all my hair and got on my game face (a warrior). I paused and looked in silence at myself in the mirror (not too sexy at all being bald) and smiled while thanking my mother for my round shaped head. We all had to write an autobiography that night.

The LAPD Recruit Class of 7-97 class chant was "Pain is Temporary, Pride is Forever, 7-97 Stands Together!" I was picked by instructors as one of the class road guards for our class runs. It was not fun at all since I had to sprint ahead to block traffic during the class run and then sprint to the next block. I got injured twenty weeks into the program of twenty-eight weeks when I jumped over a chain link fence during training and tweaked my right knee. It hit me hard not being able to continue with my class. This was the first time in my life that I got injured. I was entered in the "recycle program" to heal. I sat for many weeks at the front desk of Ahmanson Recruitment Center looking out and greeting Officers as they entered the facility. I spent many hours reading the LAPD manual as well. A few months later, I was recycled into Class 11-97, as they were approximately 3 months into the program. I graduated with Class 11-97 on June 5, 1998. I discovered that I had lost twenty pounds and it took my almost ten years later to put it back.

I was the only one from my class that was sent to Wilshire Division after I graduated from LAPD Police Academy. It's ironic that this was where I took my written exam when I applied with LAPD. The first two months out on the streets were tough since my Training Officer (TO) was NOT an example of who I wanted to be, so coming to work was no fun at all. My next TO was a complete opposite. I was doing Police work, handling radio calls and going to court. (Self, you took a beating emotionally, but the sun came out and I absorbed all its energy and I felt this is exactly what I have signed up for). I quietly completed probation at Wilshire Division and put in my wish list of where I would like to go. I was sent to West Valley Division, which of course was one of my choices since I grew up in Canoga Park. I worked hard and was offered numerous opportunities to work specialized units. However, I turned them all down since I wanted a balanced schedule where I could spend time with family and friends. I became a Training Officer in 2007. I love being a TO since I get to run my own ship and mentor the new Probationary Officers with their training. I requested to be part of the new Topanga Division, A Place Above, which opened on January 4, 2009 and I have been here since.

Years ago, prior to Topanga Division existence when it belonged to West Valley Division, there would be assigned anywhere from 10 to 12 Officers to the mall for the holidays. In 2012, we started a mall unit, TORC (Topanga Organized Retail Crime) unit to deal with property crimes. I was asked to be part of this unit consisting of eight officers and a supervisor. We smashed crime and received the Dennis Zine Award for keeping the mall area safe. TORC Officers were sent back to patrol in 2014 due to lack of resources.

I was not known on social media, until I had an opportunity to be on a loan as an Acting SLO (Senior Lead Officer) for West Hills. They didn't have a SLO because SLO Cunningham was promoted to the elite METRO. I asked SLO Sean Dinse and Slo Brent Rygh for advice and both told me to get on social media for West Hills. Accordingly, I did so since these two were well known and loved in our community with their commitment, dedication of sharing, engaging and awareness for our community. I was known as SLO West Hills in January 2015 for two months. SLO Sabra introduced me to who's who's of West Hills, including Daniel Brin, Bob Brostoff, Ed Crowe, Faye and Virginia from HPNW and Fern Peskin-White. SLO Janet Zumstein took me under her wings and taught me how to smile, and I was blessed to learn from the best before she retired. I remember having my first neighborhood watch block meeting with the Cinderalla Estates Neighborhood Watch. They baked cookies and brought out chairs listening to me talk about crime in their neighborhood. I took ownership of West Hills for two months and my friends list grew. After my two months as an Acting SLO West Hills, my loan was over, so I went back to work patrol. I changed my FB's name to Topanga Duke Dao and started posting of my Out and About. Six months later, Topanga Division now has three SLO position since SLO Sabra, in charge of mall and the south of Canoga Park and SLO Padron, in charge of the north of Canoga Park left Topanga. I was asked to come back for a longer loan as one of the SLO for Topanga in July 2015 and a month later, the City has approved all 3 SLO positions to be filled as a promotion. I put in my application for the position and took the interview. On August 09, 2015, SLO Sean Brown, SLO Mojica and myself earned our SLO's star. I was asked to cover the mall area. SLO Brown, got West Hills area and SLO Mojica, for the Canoga Park north area. I got involved with CPNC and worked with Corinne Ho and Mary Paterson. I am blessed to be in charge of the area where I grew up. With that said, I'm blessed with where I'm at and planning to retire as 21SL57, SLO Duke Dao for Canoga Park, when I turned 30ish?.

