

Greetings, Illustrious Class of 1973! This is the expanded, online version of our Class News column for the December 2016 Checkpoints magazine. Enjoy.

“Sully,” the movie. As most are already aware, the movie about our 20th Squadron classmate Sully Sullenberger’s 2009 decision to conduct an APU-only landing on the Hudson River was released on 9 Sep 16. For the record, it did quite well at the box office, earning over \$118M at the box office as of this writing. We heard nothing but good reviews from classmates. Their comments and a lot more information about the movie are on the [“Sully The Movie”](#) page on our [class website](#) at usafa73.org. A number of classmates attended a special pre-release showing of the movie at 7:00 PM 8 Sep and were interviewed by the Gazette. The [article](#) appeared in the online Woodmen Edition and is also available on the class website by clicking on the “As reported by the Colorado Springs Gazette” link on the “Sully” The Movie page.



Al Maurer, CS-25 (with sport coat); A.J. Ranft, CS-11/17; Joe Kahoe, CS-07; Pam Deberghes and Skip Smith, CS-09; Pris and Mike Arnett, CS-09; Dennis Haugh, CS-13; Dale Birch, CS-39 at the pre-movie happy hour. Not in picture but on hand: Dennis Haugh’s wife Ginny Gallagher; Denny & Heidi Merideth, CS-08; and John & Lynn Stefanik, CS-20.

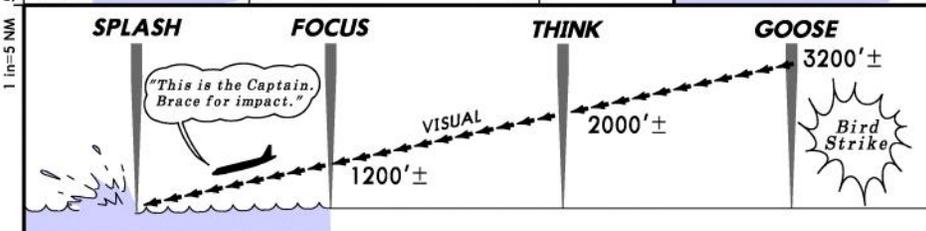
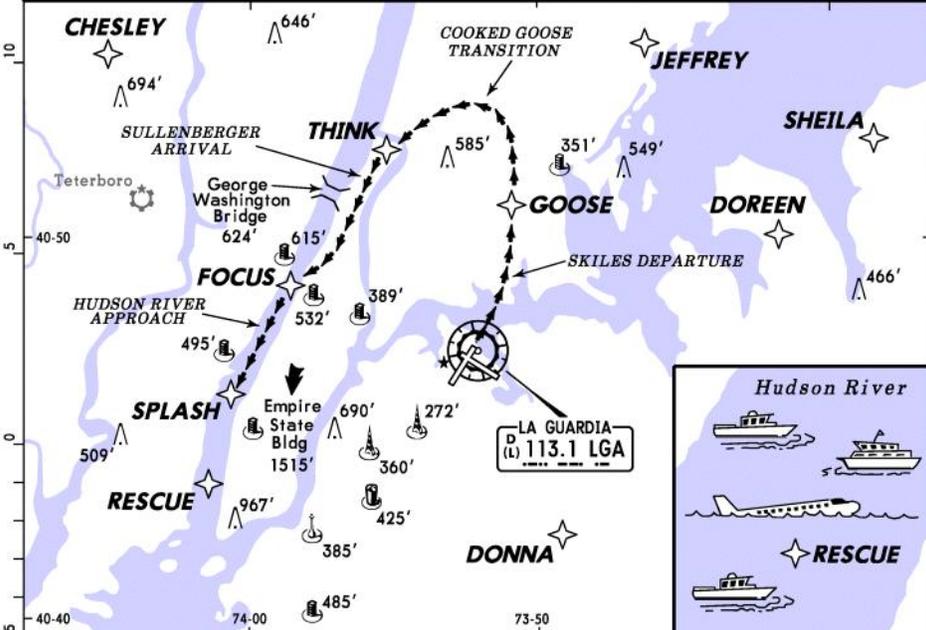
The Jeppeson Company, which develops airport approach plates, put out a special, though unofficial, plate honoring the Miracle on the Hudson, below.

