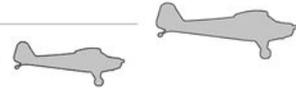




# AIRSHOW



CAF FRENCH WING - MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - BULLETIN MENSUEL

Volume 12 - N° 3 - March 2007

## EDITORIAL

The French Wing activities have been intense since the last edition of this bulletin, and some of our members were so busy that they didn't notice that February came and went!

As you will notice reading this issue, my calls for help on the current projects seem to have moved several members, which is reassuring, and lets me see the future in a more optimistic way than last month. Our Association only exists because its members want it to exist, and it is what it is thanks to the good work they do. To use some analogy, I will simply say that it's a garden from which the collectivity harvests what everyone seeds. Therefore, it is important that as many members as possible do their share of the work so that we can always move forward and so that everyone finds his personal satisfaction of a job well done, if only to respect the goals of the CAF and the French Wing.

This positive progress did also greatly improve communication within the French Wing, which is a great satisfaction too.

One dark point remains though: At the time I'm typing these lines, we still need a volunteer to help us coordinate this trip to Midland. His task will be very simple: All he, or she, will need to do is contact every member who intends to go to Midland and get from them the necessary information as listed on page 4, write them down, and work out a synthesis of everyone's particular requirements.

This is why I am reiterating my call for help to these future travellers: One of them must step forward as soon as possible to carry out this easy and exciting task, so that this trip to Midland is as successful as possible. A simple telephone call will be sufficient to do this enquiry and get this information from the candidates to AIRSHO. However, I resolutely remain optimistic despite this difficulty, and I don't doubt that one of them will volunteer very soon.

Bernard



Photo: B. Delfino

**THE FRENCH WING OBTAINS THE LEGION OF HONOR FOR COLONEL SANDY SANSING! (Page 2)**

**CELEBRATION OF THE CAF 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY AT THE MUSÉE DE L'AIR IN LE BOURGET (Page 7)**



Photo: B. Delfino



**COMPLETE REPORT FROM COLONEL BARBARA HAIR ON THE CAF WINTER STAFF CONFERENCE IN MIDLAND**

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**LA FERTÉ-ALAIS: YOUR LAST CHANCE TO GET THE "PERFORMER" PRICE IF YOU STILL HAVEN'T BOOKED AND PAID FOR YOUR BADGES! (Page 4)**

**AIRSHO 2007: LAST MINUTE!**

**THE DATES OF AIRSHO HAVE BEEN MOVED BACK TO SEPTEMBER 29 & 30! IF YOU HAVE BOOKED HOTEL ROOMS, AIRLINE SEATS, OR VEHICLES, CHANGE THEM AT ONCE! (Page 4)**

## COLONEL SANDY SANSING GETS THE LEGION OF HONOR!



Photo: B. Delfino

For the past two years col. **Philippe Dufлот** had in mind to get the Legion of Honor for our friend **Sandy Sansing**, in order to reward him for his brave actions during WWII, and the risks he took while participating in the liberation of France.

Philippe, alone, has reached his goal since the French Consul sent him the following email on February 15:

"Dear Sir,

*In reply to your message date February 9th, I have the pleasure to inform you that I received yesterday, via a telegram from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the good news that mister **Virgal Sansing** is on the list of the new members in the **National Order of the Legion d'Honneur (Legion of Honor)**, (Decree from the President of the French Republic dated January 29, 2007).*

*We now need to inform the member and examine with him the conditions of his graduation ceremony when he will receive his decoration. And I will be happy to discuss this subject with you.*

Best regards

Patrick Berron  
Consul général"

A big BRAVO to **Philippe Dufлот** for his tenacity, his excellent work, and his totally free dedication to the goals of

the CAF and the French Wing! The file that Philippe sent to the authorities, the diplomacy that he demonstrated, and his perseverance, allowed him to reach his objective which was no other than show the gratitude we all have for men like Sandy. Men who did all they could to allow the french people to reclaim their Freedom. They did so by risking their life permanently during this second world war.

As the Consul Général in his email says to Philippe, we now need to find out the exact place and the date of the granting of this prestigious decoration to Sandy.

We will keep you informed of the follow-up of this excellent piece of news.



## COL. GEORGE CHANDLER WILL BE INDUCTED INTO ACAHOF DURING AIRSHO

Decidedly, the French Wing is spoiled! After the induction of colonel Sandy Sansing into ACAHOF last year, it's the turn of colonel **George Chandler**, P-38 Ace with 5 kills, to be inducted into ACAHOF in 2007! This is fresh news, and we will tell you more about it very soon...



Photo: B. Delfino

## AIR SAFETY: COL. GILLES AVENEL HONORED

The reactions to the excellent article written by col. Gilles Avenel about air safety (*c.f. AIRSHOW November 2006*) have been numerous and unanimous to congratulate the high quality of this text, for its pattern or its essence.

Our Unit Leader sent it to the person responsible for safety within the CAF, col. **Bob Stenevik** who liked it so much that he immediately sent it to all CAF Units!

Bravo Gilles! we are now waiting for a follow-up...

## THE FRENCH WING VISA CARD

Many of you found the anomaly that was present on our VISA card issued by HSBC, but our friend **Jean Barbaud** was the fastest to find it.



