





Volume 6 Number 11 Ed Reynolds Publisher

Established May 2014 November 1, 2019 Email Wings News at Ed\_ReynoldsJr@msn.com Judy Reynolds Editor 



Photo by Michael Sugar

# **The Nethercutt Museum & Collection Tour**

October 17th, 2019, twenty-five Wings Over Wendy's members carpooled to The Nethercutt Museum & **Collection** in Sylmar to tour the Classic automobiles, and the finest assemblage of Mechanical Musical Instruments and collectible items. The over three hour tour started in the museum building with over 120 antique and classic automobiles and then across the street to the Collection building for a Docent lead tour with another 50 antique and classic automobiles displayed on two floors with a balcony of collectable auto and musical memorabilia, below a ball room style floor of Mechanical Musical Instruments. Docent, Kirk Irwin, demonstrated and played many of the instruments for our delight.

Following the guided tour, we gathered for a group picture around Hillard Lewinson's vintage Chevrolet coupe. Many of the group visited the vintage train in back of the museum. Most of the group returned to West Hills and had lunch at the StoneFire Grill in the Fallbrook Mall.

Attending the event was: Lee Auger, Phil Aune, Richard Burns, Barry Chapman, Gerald Detamore, Bob

Donovan, Bob Eisenhart, Nancy Eisenhart, David Greenberg, Connie Hein, Peter Helm, Fred Kaplan, Mike LaVere, Hillard Lewinson, Marion Lovelace, Claude Maugein, Kurt Rademacher, Marcene Rankin, Carl Rankin, Ed Reynolds, George Rothman, Michael Sugar, Howard Swerdlick, Warren Weinstein, and Bill Wishard.



Photo by Howard Swerdlick Howard Swerdlick in Hillard Lewinson's 1930 Chevrolet



# Justice Armand Arabian Leaders in Public Service Awards Luncheon

In a cut back from previous years, only a dozen members from Wings Over Wendy's were invited to attend the annual *Justice Armand Arabian Leaders in Public Service Awards Luncheon* on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Ron and Diane Ross purchased a table for ten. Attending were Shirley Andrews, Barry Chapman, Bob Donovan, David Greenberg, Fred Kaplan, Larry Kushner, Barney Leone, Marion Lovelace, Ed Reynolds, Howard Swerdlick and Jimmy Weldon



Photo by Ken Mayer

# Ventura County Aviation Career Day

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Wings Over Wendy's supported the Ventura County Ninety-Nines Aviation Career Day at the Camarillo Airport. Dick Kinder, Ed Reynolds, Bill Tapp and Barney Leone had displays at the Wings Over Wendy's tables. Neal Houston, Warren Weinstein, Ken Mayer, Avery Willis, Frank Lopez and Bob Donovan assisted by telling the students about their careers in aviation.

# <u>October Meetings</u> October 7, 2019



Photo by Howard Swerdlick

# Wendy Zaslove, San Fernando Valley Dental Society Veteran's Smile Day

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Wendy Zaslove, from the San Fernando Valley Dental Society talked to us about the San Fernando Valley Dental Society Veteran's Smile Day.

Every year, on or about Veterans' Day member dentists from the San Fernando Valley Dental Society open their offices to provide free dental care for veterans, whose dental needs sadly are not covered by the V.A.

On Veterans Smile Day dentists will provide free dental care such as: exams, x-rays, cleanings, fillings, extractions, oral cancer screenings, and if possible, root canal therapy, etc.

Appointments are available on NOV 4 to 8, 2019. Call Wendy at 818-576-0116 to schedule an appointment. When you show up to your appointment please have your VA Health card, DD214 or any other military ID to verify your current status. Participating Dentists are available throughout the San Fernando, Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys.

Doctors; Beard, Fernandez, Spivak and Torgan, at *Complete Health Dentistry of Woodland Hills*, 22600 Ventura Blvd #204, across the street from Wendy's is a participant providing free dentistry during the month of November. Register with Wendy at 818-576-0116 to schedule an appointment.

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Photo by Howard Swerdlick

### Dan Skidell 2020 Census Jobs

Also, on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Dan Skidell visited the meeting to inform the members about the 2020 Census Bureau jobs. Thousands will be hired through the year for jobs in the spring and summer of 2020. That's when census workers knock on doors to interview people who don't respond to the census. Applicants can qualify for both field and office positions. Dan provided flyers for those interested and answered questions, many from members that had worked the 2010 Census. Veterans are given priority for the following jobs:

Census Taker (Enumerator) pay is \$18.50 per hour for Trainees and \$20.50 per hour for Regular positions.

Duties

• Use automated devices (e.g. smartphones or laptop computers) to conduct job activities.

