

# MAC News

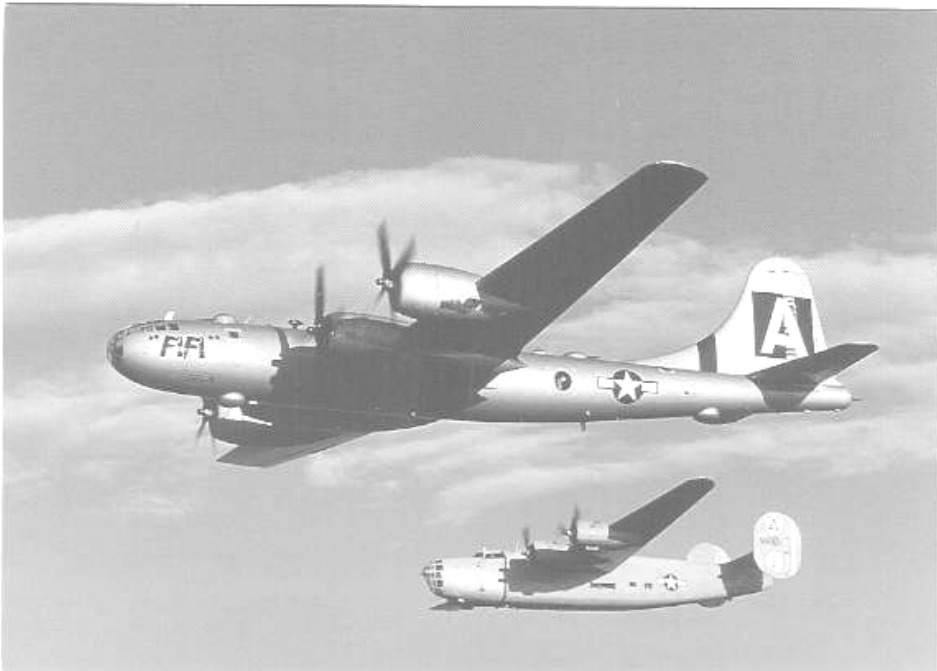
**President:** Jeff Parrish  
**Editor:** Jerry Calhoun  
**Webmaster:** Mike Broderick

The Mansfield Aviation Club Monthly Newsletter  
P.O. Box 1471 Mansfield, Ohio 44901  
Web Page: <http://www.mfd-aero.org:8081>

**Volume 56 Issue 6-7**

**June-July 2004**

## Commemorative Air Force at MFD



The world's only flying WW- II B-29 and WW-II vintage B-24 will be on display at Mansfield Lahm Airport from Tuesday August 10 to Sunday August 15, 2004.

The Commemorative Air Force, (formerly known as The Confederate Air Force) is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the great aircraft of WW-II, remembering the patriotic sacrifices of those who served their country in times of conflict, and presenting living history in communities across America!

### Some History of B-29 "Fifi"

The CAF located the B-29 eventually renamed Fifi at a time when USAF records indicated that none remained in inventory. Twenty-one years had passed since the end of WW-II and the Superfortress had long been obsolete. What was not so well documented was the fact that in 1954, the USN had taken possession of nearly fifty B-29s which were identified in Navy records only as gunnery targets. The "targets" had been abandoned in the desert near China Lake NAS where they remained for seventeen years. In 1971, a pilot reported seeing what he thought might be B-29s parked on the California desert. After lengthy negotiations, the CAF was able to secure title to B-29 SN44-62070. On August 3, 1971, after only nine weeks of work by CAF maintenance teams in the desert, the "target" was declared ready for the 1250 mile ferry flight to CAF headquarters in Harlingen Texas. The first flight after her seventeen year nap lasted six hours and thirty-eight minutes landing safely at Harlingen. Randy Sohn, the

CAF's Chief Check Pilot, worked in the desert during the nine week repair session and piloted the aircraft on the ferry flight. Randy's military service history is with the Air Force as you might guess based on the comment he once made to a Navy retiree. He observed, "how fortuitous it was that the B-29s were used as targets by the USN instead of the USAF, thusly allowing the CAF a choice of several relatively unscathed airframes." After more than three years of restoration and fundraising the aircraft was given her new name, "Fifi" and joined other CAF aircraft touring the United States.



## Pancakes & Young Eagles!

Mansfield Aviation Club is supporting the CAF visit though our efforts to provide lodging and vehicles for the CAF personnel visiting Mansfield.

