

Photo by Ed Reynolds

# Original Issue Hangs On West Hills Pizza Company Wall

A copy of the Original Issue of the Wings News hangs on the wall to this day. It is signed “THANK YOU STEVE.” By Fred Kaplan, Neil Baliber, Howard W. Swerdlick, Mike LaVere, and Art Sherman. Drop by, order a Pizza, and look for the Issue on the wall. Steve Cohan has supported Wings Over Wendy’s for well over ten years.

## Condor Squadron’s WWII-era planes take to the skies at Van Nuys Airport

The fundraiser honors members Chris Rushing and Randy Sherman, who tragically died flying



(Jerry Cowart Original Fine Art Photography, member of the Condor Squadron)

Members of the Condor Squadron, a nonprofit organization founded in 1962, perform an aerial demonstration as part of the “Keep ‘em Flying” fundraiser and tribute event at Van Nuys Airport on June 15, 2024

By CLARA HARTER | charter@scng.com

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The fearless fliers of the Condor Squadron recently took to the skies at Van Nuys Airport in authentic WWII North American AT-6 airplanes at a fundraiser honoring two of their late members who died while flying.

Squadron members fly the vintage airplanes in parades, celebrations, and memorials to recognize the sacrifices and heroism of America’s WWII veterans and those who have served America over the years. On June 15, they held their “Keep ‘em Flying” fundraiser to ensure the nonprofit has the funding to keep their aging aircraft airborne.



(Continued page 3)



Rushing led the Condor Squadron in its mission to preserve military aviation heritage for years, flying hundreds of memorial flights in honor of veterans and in support of community causes. Tragically, Rushing died in a midair collision at the National Championship Air Races in Reno in September 2023.

Sherman, a noted plastic surgeon in Los Angeles, sadly died in July 2023 after an engine failed on his Cessna airplane in New Mexico. In addition to flying with the Condor Squadron formation team, Sherman was a board member for the Santa Monica Museum of Flying, the Lyon Air Museum, and the American Air Museum.

# Wings Over Wendy's Attending The Condor Squadron Event



Bob Eisenhart, Karen Velarde, David Greenberg, Mike Castro, Max Carlisle, Ed Reynolds, Peter Helm, Dan Pemberton, Andy Kopetsky and Larry Kushner.

A special thank you to Ron and Diane Ross for supporting the Fundraiser in the name of Wings Over Wendy's.

# June 2024 Meetings

# June 3, 2024



Photo by Max Carlisle

# Fred Kaplan Recuperating

Max Carlisle briefed the group on June 3, 2024, on Fred Kaplan's status. Fred fell off the Memorial Parade truck as he was arranging the decorations and seats on the days before the parade. Max reported on his condition and showed the group a short video of Fred when he visited him in the hospital.



Photo by Bruce Schultz

# Dick Burns Honored at the May 31, 2024 Dodgers Game

Bruce Schultz provided the group with a video of Dick Burns being honored at the Dodgers game on Friday, May 31, 2024.



## Jim Garland Visits Wings Over Wendy's

Bill and Dolures Garland's son Jim visited the meeting on June 3, 2024, and gave the group a short review of his Coast Guard Unit's activities in Hawaii. Jim is a retired USCG Commander and serves on the Hawaii USCG Commanders Staff.



## How Many WWII Veterans Are Still Alive

As we approached the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day, we watched a nine-minute video documented by British historian Dr. Mark Felton. In it, Felton discussed his research on how many World War II veterans are still alive in both the Allied and Axis countries.

The United States had the largest number of living veterans at 119,550, with a projection of less than 1,000 by 2035. Other countries with significant numbers of living veterans included Japan, India, Russia, Germany, Great Britain, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Dr. Felton

also highlighted the importance of recognizing the sacrifices made by these veterans and noted that many had passed away in recent years.

Dr. Felton's study was conducted in January 2024 and estimates that 131 are dying every day.

Following this documentary was the featured presentation for the meeting:



## The Battle of Normandy: 85 Days in Hell

The featured presentation on June 3, 2024, was the History Documentary titled *The Battle of Normandy: 85 Days in Hell*.

The Battle of Normandy: 85 Days in Hell is a gripping documentary that delves into the Allied forces' monumental D-Day landing in Normandy, France, marking the beginning of a fierce 85-day campaign to defeat German troops and free France. The series stands out for its extensive use of previously unseen archival footage, providing a vivid, rarely-seen glimpse into the heart of the battle and the strenuous efforts to liberate Europe. It encapsulates the courage and chaos of this pivotal period.

The documentary detailed the complexities and challenges of the Allied operation 'Overlord,' which aimed to liberate Normandy from German occupation in 1944. The discussion described the fierce battle that ensued, including the initial landing on June 6th, 1944, and the subsequent efforts to advance and push back German forces. It highlighted the significant obstacles faced by the Allies, such as entrenched German defenses, the destruction of supply lines, and the challenges posed by weather and terrain. Despite these difficulties, the Allies were able to achieve their objectives, linking up their forces and securing key locations, although the battle continued to be a grueling and costly one.

