

Colorado Aviation Historical Society



JOURNAL OF THE
COLORADO AVIATION
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SPRING 2009 EDITION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bea Khan Wilhite

Please don't look too close, for there are many new gray hairs on my head! I feel I speak for many about the recent national activities in Washington, which are for me great cause for concern. The concern is for the lack of focus on a strong national defense, and for a strong military, one that is well funded, to protect our citizens and our country.

As president of the Society, I've had the rare opportunity to represent the many Laureates who are our national heroes, so many who in previous times have placed their lives on the line, an act of duty to their country. For all of us, freedom in a democratic nation is worthy of the fight.

I know I'm speaking to the choir, so it's just a friendly reminder: Keep the American flag flying high, devote yourself to the pledge to our flag, sing out the National Anthem, honor all military women and men and celebrate and aid their families by pledging to do all you can to make their lives easier, for we are all so grateful.

Please join me when I ask for God to Bless our troops and keep them safe and may God Bless America and keep us all strong, prosperous and safe. Very special thanks to all our dear Laureates and our wonderful members.

Wishing you all beautiful blue skies!

2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 29 1:00 PM	Wings Lowry Room, General Membership, Board Meetings	June 20 8-5 PM	JAA Fly-In, Rocky Mountain Metro Airport (RMMA)
May 23 Noon	Greeley/Chuck Holmes, Board Meeting, lunch, view collection	August 1	Hall of Fame Application Deadline
May 30, 31	Rocky Mountain Metro Airport, Aviation Archeology	August 8, 10:00 AM	Wings Lowry Room, General Membership, Board Meetings
June 6	Aviation Archeology Field Exercise, Location TBD	August 22, 23	Rocky Mountain Regional Fly-In, RMMA
June 13, 14	Front Range Airport 25th Anniversary Airshow, Blue Angels!	October 3	Hall of Fame Banquet, Lakewood Country Club
		December 4	CDOT Exhibit Opening

FLOWN WEST

We wish to express our deepest sympathy to Barbara Anderson, widow and to the family and friends of James "Jim" Lee Anderson.

Jim's name is first on a plaque in gratitude for his 25 Year Membership in the Lowry Heritage Museum and at Wings Over The Rockies Air and Space Museum.

We are deeply grateful for his many contributions to the Historical Society and to Colorado Aviation

AVIATION ARCHEOLOGY



The Colorado Aviation Historical Society is presently accepting applications for its May 2009 Aviation Archaeology (AvAr) training course.

Consisting of classroom lecture and a field training exercise, this three-day course is spread over two weekends. Upon successful completion of all classroom subjects each student will receive a handsome, frameable graduation certificate. Those who go on to complete the [optional] field exercise will be awarded official Colorado Aviation Historical Society AvAr Field Agent credentials.

Classes will be held in the Main Terminal Building of the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport in Broomfield. Beginning promptly at 8:00 am on Saturday and Sunday (May 30 and 31), students can expect lecture sessions to end no later than 5:00 pm each day. Those applicants wishing to complete the field exercise required for full AvAr Field Agent accreditation, scheduled for Saturday, May 30th, will be briefed progressively during the classroom portion of the course.

Presented by recognized subject matter experts approved by NAIAA (the North American Institute of Aviation Archaeology), classroom instruction includes: an introduction to the Colorado

Aviation Historical Society and its mission; elementary map reading, pioneering skills and practical survival techniques; public laws and the Historic Preservation Act; principles of site investigation and documentation; simple aircraft component identification; historic aviation research methodology; basic imagery analysis; numerous actual case studies.



In addition, a representative from TIGHAR (The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery) will present an overview of current global operations as well as an update on that organization's search for Amelia Earhart.

At less than one hundred dollars per person, this is the most complete, cost effective training program offered anywhere that results in official accreditation concerning the field of aviation archaeology.