WHAT HAVE I DONE IN TWENTY YEARS

I have seen the HAUNTS (homicide, accident, undetermined, natural, traffic, suicide) of death. I have initiated vehicle pursuits, also discontinued pursuit due to suspect erratic driving. I have chased suspects on foot, kicked in doors, use force to affect an arrest, overcome resistance or prevent escape, (Continued Page 9)

deployed non-lethal weapons, crime scenes, perimeters, worked plain clothes surveillance with United States Secret Service and DEA with live wired surveillance buying fake money and narcotics. I also received falsely accusation complaints from suspects and traffic violators. I have worked a twenty-one-hour day during an eight-hour shift. when my partner and I responded to a radio call of Female Requested Help, then the line was disconnected. As I was about to climb over a six-foot-tall fencing-partition from a 3-story apartment complex. I observed a female who appeared to be in her late 50 early 60s, naked walking to the door. I advised my partner and she opened the door, I remember she said "Help me" in a faint voice. I observed bruising on her body and asked her to put on a robe, when a male came out to the living room. This male repeated what I said "honey, put on some clothes.". I observed that his zipper was down, and his shirt was put on backward. I put handcuffs on this individual and escorted him outside. I asked this individual for his name and he called me SIR. I asked him what he was doing here, and he told me that he was visiting his friend. So, I asked him about his friend's name and he paused, and I repeated my question and he paused again. I collected my thoughts as I believed that I was looking evil in eyes. This individual was booked for Attempted Murder because he was HIV positive. He had broken into this woman's apt and committed a heinous sex crime. His bail was set at \$1.4 million. There are many nights that I would go home and pray silently for the victims and this was one of those many nights in my career. I'm just one of the ten thousand in the department, I'm blessed that I get to share my stories.

HOW DID I GET HERE?

I was born in Saigon, Vietnam in 1971. I am the sixth of seven in the family. I was told that my father was in charge of an airbase in Vietnam. My dad left home to work one day in April 1975 and never came back home. I later learned that day was the Fall of Saigon and he was MIA (Missing in Action). I didn't know that my mother had sold all her expensive items and hid or destroyed anything that would indicate that my father was in the Vietnamese Air Force fighting against the VC, (Viet Cong). I remember a photo of my father taped to the inside door of a locked metal cabinet in our house. It was years later, in 1978, when my mom received a Western Union telegram that was sent to our relatives for my mom telling us that my Dad was alive and living in the USA. Months later he began sending support to help out my mom with feeding us (seven kids). He told us that he would sponsor us to USA.

On October 31, 1981, I was ten years old. My family landed at LAX in the evening. This was my first night in United States of America. It was a year later that I learned that this day was Halloween. I remember how our family (nine of us; mom, dad and seven kids) somehow fitted inside my father's vehicle, 1978, two door, Ford, Mustang.

We left a few emptied crate-style luggage at the airport parking lot that night. (If that were to happen today, LAX would be in the news.) for unattended luggage from NAM. As I grew older, I learned that the ride from LAX was our family's last ride together as not only was it unsafe, but my father had spent all his savings to get us to USA and having a bigger vehicle was not possible.

Simple things that Americans took for granted were my first pleasures such as a hot shower, gas stove, flushing toilet, carpeted floor, heating, cold ice water, refrigerator, home telephone, sodas, milk, M&M candy, coconutpineapple Thrifty ice-cream and color television to name a few. The first time that I would wear shoes and socks. I remember it was a Trak brand and months later I had to put inserts in them because the bottom sole was wearing out.

I was studying ESL, (English as Second Language) as I didn't speak a word of it. I grew up in Canoga Park, lived in the area of Gault Street (south of Sherman Way) and Variel Ave. I went to Hart Street Elementary, Sutter Junior High School then to Canoga Park High School. I got my first bloody nose from a bully kid who was much bigger than I was. In Elementary I remember running past a certain house or avoiding certain streets when I walked to school to avoid confrontation or being jumped or name calling. I remember that our attached garage was burglarized when our father was battling cancer in the hospital. My dad loved his Craftsman tools and they were all gone. I was twelve years old then.

My first job was at Carl's Jr, located on Saticoy and Winnetka. I was sixteen years old and it was my first summer job. I remember getting paid a quarter more than the minimum wage of \$3.25. I got my first paycheck and bought a bike that summer. I rode my bicycle to the mall one day with my friend. We locked our bikes at the bike rack near the Broadway store, but our bikes were stolen. I was pissed and violated as I walked home. I worked part time during high school at Sears, located on Fallbrook and Victory as a stock person. I asked my father if I could play sports and he agreed to let me play tennis. He wanted me to get an education to be an engineer. I was approximately 5'06, 125 lbs during high school and somehow I was blessed to be almost 6' tall during my senior year in HS.

