



**EDUCATE                      INSPIRE                      HONOR**

# Step 2 Complete

As much as is possible, Colonel Bob Thompson has completed both Step 1 (see Airshow Schedule on Page 2) and now has begun completion of Step 2 of the detailed preparation for the 2019 Airshow schedule.

On Saturday, February 16, a number of dedicated Colonels gathered at the RMW Museum to complete the required Airshow crew member training. Primarily required for safety reasons this training provides insight into our Wing's Airshow operations so that all crewmembers not only have an awareness of what may be going on around them, but can stop one participating in one job and immediately pick up another job when necessary.

Colonel Thompson's Operations duties never stop. He is constantly juggling personnel, equipment, and all other

support requirements as well final confirmation of each Airshow appearance logistics. Whew!

This training includes everything from air and ground crew responsibilities from delicately packing the PX into the TBM in such a manner that it all fits (learned over a number of years) to double checking all aircraft flight preparations (preflight issues such as fuel, oil, preflight airframe inspections, etc.)

The Pilot Airshow training and certification requires a completely different set of both hands on training and FAA and CAF paperwork that Col Thompson also has in his bag of Operational Duties.

So if he seems grumpy - just say thanks Bob!!

(Another Photo on Page 3)



A collection of Colonels participating in the first 2019 Airshow Crew training session, February 16th.

*Ed Note: CAF CEO Hank Coats announced the CAF's new Mission Statement in the Jan. 2019 Dispatch. Because not all Propwash readers receive the Dispatch, Hank's important announcement article is reprinted here:*

Those are three very powerful words. They are also the mission statement of the Commemorative Air Force!

Some of you might think it is a bit too short, or that it does not adequately describe what we do, but in the world of mission statements, short and powerful is much better than long and detailed.

Let's take it one word at a time:

**Educate:** Moving forward, one of our major objectives will be to educate. With our primary focus on the great conflict of World War II, our more mature members and audiences learn about the world of aviation, the importance of history, and the details surrounding our history. In addition, we certainly need and want to educate young people about aviation career opportunities and history. Many young people today are not exposed to aviation as generations have been in the past. Aviation jobs pay well, are fun, and can lead to a great lifestyle.

**Inspire:** Personally, I think I like this word the most. By using the great achievements of the past, we can inspire both young and old to reach new heights in their careers and in life.

*(Continued on Page 2)*



**Inside this issue:**

2019 RMW AIR SHOW SCHEDULE	2
RMW ACTIVITIES SCHED.	2
WING LEADERS REPORT	3
PHOTO OF THE MONTH	3
MAINTENANCE REPORT	4
"TB" AND "JAY"	4
STAFF MEETING BULLETS	5
RISE ABOVE 2019	6



**WE'RE BUSY! BUT, WE'RE NEVER BUSY ENOUGH!!**

**RMW AIR SHOW SCHEDULE - 2019**

MONTH	DAYS	LOCATION	SHOW	TBM	CUB	STATUS
MAR	23-24	TUCSON, AZ (TB)	DAVIS MONTHAN AFB			CONFIRMED
MAY	18	ALBUQUERQUE, NM	KIRTLAND ABW (TB)			CONFIRMED
JUNE	1-2	TUCSON, AZ	OFFUTT AFB (TB)			CONFIRMED
	15	BOULDER, CO	40'S WWII BALL			CONFIRMED
JULY	24	CHEYENNE, WY	FRONTIER DAYS (TB)			PENDING
	27-28	GRAND JUNCTION, CO	AIRSHOW (BA)			CONFIRMED
AUG	17-18	SIOUX FALLS, SD	AIRSHOW			PENDING
	17	STEAMBOAT SPRINGS	YVMCF 40'S DANCE			PENDING
	17	GLENWOOD SPRINGS	OPEN HOUSE CUB ONLY			CONFIRMED
SEP	7	EAGLE / VAIL, CO	OPEN HOUSE			CONFIRMED
	14	MONTROSE, CO	TRIBUTE TO AVIATION			CONFIRMED
	21	CANNON CITY, CO	OPEN HOUSE			POSSIBLE
	28	WENDOVER, UT	OPEN HOUSE			CONFIRMED
OCT	5	PRESCOTT, AZ	OPEN HOUSE			CONFIRMED
	25-28	DALLAS, TX	CAF AIRSHO			POSSIBLE

**Step Two!**

Operations Officer Col Bob Thompson continues to finalize (if there is such a thing) our airshow schedule for 2019.

