

HONORING AMERICAN MILITARY AVIATION THROUGH FLIGHT, EXHIBITION AND REMEMBRANCE

NEW PLANE CAPTAIN AND LOAD MASTER POSITIONS BEING CONSIDERED

By Col Tom Howe
 Propwash Editor

Whenever our TBM is pulled from its hangar there is a chain reaction of duties and responsibilities happening that never stops until the TBM is back in the hangar and the doors are secured. The individuals performing all these duties have seemed to work together like a flock of geese, each falling into a position in the "V" and then shuffling about within the "V" as the flight moves ahead with the majority arriving at a common destination. The job has always been accomplished with lots of pride and on-going success. It's that sort of common goal attitude that has made the Rocky Mountain Wing one of the long-time success stories of the CAF.

So why consider fixing something that doesn't appear to be broken?

The answer is not just because we can, but because maybe the operational system can be made better. The current operational system works well – the results have proven that - but at what expense? Unfortunately the large responsibility load often shouldered by a very few members at Air Shows

and other appearances has worn on those individuals both mentally and physically to the point where what is supposed to be fun has often become misery. That isn't the way it should be!

So to spread the misery around two new operational positions are being considered by your wing staff. Similar to the way the Navy operated our TBM aboard a carrier, it takes several team members to make a Mission (in our case an Air Show or

other aircraft appearance) work smoothly and safely.

The new positions being considered are a Load Master and Plane Captain. These two positions working in concert with the Pilot in Command (PIC) should (if everything is designed properly) make an Air Show Mission go smoothly and as a result the Air Show Crew should have more fun!

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Plane Captain

The Plane Captain ensures the aircraft is ready for flight (includes GJT departure, revenue rides, other mission flight legs & return) including:

- Aircraft Staging.
- Aircraft Serviced with proper fuel, oil, etc. (in concert with PIC).
- Crew Seating Assignments (in consultation with the PIC).
- Cargo Loading (in concert with Load Master).
- Prior to any flight departure ensure:
 - ◊ Passenger documentation is in place.
 - ◊ Passenger Safety and Operations Briefings are complete.
- Ensure security and weather protection is in place for aircraft and PX.
- Ensure GJT ground arrival support crew is scheduled for aircraft return.

While performing these and other duties which may be assigned, the Plane Captain will coordinate with the PIC that is directly responsible for and has the final authority as to the operation of the aircraft.



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RMW AIR SHOW SCHEDULE - 2014

MONTH	DAYS	LOCATION	SHOW	TBM	CUB	STATUS
Mar	15, 16	Luke AFB, AZ	Open House w/T-Birds			CONFIRMED
Apr	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN			OPEN
May	10	Holloman AFB, NM	2014 Open House			Probable
	24, 25	Cannon AFB, NM	Open House w/T-Birds			CONFIRMED
June	14	Boulder, CO	Airport Day & Dance			CONFIRMED
	20, 21	Twin Falls, ID	Magic Valley Air Show			CONFIRMED
	28, 29	Hill AFB, UT	Open House w/T-Birds			CONFIRMED
July	26, 27	St. George, UT	Thunder over UT with Blue Angles			CONFIRMED
Aug	16	Powell, WY	Airport Open House			CONFIRMED
	22, 23	Front Range Airport	Rocky Mtn Air Show			CONFIRMED
	28, 9/1	Steamboat Springs	Wild West Air Fest 2014			CONFIRMED
Sep	6	Eagle, CO	Wings & Wheels 2014			CONFIRMED
	20, 21	Mountain Home AFB	Open House w/T-Birds			CONFIRMED
	27	Elko, NV	Sky Fare 2014			Probable
Oct	4	Prescott, AZ	Open House (?)			CONFIRMED
	10, 11, 12	Midland, TX	CAF Airsho 2014			CONFIRMED
	25	Bullhead City, AZ	Open House (?)			Probable

Our **2014 Air Show** season has become one of the most active in years!