I watched the A-Team, Charlie's Angels, Quantum Leap, Columbo and lots of John Wayne's movies since my dad loved the Duke. I even watched channel 9 horror movies with Elvira. I spent hours in the gym with my friend Patrick to get big but couldn't put on any weight. I spent what I could on drinking proteins and taking supplements. I even drank raw eggs thanks to Rocky Balboa. During my senior year of high school, my father became sicker during the holidays and was diagnosed with liver cancer. He was put on the liver transplant list and we were blessed that he had an opportunity to receive a liver transplant.

(Continued Page 10)

However, his body rejected it and we lost him. UCLA asked our family if we can donate my father's brain for science study and we did. I am an organ donor with DMV.

I thought about joining the Armed Forces after high school, but since I didn't know how to swim, I didn't. I worked part-time at Northridge Hospital after high school while going to CSUN and Pierce College. I love the FD and PD uniforms, so I looked into both career. I became a Block Captain for my neighborhood and attended monthly neighborhood watch meetings by Senior Lead Officer John Futrell. In 1995 I decided to pursue my dream and took the first step with the LAPD. I remember going to an oral interview while not wearing a suit since I couldn't afford to buy one, so I came in with a white dress shirt with some tie and slacks. I remember sitting in the lobby waiting for the interview and saw that I was the only one without a suit. I passed the oral interview with an average score, which I can totally understand. I knew that my family wouldn't approve of my joining the LAPD, so I didn't tell them. I passed all the tests and met with my background Investigating Officer.

Months later I received a letter of Disqualification because I was not a United States citizen. I remember clearly that you to have been in the process of becoming a US citizen or be a citizen prior to applying with LAPD. I remember receiving that letter and brought it to Immigration the following day to inquire about my citizenship application. I was told NO APPLICATION was received by them from me. I remember the rudeness and carelessness shown from the person that helped me after I felt defeated inside. I contacted my bank and spent ten dollars for a copy of the check that I wrote for ninety-five dollars for application fees. A week later, I waited hours at the Immigration office with documentation, only to be told that they have sent my application to Oklahoma and I needed to do everything over including new fingerprints which would cost me more money. I sucked it up and did what I was told. Six months later, I re-applied with LAPD.

On September 6, 1996, I became a United States citizen along with thousands of other at the Convention Center in LA. I was emotional and even shed tears of happiness while thinking about what my father had accomplished. I learned that my dad was so proud to be an American that he legally changed his first name to John when he became a US citizen. He loved watching John Wayne. I also changed my name on this day to Duke in honor him. Once again, I completed everything over with LAPD and even saved money to buy a blazer for the interview. It was hard for me to buy suit because I have a 40 inches shoulder with a 30 inches waist. My family finally discovered that I applied when my background investigator came out to meet them while I was at work. I got an earful from them that night and I got it because it's a dangerous job. I remember working at Valley Presbyterian

Hospital as a pharmacy tech when my co-worker told me that I had a phone call. I answered and received the good news from my background investigator that I needed to put in my 2 weeks notice for an appointment date of 7-7-97. I was nervous for the next few days as I waited for an official letter of appointment and finally it arrived in the mail.

With that said, welcome all of you to my journey, my adventure, my Out and About, my Living the SLO Life as I continue to protect and serve the community that I call home at A Place Above, Topanga Division.

Publishers Note:

Three days after Duke wrote this article and told me I could publish it in Wing News, he was injured when arresting a hit and run driver fleeing on foot after crashing her car into the fence SE of Burbank and Fallbrook. When Duke caught up to her she hit him in the face with the Fleur-de-lis shaped piece from the fence she had destroyed. Fortunately, it didn't break the skin.

The Real Russian Collusion

by Leon Waldman

(Reprinted from the 483rd Bomb Group Newsletter)

It was late May 1944 and we had about 15 to 20 missions to our credit. We had recently got a new B-17G to replace the old war weary "Bad Penny" that had over 100 missions. It had been given to us when the 99th Bomb Group "grabbed" the new G models that we had flown over from Hunter Field. I was glad to have a closed window waist gun position again! No more -40°F wind blowing into the waist area! Word came down from Headquarters that we were to prepare a travel bag with Class A uniform, shaving stuff, etc. for a mission. Very unusual!



