WINGS



NEWS

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May 1, 2019 Judy Reynolds Editor



Photo by Larry Kushner

The Getty Villa Tour, April 18, 2019

Twenty members car pooled in five cars, from the Platt Village parking lot on April 18, 2019 to ride to The Getty Villa, Pacific Coast Highway in Pacific Palisades. After parking in the VIP area of the underground garage, the group was meet by WOW member John Kennedy, a Docent at the Villa at the Entry Pavilion. After having a group picture taken the group proceeded to the Museum Entrance in back of the Outdoor Theater. Inside off to the right of the entrance on first floor the group saw a fifteen-minute film on the Getty Villa.

J. Paul Getty wanted visitors to experience Greek and Roman art in a setting that would bring the objects to life. He decided to build a new museum on his property overlooking the Pacific, a site that closely resembles the

ancient Mediterranean coast.

The resulting Getty Villa was modeled on the Roman Villa dei Papiri, a grand country residence on the Bay of Naples that was buried by the volcanic eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79. Most of the Villa is still underground, but Getty's architects adapted a plan of the exposed part drawn by 18th-century excavators and incorporated details from other ancient houses in nearby Pompeii and Herculaneum to realize his vision.

The Getty Villa, which opened in 1974, embodies Getty's love for classical art and architecture. Today the museum provides an enduring home for his collection, evoking ancient spaces filled with fountains, and aromatic gardens. (Continued Page 2)



Photo by Larry Kushner

John Kennedy The Getty Villa Docent

Following the film, the group split up for self-guided tour of the two story Museum. One the first floor there were Galleries for Greek Art; Etruscan Art; J. Paul Getty and the Villa and The Classic World in Context. Outside the Museum was the East Garden with a replica of one found in the *House of the Large Fountain at Pompeii* and the *Outer Peristyle* with the large reflecting pool which is so often used as the landmark of the Museum.

The second floor contained the Roman Art Gallery. There are approximately 30 rooms or galleries with displays and the group spent two hours touring.



Photo by Larry Kushner

Warren Weinstein

Those attending the tour included: Lee Auger; Mark Ax; Ron Boggess; Barry Chapman; Howard Davis; Jan Edwards; Dick Guyer; Fred Kaplan; John Kennedy; Larry Kushner; Mike LaVere; Barney Leone; Kurt Rademacher; Bill Ratner; Ed Reynolds; George Rothman; Bob Stiles; Howard Swerdlick; Leon Waldman; Warren Weinstein; and Bill Wishard.

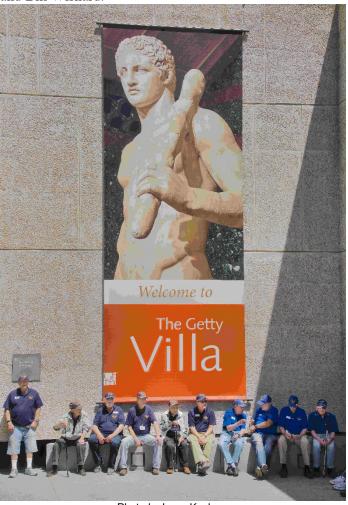


Photo by Larry Kushner

Following the tour the group drove a mile along Pacific Coast Highway to Gladstone's Restaurant for lunch. Many members of the group had not visited Gladstone's for a number of years and were surprised to find the floor was no longer covered with peanut shells and the barrels of peanuts were no longer around.



Photo by Howard Swerdlick

Lunch at Gladstone's

April Speakers

April 1, 2019



Photo by Larry Kushner

On the first meeting in April we were visited by our friends Dennis McCarthy and SLO Duke Dao. Dennis was in attendance to interview Barney Leone who had just returned from a trip to Iwo Jima.

Duke was there to give up an update on the latest activities by the Topanga Community Police. Duke also thanked Dennis for an article about the "keychain kid" who made flat paracord bracelets and sold them to raise \$5,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society children's cancer research. After Duke told him over the phone about 12 year old Daniel Adelson, Dennis wrote the column. At the April 1st meeting it was the first time Duke and Dennis had met face to face.



Photo by Larry Kushner

Malcom Dipperstein

We were pleased to see the return of Malcom Dipperstein to our Monday meeting. Malcom had lost his driver's license and had medical ailments that made it difficult to attend the meetings.

He took to the microphone to thank the Wings Over Wendy's members for their prayers, cards and best wishes. We hope he can continue to attend on a regular basis. We miss his thoughtful questions of the speakers.



Barney Leone Iwo Jima Trip Report

Barney Leone gave us a report on his trip to Iwo Jima at the invitation of the World War II Museum and actor Gary Sinise. He was one of six veterans invited to the annual return to Iwo Jima. The Japanese Government only allows one trip by tourist a year.

He started by telling us that he was looking at the battle with binoculars from his gun position on the USS Nemasket, a fuel ship anchored 150 yards off shore when he shouted out: "Hey, that's our flag up there – OUR FLAG!"

