North Texas Chapter of AIAA

Happy Holidays !

Thursday, January 19, 2012

We are kicking off the new year with a presentation by an award-winning member of our North Texas Section. Mr. Cargill Hall, historian emeritus of the National Reconnaissance Office, is the recipient of the AIAA 2012 History Manuscript award for his biography of Frank G. Tinker, Jr., "Five Down, No Glory". Tinker was an American pilot under contract with the Republican Air Force in the Spanish Civil War. Flying Polykarpov I-15s and I-16s and commanding a Russian squadron, he would become the top American ace during the war after downing eight enemy planes in combat in 1937.

The meeting will be held on the UTA campus on Thursday evening, January 19th. The room arrangements are being worked out and will be announced in early January. The schedule is:

6:30-7:15	**Social hour** **Pizza and soft drinks available, $5**
7:15-7:30	**Start meeting, announcements, intro**
7:30-8:15	**Presentation Cargill Hall, followed by Q&A and book signing.**

Copies of the Tinker biography will be available for purchase at a reduced price of $28. Please bring your checkbook or exact amount. Mr. Hall will be available to sign your book before and after the talk.

Please remember to bring canned foods to support the Tarrant Area Food Bank – you will be eligible to enter a drawing for a free copy of the Tinker biography courtesy of the Naval Institute Press.

Speaker's Corner

Saturday, October 29, 2011

SETP/SFTE Flight Test Historical Symposium

Frontiers of Flight Museum

Love Field - Dallas, Texas

Robert L. "Hoot" Gibson Astronaut, speaker was a Hoot to listen to. Very good speaker ; enjoyable evening.

Thursday, November 10, 2011

Jim Lair

TSA National Readiness Coordinator

Contingency Preparedness

TSA Overview, good job Admiral!

Jim retired as a Rear Admiral (08) from the United States Navy in 1995 after 38 years of service in the United States Marines and Navy. He commanded a Strike/Fighter Squadron, Carrier Air Wing, Fleet Oiler, the Carrier America and was Commander, Carrier Striking Force, U.S. 6th Fleet. His last active duty assignment was Director of Operations, Combat Commander, U.S. Forces, Europe and he IS a Marine.

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER Adnan Yucel

Dear Members,

We had a busy schedule since our last meeting early October. The North Texas Section was a sponsor of the historical symposium at the Frontiers of Flight Museum on Saturday, October 29th. The all-day event was organized jointly by the Society of Experimental Test Pilots and the Society of Flight Test Engineers and featured fascinating presentations by designers and test pilots on many older programs including B-58, AH-1 and F -16. Following the program, we were treated to a special dinner presentation by former astronaut Robert "Hoot" Gibson who talked about various subjects including flying the Space Shuttle to air racing at Reno. Our November general meeting was held on November 10th at the University of Texas at Arlington campus. The speaker for the evening was the distinguished Jim Lair, who rose from naval aviation cadet to battle group commander and retired as rear admiral in the USN. Jim gave us an engaging presentation on TSA and made us appreciate the great work they do which extends far beyond the familiar security checkpoints and screenings.

Mark your calendars for our next event on January 19th, 2012. We are pleased to announce that a member of our North Texas Section, R. Cargill Hall, was selected to receive the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics 2012 History Manuscript Award for the manuscript entitled "Ace of Chaos: Frank G. Tinker and the Air War In Spain." The award is presented for the best historical manuscript dealing with the science, technology, and/or impact of aeronautics and astronautics on society, and will be presented to Mr. Hall at the 50th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting in January, 2012. The manuscript which details the life of the American mercenary ace Frank Tinker has just been published by the Naval Institute Press under the title "Five Down No Glory" - see inside for more information. Mr. Hall, who is Historian Emeritus of the National Reconnaissance Office, has agreed to give the North Texas section a presentation about Frank Tinker and his exploits in the Spanish Civil War at our next general meeting scheduled for Thursday evening, January 19th, 2012. Watch your mailbox early January for more details. Congratulations to Mr. Hall on this well-deserved award.