At this time, I made a big mistake! I had some words with my co-pilot, lost my cool and threatened him. The worst thing I ever did in my military career! Staff Sergeants should not mouth off to Lieutenants. As a consequence, I was grounded, ordered to dig a 4x4x4 hole for a latrine. I got off cheap! I was alone with our dog who gave birth to 3 pups while our group was bombing the Balkans. They flew out on a mission and instead of returning to Sterparone, flew on to Mirgorod, Russia. June 2, 1944 - a date to remember! A few days later they flew another mission out of Russia and landed back in Russia. (Continued Page 11)

Around June 11th they flew out on a third mission in the Balkans and then returned to our base. On this mission Russell Burney, who took my position in right waist gun was knocked down by a 20 MM shell that a German fighter threw into the tail wheel area. Fortunately, some of its force was absorbed by the bags the guys had packed in that area. Russell was not hurt but I always thought about the possibility that had I been in a different position and caught a slug in my body! Fate?



Leon & the Bad Penny - holding on to a Waist Gun

A short time later the Mighty 8th Air Force pulled a similar stunt, but it did not come off so well. They lost 48 of their B- 17s on the ground to German bombers in one night, so that was the end of the shuttle missions.

Peggy Jean's Hanger

A monthly column by Peggy Jean Bassett

pjbflyer@gmail.com



This Day in Aviation by Plane Peggy

I am writing on July 22, 2018 about this event. Wiley Hardeman Post and his Lockheed Model 5C Vega NR 105W "The Winnie Mae of Oklahoma" landed at Floyd Bennett Field, Long Island, New York. Post had departed from there on July 15 and in 7 days, 18 hours 49 ½ minutes, he flew 15,596 miles, circling the Northern Hemisphere. He made stops for fuel and rest and had one minor accident which required repairs to the airplane. For this flight he was alone. He had flown approximately the same route in 1931 with a navigator Harold Gatty aboard.



Photo by Rudy Arnold

This was the first solo around the world flight. Wiley Post was the first pilot to have flown around the world twice. The Winnie Mae was purchased by an Oklahoma oil driller, Florence C. Hall (F.C.) on June 21, 1930, and was named for his daughter Winnie Mae Hall.

The aircraft was built by Lockheed Aircraft Company at Burbank, California in 1930 as a model 5B Vega. The new airplane was painted white with purple trim.

In 1932 NC105W was modified to the Vega 5C standard, with a long wingspan of 41 feet and was 27 feet six inches long. It was powered by an air-cooled Pratt and Whitney Wasp C. a single-row 9-cylinder direct drive radial engine, with a cruise speed of 165 miles per hour, with a maximum speed of 185 miles per hour, ceiling of 15,000 feet.

Wiley Post flew the Winnie Mae for F. C. Hall and purchased the airplane from Hall July 8, 1931. Winnie Mae was involved in an accident on April 1933 on takeoff due to fuel starvation. The gasoline had been siphoned. She was sent to Braniff Airways, Oklahoma for repairs and extensively so, many modifications were made and was reregistered NR105W.

Wiley Post was killed in an airplane crash near Barrow, Alaska August 15, 1935, and his widow Mae Lain Post sold the Winnie Mae of Oklahoma NR 105W to the Smithsonian Institution. It is on display at the National Air and Space Museum, Washington, D.C.



at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC

By Peggy Jean Bassett

(Continued Page 12)

Footnote: Introduced in 1927, the Vega was the first product of designer Jack Northrop and Allan Lockheed Aircraft Company, sturdy, roomy, streamlined and fast, the innovative Vega became favored by pilots to set speed and distance records. Amelia Earhart set two of her many aviation records in a bright red Vega. In 1932 she flew it alone across the Atlantic Ocean, then across the U.S. non-stop.

Two Boeing 747-8I's Next presidential transports



Photo by R. Bexten

A confirmed purchase of two intercontinental airlines was decided. The new Air Force One will be jumbo jets left from a bankrupt Russian airline order. They were abandoned after Russia's Transaero Airline went bust in late 2015. It was Russia's second largest airline.

Aeroflot absorbed most of Transaero's existing fleet but declined to pick up Transaero's 747-8I orders worth \$1.5 billion at list prices. Two of the four were already built. So instead of delivering the planes, Boeing completed flight testing and sent them to the Southern California Logistics Airport in Victorville, California, in the Mojave Desert where they had been waiting for a new buyer.

The purchase of ready-made commercial airliners instead of custom built aircraft is the plan to keep the costs down and under control.

The current Presidential aircraft are designated VC-25. The 747-8I's will be designated VC-25B. (the aircraft only becomes Air Force One when the President steps on board).

The modifications would include a new mission communication system, electrical power upgrades, a medical facility, an executive interior and a self- defense system. On July 25th the USAF was awarded a new contract to Boeing for the design, modification, test, certification and delivery of two VC-25B presidential aircraft by 2024. At this point the pair currently in use would be 34 years old (747-200's). They were operated by the Presidential Airlift Group out of joint Base Andrews in Maryland, and have been in service for more than two decades.

