

COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE

UTAH WING NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2013

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Utah Wing and Rocky Mountain Wing Join Forces at the Uintah County Fair

Upcoming Events:

- **Saturday Aug 10
THIS WEEKEND!**
Wing Meeting (10AM)
Barnstormers BBQ
(6PM) at the Heber
Museum. Bring sides
for the BBQ!
- **Aug 24, 2013**
Evanston WY
Stearman Rides?
Awaiting confirmation
- **Sept 14, 2013**
Elko Sky Fair
Stearman Rides / PX?
Awaiting confirmaion

A high overcast and a light breeze helped create an ideal warm summer weekend for Warbird rides, TBM wing-walk, tours and PX Sales at the Uintah County Fair in Vernal, Utah this past weekend. We teamed up our Stearman with the Rocky Mountain Wing, who flew their J-3 Cub and Grumman TBM Avenger from Grand Junction to the event.

After landing at the airport, the TBM was towed through narrow airport gates, through town accompanied by police escort, to the gates of the fairgrounds. She then spread her wings, attracting nearly every visitor to come see and learn about the aircraft. Hundreds, if not thousands, of people of all ages stood in awe of this magnificent aircraft, climbed on the wings to see the cockpit, conversed with the ground crew and pilots, purchased toys or mementos of the experience, and left with a greater understanding of our nations proud aviation heritage.

A number of lucky fair-goers also signed up to take a ride in our historic aircraft. Over the course of the weekend, we provided 7 Cub rides, 6 Stearman rides, and 3 TBM rides. One gentleman even opted to ride in both the TBM *and* the Stearman! Said one of our happy passengers, "That was easily the most enjoyable aircraft ride I have EVER had"!

Folks, events such as these are precisely the mission of the Commemorative Air Force. The pride that comes with seeing a youngster's first hands-on experience with a piece of aviation history, having a family member show up with pictures and stories from their parents or grandparents, or assisting an aging veteran get up-close and personal with a piece of their own personal history from their youth (for perhaps the final time) is unparalleled. **Thank You** to all of our volunteers and supporters who help keep this piece of history flying, let us never forget why we do what we do, and let us continue to share our nation's aviation heritage with the people of this great country!



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