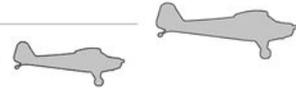




AIRSHOW



CAF FRENCH WING - MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - BULLETIN MENSUEL

Volume 13 - N° 1 - January 2008

EDITORIAL

More than the end of the year celebrations, the moving farewell expressed by all relatives and close friends of Philippe Dufлот during his inhumation ceremony marked this month of December 2007.

Like most of you, I still cannot believe that our friend Philippe is no longer with us, to such a point that I sometimes want to phone him and give him the latest news, a wish which is soon stopped when I realize that it is, alas, impossible... Only time will calm our pain which is nothing compared to what his wife, Danielle Dufлот, is going through.

The collection for Philippe's passing went way beyond our hopes. Our members have shown and exemplary generosity, so much that we were able to significantly help Danielle. As you will read on page 2, the money collected, in excess of the purchases made for the funerals, was given to Danielle who has to face important difficulties. I'm very happy to see how united our members were during this drama, because it's only during such misfortune and grief that this kind of sincere and unselfish solidarity can appear. This ordeal showed that the French Wing and the CAF are made of pure friendship. A big Thank You to you all!

As you will read in this issue, the French Wing elections resulted in a very positive result, simply because of each candidate's personality. I wish to thank the voters! They know the true value of the right to vote for which many lost their life. Voting is also respecting their memory.

Like we do at the beginning of each year, this issue includes a survey that will allow us to better understand your wishes and your level of participation in 2008. This questionnaire has been greatly simplified to make your life easy. **Fill it in and send it back without delay** because on your promptness will depend our Unit's efficiency. Our members' participation has to be greater than ever. I count on you all because only a collective effort and a perfect cohesion will lead us to success.

A very Happy New Year 2008 to all of you!

Bernard



Photo: B. Dufлот

2007 FRENCH WING ELECTIONS

COLS. CLAUDE GASCON AND ROGER GOUZON HAVE BEEN ELECTED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITION OF FINANCE AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, AND COLONEL FUMIKO DELFINO HAS ACCEPTED THE POSITION OF ADJUTANT FOR ONE YEAR.



- **ELIGIBLE : 84**
- **VOTING : 37**
- **PARTICIPATION : 44,05 %**
- **CLAUDE GASCON - FOR : 37 - AGAINST : 0**
- **ROGER GOUZON - FOR : 37 - AGAINST : 0**
- **CLAUDE AND ROGER ARE THEREFORE ELECTED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS WITH 100 %, FOR THE NEXT 3 YEARS.**
- **SEE PAGE 3 OF THIS ISSUE.**

VISIT TO LUXEMBURG AND AIRSHO 2008

OUR MEMBERS MUST TELL US WHETHER THEY INTEND TO PARTICIPATE TO THESE TWO ACTIVITIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

FAREWELL TO PHILIPPE DUFLOT

Our dear friend Philippe's inhumation took place in Arnouville Les Gonesse on December 11. The very high number of people who attended the ceremony showed how deeply Philippe was loved by everyone.

Following a request by several members, the French Wing organized a collection whose total was well over \$ 1500.00! This unusual, extraordinary amount allowed us to buy a very big flower basket, and a granite plaque that will stay on Philippe's grave for ever, reminding everyone of his love for our Wing (Below).



Photo: B. DeJimo

The beautiful poem written by col. Georges Marcelin (Below) was printed on a very nice paper and framed so that it could be donated to Danielle Dufлот. Finally, the sum of money of several hundreds of euros was left after these purchases was also given to Danielle who had to face very big expenses. She was very grateful for this donation.

Goodbye Philippe

*In the sky of the French Wing, a star has faded away,
Sadness in our hearts, has spread out its curtain!
We all lose here, one of our most precious friends,
He has gone, our regrets are bitter!
He's a marvellous friend and a brilliant treasurer,
Who in our hearts will stay for ever!*

*I wouldn't do about him a long panegyric,
I would simply say: «He's a unique friend,
Whose family gets all our respect.
With whom we share, in this mourning, their regrets!
Philippe, you are gone, our thoughts go towards you!
Keep your eyes on us, my friend, wherever you are!»*

Georges Marcelin

The number of messages that we received for Danielle and her family was so high that we could not quote them all in this issue. They were all expressing an outstanding affection for Philippe and his family, and they were printed and given to Danielle without any delay. One of them was very special because it emphasized the exceptional personality of our dear friend. Its author is col. Roy Grinnell who, like his wife Irene, regrets deeply that they live so far away because their dearest wish was to be with us at Philippe's funeral. Here is the beautiful text Roy wrote:

How do you measure a man?

*Not by his possessions, his wealth, or his stature.
You measure him by his generosity, abilities, and willingness to take a task in hand and make it become successful... and one who is compassionate to others who need a leader, and Philippe was such a man.*

Philippe was successful in the attributes of a husband, a father, and a man that stepped forward working to make an impossible dream come true for others.

Philippe was a man of such character, generously giving to others and assisting the French Wing in a dependable position that made the Wing appreciate him as a comrade in aviation.

Such a man comes along once in a lifetime. Friends, remember Philippe, for there will be a void in our lives that can only be remembered by loving memories of him.

Roy Grinnell

The cohesion that was met around Philippe's passing was a very beautiful example of what a CAF Unit should be aspiring for, because it's only on such hard and cruel ordeals that its members' solidarity can be revealed fully. It was the case for the French Wing, a lot more than one could have hoped. A CAF Unit doesn't exist just to keep warbirds flying. The reason for its very existence is friendship and helping each other. A big Thank You to you all!

CAF ELECTIONS

The 3 colonels who were nominated by the committee of the 2007 elections have obtained the following scores:

- Bill Coombes: 342 votes.
- Tom Rush: 354 votes.
- Ted Short: 322 votes.

Since no other candidate came from the floor during the General Assembly, these three members have been elected.

Also, the modifications of the CAF Constitution, that were put to a vote, were adopted with a score of 372 votes For, and 22 votes Against.

The total number of votes was 394, a total which is still very very low. This is regrettable since voting is the very first means of expressing our Freedom!