13 CONFIRMED shows on the schedule already with a few more in the wings (figuratively speaking.)

The new Air Show crew scheduling software on the RMW Website is now functional (thanks Col Duncan) with our Operations Staff (thanks Col Johnson) now using that real-time website feature to schedule Air Show Crews.

Crew scheduling is as complicated as finding and booking the shows. Many of our shows are on military base facilities that require pre-arranged security passes and of course there is the booking of hotel/motel accommodations and ground transportation, etc., etc.

Once fully operational the new on-line system will aid Col Bob Thompson with those efforts.

PLAN TO ATTEND A SHOW - NEW CREWMEMBER SCHEDULING

*By Col Rob Duncan
WebWizard & TBM PIC
and Col Kay Johnson
Operations Officer*

The old "White Board Air Show Scheduling" process is no more! Now even you can sign up to attend an Air Show as a RMWCAF crewmember from the comfort of your home. The new Air Crew and Air Show / Aircraft Appearance ground support

crew scheduling is now just a click away.

Thanks to Col Rob Duncan, it's a very simple process. Here's the simple instructions for experienced users:

1. Log on www.rmwcac.org use "Email Me My Password" if needed.
2. Open the "Event

Schedule -> Upcoming" page.

3. Click "Sign Up" button on desired events for all initial crew requests.
4. Click the (+/-) button next to your name to change previous requests.
5. You will receive an alert e-mail for all initial and subsequent change requests for that event, including

Detailed instructions and background:

As our unit has expanded and become geographically diverse, we needed to improve our method of event and crew scheduling. The old white board was unusable and obsolete.

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Maintenance Report - Forecast Indicates Some Change...

*By Col Rob Duncan
Wing Maintenance Officer*

Forecast indicates some change in the weather – Cols. Willie Hooker, Floyd Suits and Bob Caskey are making lots of noise in the attic with Col. Rich Connor’s donated kilo-BTU heater. Initial indications are that the main natural gas feed line “may” be adequate, while the “Wrench Wranglers” clamor for more heat in the recent cold weeks in Grand Junction. We should count our blessings as fully three quarters of the nation are speed-dialing Al Gore asking “where’s the heat?” much like “where’s the beef” caught on in the 80’s. Sadly Clara Peller passed on in 1987.

One definition of a “good friend” is somebody that will be truthful, and really tell it like it is. Our new “good friend” Mario Morales has given us new insights into safe and reliable TBM Operations last month. The other side of the two-headed sword is that we now need to address things that have been overlooked. Mario’s many years of keeping TBMs profitably flying pointed out a few items that were not discussed in the USN TBM Maintenance manual. Perhaps the fact that the Canadians operated TBMs after the USN had retired them, both in military and civilian use, had a lot to do with this. After all, did Leroy Grumman actually think his wonderful do-all

aircraft would be still flying almost 70 years later?

As we finished the 2013 airshow season in October, there were MANY months of time to prepare for the upcoming 2014 season. Friends, it is here, and right now. Col. Thompson has done an outstanding effort in making 2014 a huge REBOUND season and the first event is March 14 – yes - less than one month away. As an all-volunteer group, we are generally hampered by only working on the TBM a few hours each Saturday. Half of one Saturday each month is taken up by Staff meetings, and “CAF Hours” are generally far better than “Banker’s Hours” as they go from about 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturdays only, with a good, often free, lunch hour. We did some optimistic moves this year, trying to keep the new members interested in working on the airplane. These moves included a full cockpit panel restoration which required relocating the entire modern avionics systems, besides bringing in a true TBM “expert” to reveal what our maintenance teams have been missing for over 25 years of (thankfully safe) operations. Here is your chance to get out hands dirty while learning some history. We have prioritized the remaining tasks that need to be completed – some need to be done before our first airshow at Luke AFB (March 14-16), others may be deferred until afterwards. A “Unskilled Workers” (UW) list has been

prepared so that you may come in and ask for assignment to one of these truly needed tasks. Your efforts will free a “more skilled” person to complete the more technical tasks.