As the holidays are upon us, we extend seasons greetings to all – please be safe, enjoy your time with family and friends, and extend a hand to those less fortunate.

Happy holidays,

Adnan Yucel
Chair

Saturday, October 29, 2011
SETP/SFTE Flight Test Historical Symposium
Frontiers of Flight Museum
Love Field - Dallas, Texas

Hoot Gibson, Astronaut, speaker was a Hoot to listen to. Very enjoyable speaker.

Tom Hendricks , Jim Struble, and
Robert L. "Hoot" Gibson

Bio for Hoot from JSC
http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/gibson.html

Program Front Page

2011 SFTE/SETP FLIGHT TEST HISTORICAL SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

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AND

THE SOCIETY OF FLIGHT TEST ENGINEERS

PRESENT

The 2011 Flight Test Historical Symposium

29 October 2011

Frontiers of Flight Museum
Love Field
Dallas, Texas

New Feature in the North Texas Contrails Newsletter.

Find the out of place picture in this current Newsletter! Send me an email (jrpeoples@wholeclothllc.biz) with the picture included; your picture with short bio will appear in the next newsletter as our winner.

You have to be an AIAA active member or student member to participate.

See if you can find the picture that is out of place!!!!

Dr. Dora Musielak, Professor at UTA and member of the AIAA HSABP Technical Committee, is the featured author of the "High Speed Air Breathing Propulsion - 2011 Year in Review" article published by AIAA.

Click the links for access

https://info.aiaa.org/tac/PEG/HSABPTC/Public%20Documents/High%20Speed%20Air%20Breathing%20Propulsion_2011%20Year%20in%20Review.pdf

Dr. Dora Musielak leads the Communications Subcommittee of the AIAA High Speed Air Breathing Propulsion Technical Committee (HSABPTC). She is the recipient of numerous awards, including several NASA Research Fellowships, and in 2005 she was named Associate Fellow of AIAA. Dr. Musielak is engaged in research to develop scramjet and rocket propulsion and also teaches at the University of Texas in Arlington.

LinkedIn Profile: Dora Musielak | LinkedIn

UTA Profile:http://www.uta.edu/ra/real/editprofile.php?pid=6797&onlyview=1

Good Job Dr. Musielak!!!!

Thursday, November 10, 2011
Jim Lair
TSA National Readiness Coordinator
Contingency Preparedness
TSA Overview, good job Admiral!

Jim retired as a Rear Admiral (08) from the United States Navy in 1995 after 38 years of service in the United States Marines and Navy. He commanded a Strike/Fighter Squadron, Carrier Air Wing, Fleet Oiler, the Carrier America and was Commander, Carrier Striking Force, U.S. 6th Fleet. His last active duty assignment was Director of Operations, Combat Commander, U.S. Forces, Europe and he IS a Marine

Click on this link or paste it into your browser window for an interesting read.

Thanks for your service, Admiral!

http://www.epnaao.com/BIOS_files/REGULARS/Lair-%20James%20A.pdf

Jim Lair
Rear Admiral (08) Retired
Marine
TSA National Readiness Coordinator
Contingency Preparedness

Our Next Speaker is R. Cargill Hall

Five Down, No Glory

Frank G. Tinker, Mercenary Ace in the Spanish Civil War

by Richard K. Smith *and* R. Cargill Hall

"Frank Tinker's improbable career reads like an adventure novel about a sailor, Annapolis graduate, naval pilot, and fighter ace in Spain; he rubbed elbows with a veritable Who's Who of the 1930s. Every page of this fast-paced tale of a daredevil who lived on the edge brings fascinating revelations, ranging from trivia like Ernest Hemmingway's favorite drink to deadly calculations of the best tactics to shoot down a Messerschmitt Bf 109."
—Edward J. Drea, author of *Japan's Imperial Army: Its Rise and Fall, 1853–1945*