CHANGES AT THE CAF HEADQUARTERS

As we announced last month, the following changes have taken place at the CAF Headquarters:

- Donna Blalack has become Executive Assistant to the CEO.
- Kay Crites is now responsible for the Member Services and Public Relations.
- Alyson Trevino is now Director of Creative Services and Publications.
- Rita McNew has become Operations Office Manager.
- Gary Austin is now Director of Maintenance and Quality Assurance.

LATEST NEWS!

Our very good friend Kay Crites has announced that she will soon leave the CAF. She has been offered an important position in a museum in Odessa.

We don't know the name of her successor, but we sure know that he, or she, will have a very hard job to get to the level of quality that Kay had reached in her job.

We will miss Kay very much after these 9 years of working together with her!

2007 FRENCH WING ELECTIONS RESULTS

As everyone knows, col. **Claude Gascon** applied for the job of Finance Officer. Doing so, he made the position of Executive Officer available. Therefore, Col. **Roger Gouzon** applied for this position, which left the position of Adjutant available.

According to our Statutes, this vacancy was filled by nominating a member who accepted this position for a year: Col. **Fumiko Delfino** is the one who agreed to have a go at it on the very same day that the ballots were counted.

FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

The members of the Board of Administration send you their good wishes for the New Year, and they tell you about their main concerns for 2008...

COL. FUMIKO DELFINO
ADJUTANT & PX OFFICER



Everyone knows how well Fumiko helps and supports her Unit Leader and husband since long before the birth of our Association. She knows the many turnabouts and difficulties which paved the way to the official creation of our Unit in 1996.

Since the very beginning, Fumiko has done a great part of the job of Adjutant. Therefore, she won't need much effort to adopt this position fully.

"Hello everyone!

I wish to thank the members of the Board of Administration who have asked me to replace col. Roger Gouzon who applied to the position of Executive Officer.

For this new year I wish that our members answer precisely and quickly the few points of the 2008 questionnaire. This information is vital for our Association to function correctly.

Also, I will have the advantage to work together with our new Finance Officer, col. Claude Gascon, for the payment of the 2008/2009 annual dues.

I wish that all our members pay this annual participation in due time (Of course those who have already paid are not concerned). I don't tout a "zero tolerance" but there are 95 members in the French Wing, and everyone must realize that any delay increases the amount of work in a way that no one can suspect.

Finally, I can assure you that I will accomplish my job the best possible way for the good of the French Wing.

A very Happy New Year 2008 to you all!

Fumiko Delfino"

COL. CLAUDE GASCON
FINANCE & FUND RAISING OFFICER



Claude juggled with figures all his life. His personality is made of kindness, understanding, patience, and diplomacy. The fact that he lives in Verdun is not really a handicap since modern ways of communicating compensate for this distance.

"So, here you are now, afflicted by a new Finance Officer!..."

This task won't be easy since it means replacing our irreplaceable Philippe. However, I know I can count on Bernard's help, at least for the beginning of my management. Effectively, for reasons that everyone will understand, Bernard took on, as much as possible, what Philippe could not do any longer.

I wish to say that I count on you to make the French Wing live, and live well. But how can one summarize the policy of a new Finance Officer?...

Before anything else, there are two important due dates that I'm asking you to note in your planner:

• *In December, it's here already, think about renewing your sponsorship (Flying, Restoration, or Supporter). Please do not forget that the list of sponsors is not frozen, and anyone can become a sponsor.*

• *In May, another important date, the payment of the French Wing annual dues. Let's not forget that any delay generates costly reminders which are also very time consuming.*

And let's not forget the monthly and indispensable link that Bernard sends us regularly, which greatly contributes to our group's cohesion.

For 2008, I also wish that we can get together as often as possible, during the Fly-in in Le Plessis-Belleville, in Midland, or anywhere else during an air show, around the J-3 and the NC. In my opinion, there is nothing better to bond a team.

Enjoy the Holidays, and may this new year bring you (and us all) a maximum number of aeronautical satisfaction thanks to Patrick who will find nice and good air shows for us.

Claude Gascon"

COL. ROGER GOUZON
EXECUTIVE & RECRUITING OFFICER



A first class technician, an indefatigable and imaginative worker, a fine diplomat, always available, with an endless generosity and kindness, Roger is made for this position which requires all these attributes.

"Feeling very tired, our friend Philippe expressed his wish to stop looking after the Wing's finances. As conscientious as ever, he feared that he could not give his job all the necessary precision: Being a Finance Officer is really something. This key job must be accomplished with an extreme rigour so that expenses are paid in due time (Hangar rent, insurance, etc.), and gifts and annual dues are collected in a timely manner.

NEWS

Who could take on such a job?... Once again, there was no pushing around to get the position!... Col. Claude Gascon offered to take it on, but being the Executive Officer, he could not cumulate the two! Therefore, I applied for the position of Executive Officer, but this time, it was the Adjutant position which was lacking!... It was finally filled by colonel Fumiko Delfino. There again, no crowd to get this job...

As an Adjutant, I was not doing much because I can't speak English (A must to communicate with our American friends), and I can't use the Internet (embarrassing in the 21st century). I did improve my knowledge of computers, not so much of the English language... Therefore, since I wasn't doing much, Bernard will not see his workload increase greatly...

We must all help our new Finance Officer: It's so simple to pay one's annual dues on time, or any other debt! This will stop the need to send reminders to the late members, an ungrateful and unpleasant job, which is also very time consuming!

By the way, if the Spirit of Lewis is ready to fly (Just some cleaning and it will take off), the Rearwin Sportster is waiting for some willing members to give it its second life! This will not come alone, and for the French Wing to be credible, we need to move forward. There is no need to be a specialist to clean the numerous parts of this airplane, which need to be checked thoroughly. So, do not hesitate: It's waiting for you in Villepinte!

I must admit that I did not have a problem writing this message since I could have asked you to read the February 2007 Newsletter again. Although a year has gone since, I still don't ramble on (!), and not much has happened since...

A happy 2008 to you all!

Roger Gouzon

COL. BERNARD DELFINO
UNIT LEADER & PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER



"Managing an Association like the French Wing is no easy task because of the number of its activities which call for

permanent attention on a daily basis, and a lot of work. I am conscious that some of our members do not have the latitude they would wish to participate in these activities. May be because of the place where they live, their health, their family life, their job, etc. However, in 2007, many of our members found a way to move around these difficulties, and proved that **where there is a wish, there is a will!** And if, despite all your efforts, adversity remains the strongest, please do tell us. We may have the solution.

For this new year, I wish that everyone keeps, toward the French Wing and all its members, a line of conduct made of dedication and respect of others. This simply means to react promptly to the various requests published in the Newsletter, to answer emails and letters, to help each other, to take part in a maximum number of activities, and to act only in the interest of the French Wing and the CAF (and especially not for some sordid personal interest). If everyone complies with these few points, our life within the French Wing will remain as simple, pleasant, and friendly, as it's always been.

I wish you all a very happy new year 2008!

Bernard Delfino"

FRENCH WING ANNUAL SURVEY

Like we do every year, the French Wing Board of Administration publishes a small survey in order to know who, among our members, wishes to take an active part in our various animations during the whole year.

These few simple questions should represent no particular problem to our members, but you can always contact us to discuss them.

Therefore, we thank you for filling in, clearly and precisely, the short questionnaire attached to this Newsletter, and to return it to us no later than January 15, 2008.

Please do not forget to fill in all of your personal details because we take this opportunity to up date our records.

Should you wish to reply via an email and manually type the text, **please do make sure that you include every point.**

A big Thank You for your cooperation!

FRENCH WING 2008 BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION LIST OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Unit Leader	Bernard Delfino	bdelfino26@aol.com
Executive Officer	Roger Gouzon	email en attente (0148614090)
Finance Officer	Claude Gascon	gascon.claude@neuf.fr
Adjutant	Fumiko Delfino	bdelfino26@aol.com
Operations Officer	Patrick Pierre-Pierre	patp-p@wanadoo.fr
Maintenance Officer	Cédric Malhaire	cedric.gaelle@club-internet.fr
Equipment Officer	Christophe Bastide Michel Perrin	bastide16@aol.com mmperrin@free.fr
Recruting Officer	Roger Gouzon	email en attente (0148614090)
Fund raising Officer	Claude Gascon	gascon.claude@neuf.fr
Historian	Jacques Leroux	jac.leroux@wanadoo.fr
Translations Officer	William Davies	william.Davies@tele2.fr
PX Officer	Fumiko Delfino	bdelfino26@aol.com
Public Information Officer	Bernard Delfino	bdelfino26@aol.com

WAIT'N FOR TEX

"There is a friend that sticks closer than a brother"
(Proverbs 18:24)

In this tribute to a dear friend, **David Lee "Tex" Hill**, **Roy Grinnell** conveys the extraordinarily strong bond of friendship between "Tex" and **General Claire Chennault**.

The interpretation of this very special and unique image will be up to each viewer, but it is guaranteed to stir one's emotions. It will seem that you can almost touch the leather of Gen. Chennault's worn A-2 jacket and feel the steam rising from Tex's chipped cup, as you study the image. Gen. Chennault's rugged facial features are softened as he gazes out into the wild blue, waiting for his friend to return.

So many folks were touched by knowing Flying Tiger Legend David Lee "Tex" Hill. So many mourned his passing with such a profound feeling of loss the type of loss you can only feel when a close family member passes away. An outpour-



Painting: Roy Grinnell

ing of sympathy and love was felt from all parts of the world in reaction to his passing.

"Tex" was genuine, the real thing, and people felt that when they met him. He was a legend and an icon but someone who made himself accessible to everyone because he genuinely loved people and they felt it. Tex radiated kindness and

love, and he will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

A portion of each sale will benefit the National Museum of the Pacific War, in Fredricksburg, Texas (formerly known as the Nimitz Museum). They are planning a new wing of the museum which will include a major China Burma India exhibit which will be dedicated to "Tex." Tex has been a devoted friend and fund raiser on behalf of the Nimitz Museum.

A limited edition of 500 signed and numbered giclees are available on either canvas or heavy paper, with a Certificate of Authenticity, in the following sizes:

12x16: \$165.00
18x24: \$265.00
24x32: \$385.00

Also available is an open edition fine art print of "Wait'n for Tex":

16x20: \$70.00. (Note: Any French Wing member who will order one of these prints will get a 10% rebate).

NC 856 NORVIGIE

Following the passing of col. **Philippe Dufлот** who was one of the co-owners of this plane, his wife Danielle does not wish to keep this part of the airplane (1/6th). **Our members or their friends may acquire all or a part of this portion of aircraft.**

Should someone be interested in the purchase of this portion, he, or she, can contact the co-ownership administrator, col. **Claude Gascon**:

44 Rue Saint Pierre
55100 VERDUN
Tél: 03 29 86 71 00
Mobile: 06 75 74 25 96
email: gascon.claude@neuf.fr



Photo: B. Delfino

GIFT FROM COL. RON WRIGHT

The reason for this gift is very sad and admirable at the same time... Some time ago, col. **Ron Wright** advised our Unit Leader that one of his friends, **Chuck Esterline**, wanted to become a French Wing member.

The registration paper work was sent to him, and, in return, Chuck sent his dues to Roy and Irene Grinnell. Then things seemed to stop there... About two weeks later, our Leader, worried by the fact that he hadn't received anything from Chuck, wrote to Irene and Ron. A few hours later Ron advised him that, unfortunately, Chuck had died from an aortic aneurism on December 10. Irene sent the cheque back to Judy, Chuck's wife, and Ron, as a true gentleman, decided to make a gift of \$ 100.00 to the French Wing in memory of his friend Chuck Esterline.

We send our most sincere condolences to Judy, to her family, and to her friends, and we thank Ron for his generosity

and his gesture in honor of a friend who passed away far too early.

GIFT FROM COL. HARUO TANAKA

Col. **Haruo Tanaka** just sent us the amount of ¥ 20000 to pay for his 2008/2009 annual dues, his **Supporting Sponsorship** for 2008, and he made a gift of the remaining 24 euros to the French Wing Projects. A big thank you to col. Haruo Tanaka!

GIFT FROM COL. MICHEL FLEURY

Col. **Michel Fleury** has become a **Restoration Sponsor** of the *Spirit of Lewis*, and he decided to donate to the French Wing Projects the 20 euros he had paid for his booking of the General Assembly (He got sick shortly before this meeting and was unable to attend). A big thank you Michel!

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER

Col. **Michel Fleury** changed his cell phone number. It is now: 06 60 65 01 16.

THE ENTRY TO THE MUSÉE DE L'AIR ET DE L'ESPACE IS FREE FOR 6 MONTHS!