KLGA/LGA
LA GUARDIA

JEPPESEN
AUG 2010 (No. 1)

NEW YORK, NY
HUDSON MIRACLE APCH

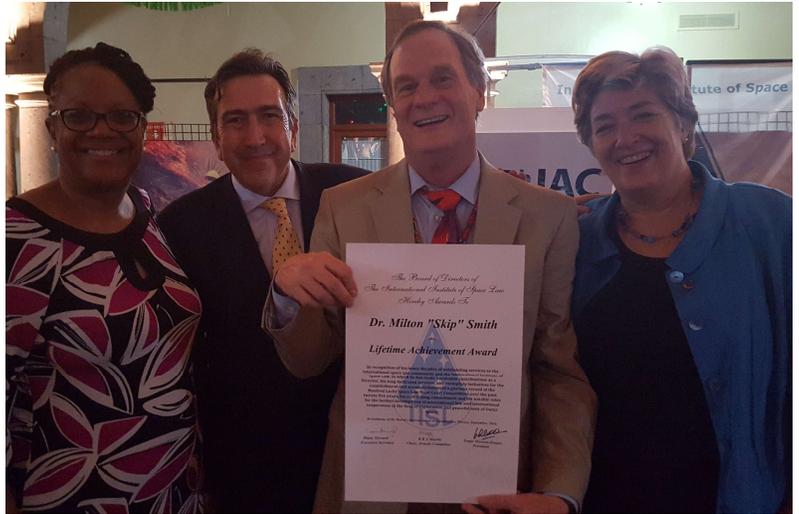
D-ATIS Arrival 125.95	NEW YORK Approach (R) 120.8	LA GUARDIA Tower 118.7	Ground 121.7	Emergency 121.5
VFR ONLY	Final Apch Crs HUDSON RIVER	Minimum Alt FOCUS (All You Can Get)	MDA(H) 0' (You're Committed)	Apt Elev 22' TDZE WET
MISSED APCH: None (ONLY ONE CHANCE). NOTE: After water landing, oversee evacuation of ALL SOULS from airplane. Float via HUDSON RIVER to RESCUE point. Once everyone is SAFE aboard rescue boats, secure passenger list and double check cabin. Captain is last to exit. Give THANKS.				U.S AIRWAYS Flight 1549 January 15, 2009 Airbus A-320 <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> 150 Passengers + 5 Crew ----- 155 Survivors </div>
1. SAAAR PROCEDURE: Special Aircrew, Airmanship, and Ability Required. 2. Duration of flight from Take-Off to Splashdown approximately 5 minutes. 3. Save soggy shoes and wet jacket. Donate to the EAA Young Eagles program.				



Gnd speed-Kts	90	100	120	140	All SOULS OK?	Float On HUDSON RIVER	To RESCUE Point	Check All SAFE On Boats	Give THANKS
VERTICAL ANGLE	Best You Can Get								
THINK to SPLASH	Comes Way too Soon								
STRAIGHT-IN LANDING HUDSON RIVER					US AIRWAYS FLIGHT 1549 CREW				
ETOPS APPROACH MDA(H) 0' (You're Committed)					Flight Deck		Cabin Crew		
VFR Conditions Only					Captain CHESLEY SULLENBERGER, III United States Air Force Academy(1973) US Airways(PSA Airlines)(1980) 35 Years Experience Total Flight Hours 19,663		Flight Attendant SHEILA DAIL US Airways(Piedmont Airlines)(1980) 28 Years Experience		
					First Officer JEFFREY SKILES US Airways(USAir)(1986) 22 Years Experience Total Flight Hours 15,643		Flight Attendant DONNA DENT US Airways(Piedmont Airlines)(1982) 26 Years Experience		
							Flight Attendant DOREEN WELSH US Airways(Allegheny Airlines)(1970) 38 Years Experience		

ETOPS: Engines Turning or People Swimming.
 CHANGES: Presented with Pride and Gratitude from your Friends at Jeppesen! © JEPPESEN, 2010. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Lifetime Achievement Award for Skip Smith, CS-09. Thanks to squadronmate Dave **Barcus**, CS-09, for cluing me in to Skip **Smith's** award. Skip reported he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Institute of Space Law (IISL) while he was in Guadalajara for the International Astronautical Congress in September. He is shown here with Sumara Thompson-King, NASA General Counsel; Marco Ferrazzani, The Legal Counsel for the European Space Agency; and Tanja Masson-Zwaan, IISL President. "Guess I'm on to the next lifetime," says Skip. Congratulations, Skipper!