It's less than a month before "309" and a RMW Show Crew heads south to a warmer Tucson, AZ to visit Davis Monthan AFB. Don't miss this opportunity to see one of the best Military Aircraft Museums in the world!

TB=Thunderbirds  
BA=Blue Angles

**Rocky Mountain Wing Event Schedule**

Dates - 2019	Event Type	Location
9-Mar	RMW Staff Meeting	CAF-RMW Museum
13-Apr	RMW Staff Meeting	CAF-RMW Museum
29-Apr 3-May	Rise Above -2019	CAF-RMW Museum
4-May	RMW OPen House	CAF-RMW Museum
6-May 10-May	Rise Above -2019	CAF-RMW Museum
11-May	RMW Staff Meeting	CAF-RMW Museum

**Rocky Mountain Wing Event Schedule**

Dates - 2019	Event Type	Location
8-Jun	RMW Staff Meeting	CAF-RMW Museum
15-Jun	40's Dance	Boulder Airport
13-Jul	RMW Staff Meeting	CAF-RMW Museum
10-Aug	RMW Staff Meeting	CAF-RMW Museum
14-Sep	RMW Staff Meeting	CAF-RMW Museum
10-Oct	RMW Staff Meeting	CAF-RMW Museum

**EDUCATE INSPIRE HONOR**

*(Continued from Page 1)*  
The incredible accomplishments of aviators, astronauts, and engineers over the past century are truly the stuff of legends. We should celebrate these things and leverage our aircraft and living history to inspire people of all ages to do better.

**Honor:** Although this word does come third, that by no means indicates that this is the order of importance! Celebrating and honoring the achievements of the greatest generation and freeing the world from tyranny are some of the most noble things we can do. And, this has become even more important as our World War II vets move on from

life to join their brethren in memory. We should take every opportunity to honor and celebrate the awesomeness of the greatest generation.

Another great thing about our mission statement is the great variety of meanings we can add to it. We can Educate, Inspire, and Honor through living history, and we can Educate, Inspire, and Honor through flight. The options are almost endless, and

we have the people, aircraft, ground equipment, knowledge, and ability to make them all possible.

The CAF has the opportunity to impact every generation in meaningful ways. I look forward to seeing you all this year and seeing how you and your unit can use our mission statement



**COMMEMORATIVE  
AIR FORCE  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN WING**

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@hughes.net

**RMWCAF on the Web**  
[www.rmwcaf.org](http://www.rmwcaf.org)

**Keep 'em Flying**

## PHOTO OF THE MONTH

One of our Wing's unique Airshow features is the TBM Wing Walk.

Not only does our ability to have show attendees view "309" but they have the unique opportunity to actually step up and walk on top of an airplane's wing. Seems mundane to us but how many people actually get to do that in the lifetimes - a very, very few.

Here, Col Maddock is showing crew members the fine points of how to package and stow our Wing Walk stairs.



### WING LEADER'S REPORT

*By Col Kent Taylor  
RMW Wing Leader*

Only a month and a half into the new year, and things are shaping up nicely. Bob Thompson and Kaleb Julius did a stunning job at the ICAS convention and followup activity. We have 10 shows confirmed, and 4 more still pending. Keith Swinehart is working on the third annual Hangar Dance to be scheduled in August. Tom How has most of the Rise Above schedule committed: April 29 -May 3, and May 7-10, with a possible open house on May 6 (school day off). Dale Beede is beating the proverbial bushes looking for Donors and Sponsors, and is working with Angela Padlecki (Airport Director) and Dave Krogman (West Star General Manager), exploring options for a Grand Junction regional fly-in of unique and unusual aircraft sometime during the summer of 2020. We're trying to make it a recruiting/fund-raising opportunity.



