



THE READY ROOM



SEPTEMBER 2021

Heart Of America Wing Est. 1982

Vol.1, Issue 3

A **ready room** is the room on a Navy aircraft carrier where air crews hold their pre-flight and post-flight briefs. Crews serving during WWII considered the ready room to be a clubroom.

"The funny thing about a ready room is that you get attached to the hole. As much as you are attached to the ship. It's more than sentiment. It's an urge for protection. The loneliest feeling in the whole of a carrier pilot's world is when he's at sea with the gas running low, and he can't see his carrier. You think of the ready room then, and the noisy guys who make it the most desirable place in the world. It's your office, you live in it, it is the big thing in your life. [...] You sweat and worry in it, and grouse and argue, and you get mad at it when you can't hear yourself speak because everyone is yelling at once, but you're deeply attached to the place.

— Tommy Booth

"Wildcats" Over Casablanca

Wing Leader's Input

It's September already? Where'd the Summer go? Seems like we were just getting out of Winter hibernation a few days ago...

It's been a busy Summer. Operations Officer Bob Robinson tells me we've averaged a Stearman flight every other day this Summer--- quite a few new friends for the CAF. Thanks to our hard working Maintenance and Ride Crews, we haven't had to cancel a single flight (except for the weather). The weather man hasn't been quite so kind to us; between high winds and high temperatures we've had to adjust our schedule a few times. Thanks to all our hard workers for making it happen.

Speaking of hard workers, we held our last Open Hangar Day of the year yesterday (September 4). OHD Chair Linda Sladish pulled off another winner in spite of a very rainy morning. The theme for this month's OHD was "Pet Palooza;" wherein we invite local pet rescue groups to come advertise themselves and their orphans up for adoption. We placed 3 dogs at yesterday's event! Good job to all!

And speaking of time flying by: this December marks my 4th year as Wing Leader. The CAF Unit Manual limits Leaders to two consecutive terms (4 years) and I've reached that limit. It's been great fun being in charge, and I've learned a lot; but it's time to "pass the torch" on to someone else. This year's elections will be held in November. Look for emails soon with the official ballot and election information.

That's all for this time. See you at the hangar!

--Brian VonBevern

NEXT MEETING:

25 SEP, 10:00

WING ELECTIONS:

20 NOV

Our friends across the field are holding an open house September 24. We'll be there with the Stearman and a display. Come tour the Chinooks!

Aviation Support Facility Olathe Open House



September 24, 2021 9:00 am– 3:00 pm

221 Gardner Dr.
New Century Airport, Ks. 66031

(located at the base of the control tower)



You are invited to come help us celebrate our 50th Anniversary. ASF Olathe is home to the CH-47 Chinook, operated and maintained by members of the U.S. Army Reserve. The citizens of the local community have undoubtedly heard these aircraft flying over the city and you are now welcome to come see them up close, walk through the aircraft, and tour the facility. There will be plenty of military equipment on display as well as vintage military vehicles. This is our way of thanking you for your support and gives us an opportunity to share our story with the community.

Free Parking will be available on the
north side of the compound

Contact for Information:
Tony Bertone 913-206-7660 or
Todd Carter 816-309-9077

OPEN HANGAR DAY

4 SEP 2021



New Member Jesse Plous helped shepherd cars.



Jack McCale keeps them enthralled.



John Wittenborn passing on pointers.



High 5s for the hard working kitchen staff.



CHAOS COORDINATOR Linda Sladish pulled off another great OHD!



The **HOA Precision Sweeping Team**: Jim Neese ("Big Mop") and Jim Boughan ("Little Mop") after OHD.



Pet Palooza – 3 dogs adopted!



Wing Member **Max Dewese (USMC)** enjoys lunch.



Advanced Aviation Line Guys help us find shelter for the Stearman.



Jeff Barthol brought more of his great collection for display.



Wing Member Bob Conner shows off his impressive grilling.