"Tinker's life is well worth reading for what it tells us of how the Spanish air war was fought, and how the international aviators who flew for the Loyalist cause conducted themselves, perceived their role, and interacted with both the Spanish military system and the increasingly dominant Soviet leadership of the Loyalist air arm."
—Richard P. Hallion, from the introduction

"A true soldier of fortune, Tinker lived wildly and fought hard for the Loyalist cause, and the authors rivet you to each swiftly turning page with incredible detail. The introduction by Richard Hallion and the notes alone are worth the price of this fascinating book."
—Col. Walter J. Boyne, USAF (Ret.), National Aviation Hall of Fame member, author of *Hypersonic Thunder*

"This fascinating and well-paced account of Tinker's experiences in Spain outlines the evolution of military aviation on the eve of World War II, illuminates the complicated and sometimes conflicted role of American expatriate pilots like Tinker, and explores the character of a free-spirited and still somewhat enigmatic figure."
—Craig L. Symonds, author of *The Battle of Midway*

"Smith and Hall deliver a fascinating account of a little-known aviator who combined a deft touch in the cockpit with affable social skills that brought him into contact with some of the most influential people of his day. Written in clear prose, the authors illuminate the life and contributions of a Renaissance man and ace and show his influence on aerial tactics."
—John F. Wukovits, author of *Black Sheep: The Life of Pappy Boyington*

—A book for review—

"A 1933 Naval Academy graduate, Frank Tinker went on to become an ace for the Spanish Republic. Richard Smith and Cargill Hall relate Tinker's colorful—some would say bizarre—story with panache, illuminating the Spanish Civil War and war in the air during a period of portentous change. This is aviation history at its best, packed with informed technical commentary."
—John F. Guilmartin Jr., author of *A Very Short War: The Mayaguez and the Battle of Koh Tang*

Frank G. Tinker Jr. was the top American ace flying under contract with the Spanish Republican Air Force in the Spanish Civil War. A U.S. Naval Academy graduate, class of 1933, he went into combat with Soviet airmen during the war. Through sheer perseverance he rose from a teenage enlisted seaman, through the U.S. Naval Academy, to the officer's wardroom—then pressed on to claim the wings of a naval aviator and to become a top-flight fighter pilot and published author. Tinker possessed extraordinary people skills—skills that allowed him to move with relative ease among common seamen, naval officers, foreign combat pilots, left-wing literati in Madrid and Paris, and the rural folk of Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana, who embraced him as "one of their own." While in Spain, Tinker socialized with Ernest Hemingway; Martha Gellhorn; Robert Hale Merriman, the leader of the American Volunteers of the Lincoln Brigade; and Milton Wolff, Merriman's successor, who led the 15th International Brigade during the Battle of the Ebro.

This first in-depth biography of Tinker covers his experience in combat, culminating with his command of a Soviet squadron and the termination of his contract with the government of Spain. Tinker would become the top American ace during the Spanish Civil War after downing eight enemy airplanes in combat. After returning to the United States, he wrote a memoir about fighting for Republican Spain. His death in Little Rock, Arkansas, in June 1939, often reported a suicide, remains controversial. The authors, well-known aviation historians, also offer a rare discussion of the aerial tactics introduced in the Spanish Civil War that became standard procedure in World War II and firmly establish Tinker's aviation feats for the historical record.

Richard K. Smith is the author of *First Across! The U.S. Navy's Transatlantic Flight of 1919.* He served as an engineer in the U.S. Merchant Marine before completing his degrees in history at the University of Illinois and University of Chicago. He died in 2003.
R. Cargill Hall is Emeritus Chief Historian of the National Reconnaissance Office, an intelligence arm of the DoD. He is the author of *Lunar Impact: A History of Project Ranger* and *Lightning Over Bougainville: The Yamamoto Mission Reconsidered*. He resides in Arlington, Texas.

Five Down, No Glory: Frank G. Tinker, Mercenary Ace in the Spanish Civil War
By Richard K. Smith and R. Cargill Hall

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AIAA Momentum Newsletter for August

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