An on-line application may be found at www.coloradoaviationarchaeology.org. Further inquiries will be handled by contacting the program director directly at (970) 405-5377.

www.coloradoaviationarchaeology.org/

More Aviation Archeology on page 6

Board of Directors Nominations

The terms for Directors, which are expiring in 2009 are: Dr. Dave Callender, Duke Sumonia and SMSgt Ronald Newberg, who is currently serving as Secretary for the Society. They each have contributed immensely to the success of the operation of the Colorado Aviation Historical Society and we are grateful for their devotion and commitment.

The Board has approved the selection of Lance Barber to chair the Nomination Committee. Lance, is a former Officer and Director of the Society and

currently Chairs the Special Projects committee. Please contact Lance if you are interested in becoming involved or if you would like to nominate someone to be placed on the slate or to serve on a committee. Lance Barber can be reached at 303-946-9901 or by email at cba1974@aol.com .

The Election will be held at the General Membership and Board of Director Meetings on March 29, 2009 in the Lowry Room at Wings Museum.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD MEETINGS

March 29, 2009 1:00 pm
Wings Lowry Room
Election of Directors and Officers

Everyone is invited, a lite lunch will be served

Program: "Aviators and Their Birds" featuring aerial footage of the Dave Ebershoff Steen Skybolt and COL. Jack Wilhite and the Mig 17.

Three Rick Broome paintings will be on exhibit: "United 727 over San Francisco," "United DC-3 over Mountains," and "United DC-6b at Takeoff."

These magnificent framed paintings were donated by our friend, the late Ralph (Gene) Thull (Capt. UAL ret.)

Please call 303-341-7711 to reserve - no charge

HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS ARE DUE ON AUGUST 1, 2009

There continues to be questions about who is eligible for this prestigious recognition. The answer is: "Anyone is eligible to apply. They must have made a significant contribution in Aviation in the State of Colorado."

Your nominee could be your relative, friend, professional associate or others; organizations and individuals are eligible, as well as posthumous nominations.

Contributions made within an individual's occupation will not be considered, nor major contributions, made outside of Colorado, unless the contribution continues within Colorado.

Applications are available from Bea Khan Wilhite at 303-697-4775, or Ron Newberg, Secretary at 303-690-4008 or online at: www.coloradoaviationhistoricalsociety.org

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO THE SOCIETY:

JACK CRONIN
JOHN C. PENNEY
STEPHANIE A.
PENNEY
DAVE KEMPA

LYNN KROGH
GERALD L. VINCENT
JAMEY PATTON
CARL PATRICK
DANIELLE PATRICK

J.P. THIBODEAU
PENNEY HAMILTON
KARIN MARSHALL
JEFFREY MARTIN
SARAH DOLLIVER

THOMAS GALLEGOS
BRUCE HERTELENDY
JOHN L. LITTLE
DR. MICHAEL W. ROSS
MARTIN SAGARA

COLORADO AVIATION HALL OF FAME LAUREATES 2008

Aden, Everett L.	1983	Hill, James E.	1990	Reid, Howard W.	1990
Alexander, Don M.	1970	Hinkley, William C.	1987	Reinhard, Charles D. "Dewey"	1983
Alexander, J. Don	1970	Hofmann, Dan J.	1981	Ritchie, R. Stephen	1997
Andre, Babette	1990	Humphreys, Albert E.	1969	Rocco, Joseph T.	1980
Avery, Norman E.	1995	Humphreys, Ira Boyd	1969	Rodewald, Donald L. "Rode"	1986
Baird, Earl D.	1981	Irwin, James B.	1984	Rogers, Faye Cox	1974
Baldwin, Ivy	1969	Isbill, H. G. "Greg"	1993	Rominger, Kent V.	2000
Bartoe, Otto E. "Pete" Jr.	2004	Jeppesen, Elrey B.	1970	Russell, Harry E.	1988
Beegles, Edward	1988	Johnson, David C.	1980	Russell, Wayne L.	1984
Bledsoe, Lucile M.	1994	Jonas, Coloman	1981	Saville, Gordon L.	1985
Blout, Harry D.	1993	Jonas, John	1981	Schoonhoven, John W.	1987
Bower, William "Bill"	2004	Kaczmarek, Herbert J.	1980	Shaffer, William Luman	1984
Bonnalie, Allan F.	1969	Kearns, Daniel F.	1970	Shelton, Thomas Miles	1970
Braukman, Clarence A.	1973	Keif, Aubrey J.	1974	Silva, Michael A.	1988
Bredar, William L. "Bill"	2002	King, Noel G. "Red"	1980	Sinclair, Reginald	1969
Brewer, George F.	1996	Kramer, Norman	1981	Six, Robert F.	1971
Brooks, Edward J. "Eddie"	1971	Ladwig, Frank W.	1995	Smethills, Harold R.	1980
Broome, Richard R. "Rick"	1988	Langher, Doris Millie	1973	Smith, Lloyd Edward "Dick"	1994
Bullock, Delbert B.	1979	Leach, Ken	1983	Snyder, Richard R.	1974
Bullock, Noel A.	1981	LeBoutillier, Oliver Colin	1978	Stake, Nelson W.	1985
Cherry, Robert C.	2000	Leferink, Joham "Joe"	1973	Stanley, Robert M.	1973
Clark, Betty J.	1979	LeFevre, Franklin E.	1997	Steen, LaMar A.	1990
Clevenger, Cloyd P.	1972	Libby, Frederick	1971	Stevens, Charles A.	1982
Clinton, Louis L.	1991	Linam, Thomas W.	1999	Stokes, Perry F.	1984
Cole, Timothy S.	1995	Longhart, Clyde C.	1986	Stone, JoAnn	1997
Combs, Harry B.	1973	Lowell, John Harlon	1978	Sullivan, Patricia J.	1981
Coomer, Wynett A.	2002	Lund, M. C. "Hank"	1998	Swaim, Frank L.	1980
Conover, Forest R.	1978	MacDonald, Roger E.	1992	Swigert, John Leonard "Jack"	1988
Crismon, Frank M.	1991	Madsen, William D.	1982	Thibodeau, Joseph	2008
Curry, John F.	1972	Marlman, William A.	1985	Thompson, George W.	1969
Darley, John S.	1984	Massey, Otis T.	1987	Van Dersarl, Frank A.	1969
Davenport, Bradley B.	1995	Mayfield, Grace Birge	1983	Van Dersarl, Jules J.	1971
Dempsey, Paul Stephen	1995	Mayo, Gwendolyn O.	1991	Vasconcells, Jerry Cox	1969
Donahue, James F. "Jimmie"	1970	McAllaster, Ansel H.	1993	Vaughn, Vigil W.	1971
Drapala, Edward E.	1976	McCoy, Richard M.	1977	Wall, Wesley "Bud"	1983
Duff, Joseph W. "Bill"	1990	McInaney, Justin	1970	Wallace, George M.	1991
Dunn, William R.	1982	McMillan, Neil Taylor	1972	Wandell, Stuart V.	1972
Edwards, Wilson V.	2001	Mehlin, Edward J. "Eddie"	1985	Warner, Emily Howell	1983
Emigh, Harold E. "Pop"	1976	Melberg, Raymond "Ray"	1974	Warren, Gordon B.	1979
Entz, Lewis H.	1992	Miller, Ed Mack	1979	Whitehouse, C. Bart	2003
Ewing, Earl E.	1971	Miller, Talmage E.	2001	Wilhite, Jack E.	2004
Feder, William Sr.	1990	Millsbaugh, Ben P.	1991	Williams, Carl M.	1997
Flint, Samuel B.	1983	Moffitt, Joe C.	1974	Williams, Robert M.	1980
Foster, Vernon	1987	Mooney, Albert W. "Al"	1972	Williams, Veda Dyer	1980
France, Charles W.	1979	Morgan, John C.	1976	Williams, Walter E.	1978
France, John L.	1991	Mosier, Orval "Red"	1972	Wilson, Herbert F. "Mick"	1993
Frink, Ann Brothers	1985	Mumey, Dr. Nolie	1970	Wilson, Raymond "Ray"	1970
Frost, Richard H.	1989	Myers, Donna Tracy	1974	Young, Dorothy L. "Dottie"	1973
Gallagher, Francis L.	1982	Nesbitt, George G.	1990		
Gassert, Herman	1973	Newsum, Fitzroy "Buck"	1991		
Gerhardt, Edward H.	1990	Nichols, Murlin J.	1989		
Gobel, Arthur C.	1995	Nichols, Proctor W.	1972		
Gower, John H. L.	1972	Parker, Will D. "Billy"	1969		
Greenemeier, Conrad "Dutch"	1973	Parks, Dr. James J.	1989		
Greeno, Robert B.	1987	Partner, Dan	1979		
Gregory, Stanford W.	1972	Peterson, Chriss J.	1969		
Hall, James C.	1985	Pfister, Elizabeth "Betty"	1984		
Hall, Ralph J.	1974	Phillips, Oliver V.	1985		
Hamilton, J. Scott	1988	Quick, Morris "Morrie" L.	2004		
Hamilton, William "Bill"	2008	Quinn, Louis Paul "Gus"	1984		
Haueter, O. R. "Ted"	1970	Quinn, Hazel M.	1984		
Hibbs, Ashby Gordon	1983	Ravnsborg, Harold E.	1992		
Higley, Walter B.	1980	Reavis, Carlos L.	1970		