The narrator detailed the brutal and prolonged battle of Normandy during World War II. The Allied forces, consisting of American, British, and Canadian soldiers, faced immense resistance from the German army, particularly in the dense hedgerows of the Bocage region. Heavy casualties, intense shelling, and the use of tactics such as white phosphorous fire marked the fight.

(Continued page 5)



After weeks of grueling combat, the Allies liberated the city of Saint-Lo, but at a high cost. The narrator emphasized the significant loss of life and the immense destruction inflicted on the region, highlighting the sacrifices made by soldiers on both sides.

The narrator then discussed the battle of Normandy, focusing on the physical and psychological toll it took on soldiers and the strategies employed by both sides. They highlighted the effectiveness of Operation Cobra in disrupting the German defenses and the significant role played by General Patton in advancing Allied forces toward the south of Normandy. The narrator also recounted the German counterattack, Operation Lutik, which was ultimately unsuccessful, leading to the defeat of German forces in Normandy by mid-August 1944.

The documentary recounted the intense battles that took place during the Normandy invasion, detailing how the Allied forces, led by the US, the British, and the Canadian troops, managed to push back the German forces and ultimately close the Falaise Gap. The narrator noted the significant loss of life and equipment on both sides, with the Allies suffering 220,000 casualties and the Germans losing over 200,000 soldiers. The narrator also highlighted the role Normandy played in the overall Allied victory and the eventual rebuilding of the region.

## June 10, 2024



Photo by Nancy Eisenhart



## The Pioneer Church Fundraiser

On June 10, 2024, Nancy Eisenhart announced that "The Pioneer Church" (St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Parish), a Wings News advertiser, was conducting a fundraiser by selling raffle tickets for the quilt shown above. The church is a city historical site located in Oakwood Memorial Park and is in need of repairs due to water damage, worn-out carpeting, and electrical problems. The congregation, which consists of renters, is organizing a raffle-style auction to raise funds for the repairs. The top prize is a handmade quilt, which Nancy asked for support in promoting. The church, located in a historic cemetery, is also facing challenges due to its size and location, which limits its growth. Despite these issues, she emphasized the community value of the church and its commitment to recovery. Please support our advertisers.



## John Pemberton Visits Wings Over Wendy's

On June 10, 2024, John Pemberton, a US Army Veteran, visited the Wings Over Wendy's meeting. John is a native of the San Fernando Valley and served in the US Army during the 1950s in Okinawa.



## Victor and Penny Korechoff's Grandson Visits WOW

On June 10, 2024, Zachary Straus, Victor, and Penny Korechoff, grandson, visited the meeting. Zachary is 15 years old and attends Vista del Lago High School in Folsom, CA.'



## The Douglas DC-3: The Plane That Flew For Almost A Century

The featured presentation on June 10, 2024, was a video titled *The Douglas DC-3: The Plane That Flew For Almost A Century*. With more than 16,000 built, the DC-3 became the world's most successful aircraft and legend in several wars. During both World Wars, the military version of the DC-3 became a crucial factor for success. But by now, the Basler factory in Oshkosh near Chicago seems to be an airplane boneyard. Several DC-3 aircraft seem to be

lying about in disrepair. But through 45,000 hours of work, 80 employees hammer, screw, and drill a wreck into a modern aircraft. The DC3 is the only aircraft in the world that can be fully rejuvenated after 80 years of service and then continue to fly for another 50 years or more.

The narrator introduced the presentation on the DC3, an airplane with nearly a century-long history that began as a civilian transport plane and was used as a military aircraft during World War II and the Cold War. He highlighted the DC3's various roles, its transformation into a commercial airliner, and its enduring popularity due to its unique design and history. The narrator also discussed the significance of the DC3 in Switzerland's history, its restoration by local enthusiasts, and the ongoing efforts to restore a vintage DC3. The conversation concluded with a comparison to the ambitious dreams of Swiss entrepreneur Ugomatis and the emergence of a new era in aviation production in Santa Monica.

The narrator discussed the crucial role played by the C. 47 military transport aircraft in World War II. The plane was requisitioned in large numbers in December 1941 and supplied to allies, especially Great Britain and the Soviet Union. The aircraft was used extensively during the D-Day invasion, aiding the transport and supply of thousands of paratroopers. The plane's reputation for carrying whatever was needed led to it being dubbed the "workhorse of the war." The narrator also noted that the C. 47 played a significant role in allowing the Allies to overcome German defenses and advance inland. The plane's success led to it being hailed as a legend of the war, and its rediscovery after being misidentified for years was celebrated as a significant historical discovery.