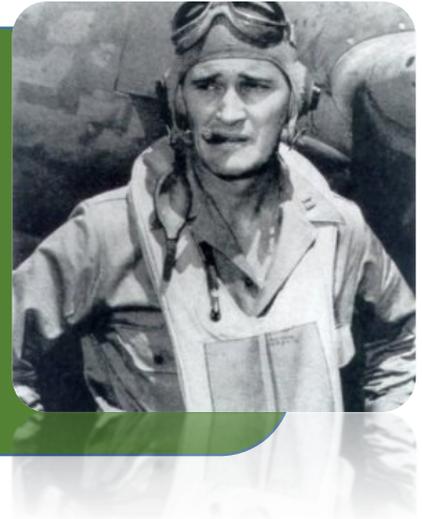
#9 Ace of WWII (#1 Marine Ace)

Capt Joseph J. Foss (retired Brig Gen)

26 total kills, 23 in 30 days

Gumman F4F Wildcat, stationed at Guadalcanal

Awarded Medal of Honor, Distinguished Flying Cross



Staff, we have the following slate of candidates for the 2021 Heart of America Election:

Wing Leader:

Mark McMahon
Steve Zimmerman

Executive Officer:

John Whittenborn

Ops Officer:

Vince Hill
Bob Robinson

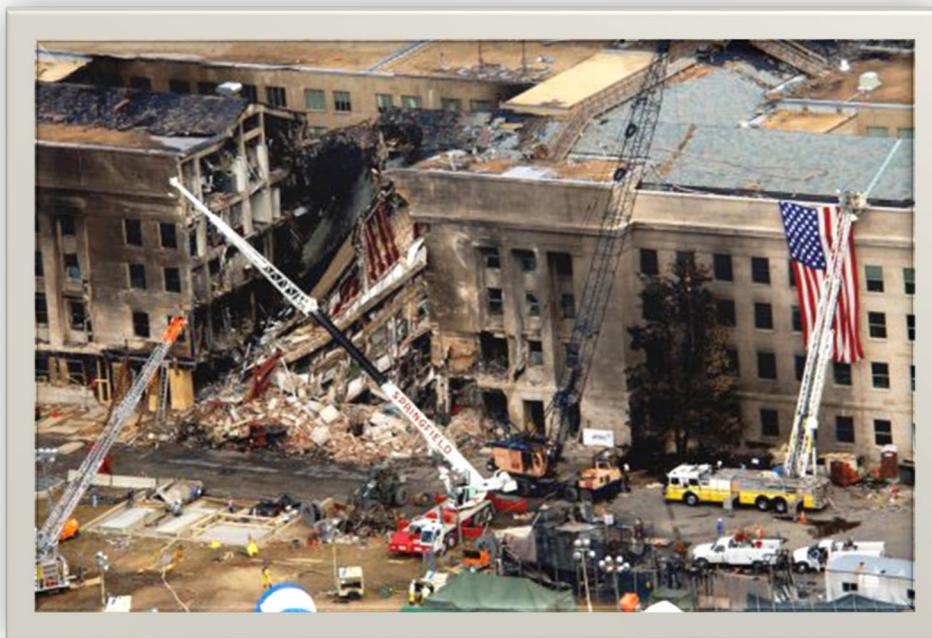
At the October 16th meeting we would like to introduce all of the candidates to the membership and distribute their bios, along with emailing bios. Thus handing the the slate off to the Election Committee for the November election.