2008 HALL OF FAME BANQUET



1. Front: Norm Avery, Rick Broome, Bill Duff, Emily Warner.

Back: Joe Thibodeau, Bill Hamilton, Dave Callender, Bart Whitehouse, Bob Williams, jim Cole



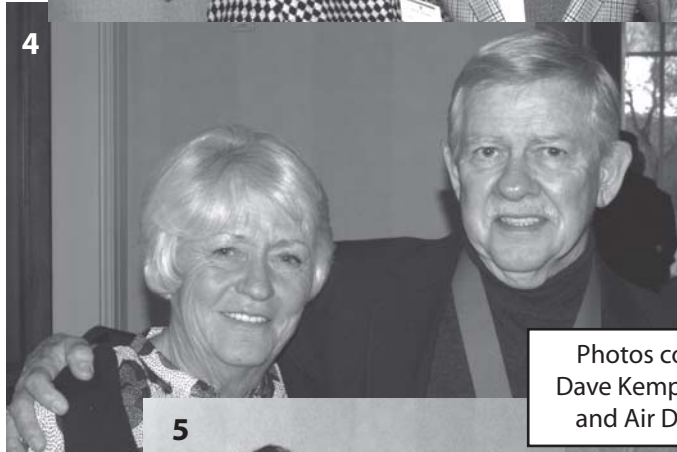
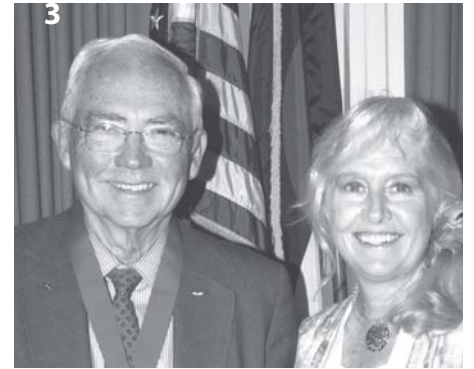
2. Gen. Robert Titus, Bernie Thebodeau, (sister); J.P. Thebodeau, (son), Joe Thibodeau

3. Bill Hamilton and wife, Penney (inducted)

4. Billie and Rick Broome (Artist)

5. Bea Khan Wilhite, CAHS President, HOF Banquet Chair

6. Gen. Jim Hall



ORGANIZATION AWARDS

Colorado Wing CAP	1992
Colorado ANG 140th Wing	1994
Lockheed Martin Astronautics	1995
The Jeppesen Company	1999
The Minute Men, Colo. ANG	2003
Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen	2005
Womens Airforce Service Pilots Ninety-Nines, Inc. Colorado Chapter	2005
High Country Chapter	
Pikes Peak Chapter	2006