President Nicolas Sarkozy gave his OK for a free access experiment to the Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace in Le Bourget for a period of 6 months, starting January 1st, 2008!

This fact which was announced in the *Friends of the Museum* bulletin is simply extraordinary since, in France, culture is generally paying and too expensive. This is probably why **President Sarkozy** decided to try this system in 13 museums in France. Thank you mister President!

Therefore we can only encourage all our members to go and visit this museum as often and as soon as possible from January 2008. Each visit will make you save 7 euros, which is something, especially if you go there with your family!

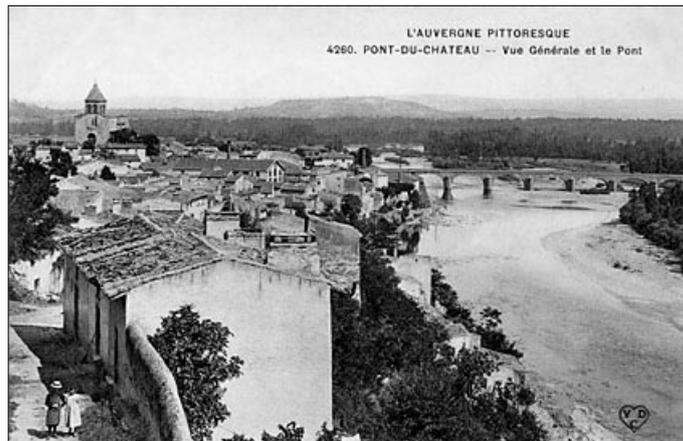
Please do pass on this information to everyone in your family and among your friends! One must support this fantastic idea because, if the result is positive, one can suppose that this free access will be extended indefinitely.



PONT DU CHÂTEAU IN 1910

Colonel Roger Gouzon got this beautiful post card from a collector and could not resist buying it.

This very interesting view, taken from the town hall, is to be compared with the photo taken by Roger and published in our Newsletter last month. Note that almost 100 years went by between these two pictures!...



... compared with the photo taken by Roger and published in our Newsletter last month. Note that almost 100 years went by between these two pictures!...

VISIT TO LUXEMBURG

Cols. **Marie-Françoise Le Cornec** and **John Roeder** got to work soon after the General Assembly in Pont du Château.

They got together in Luxemburg for a working session which lasted a full afternoon, then Marie-Françoise contacted her relations and friends who are ready to help the members of the French Wing.

SUGGESTED PROGRAM

Dates: **From May 2 to May 5 or 6, 2008**

Friday: Arrival at the hotel and bus ride down town and meeting with the Vieilles Tiges.

Saturday: Visit of Perle, of the museum of the B-17's, of Bastogne and its museum, then night in a hotel in Clairvaux (*To be confirmed*).

Sunday: Visit of Dietrich, then, back to Luxemburg (Same hotel as on Friday).

Monday: Visit of the American cemetery in Hamm.

In this program will also be included, as far as possible, all or part of the following points of interest :

- Maginot Line.
- Siegfried Line.
- Diekirch National Museum of Military History.
- Monument of the 385th Bomber Group.

It will all depend on the days and hours of opening of the museums.

BEWARE! The limit date for applying to this tour is **February 15, 2008** because such an organization calls for rigour and precision.

However, it would be a good idea to advise us of your intention to participate in this tour as soon as possible so that we have a fair idea of the number of persons concerned, then you will confirm your participation on February 15, 2008.

Hotel: The price for hotel nights should be reasonable, but we will only be certain when we know precisely the number of participants. Thanks you for letting us know your needs in terms of number of rooms and their type.

Outsiders: Outsiders will be accepted only if they are warmly recommended by a member of our Unit, and if they are accompanied by this member.

Parking: Since a bus will be used for the transportation of the group, personal cars will be parked in the car park of the hotel where we will sleep on the first and the last nights.

Video: Before you actually travel to Luxemburg, you may wish to refresh your memory by viewing various movies like "Patton". They include a great part of history and events which will be the subject of our visit.

COL. GEORGES MARCELIN HAS NOW AN EMAIL ADDRESS

Thanks for adding this address to your Phone-Book:

< georges.marcelin@hotmail.com >

ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER

All our members can send us articles in view of a publication in our monthly bulletin. To that purpose, a few restrictions exist, and the authors have to comply with them :

- The articles will not deal with politics, sex, or religion.
- They must reflect the activities of the French Wing and the CAF.
- Humor will be used with caution. It must be of a good taste and must not discredit persons or organizations.
- The Newsletter is the ideal support to congratulate members who are the most hard-working and the most meritorious, thanks to their good work and initiatives for the French Wing and the CAF.
- The articles published will have the main purpose of informing our members and friends, of uniting them, and of presenting our Unit and its activities to the readers and organizations which are not members of the CAF (*Note: Remember, for example, that this publication is read, kept, and archived, by the Documentation Department of the Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace in Le Bourget*).
- Texts will be written in perfect French and English, depending on the versions.
- Illustrations will need to be free of any copyrights, or, if they are, they will need to be accompanied by a written authorisation from their authors to reproduce and publish them.

CAF WINTER STAFF CONFERENCE

The Winter Staff Conference will take place in Midland on March 7, 8, and 9. Our Representative in the USA, col. **Barbara Hair**, will ask important questions to the CAF leaders.

Should you have questions to ask these leaders, send them to us. We will collect them and Barbara will ask them at the most appropriate time.

TASKS TO COME

Here is a non-exhaustive list of the main tasks that will need to be accomplished in the next few months. Some of them are urgent :

- Send the list of elected members to the Prefecture.
- Write the GA report and send it to the Prefecture.
- Use this very same report to get the new Finance Officer's signature, **Claude Gascon**, recorded by the banks.
- Advise the CAF HQ in Midland of these latest changes in the French Wing.
- Organize the first meeting of the Board of Administration (*Any member wishing to attend this meeting is welcome to do so. He or she just needs to advise us as soon as possible*).
- Analyse the result of the survey attached to this Newsletter.
- Up date all the members' personal files.
- Plan the articles which will be published in the Newsletter during year 2008.
- Form the work groups in each of our activities : Aircraft maintenance, PX and air shows, conferences with a video presentation of the CAF and the French Wing, etc...
- Equitably distribute the tasks to be performed within each group by all members of these groups.
- Carry out a stock check and inventory of the PX gift shop.
- Plan the J-3 and NC 856 maintenance (Annual checks, trouble-shooting, and replacement of used parts), and the restoration of the Rearwin Sportster 8500 and its engine.
- Plan the air shows (5) and the Fly-In in Le Plessis-Belleville.
- Plan the tour to Luxemburg at the beginning of May, a time that seems to be the best for this group visit (*See article on page 6*).
- Plan the trip to Midland for AIRSHO 2008 and book the hotel rooms (*See article on this page*).
- Check the good state of the PX equipment and the van, and carry out any repair that is required.
- Sort out the entire tooling in the hangar, in Le Plessis-Belleville.
- Sort out the spare parts and segregate per each type of aircraft.

