



Contact!

JANUARY 2000 ISSUE

Important Date: Our next Reunion Luncheon will be held at the Sportsmen's Lodge on Saturday, **April 29, 2000**, from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Guest speaker will be our own Hal Cope who, in addition to his other many skills, is an accomplished photographer and author. His presentation will include aviation topics from his beloved Africa as well many interesting pictures and stories from his upcoming book "On Safari With Bwana Hal". George Batchelor will again be hosting the bar.

Along with this issue is a Reservation Form for the Reunion. If you are planning to attend please complete the form and send it back to us on or before April 7, 2000. As is the custom, there will be a Hospitality Night on Friday, April 28, 2000, the night before the Reunion, at the Sportsmen's Lodge Hotel, from 6:00pm until 7:30pm.

For the out of towners, we have a block of rooms at the Sportsmen's Lodge Hotel for one or two nights at \$96 Single/Double Non-Poolview, \$106 Single/Double Poolview, \$180 Suites. For reservations call (800) 821-8511 and be sure to identify yourself as Aviation Pioneers to receive the preferred rates. Hotel reservations must be made prior to April 7, 2000; the earlier the better because the number of rooms available at the preferred rates are limited.

Who's Who: **Jack Pedesky** (Great Lakes) advised he is coming along quite well with his therapy and is almost his normal self again after his mild stroke last April. Jack appears to be getting pretty proficient with computer and internet. **Fritz Hutcheson** (US Aircoach) and his wife, Betty, live in Pasadena, California. Although he still suffers from back problems, Hutch works every day and enjoys doing so. **Bud Averman** (Regina) lives in Florida and just returned from a long cruise with his wife. Bud has an e-mail address if anyone wants to contact him. **Ralph Cox** (USOA) called from Wildwood, New Jersey to let APA know about the passing of **Kim Scribner** (PAA) at his Daytona Beach home last December 16th. Our condolences to Kim's family. Jack Wilson (Transamerica, MGM-Grand) tells us

San Fernando Valleyite **Vernon "Doc" Wedemeyer** (TIA, NAA, CAC, etc) is okay and doing well these days after passing the 80's mark. **Hal Cope** (NAA, TIA, WPA, Hawaiian, MidPac, etc) is spending his time in Zimbabwe sending out short but neat e-mail monograms on African wildlife, helping small airlines get started with DC-3's and C-47's for bush operations. He sent along data on a new African based production DeHavilland Tiger Moth that is available for those who urgently need one. Cope's color photos of African wildlife and local life sent as e-mail attachments are terrific. Cope leaves Zimbabwe for New Zealand shortly and then returns to the states and will be in Studio City as our speaker April 29, 2000. A note from **Edie Nelson** (Transocean) at San Clemente, California, says she is in good health and recently attended Transocean's reunion in the Bay area. **Jack Lewin** (North American, 20th Century) was unable to attend APA's reunion last year because of a conflict with his European travel plans. Maybe this year Jack will make it. **Maury Swidler** (California's greatest Nonsked agent, promoter and financier) lives in Napa, California with his wife and though he has suffered from serious illnesses in recent years, he was reported to have recovered. Haven't seen or read anything on **Bob Blake** or **Herb Kielson** of North American of late. Anybody hear anything from them?

President's Message: It's that time of year to start thinking of our Annual Reunion. I look forward to seeing each and every one of you again. It is really very gratifying that each year we continue to get such a good turnout. Everyone seems to enjoy the experience and it enables us to keep up with each other from year to year. We have had some exceptional speakers the last few years and I am sure that Hal Cope will have a very interesting presentation as well. Along with the Reservation Form is the 2000/2001 Membership Form. Annual dues are only \$15, and are used to

offset the very nominal expenses required to operate our organization. For those of you who would like to add a donation, there is space provided. Both your dues and donations are sincerely appreciated. I hope this new year is a great one for you and I hope to see you all soon. God Bless! -Terry

Bagattelle:

OVER GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR'S DESK THERE WAS AN INSCRIPTION THAT HAD THIS MESSAGE OF COURAGE AND FAITH: YOUTH IS NOT A TIME OF LIFE-IT IS A STATE OF MIND. NOBODY GROWS OLD BY MERELY LIVING AS NUMBER OF YEARS; PEOPLE GROW OLD ONLY BY DESERTING THEIR IDEALS. YEARS WRINKLE THE SKIN, BUT TO GIVE UP ENTHUSIASM WRINKLES THE SOUL. WORRY, DOUBT, SELF-DISTRUST, FEAR AND DESPAIR-THESE ARE THE LONG, LONG YEARS THAT BOW THE HEAD AND TURN THE GROWING SPIRIT BACK TO DUST. WHETHER SEVENTY OR SIXTEEN, THERE IS IN EVERY BEING'S HEART THE LOVE OF WONDER, THE SWEET AMAZEMENT AT THE STARS AND THE STAR-LIKE THINGS AND THOUGHTS, THE UNDAUNTED CHALLENGE OF EVENTS, THE UNFAILING CHILDLIKE APPETITE FOR WHAT NEXT, AND THE JOY AND THE GAME OF LIFE..

Gem of the Day:

THINGS WORK OUT BEST FOR PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE BEST OF THE WAY THINGS WORK OUT.

BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD. (GHANDI)

Airline News:

A couple of California airline start ups bit the dust earlier this year. Win Air of Salt Lake City established Boeing 737 operations at Long Beach to Salt Lake City and to the East Bay SFO area points. Unfortunately payloads and revenues were inadequate to sustain their operations. Another, Air Tahoe, started B737 service in early summer 99 at Lake Tahoe but shut down before year end. Lack of traffic volume to sustain long term development and lack of advertising didn't help. Sun Pacific Airlines, operated scheduled low fare MD-80 services from Long Beach to Dallas, Atlanta, and Orlando, suspended operations after they were an unfortunate victim of suffering a series of engine losses on their leased MD-80 aircraft. The MD-80 uses P&W JT-8D-217 series engines which are in short supply and cost over \$1 million each. To help along the situation, American Air which operates 300 MD-80 types bought all available P&W spares inventories for the next few years effectively monopolizing the market. Sun Pacific was being operated under a contractual

arrangement by Atlanta based World Technology Services which provided their reservation services. GE is now the nation's and world's largest turbine engine manufacturer. This is a result some years back of Pratt & Whitney management decision to require airlines and overhaul shops to make minimum purchases of \$5 million for P&W spare parts. C'est la Guerre, P&W. Boeing management's education is on the same track following its MDC acquisition by immediately dumping Douglas's top notch engineering staff. Airbus, a European upstart consortium, easily has captured America's Blue Ribbon export airframe manufacturing industry. Airbus passed Boeing by in new airframe orders in 1999. Airbus's secret weapon: price, price and price.

Web sites exist for Air California and PSA, plus some other defunct airlines (Braniff, Eastern, Pan Am, etc.). Cal Air is developing web site access for former nonsked airline people, photos and history at www.e-flyfree.com. The web site is being designed and managed by Flying Eye Productions for the San Fernando Valley at its site, www.flyingeye.com. The Cal Air site will feature pictures and history of some of nonskeds, their era and their contribution to aviation history and consumerism. Pictorial content is limited to available equipment, people and locations which are currently associated with North American Airlines, California Air Charter, US Aircoach, Mercer, Great Lakes, Slick, Tigers, Standard Airways and other Burbank based operators. Any editorial or historical material, aircraft or personnel photos or related information on other independent airlines or people who comprised this group. The web site will offer an internet chat room so people of the industry can stay in touch or contact each other. There are other sections (or pages) at this web site devoted to other aviation related matters. Material or data on carriers or people for posting on the internet site should send e-mail to aircal@juno.com or by regular mail addressed to California Air, POB 562, Pasadena, California 91114. Links will be provided to other internet sites which feature related subject matter. The pictorial site is expected to be functioning by the first week of February 2000 and chat room by March 2000.