Six battle-weary Marines using every last ounce of strength to raise the American flag on the summit of Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima 74 years ago.

When the photograph of that moment hit the newspapers the next day, the entire nation got a collective case of the goose bumps. Our boys in the Pacific were winning.

The USS Nemasket, was the last ship the Marines going in would see.

Barney stood on the exact spot where photographer Joe Rosenthal snapped his iconic picture.

"I never expected to come back here," Barney told the young Marines who escorted him up the 555-foot mountain. He had brought a worn, old flag with him and they asked him about it.

(Continued Page 4)

Barney looked down at the ocean below where his ship was anchored that day in February 1945 when the first wave of Marines went ashore. He tried to explain, but his emotions got the best of him, and he broke down crying.

"Imagine that," Barney said "A 94-year-old guy crying like that, but I just couldn't help myself. I thought about all the Marines who gave their lives for me and so many others to make it back."

One of the Marines on the mountain put an arm around Barney's shoulder to comfort him. "That's okay," he whispered. "We appreciate what you did, too."

"I didn't do anything but survive," Barney said. "We dropped anchor offshore and refueled the landing crafts. I looked at the faces of the first wave of Marines as they passed my ship, and gave them the high sign.

"Not one Marine looked over and acknowledged it," Barney said. "They just stared straight ahead, clutching their rifles straight up in front of their faces."

As if they knew a hell storm was coming.

It was a bloodbath on Iwo – almost 7,000 Marines killed and another 17,000 wounded – and not until he looked through those binoculars and saw our flag being planted on the highest point of the island did he and his shipmates know we were winning.

Barney wiped away the last of his tears, and began to tell his Marine escorts the story of why he brought his old flag with him to this hallowed ground. He said he got goose bumps that day watching the flag go up, and had turned to look up at his own ship's flag.

The weather had beaten it up pretty badly, and Barney knew it would be taken down soon, burned in a flag retirement ceremony, and replaced with a new flag. It didn't seem right after all the battles it had been through to let it die.

"I went to the quartermaster and asked if he would save it for me when they took it down. He said he would. I put it in my locker and never told anybody on the ship I had it. When I got home, I put it in the closet and never talked about it, even to my father who had served in World War I."

For the next 55 years, that flag stayed in the closet until Barney moved to California in 2001 after retiring from his evangelical ministry in Ohio. He bought a home in West Hills and soon joined a group of local veterans who meet every Monday morning at a Wendy's in Woodland Hills.

It was early 2010 when Barney got a call asking him to speak at a WW II history class offered as an elective to senior students at a local high school.

That's when he thought about his old flag in the closet. It had been in mothballs since the end of World War II. Maybe it was time to return it to active duty. That was in 2010, and Barney and his flag are still making the rounds of high schools and veteran's groups that want them.

He's got shoeboxes filled with touching letters written

by students thanking him for opening their eyes to just how lucky they are to enjoy the freedoms those Marines on Iwo Jima died protecting.

It's not war that Barney tells these kids at the end of class, it's peace. It's finding a way to reason, not fight.

Barney then told his story after Iwo Jima when his ship was sent to China.

"I was in Shanghai on shore patrol duty at the end of the war when I came across two Chinese men arguing angrily in the middle of the street," he tells them. "It went on for 20 minutes and I thought for sure they were going to get into a fistfight, but they never did. They just broke up and left.

"I asked a well-dressed Chinese gentleman standing near me how come they didn't fight? In China, he said, if two people are arguing the first person to raise their hand to hit the other automatically loses the argument because they have nothing more to say. Now doesn't that make sense?

"It's okay to debate with one another, you can have a difference of opinion. But if you think you're going to convince someone by beating them up, you lose already because you have nothing more to say. They've won the argument."

With that, Barney left the meeting early with his old flag to give his trip report to Oaks Christian High School in Westlake Village.



Photo by Larry Kushner

Darlene Birgel

Darlene Birgel stopped by the meeting to tell us how much Wings Over Wendy's meant to her late husband Steve Birgel. They had lived in Texas for many years but when Steve became ill moved in with their children in Woodland Hills. Not knowing very many people outside of the family it was suggested he attend Wings Over Wendy's meetings. They became his circle of friends. He attended every Monday and Tuesday meeting taking part in the discussions. Darlene invited everyone to his Celebration of Life at the Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, 5700 Rudnick Ave, Woodland Hills, April 28th at 2pm.

April 8, 2019



Photo by Larry Kushner

Bradley Gerber

Our youngest member is growing up. Bradley Gerber, now 18 years old visited our meeting for the first time since we moved from the Platt Village location. Bradley gave us an update on his current activities working in the office of State Assemblymember Jesse Grabrail.



Photo by Larry Kushner

Barney Leone

On April 8th Barney Leone continued his trip report by answering questions about the flight over and back and the lodging in Guam. He finished by reading the sermon that the Chaplin had delivered during the ceremonies on Iwo Jima

April 15, 2019



Photo by Larry Kushner

North Valley Military Institute Quartet Serenade

Tax Day was a good day for Wings Over Wendy's as we were greeted to a performance by the North Valley Military Institute (NVMI) Quartet, led by TSgt George Carganilla (USAF Ret), Cadets: Flor Reyes, Justyn Arriezza and Estevan Soloria. They serenaded us before the meeting started and then played the National Anthem and a medley of the military services anthems.



Photo by Larry Kushner

Art Sherman Returns to Meetings

After the initial serenade by the NVMI Quartet we were surprised by the arrival, after a lengthy absence recovering from a fractured hip, of Art Sherman, Chairman Emeritus of Wings Over Wendy's return to the meetings. He was assisted by Tony Cubarrubia and greeted at the door by his sisters and the NVMI Quartet.

Art lead the meetings from 2007 to 2015 and it was good to see him out and about again.



Photo by Larry Kushner

Robin Hutton

We dispensed from conducting a raffle to listen to a fascinating talk by Robin Hutton. Robin has spent her adult life working in major event productions and the motion picture business. She was the writing and producing partner of Tom Laughlin (the legend of Billy Jack fame) for over thirty years until his death in 2013.

Currently she is President of Angels Without Wings, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation that spearheaded the development and dedication of three national monuments to Sgt. Reckless, the famous Korean War horse - the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, VA on July 26, 2013; MCB Camp Pendleton, dedicated on October 26, 2016; and the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY, dedicated on May 12, 2018.

Her first book, *Sgt Reckless: America's War Horse*, was a New York Times Bestseller, as well as the 2015 Equine Book of the Year from American Horse Publications, and a 2016 Gold Medal winner from Military Writers Society of America.

Her new book, *War Animals: The Unsung Heroes of World War II*, was recently released and promises to be as successful as Sgt Reckless.

The heroes in this book have inspired a new project in the Washington, DC area – the International War Animals Museum - a permanent museum to commemorate these war animals who fought side-by-side with our military war heroes.

Robin gave us a slide presentation documenting Sgt Reckless and then she talked about her new book *War Animals: The Unsung Heroes of World War II*



Sgt Reckless at Balmoral Park (Continued Page 7)



SGT Reckless at Camp Pendleton

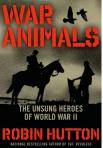
In *War Animals: The Unsung Heroes of World War II*, Robin tells the incredible, inspiring true stories of the fifty-five animal recipients of the PDSA Dicken Medal during WWII and the lesser-known stories of other military animals whose acts of heroism have until now been largely forgotten. Founded in 1943, the prestigious PDSA Dicken Medal is the highest award an animal can achieve for gallantry and bravery in the field of military conflict.

She told us about War Dogs; War Birds; War Horses (and Mules); and a War Cat.















Overall it was a fascinating presentation.

April 22, 2019

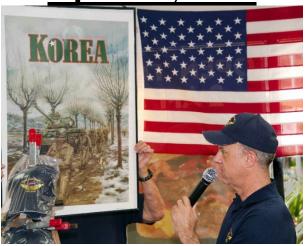


Photo by Larry Kushner

David Timmerman

On April 22nd David Timmerman brought two large pictures to the meeting that he wanted veterans to sign. One was for the Korean War veterans and the other was for the Vietnam War veterans.

April 29, 2019



Photo by Larry Kushner

Ed Reynolds & WOW Receive Commendations from Supervisor Kuehl

On April 29th Ken Meyer on behalf of LA County Supervisor, Sheila Kuehl, presented Ed Reynolds and Wings Over Wendy's a County of Los Angeles Commendation In recognition of dedicated service to the affairs of the community and for civic pride demonstrated by numerous contributions for the benefit of all the citizens of Los Angeles County.



Photo by Larry Kushner

Ray DeTourney

We welcomed Ray DeTourney to Wings Over Wendy's on April 29th. Ray is a long time Woodland Hills resident that recently moved from Cass Street into The Motion Picture and Television Fund home.

He told us about his service in the US Army during the "Cold War" assigned to Armed Forces Network in Orleans, France as a disk jockey.

He continued in the entertainment business after his service formed a TV Production Company and at one point was head of production for LA CBS2.

While in Europe he purchased a 1955 MG-TF which he toured Europe in with his wife. Forty years later he returned to Europe with the car (after restoring it) and toured again before selling the car for top dollar before returning to Woodland Hills.

He and Ed Reynolds were members of the California MG T Register until it folded, and members transferred to the Vintage MG Club of Sothern California in Orange County.

Ray also told us about writing a novel about a 14-year-old boy who moved, with his nurse mother, into a Minnesota home for unwed mothers in 1950. "I was with 10 Salvation Army women, who were like nuns, and 50 teenage girls who were not." He recently shared a "book signing" with another MPTF resident about his life as a "cross dresser" We imagined the two stores would be very humorous.

Now that he has discovered us, we hope that Ray continues to attend our meetings.