FINA-CAF AIRSHO 20 & 21 SEPTEMBER 2008

Irene Grinnell has offered to organize our stay in Midland by booking hotel rooms in the Midland **Holiday Inn Express**, just like she did so brilliantly last year.

Any member who intends to go to Midland for AIRSHO 2008, must tell us as soon as possible, and give us their needs in terms of type and number of rooms, as well as the expected duration of their stay.

WE MUST KNOW VERY QUICKLY HOW MANY ROOMS WE NEED TO BOOK SINCE, ON THIS NUMBER, WILL DEPEND THE FINANCIAL AGREEMENT THAT IRENE WILL BE ABLE TO COME TO WITH THE MIDLAND HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL.

The price of each room will be inversely proportional to the number of guests. **Thanks for your promptness!**

A PHOTO ON THE ROCKS!

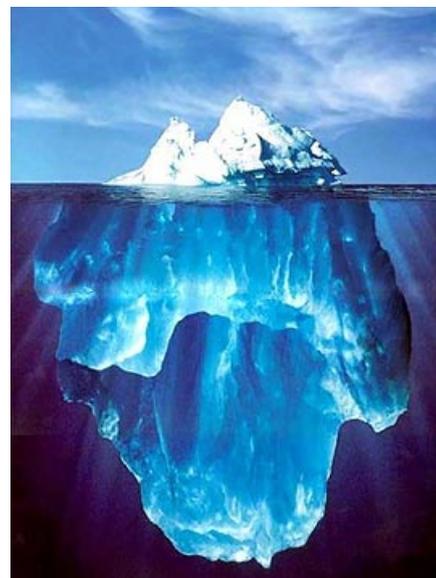


Photo via Internet

This extraordinary and authentic photo of an enormous iceberg in its entirety is an ideal picture to materialize the ratio of what one can see of our Association (*Emerged part*) and the amount of work it requires (*Immersed part*). It could also illustrate the ratio of flight time and the hours of maintenance on classic and warbird planes in order to keep these witnesses of history in an airworthy condition...

A TRIP TO MOSCOW

Article and photos: Georges Marcelin - Veteran of the "Normandie-Niemen"

Around mid-September, I received a phone call from the President of French Republic Protocole Office.

It was an invitation to go to Moscow with **President Sarkozy** for the inauguration of a monument which honors the memory of the Fighter Regiment "Normandie-Niemen" which fought in Russia between 1942 and 1945.

We were 5 veterans, survivors of this Unit, invited for this ceremony, scheduled to take place on October 10.

hours flight. We were taken to a Palace where I was given a princely suite!

In the afternoon, we went to a reception at the General, Defence Attaché, in the Embassy. A very warm reception during which



A personal plane came to pick me up in Nice!



At Villacoublay with the colonel commander of today's Normandie-Niemen.

On October 9, in the morning, a plane was sent by the President to pick me up at the airport of Nice. It flew me to the base of Villacoublay where I found four other veterans of the Squadron, as well as the Delegate to the President Protocole, and the current Commander of today's Normandie-Niemen Unit.

The following day we took off for Moscow where we arrived after a four

reception was waiting for us, as well as a series of photos taken with the students, followed by a visit to their "Normandie-Niemen" museum. Lunch was taken in



During the ceremony, speeches by Presidents Poutine and Sarkozy who later shook hands with us (On my left, the Attaché to the Presidents' Protocole).

the General's wife gave us a bottle of vodka to a friend and myself! We took this opportunity to have a few drinks and to try a russian dance! A big success!

The following morning we visited a school where a nice

statue. An enormous crowd is surrounding us. The two Presidents, **Poutine and Sarkozy**, arrive; they both pronounce a short speech, unveil the statue, and come to salute us. We are standing up of course. President Sarkozy tells me: "*I'm proud to shake hands with you!*"

Then the crowd literally "swallows" us up, everyone wants a photo taken with us. Finally, we manage to extract ourselves from the crowd. We go back to the hotel to pick up our luggage, and rush to the airport where the President's plane is waiting for us. It takes us back



The statue of the Normandie-Niemen and the russian crowd.

the hotel, and at 3 PM we're taken by bus to a square, in the center of the city, where a monument has been erected in a green area. It represents a pilot and his mechanic. We are sitting nicely before the

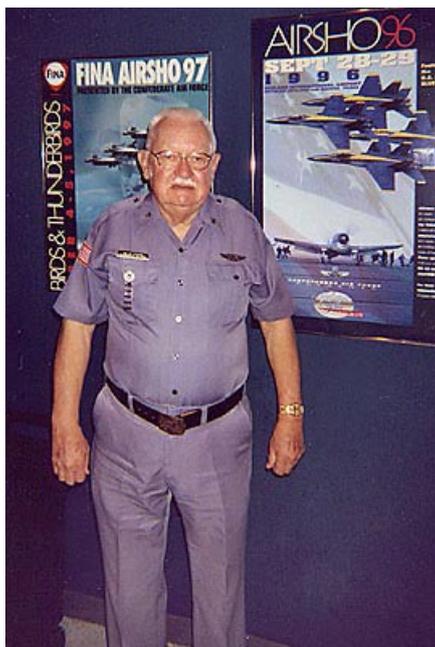
to Villacoublay where we have dinner with the authorities at the base commander's. The following morning, after a two hours delay due to fog, a friend and me take off with the plane that flies us back to Nice!

The reception by the russians was grandiose!! In practically the entire Russia, from Stalingrad to Saint Petersburg, the name of "Normandie-Niemen" remains as the symbol of friendship between our two people!