"The Bet," from Jack **Hudson**, CS-25. "Have been carrying around this one dollar bill in my wallet for almost 14 years. On 4 Oct 2002, I made a bet (The Bet) in Denver CO with Mr Herb Fenster, a former USAF attorney, that the F-35 would become operational in our USAF. He bet against it, believing the program would be cancelled. Today I won the bet; our USAF declared the F-35A ready for combat operations. Herb gave me 10:1 odds. Witnesses were Chuck Stewart and Duncan Butts (another former USAF attorney). They signed the bill too. I spent the \$10 that night in Denver in a bar with Chuck and Duncan. Our Marine Corps declared the F-35B operational in 2015. Am very happy to see this operational declaration for the F-35A for our USAF; a great day for our USAF, our nation, and our allies. I spent just over 5 years in the F-35 program office in DC. Feels good to see this weapon system maturing and to have won 'The Bet'!"



The One Dollar bill from "The Bet," dated 4 Oct 2002 and signed by Jack **Hudson**, Chuck Stewart and Duncan Butts.

Front Range Activities. As more classmates settle here on the Front Range, our local activities continue to flourish, thanks primarily to Rich and Teresa **Fazio**, CS-16. See the [Front Range](#)

[Gatherings](#) under the Class & Sq Fellowship tab of the website for pix of the most recent activities and a schedule of [upcoming events](#).

Frat Five Mini-Reunion, from Monnie Gore, CS-05. Frat Five had a great mini-reunion at the Navy game with 12 classmates and their significant others in attendance. This is the fifth year in a row that our squadron has held a reunion and attended a USAFA football game. (We decided we were getting too old to wait every five years!) We meet for dinner on Friday night at my house in Manitou Springs, tailgate on Saturday before the game, sit together at the game, and then meet for dinner that evening at a local restaurant. Great "war stories" and lies. Amazing how the memories change with the years.

Attendees included: Greg **Beyer**, Pete **Cooper**, Mick **Davis**, Monnie **Gore**, Roy **Hart**, Jeff **Knight**, Robert **Marsh**, Scott **McLaughlin**, Roy **Pence**, Al **Phillips**, Dave **Quackenbush**, and Karlon **Young**, plus wives and friends.)



Frat Fivers at Mini-Reunion. Top row left to right: Pete **Cooper**, Roy **Hart**, Dave **Quackenbush**, Karlon **Young**, Scott **McLaughlin**, Al **Phillips**, Roy **Pence**, Mick **Davis**; Bottom Row: Greg **Beyer**, Monnie **Gore**, Jeff **Knight**, Robert **Marsh**

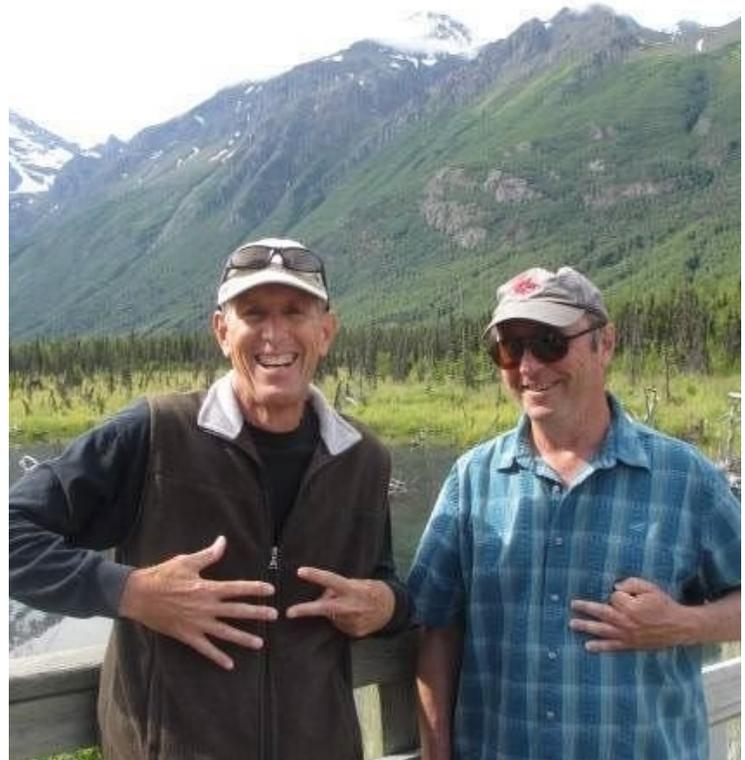
Stand Downs for Homeless Vets. AF-Navy weekend found Jim **Western**, CS-34, Jimmie **Dean**, CS-15, and Don **Ottinger** CS-30 camped out at Veterans Memorial Park in Hudson, FL for three days, giving more than 200 homeless and at risk veterans a hand up so they can get back on their feet and living productive lives. Jim, Jimmie, and Don are part of a nationwide movement that hosts more than 200 Stand Downs" each year to get help veterans secure stable housing and employment as well as free medical and dental care, substance abuse and spiritual counseling, legal advice, and education and training services. Of note this year, the Hudson Stand Down hosted a Veterans Court that cleared 30 misdemeanor charges and waived over \$16,000 in fines for veterans that could not find employment or suitable housing due to charges and fines hanging over their heads. Hopefully one day, Stand Downs will not be necessary because we have ended veteran homelessness.



Jim **Western**, Jimmie **Dean** and Don **Ottinger** at the Hudson Stand Down.



Eightballs in Anchorage, from Al **Dunlap**, CS-08. “My wife, Jody, and daughter, Allison, and I spent 10 spectacular days touring The Kenai Peninsula and Denali State Park region with superb hosts, Mary Jo and Jim **laguilli**, CS-08. For anyone who has not visited Alaska, it needs to be a ‘must do’ on your bucket list. The natural beauty is spectacularly breathtaking.”



Al **Dunlap** (L) and Jim **laguilli** throwing signs in Chugach State Park in Anchorage, AK (Right)

AI included as a side note for anyone living in the Denver region: “Be sure to pick up a copy of the Fall 2016 issue of *Modern In Denver* magazine (online at <http://www.modernindenver.com/2016/09/fall-issue-2016/>, subscription required.) Owner/publisher William Logan did a superb article on the newly opened CCLD [Center for Character and Leadership Development] facility with excellent insight on the rationale behind the campus layout and construction.”



Jeff Blanchette, CS-23, visits CCLD. “Anita and I visited her mom in Monument last month and decided to visit the Center for Character and Leadership Development. It’s not open to public (surprise to us). We happened to get to the door as recently retired Chaplain Bob Bruno was chatting with friends that are part of the CCLD team. We got invited to join a walk through with Dr Greg Tate and Father Bruno—most enjoyable and informative. The Center does allow tours that can be set up by contacting Julie Imada (jlci@usafa.edu or Julie.imada.ctr@usafa.edu). She is the Editor of the Journal of Character and Leadership Integration.”

Class President Ron Scott, CS-34, notes our class continues to build a legacy of excellence (in addition to Skip **Smith**, above). Here are some recent examples.

- Dennis **Haugh**, CS-13, just published a nonpartisan book, *Political Vertigo*, with a foreword by Brig Gen Mal Wakin.
- Dr. AJ **Briding**, CS-19, had an excellent article published in the *Air & Space Power Journal*, “Matrix Wings: Continuous Process Improvement an Operator Can Love,” available at <http://tinyurl.com/jena3g6>.
- Ron bumped into Ernie **Maravilla**, CS-11/15, in San Antonio at a 774th Tactical Airlift Squadron reunion. He now lives in Santa Fe, NM and said that we should invite former governor Rick Perry (a 774th alum) to the next reunion.
- A big thanks from Ron and those of us on the Front Range to Rich and Theresa **Fazio**, CS-16, for orchestrating monthly lunches/dinners along the Front Range. They keep it novel with a new place each time with occasional entertainment, including Silver Star and Jabara Award recipient Larry **Faber**, CS-05, and his wife, Carol; and comedian/Falcon cheerleader Tom **Grayson**, CS-07, at the class dinner before the Navy Game.
- Finally, more thanks to Craig **MacPherson** and Kelley **McCullar**, both CS-39 and fellow Scotsmen, for their masterful work on our class website.
- *A Winter of Wolves*, the fourth crime novel written by classmate Chuck **Ambrose**, CS-24, under his pen name of Marc Rainer, is now available from Amazon in paperback and Kindle.