For those who didn't notice it, the owner's name, in golden letters, was CAF FRENCH WINE instead of CAF FRENCH WING of course! As Jean was saying with his typical humor, it was a... message in a bottle!...

This funny error has since been repaired by HSBC thanks to the issue of a new card, but our Unit Leader wants to keep the proof of such an excellent blunder for the French Wing archives.

## THE NEXT FRENCH WING GENERAL ASSEMBLY WILL TAKE PLACE IN AUVERGNE!

The Board of Administration has decided to organize the next French Wing General Assembly in Auvergne, in Pont du Château.

The central location of this town will allow many members to attend this event. More information will be given to our members about the organization of this meeting next November.

## RENEWAL OF THE PX EQUIPMENT

The equipment to display prints based on paintings by Roy Grinnell and other artists for sale to amateurs and the general public has been greatly improved this past month thanks to the replacement of the sleeves that we had been using until now.

Several prints were damaged last year because of poor handling and transportation, to such a point that they became unsaleable.

Wishing to stop this waste as soon as possible, colonels **Philippe Duflot**, **Roger Gouzon**, and **Fumiko** and **Bernard Delfino** started looking for some very sturdy and relatively cheap stowage and display material. It was the discovery of very strong and large clear plastic bags and very light, but still rigid, polypropylene panels that allowed to replace this equipment at a rather low cost.

Completely redoing this display equipment necessitated about one hundred hours of hard and precise work performed by Roger, Fumiko, and Bernard. But the result was worth the effort since these lithographs are now protected from any irremediable damage. A container will soon be manufactured to perfect this protection.



Photo: B. Delfino

## PROFUSION OF GIFTS TO OUR WING!

Following the call titled "**The French Wing is Looking For...**" published last month, several members have donated the items that we most needed. Here is the list of these items:

- **Marie-Françoise Le Cornec** has donated screws, nuts, and washers, trash bags, white rags, tools, cleaning products, A5 envelopes, primer paint for ferrous metals, and wood glue.
- **William Davies** sent us A5 envelopes and A4 paper.
- **Didier Cardinal** brought us some paper overalls for the sanding of the Rearwin Sportster structure, heavy duty gloves, nuts and bolts, safety goggles, trash bags, and some polish for the aircraft windows.
- **Christophe Bastide** donated 5 boxes of tie-wraps clamps of various length, as well as six blank T-shirts for the PX.
- One member who wishes to stay anonymous has donated 40 neck lanyards marked *CAF French Wing*, from which one can hang a cell-phone or key ring.

## NC856 PATCHES

The NC856 Group has just got some patches manufactured displaying a profile of this plane.

The basic profile was drawn by Cadet Julien Lepelletier. Very nicely adapted with, of course, Julien's agreement, this profile became a very attractive patch. This article is now sold by the French Wing PX. The product of its sale will help purchase a transponder for the NC 856 aircraft.

The public price is 6 euros but members of the French Wing can get it for only 5 euros!

## NEW FRENCH WING T-SHIRTS

Great success for the new T-shirts on which is embroidered the logo of the French Wing!

Their price is 15,00 € (\$ 19.00) for non-members, and 12,00 euros (\$ 15.00) for the French Wing members (Plus P&P).

Please order from our PX Officer, col. Fumiko Delfino, specifying the size(s) required.

## HELP TO RECRUITMENT

We wish to remind you that any member who will recruit one or more new colonel and member of the French Wing, between January 01 and December 31, 2007, will see his 2008 annual dues reduced as follows:

- 1 new colonel = 25 €
- 2 new colonels = Free

In addition, any CAF **and** French Wing member (*Colonel, Associate Member, and Cadet*) will have a chance to win two free return tickets to/from New-York with Swiss International Airlines, thanks to a free lottery draw during our 2007 General Assembly.



## ANSWER TO THE JANUARY QUIZ

Col. **Jacques Leroux** was the first - and only! - to send us the answer to the quiz suggested by col. Christophe Bastide. The plane is a **Potez 37** whose first flight took place in 1930. The particular shape of its narrow fuselage was intended to reduce the dead shooting angle of the gunner. It was not adopted by the authorities which preferred to order the Les Mureaux 110.



## MEMBERS WHO WILL ATTEND AIRSHO 2007

Even though no other member declared that he would go to Midland since last month, this list remains non-exhaustive. Other names will, no doubt, be added to it soon...

The French Wing contingent is still very important:

### Europe:

Gilles Avenel  
Eva Bancel  
Jean Barbaud  
Didier Cardinal  
Jacqueline Clerc  
Jean-Christophe Debuissou  
Bernard Delfino  
Fumiko Delfino  
Claude De Marco  
Philippe Dufflot  
Roger Gouzon  
Marie-Françoise Le Cornec  
Julien Lepelletier  
Léon Manoukians  
Jean-Claude Miniggio  
Patrick Pierre-Pierre  
Claude Requi  
Antoine Roels  
Gilles Troussard

### USA / Japan:

Hugh Alexander III  
George Chandler  
Roy Grinnell  
Irene Grinnell  
Haruo Tanaka

**IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ONE OF OUR MEMBERS RESIDING IN FRANCE HELPS US COLLECT AND COORDINATE THE INFORMATION RELATED TO THE PEOPLE WHO WILL TRAVEL TO MIDLAND.**

This volunteer will simply need to contact each of these travellers as soon as possible, get from them the practical and indispensable information as listed hereafter, and send it to us:

- Exact number of travellers with names, first names, addresses, contact numbers, etc.
- Date and time of arrival and departure to and from Midland.

