



ARC-OVER

JULY 2022 EDITION

JULY 4th

July 4th conjures up several fond memories of past 4th events. The one that comes to the forefront in July 4th, 1960. That was the birth of my youngest son Kevin. Remember sitting in the Emanuel Hospital on Canal Drive, Turlock. The Parade route was along canal with the floats and spectators beginning to form. Back in those times the husband was NOT a participant in the birthing process, so I was in the waiting room cooling my heels watching the parade out the window. That was 62 years ago, WOW seems like only yesterday...

When thinking of the 4th my recollection goes immediately to Vicksburg Mississippi. You ask why, well the fact is Vicksburg did NOT celebrate the 4th of July after the Civil War until 1935. Talk about sore losers. Upon visiting the Confederate Cemetery one vacation I became aware of an interesting fact. American Army lieutenant Philip Nolan, who renounces his country during a trial for treason, and was consequently sentenced to spend the rest of his days at sea without so much as a word of news about the united states became by presidential decree, "The Man Without a Country". As hap-penstance would dictate, he died when the ship was in port for repairs and burial at sea was imprac-tical. The Navy turned to the president for resolution of the matter. So by presidential direction he was ordered to be buried in the Vicksburg Confederate Cemetery along with the rest of the traitors. I stood by that gravesite on the crest of the hill overlooking Vicksburg and the meandering Mississipp-i.

The previous was to lay the groundwork for what is to follow. In 1972 after learning to fly, my love-ly bride bought me a 1949 Cessna 170A for my birthday. Numerous trips near and far followed. One of the frequent events attended was the California Wing of the 170 association north - South fly off where we competed in spot landing, balloon bursting and flower bombing. Part of the event in-volved dressing in appropriate Confederate and Union Army regalia. A plaque for the most authen-tic uniformed couple was awarded. Well to assure a slam dunk Duane Shockey president of the Cali-fornia wing paid over \$300 for rental costumes for he and his bride. My Mom was an excellent seamstress and had just finished a three piece Generals uniform, coat with tails and epilates trou-sers with stripe down the side, vest all adorned with period brimmed hat and sword borrowed from Peg Austin a Modesto Ham. The sword was carried by a Great Uncle of hers during the war of 1812. Ivy was beautifully attired in period costume as well. Needless to say the Shockey's took second place after spending all that cash.

When the next fly-in was approaching, Shockey still stinging from the previous defeat devised a dev-ilish plan. Several weeks prior to the scheduled fly-in I received a letter from a Randolph Butts in Flagstaff Arizona a friend of Shockey. He claimed I apparently through Amateur Radio had befriend-ed his dad who had recently passed away. I needed to be present for the reading of the will in order to receive the inheritance of a 20 acre parcel of land in the Flagstaff area. The date for the will read-ing just happened to be the weekend of the fly-in. We began making travel plans, Ivy was at a point of waging war to get time off, WE were on our way to our inheritance in Flagstaff. Finally Randy Butts got hold of Shockey and told him to call us off in that we were on the way and he did not want to be the one who had to tell us it was all a hoax. Boy what a sore looser. Oh yes after 40+ years I still have the letter.

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Ok now back to Vicksburg and the Civil War. For the California 170 fly-off the north, south division line was the town of Tehachapi. South was Confederate, North was union. Here is where the Vicksburg issue comes to light. A couple from Auburn north of Sacramento Bernie and Doris Nell were obligated to arrive in union apparel. I mentioned before the predominant attitude of the southerners specifically those from Vicksburg. Well Doris was the epitome of that bent. She was born in Vicksburg, her family name was Beauregard. P.T.G. Beauregard was the General who let the troops first firing on Fort Sumpter starting the Civil War. You cannot get any more southern than Beauregard !!! So to no one was surprised when Doris proclaimed in a loud voice, "I Haint bout to dress like no damn Yankee" She finally allowed Bernie to wear a dog hair and potato peeling union privates cap. However she would not have her picture taken with him.

Even though Doris was a dyed in the wool southerner with the ya'll drawl she was a pure delight to be around. Never will forget the 170 group held a Northern California tour with three overnight stops. One of these was at Mendocino along the northern coast. Bernin, myself and the girls were taking a stroll thru downtown Mendocino checking things out gawking at the tourist and peeking in store fronts. All of a sudden in a stage whisper that could be heard a block away, Doris exclaimed, Iiveeey thar goes Rob-eert Red-FORD. Sure nuff it was him in the flesh with a young thing dangling on his arm most likely not his wife. Much to my and Bernie's disdain the gals started doging his tracks to verify that in fact they had made this stupendous encounter. Weaving in and out among the crowd they finally ducked into a hotel and presumably out the back door to evade the peering eyes of a couple fruitcake ladies.

Many memorable trips were made in the 170 along with the Null's and others. I recall specifically on fly-in at Frazier Park a grass strip located between Hollister and Gilroy. For those who have never landed on a grass strip, it is almost impossible to make a bad landing. Like landing on a deep pile carpet. This fly-in was particularly memorable in that I wore the Union Generals outfit that mom made. Ivy dressed in a VERY short buxom, flared dress with fish net stockings. Thus we went as General Hooker and one of his camp followers. Added to the festivities was John Puglese from Fresno who had a small scooter with a kids stick hobby horse mounted on the handlebars. It had a pull string which made the hobby horse let out with a loud whinny when the string was pulled. Somewhere in this boars nest I actually have a vhs video of that event. If I can find it and convert to digital we will be delighted to share with you...

At a fly-in at Columbia near Sonora we happened across a photo studio and had an opportunity to have a professional picture taken which very closely resembled the regalia we wore to the fly-ins. It is displayed on the following page.

I can look back on the numerous 4th of July events with many fond memories. In recollection one has a twinge of guilt having been so blessed to have experienced all of these memorable events. Many Pilots act as if flying their aircraft is the love of their life. I have to admit flying was the third love of my life. The first is my Lord. A close second was my Dear Bride who is now with our Lord. She has left me with more love and fond memories than I ever deserved. Make loving memories while you can, because one of these days perhaps that is all you will have and they will be most cherished believe me.

HAVE A HAPPY 4TH
K6IXA EDITOR



"The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for." - Will Rogers

"We must recognize that, as we grow older, we become like old cars – more and more repairs and replacements are necessary." - C.S. Lewis

"Old age comes at a bad time." – San Banducci "

"Old age is like a plane flying through a storm. Once you are aboard there is nothing you can do about it." - Golda Meir

"The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened. - Mark Twain

"Wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age. Sometimes, age just shows up all by itself." - Tom Wilson

"I don't plan to grow old gracefully. I plan to have face-lifts until my ears meet." - Rita Rudner

"I'm at that age where my back goes out more than I do." - Phyllis Diller

"Nice to be here? At my age it's nice to be anywhere." – George Burns

"Don't let aging get you down. It's too hard to get back up." - John Wagner

"First you forget names, then you forget faces, then you forget to pull your zipper up, then you forget to pull your zipper down." - Leo Rosenberg

"Aging seems to be the only available way to live a long life." - Kitty O'Neill Collins

"Old people shouldn't eat health foods. They need all the preservatives they can get." – Robert Orben

"It's important to have a twinkle in your wrinkle." – Unknown

"At my age, flowers scare me." - George Burns

"I have successfully completed the thirty-year transition from wanting to stay up late to just wanting to go to bed." – Unknown

"Nobody expects to trust his body much after the age of fifty." - Alexander Hamilton

"At fifty, everyone has the face he deserves." - George Orwell

"At age 20, we worry about what others think of us... at age 40, we don't care what they think of us... at age 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all." - Ann Landers

"The important thing to remember is that I'm probably going to forget." – Unknown

"It's paradoxical that the idea of living a long life appeals to everyone, but the idea of getting old doesn't appeal to anyone." - Andy Rooney

"The older I get, the better I used to be." – Lee Trevino

"You know you're getting old when you can pinch an inch on your forehead." - John Mendoza

"I was thinking about how people seem to read the bible a lot more as they get older, and then it dawned on me—they're cramming for their final exam."- George Carlin

"I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap." - Bob Hope

"All men are the same age." - Dorothy Parker

"I don't do alcohol anymore—I get the same effect just standing up fast." – Anonymous

"By the time you're 80 years old you've learned everything. You only have to remember it." - George Burns

"Old age isn't so bad when you consider the alternative." – Maurice Chevalier

"Getting older. I used to be able to run a 4-minute mile, bench press 380 pounds, and tell the truth." - Conan O'Brien

"I have reached an age when, if someone tells me to wear socks, I don't have to." - Albert Einstein

"Grandchildren don't make a man feel old, it's the knowledge that he's married to a grandmother that does." - J. Norman Collie

"You know you are getting old when everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt doesn't work." - Hy Gardner

"When your friends begin to flatter you on how young you look, it's a sure sign you're getting old." - Mark Twain

"You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks." - Joel Plaskett

"At my age 'getting lucky' means walking into a room and remembering what I came in for." – Unknown

"Old age is when you resent the swimsuit issue of Sports Illustrated because there are fewer articles to read." – George Burns

"The idea is to die young as late as possible." - Ashley Montagu

"You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you're down there." - George Burns

"Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician." - Anonymous