More airline retirees. (And these are only the ones I heard from/about since the last column.)

- From John **Eisenhart**, CS-01: “Thought I would pass along a photo of my final United Airlines flight (after 20,000 of flight time) from Santiago, Chile to Houston, TX with my wife & kids on board. It's been a great career and I got to retire off the B787 Dreamliner, pictured below. We also packed up and moved to Colorado Springs.” Contact Class Scribe Mike Arnett directly for contact info.



John and Claudia Eisenhart and daughters in B-787 Dreamliner cockpit on retirement day.

- From Denny **Boyce**, CS-25: “I flew my last flight for American Airlines (previously USAir & Piedmont Airlines) on April 27 from London to Charlotte. I had my family with me and it was a great way to close out my 43 year career of flying airplanes. My first day of retirement was my 65th birthday and my first day hiking the Appalachian Trail. My plan was to do a thru hike, all 2189 miles, from northern VA to Maine and then Georgia to the starting point in VA. Unfortunately I had to come home from NJ with knee problems. Turns out I have arthritis and the old knees can't handle the 15-18 miles a day I was doing. After treatment & rehab, I hiked the month of August completing the sections in the South that I have not done in past years for a total of 650 miles. I will go back next year and the following year to finish. Now I have to adjust to retirement, but with three grandchildren and a fourth due on 15 Oct, I will have plenty to do. Dave **Stonehouse**, CS-25; Don **McMillan**, CS-40; John **Harr**, CS-14; Dave **Mullins**, CS-14; Steve **Savell**, CS-14 and Craig **Lady**, CS-16 also retired from American this year.”

“Dirty Dozen” Medicare Reunion, from Bob **Allen**, CS-12. “At the 2013 reunion, 12th Squadron “Dirty Dozen” committed to a future unbridled squadron get together. With Rick **Karvosky** and Mark **Ferris** leadership, 15 of the original “Summer of 69” made it for a “Medicare Reunion” 29 Sept- 2 Oct 2016 in Las Vegas. The weekend included swapping another round of tales and Saturday afternoon at a sports bar watching Air Force beat Navy. Doesn't get much better than that!”

Addendum by Mark **Ferris**: “Bob is being his usual modest self. He was a great sounding board in finalizing our plans and his son made a great plaque to commemorate the event.”



“Dirty Dozen” Medicare Reunion in Las Vegas. Back Row, L to R: Gene **Frodsham**, Rick **Jones**, Rick **Karvosky**, Bob **Allen**, Bob **Mize**, Tom **Ream**, Larry **Nolen**, Gene **Malberg**, Tom **Wilka**. Front Row, L to R: Mark **Ferris**, John **Pace**, Scott **Mills**, Rick **Johnston**, Bill **Swan**, Landon **Westbrook**.



“Dirty Dozen” Mini-Reunion plaque made by Bob **Allen**’s son.

Another Minister. In response to my query about classmates who have taken up the cloth, Rob “Mitch” **Mitchell**, CS-20, reported that squadronmate Pete **Brechbuhl** is a Lutheran minister in Springfield, IL.

Snow on the Peaks. Mike **Dendinger**, CS-28, visited ex-roommate, Dan **Handlin**, in Kalispell, Montana in September. Pic to the right was taken in Glacier National Park. (Mike on the left, Dan on the right.)

Update from Mark Stuckley, CS-09/17: “We had our third grandkid, Mark H. Stuckley III, in June, and are expecting our fourth, another boy, at the end of the year/beginning of 2017. Each of my sons will then have a boy and girl. I am enjoying being called Pop Pop. My wife, Linda, is still working and is hoping to retire within the next two years. I am enjoying being retired but seem to work more now than before. Am learning how to play bridge, so maybe by our 45th reunion we can have a tournament.” [First, you have to teach the rest of us, Stu.]



Update from Bruce Bennett, CS-11. “Still working for DIA in Washington, DC. I'm the Director, Certification Program Management Office for the Defense Intelligence Enterprise supporting individual certification of all-source analysts and joint intelligence planners. I'm looking forward to this ski season as I'll continue teaching disabled athletes and Wounded Warriors how to ski as well as work towards my Level II certification. I'm making my seventh trip to Colorado to participate in the PSIA National Adaptive Academy's program. Planning on retiring in 2017 and moving to Gettysburg, PA where I'll continue teaching skiing, finishing my bike ride across America, and hope to teach creative & critical thinking & problem solving part time at a junior college or university.”