Jarrett Bertoncin, 913-486-4118

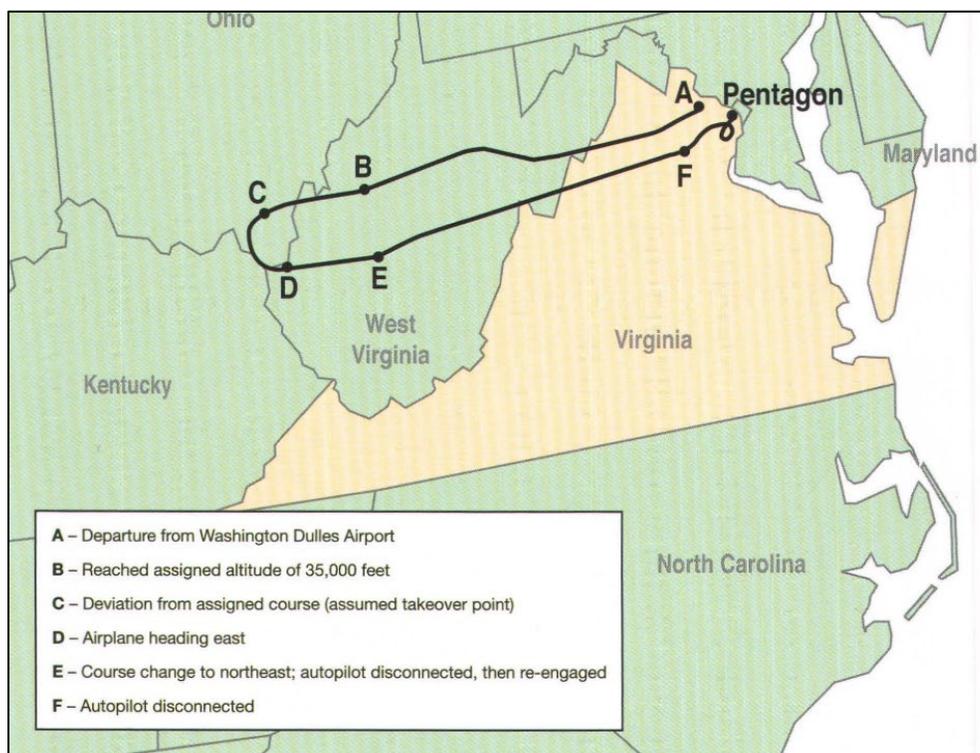


SEPTEMBER REMEMBRANCES

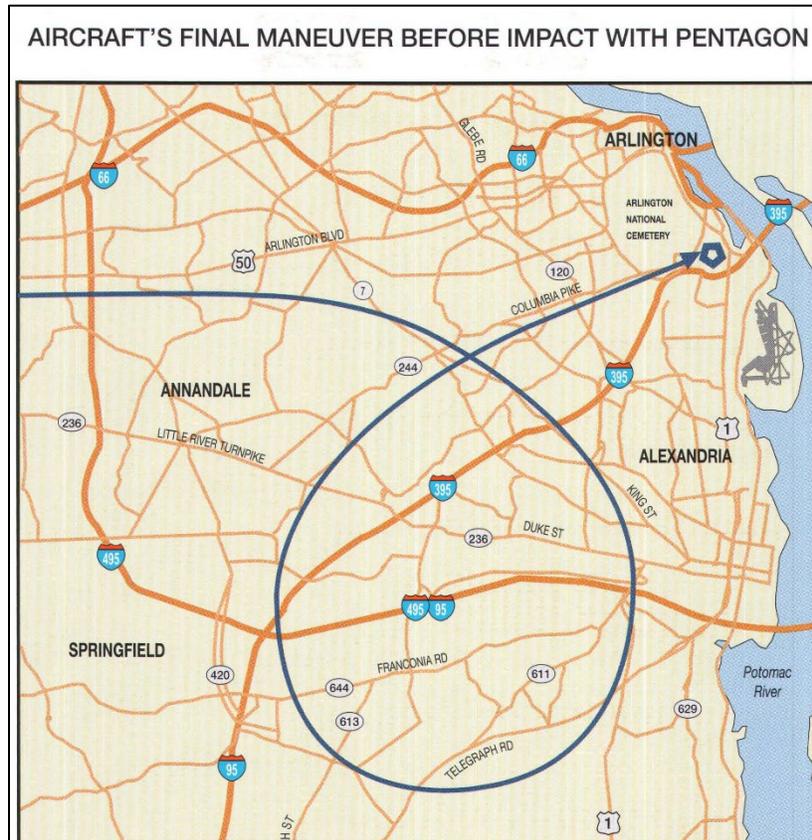
11 SEPTEMBER 2001



On 11 Sep 2001, American Airlines 77, a B-757, took off from Dulles International Airport with five hijackers, six crew, and fifty three passengers bound for Los Angeles. After the hijackers took over the flight, at 09:37 the airplane was flown into the west side of the Pentagon traveling 530mph and killed 184 people... 125 in the Pentagon. Of its original 10,000 gallons of jet fuel for its cross country flight, it still had approximately 7,256 gallons of jet fuel, and the resulting fireball reached 200 ft high above the building.



"At 9:34 AM the aircraft was positioned about 35 miles west-southwest of the Pentagon, and started a right 330-degree descending turn to the right. At the end of the turn the aircraft was at about 2000 feet altitude and 4 miles southwest of the Pentagon. Over the next 30 seconds, power was increased to near maximum.... The airplane accelerated to approximately 460 knots (530 miles per hour) at impact with the Pentagon. The time of impact was 9:37:45 AM:' (National Transportation Safety Board, "Flight Path Study - American Airlines Flight 77;' 19 Feb 02. See Appendix B.)