### Pancakes

Mansfield Aviation Club will also be hosting a Fly-in/Drive-in pancake breakfast on Saturday and Sunday morning. This two day event, (14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>), replaces the breakfast that we have held in conjunction with the Freedom Festival. The city cancelled the Freedom Festival this year due to budget constraints so we thought it would be beneficial to both MAC and the CAF to have the event during their visit. Ron Dapper is managing the breakfast for MAC this year, and he would appreciate members contacting him to volunteer. We think we can run a little smaller crew this year, but there are two days to staff. Ron's phone number is at the bottom of this page, or you can e-mail him at:

[ercoupe372122@aol.com](mailto:ercoupe372122@aol.com)

**Jeff Parrish 774-0416**

**Ron Dapper 589-3717**

**Jerry Calhoun 522-4936**

**Dennis Atkeson 774-7575**

### Young Eagles

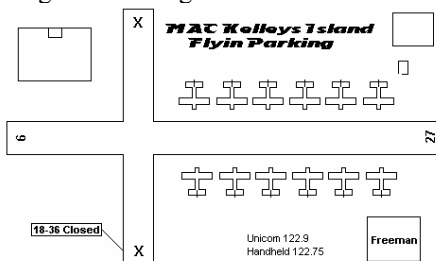
Also during the CAF weekend, Bob Staight will be managing a Young Eagle Rally. The B-25 and B-29 display aircraft will be well separated from the Young Eagle flight line. Pre-registration is not required, however the standard EAA paperwork including parent permissions will be completed on site before prospective Eagles are allowed to participate in the flights. We still have Young Eagle flights on the calendar for October, but Bob says that over the next few months we can decide if that is something that we still want to do. After the two days of Eagle flights during the CAF visit we may have filled the demand for a while. If you can help with this special event, contact Bob at (419)-529-2241 or you can send e-mail to him at <bob-sue@kosinet.com>

Watch for more details about plans for a potluck dinner for the CAF at the Fonseca Hangar. MAC, Galion and Ashland all will all sponsor.



## Fly-out to Kellys

This is a fly-out weekend. Gayle Gorman Freeman has offered to host the picnic fly-out to Kellys Island once again this year. We certainly appreciate the use of the nice home and yard almost on the airport! Most of you have flown into Kellys at one time or another, but if you have not, the map below should make things clear enough



Plenty of parking is available in the grass beside the runway. The north side parking is generally used first, but both sides are available if it would be an exceptionally busy weekend. There is a landing fee at Kellys; however MAC pays your landing fee for this event. We will take a count and send Kellys a check for all the planes that participate. Don't go to the

office and pay them separately unless you feel the need to contribute a little something extra to the operation of the airport.

Remember that this is a "picnic" event. We don't try to stage a covered dish event because of the large swings in the number of folks that are able to attend. There still seems to be a lot of "pass it around" spirit especially in the desert department, but the picnic lunch concept seems to have served well since we have been having this event.

We are asking everyone who intends to fly out please contact Jeff Parrish by phone, or e-mail. This is not a reservation, but rather a rough number we can pass along to our host. It also provides a short list of folks to contact in case the weather or other circumstance causes a change in plans. We know how quickly summer weekend plans can change, so if you suddenly find your weekend has opened up, don't worry that you didn't get on the call list. Jump in the plane and join us! Jeff will also try to match up folks that would like to attend and don't have a ride with members that have an extra seat or two. Driving to Kellys is also an option. Most will probably find it easier to take the ferry the last few miles, but who knows .....if you get a really good run at it, and have a little ramp or something.... For more information on this mode of arrival check out:

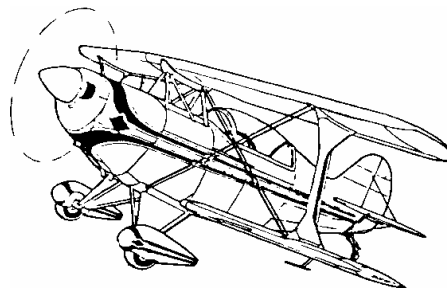
<http://www.evelknieval.com>

Jeff's email addresses are:

JEFFPARRISH@worldnet.att.net (or)  
jparrish@natcavoiced.org



## Air Events



**17 Fly-out to Kellys Island**  
**AUGUST**  
**7 Regular Meeting**

10-15 CAF Visit at MFD

**14-15 Pancake Breakfast at MFD**  
**(Fly-in/Drive-in) 8:00-11:00**

27-29 EAA MERFI Marion Airport

**SEPTEMBER**

**4 Regular Meeting**

**4 Labor Day Picnic**  
**(Dennis Atkeson Residence)**

**OCTOBER**

**2 Regular Meeting**

**2 EAA Young Eagles**

**NOVEMBER**

**6 Regular Meeting**

**DECEMBER**

**3 Christmas Party/Annual Mtg.**

**MAC Events shown in boldface**

\* Indicates a rain date. If you know of an event that should be included on our calendar please let us know at the meeting or call Jerry at 522-4936.



## Labor Day Picnic

Dennis Atkeson, our treasurer has invited us to hold the traditional Labor Day Brat Burn and Sweet Corn Roast at his home. Make sure you get this tasty weekend feast on your schedule. Brats, sweet corn, coffee, and cold drinks are on the house. Bring your table service and a covered dish to share. Plan to arrive about 6:30 PM. Guests are always welcome at MAC events, and the Labor Day festivities are no exception. If you plan to have



guests in for the holiday weekend, please bring them along! Dennis and Ruth live at 285 South Trimble Road. To get there from Park Avenue, turn south onto Trimble road. Pass the traffic light at Maumee and watch for a large white brick home on your left. It will be between Linwood Place and Pearce Drive. If you get to the church on the corner of Trimble and Millsboro you have gone a bit too far. Glance back over your left shoulder and you will see your fellow MAC members waving at you to turn around and come back to the party.