PORTRAIT

COLONEL JIM W. ADAMS

We met Jim for the very first time twelve years ago during AIRSHO, and it did not take three minutes for his good-naturedness and his jovial personality to create a friendly atmosphere which soon turned into a true and sincere friendship.



Since then, Jim helps us as much as he can during our stays in Midland, and he organizes our Unit's annual dinner in a Midland restaurant, so well that its success has been growing year after year!

Jim was born in 1928. He went to school in **Highland Park High School** in Dallas, and to the **State University of North Texas** from 1946 till 1948, then he obtained a diploma in Geology at the **Texas University** in 1951.

He then went to the USAF from 1951 till 1953, in a Unit which operated the RB-36 which, unfortunately, he was never able to fly.

Jim's career as a Geologist lasted 43 years, for the **EXXON USA** company, working in all phases of Exploration and Production Geology in the **Permian Basin** and the **Rocky Mountains**, particularly in West Texas and New Mexico.

He is an AAPG Certified Petroleum Geologist (# 647), and a State of Texas Professional Geologist (# 3760). He has been a member of the American

Association of Petroleum Geologist since 1951. During his career he published 23 geology reports between 1954 and 1994, as well as a book "*The Stauber Copper Mine and Santa Rosa asphalt Deposit*" in 1956.

This is how he became a member of several organizations like the **Society of Sedimentary Geology**, the **New Mexico Geological Society**, the **Roswell Geological Society** (Secretary), the **Andrews Geological Society** (Vice-President in 1979 and 1980, then President from 1981 till 1984), and the **West Texas Geological Society** since 1954 (Vice-President in 1989 and 1990, and President in 1991 and 1992), and many other functions that kept him very busy!

Jim is also a veteran of the **Boy Scouts of America** (43 years !) from which he received several awards. For this organization, he fulfilled several positions, acting mainly as an instructor like, for example, the time he was responsible for the "merit and instruction" booth during the 1997 **National Boy Scout Jamboree** in Virginia.

Finally, as if all these activities were not enough, Jim and his charming wife Terry sang in the choir of the **First Baptist Church** from 1986 till 1998, and Terry was even nominated as the **1993 choir member of the year!**

As for Jim's other occupations and particular tastes, here is a short résumé: Jim's favorite movie is **The Sound of Music**. He likes reading and has just finished **Forever on the Mountain** before he started reading **Exodus**.



His favorite warbird is the **B-25 Mitchell** (Jim is not a pilot but he flew several photo flights aboard the B-25).

Jim became a CAF member in 1991, when our Organization moved to Midland. He's a member of the **High Sky Wing** based in Midland, and now a member of the **French Wing**. What he likes most in the CAF is the "Can Do" optimistic spirit that prevails in the French Wing and the High Sky Wing.

Jim loves classic music and its great composers (Bach, Beethoven, Haendel, etc...) but especially Rachmaninov. Jim has two cars, a 95 Buick Sedan and a 97 Chevrolet Venture van. He says he has two favorite pets: A tropical fish that he's had for the past 55 years and... his wife Terry!... And his favorite dish is... his wife Terry!... The latter speciality is Happy Homemaking for 5 children and 10 grand children, and she is very successful at that!

Jim & Terry Adams
3702 Casady Court
Midland Texas 79707
USA
Tél: 00 1 4326946375
email: SlatsJacobs@aol.com



Part of the group of French Wing colonels during the GA in Midland. Col. Jim Adams is well surrounded!... From left to right, first row: Jacqueline Clerc, Fumiko Delfino, Léon Manoukians, Jim Adams, Claude De Marco, and Marie-Françoise Le Cornec. Second row: Sandy Sansing (Behind Fumiko), Jim Lux, Nancy Lux, Maurice Girard, Roger Gouzon, and Jean-Christophe Debuissou (Behind his moustaches...).

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE

PIPER J-3 CUB SPIRIT OF LEWIS

The Piper Cub needs its annual check and some special attention on the following points:

- Brake bleeding.
- Replacement of the cylinder cooling cowls known as "eye brow".
- Painting of the tail blue, white, and red stripes.
- Replacement of the left wing mast (with the pitot tube).
- Manufacturing and fitting of the flight controls cables and pulleys light alloy protections within the cabin (Mainly cabin floor).
- Transfer of the battery and its base onto the front cabin floor, forward of the control column, with the re-routing of the electric wires as necessary.
- Fuel injection syringe overhaul.
- Fitting of two lock nuts on the cross beams of the forward seat.
- Mending of other possible anomalies found during the annual check.



These tasks, apart from other possible bad surprises, should take three weeks to complete with 3 or 4 members who will work 8 hours per day, and 5 days a week.

Therefore, we need to know who are the members who could come and help accomplish these tasks, and how many hours they could work each day and week.

There is no need to be a technician to carry out some jobs like window polishing, aircraft cleaning, lubricating, etc...

This work will start as soon as the ambient temperatures are back to positive values, and after the repair on the NC 856 magnetos has been completed, and the positive results confirmed by several engine runs and local flights.

Therefore, we will program the Piper Cub's annual check for the whole of February 2008. This should give us some days of leeway in case we have some bad difficulties or if we experience a drop in temperatures, as it is always possible in that period of the year.



NC 856 NORVIGIE

The NC 856 needs a big check of 250 hours, and some special attention on the following items:

- Repair of the two magnetos (With the replacement of the two capacitors and bobbins).
- Overhaul of the magneto selector and replacement of the electric cables running from this selector to the magnetos. *Note: These two points should have normally been done before the start of the Piper Cub annual check.*
- Replacement of all flexible pipes in the gas, oil, and air systems (*In case this change is impossible, all connections will need to be re-done to minimize any risk of leakage*).
- Replacement of the exhaust pipes and their seals.
- Replacement of the cylinder rocker cover seals.
- Replacement of the friction rubber ring in the throttle control.
- Addition of an extra switch in the radio power line.
- Fitting of a 12 volts car type plug on the dash board.
- Polishing of all windows.
- Deep inside and outside cleaning of the airplane.
- Mending of other possible anomalies found during the annual check.

MAN POWER

To carry out all these jobs, a general effort will be required from all our

members. The duration of this check is estimated to be around two months for three or four mechanics who will work 8 hours per day and 5 days a week.

The more the merrier, and the sooner these tasks have been completed, and the better are the chances to see the aircraft Certificate of airworthiness renewed. The limit date for the two aircraft, Piper Cub and NC 856, is May 1st, 2008.

We thank all our members for all the help they can give to these two important - and inevitable - annual checks. We need the volunteers to step forward as soon as possible so that we can plan all these tasks.

REARWIN SPORTSTER

The work on this aircraft was delayed in 2007 for two main reasons: The manufacturing of the rotating fuselage support frame, and the chronic lack of volunteers.

Time is not a major factor in this restoration, but there is a difference between a "variable speed" work and a full stop!... **We ask all members who wish to take part in this restoration to make themselves known as soon as possible.** This restoration will start again once the work on the J-3 and the NC 856 has been completed, at a rate of 3 days per week, or more if possible, and depending on the volunteers availability.

The jobs that need to be completed before the end of the year are mainly made of sanding, repairs, and protection of the fuselage structure tubes, and the tail (Fin and rudder, elevator and tail plane). Once these tasks have been completed, we will carry on with all the elements which are attached to the fuselage: Landing gear, flight controls, cabin floor, etc.



ADMINISTRATION

THE FRENCH WING PIPER CUB SPONSORING SYSTEM

The annual premiums and cost per hour are split as follows:

- **Flying Sponsors:** 250 Euros per year and 25 Euros per hour (Average cost per hour, over 10 hours: 50,00 €).

- **Restoration Sponsors:** 125 Euros and 40 Euros per hour (Average cost per hour, over 10 hours: 52,50 €).

- **Supporting Sponsors:** 50 Euros and 55 Euros per hour (Average cost per hour, over 10 hours: 60,00 €).

- **Non-Sponsors:** No annual premium and 80 Euros per hour.

This system, which is based on 50 flight hours for the whole year, asks for a sufficient number of Sponsors to cover the annual fixed costs of \$ 6800.00.

QUESTION: Can you buy your own Piper Cub and pay all the expenses related to such an ownership?... No?... Well, for a modest amount of money, you can have the pleasure to fly as much as you want on a legendary J-3, without the worries inherent to such an ownership. How?...

BECOME A SPONSOR!



Peinture: Roy Grinnell

SPONSORS 2008

The list of Piper Cub sponsors for year 2008 is starting to extend in a significant way (Page 12).

We sincerely wish that all the sponsors for year 2007 renew their support to this airplane. **This payment has, in principle, to be done before the end of December 2007.** A big Thank You to all of you!

ANNUAL DUES 2008 / 2009

While we are still awaiting the 2007/2008 annual dues of several members despite several reminders, others have already paid their dues for the year to come, for which we thank them sincerely. These are:

Gilles Avenel, Lilian Ayars, Bernard Delfino, Ken Fields, Barbara & Aubrey Hair, Marie-Françoise Le Cornec, Patrick Pierre-Pierre, Sandy Sansing, and Haruo Tanaka.

A REMINDER ABOUT THE BASIC ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The same administrative questions come back on a regular basis. Therefore, you will find hereafter a small reminder which will help you check if you are up to date. If not, we beg you to do what is necessary as soon as possible.

CAF ANNUAL DUES

These are paid on the anniversary date of your CAF commission. You should normally receive a first reminder, followed by two more, over three months.

If you do not react to these three letters, you will be written off the list of up-to-date members, and transferred to the lapse members list (Do not hope to delay your payment date using this system: It is, and will always be the anniversary date of your first commission!). **Should you not pay after several months, you will be taken off all the lists, and you won't be able to remain a member of the French Wing or any other CAF Unit.**

If you do not understand fully the forms you receive from Midland, please contact the French Wing at once. We will send you a bilingual form which you will fill in and send to Midland by fax or regular mail.

FRENCH WING ANNUAL DUES

They must be paid no later than May 1st each year. Before that date, you will not receive any personal reminder since several of those appear in the Newsletter.

The French Wing has always showed a great patience, but **these late members must realize that their delay creates a great injustice toward the members who pay their dues on time.**

Should some members experience some difficulties for a serious reason, and advise us immediately, the French Wing will happily accept their delay. This happened several times and always ended the best possible way.

In any case, please do not stay silent! There is nothing worse for those who work hard to ensure the smooth running of our Association.

The French Wing internal rules stipulates that a penalty of 5 euros per month should be applied, together with all expenses related to your delay!...

These penalties have never been used, but nothing says that they won't be in the future! The very first risk of late members is that they stop receiving the French Wing Newsletter until their payment is completed.

A prolonged delay will end up with the member concerned taken off the list of the members of the French Wing which will advise the CAF Headquarters in Midland of this situation.

Therefore, the best advice we can give you is not to get a reputation as a "bad payer" by reacting immediately to the requests of the CAF and the French Wing. It will make everybody's life a lot more simple.

SPONSORSHIP OF THE SPIRIT OF LEWIS

Becoming a Sponsor of the Piper Cub is not mandatory, but, if you intend to fly a few hours within the year, **it's a lot more cheaper as soon as you exceed 2 hours of flight** (Check the rates on this page and do a little calculation. You will be surprised!).

Those who choose to become Sponsors will need to pay their annual premium before January 1st each year. These premiums are used to pay the fixed costs. The variable ones are covered by the hours paid according to your level of Sponsorship.

FRENCH WING P.X.

The following articles are available with a payment by cheque to the CAF French Wing. (+ P & P).

- Wing patch: € 9,00.
- Norvige patch: € 6,00.
- French Wing pin: € 10,00.
- Various pins "cloisonné": € 5,00.
- 100 A4 sheets with the Wing logo and your personal address: € 10,00.
- Warbirds photographs 30x45cm: € 10,00.
- T shirt Piper CUB, 170 grammes, Hanes, L or XL: € 15,00.
- T shirt cartoon P40, 170 grammes, Hanes, L or XL: € 15,00.
- T shirts other sizes on order.
- T shirt illustrated with the picture of your choice (Maximum size A5 - Warning! Only send pictures that are free from any copyrights!): € 15,00.
- Aircraft profiles 15 cm x 20 cm ready for framing: Various types: € 4,00 chaque.
- Vidéo filmed in Midland (55mn) VHS PAL: € 16,00 ©.
- Eric Besançon large size paintings: F4U Corsair and Messerschmitt 262 night fighter: € 30,00 P & P included ©.
- Poster N°1 Avions de la seconde guerre mondiale peint by Jean Bellis, 61x81cm: € 9,00 (FW Members), € 10,00 (Non Members) © + P & P.
- Greeting cards with Jean Bellis' profiles: € 4,00 each (P & P according to quantity) ©.
- Roy Grinnell prints - Normandie Niemen, F4U7, and B26 Marauder - Unsigned: € 30,00 + P & P € 10,00. Signed by veterans: € 50,00 + P & P € 10,00 ©.
- Roy Grinnell print of the Piper Cub: € 10 + P & P (FW Members), € 15 + P & P (Non members).
- Post Cards based on the same paintings (B26 Marauder and Neuneu): € 0,50 each (P & P according to quantity) ©.
- CD Rom of all FW Newsletters since January 2000, French and English, and 200 photos of warbirds taken during Airsho in Midland, by B. Delfino: € 10,00 P & P included ©.

The CAF French Wing is a non-profit Association ruled by the 1901 law, and registered under number 2473 of the Journal Officiel dated 10 July 1996.

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WING PROJECTS

PATRON COMPANIES SUPPORTING THE FRENCH WING

SKY RUNNER - TOPGUNART.COM - EPSON
AVIATION CLUB DE FRANCE - DIFFUSION SERVICE
EDITIONS LARIVIERE - UNIVERS PUB - SWISS INTERNATIONAL

SPIRIT OF LEWIS SPONSORS 2008



FLYING SPONSORS

Bernard Delfino
Claude Gascon
Roger Gouzon
Irene Grinnell
Roy Grinnell
Patrick Pierre-Pierre
Sandy Sansing
Regis Urschler

RESTORATION SPONSORS

Bunty Bateman
Michel Fleury

SUPPORTING SPONSORS

Christophe Bastide
Didier Bourrassier
William Davies
Fumiko Delfino
Louis-Jean Gioux
Barbara Hair
Aubrey Hair
Yves Houssin
Léon Manoukians
Haruo Tanaka

THANKS TO ALL SPONSORS OF THE SPIRIT OF LEWIS, FORMER OR NEW, TO SEND THEIR PARTICIPATION FOR YEAR 2008

	€
	70000
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	8000
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	2000
	0
Michel FLEURY	20,00
John FRANCIS	40,00
Alain JIMENEZ	50,00
Jim LUX	66,00
Lilian AYARS	37,00
Guy ROBERT	15,00
Lewis BATEMAN	25,00
William DAVIES	15,00
Jean-Yves CERCY	50,00
Arnaud CHATTON	15,00
Claude DE MARCO	50,00
Roger GOUZON	2,00
Michel PERRIN	6,00
Jean-Pierre JOB	80,00
Jean-Christophe DEBUISSON	50,00
Henri BOURRASSIER	50,00
Hugh ALEXANDER III	18,50
Sandy SANSING	1400,00
Regis URSCHLER	1457,00
George CHANDLER	750,00
Matt SIMEK	104,00
Guy BORTOLUS	10,00
Patrick PIERRE-PIERRE	15,00
Eric BESANÇON	20,00
Jean BARBAUD	40,00
Shirley BATEMAN	50,00
David & Eileen BOTTLEY	50,00
Marie-Françoise LE CORNEC	50,00
Philippe DUFLLOT	19,00
Christian FALENTIN	15,00
Barbara & Aubrey HAIR	157,00
Claude REQUI	17,00
Kim TOLFREE	13,10
Eric JANSOÛNE	53,00
Christophe BASTIDE	59,00
David PRICE	25,00
Fumiko DELFINO	413,60
Bernard DELFINO	602,25
Haruo TANAKA	69,00
Eric REARWIN	10,50
Yves DONJON	8,00
Roy & Irene GRINNELL	555,00
Bunty BATEMAN	150,00
Marcel FRANCISCI	100,00
Dominique DEUDON	200,00
John ROEDER	175,00
Ronald WRIGHT	181,00
Léon MANOUKIAN	100,00
Aviation Club de France	3750,00
Georges MARCELIN	590,00
Activités French Wing	115,00
Avoir précédent	856,96
TOTAL	12519,91

2008 SURVEY

Name & First Name:..... Level: Colonel, Associate Member, Cadet, Friend, CAF #:

Address:

Post Code & City:..... Country:

Home Phone: Fax:..... Cell Phone:

email:

Date of CAF Commission: I'm up to date with my CAF dues: YES - NO

I wish to take part in the following activities in 2008:

- French Wing FLY-IN in Le Plessis-Belleville (*Date TBA but most probably in June or July*): YES - NO
- PX, including setting up, transportation, and equipment stowing: YES - NO On air shows in 2008.
- Aircraft Maintenance: YES - NO On the Piper Cub: YES - NO On the NC 856: YES - NO
If YES: 1 2 3 4 5 days per week and 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 hours per day. (*Circle the figure you chose*)
- Restoration of the Rearwin Sportster: YES - NO
If YES: 1 2 3 4 5 days per week and 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 hours per day. (*Circle the figure you chose*)
- Articles for the Newsletter: YES - NO If YES, subjects:
- Local flight with the Piper Cub - NC 856: YES - NO (*Note: The NC 856 requires to be a member of its crew*)
- Long distance flights with the Piper Cub (*Toulouse for example*) with a duration of between 6 to 10 days: YES - NO

- Visit to Luxemburg in May 2008: YES - NO Total number of persons:
If YES, my need for hotel rooms is: Simple - Double - Smoking - Non Smoking Number of rooms:
I will get to Luxemburg: With my personal car, by train, airliner (*circle the appropriate*)
Particular needs:

- Trip to Midland for AIRSHO 2008 (20 & 21 September 2008): YES - NO
I wish to stay in the Holiday Inn Express hotel in Midland: YES - NO Total number of persons:
If YES, my need for rooms is as follows: Simple - Double - Smoking - Non Smoking Number of rooms:
Expected date of arrival in Midland: Expected date of departure from Midland:
I intend to visit other aeronautical places in the USA: YES - NO --- BEFORE - AFTER AIRSHO
If YES, which ones:

This questionnaire is to be filled in by all members, and sent back as soon as possible, and no later than January 15, 2008, to the French Wing head office, either by mail (19 Rue de Cannes - 93600 - Aulnay sous Bois - France), fax (33 (0) 1 48 69 04 57), or email (bdelfino26@aol.com).