"Long Live the 747's "said Plane Peggy. Written by Peggy Jean Bassett **Note:** Axios and CBS reported that President Trump wants to do away with the signature light blue and white paint job on Air Force One - which he called a "Jackie Kennedy color" - in favor of something "more American", a red, white and blue scheme both inside and out.

I am an Old Warbird

By Peggy Jean Bassett

This is a poem I am about to write.

Gotta put on my glasses and turn on the light.

A strawberry margarita will help me think

Cool, icy, sweet, a really good drink.

Now! I've written many articles about airplanes and such. No! I'm not a pilot, I just love them so much.

I've never seen an ugly one, maybe you have, not me. They are all beautiful, that's what I see like people each one is different in its own way, that's what I say,

Like a proud pinto mustang spots I have many, I remember not long ago I didn't have any.

Wrinkles and lumpy, even kinda bumpy.

Well, I don't fret about <u>it</u> cause it's just not gonna <u>quit</u>. Don't sit around judging others or friends, you won't have any

Keep opinions to yourself, I'll bet you have plenty.

The friends that one has are as Precious as Gold, sitting around sharing as we grow <u>old</u>.

I am an old Warbird now, coming through the battles of life that I love so much. Soon there will be that Special Angel touch.

Not too soon, I ask you, please,

Hope like usual I can't find the <u>keys</u> You know to open the Pearly Gate. I CAN WAIT!

"Birth of the Pilot's Check List"

On October 30, 1935, at Wright Air Field in Dayton, Ohio, the U.S. Army Air Corps held a flight competition for airplane manufacturers vying to build its next-generation long-range bomber. It wasn't supposed to be much of a competition. In early evaluations, the Boeing Corporation's gleaming aluminum-alloy Model 299 had trounced the designs of Martin and Douglas. Boeing's plane could carry five times as many bombs as the Army had requested; it could fly faster than previous bombers, and almost twice as far.

A Seattle newspaperman who had glimpsed the plane called it the "flying fortress," and the name stuck. The flight "competition," according to the military historian Phillip Meilinger, was regarded as a mere formality. The Army planned to order at least sixty-five of the aircraft.

A small crowd of Army brass and manufacturing executives watched as the Model 299 test plane taxied onto the runway. It was sleek and impressive, with a hundred-and-three-foot wingspan and four engines jutting out from the wings, rather than the usual two. (Continued Page 13)



The plane roared down the tarmac, lifted off smoothly and climbed sharply to three hundred feet. Then it stalled, turned on one wing and crashed in a fiery explosion. Two of the five crew members died, including the pilot, Major Ployer P. Hill (thus Hill AFB, Ogden, UT).



An investigation revealed that nothing mechanical had gone wrong. The crash had been due to "pilot error," the report said. Substantially more complex than previous aircraft, the new plane required the pilot to attend to the four engines, a retractable landing gear, new wing flaps, electric trim tabs that needed adjustment to maintain control at different airspeeds, and constant-speed propellers whose pitch had to be regulated with hydraulic controls, among other features.

While doing all this, Hill had forgotten to release a new locking mechanism on the elevator and rudder controls. The Boeing model was deemed, as a newspaper put it, "too much airplane for one man to fly." The Army Air Corps declared Douglas's smaller design the winner. Boeing nearly went bankrupt.

Still, the Army purchased a few aircraft from Boeing as test planes, and some insiders remained convinced that the aircraft was flyable. So, a group of test pilots got together and considered what to do.

They could have required Model 299 pilots to undergo more training. But it was hard to imagine having more experience and expertise than Major Hill, who had been the U.S. Army Air Corps Chief of Flight Testing.

Instead, they came up with an ingeniously simple approach: they created a pilot's checklist, with step-by-step checks for takeoff, flight, landing, and taxiing. Its mere existence indicated how far aeronautics had advanced.



In the early years of flight, getting an aircraft into the air might have been nerve-racking, but it was hardly complex. Using a checklist for takeoff would no more have occurred to a pilot than to a driver backing a car out of the garage. But this new plane was too complicated to be left to the memory of any pilot, however expert.

With the checklist in hand, the pilots went on to fly the Model 299 a total of 18 million miles without one accident. The Army ultimately ordered almost thirteen thousand of the aircraft, which it dubbed the B-17. Because flying the behemoth was now possible, the Army gained a decisive air advantage in the Second World War which enabled it's devastating bombing campaign across Nazi Germany.

A Nice bit of History

Frank Sinatra considered Kate Smith the best singer of her time and said that when he and a million other guys first heard her sing "God Bless America" on the radio, they all pretended to have dust in their eyes as they wiped away a tear or two. The follow are the facts.