Roy Owens, an expert on vintage plane engines, inspected the radial engine and determined that all 14 cylinders were beyond repair, requiring replacement. With the help of his friends, Roy builds new engines from 80-year-old spare parts, demonstrating the significant history of aviation. The discussion also highlighted the importance of the DC-3 plane, which played a significant role in the Berlin Airlift of 1948-1949, providing essential supplies and winning the hearts of the West Germans. The DC-3 has been versatile, serving various purposes, including cargo transport, passenger travel, and military operations. It is now being used for climate data research through polar research, with maintenance plans and a delivery contract in place.



**Editor Note:** I received my last USAF Navigator check flight in a VC-47 flying out of Saigon, Vietnam.



**June 17, 2024**



## **Duke Dao Provides Crime Statistics**

On June 17, 2024, LAPD Senior Lead Officer Duke Dao briefed the group about a recent residential burglary trend by a Chilean crew that drives around with high-end vehicles to match your neighborhood, like BMW, Lexus, and Mercedes. They are usually a group of 4 or 3. What they do is they drive up, and a female knocks on your door, and the car takes off, and then later they drop off another two and break into your house, usually by the side gate, and smash the patio slider. Most sliders don't have alarms.

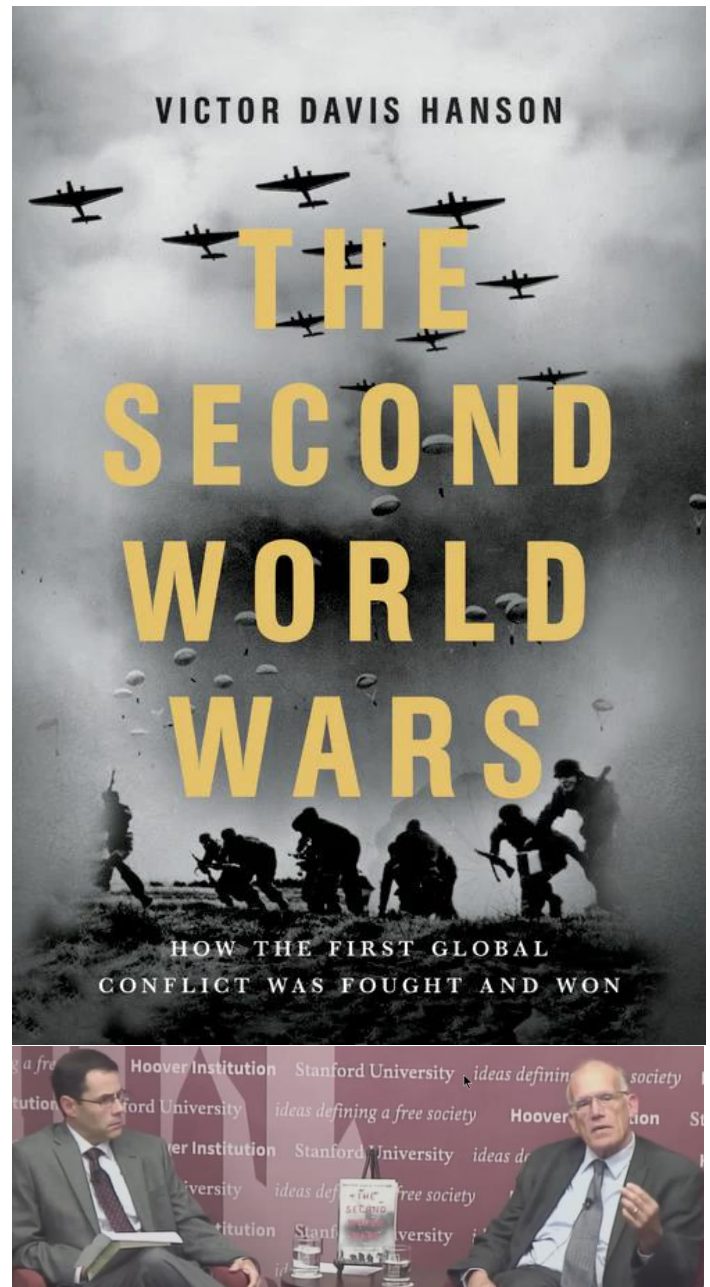
They operate south of the Boulevard from Mulholland to West LA. They do their thing, and then they take off to leave the country. It's really hard to track them, and cameras do not deter them because they're using counter-surveillance in the neighborhood, whereby they would drop off a camera. Well, you know, within the bushes and stuff, we have not seen it. However, we have a report of it.

When asked about car break-ins, Duke said that gangs from South LA learn how to get into a make and model and then roam the valley to find that make and model and break into or outright steal the car.

Duke highlighted new tactics employed by criminals, emphasizing the importance of neighborhood watch programs and the use of security cameras. Duke also touched upon challenges related to tracking reports and addressing homelessness issues, as well as a recent shooting incident in Oxnard.

Lastly, he expressed concern over the lack of candidates interested in becoming police officers.

His contact information is listed in our Attendees roster.



## **The Second World Wars – How the First Global Conflict Was Fought and Won with Victor Davis Hanson**

On June 17, 2024, the featured presentation was a video of a discussion of Hoover Institution Historian Victor Davis Hansen's book *The Second World Wars – How the First Global Conflict Was Fought and Won*.

Micheal Auslin from the Hoover Institution led a discussion with Victor David Hanson (VDH) on his book.

(continued page 8)

World War II was the most lethal conflict in human history. Never before had a war been fought on so many diverse landscapes and in so many different ways, from rocket attacks in London to jungle fighting in Burma to armor strikes in Libya.

The Second World War examines how combat unfolded in the air, at sea, and on land to show how distinct conflicts among disparate combatants coalesced into one interconnected global war. Drawing on 3,000 years of military history, VDH argues that despite its novel industrial barbarity, neither the war's origins nor its geography were unusual, nor was its ultimate outcome surprising. The Axis powers were well prepared to win limited border conflicts, but once they blundered into a global war, they had no hope of victory.

Micheal Auslin led VDH to a discussion about various aspects of World War II, particularly focusing on technological innovations and their practical applications. The conversation touched on topics like the importance of transparent governments in facilitating technological advancements, the value of different types of weaponry, and the role of innovation in war.

The discussion focused on the strategic mistakes made by the Axis powers during World War II, particularly Germany and Japan, and how these missteps contributed to their eventual defeat. VDH highlighted the importance of innovation, pragmatism, and strategic thinking in achieving victory, citing examples of Allied collaboration and technological advancements. He also emphasized the role of autocratic decision-making in hindering innovation and flexibility in the Axis powers.

Micheal Auslin led a discussion on the lessons that can be learned from the events of World War 2. VDH highlighted the importance of understanding the historical context and the mistakes made by both the Axis powers and the Allies. He emphasized the role of the US as an expeditionary force and its innovative approach to warfare, particularly in terms of logistics and mobility. The discussion also touched on the potential parallels between the current situation and the events of the past, particularly in terms of the potential for a war with China. The conversation ended with an open discussion on the topic.

Sebastian Gorka, a professor, asked VDH to discuss detailed American foreign policy strategies since 1989, focusing on their successes and failures. VDH highlighted the importance of understanding the mission, agenda, and investment required for any foreign policy intervention. He also discussed the challenges faced, such as the lack of clear strategic vision and the tendency towards over-intervention in conflicts. He emphasized the need for a more nuanced approach to foreign policy, focusing on principles of realism and avoiding the pitfalls of naivety and arrogance.

VDH discussed how the US military's technological advancements and legal constraints have hindered innovation during recent wars compared to World War II.

He emphasizes the need for disproportionate force and unpredictability as deterrents and attributes many World War II casualties to the Axis powers' attacks on civilians. VDH argues that World War II served to correct misperceptions about the relative strengths of nations, something that better communication could have prevented. He critiques some strategic decisions made by Allied leaders during the war.

Victor Davis Hanson's books are well worth reading.

## June 24, 2024

**WEST COAST PREMIER CELEBRATING OF THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WIZARD of OZ**

Free awesome Oz gifts giveaways!

Oz music fun and surprises!

**THURSDAY JULY 11TH 2024**  
Seating begins at 6:00 PM

Oz Movie memorabilia for purchase

"Although none can ever top my mom's portrayal of Dorothy, never have I seen anyone portray Dorothy as closely in appearance and manner as Elaine Horn"  
- JOE LUFT, GARLAND'S SON

"Elaine shines most as the BEST Dorothy, since Judy Garland"  
- GERRY MAREN, ORIGINAL 1939 LOLLYPOP MUNCHKIN

Nationally Known Judy Garland as Dorothy Impressionist, performing major scenes from 1939 Wizard of Oz Movie! Hear, Miss Horn's memoirs of working personally with the original 1939 Wizard of Oz Movie Munchkins!!

8:15 PM Deluxe Screening of 1939 Wizard Of Oz Movie on beautiful grounds of Rancho Cordillera Del Norte Estate, under the stars!

Stunning Wizard of Oz Studio Backdrop for complimentary photo ops for all guests!!

Premier bid of the Priceless Judy Garland handkerchief, 1950s!!

Price/Person: \$10.00; under age 12, FREE; families can picnic in grass area.  
Please pay in advance via Eventbrite; Hosted by The Museum SFV  
Free parking at Rancho Cordillera del Norte 9015 Wilbur Ave Northridge 91324  
Info/Contact: @themuseumsfv@gmail.com 818-754-4400

## Free Tickets for the 85th Anniversary of the Wizard of Oz, July 11th

On June 24, 2024, Maria Rodriguez briefed the meeting that The Museum of the San Fernando Valley is inviting Wings Over Wendy's Members and their guests to attend the 85th Anniversary of the Wizard of Oz Celebration at the Rancho Cordillera del Norte Estate, 9015 Wilbur Ave, Northridge, on Thursday, July 11th at 6 PM.

