



**NAVAL AIR—A TRUE STORY
APRIL 27, 2006 AT THE SLY FOX IN ROYERSFORD**

Shark Bait

Every pilot who ever operated from an aircraft carrier has taken on risks that the rest of us can only imagine, and pray that we never have to. In World War II, unlike more recent conflicts, there was the additional risk of being shot down or having the ship torpedoed from under you.

We'll learn more about it from Lt. William F. Hahn USN (Ret.) at our April 27 meeting. After starting on an engineering degree, he enlisted at the age of 18, earning his commission and Wings in 1943. He was both a dive bomber pilot and fighter pilot. In 1945 he was shot down, becoming, indeed, shark bait, but, fortunately was rescued. There's lots more, and the Sly Fox is the place to hear about it.

This will be our final indoor meeting of the season. It's a good chance to enjoy a good dinner, an interesting talk, and good fellowship before we move our dinners to the Flyers' Roost.

Come to the Sly Fox, 312 N. Lewis Road, in Royersford. We'll gather for dinner starting about 1800. Call the restaurant (610-948-8088) to let them know you are coming. Tell them you are with PAOP. They feature a full menu, from snacks to full dinners, a full bar, and a fine selection of beers that are made right there at the restaurant. For more information or directions call the restaurant or go to www.slyfoxbeer.com.

The Latest Battle of Trenton

On Christmas night in 1776 George Washington made his famous crossing of the Delaware on his way to surprising the British at Trenton. On March 26, 2006 ten PAOP members and guests crossed the Delaware to Trenton in more elegant fashion to attack the lavish brunch at the General's Quarters in the Mercer County Airport terminal. We had an excellent view of the airport, including watching our planes being moved out of the way of pricier bizjets, up to a Boeing Business Jet. Nonetheless, the FBO treated us well, the field was uncrowded, and the day was fun, if a bit challenging weather-wise.

Paying Your Dues

Though we are ahead of last year, there are still lots of members who have not taken advantage of the opportunity to pay their dues. In case you don't know who you are, your bill is attached. By the way, if you use an automatic bill payment service, be sure your name appears somewhere on the check. A few checks have required detective work to identify the member.

School Days

At the invitation of a faculty member, who is one of her students, Ethel Bailey, assisted by Barb Zeigler and Gene Poppel, made three Career Day presentations about aviation at the Hill School on March 31. A week later, the same team talked to fourth- and fifth-graders at Lower Providence Elementary School. There was lots of interest, maybe leading to aviation careers some day. This was the first time in quite a while that PAOP has been able to reach out into the schools, and we look forward to more opportunities.

Who's Connie?

The Lockheed Constellation is believed by many to be the best looking airliner of the piston era. It was the peak of pre-jet technology. We get to visit one on our April 30 flyout. Yes, there's a Connie, grounded forever, at Greenwood Lake airport (4N1), where you can get up close and personal. It's a 79 nm breakfast flight to the New Jersey lake country, near the New York border. The restaurant is new, so we should have a treat.

We'll gather at Penn Airways at 0930 for 1000 takeoff. Guests are always welcome, as long as seats are available. If you will have an extra seat, or if you need a ride, contact Gene Poppel 610-647-1332 or genepoppel@comcast.net.

Going Shopping

He hasn't publicized it, but he should. PAOP member Randy Dotterer stocks a good assortment of the supplies we need for maintaining our aircraft at his Pottstown Auto Parts. He carries Aeroshell 80, 100 and 15/50, as well as Phillips XC20/50, and an assortment of the most popular landing light bulbs. If he doesn't have it, he can usually get it, with deliveries twice a week. Give Randy a call at 610-326-3400 or stop in at 206 Moser Road.

Originated February 26, 1948—Incorporated January 15, 1960—P.O. Box 140 Devon, PA 19333

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