The time was 1940. America was still in a terrible economic depression. Hitler was taking over Europe and Americans were afraid we'd have to go to war. It was a time of hardship and worry for most Americans.

It was the era just before TV when radio shows were HUGE and American families sat around their radios in the evenings, listening to their favorite entertainers and no entertainer of that era was bigger than Kate Smith.

Kate was also large; plus size as we now say, and the popular phrase still used today is in deference to her: "It ain't over till the fat lady sings."

Kate Smith might not have made it big in the age of TV but with her voice coming over the radio, she was the biggest star of her time. She was also patriotic. It hurt her to see Americans so depressed and afraid of what the next day would bring. She had hope for America, and faith in her fellow Americans. She wanted to do something to cheer them up, so she went to the famous American song-writer Irving Berlin (who also wrote White Christmas) and asked him to write a song that would make Americans feel good again about their country. When she described what she was looking for, he said he had just the song for her.

(Continued Page 14)

He went to his files and found a song that he had written but never published, 22 years before - in 1917. He gave it to her and she worked on it with her studio orchestra. She and Irving Berlin were not sure how the song would be received by the public, but both agreed they would not take any profits from God Bless America. Any profits would go to the Boy Scouts of America. Over the years, the Boy Scouts have received millions of dollars in royalties from this song.

In Memoriam

Unfortunately, we learned of one member who "Flew West" in June and two members during the month of July.

Bill Caldwell December 28, 1922 to June 7, 2018



Courtesy Los Angeles Daily News (Continued Page 13)

Bill Caldwell was not a regular attendee at the Monday meetings, but he did appear in one of Fred Blechman's rosters. Dennis McCarthy had met him in Wendy's when he was sitting with Fred, and when Dennis saw a notice Bill passed away he wrote the following Column about Bill:

An unsung hero of WWII should receive some praise

World War II Army Air Corp fighter pilot Bill Caldwell. He left behind a big footprint in his 95 years, but outside of his family and friends, not a lot of people knew it. Bill wasn't a "look at me" guy. He just kept his head down and got things done.

As far as I know, the only time he made the paper was on the obit page. Well, today he moves up front where he belongs because Bill Caldwell was big news in this country. We just didn't know it. The only time I met him was 18 years ago sitting in a Wendy's having lunch with a friend.

I was at the next table with Crash Blechman and a few of his World War II flying buddies. Crash — who earned his dubious nickname by crashing five Navy fighter planes on takeoffs and landings — could crank up the volume pretty high when he got worked up, and he was definitely getting worked up talking about an idea he had to start a club where ex-military pilots could meet weekly over lunch to reminisce and shoot the breeze.

"Mind if we join you?" Caldwell asked, overhearing Crash. "We're private pilots." Sure, Crash said. It didn't matter the guys weren't military. They loved flying. Pull up a chair.

Caldwell never did get around that day to mentioning the Distinguished Flying Cross he was awarded as an Army Air Corps P-38 Lightning pilot in the South Pacific with the 80th Fighter Squadron, nicknamed the "Headhunters." Nor did he say a word about the 115 combat missions he flew dive bombing shipping and land targets, or the Air Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters he was awarded for three confirmed air-to-air combat victories.

He never mentioned any of it, not even the day a 42-year-old Charles Lindbergh dropped in to visit his squadron and wound up flying a mission with them.

Why would he mention it? That would be like bragging, and Caldwell wasn't a bragger. He knew what he had done. That was enough.

When he came home from the war, he scraped together every dime he could lay his fingers on and went hat-in-hand to the bankers for a loan to start his own business.

Caldwell thought he had seen the future in the service, and it wasn't in plastics. It was housing. All the guys he served with and met from all over the country were saying the same thing as they were being discharged.

They couldn't wait to get home and move to California. No shoveling snow, plenty of jobs, and a tan year around, if you wanted it. Pack your bags, honey, and grab the kids. We're heading west.

But where were they all going to live? In tents? They'd be coming west to orange fields and acres of avocado trees, not housing tracts. They'd need a roof over their heads.

Caldwell built thousands of those roofs in the Valley, Burbank, and parts of West L.A. Under them he put cozy two-bedroom, one-bath homes going for \$12,500.

A song today, a fortune yesterday to young guys who had been off fighting a war and earning peanuts for it. The G.I. Bill provided low-interest rate loans, and Caldwell did his best to keep costs down because he knew where these men had been the last couple of years, and what they had done. He was one of them.

"Before his stroke, we'd meet every morning for coffee, and I'd just sit there mesmerized listening to his stories," longtime friend Randy Bemis said. "He loved his time in the service and building homes for so many young veterans. Bill saw it as a job he had to do, and he just did it. He never made a big deal about it."

No, that would have been bragging.