Photo by Larry Kushner

Dave Steinbacher

After taking a 28 day cruise on the Princess Cruises Star Princess to the South Pacific, Dave Steinbacher returned to our meetings and gave us a trip report of the tour.

He told us about stopping in Hawaii and talking with a native who had land engulfed by the volcano and how he still owns the land, but it will be decades before he can return to it. In Tahiti he observed trees that were grown from seeds dropped by birds from hundreds of miles away.

On his visit to American Samoa he visited a village that was recovering from a tsunami that struck the island in 2009.

The Star Princess had over 3,000 passengers. Dave was surprised at the number of veterans on board. Most were from the Vietnam and Desert Storm period but the did have one WWII veteran. Dave told us the ships Captain was Italian and was "out and about" all the time.

This is the last season for the Star Princess after its summer cruises to Alaska it is being sold to P&O Cruises Australia.



Northrop's last N9M flying wing test aircraft destroyed in aviation accident



Northrop N9M. Photos courtesy Planes of Fame Museum.

Northrop Aviation began experimenting with flying wing airplanes by building the 39-foot-wide N1M in 1940, and the only known example of the N1M is now in the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC. Following N1M preliminary testing, Northrop then designed the 1/3-scale, 60-foot-wide N9M planes in 1942 as a test bed for the 172-foot-wide B-35 heavy, long-range bombers for the U.S. military. Only four of the N9M prototypes were built. N9M1 was destroyed during field trials, N9M2 and N9MA were disassembled for scrap after the B-35 programs were cancelled. That left the N9MB as the only surviving Northrop experimental flying wing test plane that was still airworthy. That was until Tuesday, when it was destroyed during a flight over Southern California, killing its only occupant.

The aircraft had been owned by the Planes of Fame Air Museum since the 1950s. It was restored in the 1980s and then once again in 2010, after an in-flight fire in 2006. It had been flown at air shows in the Chino, California, region for several years since its last restoration and was flown at the 2018 Planes of Fame Air Show in Chino last May. The general opinion is that the plane was flying Tuesday in preparation for this year's Planes of Fame Air Show happening in a few weeks. The plane crashed onto the grounds of a correctional facility in Norco, California, and was utterly destroyed. There were no injuries to anyone on the ground, however, the pilot, David Vopat, an employee of the museum was killed.

The N9M flying wing originally employed two Menasco Buccaneer 8-liter six-cylinder air-cooled inline propeller engines on the rear of the wing, however, during the restoration, they were replaced with twin Franklin OX-

540 eight-cylinder engines that were capable of air speeds of 220 mph and a fuel range of 480 miles. The metal and wood air frame weighed almost 5,900 pounds. The N9M planes were the first aircraft to utilize a total hydraulic flight control system that gave feedback to the crew based on air speed. The yellow-above and blue-below paint scheme was exclusive to the N9MB, the other three models were all painted differently to tell them apart.



Prototype N9M1 was first flown on December 27, 1942, and the surviving N9MB, the last of the four prototypes, first flew in 1944. One of the more important things Northrop learned with the N1M and N9M planes was that the flying wing was very hard for a single pilot to maneuver in flight, which ultimately led to the military's cancellation of the manned XB-35, YB-35, and YB-49 flying wing bombers. With the advancements of electronic stability and fly-by-wire technology in the 1980s and 1990s, the flying wing once again became a popular air frame choice and was used in the design of the B-2 Spirit stealth bombers commissioned by the military and placed into service in 1997. It was also one of the designs that was the basis for the unmanned XB-47 and X-47B carrier-based bombers, a program that has also been recently cancelled.

Memorial for Last Doolittle Raider

The Air Force has announced a memorial service to celebrate the life of retired Lt. Col. Richard "Dick" E. Cole, the last of the famous Doolittle Tokyo Raiders of World War II, who died April 9 at age 103. The service was held at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, on April 18, officials said in a recent news release. Cole was the co-pilot for then-Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle in a B-25 Mitchell bomber during the April 18, 1942, mission by the U.S. Army Air Forces to strike the Japanese home islands. The memorial also marks the 77th anniversary of the Doolittle Raid. Air Force senior leaders, family and friends are expected to attend. Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia will be Cole's final resting place.

Peggy Jean's Hanger

A monthly column by Peggy Jean Bassett pjbflyer@gmail.com



It's all relative

By Peggy Jean Bassett

As I was a missing member for most of March, this is what was going on in my neck of the woods. My home was being spruced up for the coming of family members. The occasion was for a celebration of life for my very dear and close aunt; Martha H Travis (nee Brubaker). Martha lived to be 101 years old. Aunt Martha was one of five sisters and one brother; Second Lieutenant, William Brubaker. My uncle "Billy" was killed when his training plane crashed at Greenwood Flying Center, Greenwood, MS.