I want to make everyone aware of the extra-ordinary efforts (again) of Col. Jay Anderson. Jay has made the TBM an “almost daily” job for the last two months. He finds other RMW members, like Mike Oconnell, Robert Owen, and Floyd Suits that are willing to help out during the week. Jay makes the long drive down from Mesa almost every day, as he realizes the amount of work it will take to be “ready” for our first airshow. If it were not for these “mid-week” efforts, it would be impossible to be ready for our first airshow in March. In addi-

tion, Col. Dick Maddock has been irreplaceable in fabricating and installing many items. Now that the refurbished engine control cables have been completed, Dick’s handiwork can be seen in the two photos of “then” and “now” look for our avionics, just installed on February 15, except for a few dozen loose wires that Col. Duncan will soon attach, throw the main power switch and pray for “no smoke!” The first view shows the original radar display front panel installed as will be seen when we are on static display. The second view shows the modern avionics lurking behind the panel, as will be seen by our pilots. Dick made the whole thing look right, regardless of the millennium viewpoint. We have some great restoration and maintenance team members. Come join them.



The “Then” Faux Radar Panel which will cover the ...

... “Now” modern radios used in flight when the “Then” panel above is removed.
Cool!!





Primary Business Address
 PO Box 4125
 Grand Junction, CO 81502

Propwash Gazette Editor
 Col Tom Howe
 Phone: 970-872-7373
 Fax: 970-872-7474
 e-mail: howet@tds.net

RMWCAF on the Web
www.rmwcaf.org

“Keep 'em Flying”

WING LEADER’S REPORT

*By Col Bob Caskey
 Executive Officer*

I recently attended the Grand Junction Airport Authority’s Board (Board) meeting on February 19, 2014. I am pleased to say that the change that has occurred on the Board over the last year or so is dramatic, refreshing, recognized, and welcomed. Very soon, the entire Board with the exception of the mayor of Grand Junction (City) will be made up of newly appointed members. The City is now in the process of appointing a replacement for Dave Hubbard, who recently resigned as vice chair. My hope is that they follow Mesa County’s lead and select an individual that is up to the task that lies ahead of them. This Board is faced with a daunting task of cleaning up the mess that the



former director left. Their meetings have gone from a 15 minute wink and nod, and approve session to hours of tough deliberation and consideration. Under the leadership of our member Steve Woods, I’m starting to see a light at the end of the tunnel. Some of the issues may take years to resolve; however, I can tell you the message we started sending the Board over four years ago has been heard and taken to heart. Thank you, Bill Marvel and Dave Shephard, for your extraordinary efforts. Without it, I doubt any of this would

CALL FOR PHOTOS!

This corner of Propwash Gazette Page 4 has been reserved for TBM photos for several years. Time for a something different!

Or maybe Not!!

Contribute a member photo and the Propwash Gazette editorial staff will call a staff meeting, review all the photos contributed during the previous month and select a

Member Photo of the Month!

Of course if no-one submits any photos - then picking one will be difficult. The editorial staff will still meet, quaff a few beers and make a decision whether to print another historic TBM photo or just leave this corner blank.

What a great way to get even with Col

It’s simple to get your photo published. Just e-mail to:

howet@tds.net

And attach the digital photo to the e-mail.

Then watch the next issue of Propwash to see if your photo was selected as...

Member Photo of the Month!

be resolved. Today it’s not a question of if the gates will be open but a question of when.

For those of you that live in the city of Grand Junction, it would be helpful for you to contact your City Council. You need to express your desire to see the next appointee chosen because of their integrity, intelligence, and commitment to invest the time and work necessary in fixing the problems at the airport.

Our upcoming airshow schedule is very aggressive. We need all hands on board to meet the needs of this season. Thanks to Col Duncan we have a new scheduling device on our website that allows members to sign up for the air-

shows. Keep in mind that before we can attend any airshows, we have to get our beloved TBM airworthy for the season. The coldest part of the winter appears to be behind us. Things are warmer in the maintenance hangar, so please come out on Saturdays and help the maintenance crew get our bird ready.