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

Reich, Joseph A. Sr.	1979
Phillips, Oliver V.	1983
Munshaw, Joe	1984
Wilson, Alverta (Groves)	1988
Bowman, Ed "Weatherman"	1989
Brown, Mary Babnick	1990
Babbitt, Watson T.	1991
Liggett, Harry T.	1992
Callender, Dr. David D.	1992
Latimer, Ralph	1993
Tarvin, Russell W.	1996
Potter Jr., James W.	1998
Combs, Harry B.	1998
Holmes, Charles W.	2001
Engel, Dody	2002
Bymaster, Don A.	2003

Photos compliments of Dave Kempa, Photographer and Air Denver Charters



HALL OF FAME ADDS OUTSTANDING AVIATORS IN 2008

We were very pleased and proud with the successful induction of two well-known accomplished aviators into the Colorado Aviation Hall of Fame. Congratulations to Joseph "Joe" Thibodeau and to William "Bill" Hamilton as they join the ranks of exceptional individuals, men and women, eight (8) Organizations, and sixteen (16) who have received Special Recognition Awards. The first inductions by the Colorado Aviation Historical Society were approved in 1969, when the Hall of Fame was inaugurated. The ten (10) Honorees in the first year were: Ivy Baldwin, Allan F. Bonnalie, Ira Boyd Humphrey and his brother Albert E. Humphrey, Will D. "Billy" Parker, Chris J. Peterson, Reginald Sinclair, George W. Thompson (believed to be Colorado's first aviator), Frank A. Van Dersarl and Maj. Jerry Cox Vasconcells, all brave, courageous and entrepreneurial. You can read about them in the Honoree Album, visit the Heritage Hall at Wing or go online www.coloradoaviationhistoricalsociety.org.



JOE THIBODEAU

Joe Thibodeau has dedicated his life to helping others, adapting his formidable aviation expertise and skills, to educate, engage, entertain and expose youth and adults to aviation and to it's amazing opportunities. His excitement about raising funds for to benefit children is contagious!

His skilled and competitive flying have won him outstanding awards in the Reno Air Races. His professional contributions, as an attorney, have significantly benefited a number of non-profit organizations.



BILL HAMILTON

Bill Hamilton, (LTC. USAF Ret.) had a distinguished military career, and was awarded the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross and the Purple Heart. He is best known for his work with Governor Bill Owen to create what

became known as the 12 AWOS-111 Project, a chain of 12 automated weather observation systems, installed along the Continental Divide, on the twelve mountain passes most often used by small aircraft, thereby greatly increasing safety for pilots.



B/G STEVE RITCHIE

Guest Speaker, B/G Steve Ritchie, a Hall of Fame Honoree, 1997, is the only American pilot in history to score five MiG 21 victories, a record he set while flying eight hundred (800) combat hours in the F-4 Phantom. General Ritchie is the only Air Force pilot ACE of the Vietnam conflict.

He is in demand, as an international speaker, speaking on "patriotism, honor, love of family and country and a commitment to protect the rights of those men and women in the military." He spoke of Matt, his son, in Special Forces for our country and about the challenges that our nation faces. Steve is a spokesman for TAPS, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, Inc. for those who have lost a loved one in military service.