(Contributed by Dick Neumann)

Herman Weinstein, An Aviation Drama:

Herman got started as an A&E mechanic at Lincoln Flying School in 1941. Right after Pearl, He was an Inspector F/E at Martin on B-26 Marauders and MOD on B-25's at Cannon Inst. West on active duty USNR at JAX as a leadman; was an enlisted pilot on Stearman Bi-Planes in Memphis.

As an experienced Inspector and Mechanic, he began work in 1955 for WAL as a mechanic and F/E. Herman says, "I was one of the Flight Engineers fired from WAL in the 1961 Seven Airline Shutdown. We were not fighting for more money or fewer hours. We were fighting to stay in the cockpits where we knew we were needed. I prevented 5 Mid-Airs on WAL during the years I flew there, and I know of other incidents that might have lost a flight- prevented by F/E's. My heart remained with WAL, but I always carried on and performed the job I was hired to do to the best of my ability. I worked for many great companies, including several Supplementals, and helped to 'Keep'em Flying'." Herman has been involved with local politics for 52 years in deepest incorporated Lawndale, Ca.

Thanks for your story, Herman. You certainly fought the good fight and never gave up. Right on, friend.

Just for Fun:

A married man and his secretary were having a torrid affair. One afternoon they couldn't contain their passion, so they rushed over to her place where they spent the afternoon making passionate love. When they were finished, they fell asleep and didn't wake up until 8 o'clock.

They got dressed quickly. Then the man told his secretary to take his shoes outside and rub them on the lawn. Bewildered, she does as he asks (thinking he was pretty weird).

The man finally gets home and his wife meets him at the door. Upset, she asks where he's been. The man replies "I cannot tell a lie. My secretary and I are having an affair. Today we left work early, went to her place, spent the afternoon making love then fell asleep. That's why I'm late.

The wife looks at him, takes notice of his shoes and says, "I can see those are grass stains. YOU LIAR! You've been playing golf again, haven't you?"

A message from National Chairman Senator Bob Dole:

World War II Memorial Campaign

For information about the Memorial, the design concept, how to make a donation, who's who and what's new... Visit our website at:

www.wwillmemorial.com

Or call

800/639-4WW2 (800/639-4992)

Leading the way, yet again:

Our friends, Ed and Lyn Hogan, recently launched a Loyola Marymount University program to graduate top management quality individuals with a broad base of knowledge and training in the travel industry. We wish the new "Ed and Lyn Hogan Program in Travel and Tourism" great success! The Hogans have also supplied the school with an innovative Mobile Classroom. The 45 foot converted bus was launched during a festive ceremony on October 22, 1999 at the scenic Loyola campus. Another development of the "Hogan Family Foundation" is the "Gardens of the World" park set to be constructed in Thousand Oaks, California. The site will use older business properties cleared to plant unique gardens representing various styles and species from around the world. Field trips by local school children and the general public will be invited. Thank you Ed and Lyn for a wonderful contribution to the beauty of Southern California.

Obituaries: Our sincere condolences to the families of our deceased members, friends and aviation enthusiasts. Herman Weinstein has kindly supplied us with the following information:

Owrie Brown, F/E - flew for Great Lakes; WAL; with WAL, Once, while going in to SFO with a runaway prop, the co-pilot feathered the wrong engine. The captain said, "Do something". Owrie started the good engine at full throttle. Thus was missed a dive into the bay.

Walt Jabol, F/E - WAL - Once spotted a jet coming into their right wing from Travis. He hauled back the column, missing a mid-air. When Walt apologized, the Captain said, "Anytime you want to fly, grab the wheel".

Peter Rayman, ex-WAL F/E; check airman, Hacienda; McCulloch; Stewart-Davis; Alaska (also treasurer of WAL F/E's)

Gene Seibern, F/E WAL; PSA

Harold Hayes, F/E WAL; JAL

Al Vereb, F/E WAL; also Law Enforcement

Bert Martens, F/E AAL and Mechanic AAL and Supplemental

John Walik, F/E WAL; McCulloch

Fred Benie, F/E WAL; Supplemental

See you next time, The APA Board