**Reservations are required to obtain the free tickets. Maria Rodriguez is leading the event for Wings Over Wendy's. If you cannot attend a Monday meeting, you can sign up by calling her at 818-324-0744.**





Photo by Larry Kushner

## Frank Lopez Briefed the Meeting on Wings Over Camarillo Airshow

Frank Lopez attended the meeting to hand out t-shirts to members who signed up as volunteers at the Wings Over Camarillo Airshow.



Photo by Larry Kushner

## Bill Dillon Reports on Attending the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day

Bill Dillon gave a brief report on his trip to attend the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day in France.

"I want to tell you that D-Day was absolutely fantastic, but I was absolutely totally disappointed with the day-to-day operation. Why do I say that? I say that because 200 World War 2 veterans were sitting on a podium facing President Biden and President Marcon of France, and they gave a speech. When they gave their speech, it was all over, and there was clapping and everything else.

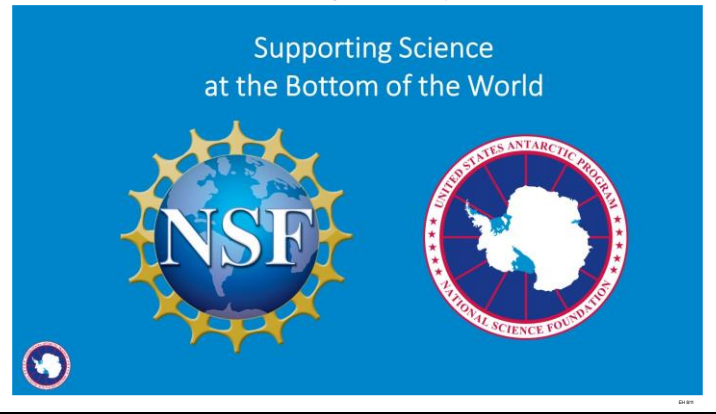
All that happened after that was a wave, a short wave. There was no penetration from Biden to the group to come back and shake either, you know, a few hands, or what have you? He turned around and left, and then we disbanded."

That was the total event of that D-Day celebration in France. What a hell of a thing that is, anyway! I'm disappointed. Yes, I'm disappointed.

Bill will return with pictures and a longer story of his trip.

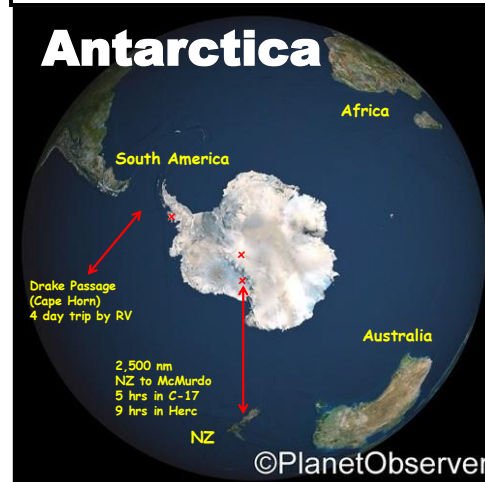
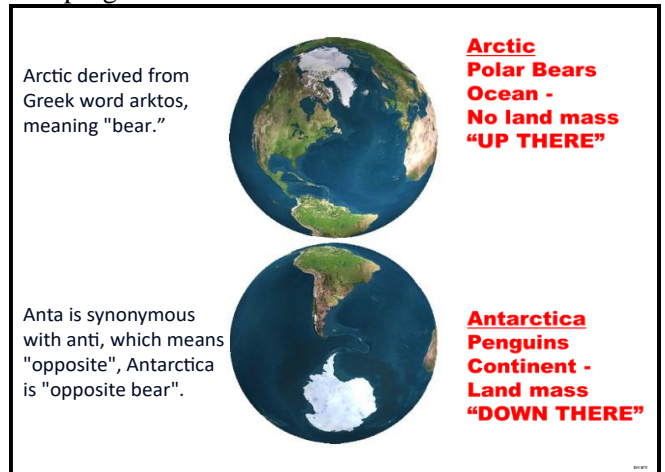
## U.S. Antarctic Program

Sam Feola June 24, 2004  
Wings Over Wendy's



## United States Antarctic Program by Sam Feola

On June 24, 2024, the featured presentation was a talk by Sam Feola, former Manager of the United States Antarctic Program. Sam started as a US Navy helicopter pilot supporting the program and, after leaving the Navy, joined Raytheon and rose to the position of overall manager of the program.



- 3 US stations:
- McMurdo
  - South Pole
  - Palmer
  - 2 Research Vessels

Sam Feola  
• 20 years =

- 2 yrs Navy helos
- 18 yrs Contractors
  - NSF Contr
  - Rep at PH
  - Dir Logistics
  - Program Dir

©PlanetObserver

(Continued page 10)

## Antarctic Treaty – 1959

President Reaffirmed May 17, 2024

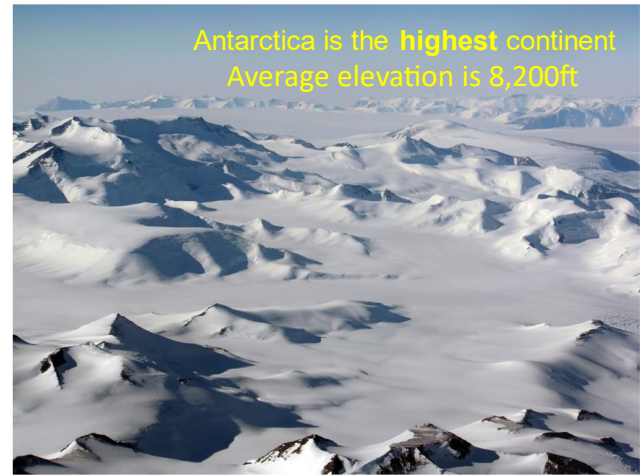
- No one nation owns Antarctica
  - Territorial claims set aside
- Provides governance for all areas south of 60° South
- Scientific cooperation
- Continent for peaceful purposes only
- Prohibits nuclear and military action
  - Allows military logistics
- Any nation can inspect another's facilities
- 54 nations follow the Treaty
- U.S. national policy = Science + **Physical presence**
- As US Law all US citizens must abide by Treaty

## US Antarctic Program

- **National Science Foundation** manages the US Antarctic Program (\$547M for FY23)
- **200** science projects annually
  - Science that cannot be done elsewhere
- **3,000** people to/from US stations each year
- **3** stations, **2** research ships, **many** field camps
  - Some close (100 miles); Some deep field (900-1,300 miles) from McMurdo Station
- Bi-annual fuel & Annual re-supply ships



1 ½ times the size of the United States



Antarctica...



Antarctica...



Antarctica...

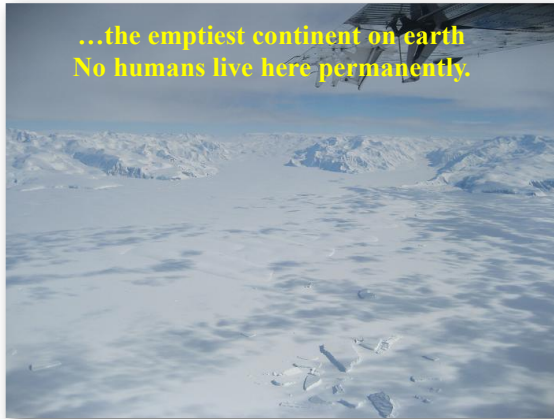
...the windiest continent – sustained wind speeds up to 200 mph



(Continued page 11)



## Antarctica...



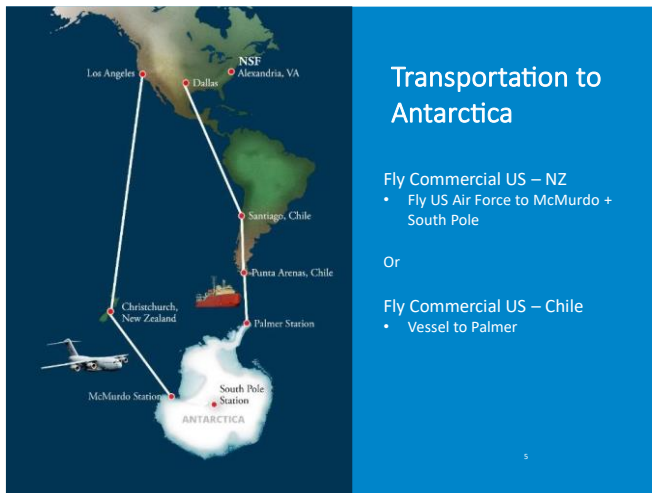
Sam led a detailed discussion about Antarctica, focusing on the United States Antarctic Program and its taxpayer funding. The Sam shared their personal experience working in Antarctica and provided insights into the unique characteristics of the continent, such as it being the driest, coldest, windiest, and emptiest continent. The discussion also covered the logistics of traveling to Antarctica, the role of the Antarctic Treaty in governing scientific cooperation and prohibiting military activity, and the US National Science Foundation's management of the Antarctic program. The conversation concluded with a brief history of exploration and the current summer population at McMurdo Station.



Sam then provided a comprehensive overview of the facilities and operations at two Antarctic research stations. They showcased the dormitories, utilities, and storage facilities, highlighting the extensive recycling efforts and the use of sea ice for aircraft landing. Sam also demonstrated the research laboratories, including the Prairie Lab and the largest scientific laboratory in the United States. They discussed the challenges of helicopter landing, the pristine air quality, and the construction and design of the new South Pole Station, built by Raytheon in 2009. Sam also explained the unique challenges of obtaining water and managing waste at the South Pole, emphasizing the station's design to withstand the harsh environment.