We’re in the process of solving the heating problem for the maintenance hangar. Col “Oil Can Willie,” who is recovering from recent foot surgery, has researched a shop heater that will meet our needs and keep the maintenance area warm. Willie says that it appears that our gas service to the hangar will be sufficient to operate the new unit. As soon as it warms up a little bit more and we can

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RMWCAF STAFF OFFICERS

Wing Leader	Collin Fay
Executive Officer	Bob Caskey
Finance Officer	Robert Toth
Adjutant	Jerry McDonough
Operations Officer	Kay Johnson
Maintenance Off.	Rob Duncan
Museum & Mess Sergeant	Dorothy Dutton
Safety Officer	Bob Thompson
Judge Advocate	Gerald Feather
Public Information Officer	Bruce DeRush
PX Officer	Georgia Thompson
Newsletter Editor	Tom Howe
TBM Aircraft Coordinator	Bob Thompson
Cub Aircraft Coordinator	Charlie Huff
Facilities Manager	Bruce Verstraete
Recruiting Officer	Sandi Caskey

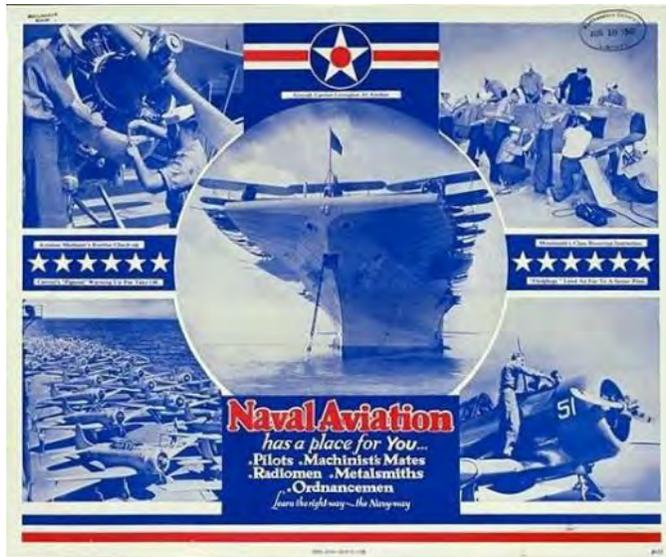
**OTHER WWII AIRCRAFT
BOTH OURS AND THEIRS**



The ZMC-2, shown here on a flight over Washington, D.C., was the only metal-clad airship. It was scrapped in 1941 after 12 years in service. It would have put up quite a radar signature, eh!

The "Kiwis" down under had their own version of our War Bond drives.

New Zealand had to live in fear of Japanese invasion in the early Pacific War.



This Naval Aviation Poster was published in 1941 by the Government Printing Office for the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

WING STAFF MEETING - FEBRUARY 8

By Col Kent Taylor

This was an interesting and educational session. Wing Leader Collin Fay started by reminding the Staff Officers of the CAF Mission and Objectives. He focused on CAF Objective #4, which should be at the top of the local Wing Leadership Team's priority list:

4. To establish an organization having the dedication, enthusiasm and esprit de corps necessary to operate, maintain and preserve these aircraft as symbols of our American military aviation heritage.

It's clear that open communication is key to meeting this objective, and the staff spent most of the meeting discussing ways to communicate more effectively, and work together as a team to develop the esprit de corps and enthusiasm that are critical to the mission.

We have a BIG airshow schedule this year, with lots of opportunities for any and all volunteers that would like to be part of the action! Bob Thompson

has successfully negotiated at least 17 airshow appearances for this season, and several more are still likely. That adds up to at least 51 opportunities for rides to/from the airshows. If you haven't had the opportunity to ride in the big bird yet, you need to get your name on the list for the show(s) of your choice. Seats will be assigned on a first come, first served basis, so sign up soon! (You'll also need to sign up for the training day to learn about the positions you'd like to volunteer for.)

Other items of interest:

- Wing Staff Conference is coming up February 27 – March 2. Several officers and members plan to attend
- No progress on gate removal, but it may be possible to have gates opened for special events – like a CAF open house!
- Tom Dennis is putting together proposals for sponsorships/grants for a local rides program.

PLANE CAPTAIN & LOAD MASTER

Continued from Page 1

As defined by our Wing Leader and edited by your editor (that is what editors do, right?) a brief overview of the two new planned positions is shown in the tables on the right and on page 1.

Wow! Going to an Air Show is work! There are lots and lots of things that need to get done – starting way before, then before, during and after each show. In the past - a few members would just get the job done because it had to be done. While the Wing thanks those willing to provide that time and extreme effort – defining the tasks and assigning them in advance works on aircraft carriers and just may work for the RMW.

This new idea is being tossed about the Wing Staff and members. More discussion (such as do we need two new positions or would combining the tasks into one new position work better) are being considered. Please, if you are a member let the Wing Staff know your thoughts by attending the next Wing Staff Meeting – Saturday, March 8th at the CAF Hangar. If you are unable to attend the meeting pass your thoughts on to Operations Officer Kay Johnson (k101rmw@gmail.com) or Wing Leader Collin Fay (crfay@rmwcaf.org) before the March 9th meeting.

Wing Leader's Report (Continued)

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get the TBM outside, we are going to proceed to close off the opening in the peak and seal the air leaks inside of the building. I anticipate that this work will be done sometime in early spring. I'm committed to seeing that it's done well before next winter, so our dedicated maintenance folks do not have to endure Arctic conditions while maintaining the aircraft.

This year the Rocky Mountain Wing (Wing) will be well represented at the Wing Staff Conference in Midland. By last headcount, Col Anderson, Col DeRush, Col Duncan, Col Toth, Col Johnson, Col Fay and Cols Caskey will be at-

tending. Stay tuned for valuable information they will bring back to the Wing.

Help your staff keep our Wing headed in a prosperous and viable direction. Share your ideas with us and let us know where you think we need to be headed in the future. We value your involvement and shared ideas; we want your participation with the CAF to be rewarding.

The word on the street is that when the gates are finally opened the GA community at the airport is planning a huge open house to invite the public back to the airport. This will be a great opportunity for us to share our mission

Load Master

The Load Master shall be responsible for RMW crew coordination, liaison with the Air Show representative(s), and maximizing the revenue potential at each air show. This will require:

- Confer with the RMW Air Show coordinator regarding the assigned air show.
- Be familiar with all air show contractual obligations.
- Coordinate crewmember assignments for each air show (with Ops & PIC.)
- Communicate with all RMW air show crew regarding:
 - ◊ staffing
 - ◊ air show credentials
 - ◊ housing
 - ◊ transportation
 - ◊ meal requirements
- And ensure all necessary requirements are met.
- Ensuring all air show equipment, supplies & PX inventory is loaded.
- In conjunction with the PIC,
 - ◊ Schedule the aircraft transition departure and arrival times.
 - ◊ Schedule all other flight operations such as revenue rides and air show performances.
- Coordinate all Air Show Contractual Obligations:
 - ◊ Appearance Fee
 - ◊ Arrival / Departure Scheduling
 - ◊ Fuel / Oil
 - ◊ Accommodations
 - ◊ Vehicle allowances / Show provided ground transportation
 - ◊ Required Credentials
 - ◊ PX, Wing Walk, Rides Revenue Program Opportunities.
- Direct all PX, Wing Walk, and Rides Program operations.

The Loadmaster is also responsible for all financial aspects of the air show appearance, including all contractual receivables, and all cash, check, and credit card receipts from the air show, which will be transferred to the Finance Officer upon return to base.

and recruit new people to support our goals. Hopefully, this will happen sometime this summer. I look forward to seeing you at the hangar on Saturdays. Please let us know how we can improve your experience with the Wing.