- Means of travelling to get to and from Midland (If it is using a regular flight name of the airline, flight number, and time and date of arrival and departure).
- Agreement to book a room in the Midland Holiday Inn Express (Send in a cheque of 15 € if you haven't done so yet), or choice of another hotel after personal arrangements.
- Agreement to share a room with another member to reduce the cost.
- Grouping of members to share a rented vehicle.
- Need of an airline ticket, departing from Paris or another city.
- Intention to be part of the annual French Wing dinner in Midland, and number of guests concerned.
- Particular needs for everyone.
- Booking of seats in a Chalet during AIRSHO: French Wing Chalet at \$ 90.00 per day, or Fighter Squadron Chalet at \$ 90.00 on Saturday and \$ 40.00 on Sunday (Names, first names, members or non-members, contact numbers, what day, etc).
- Intention to extend your trip to visit other places in Texas or somewhere else in the USA, be it before or after AIRSHO (Please specify the place and the duration of your extension, the means of transportation chosen, etc...).
- And any other necessary information for the smooth running of everyone's trip.

## CHANGE OF DATES FOR AIRSHO 2007

The announcement of the AIRSHO dates change to September 29 and 30 caused a few problems to those who had already booked hotel rooms and airline tickets.

The CAF leaders have apologized, but this change, caused by a conflict of dates with the sponsor of this event is inevitable.

Those who chose to travel using the advantageous prices offered by American Airlines, will have no problem changing their reservations.

The others, who chose to do it their own way, they now need to examine the problem with the organizations they chose.

Finally, those who had the intention to extend their trip and attend the Mustang

reunion "A Gathering of Mustangs" in Columbus (Ohio), now need to choose one of the two events... Difficult dilemma!...

## FRENCH WING ANNUAL DINNER IN MIDLAND

This dinner is moved to Thursday 27 September. The restaurant will most probably be the same as last year since it gave us full satisfaction and it has a private room which can host the sixty people we expect.

Col. Jim Adams, who has been organizing this event for many years, will soon do the necessary arrangements.

**One more reason for those who have not yet sent the details of their participation to do is as soon as possible.**

## LA FERTÉ-ALAIS 2007 : YOUR VERY LAST CHANCE TO ORDER YOUR PROFESSIONAL BADGES!

Those of our members who haven't sent in their order for badges, car park, and dinner, must do it immediately if they don't want to pay the full price, that is to say, twice the price of the professionals!

The members who have ordered and paid for their badges are:

Gilles Avenel  
Christophe Bastide  
Didier Cardinal  
Arnaud Chatton  
Bernard & Fumiko Delfino  
Philippe Dufflot  
Michel Fleury  
Roger Gouzon  
Marie-Françoise Le Cornec  
Georges Marcelin  
Jean-Claude Miniggio  
Michel Perrin  
Christian Tournemine

Should your name not be on this list, please do send your order at once!

As a safety measure, please call us by phone and let us know that your order is in the mail. We can delay our global order, but not for more than a few days!...

# WINTER STAFF CONFERENCE

Article by colonel Barbara Hair

Attendees to the Wing Staff Conference began arriving in Midland one day earlier than usual to attend, by special invitation of Chief of Staff Col Gordon Stevenson, a Communications Session called "We hear you" on Thursday evening February 15.



Photo: Barbara Hair

We were all requested to come to the meeting prepared to actively participate in a free-ranging discussion geared towards improving communication between CAF General Staff, Headquarters Staff, Unit Leaders and Officers and Wing members throughout our organization.

Not all Wing Staff were able to attend due to snowy weather conditions across the Northeastern and Midwestern United States.

Those of us who were able to attend found the discussion lively, interesting and productive. Many ideas were expressed concerning ways to better inform the membership and to exchange information in a timely fashion. Questions were raised and personally answered in a respectful way and differing views were freely expressed.



Photo: Barbara Hair

Registration began Friday morning with a total of 160 registrants with 58 Units represented. This was an excellent turnout considering travel difficulties. General Assembly met at 8:00 AM Saturday morning. Col Stevenson opened the meeting by introducing a slide

show featuring slides of the original CAF Colonels in full uniform from an early meeting in 1957! How marvelous they looked and how far we have come in building the finest group of flying Warbirds anywhere. Col Stevenson stated that every individual member is valued and respected and the goal must be to retain the members we recruit. To this end Col George Lodge will be the Chairman of the new Member Retention Plan.

Please Note: the date of AIRSHO has been changed to September 29 and 30. Our sincere apologies to those of you who were inconvenienced by this change in schedule necessitated by a conflict in dates with the sponsor. This 50th Anniversary show will feature all warbirds. The "Trojan Horsemen" an aerobatic team of T-28's will be flying and a new pyrotechnic display called "The Wall of Fire" will premiere this year with a solid wall of flame running the entire length of the flightline. The projected turnout for our exciting 50th Anniversary looks to be large with warbird enthusiasts coming from many parts of the world to celebrate with us.

A most interesting portion of the General Assembly detailed the many restorations in progress across the CAF. Several Wings sent slide shows of their projects which included the Red Tail

Project honoring the Tuskegee Airmen by the Minnesota Wing, the Southern California Wing's B25, Mitsubishi Zero and Bearcat restorations, the Arizona Wing's B25 "Maid in the Shade", and the Gulf Coast Wing's B17 "Texas Raiders". Of special interest to the French

Wing is the restoration of an A26 by the Sierra Hotel Sponsor Group in Oklahoma which was formerly used by the French Air Force in Indochina. The restoration was coming along nicely until a major tornado collapsed a portion of the hangar onto the fuselage with serious damage resulting. The intrepid Sierra Hotel group led by Col Rick Hudlow simply started all over and it is planned to fly again around 2009-2010.



Photo: Barbara Hair

Top: A general view of the General Assembly during the banquet. Above: Col. Gordon Stevenson, new CAF Chief of Staff at the microphone.

Left: Another view of the banquet with, on the right of the picture, col. Barbara Hair.

Below: Fun picture of Alyson Trevino responsible for the CAF publications (Contrails & The Dispatch), and Kay Crites responsible for the CAF public relations.



Photo: Barbara Hair



Photo: Barbara Hair

Marketing Director John Lage invited all CAF members to join the CAF in Las Vegas Nevada at Caesars Palace July 9-11, 2007 for a 50th Anniversary Celebration. Outstanding entertainment, educational seminars, special guest speakers and a concluding banquet are featured.

Those interested can find further information on the CAF website. Mr. Lage reported that many of our aircraft are in demand for TV and movie work with resultant income for their units.



Photo: Alyson Trevino

Our dear Bob Rice announced to the General Assembly that he will be retiring from his position after heading up the CAF for 16 years at the end of December 2007.

It is with great sadness that I report this as he has been such a good friend of the French Wing, indeed of every Wing across the CAF, honest in all things, of impeccable character and forever invested in the mission and members of our organization. He is an Officer and a Gentleman and he will be greatly missed.

Perhaps saving the best for last, at the Awards banquet on Saturday evening, Col Stevenson called me to the microphone and preceded his introduction of my announcement by describing a number of the French Wing projects.

He stated that the French Wing members were performing outstanding work and that he himself had joined the French Wing last year and that it was a most excellent decision! After

this glowing introduction it was my extreme honor and pleasure to announce to all that our very own Col Sandy Sansing has been selected to receive the ultimate decoration- The Legion of Honor from the hand of the President of France! There was huge applause and many hearty congratulations to be passed on to Col Sansing and to all of you. It was a supreme privilege for me to share in the joy of this incredible achievement.



Photo: Barbara Hair

Thanks to you all for allowing me the honor of representing you at the Wing Staff Conference. Your excellent work and reputation make my job representing you a delight!

Respectfully submitted,

Col Barbara Hair



Photo: Barbara Hair

#### MESSAGE FROM OUR UNIT LEADER

*Colonel Barbara Hair has just performed an outstanding work for the French Wing. I hope that everyone understands this, and I wish to underline the fact that she did this report in less than ideal conditions...*

*Much preoccupied by personal family matters of extreme importance, Barbara wanted to attend this conference, but above all, to represent our Unit during the dinner organized by col. Gordon Stevenson, our new Chief of Staff, on Thursday February 15.*

*A few days before this conference, Barbara did not hesitate to sacrifice all of her personal plans to give this important week-end in Midland top priority. Her husband, col. Aubrey Hair stayed at*

*home, ready to call Barbara should something drastic happen so that she could jump on the first plane back to Dallas.*

*Barbara had to buy her own airline return tickets from Dallas to Midland, pay for two hotel nights, and, of course, all participation fees to this winter annual meeting! A wonderful example of dedication and abnegation!*

*In Midland, Barbara played the role of a perfect reporter like she has been doing for years, getting as much information as possible, talking to members of the General Staff, to Director Bob Rice, and many other people of our organization. Then she wrote the report that you just read with great talent, and she sent it to me together with the pictures that illustrate it. All this in only three days!*

*Thanks to Barbara, we are able to read the fresh news of prime importance from the CAF, shortly after the end of this conference. But there doesn't stop her capacities since she was able to make her point of view heard with great diplomacy and tact, either with a single interlocutor or before a large group of people.*

*On behalf of all our members who did not get a chance to attend this conference, I thank Barbara for everything she does for our Unit. She is an example for us all!*

Bernard



Photo: Alyson Trevino

*Top: A movie about the Tuskegee Airmen reminded everyone about their great exploits and sacrifices.*

*Center: Two views of various guests during the banquet.*

*Left: Barbara announces that Sandy is getting the Legion of Honor.*

*Above: Barbara Hair, our representative in the USA.*

# CAF 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Article and photos by B. Delfino

When Kay Crites, responsible for the CAF public relations contacted us, as she did with all CAF Units, to ask us to create a special event to celebrate the 50 years of our organization, we found ourselves with a big question mark: What should we do, how should we do it, and where should we do it? In addition, Kay wished that we would do that on the 50th day of the 50th year, which was on Monday, February 19, 2007. This condition was difficult to fulfil since our members who work are generally unable to take a leave day. Also, tradition in France says that an anniversary is normally celebrated the day before, which dictated that the week-end of February 17 and 18 was the ideal time for this event.

Low temperatures and bad weather which usually prevail during February asked that we would do such a celebration indoors. The solution which could satisfy this condition quickly revealed itself, thanks to the dignity and solemnity of this place, and its great historical value since Charles Lindbergh landed there after a memorable flight when he crossed the Atlantic in May 1927: **The Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace in Le Bourget!**

Convincing our friends of the Air museum was not difficult since they are extremely kind and open to any serious suggestion, knowing that our Association never act lightly.

The many necessary preparations lasted several weeks. They were completed in great details by cols. **Philippe Dufлот, Roger Gouzon, and Fumiko and Bernard Delfino**. On our list were: The PX gift shop of our Association setup in the entrance hall of the museum, the pres-

ence of our Piper Cub (p. 10), the presence of several american military vehicles of Association AVMP with whom we already worked during the commemoration in Puiseux en Retz, an art show of Roy Grinnell's paintings, a display of many CAF airplane photographs, the presence of at least one WWII veteran, an enormous anniversary cake (See photo on the cover page), and, of course, plenty of Champagne to celebrate this anniversary as it should be!



The anxiety of this preparation soon gave way to action as we got closer to the date of this event. Our prayers for nice weather worked perfectly since a bright sunshine prevailed during these two days. Everything, absolutely everything, went as planned, which is not normally the case.

Many members took part in this event: **Gilles Avenel, Christophe Bastide, Guy Bortolus, Henri Bourrassier, Didier Cardinal, Arnaud Chatton, Claude De Marco, Fumiko and Bernard Delfino, Eric Ducreau, Philippe Dufлот, Michel Fleury, Roger Gouzon, Alain Jimenez, Marie-Françoise Le Cornec, Léon Manoukians, Jean-Claude Miniggio, Michel Perrin, Patrick Pierre-Pierre, and Christian Tournemine**, therefore 20 members who, for many of them, came along with relatives or friends.



The happy surprize and cherry on the cake took place when col. **Roger Burri** of the **Swiss Wing** joined us for the week-end. Flying the Swiss Wing Stinson L-5, he didn't hesitate to fly long hours from the area of Zurich. He presented the French Wing, on behalf of his Unit, three bottles of californian wine labelled with a Swiss Wing L-5 picture, and the French Wing thanked him with some T-shirts and patches. This saturday ended with a nice dinner in a Le Bourget restaurant.

Throughout the week-end, everyone helped as much as he could, be it at the PX, on the tarmac, or loading and unloading the van which was out for the first time and whose decoration was appreciated by all (p. 7). Our friend Henri Bourrassier told the public and our members many of his memories, then the 50 years candle was blown by par Henri and the youngest of us all, Théo Bastide, thus concluding nicely a memorable week-end!



Top to bottom: Roger Burri of the Swiss Wing, the PX with Fumiko, Léon, and Marie-Françoise, Julien Miniggio and Henri Bourrassier, a small part of the participants, and Henri and Théo blowing the CAF 50 years candle.



# ART SHOW AT AIR FRANCE

## SUCCESSFUL ART SHOW AT THE AIR FRANCE H.Q.

It was on the 5th of February that cols. **Jean-Yves Cery**, **Roger Gouzon**, and **Fumiko** and **Bernard Delfino** went to the Air France airline Headquarters to hang the prints and giclées that are the Roy Grinnell's art show titled: "*Grinnell avec deux ailes*" (Literally Grinnell with 2 wings).

We were welcomed very warmly by the person in charge of social affairs within Air France, and responsible for this kind of event: Madame **Maud Jalmain**. Since the very beginning of this project, she did everything possible to make this art show happen in the best possible conditions, and she did it fully despite the works that caused its postponing from November 2006 to February 2007.



Photo: Jean-Yves Cery



Photo: B. Delfino

We also want to thank mister **Camille Leroy** who prepared the splendid billboards and leaflets related to this art show and used to spread the news within the airline.

Located opposite to the cafeteria of the Air France Headquarters, these pictures saw hundreds of people every day. In fact, as soon as we started hanging these paintings on the wall, several aviation lovers were there, admiring these pictures which were so unusual for a place that generally welcomes the work of artists who rarely use their art for aviation. Let us thank our dear **Roy** and



Photo: B. Delfino

**Irene Grinnell** for giving us the occasion to make the CAF and the French Wing better known by the public, thanks to this art show.

In total, four framed prints were sold there, and one print of the Corsair was ordered by mail.

Air France being one of the high profile places for french and worldwide aviation, thanks to its history which carries on today, it was not surprizing that reactions and compliments were so numerous and very positive.

Here are some of the comments that we noted in the art show register:

- *Superb! One would like to own them all... If the budget could follow...*
- *Really a very beautiful collection! Thanks for all the aviation lovers!*
- *Formidable!*
- *Splendid! Superb! Thanks for letting us relive the exploits of our veterans.*
- *Magnificent and splendid! Thanks for these very realistic and highly detailed*

*paintings about our history. For the memory of these men! My sincere congratulations! Carry-on!*



Photo: B. Delfino

*Top: Madame Maud Jalmain with cols. Roger Gouzon and Fumiko and Bernard Delfino.*

*Left: Jean-Yves Cery discussing with Fumiko and Roger while, above, Maud Jalmain adjusts the spotlights.*

*Below: Three views of the way the 27 paintings were displayed and became very successful.*



Photo: B. Delfino



Photo: B. Delfino

# FORD TRANSIT

During February, cols. **Roger Gouzon**, and **Fumiko** and **Bernard Delfino** shared their availability between their "normal" occupations of their position in the Wing, the Rearwin Sportster restoration, the Piper Cub maintenance, and the various tasks that had to be carried out to complete the restoration of the Ford Transit.