Next, Sam discussed their role in facilitating a doctor's research on breast cancer and detailed the various modes of transportation used in extreme environments, particularly focusing on the logistics in Antarctica. He also provided an in-depth overview of Antarctica's history, highlighting the expeditions of Robert Falcon Scott and Ernest Shackleton and the scientific research being conducted in the region, including studies on penguins, seals, and climate change.

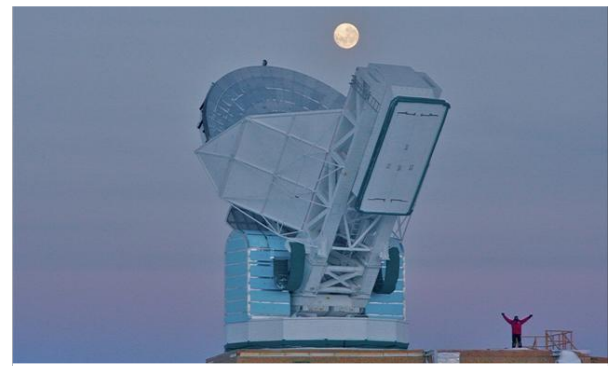
(Continued page 12)



### USAP Aircraft Support



Sam shared a captivating tale about Emperor penguins, their rescue from Antarctica, and the challenges faced during their transportation to the United States. The penguins were captured by the National Science Foundation, in collaboration with Seaworld, for research purposes. The first attempt ended in a fire that killed all the penguins caught initially, but the operation continued for two more years. Sam described the difficulties of catching the agile penguins and the importance of keeping them at the appropriate temperature while in transit. They also highlighted the natural predators of penguins and shared unique insights into their deep-sea diving expeditions and the antifreeze properties of Antarctic blood.



### Astrophysics

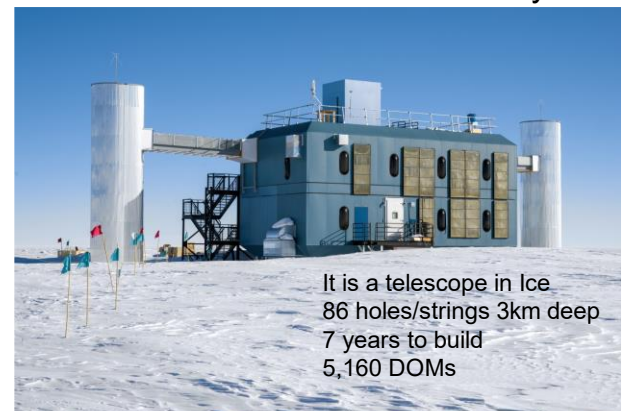
Thinnest air on earth  
Low vapor in air  
Least refraction of light  
Least ambient light

### South Pole Telescope 10m Sub-millimeter

Survey of galaxy clusters ( 5 new galaxies )  
Search for Dark Matter and Dark Energy



### IceCube Neutrino Observatory



### Antarctic Circumpolar Current



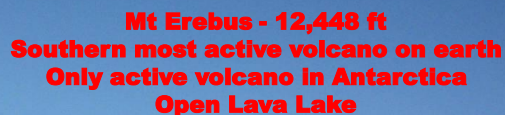
Antarctic Ocean connects all the major oceans

Conveyor belt of heat/cold transfer

Critical to understanding climate

(Continued page 13)





ANZ 747 Crash Nov 1979  
237 pax + 20 crew

## McMurdo Station

## Open Lava Lake



He led a wide-ranging discussion on various topics related to astrophysics and the Antarctic region, highlighting the unique conditions at the South Pole that enable telescopes to discover new galaxies and the IceCube telescope's role in studying neutrinos. They also discussed the operations of their contracting company providing services in remote locations like the South Pole, as well as the risks involved, such as carbon monoxide poisoning. The conversation touched on the rapid melting of ice at the

South Pole, the challenges of operating equipment in extreme cold, and the possible impact of volcanic activity on the region.



Photo by Larry Kushner

**Bob Eisenhart and Ed Reynolds presented Sam Feola  
with a Certificate of Appreciation for his presentation.**

# Wings Over Wendy's Future Events:



**MOAA/MOWW CHAPTER MEETING**  
Next meeting 21 August 2024

**Date:** Wednesday, 21 August 2024

**Check-in starts at 5:30**  
**Buffet line starts at 6:30**  
**Program starts at 7:30**

RSVP to Dan Pemberton at  
[dhpinto@aol.com](mailto:dhpinto@aol.com) or 805-807-7788  
NLT 16 August  
Los Robles Greens Banquet Center  
299 S. Moorpark Road,  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360



## FOB Assembly Day

**July 13<sup>th</sup> Sat 9 am - 12 pm**  
**Sign up to attend @**

<https://www.operationgratitude.com>

ANA Meetings  
MOAA/MOWW Meetings  
Non WOW Events  
Operation Gratitude Events  
WOW Events/Tours  
WOW Meetings

## WOW Events Calendar Additions

Because of Wings Over Wendy's members' high participation in their events, the **teamup.com WOW Events Calendar** has been extended to include: ANA Meetings, MOAA/MOWW Meetings, and Operation Gratitude Events.