"Witnessing the fiery crash from above was the crew of a C-130 transport plane that had taken off from Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, minutes before. As Flight 77 descended toward the Pentagon it crossed the C-130's flight path. An air traffic controller asked the C-130 pilot, Lieutenant Colonel Steve O'Brien, to reverse course and follow the airliner. O'Brien turned and followed, watching in disbelief as Flight 77 smashed into the Pentagon. Ordered to leave the area immediately because fighter aircraft were approaching, the C-130 flew on to its destination-Minneapolis-St.Paul."

The Pentagon was conceived in 1941 from the need to consolidate the War Department, spread across 17 buildings in the Washington D.C area and growing. They broke ground on 11 Sep 1941 (exactly 60 years before the terrorist attack) and completed it on 15 Jan 1943. The building covers 29 acres, or 6.6 million sq ft. The pentagon design was chosen so that any location in the building could be reached in seven or eight minutes. The building is made up of five concentric rings with open space between each ring to allow for windows in most offices. During WWII, 30,000 military and civilians worked there, but by 2001, due to normal operations and building renovations, only 18,000 people worked at the building. In 1990, Congress authorized the money to renovate the building to address long standing deficiencies from age and deterioration, as well the growing terrorist threat security concerns.

The plane struck a section of the Pentagon that had just been renovated. In some aspects, this helped save lives due to the reinforced exterior wall, new blast-resistant windows, and updated fire suppression systems. Additionally, the construction of this section meant that it was minimally occupied. Only several hundred yards to the right, it was fully occupied.

Today, a memorial on the hallowed grounds stands as a tribute to the victims who struggled and died that day.



“Pentagon 9/11”, Historical Office, Office of the Secretary of Defense, 2007.

<https://pentagonmemorial.org/learn/911-pentagon/pentagon-reconstruction-phoenix-project>



VJ DAY!!
2 SEP 1945



Vought F4U Corsairs and Grumman F6F Hellcats fly in formation past the USS Missouri during surrender ceremonies in Tokyo Bay on Sept. 2, 1945. Photo No. 80-G-421130 courtesy of the National Archives.

The Air & Space magazine has a very good article online that goes into detail about the ceremony of surrender on the battleship USS Missouri. Check it out at the link below or put the title of the article in your search engine.

Air & Space, "Final Mission: Staging Japan's Surrender"
<https://www.airspacemag.com/airspacemag/surrender-spectacle-180975607/>



It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Virginia Linder, wife of CAF-HOA member Gene Linder. Virginia passed away 13 Sep, after a short illness. Condolences can be sent to Gene at home:
27425 Somerset Road
Paola, Kansas 66071



HEART OF AMERICA CAF HANGAR DANCE

Celebrating our 20th year honoring America's Veterans
featuring
The Moonlight Serenade Orchestra
Under the direction of
RON ERNST

Saturday, October 16, 2021
7:00 – 10:00 pm
BYOB & SNACKS
Soft Drinks Water & Ice Available for Donations
ADMISSION: \$35/person, \$350/table

Upcoming Events:

Date	Location
16-19 Sep	Great Bend Air Show , Great Bend (KGBD)
16 Oct	Hangar Dance with "The Moonlight Serenaders" POSTPONED May 2022
30 Oct	Pumpkin Drop with MO CAF, Smartt Field, St Charles (KSET)

Send your newsletter ideas and articles to:
Anitamack130@gmail.com

Wing Elected Staff Officers:

Wing Leader: Brian VonBevern

Executive Officer: Linda Sladish

Finance Officer: Tom McChesney

Operations Officer: Bob Robinson

Maintenance Officer: Steve Zimmerman

Safety Officer: Jim Boughan

Adjutant: Beth McCale

Development Officer: Beverly Wittenborn

Education Officer: Janet McKinney

Wing Appointed Staff Officers:

Guest Speaker/Veteran Outreach/Heritage Speaker:
Dave Dyer

Open Hangar Day Operations: Linda Sladish

Facility Rentals: Jim Neese

Wing Newsletter: Anita Mack

Museum & Library Curator: Darren Roberts

Photographer: John English



**COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE**