

WINGS



NEWS

Volume 13 Number 2

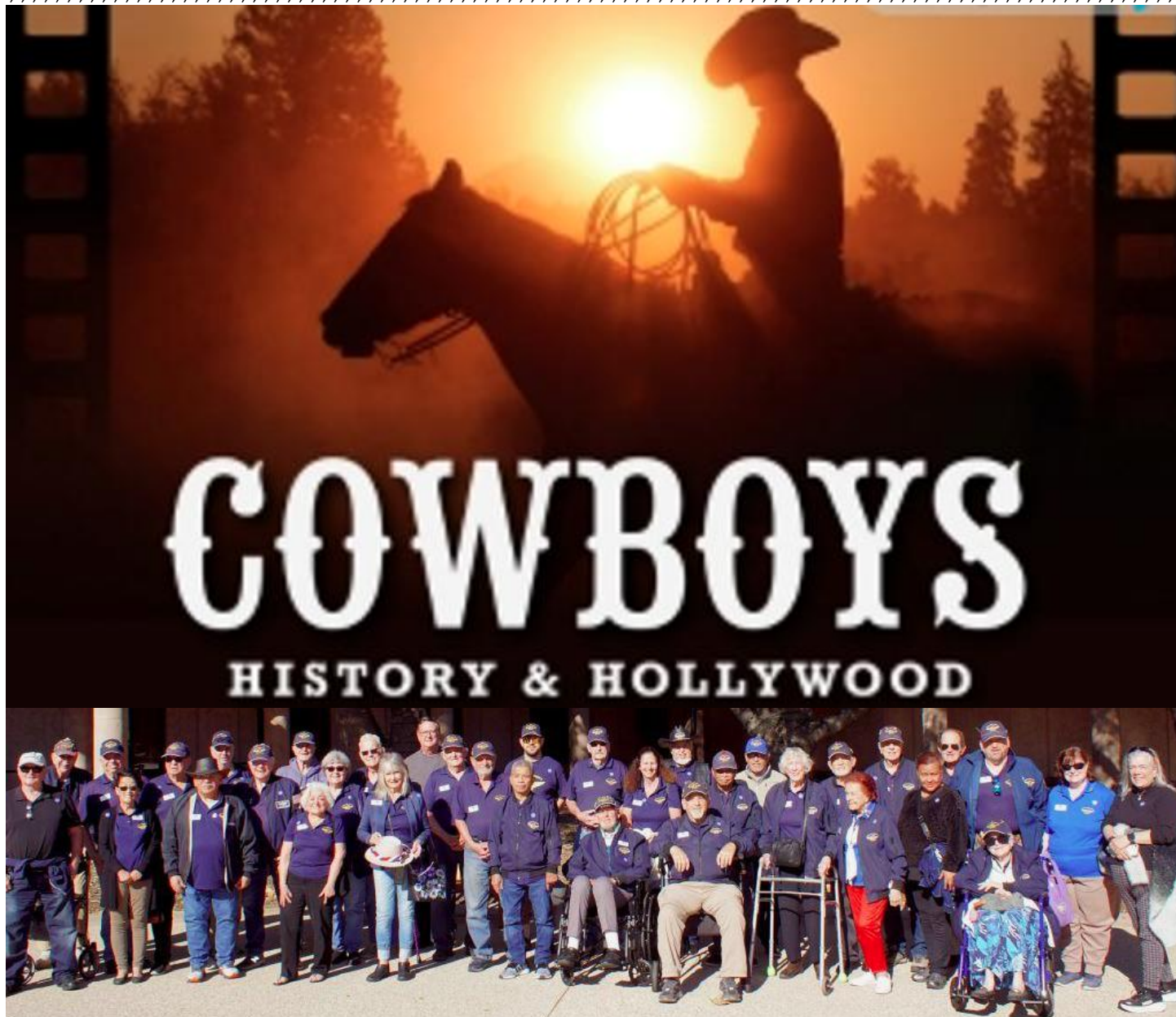
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Ed Reynolds Editor



Wings Over Wendy's Tours Reagan Library Cowboys History & Hollywood Exhibition

On January 29, 2026, 35 Wings Over Wendy's members toured the Cowboys History & Hollywood Exhibition at the Reagan Library in Simi Valley. After the tour, many members had lunch in the library cafeteria.

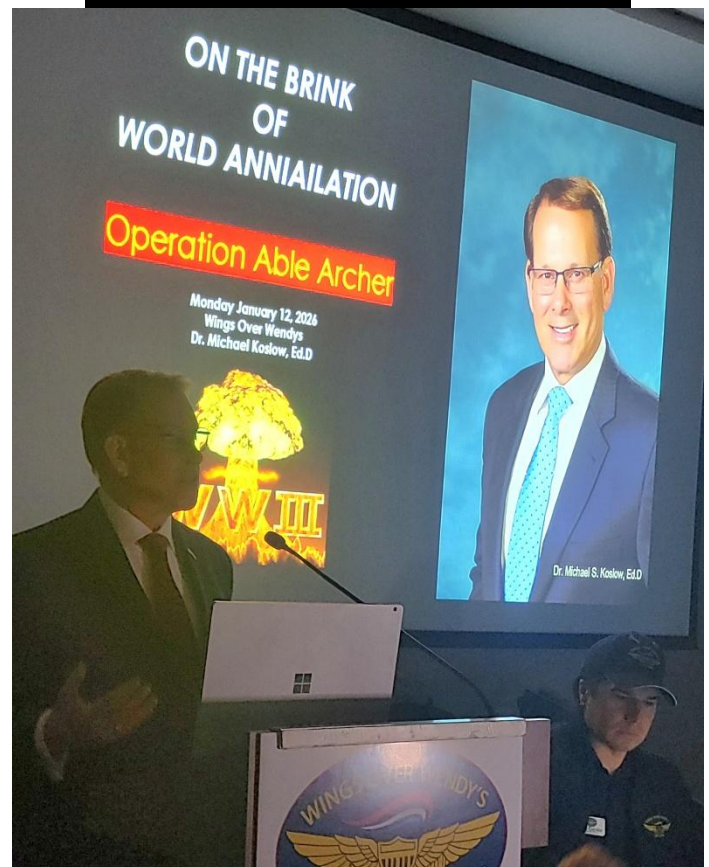


WOW Stage

USS Kentucky: The Ultimate Weapon Of Mass Destruction

The USS Kentucky submarine is on a top-secret mission in the Pacific Ocean, with junior officer Paul Lenz completing a 6-hour training shift. During the mission, Captain Pearson orders Lenz to bring the sub up to periscope depth, but they must wait due to an unidentified ship contact. The crew later conducts an emergency dive drill to escape detection or avoid collision, demonstrating their stealth capabilities. Meanwhile, the crew, including corpsman Joe Anderton and executive officer Adam Hudson, is focused on earning their dolphins, a symbol of

January 12, 2026



(Continued page 3)

On January 12, 2026, Dr. Michael Koslow gave a presentation about his years in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI)

The meeting focused on a detailed presentation by Mike Koslow, a former Air Force OSI agent, who shared his experiences during the Cold War, particularly his role in Operation Ryan in Europe from 1984-1987. Koslow described his mission to identify and neutralize Soviet intelligence activities, including working with local law enforcement to track terrorist organizations and conducting covert operations in East Germany. He detailed how his team worked to dismantle Soviet intelligence capabilities while maintaining strict operational security, and explained how they successfully reduced terrorist threats in the region within 18 months. The presentation included a discussion of specific incidents, including a car chase in East Germany and his experiences at the Moscow restaurant in East Berlin, while highlighting the technological and human intelligence aspects of his work.

Dr. Koslow, a former Air Force OSI member, shared his experience about the Cold War and Operation Able Archer in 1983. He explained how the Soviet Union, under Yuri Andropov, became increasingly concerned about the United States' technological advancements and potential for a preemptive nuclear strike. He described several incidents that heightened Soviet paranoia, including a Korean Airlines flight that was shot down by Soviet forces and a false alarm that nearly triggered a nuclear launch. He emphasized the importance of military camaraderie and mentorship, and concluded by highlighting the dangers of misinterpretation and the need for cooler heads to prevent nuclear conflict.

Mike shared this experience as a counterintelligence agent during the Cold War, detailing his role in monitoring Soviet activities and neutralizing terrorist threats in Europe. He described agents' training, operations, and interactions with local authorities and civilians, emphasizing the importance of human intelligence and relationships in gathering information. Mike highlighted the tense atmosphere of the time, including a close encounter with potential attackers, and explained how agents' efforts contributed to reducing terrorist activities in the region within 18 months.

The meeting focused on a discussion about Cold War intelligence operations and military experiences. A retired military officer shared their experiences serving in Europe during the 1980s, including details about carrying weapons, participating in exercises with the Strategic Air Command, and conducting intelligence operations against the Soviet Union. He discussed the importance of language skills, particularly Russian and Hebrew, and the challenges of operating in East Germany. Dr. Koslow also touched on the 1983 Beirut barracks bombing and the intelligence failures that led to it. Throughout the discussion, he emphasized the importance of maintaining a strong military presence and

intelligence capabilities to ensure national security.



Bob Eisenhart and Ed Reynolds present Dr. Michael Koslow with a Certificate of Appreciation.

January 19, 2026



In-Flight Refueling From 1949 to 2025

On January 19, 2026, we met at the Canoga Park Elks Lodge. The subject was In-flight refueling from 1949 to 2025. It started with a showing of a 1949 USAF Training film titled Air-to-Air Refueling, which demonstrates how fuel is transferred between B-29 bombers.

Ed Reynolds then discussed how this method was used by the Strategic Air Command to fly a B-50 (LadyII) around the world without landing, thus indicating to the Soviet Union that the US could bomb any target in the world from a US base using air-to-air refueling.

Despite the mission's success, General LeMay was unhappy with the time required for a fuel transfer and challenged Boeing to design a more direct method. And, within two years, the "flying boom" and "probe and drogue" methods were deployed by the military. Bomber pilots preferred the flying boom because it delivered more fuel in a shorter time, and it became the Strategic Air Command standard on KC-97 and then KC-135 Tanker aircraft.

(Continued page 4)



Why the US Navy and US Air Force Use Different Refueling Methods

The second video on January 19, 2026, was titled “Why US Navy and US Air Force Use Different Refueling Methods.”

The video explains why the US Navy and US Air Force use two very different aerial-refueling systems, tracing the history, engineering trade-offs, and operational needs that shaped each method.

The video explores how long modern fighter jets can remain airborne without refueling and why aerial refueling became essential for US military aviation. Early jets had limited range, and the Air Force—focused on long-distance strategic missions—developed the flying boom, a rigid, high-flow refueling system operated by a boom operator lying in the tail of a tanker. This system transfers fuel extremely quickly, which was crucial for Cold War bombers and later for fighters that needed rapid top-offs during long missions.

The Navy, however, faced a different challenge: carrier operations. Aircraft had to approach tankers in turbulent, pitching sea air, often at lower speeds. The Navy adopted the probe-and-drogue system, which uses a flexible hose with a stabilizing basket. It is slower but far more forgiving during approach, safer around carrier decks, and easier to mount on multiple aircraft—including fighters that can serve as “buddy tankers.” This flexibility allows the Navy to refuel aircraft even when dedicated tankers aren’t available.

The video highlights historical aircraft like the KC-97, whose slow speed made refueling jets difficult, and the KC-135, which solved that problem but introduced new limitations, such as requiring separate hardware for boom vs. drogue operations. The military developed the Boom Drogue Adapter (BDA) to allow boom-equipped tankers to refuel drogue-only aircraft, but it comes with flow-rate and stability compromises.

Stealth aircraft add another layer of complexity: their

refueling doors and slipways must preserve radar-low-observable geometry, which affects where and how refueling ports are placed. The video also explains what happens when a boom or hose fails to retract—tankers have procedures to land safely with equipment extended, though it’s not ideal.

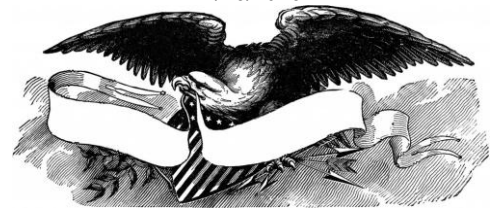
A key insight is that although the drogue system transfers fuel more slowly, it can speed up overall operations by allowing multiple hoses to be deployed at once, enabling simultaneous refueling of two aircraft—something the boom cannot do.

In the end, the Air Force prioritizes speed and volume, while the Navy prioritizes flexibility, safety, and carrier compatibility. Both systems persist because each branch’s mission demands a different balance of engineering trade-offs.

January 26, 2026

A PRESENTATION TO WINGS OVER WENDY’S

1/26/2026



**FROM NANCY EISENHART
IN HONOR OF GEORGE MENARD
1LT. US ARMY WWII,
MY STEPFATHER**

“A RETURN TO THE OLD FORT”