Fly Away With Me



CREWMEMBER SCHEDULING (CONTINUED)

Luke AFB Open House (Confirmed) March 14 thru 16, 2014 at Luke AFB [LUF] in Glendale, AZ		
 <p>Click to view this album</p>	 <p>TBM Thunderbirds</p> <p>Headlining Luke's Open House and Air Show are the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds who perform precision aerial maneuvers demonstrating the capabilities of Air Force high performance aircraft to people throughout the world.</p> <p>Website: www.luke.af.mil/library/2014openhouseandairshow.asp Scheduler: Rob Duncan Crew: Sign Up</p> <p>Drive Self: Michael OCONNELL [2/12/2014 8:18:06 AM] Drive Self: John MUMMERY <i>Changed position to reflect driving to show. I'm expecting to arrive at 1700 on 13 March</i> [2/6/2014 8:11:44 PM] Loadmaster: Richard CONNOR [2/1/2014 12:30:34 PM] Plane Captain: Dick MADDOCK [2/1/2014 6:59:33 PM] TBM Crew: Robert M. OWEN [2/12/2014 8:10:45 AM] TBM Pilot: Rob Duncan <i>Plan wheels up GJT at 11 a.m. Thursday, and we will depart at 10 am on Monday from Luke to adjacent Glendale Municipal airport to give scheduled and newly sold rides. Note: Barry will not be coming.</i> [1/31/2014 3:59:44 PM]</p>	<p>Reports:</p> <p>Add Report</p>

Shown above is an entry in the new Crew Scheduling Web Page

Continued from Page 2

The RMW staff approved a new online method to be developed by Col. Rob Duncan. It is a part of the www.rmwfaf.org website. There are two "views" of the schedule. The PUBLIC view only see "confirmed" events and our regular meeting schedule. These categories are highlighted in green and blue respectively. The public does not see who is signed up or unconfirmed events. When members LOG ON to the website, they see all events that Bob Thompson is working on, and they also see who is requesting to go to that event. It is important to note that the term "request" here is the same as it was with the white board system. There may be an over-booking or other circumstances that will require some arbitration as there are only so many seats available. In general this will be handled just as it was in the past - the first person to sign

up gets to go unless circumstances change. We expect this to continue.

If you have never logged into our website, this will be for first opportunity! You can get your password e-mailed back to you by clicking the "Email Me My Password" button seen at the bottom of the log in page after you have entered your own e-mail address. Any website problems should be worked with Col. Duncan. The first page seen after successful login is your "roster record". You can take a moment to review this for accuracy and make changes, or else continue per below.

Once you have logged in, simply click the "Airshow & Event Schedule" -> "Upcoming" link near top of the left blue website navigation area. You will note a big difference if you had looked at this same schedule page before logging in. All events, both confirmed and unconfirmed,

will appear - just as they were seen on the old whiteboard. You can also see who is already signed up for that event, whether they plan to drive or fly, plus any comments they wish to show. The dates in [brackets] show the INITIAL sign up date and time. You simply click the blue "Sign Up" button in order to add yourself to the schedule.

In the following screen, you select your desired crew position via a "drop down" selection menu. Drop-downs are done with a small downward arrow at the right side of the box. Click this arrow to see the full menu, and then click the desired crew position. You may share any comments or requests in the large comment text area box below the crew position. When satisfied with your entry, click "Submit". This will add your request to the main schedule as will then be displayed. You will also receive a brief confirmation e-mail. If there were previous

members signed up, they will also receive an identical e-mail. Such e-mailed alerts are sent to all crew members signed up for the affected event.

If you have any concerns, you might practice adding, modifying, and deleting a crew request for yourself on the "April Fool's Day" airshow event. This fictitious event was created as a RMW member's practice area so you won't be messing with real events. Note that anybody else signed up for that event will be receiving alert e-mails, so be considerate when practicing. Delete your crew request when done to avoid receiving notices from other member's practice entries.

Simplified schedule views are also provided which are more suitable for printing for those members that feel more comfortable with paper than with computers. Click on the blue buttons to create these views.

Event "Reports" may also be easily made, and your name will be attached. Note these are seen by the public, so be sure to keep them clean. You might report that "The Blue Angels were awesome", or that "Never have seen so many warbirds". Whatever you would like to share. This is no different than before. The attachment of event-related photo albums is also unchanged. Once you return from an event, please share you photos with all of us.

And if for some reason you are still having problems, there is an added instructions page at - http://rockymountainwingcaf.org/schedule_instructions.asp