Photo Courtesy of Peggy Jean Bassett

2ndLt William Brubaker

Bill was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Oren Brubaker of Detroit, MI. My grandfather never recovered from that tragedy, he was despondent and brokenhearted until his demise. I was a girl of five-years-old and I remember seeing my grandpa standing over his workbench in the basement of their big two-story stone house, he was engraving a plaque for Billy's grave site with a photo of him in uniform. He "hand tooled" and chiseled a wonderful likeness and it was bronzed and beautiful. Because of that tragedy, one of the Brubaker girls, my aunt Alma "Judy" Brubaker joined the WAC's in 1944 in his honor and to represent the Brubaker family in service.



Photo Courtesy of Peggy Jean Bassett

Alma "Judy" Brubaker

Aunt Martha was laid to rest next to her husband William Travis at Eternal Valley Memorial Park, in Santa Clarita. It wasn't a sad funeral as aunt Martha was a devoted follower of a Christian religion called the Truth. The reception was a gathering of immediate family at the Olive Garden in Santa Clarita. I saw so many cousins, and to my awe one of my second cousins is Captain Robert (Bob) Travis, grandson of aunt Martha. Captain Bob is a pilot for UPS (United Parcel Service), "OMG" said Plane Peggy "I love it!". Bob has served as Captain on the Boeing 747, McDonnell MD-11 and is currently a Captain on the Airbus A-300. He has flown as the first officer for UPS on the 757, 767, and A-300 as well as DC-8 flight engineer. Captain Bob is the fourth term president of the Independent Pilot Association (IPA).

Bob graduated from UCLA in 1985 with a political science degree. After graduation he was accepted into the United States Air Force pilot training program. He flew the F-111 in Europe and later became an instructor pilot flying the T-38 Talon. After the military Bob became an American Airlines pilot where he flew on the Boeing 727. He also flew briefly for the regional carrier American Eagle on the ATR-72 and was the MD-11 fleet instructor training representative for the IPA. Cousin Bob resides in Dallas, TX with his wife Julie and son Austin. My newly discovered cousin was impressed about my love of the warbirds and my flying experiences in them. I shared photos and videos with him, also telling him about Wings Over Wendy's, our veterans and supporters' organization of all branches of military service. (Continued Page 11)

A wonderful celebration it was. Thank you to aunt Martha's two daughter's; Martha Lee and Lynne and son Tom of my childhood times at our grandparent's big stone house. WWII caused many families to join sharing homes. Aunt Martha, you did good... your life story could fill a book with many chapters.

Coming to the valley

By Peggy Jean Bassett

The Travis family moved to Panorama City in the San Fernando Valley in the late 1940's where they bought one of the early valley track homes. Soon after in 1951 my family followed and purchased a track home in Reseda. My parents both worked at Douglas Aircraft in Culver City and back in the day they had to drive the old Sepulveda Pass. If you managed to get to the tunnel at the top without overheating your vehicle you did good. Folks were kinder, and they often stopped to offer help. Uncle Bill Travis was employed by Rocketdyne, mainly at the Canoga Park facility. Sometimes his work would take him up Woolsey Canyon to the Santa Susanna Field Laboratory. Uncle Bill was with Rocketdyne until his retirement around the late 1960's, he was a valued and prominent employee. Uncle Bill shared many exciting stories like times with the astronauts. His son Tom and grandson Bob followed in his footsteps.

Things that are not there anymore

By Peggy Jean Bassett

Rocketdyne provided a fitness park for their employees and families, it was 13.7 acres at the north end of Fallbrook in Canoga Park. It was amazing with three swimming pools, tennis courts and so much more for the kids to do, like climbing up a Rocketship Tower. The park was demolished about one year ago, and now 90 single family homes take its place. I miss the abandoned park as I would go there often, my private "Rocketship Park" as my grandson Adam would call it. Now it's called The Oaks of West Hills. Oh, but the Rocketship to climb on has been saved and will be relocated to the SSFL (Santa Susanna Field Laboratory) when it is converted to a park.



A Warm Sunny Sunday in **May 1947**

By Ed Moreno

I got up at 6:00 a.m. Took a shower, shaved and used plenty of Old Spice. Then I drove the Weapons Carrier to the Community Mess.

"How do you want your eggs?" barked the Mess Sergeant from Ohio.

"Mexican style," I replied. I gave him a jalapeno, canned tomatoes, and an onion to chop up. His scrambled eggs with these additions tasted as delicious as Cuca's - my grandmother. Often the Mess Sergeant added bacon or pieces of sliced ham. Many times, there were enough scrambled eggs for a few more soldiers to enjoy. The Mess Sergeant tried to please this 19-year-old Acting Supply Sergeant because the cook from Ohio needed clothing to give to his Okinawan employees. The fatigue jackets would be re-made to look like smocks by the Okinawan girls.

Around 9:30 a.m. I returned to quarters. The sleepy heads were still trying to sleep. In about a half hour Mamasan and her niece arrived to collect the dirty fatigues and underwear. Mamasan and her niece washed, rinsed and spread the clothes on bushes and plants so the sun could dry them. In late afternoon we would find our clothes neatly folded on our bunks.