• Review assigned work to locate households for verifying addresses and/or conducting interviews.

• Conduct interviews with residents in assigned areas by following stringent guidelines and confidentiality laws. Explain the purpose of the census interview, answer respondent's questions, collect information following a script, and record census data using devices and/or paper forms.

• Update address lists and maps.

• Validate address and map updates for quality purposes.

• Maintain and submit records of hours worked, miles driven, and expenses incurred in the performance of duties.

• Meet/talk with supervisor, as necessary, to review procedures, report issues or concerns, and receive additional instructions

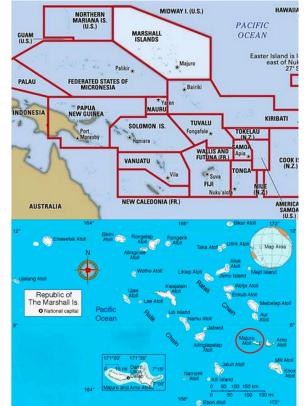
Apply online at: 2020 census.gov/jobs or call 1-855-562-2020 for information

# October 14, 2019

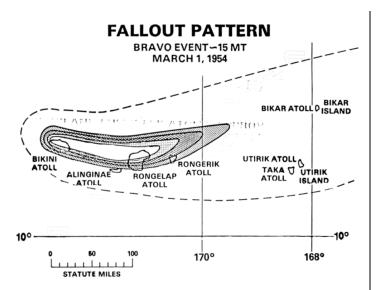


Photo by Larry Kushner

### Andy Kopetzky Marshall Islands Visit



On October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Andy Kopetzky gave us a presentation on a trip he took to Majuro Atoll to visit a friend that was consulting in the Marshall Islands on breeding giant clams for food. He started his talk with a background of where the Atoll is located in the Pacific Ocean and his trip by air from Hawaii with a stops at Johnston Island and Kwajalein. In addition to his discussion on Majuro, its people and climate, Andy talked about some of the neighboring islands and atolls. (Continued page 4)



Andy also talked about the nuclear test conducted in 1954 on Bikini Atoll and the impact of the radiation cloud had on neighboring islands and atolls.

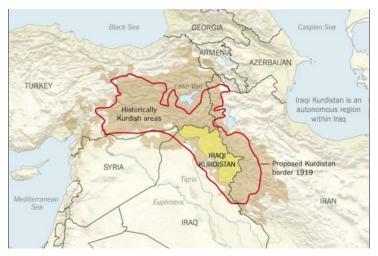
He finished his presentation with pictures of the islands, natives, and the clams.

### **October 21, 2019**



Photo by Larry Kushner

Colonel Robert G Hale, DDS, US Army (Retired) East Meets West Once Again on the Battlefields of Afghanistan On October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 we were honored to listen to one of the most interesting presentations Wings Over Wendy's has ever heard. Colonel Robert Hale, US Army (Retired), a Woodland Hills oral and maxillofacial surgeon and former Commander of the US Army Dental and Trauma Research Detachment talked to us about his experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan.



He started his talk with a discussion on the Kurds and why they did not have a country called Kurdistan created after WWI and the breakup of the Ottoman Empire. Colonel Hale then told us a little about his experiences in Iraq

From Kurdistan and Iraq Colonel Hale gave us a short history lesson on the country of Afghanistan and the creation of India and Pakistan.

He started with the history of the invasions of Afghanistan:

- 330BC Alexander the Great Greece
- 640AD
- Arab Invasion Islam
  - 1219 Genghis Khan Mongolia

Britain

- 1839-1842
- 1878-1880 Britain
- 1979-1989 Soviets
- 2001-???? US led coalition

The Colonel then addressed the question: "Why does the US want to be in Afghanistan?

- Prevent terrorists from safe havens
- Aircraft Carriers and Cruise Missiles are ineffective in AFG
- We are invited guests in AFG
- We can project Military Power to 2 nuclear countries: Pakistan and Iran

He discussed the US role in the International Security Assistance Force consisting of twenty countries that are preventing terrorists from using Afghanistan as a safe haven to train and carry out terrorist activities throughout the world. (Continued page 5)

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Colonel Hale displayed the above charts that show how when the country is located relative to friendly and no so friendly in the region making it difficult to wage a war from the sea or friendly neighbors. He displayed a chart that compares Afghanistan to Texas which is the US State similar in size and population.