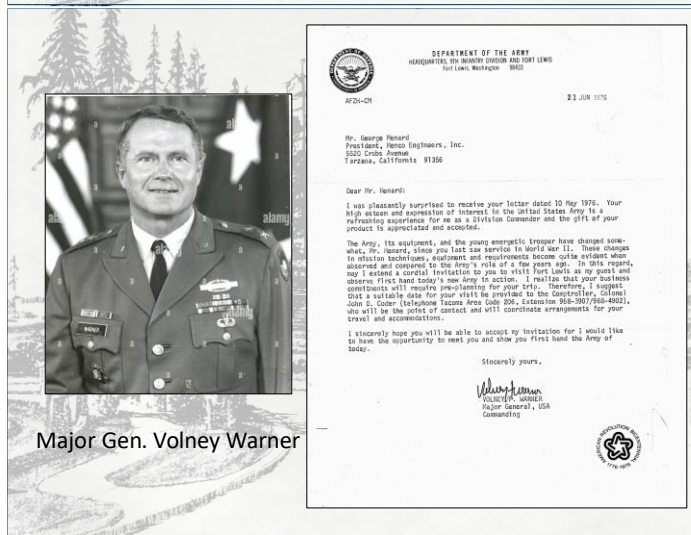
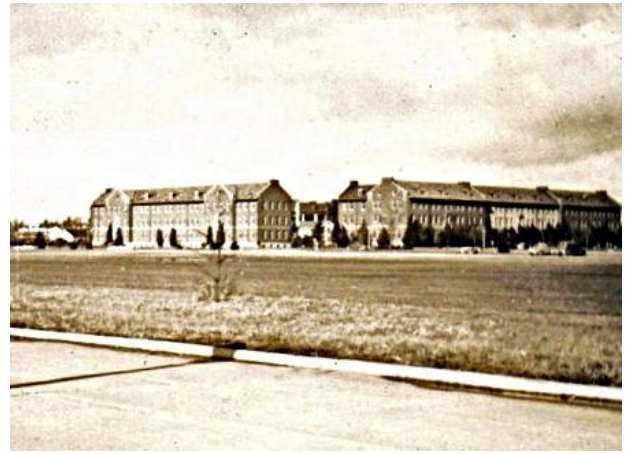
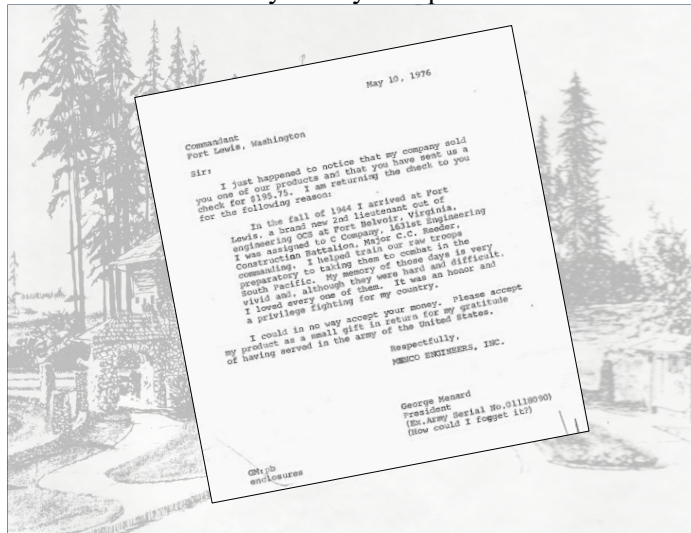
**A Story by George Menard
1914-1998**

Voice – Max Carlisle

A Return To The Old Fort by George Menard

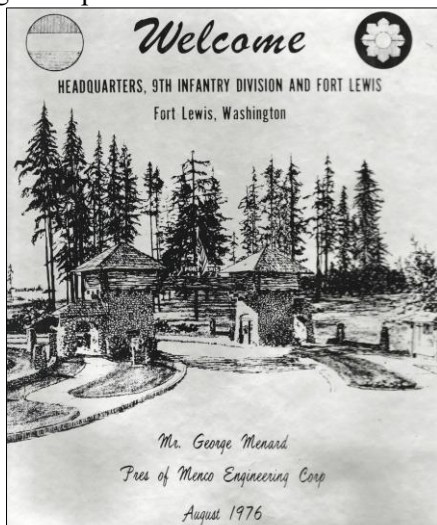
(Continued page 5)

We returned to the High School Auditorium on January 26, 2026, for a presentation by Nancy Eisenhart, with a voice-over by Max Carlisle of a story based on letters written and received by Nancy's stepfather as follows:



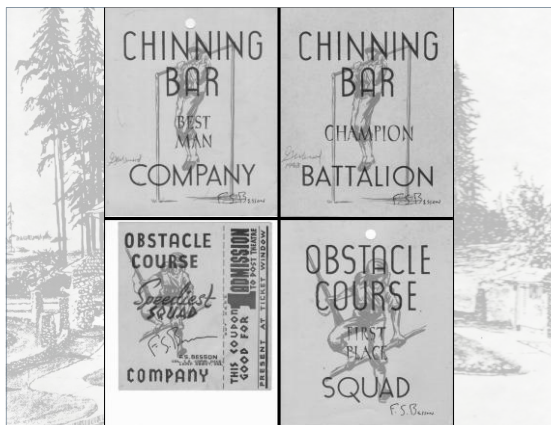
George accepted the offer.