Photo by Ed Moreno Niece & Mamasan

As the girls entered our Quonset hut, I walked toward Mamasan and knelt in front of her and began praising her beauty in Spanish: "bellisima doncella, con labios color de rosas, dientes de perrlas, pelo negro como la noche,"

(Continued Page 12)

I praised her in Spanish for a good fifteen minutes. The sleepy heads were laughing at me and her facial expressions. Did she enjoy all this flattery or , , , ,? Everybody was quiet. The clothing was not being collected.

I returned to my bunk, Mamasan approached me. Her niece stayed in the doorway as Mamasan approached me. I sat still with the mosquito net hanging behind me. About six feet from me she bowed and began: "VALIENTE CABALLERO DEL REY, guardia del Rey y guardia de toda doncella virgin todo el pueblo esta listo para servirle." Mamasan praised me for over fifteen minutes in perfect Spanish.

The sleepy heads and I wondered where she had picked up Spanish. Native Okinawan's speak Japanese, many speak Chinese and those employed by the Armed Forces spoke broken English. In Spanish I asked her where she learned Spanish.

Speaking in Spanish, Mamasan told us about a Japanese freighter that would pick np workers along the islands near the equator. Since the late 1920s her family participated in this "bracero" program. On arrival at Peru, the workers would go to pick the cotton and then other farm products. In Mamasan's village, the older women and the young men would board the freighter and the older men, and the unmarried girls stayed home to prepare the rice for the harvest when the ship would return from Peru.

The entry of Japan in WW II prevented the workers from coming home All were stranded in Peru. Mamasan learned to speak Spanish living in Peru. A decade ago the elected President of Peru was of Japanese heritage. Both Peru and Brazil have welcomed Japanese persons as workers, professionals and as citizens.

In the next few months Mamasan taught us Okinawan culture. Why do some tombs on the hillside look like turtle shells and other tombs are smooth? She informed us that the oldest virgin in the family scrapes the flesh from the bones of the deceased family member. She listed the possible items of value that might be placed in the tall clay jars with the bones.

Why did a 50-year-old pottery maker dance like Charlie Chaplin in the film "The Dictator"? Okinawans watched American movies before the hostiles.

The urban and sophisticated lady gave us insights into their culture. When I left in December of 1947, she gave me the address of her sister in Honolulu. A dozen years later I tried to locate her. Sadly, I could not find her.



Photo courtesy of Ed Moreno **Mamasan's Sister**

In Other News



Photo by Larry Kushner

Jonna Doolittle-Hoppes At the Hawker Senior Squadron 128 of the Civil Air Patrol

On April 15, 2019 Jonna Doolittle-Hoppes, Granddaughter of General James (Jimmy) Doolittle gave a presentation on the life of her Grandfather, General James Harold "Jimmy" Doolittle and her Grandmother, "The Duchess," Mrs. (Joe) Doolittle at The Park VNY North Terminal Building.

Her presentation was arranged by the Hawker Senior Squadron 128 of the Civil Air Patrol.

Jonna talked about the early life of her Grandfather and the reasons she wrote the book: Calculated Risk: The Extraordinary Life of Jimmy Doolittle in response to the film, Pearl Harbor, to correct inaccuracies about her grandfather's character and actions during World War II. Although Calculated Risk presented the achievements of Jimmy Doolittle, the book also included many details about the family such as Doolittle's wife of 71 years, Josephine Daniels.

Attending the presentation from Wings Over Wendy's were Alex Daunis; Bob Donovan; Anarg Frangos; Lou Kridelbaugh; Larry Kushner; Joe Mueller; Kurt Rademacher; Ed Reynolds; Michael Sugar and Leon Waldman.

After her presentation past Presidents of the Air Force Association's General Doolittle Chapter, Lou Kridelbaugh and Ed Reynolds, presented Jonna with a Bronze bust of the General and a cartoon from the *Dennis the Menace* cartoon strip signed by the cartoonist.

War in Europe Teacher Course, March 30th:



Photo by Franky Ortega

Leon Waldman and Richard Kinder

Continuing the "Salary point class on WWII" course described in the April Wings News. Educators and curriculum leaders met on March 30th to listen to Leon Waldman and Richard Kinder tell of their experiences in WWII.



Photo by Franky Ortega

Richard Kinder with POW Camp Self-Portrait

Together they came to the **Museum of the San** Fernando Valley to talk for 1 hour and 15 minutes each. Leon spoke at length. Then Richard showed an original copy of a self-portrait he drew at one of the POW camps that he was at as well as the letter informing his parents of his capture and a letter of commendation for his service.



Photo by Franky Ortega

Leon Waldman **Daniel Pearl Magnet HS**

Leon Waldman come talk to Frankly Ortega's 10th Grade World History class Wednesday, April 10th. He brought in some original artifacts of his service along with photos. He spoke of his service and his combat experience including interesting stories.