We're losing our WWII vets at a rate of more than 400 a day — incredibly one every three minutes. Sixteen million Americans served, and less than a million are still alive, all of them in their 90s now.

Dennis McCarthy's column runs on Friday. He can be reached at dmccarthynews@gmail.com.

Phil Rowe July 10, 1926 to July 7, 2018

Unfortunately, we have no picture of Phil

Floyd "Phil" Rowe was born July10,1926 in Sacramento CA and passed away July 7, 2018 in Woodland Hills, CA.

He entered the navy at the age of 17 during WWII and was stationed all over the pacific and was discharged in 1946. When war broke out in Korea he entered the Air Force as an aircraft mechanic on the big planes, B-29, B-50, B-36 and then the B-52. He was assigned to the Strategic Air Command and his units participated in Korea, Cold War Alert, the Cuban Missile Crisis and Vietnam before he retired as a CMSgt (E-9) in 1968.

He held several jobs after his military service and finally retired at age 70.

Ted Davis March 2, 1939 to July 13, 2018



Photos by Harlis Brend

Ted Davis "Flew West" on Wednesday, July 11, 2018. Ted was a faithful member, attending every Monday when his health permitted since 2005. His warm disposition and Santa Claus outfit during the Holiday Season brought cheer to our hearts.

He was an amazing, versatile, individual as shown the

collage his Step-Daughter showed us at a meeting. He had lost two fingers in a fire cracker incident in his youth that prevented him from joining the military, but he loved flying and building model airplanes that flew. He was a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and was very active in their events.

He will be missed - may he rest in peace.

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
David Plumb
Alice Stone,
Bill Tapp
Ed Moreno
Lee Levitan
Barry Chapman.

New Members

We welcomed the following new members during the month of July 2018.

Jonathan Schaefer Howard Leeds Don Robbins Carl Wakamato Ernie Medramo

WOW's monthly food drive is Monday, August 6th



View: <u>www.wingsoverwendys.com</u>

To see the:

- Newsletters
- Roster
- Calendar of events
- Pictures & Videos of members

August Birthdays

Mugust	Diftildays
Bob Donovan	August 1, 1948
Craig Renwick	August 1, 1958
Robert Lee	August 2, 1944
Olga Arbonies	August 3, 1973
Robert Freud	August 4, 1961
Don Robbins	August 4, 2027
Ed Reynolds	August 5, 1935
James Segel	August 5, 1967
Justin Devine	August 7, 1996
Patricia McGinley	August 7, 1925
Daniel Zepeda	August 7, 1953
David Escudero	August 8, 1953
Marce Rankin	August 10, 1931
Marty Cohen	August 11, 1948
Richard Gross	August 16, 1926
Dwight Herr	August 16, 1948
Leon Waldman	August 16, 1924
Boots LaVere	August 17, 1930
Jack Rolston	August 17, 1921
Ray Rosenbaum	August 17, 1930
Luanne Pomerantz	August 18, 1961
Stan Staten	August 18, 1937
Alvin Solomon	August 19, 1941
Richard Hernandez	August 21, 1953
Ed Phillips	August 21, 1926
Neil Baliber	August 22, 1941
Harlis Brend	August 22, 1941
Mike Brodey	August 24, 1937
Reed King	August 24, 1924
Richard Zaitlen	August 26, 1946
Jack Norris	August 27, 1960
Dick Bublitz	August 28, 1932
William Bloom	August 29, 1926
Jerry Lief	August 29, 1933
Dick Edwards	August 31, 1930

Wings News Staff

Publisher: Ed Reynolds **Editor:** Judy Reynolds

Reporter: Peggy Jean Bassett, **Photographers:** Harlis Brend,

Ed Reynolds Mike LaVere

New Members: Marion Lovelace

Shirley Andrews
Reminders: Connie Hein
Speakers: Barney Leone
Tours: Warren Weinstein
Treasurer: Barry Chapman

Store: Bob Bermant & Howard Swerdlick

Wings News Patrons

The following is a list of WOW members who have contributed \$10 to fund the publication of the *Wings News* for 12 months.

und the publication of the v	vings news for 12 mon
David Alvarez	Shirley Andrews
Peggy Jean Bassett	Tom Bates
Bob Bermant	Steve Birgel
Ron Boggess	Paul Boghossian
Juan Camacho	Barry Chapman
Patrick Daly	Howard Davis
Gerald Detamore	Skip DeYoung
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Nonie Lann	Al Lewis
Morris Litwack	Ginger Lyon
Elmo Maiden	Thomas Maiden
Ethel Margolin	Stan Opatowsky
Ed Phillips	Maurice Portnoy
Marce Rankin	Cleo Reynolds
Ed Reynolds	Judy Reynolds
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Jack Rolston	Bob Rose
Ray Rosenbaum	Abe Rosenzweig
George Rothman	Lezar Saunders
Bruce Schultz	Sam Schultz
Phil Shapiro	Art Sherman
Dan Stark	Dave Steinbacher
Bob Stiles	Howard Swerdlick
Bill Tapp	Jack Taube
David Timmerman	David Tostenson
Karen Vegtel	Leon Waldman
Warren Weinstein	Avery Willis
SFV Historical Society	

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!