Therefore, at this point of the restoration, a summary of what has been done so far on this vehicle since the end of October 2006 is not unnecessary:

- Body work repairs.
- Replacement of the rear bumper.
- External painting of the van.
- Repair of various electrical snags.
- Removal of the rear stepping board.
- Replacement by a trunk/stepping board.
- Fitting of a radio/CD player.
- Manufacturing of three roof bars.
- Manufacturing of a roof trunk.
- Manufacturing of an inside shelf.
- Overhaul of the carburettor and tuning.
- Technical check of the vehicle.

To all these tasks were added this past month the sticking of logos of the CAF and the French Wing, as well as those of all companies which helped us accomplish all our projects in the past, and still do.

The pictures printed on this page show the sticking of these logos and the final result of this delicate task which gives this Ford Transit, at long last, a clearly established identity.



Photo: B. Delfino

It is company **Univers Pub** in Le Plessis-Belleville who made these stickers of the CAF, the French Wing, and the various companies which help our Wing financially or using other means, using the logos prepared on his computer by Bernard Delfino. We wanted to thank them all by sticking their logo on both



Photo: B. Delfino

sides of the vehicle. The companies concerned are as follows:

- **Top Gun Art of Roy & Irene Grinnell.**
- **Sky Runner.**
- **Swiss International.**
- **Aviation Club de France.**
- **Univers Pub.**
- **Editions Lariviere.**
- **Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace.**

We are waiting for an answer from the **EPSON** company to add their logo (Note that we would be very happy to stick the logo of as many companies as possible, as long as they give us a significant help).

## WHAT'S LEFT TO BE DONE...

The tasks that are still to be completed are simple, varied, and will only ask for some patience and a little know-how:

- Internal painting in light grey color.
- Minor external paint retouching.
- Improvement of the sound-proofing of the front cabin.
- Replacement of the inside cardboard panels.
- Fitting of 3 three-points safety belts for the rear passengers.
- Manufacturing of an access ladder for the opening and loading/unloading of the roof trunk/observation platform.
- Manufacturing of window blanks to obstruct the rear and lateral window, while

using these blanks as a promotional medium for the CAF and the French Wing,

- Manufacturing of a trunk streamlined front face.

Nothing really difficult as one can see. All this will require a few dozen hours of work, and all volunteers are welcome to help and complete this important project before the airshow season starts.

Please hurry up because time flies and there is a thousand other tasks to accomplish so that we can complete all the French Wing projects! Thanks!



Photo: B. Delfino

*First official sortie of the fully decorated French Wing van for the celebration of the CAF 50th Anniversary at the Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace in Le Bourget.*

# REARWIN SPORTSTER

Despite the freezing temperatures that prevailed during several days early in the month, the making of the Rearwin Sportster fuselage supporting frame started early in February.

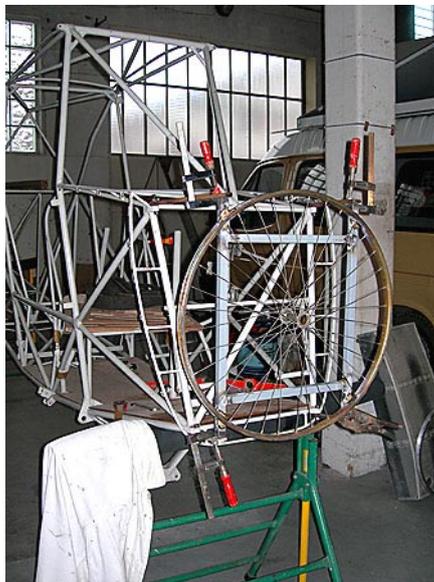
Even with the heater installed by Roger, the temperature in the workshop was not much higher than outside, and the only way to avoid freezing was to work harder than usual...

After they selected what will constitute this equipment, cols. **Roger Gouzon** and **Bernard Delfino** started preparing these elements whose list resembles a poem written by poet Jacques Prévert. It goes like this...

Two steel bicycle wheels,  
Six rollers from a sliding hangar door,  
Eight square steel electrical posts,  
Six tubes from a metal shelving,  
Three meters of flat iron,  
Four castor wheels from a trolley,  
A threaded iron bar,  
Screws, washers, and nuts,  
Some common tools,  
Several welding sticks,  
etc...

All together, they represent a complete bric-a-brac of objects which had long forgotten their original use. Thanks to this ambitious project, they avoided the dishonor of the local junk yard and found in it a second career that they couldn't imagine or even hope for...

Our two friends trimmed, sawed, hammered, filed, formed, drilled, assembled,



welded, so much that this assembly of heteroclite objects soon took the shape of an equipment which is worthy, practical, functional, and ready to support the Rearwin Sportster fuselage.

Today, this cradle - What a lovely name for a birth! - is moving forward fast.

This work was considerably delayed by the celebration of the CAF 50th anniversary in Le Bourget air museum, the restoration and the decoration of the Ford Transit which had to be ready for this event, and by the renewal of the PX print display boards as described on page 3 of this issue.

Another complete month of work will be necessary before this supporting frame is ready for the painting which will give it a professional and aeronautical look.

Therefore, it is by the end of March or the beginning of April that the long and painstaking task of sand-blasting the fuselage and flight controls will start so that we can check the metal tubes and welds, thus opening the hunt for cracks and corrosion.



Those of our members who were curious and lucky enough to visit the workshop where are located the fuselage and its supporting frame, while they were in the area for the event in Le Bourget, were surprized by the size of this aircraft which



appears rather small on the photographs. The positive comments they made about the work which has already been carried out, either on the Rearwin Sportster or on the Ford Transit, were highly appreciated.

The making of an adequate equipment will not be limited to that crate. Before we can start sand-blasting, we will need to build a cabin which will be made of a metal tubes covered with a sheet of clear vinyl so that its cost is kept to a minimum. It will limit projections of sand around the workshop and it will make its recuperation easy so that it can be reused after filtering.

Following our call for a possible name for this Rearwin Sportster, no suggestion has been received yet. We need to find a name which will reflect this project's honorability. Keep trying!



# SPIRIT OF LEWIS

## 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?...

**ANSWER:** **BY BECOMING A SPONSOR!**



Peinture: Roy Grinnell

## PIPER CUB SPONSORS FOR THE 2007 SEASON

The number of Sponsors has gone up once again this month (see the last page of this issue), but we are still awaiting for some members who haven't renewed their sponsorship yet. We invite them to do this as soon as possible to cover all the fixed costs entirely so that it can operate in complete quietude. Thanks in advance!

## SPONSORS 2007

### FLYING SPONSORS

Hugh Alexander III  
Gilles Avenel  
Jean-Yves Cercy  
George Chandler  
Bernard Delfino  
Fumiko Delfino  
Claude Gascon  
Roger Gouzon  
Irene Grinnell  
Roy Grinnell  
Jean-Claude Miniggio  
Patrick Pierre-Pierre  
Sandy Sansing  
SKY RUNNER  
Regis Urschler

### RESTORATION SPONSORS

Bunty Bateman  
Didier Cardinal  
Michel Fleury  
John Roeder

### SUPPORTING SPONSORS

Christophe Bastide  
Frédéric Baudin  
Henri Bourrassier  
William Davies  
Jean-Christophe Debuissou  
Claude De Marco  
Stéphane Duchemin  
Louis-Jean Gioux  
Barbara Hair  
Aubrey Hair  
Léon Manoukians  
Haruo Tanaka  
Ron Wright

## SPIRIT OF LEWIS FLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

Thanks to the nice weather that prevailed during the week-end of the CAF 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, cols. Patrick Pierre-Pierre and Roger Gouzon were able to fly three times: One flight for training and checking the plane over Le Plessis-Belleville, then the flight to Le Bourget to celebrate this event, and the flight back to Le Plessis-Belleville.

Everything went fine and the plane was very popular with the museum visitors where aircraft are generally static. This activity was a real benefit for the Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace.



Photo: B. Delfino



Photo: B. Delfino



Photo: B. Delfino



Photo: B. Delfino

# 2007 OPERATIONS

Several new facts have recently changed the organization of the 2007 operations.

The most important one is the change of dates for AIRSHO 2007, from September 22 & 23 to September 29 & 30. This will free pilots and mechanics who were supposed to be in Midland while the Rennes airshow was on. Please let us know of your availability as soon as possible!

Also, our participation to the airshow in Toussus le Noble on September 16 has been confirmed by the organizers. We thank you for letting us know if you wish to participate with the airplanes or with the PX.

Finally, if you want to help with the airshow in Evreux and need hotel accommodation, please advise us as soon as possible.

Note that in the table below, the "Month" column is now colored yellow for not confirmed, and green for confirmed events.

## TOUR DE FRANCE 2007

DATES	ITINERARY	PILOT	PASSENGER
13/7/07	Le Plessis/Troyes/Montbéliard	C. Gascon	F. Delfino
14/7/07	Repos Montbéliard	C. Gascon	B. Delfino
15/7/07	Montbéliard/Chalon/Issoire	Gascon/Miniggio	P. Dufлот
16/7/07	Repos Issoire	Gascon/Miniggio	?
17/7/07	Issoire/Grenoble	Gascon/Miniggio	?
18/7/07	Repos Grenoble	Gascon/Miniggio	?
19/7/07	Grenoble/Mende/Toulouse	C. Gascon/?	?
20/7/07	Repos Toulouse	P. Pierre-Pierre	J. Roeder
21/7/07	Toulouse/Périgueux/Couhé	P. Pierre-Pierre	R. Gouzon
22/7/07	Meeting Couhé	P. Pierre-Pierre	N/A
23/7/07	Couhé/La Rochelle	P. Pierre-Pierre	R. Gouzon
24/7/07	Repos La Rochelle	P. Pierre-Pierre	?
25/7/07	La Rochelle/Rennes	P. Pierre-Pierre	Hugh Alexander III
26/7/07	Repos Rennes	G. Avenel	Hugh Alexander III
27/7/07	Rennes/Deauville/Dieppe	G. Avenel	Hugh Alexander III
28/7/07	Repos Dieppe	G. Avenel	Hugh Alexander III
29/7/07	Dieppe/Le Plessis	G. Avenel	Hugh Alexander III

## 2007 AIRSHOWS & EVENTS

MONTH	DATE	PLACE	A/C	CREW One way	CREW Return	PX	ORGANIZERS
MAY	25-27	LA FERTE ALAIS	J3 NC	J-Y Cercy/P. Dufлот Gascon/	PPP/ Gascon/	YES	AJBS
JUNE	2/3	LE PLESSIS	J3 NC	TOUS (Fly-in)	TOUS (Fly-in)	YES	CAF/FW
JUNE	10	NIORT	NC	PPP/Passager	PPP/Groupe Norvигie	NO	ASPAN
JUNE	14-17	POPHAM (UK)	J3	G Avenel/P. Dufлот	G Avenel/P. Dufлот	70ansduJ3/NON	Piper Club France
JUNE	14 & 18	BOULOGNE	J3	PPP/	/	NO	CAF/FW
JUNE	16/17	MONTLUÇON	NC	JY Cercy/PPP/	JY Cercy/PPP/	NO	Rassemblement AF
JUNE	23/24	LE LUC	NC	PPP/Groupe Norvигie	PPP/Groupe Norvигie	NO	ALAT
JULY	8	EVREUX	J3 NC	G Avenel/P. Dufлот PPP/RG	G Avenel/P. Dufлот PPP/RG	YES	Armée de l'Air
JULY	13-29	TOURDEGAULE	J3	See attached table	See attached table	Mini PX	CAF/FW
JULY	22	COUHE VERAC	J3	During Tour de France	During Tour de France	Mini PX	Aéro club
AUGUST	5	SARLAT-DOMME	NC	PPP / P Dufлот / R Gouzon	PPP / P Dufлот / R Gouzon	NO	Aéro club
SEPT.	2	LENS	J3 NC	/, Dufлот /	/, Dufлот /	YES	Air History
SEPT.	9	LA ROCHELLE	NC	PPP/groupe Norvигie	/	NON	Aéro club
SEPT.	16	TOUSSUS LE NOBLE	J3 NC	/Passager /Passager	/Passager /Passager	YES	Air History
SEPT.	22/23	RENNES	J3	Gascon/	Gascon/	Mini PX	Aéro club

## 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.
- "Gioux" type patch: € 6,00.
- Various epoxy pins: € 5,50.
- 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: € 40,00 + P & P € 10,00. Signed by veterans: € 60,00 + 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 ©.

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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

## THANK YOU!

• This month, our most sincere thanks go to:

- **Jean-Claude Miniggio** who renewed his Flying Sponsorship, and paid his annual dues for 2007/2008.

- **Claude De Marco** who renewed his Supporting Sponsorship and donated 50 euros for the restoration of the Rearwin Sportster.

- **Christophe Bastide** who donated 10€ to the Rearwin Sportster.

- **Christophe Bastide, Fumiko and Bernard Delfino, Roger Gouzon, and Roy Grinnell** who, through their gifts of various articles to the PX, which have been sold in Le Bourget, totalled 91 € which have been added to the donations to the French Wing projects.

- In Le Bourget, col. **Roger Gouzon** made an attempt at taking pictures of kids near the Piper Cub, with a print made within three minutes thanks to his new printer. This test was positive and will be put in full use during the airshow of La Ferté-Alais and every time it will be possible. The profit made will be added to the PX to help the French Wing.

- **Christophe Bastide, Marie-Françoise Le Cornec, William Davies, and Didier Cardinal** who donated various products which will allow the French Wing to save a substantial amount of money.

	€
	70000
	68000
	66000
	64000
	62000
	60000
	58000
	56000
	54000
	52000
	50000
	48000
	46000
	44000
	42000
	40000
	38000
	36000
	34000
	32000
	30000
	28000
	26000
	24000
	22000
	20000
	18000
	16000
	14000
	12000
	10000
	8000
	6000
	4000
	2000
	0
Claude DE MARCO	50,00
Roger GOUZON	2,00
Michel PERRIN	4,00
Jean-Pierre JOB	80,00
Jean-Christophe DEBUISSON	50,00
Henri BOURRASSIER	50,00
Hugh ALEXANDER III	18,50
Sandy SANSING	700,00
Regis URSCHLER	157,00
George CHANDLER	750,00
Matt SIMEK	100,00
Guy BORTOLUS	10,00
Patrick PIERRE-PIERRE	5,00
Eric BESANÇON	20,00
Jean BARBAUD	40,00
Shirley BATEMAN	50,00
David & Eileen BOTTLEY	50,00
Marie-Françoise LE CORNEC	50,00
Philippe DUFLOT	13,00
Christian FALENTIN	15,00
Barbara & Aubrey HAIR	105,00
Claude REQUI	17,00
Kim TOLFREE	5,50
Eric JANSOONNE	30,00
Christophe BASTIDE	45,00
David PRICE	25,00
Fumiko DELFINO	223,60
Bernard DELFINO	269,75
Haruo TANAKA	45,00
Eric REARWIN	10,50
Yves DONJON	8,00
Roy & Irene GRINNELL	140,00
Bunty BATEMAN	150,00
Marcel FRANCISCI	100,00
Dominique DEUDON	200,00
John ROEDER	175,00
Ronald WRIGHT	104,00
Léon MANOUKIANS	30,00
Aviation Club de France	3750,00
Georges MARCELIN	390,00
Activités French Wing	57,00
Avoir précédent	856,96
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8771,81</b>