Photo by Franky Ortega

Jimmy Weldon Daniel Pearl Magnet HS

Jimmy Weldon came to speak to Franky Ortega's 5th and final class and fourth overall visit to Danial Pearl Magnet High School in the past 2 months. Talk about service. The kids LOVE him. He has an excellent program that includes a prayer with all kids holding hands and then he hugs all the kids.

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In Memoriam



Photos Courtesy of Ann Young

John Young October 24, 1919 to February 6, 2019

Long time Wings Over Wendy's member John Young passed away on February 6th, 2019. John began life on a farm in Idaho on October 24, 1919. He followed his sister to Cornell University in the late 1930's. When the war began, he enlisted in the Air Corps and was assigned to be a pilot on the B-26 medium bomber, or as he was fond of saying: "one a day in Tampa Bay". Initially assigned to the 320th Bomb Group, he was transferred to the 319th Bomb Group where he remained during the 65 missions he flew.

Initially assigned to North Africa in 1943, he was involved in attacking Africa Corps targets and German supply shipping in the Mediterranean Sea, where they learned to employ skip bombing. After the Allied landings in Italy, he was transferred to a base in Sardinia where German positions were attacked.

After the failure of strategic bombers to knock out the Abbey at Monte Cassino, John's group finished the job. After returning from the mission, Axis Sally that evening called them out by name, and snidely told them there were no German soldiers on the mountain.

After the completion of 65 missions, John was transferred back to the US and was stationed at Barksdale Air Base in Louisiana. There he was a test pilot and tested all of the aircraft then in use by the Army Air Force. He met the woman he would marry in Baton Rouge.

After the war he returned to Cornell to complete his degree in Engineering. However, he decided to change his major to Drama.

After he received his degree he decided to move to Los

Angeles to "show the movie moguls how to do it". When he realized they were not listening, he signed on to the newly formed UCLA Film School faculty where he remained for 30 years.

John had a fantastic memory and a wonderful sense of humor. I met him buying light bulbs at Home Depot and was privileged to get to know him over a five or six year period. He was joy to be with and I miss him.

Bob Bermant



Samuel Leland Anderson Jr. Dec 8, 1925 – Apr 4, 2019

Samuel "Lee" Anderson died on April 4, 2019. He was an over 50 year resident of Woodland Hills, who would have Coffee at Henri's in Canoga Park. He only attended a few Wings Over Wendy's meeting. The most recent time to talk about his action in the battle of Iwo Jima as a rifleman in the USMC. He enlisted in the USMC out of High School living in Venice, CA with other friends, two of which also participated in the battle. One was killed two days after landing the other was operating the ramp on the landing craft carrying Lee to the beach. Lee out ran everyone running up the beach as he had years of experience running on Southern California beaches.

(Continued Page 14)

On the 21st day of the battle he suffered a concussion when a landmine exploded nearby. His next clear memories found him in the Army hospital at Guam, still in the clothes and shoes he had been wearing for 21 days.

After his service he returned to the Los Angeles area and started a Plumbing Business. One of his sons, Todd Anderson, a retired Glendale police lieutenant, said his father's time in Iwo Jima never came up during family dinners. Hard work and plumbing were regular topics of discussion but never Iwo Jima, he said.

One day, he and his brothers decided to take a look at their father's service record. "What we found out clearly on his [discharge form], right out the gate, was that he was wounded," Todd Anderson said. "Down below it, in remarks, it said 'no record of award of Purple Heart.""

Todd and his brothers took the effort to get the Purple Heart and arranged for a surprise ceremony at Henri's in February 2017 to award Lee with the Purple Heart medal by Lt Col Aaron Doty, USMC.

Services were conducted on April 12, 2019 at Oakwood Memorial Park and Cemetery.

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, David Plumb, Ed Moreno, Maurice Portnoy, and Tom Villanueva

May Events

Wings Over Wendy's is entering the annual events season mostly in support of Memorial Day. To date the following events are scheduled:

Aviation Career Day Thursday, May 2, 2019 @ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

This years Aviation Career Day will be held under a tent at *The Park, Van Nuys Airport*, 7900 Balboa Blvd. Parking off Stagg at the Valley Relics Museum.

Wings Over Wendy's will have a booth of four tables which we will setup on May 1st @ 3:00 to 5:00pm

Daniel Pearl Magnet HS PearlCon IV Saturday, May 11, 2019 @ 9:00am - 3:00pm

Wings Over Wendys' has been invited to have a booth at the Daniel Pearl Magnet High School for their PearlCon IV event for students, parents and supporters. In addition to our booth we will have several members cars in the Car Show. All members are invited to support the event.

ONEgeneration Senior Symposium, Saturday, May 18, 2019

@ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Wings Over Wendys' has been invited to have a booth at the annual ONEgeneration Senior Symposium.