Bob Hope USO lands in posh new home at LAX to serve America's service men and women

Bob Hope himself would likely have saluted – and said, "thanks for making new memories."

The USO center that bears his name moved into sharp new quarters on Friday, July 27th at Los Angeles International Airport. USO officials and volunteers, members of the armed forces and lots of L.A. dignitaries marched into the ground level of LAX's Theme Building on Center Way.

"The men and women of our armed forces put their lives on the line to protect us every day — they deserve a warm welcome when they come home, and when they're traveling through our airport," said Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti said in a news release. "This beautiful new facility opens a new chapter in the rich history of the **Bob Hope USO** at LAX, and I am proud to see it open its doors today."

At more than 7,00 square feet, the new center is twice the size of the airport's former USO near Terminal 3, with more room to offer more services to active military men and women and their families.

"We are proud to open the doors of our iconic LAX Theme Building to our service members and their families, as the new home of the *Bob Hope USO*," said Deborah Flint, Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) in a news release. "This renovated facility provides the *Bob Hope USO* an incredible space that reflects progress on our commitment to creating a world-class airport experience for all of our guests."

The center includes a tribute to Hope, who for decades devoted his time to entertaining American troops in the U.S. and abroad, during times of war and peace alike.

The facility includes a snack bar, dining room, private family rooms, movie theater TV lounge, family video-connection rooms, an outdoor pavilion and more. Services are provided free to service members 24 hours a day all year 'round, staffed by more than 250 volunteers.

Barney at Stonefire Grill



An interesting thing occurred July 19th while having lunch together with several veterans from our organization. Several ladies upon approaching our table noticed that we were veterans and thanked us for our service.

Later, the lady in the photo with me approached me and asked me where I served. I told her that I was in the Navy and served in the Pacific and saw action in Iwo Jima and Okinawa. She then told me that she was Japanese, and she was 5 years old living in Tokyo when we dropped the Atom Bomb on Japan. She related how frightened she was and would hide in a hole in the ground fearing that Tokyo would be bombed. I told her that if we did not use the atom bomb we were ready to invade Japan and many more lives would be lost by both the Japanese and Americans. I told her that although I am sorry for the Bomb, but If we had to invade Japan many of us would not survive. She took my hand and told me how she learned later in life that Japan did not believe that America did not have the courage to go to war against Japan, but later learned how the leaders of Japan feared that they awakened a sleeping Giant by Bombing Pearl Harbor.

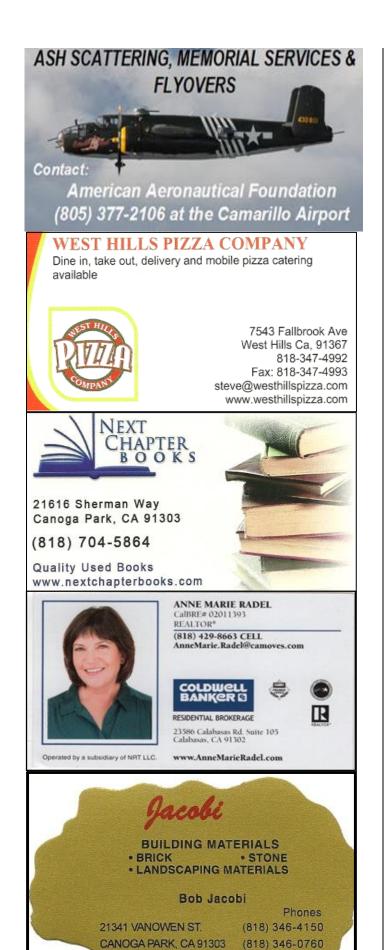
She is now 78 living here many years and loves being an American. Here am I at age 93 having history catching up with us and happily taken this photo together with Hideko as a friend. WOW!

Beer

"Sometimes, when I reflect on all the beer I drink, I feel ashamed. Then I look into the glass and think about the workers in the brewery and all of their hopes and dreams. If I did not drink this beer, they might be out of work and their dreams would be shattered. I think, it is better to drink this beer and let their dreams come true, than be selfish and worry about my liver." - **Babe Ruth**









www.robstotalhealth.com

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