Another big fund-raising effort is underway this year – Tom Dennis is researching local Grant possibilities for TBM Avionics upgrades, building fund for a new hangar/museum, Rise Above program, Link Trainer restoration, and other projects. Tom needs your help, specifically help writing some of the boiler-plate that will show up in most of the Grant applications. Things like history of the RMW, past projects, ideas for new projects, etc. If you like to write, or want to help in any way, please contact Tom at [w2dgd0@outlook.com](mailto:w2dgd0@outlook.com).

Dick Maddock and Byron Huffman have been working feverishly most Wednesdays

and Saturdays to get the TBM ready for Pilot Ground School and currency flights before our first airshow appearance at Monthan Davis AFB in Tucson March 22-24. New Member DeWayne Columbe (an A&P at West Star!) has jumped in to help. And attaboys to the other members who pop in as needed to help! In addition to the usual Winter Maintenance and Inspection, the team has installed new windows in the Bilge – they look GREAT! And you can even see through them ☺.

We have had some interesting opportunities drop in on us recently. Those of you who attended the January Staff Meeting got to see some video clips of scenes of the TBM that will show up on the Discovery Channel 'Gold Rush' series sometime in March. The video crew spent a day and half with us in late December. Thanks to Chris Ryan

and his partner who flew their T-6 down from Heber City to do the air-to-air video work, and thanks to Bob Thompson, Dorothy Dutton, Dick Maddock, Byron Huffman and DeWayne Columbe who spent their Saturday Christmas shopping time helping the video crew get what they needed.

And this month we got a request to do a special Commemorative ride at the Boulder '40s dance on June 15. The request came from John Stemple, a pilot, photojournalist, historian, and editor of <https://MilitaryAviationChronicles.com> an excellent military aviation history website. Keith S met John at last year's Aviation Hall of Fame Ceremony and introduced him to the RMW and our historic TBM and its exploits in the Royal Canadian Navy. It turns out that John has an ancestor in common with Queen Elizabeth!

*(Continued on Page 6)*



# MAINTENANCE REPORT

By Col Dick Maddock  
Maintenance Officer

The new windows are installed in the bilge. I want to remind ALL PERSONNEL TO USE ONLY DISH SOAP AND WATER to clean them. They are plexi-glass. Manufacturer recommendations are for only dish soap and water-- **NO WINDEX OR PLEDGE.**

The right and left wing flap cylinders have been removed and rebuilt since they were both leaking.

Col. Thompson conducted his first Ground School. We went over maintenance of the plane at "away from home" air shows, (i.e. checking the oil and fuel; proper installation of the

steps in the bomb bay; and the plane captain's check list.) Loading the PX and other check lists will be addressed at a later date prior to the air show season.

This Wednesday [2/27], we will pull the plane out and perform an engine run-up to test all the new rebuilt hydraulic cylinders as well as a few other items.

I want to remind **everyone who is planning on flying in the TBM or working on the plane** to watch the video Stand Downs found at <https://cafoperations.org> and take the test at the end of the video, 66-1 for maintenance and 60-1 for safety. My email for the 66-1 test is [rhm803@yahoo.com](mailto:rhm803@yahoo.com).



Colonel Maddock and his wrench wranglers are looking to see if they can somehow modify "309's" air-frame and engine...but those 4 foot by 6 foot Legos are hard to lift and really hard to press together.

## WWII QUIZ

ANSWERS ON PAGE 5

### Naval Operations and Sea Battles

1. Identify the other U.S. aircraft carrier that escorted the USS Hornet (CV-8) during the Doolittle raid.

### The Air War

2. Identify the first type of monoplane fighter to operate from a U.S. Aircraft Carrier.

Thanks to author Timothy B. Bensford



"TB" & "Jay"

They're Back!



*Ed Note: Col Ernie Stech is back at RMW with his imagination and wit. Many months ago Ernie developed two characters based on our "309" and Cub. "TB" & "Jay" still converse among themselves during those long hangar hours alone...*

By Col Ernie Stech  
Contributing Writer

TB was bouncing up and down, at least as much as he could in his hangar. He was one happy TBM Avenger.

Jay looked over and said, "What are you so happy about?"

"Oh Jay, I just found out that the Navy Blue Angels are going to be here at the airshow in July!"

"What's so great about that?"

"They're Navy, you goofball. I was Navy. They will have the same colors as mine. This is so great!"