- Afghanistan
- 252,072 mi<sup>2</sup>
- 30.55 million (2013)
- \$19.20 billion (2015) \$628/person
- Texas

•

- 268,597 mi<sup>2</sup>
- 26.96 million (2014)
- \$1.648 trillion (2014) \$61,037/person Life Expectancy
- 2015 Afghan 44 years (War, TB, Malaria).
- Only 6% Afghans have electricity.
- 1880 Texan white male 42 years (TB, War).
- Public electricity was only available in Galveston.

Afghanistan is the 10th poorest country in the world. Texas is the 12th richest economy in the world. Next Colonel Hale showed photos he took on missions flying on a Chinook Helicopters throughout the country to visit local hospitals and oral and maxillofacial facilities.

He spent a year in country and showed pictures of his base from the air and ground and his living quarters.

Dr. Hale treats many of Wings Over Wendy's members in his Woodland Hills Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery practice. He is well known in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery profession and played a large role in the development of Combat Gum. Combat Gum is an anticavity gum designed to help maintain dental health in highrisk soldiers who have limited access to water. The peppermint flavored, sugar-free gum contains a synthetic sequence of anti-microbial peptides which mimic defensins (the bacteria-killing molecules naturally found in saliva). Though this gum is not a substitute for brushing, when chewed for twenty minutes three times a day it can prevent pathogens from colonizing in the mouth.

# October 28, 2019



#### Photo by Larry Kushner

# Mayor David Shapiro, & Michael McConville City of Calabasas

David Shapiro, Mayor, City of Calabasas and Michael McConville, visited the meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to discuss the plans the city have developed to build a Veterans Memorial Park behind the City Hall and to invite Wings Over Wendy's to attend the dedication program on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 11am.

The program will include our members Jimmy Weldon and Dave Worley.



Photo by Larry Kushner

### Harvey Keenan

Also on the 28<sup>th</sup> we were visited by Harvey Keenan to invite the members to this year's annual Temple Aliyah Shabbat Morning Service Honoring Veterans on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



Photo by Larry Kushner

# **Manny Iglesias**

Our featured speaker on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 was our own faithful member, Manny Iglesias. Manny talked to us about military horses. Starting his talk about the General Meade's Civil War horse "Old Baldy". He then told us about other General's horses.

During the Q&A he was asked about the death of horses at Santa Anita. He gave us a detailed explanation on the various causes of the reasons that a racehorse is "put down". It was a very timely and informative explanation. Thank you, Manny! We hope to hear more of his jokes and horse stories in future meetings.

# Wall of Fame

During the month of October Wings Over Wendy's updated and added plaques to the what Howard describes as the Wings Over Wendy's "Wall of Fame" located on the south wall of the restaurant.



Photo by Larry Kushner

# Fred Blechman and Art Sherman Plaques

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Howard Swerdlick received a revised plaque honoring Wings Over Wendy's founder, Fred "Crash" Blechman correcting dates on that plaque that has graced the *Wall of Fame*. Fred Kaplan received the plaque honoring Art Sherman that reflects his date of death and service leading the group.



Photo by Larry Kushner

### **Ed Reynolds Receives Wall of Fame Plaque**

On October 21st, 2019, Ed Reynolds was awarded a plaque by Howard Swerdlick on behalf of Wings Over Wendy's recognizing his role as the Monday Meeting Facilitator. It will be added below LTC Clyde East's picture on the *Wall of Fame*.

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# Frank Lopez 2019 Camarillo Air Show Plaque

On October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019, Frank Lopez presented Wings Over Wendy's with a plaque *In appreciation for your outstanding dedication and support for the 2019 Camarillo Air Show*. It will be hung on the south side of the restaurant next to the group pictures and other awards presented to Wings Over Wendy's.





Oct. 27, 2019. (U.S. Air Force/Jeremy Webster) 28 Oct 2019 Military.com | By Oriana Pawlyk

The Air Force's X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle Mission 5 successfully landed at NASA's Kennedy Space Center

Shuttle Landing Facility. The Air Force's X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle is back on the ground after completing its latest record-breaking unmanned mission in space.

The experimental, clandestine space plane landed at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida on Sunday after more than two years in orbit, the service said in a release. This was the X-37B's fifth space mission. Its last orbit ended in May 2017 after 718 days in space.

The space plane "conducted on-orbit experiments for 780 days during its mission, recently breaking its own record by being in orbit for more than two years," the release said. That brings the total number of days spent on-orbit for the X-37B to 2,865, officials said.

What the X-37B does is literally a matter of rocket science. According to the service, the X-37B is exploring the practicalities and risks of "reusable space vehicle technologies" while also experimenting with space technology.

Under the purview of the Air Force Rapid Capabilities Office, the test vehicle can autonomously reenter the atmosphere and eventually land horizontally on a flight line.

In July, the service's former top civilian gave a glimpse into the space plane's mission.