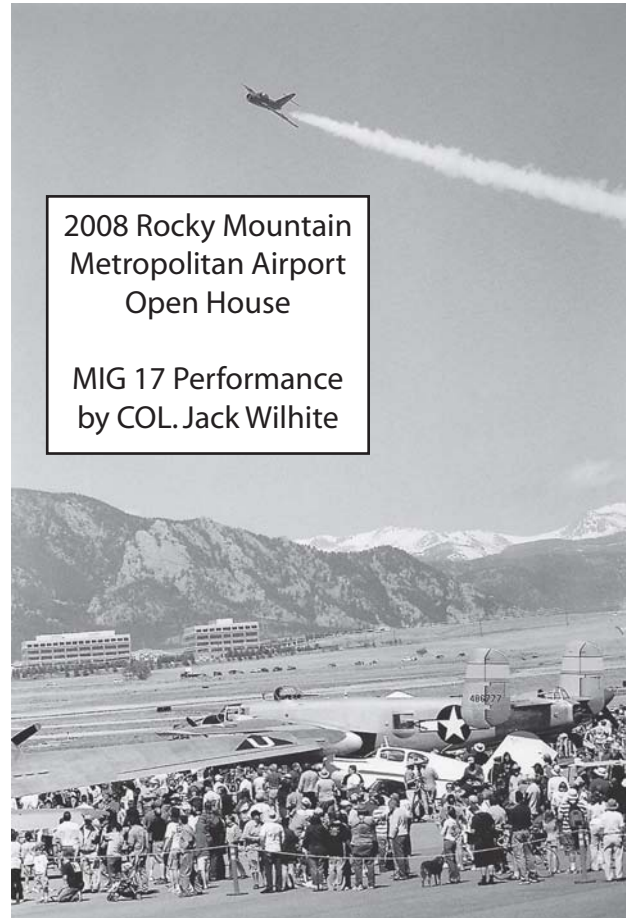
The RAF EAGLE SQUADRONS

This amazing book brings to life the 245 brave Americans who became the legendary Eagle Squadrons of the Royal Air Force. Itching to get into the action before the United States was brought into the war in 1941, these pilots, each of whom has his biography recorded here, wanted to contribute to the war effort, stop the Nazi invasion of the free world, and fly the best fighters of the day. Through his remarkable research, Brigadier General Philip D. Caine makes these young men real people. We see their youthful faces, watch them grow up and learn to fly in the United States, make the momentous decision to join the RAF or RCAF, even though their country was not yet at war, endure the dangerous voyage to England, and, for over 40 percent of them, become a prisoner or die. They fall in love with English girls and agonize over the death of a comrade. And those who survived became the nucleus of the famed Fourth Fighter Group.



COL. Bill V. Edwards, Inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2001 few with the RAF in WWII.

**List Price: \$35.00 Buy it on Amazon.com Price: \$26.60
You Save: \$8.40 (24%)**



2008 Rocky Mountain
Metropolitan Airport
Open House

MIG 17 Performance
by COL. Jack Wilhite

COLORADO AVIATION ARCHEOLOGY

AvAr is an extremely dedicated organization of aviation history enthusiasts. Our mission is to research historic aviation properties (i.e. crash sites, abandoned airfields, derelict missile facilities, early aeronautical navigation sites, etc.) that meet official criteria for inclusion on the federal historic register and incorporate this information in a central database. By following established procedures and incorporating scientific methodology, AvAr is much more than a bunch of "wreck chasers" out to find some souvenirs; it is a self-regulated, trained force of annalists, conservators and stewards. Since 2005 our volunteer members have exhausted a considerable amount of time and personal energy in pursuit of this goal. What started as a simple interest for a few has grown into a special opportunity for many others!

Diversity is perhaps one of the greatest hallmarks that distinguish this group from others. The only prerequisite for inclusion is enthusiasm. Whether you want to spend some of your spare time out in the wilds or cloistered in scholarly research, we're inter-

ested in those who truly want to make a difference and possibly leave their mark on history. Our ranks are comprised of businessman, craftsmen, intellectuals, and laymen. We enjoy the active participation of a great many talented individuals and it is this range of skill-sets that contributes to our growing success.

Members of this team take pride in the fact that they represent a unique guard, formed by a common bond of interest and specialized training. If you are interested in learning more about AvAr opportunities, then please visit our website at: <http://www.coloradoaviationarchaeology.org/> and check out the article entitled 2009 AvAr Training Schedule and Course Application now posted! Dated 11/27/2008.

Should you have any specific questions, don't hesitate to contact me at either aviator_b@msn.com or my personal cell (970) 405-5377.

Brian D. Richardson, Director

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**COLORADO AVIATION
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