St. Martins Memorial Chapel, Wednesday, May 22, 2019 @8:30am

St Martin In the Fields School will hold their annual Veterans Memorial Chapel with Guest Speaker: Catherine Ehlers Metcalf, the Daughter of MOH Recipient, Walter Ehlers. Brunch provided by "Gunny" Earnest Napper.

Temple Valley Beth Shalom, Encino Annual Veteran's Shabbat Saturday, May 25, 2019

@ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Valley Beth Shalom, 15739 Ventura Blvd, Encino will have their annual Veterans Shabbat Shiur/Panel Discussion and lunch, honoring Wings Over Wendy's veterans

Memorial Day Parade Monday, May 27, 2019

We will have two truck floats plus individuals riding in VIP cars. Register with Fred Kaplan. Parking this year is at the end of the parade route, First Baptist Church lot.

Northridge Academy High School, Memorial Day Assembly Tuesday, May 28, 2019 @ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Northridge Academy High School, 9601 Zelzah Ave, will have their annual Memorial Day Assembly Honoring Wings Over Wendy's and all Veterans.

For details on the events view:

www.wingsoverwendys.com

To see the: Calendar, Roster & Newsletters

Double check the calendar of events for details, changes and additions on the **TEAMUP** app on your cell phone the app key is: **kswpwdaeovnb1jans4**

Or via the web @:

www.wingsoverwendys.com select: MENU then select: CALENDAR

May Birthdays

May 1, 1942
May 3, 1924
May 3, 1925
May 4, 1947
May 5, 1947
May 6, 1948
May 7, 1952
May 12, 1940
May 12, 1930
May 12, 1946
May 13, 1926
May 16, 1920
May 16, 1950
May 18, 1923
May 22, 1932
May 22, 1968
May 25, 1966
May 25, 1934
May 25, 1960

New Members

We welcomed the following new member during the month of April 2019: **Ray DeTourney**

Wings News Staff

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

Reporters: Peggy Jean Bassett, Rex Roche and

Mike LaVere

Photographers: Harlis Brend, Ken Mayer, Larry Kushner, Paul Boghossian, Ed Reynolds, Howard

Swerdlick, Allan Hill, and Michael Sugar.

Video: Mike LaVere

Secretaries: Marion Lovelace & Shirley Andrews

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

Hats, Shirts & Name Tags: Howard Swerdlick

The Hair Razor Barbershop Discount for WOW members

5950 Fallbrook Ave., Woodland Hills (818) 340-9360 One of the Wing News advertisers: **The Hair Razor aka- The Barber Shop** is offering a discount to WOW

members. Call Eddie for a reservation.

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. * **Expire next month**.

Shirley Andrews

Richard Raskoff

Ed Revnolds

David Alvarez

Jilliey Allarews
Peggy Jean Bassett
*Bob Bermant
*Ron Boggess
Marge Callahan
Alex Daunis
Gerald Detamore
*Malcolm Dipperstein
Dick Edwards
Anarg Frangos
Midge Gisel
David Greenberg
*Dick Guyer
Connie Hein
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Chip Stevens Bob Stiles
Howard Swerdlick *Bill Tapp

*Jack Taube David Timmerman
David Tostenson Dorothea Ulyate
Karen Vegtel Tom Villanueva
*Leon Waldman *Avery Willis

Annual WOW Lunch Thursday, July 25, 2019 @10am to 3pm

Celebrate Elmo Maiden's 100th birthday! **Knights of Columbus Hall**, 21433 Strathern St, Canoga Park. \$35 per person. RSVP to Karen Vegtel or Warren Weinstein



Assembly Day

May 19 Sunday, 9am - 1pm Sign up to attend

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



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!**



Association of Naval Aviation TWO BLOCK FOX SQUADRON



Thursday, May 23, 2019

Dinner Meeting at Marie Callender's Restaurant, 19310 Business Center Drive, Northridge, CA

1800 Check in and social hour

1900 Call to Flight Quarters

1915 Dinner is served

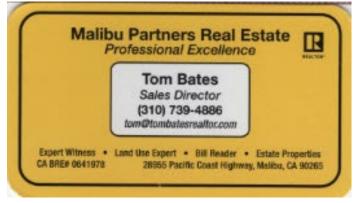
2015 Feature Presentation:

Please RSVP No Later Than 1600, Friday 19 April 2019 – Call in Reservations to (818) 800-0698 or email gshindler64@earthlink.net.

Special Note to Wings members: If you want to just to hear the speaker and not dine, that's OK.

Stuff you didn't know you didn't know!

- It is impossible to lick your elbow.
- The average number of people airborne over the U.S.in any given hour: 61,000
- Coca-Cola was originally green.
- The State with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska
- The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28% (now get this...)
- The percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%
- The first novel ever written on a typewriter, Tom Sawyer.
- Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:
 - Spades King David
 - O Hearts Charlemagne
 - Clubs Alexander, the Great
 - o Diamonds Julius Caesar





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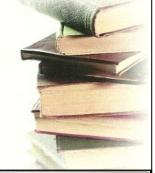
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