Speaking about space awareness and deterrence at the Aspen Security Forum, Heather Wilson described the vehicle as a "small version of the [NASA space] shuttle."

It "can do an orbit that looks like an egg and, when it's close to the Earth, it's close enough to the atmosphere to turn where it is," she said at the time.

"Which means our adversaries don't know -- and that happens on the far side of the Earth from our adversaries -where it's going to come up next. And we know that that drives them nuts. And I'm really glad about that," she added.

Jonathan McDowell, an astronomer and astrophysicist at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, told Military.com that Wilson's comments on its movement may shed light on "a previously secret orbit-related capability," and explained that the aircraft's movement likely throws an adversary off, even if just for a short time.

"The dip into the atmosphere causes a change in the timing of when it next comes overhead. So [trackers'] predictions are off, and [they] have to search for it all over again," McDowell said at the time.

The Air Force is preparing to launch the sixth X-37B mission from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida, in 2020.

### Bill Requiring POW/MIA Flag Be Flown with US Flag Heads to President's Desk



The U.S. flag flies above the POW/MIA flag. Getty Images 24 Oct 2019 Stars and Stripes | By Steve Beynon A bill requiring the POW/MIA flag to be flown with the American flag is on the verge of becoming law

The bipartisan bill -- the National POW/MIA Act, introduced in the Senate by Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Massachusetts, requires the POW/MIA flag to be flown with the American flag at certain memorials and federal buildings, including the White House and the U.S. Capitol, to honor unaccounted for servicemen and servicewomen from across more than 50 years of wars and conflicts.

"As the sister of three veterans, I understand the importance of honoring the sacrifices of those who have fought courageously for our country," said Warren, who is a presidential candidate for the 2020 election.

The bill passed through both chambers of Congress, and now President Donald Trump must sign it into law.

"We owe it to those service members and their families to ensure that our nation never forgets their sacrifices," said Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pennsylvania.

More than 81,000 American troops are still unaccounted for from conflicts since World War II, according to federal data.

Under current law, the POW/MIA Flag is required to be displayed by the federal government on certain prominent federal properties only six days a year: Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veterans Day.

"The POW/MIA Flag is representative of profound courage and sacrifice," said Rep. Chris Pappas, D-New Hampshire, who introduced the House version of the bill. "By proudly displaying this symbol outside of our federal buildings, memorials, and national cemeteries, we are reaffirming our commitment to those service members and their families who have sacrificed beyond measure."

Marine Corps Announces It Was Wrong -- Again -- on Iwo Jima Flag-Raising Photo



In this Feb. 23, 1945, file photo, Marines with the 28th Regiment, 5th Division, raise the American flag atop Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima, Japan. (AP Photo/Joe Rosenthal)

17 Oct 2019 Military.com | By Gina Harkins Historians have uncovered evidence that another Marine long-believed to be in a famous photo from atop Mount Suribachi during World War II was misidentified.

Pfc. Rene A. Gagnon posed for the *Marine Corps War Memorial*, a bronze statue that sits just outside Washington, D.C., and features 32-foot figures and a 60-foot flagpole. He was thought to be one of the six Marines captured in the famous photo snapped by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal in February 1945 during the Battle of Iwo Jima.

But now Marine Corps officials say Gagnon, visible only by his helmet, wasn't in that famous photo. It was Cpl. Harold P. Keller.

The discovery was made by historians who approached Marine officials after a 2016 change to the historic record of Rosenthal's photo.

(Continued page 9)

Following an investigation into evidence from another set of historians, the Marine Corps then determined that a Navy corpsman, John Bradley, believed to be in the photo was not. Another man, Pfc. Harold Schultz -- who'd never been publicly linked to the image -- was there instead.

The historians who approached the Marine Corps about Keller "provided a significant amount of new evidence for consideration, mostly in the form of dozens of previously private photographs," Marine officials said in a Thursday news release about the change.

The Marine Corps formed a board to consider the new evidence, and even sought help from the FBI as it assessed the new photographs. Keller is in the backside of the photo, behind other Marines whose backs are turned as they raise the flag.

"As a result of the board's evaluation of the information provided, the Marine Corps accepted the change in the identification of the Marines pictured in the photograph as necessary in the historical documentation of Rosenthal's photograph," the statement reads. "The names associated with pictured individuals is the only change resulting from this board."

Among the evidence that proved it was Keller in the photo, according to NBC News, were distinct creases on his helmet, the positioning of his shirt collar, and the way he carried ammunition.

Dustin Spence, one of the historians who spent years studying the photos and accompanying evidence, told NBC it's important to get history right.

"It's important for the legacy of not only them but their families," Spence told the outlet.

The new identification doesn't mean Gagnon didn't play an important role in Marine Corps history though, the service stressed. He was directly responsible for getting a larger second flag to the top of Mount Suribachi and returning the first flag for safe keeping.

"Without those efforts," the Marine Corps statement reads, "this historical event might not have been captured, let alone even occurred."

"Regardless of who was in the photograph, each and every Marine who set foot on Iwo Jima, or supported the effort from the sea and air around the island is, and always will be, a part of our Corps' cherished history," the statement adds. "In the words of General David H. Berger, Commandant of the Marine Corps, 'They are all heroes.""

Marine officials said they are grateful for the historians' effort, which allows them to preserve their legacy.

Kay Maurer, Keller's daughter, told NBC she was surprised to learn her dad was in the photograph, adding that she gets emotional just thinking about it.

"It gives you an amazing feeling that I just can't even describe," she said, "to look up and just think, 'Whoa. That's my dad.""

# World War II Museum Opens New Research Center

A new research center at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans is designed to give visitors access to the museum's WWII knowledge, officials said in a release. The new center, called the Hall of Democracy, will be home to the museum's research and education departments, a new library featuring accounts of the war, a new exhibit hall and a research services program. The center's first exhibit follows the trial of Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann. That exhibit will be displayed until early January. Read more on the National World War II Museum's website.

# Air Force Approves Indefinite Enlistments at 12-Year Service Mark for Airmen

The Air Force has approved indefinite enlistments for active duty airmen with at least 12 years of service, the service's top enlisted leader said after an internal memo became public.

Beginning Nov. 18, all airmen with at least 12 years of service at their date of discharge can reenlist for an unspecified period, extending their enlistment term to the year they must be promoted or face separation, also known as the high year tenure mark.

This eliminated the need to reenlist every 4-6 years, according to a memo that first appeared on the Air Force AMN/NCO/SNCO Facebook page Oct. 23.

Airmen can apply to retire once they become eligible or separate before then if they don't have a service commitment. Promoted airmen will have their service extended to the new rank's high year of tenure.

"We looked at this from all angles and see it as the right move for our team," Wright said in an email to Stars and Stripes on Monday. "This change doesn't mean the end of bonuses or ceremonies that honor an Airman's commitment. It's what our officer corps has done for years and it just makes sense."

Those who accept retention bonuses must also accept additional service commitments, the memo said.

Wright has long advocated indefinite enlistments.

"I've been in the Air Force 28 years, almost 29," he said in 2017 at a conference in Orlando, Fla. "And every four years, I've got to go through the 'Yeah, I'm still here.""





#### Photo from YouTube

#### **Nine-O-Nine Farewell**

Bradley International Airport, Connecticut. October 2nd, 9:45 AM. Experiencing some type of problem approximately 5 minutes after takeoff, the B-17G was not gaining altitude, the ATC recording suggests it was an engine failing. Returning to the airport, the aircraft lost control on the runway. Veering off, it struck the airport's deicing building at 9:54 AM.

In a burst of flames, God called out their names, fine men of seven gone west to heaven. Seven men living on, comfort yourselves and grow strong. Through your grief you will find relief. Pockets of air can be rough, as life is an adventure, a journey many times tough.

In today's times, the pilots and crews of the Warbirds have chosen to be just that. Filled with passion, and enthusiasm. Volunteering to do so out of their love of these majestic Warbirds. With the firing up of each powerful engine, their hearts beat to the sound of every piston hitting, starting up, coming to life one by one, until the sound is like an orchestra blending in sync with each other, ready to take to the wild blue yonder.

The Nine-O-Nine was flown almost every day, and for many years by Captain Pilot "Mac" Ernest McCauley. They became one, both born Seventy-five years ago, and gone west together. "Ironic I say", in the realm of things of this life and death.

Co-pilot was Michael Foster, 71 years old, and all the fine men gone west of this tragedy: Garry Mazzone age 66, Robert Riddell, 59, James Roberts, 48, David Broderick, 56, and Robert Rubner, 64.

Sentiments from Captain Pilot "Dana" Dorsey. Dana flies for FedEx, and pilots the B-25 *Executive Sweet* hangered at Camarillo Airport. "Hi Peg, I just returned from an International trip, and heard the news, while in Singapore, I knew the pilot well from my years ago when I flew the *Tondelayo* B-25, for the Collings Foundation. He was probably one of the highest time pilots out there. We are all grieving this event and very sad for out warbird family. Best, Dana".

## **The First Nine-O-Nine**

The B-17G was assigned to the 323rd Bomb Squadron, 91st Bomb Group, and was part of the legendary 8th Air Force. "The Mighty Eighth", a bomber force that struck strategic targets across Germany and occupied Europe. The B-17's name came from it's serial number, the last digits of which were 909. She flew 140 missions without a mission abort, the record for most missions. Nine-O-Nine never lost a crewman as a casualty.

# **The Second Nine-O-Nine**

The Second Nine-O-Nine was built at Long Beach, California. It never saw combat, and became a search and rescue aircraft in 1951, and served in Puerto Rico. Then it was at a nuclear test range in Nevada and renamed "Miss Yucca". Thirteen years later, it was sold as scrap to Aircraft Specialties Company, and became a lengthy restoration, then spent twenty more years as a water bomber. In 1986, the B-17 Fortress was sold to the Collings Foundation to be on tour for Wings of Freedom. Some of our Wings Over Wendy's veterans or supporters have flown in out of Van Nuys Airport or Camarillo Airport when on tour.

-Over and out, Plane Peggy

### **Postscript** NTSB: Pilot of crashed B-17 was getting there but crashed short of runaway

CHRIS WOODYARD | USA TODAY | 3:38 pm EDT October 15, 2019

The World War II bomber that crashed at Bradley International Airport near Hartford, Connecticut, almost two weeks ago, killing seven aboard, clipped landing lights and touched down well short of the runway before swerving into a de-icing fluid tank, the National Transportation Safety Board said Tuesday.

The pilot of the Boeing B-17G indicated only that he was having engine trouble – a "rough mag," he told controllers – in requesting to turn back to the airport Oct. 2 after takeoff on a sightseeing flight but never indicated other trouble, the NTSB's preliminary report shows.

When an airport tower controller asked the pilot about the progress of his return, he replied "getting there." Yet the B-17G, built in 1944, had only 500 feet of altitude at the time the pilot requested to turn back. The plane struck landing lights 1,000 feet short of Runway 6 and then touched down 500 feet short before wheeling to the right to strike vehicles and the de-icing tank.

# CALIFORNIA'S FIRST FLIGHTS

With aircraft of all sorts flying over Southern California during the Great Pacific Airshow here's a look back at some of California's aviation firsts By KURT SNIBBE | Southern California News Group

#### First U.S. air meet

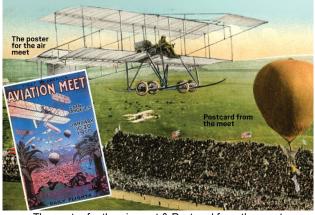
Seven years after the first powered aircraft flight, by Orville and Wilbur Wright at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on Dec. 17, 1903, the Los Angeles International Air Meet was held at Dominguez Field in what is now Carson.

It was the first in the U.S. and one of the largest events of its day, with approximately a quarter of a million spectators attending. The grandstand could seat about 26,000 and the event was held over 11 days.

The Wright brothers refused to participate because they were in competition with some of the plane manufacturers. The 1910 meet had flying machines of all sorts, including biplanes, triplanes and monoplanes from all over the country as well as balloons and dirigibles. Cash was awarded for winners in competitions of altitude, speed and endurance.

Several records were set at the meet, including altitude (4,164 feet) and endurance (64 miles in one hour, 49 minutes). The greatest speed with a passenger was about 55 mph.

- Many celebrities and famous people took their first flights, including Hearst.
- The air meet ran from Jan. 10-20, 1910.
- Events were also held in 1911 and 1912.
- Dominguez Field has been designated California Historical Landmark No. 718.



The poster for the air meet & Postcard from the meet First transcontinental flight

Calbraith (Cal) Rodgers left New York City on Sept. 17, 1911. His goal was to make it to California in 30 days to collect a large reward from newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst. He flew a Wright Flyer B, a biplane with no cockpit. He followed railroad tracks and roads across America. Rogers needed much longer than 30 days to reach California after many crash landings and mechanical failures. He landed in Pasadena on Nov. 5.

A few months later, while testing a plane near Long Beach, Rodgers crashed and died at age 33.





#### First seaplane

On Feb. 17, 1911, at San Diego, Glenn Curtiss converted his Golden Flyer plane into a "hydro-aeroplane" by fitting a float to the undercarriage. It was the first seaplane.

#### **First flight school**

After World War I ended, the first municipal flight school and airport were founded in Long Beach by barnstormer Earl S. Daugherty.

According to the Long Beach Press Telegram, Daugherty had first dreamed of flying in 1910 when he saw an air meet at Dominguez Hills. In 1919, Daugherty started a flight training school for the public.

#### First municipal airfield

In 1923, the Long Beach City Council set aside 150 acres for use as an airfield. Daugherty died in a crash in 1928 at age 42. The city named its airport Daugherty Field in 1929.



Earl & Kay Daugherty at Long Beach Airport in 1920's Sources: Los Angeles Public Library, Militarymusem.org, Cal State Dominguez Hills, Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum

# In Memoriam



#### Ernie Medrano OCT 6, 1926 to OCT 22, 2019

Ernie Medrano passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at the age of 93 while watering his rose garden. He leaves behind 5 children, 8 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, other family members including 2 sisters and their extended families, and countless friends.

He was an active volunteer at For the Troops in Simi Valley, the American Legion Post 502 and the VFW in Moorpark, as well as active at the Moorpark, Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks Senior Centers.

Ernie was a very proud WWII Navy Combat Veteran who served in the South Pacific from 1944 through 1946 as a tail gunner in dive bombers launched from the aircraft carrier USS Wake Island, and the USS Kearsarge.

The family is asking that in lieu of flowers please feel free to make a donation in Ernie's honor to For the Troops in Simi Valley. Donate online at: https://www.forthetroops.org/donation/

A Celebration Ernie Medrano's life will be held on Tuesday, October 29th @ 12:00noon, 4243 Hitch Blvd, Moorpark 93021. Luncheon "Naval Ceremony" Blessing.

# **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: **Harlis Brend, Ed Moreno**,

Association of Naval Aviation TWO BLOCK FOX SQUADRON



#### Thursday, November 21, 2019 Dinner Meeting at Lulu's Restaurant, 16900 Roscoe Blvd, Van Nuys CA

1800 Check in and social hour 1900 Call to Flight Quarters 1915 Dinner is served 2015 Feature Presentation:



Joe Puglia

ANA's November honored guest and speaker is Joe Puglia, a Vietnam vet, with a life story that starts from being a street gang worker in the East Bronx who kept the gangs from killing each other. He has a Bachelor's in the classics and a quixotic heart; subsequently, a penchant for a story. He has written 800 stories and has three books in his computer looking for a believer. Joe is an adventurer, on the loose, hoboing though the blue highways of America.

Although he graduated from several universities with many degrees lost in drawers, his best education is a Ph.D. from the college of hard-knocks. He has a Masters in Counseling and a Doctorate in Education. Joe has taught English, history, philosophy, psychology, social science, and wilderness studies.

Since he liked the smell of gunpowder, he joined the Marines, became an officer, and served in the Vietnam War. This is where it will get really interesting and why this is a meeting not to be missed. Joe became father a bit late, but his attitude of damn the torpedoes, full steam ahead will be the theme of his speaking engagement. He has taught hundreds of eager minds, now it's your chance to listen in on an intriguing life, full of adventure.

Please RSVP No Later Than 1600, Friday, 15 November 2019 – Call in Reservations to (818) 800-0698 or email <u>gshindler64@earthlink.net</u>.

Late Arrivals – If stuck in traffic call 818-476-6032 and say you'll be late. Please try to arrive early.



# Assembly Day & Family Day

November 17th Saturday, 9am - 1pm Sign up to attend @ httpswww.operationgratitude.com/assembly-day-schedule/

#### WOW's monthly food drive is Monday, November 4th



### 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!** 



### November Birthdays

Alex Strouzer	November 01, 1946
Phil Aune	November 04, 1935
Glenn Fairly	November 07, 1948
Ray Rodriguez	November 09, 1939
Sam Schultz	November 11, 1923
Skip De Young	November 11, 1946
Maria Rodriguez	November 14, 1946
Guy Chookoorian	November 15, 1923
William Marshall	November 15, 1955
Jamie Pellegrini	November 18, 1959
George Rothman	November 21, 1925
Arnie Schwartz	November 23, 1941
Arthur Hershey	November 27, 1934
Matt Miller	November 28, 1942
Gerald Detamore	November 29, 1947
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# **New Members**

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We welcomed the following new member during the month of October 2019:

William Dillon, Charles Dubman (WOW2), Dick Kelsey (WOW2), Erick and Jill Lace

### Wings News Staff

Publisher: Ed Reynolds Editor: Judy Reynolds Reporters: Peggy Jean Bassett, Rex Roche 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

#### Wings News Patrons

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

**Shirley Andrews David Alvarez** Lee Auger **Phil Aune** Mark Ax **Peggy Jean Bassett Tom Bates Bob Bermant Darlene Birgel** William Bloom Karl Boeckmann **Ron Boggess Paul Boghossian Richard Burns Marge Callahan Barry Chapman** 

(Continued page 14)

**Guy Chookoorian Alex Daunis Gerald Detamore Bob Donovan** Jan Edwards **Anarg Frangos** Midge Gisel **David Greenberg Dick Guyer** John Helm **Richard Hernandez** Annette Kanarek John Kennedy **Steve Klausner** Andy Kopetzky Larry Kushner Nonie Lann **Howard Leeds** Sherry Levitt **Al Lewis Ginger Lyon Thomas Maiden Toni Mattock Rosadel McClure** Monte Merken **Shannon Muchow** Stan Opatowsky **Ed Phillips Marcene Rankin Cleo Reynolds Judy Reynolds Ray Rodriguez Ray Rosenbaum George Rothman Bruce Schultz Phil Shapiro** Nancy Shattuck **Marty Snyder Oscar Stein Chip Stevens** Alice Stone Howard Swerdlick Jack Taube **David Tostenson Karen Vegtel** Leon Waldman Warren Weinstein **Avery Willis** 

**Patrick Daly Howard Davis** Skip DeYoung **Dick Edwards Bob Eisenhart Roscoe Frazier** Anita Green **Richard Gross** Connie Hein Peter Helm Manny Iglesias **Fred Kaplan Richard Kinder** Jerry Knotts Louis Kridelbaugh Hal Landy Mike LaVere Camille Levee **Hillard Lewinson** Morris Litwack Elmo Maiden **Ethel Margolin** Ken Mayer Jim McMichael Ed Moreno Joe Mueller **Dan Pemberton Maurice Portnoy Richard Raskoff Ed Revnolds** Maria Rodriguez **Bob Rose** Abe Rosenzweig Lezar Saunders Sam Schultz **Bob Shattuck** Art Sherman **Dan Stark Dave Steinbacher Bob Stiles** Alex Strouzer **Bill Tapp David Timmerman Dorothea Ulyate Tom Villanueva** Joe Weber **Bill Wentz Bill Wishard** 



PIERCE FLORIST Lori Brainard **10621 Victory Boulevard** North Hollywood, CA 91606 (818) 761-4280

They donate the flowers in the name of Wings Over Wendy's when they are notified of a member's funeral.





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# November 2019

# **Events**

Sat Nov 2, 11:30am - 3:30pm Canoga Park Woman's Club Veterans Lunch 7401 Jordan Avenue, Canoga Park

Wed Nov 6, 8am – 9am Veterans Day Chapel West Valley Christian School, 22450 Sherman Way, West Hills, CA 91307

#### Thu Nov 8, 11:15am – 1pm Ernest Lawrence Middle School Veteran's Day Program

Ernest Lawrence Middle School, 10100 Variel Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311

Sat Nov 9, 9:15am - 12:30pm Temple Aliyah Shabbat Morning Service Honoring Veterans

Temple Aliyah, 6025 Valley Circle Boulevard, Woodland Hills, CA

**Sun Nov 10,** 10am - 2pm **CD 7 Salute to Veterans** Ritchie Valens Park, 10731 Laurel Canyon Blvd, Pacoima, CA

Mon Nov 11, 9:00am - 1:00pm San Fernando Valley Veterans Day Parade

Meet at Ritchie Valens Park, THEY WILL HAVE A SHUTTLE to Parade Start at Laurel Cyn & San Fernando Mission Blvd

Mon Nov 11, 9:00am - 2:00pm Malibu Veterans Day Ceremony Malibu CofC honoring WWII Veterans Meet at Fallbrook Mall at 9:30 for Van to Malibu Mon Nov 11, 11am - 1pm The Commons Woodland Hills Veterans Day Program

21711 Ventura Blvd. Woodland Hills, CA

Mon Nov 11, 4:00pm - 7:00pm Congressman Tony Cárdenas, 2019 Veterans Day Forum Casa Torres Banquet Hall, 455 San Fernando Mission Blvd., San Fernando City, CA 91340

**Tue Nov 12,** 11am - 2pm **Calabasas Veterans Memorial Park** 100 Civic Center Way, Calabasas, CA

**Thu Nov 14,** 10:00am - 11:15am **North Valley Military Pass in Review** 12105 Allegheny St, Sun Valley

**Thu Nov 14,** 10:00am - 1:00pm **Pomelo School Hero's Feast** Pomelo Elementary School, 7633 March Ave., West Hills

Thu Nov 14, 6:30pm - 9:30pm Canoga Park Elk's Lodge Veterans Dinner Canoga Park Elk's Lodge, 20925 Osborne St. (Off DeSoto), Canoga Park

**Thu NOV 21,** 8am – 10am **CD 12 Educator's Roundtable** New Horizons, 6624 Valjean Ave, Van Nuys, CA 91406

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 @: <u>www.wingsoverwendys.com</u> select: MENU then select: CALENDAR