He was honored:



He found familiar sights that brought back old memories of his days stationed at the Fort, along with some new ones.

(Continued page 6)



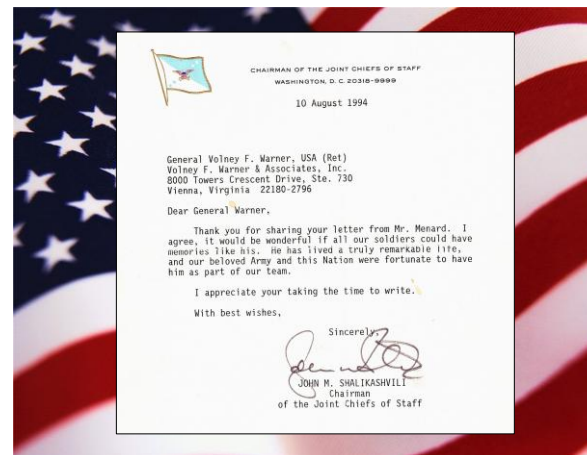
Col.
Bernard Loeffke
Recondo
Brigade
Commander



COL Loeffke, invited him to observe war games with
MG Volney



Major Gen.
Volney Warner



Nancy with the \$195.75 clay SLAB-ROLLER.



Photo by Larry Kushner

Bob Eisenhart and Ed Reynolds present a Certificate of Appreciation to Max Carlisle and Nancy Eisenhart.

Wings Over Wendy's Future Events:



2026 Bi-Annual Group
Picture is Scheduled for
March 23, 2026

In the Auditorium

2026 Canoga Park
Memorial Day Parade
May 25, 2026

2026 Awards Luncheon **September 24, 2026** Woodland Hills Country Club

Wings Over Wendy's Partner Club Events:



MOAA/MOWW DINNER MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2026

BGen Paul Lebidine served for 33 years in the Marine Corps. His career included three one-year deployments in Iraq and two one-year tours in Afghanistan. He is currently Commander of the BG Holland MOWW Chapter. The subject of his presentation is "The Decisions and the Withdraw from Afghanistan".

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

RSVP to Dan Pemberton at
177 Erten St. Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
NLT 16 February 2026
dhpinto@aol.com 805-807-7788
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**CANOGA – OWNESMOUTH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FEBRUARY 11, 2026
MEETING**

(Continued page 8)

A horizontal line of 20 small black airplane icons flying to the right, used as a section separator.

In Memoriam

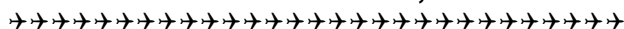
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Dr. Hoffman was born in Los Angeles. He attended Los Angeles City College and received B.A. and M.A. degrees from Los Angeles State College (now CSU, Los Angeles), then earned his doctorate in History at UCLA. He taught in Los Angeles schools for more than thirty years and has been an adjunct professor at Los Angeles Valley College since 1974.

Abe's books include *Unwanted Mexican Americans in the Great Depression: Repatriation Pressures, 1929-1939* (1974), *Vision or Villainy: Origins of the Owens Valley-Los Angeles Water Controversy* (1981), *An Oklahoma Tragedy: The Shooting of the Mexican Students, 1931* (1987), *California Then and Now* (1996), and *Mono Lake: From Dead Sea to Environmental Treasure* (2014). *California's Worst Earthquakes* (2017).

(Continued page 9)

Since joining Wings Over Wendy's in 2018, he has been the most frequent speaker on a wide variety of historical subjects, from the Japanese submarines attacking California to the history of LAX, Teddy Roosevelt, and more.

Duane Buckley and Morris Litwack

[illegible]

John Wordin	February 03	1963
Richard Carrillo	February 05	1946
Lynne Davies	February 09	1941
Sam Feola	February 09	1945
Christine McIntosh	February 09	1953
John Cromwell	February 12	1942
Lori Netzen	February 12	1958
David Alvaraz	February 13	1947
Earl Roth	February 16	1941
Ed Barkett	February 18	1957
David Silvera	February 21	1945
Norman Silverman	February 24	2039
Lucie Volotzky	February 25	1955
Boyd Davis	February 28	1946

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

Bob Donovan
Steve Dunner
Bob Eisenhart
Mike Emch
Gordon Fell
David Freeman
Glenn Gates
Bruce Greenwood
Peter Helm
Abe Hoffman
Julio Jimenez
Steve Klausner
Andy Kopetzky
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