"Well, we had the airshow a couple years ago, didn't we?"

"Yeah, but that was those other guys, from that other service. I don't like to use

their name. We have an inter-service rivalry. Their airplanes are a different color. They have different ejection seats from my guys. Most importantly, they don't have tail hooks!"

"Do you think any of the Navy pilots will come over and look at you?"

TB shook his cowling sideways. "I don't think so." He sounded a bit dejected. "See, I have a propeller, and they have jets. They will probably think I am way too old and decrepit."

"I think that's rude," responded Jay.

"Well, at least we will all be U. S. Navy, and that makes me proud!" TB perked up again.

Jay yawned. "Think I'll go to sleep."

TB quit bouncing and stood happily with a smile.

...  
Jay was thinking, "That big lug forgets that I was Navy too – just not Blue."

*(Watch for more "TB" & "Jay" in future issues.)*

RMWCAF STAFF OFFICERS

- Wing Leader Kent Taylor
- Executive Officer Bob Caskey
- Finance Officer Gabe Toth
- Adjutant Keith Swinehart
- Operations Officer Bob Thompson
- Deputy Operations Officer Kaleb Julius
- Maintenance Officer Dick Maddock
- Museum Officer Dorothy Dutton
- Safety Officer Byron Huffman
- Education Officer Tom Howe
- Development Officer Dale Beede
- Public Information Officer OPEN
- PX Officers OPEN (Bob & Georgia temp.)
- Newsletter Editor Tom Howe
- TBM Aircraft Coordinator Bob Thompson
- Cub Aircraft Coordinator Charlie Huff
- Ambulance Coordinator Byron Huffman
- Facilities Manager Kay Johnson
- Recruiting Officer Keith Swinehart
- Grants Officer Tom Dennis

Use this space to jot down your ideas for Wing Activities.

All ideas count.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

Bring this note with you to the March 9th Staff Meeting - you might get a cookie!!



**Staff Meeting Bullets 2/9**

Compiled monthly from RMW Staff Meeting Notes.

**NEXT STAFF MEETING**

**MARCH 9, 2019**

**RMWCAF HANGAR**

**SUPPORT YOUR CAF WING.**

**WWII QUIZ**

(SEE PAGE 5)

**ANSWERS**

**Naval Operations and Sea Battles**

1. The USS Enterprise (CV-6)

**The Air War**

2. The Brewster Buffalo.



(Ed. Note - Looks like a Buffalo - has no ass!)

- 2019 objectives are to grow the membership by 15 members, pay back \$8,000 to the Cub Maintenance Account, and at least \$20,000 to the TBM Maintenance Account. Our fundraising goal for 2019 is \$15,000, which we hope to exceed by a significant margin.
- We have 64 paid members plus donations (equals \$3,200). We have invoiced 15 past-due members (via Square) for this year's membership dues. Only one has paid so far.
- We're looking for mechanical interns from local schools. This includes Western Colorado Community College, Intellitec, and CMU adult courses. Front door recruiting sign faded - Kay stated he would replace the poster at the front door.
- PX will be restocked for air shows. Required Airshow Crew Training for the TBM, including maintenance and flight crew requirements will begin in February including Safety training as well. The new engine has been installed in the Piper Club with inspection and finalization occurring by March.
- The fire department inspected our fire extinguishers and certified them. The CO2 bottles are currently in for recertification. Annual Safety Stand Down Video Training (<https://cafoperations.org>) is mandatory for all RMW Members who will fly in any CAF Aircraft this year.
- We are exploring the possibility of a 2020 fly-in of unique aircraft to Grand Junction. Checking with GJ Airport, Experimental Aircraft Association, Colorado Pilots Association and others for interest and support for this type of event. The possible donation of a Beech Queen Air is still a possibility - suitable only for static display or salvage.
- Every member needs to record their time supporting CAF (that data is important for justifying our need), so active members, please keep good records of your hours. We are exploring possible grants for expansion of the museum and TBM hangar. Possibilities include a buy or lease an existing one or build a new one.
- The MK-13 Torpedo will be returned to the US Navy in Washington state. Consideration is being given to fabricating a mock-up or looking elsewhere for a replacement.