Update from Mike and Amy Smith, CS-20. “Amy and I have returned to Colorado. We purchased a home in the Northgate area and are in the final process of unpacking. It feels good to be back in the mountains but I am still adjusting to the altitude. We found we were spending most of our travel time coming back to Colorado to visit kids and grandkids. We now have five, with the newest being born this past July. We look forward to getting caught up with our friends in the area.”

Update from Ed Whitt, CS-07. “Hey, folks! It turned out to have been a good thing I didn't try to make the Navy game. The surgical team moved our granddaughter's surgery up to Monday (yesterday). They moved it to assure an ICU slot for post-surgical care. More than one member of the team said that the surgery went, “amazing well.” So well, in fact, that she was able to move out of ICU and into a cardiac ward room. I won't bore anyone with any details unless specifically requested, but if a picture is worth 1,000 words, I'll leave y'all with about 2,000 words worth. Our sincerest thanks to all who offered prayers in her behalf. The results speak for themselves. All that, and we beat Navy too! Well done!” We wish your granddaughter a speedy full recovery, Ed.



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More Sully. Bill McKenzie, CS-02, sent in this picture from several years ago, when Bill Roberson, CS-36, gave Sully a tour of Boeing. The pic was taken in Boeing's Flight Test Building.

L to R: Bill McKenzie; Bill Roberson; Sully Sullenberger; Bob Frohlich, CS-34; and Mike Stollings, CS-36.



More McKenzie. As noted in the last Class News column, Bill **McKenzie** embarked on a South to North “hike” of the Pacific Coast Trail on 3 May 2016. He terminated this year’s effort on 3 Sep at Cascade Locks (mile 2144) on the Oregon-Washington border. He’s planning to finish the PCT by hiking Washington in 2017. If anyone would like to join him for all or part of the journey, he would be happy to have some company on the final leg.

Bill **McKenzie** at the California-Oregon border on the Pacific Coast Trail 28 Jul 16.



Gone But Not Forgotten: Maj (Ret) Marc Tanner Gober, CS-20.

We belatedly learned that Marc passed away on 1 Feb 2016 in Kennesaw, GA. A Celebration of Life video can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z0WEJhuaTjc>. Condolences may be sent to his family in care of his wife, Rebecca. Contact Class Scribe Mike Arnett for contact information.

CS-39 Update from Craig MacPherson.

Skip **Evans**, after retiring from US Air and living on his yacht for 20+ years, has set sail on the high seas. Spending the summer exploring the coast of Maine, here is a picture of Capt Skip and First Mate Debi in Portland.





Paul and Jana **Motley** joined Craig and Pat **MacPherson** near their new abode in Southport, NC maintaining lookout for the sailors as they head to the Bahamas via NC.

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CS-31 Update from Tom Kennedy. “This has been a very family-oriented summer for the Grim Reapers. Charlie and Pam **Meyer** shared in the joy of a new grandchild as did Fil and Kim **Thorn**. Mike and Callie **Hub** enjoyed older grandchildren on a trip to Jamestown Settlement while Don **Sloan** continued to glow next to his Stearman. Tom **Kennedy** and Phil **Yavorsky** joined Phil’s brother, Joe (USMA, Class of ’78) at the FedEx Golf Tournament in Atlanta, followed by a week of golf. And Tom shared a trip to the pumpkin patch with his granddaughter. Grandchildren, squadronmates and airplanes dominated our daily lives.” Pix below are from Tom.



Charlie and Pam **Meyer** in a great 4-generation pic.



Mike and Callie **Hub** with GKs at Jamestown Settlement



Fil and Kim **Thorn**, proud grandparents.



Don **Sloan** with Stearman biplane and unidentified copilot.



Tom **Kennedy** at FedEx Golf Tournament with Phil and Joe **Yavorsky**



Tom **Kennedy** and granddaughter searching for the Great Pumpkin

Until next time, "Here's a toast...to the host...of the men we boast...the U.S. Air Force!"

Mike Arnett