The key is: **kswpwdaeovnb1jans4**

## Prayers

Unfortunately, one of our most active members is recuperating from a neck injury.

Our prayers are for a speedy recovery for:

**Fred Kaplan,**  
**Bob Stiles,**  
**Ethel Margolin,**  
**Dave Steinbacher,**  
**Barry Chapman**

## In Memoriam

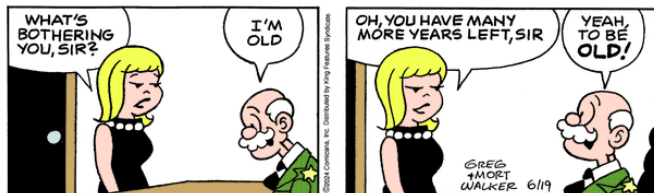
Wings Over Wendy's had no reported passing during June 2024.

## June Birthdays

Max Carlisle	July 03, 1983
Dave Steinbacher	July 06, 1937
Kurt Rademacher	July 07, 1961
Gary LaPook	July 08, 1947
Avery Willis	July 11, 1943
Gordon Fell	July 18, 1947
George Pappas	July 19, 1949
Nathan Wolfstein	July 21, 1949
Charles Scott	July 25, 1962
David Timmerman	July 31, 1963







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



**Richie Mills**  
 President

Tel: 818.312.9770

Cell: 818.620.8164

Fax: 818.312.9771

richie.mills@versatileandstone.com

Showroom:

21301 Vanowen St. Ste C

Canoga Park, CA 91303

## Reminder Wings Over Wendy's monthly food drive is Monday, July 1st



## For Help with your Zoom Connection Contact:

**Charles Scott (818) 448-1737**

**[pcinfoman@gmail.com](mailto:pcinfoman@gmail.com)**

**Charles has offered to help Wings Over Wendy's members with their computer problems for FREE.**

A big item of California legislation remains AB 46 – this bill would exempt retirees, widows and other special interests related to Veterans affairs from state income tax. It is time again to write letters of support to Governor Newsom to consider and sign approval of the legislation.

I have chosen sections of a generic letter of support for AB 46 and listed them below. It illustrates the importance of the support needed for our Veterans. I take no pride in authorship of the material; I only pass it on for reference:

"United States Congressional Representatives Adam Schiff, Mike Levin and Julia Brownley, provided letters supporting AB 46 and were sent to your Administration for consideration. In a press release from Assemblymember James Ramos, Ramos stated "I will collaborate with the Newsom Administration to find a responsible budget solution". The proposed budget released by your administration included programs costing billions of dollars, that included costly benefits for individuals from other countries, while in the same budget, your administration failed to identify any funding for AB 46.

For decades, our nation's military retirees have served during times of both peace and war, frequently deploying overseas and often operating in challenging conditions. This selfless service, driven by a passion to support a greater mission, and fueled by an oath to defend our country and protect our way of life. After leaving military service, these military retirees enter civilian occupations and continue to contribute to California's workforce and provide economic growth to the municipalities and states they retire in.

Your own Governor's Military Council commissioned a study that supported the fact that the defense industry brought over \$168 billion dollars to California's economy in 2022. You are most certainly aware that California has the largest military population anymore military installations than any other state. Another consideration that has been brought to your administration's attention is that according to DoD military retiree pay is direct \$4.1 billion-dollar annual inflation protected stream of federal dollars into California. The facts are clear that California's military retiree population continues to decline, resulting in a loss of millions of dollars in federal funds that follow those retirees to other states. California cannot afford for this trend to continue and your signature on AB 46 will help reverse that trend. Today California continues to be the only state in the country that fails to provide an exemption on military retirement from state income taxes. AB 46, Exemption of Military retirement from State Income Taxes, introduced by Assemblymember James Ramos (D), helps remove the stigma of California being the WORST state for military retirees to call home upon their military retirement. The Military Officers Association of America (350,000 members) has published several articles calling on you to help remedy the situation and join the other 49 Governors, both Democrat and Republican that exempt military retirement form state income taxes and ensure the passage of AB 46 this year. AB 46 has achieved strong bi-partisan support in both chambers and now is the time for you to "step up and ensure its passage."

Please compose your letter of support for AB 46 (copy and use any or all this report) and send to the Governor. Your interest in and support of this effort is appreciated. Here is the address to address your letter:

Governor Gavin Newsom, 1021 O Street Suite 9000,  
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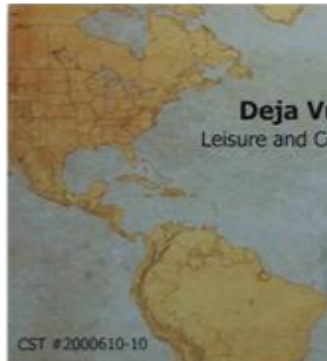


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