



BPA

BLACK PILOTS of AMERICA

March 2006

March 2006

BPA ATIS

DRAPER CHAPTER GOES TO SCHOOL

Members of Roscoe Draper Chapter were invited to speak at the Young Scholars Charter School on December 13th, 2005.

The school is located at Broad and Jefferson Streets in Philadelphia, contains grades 6 thru 8 and has a predominantly African American population.

One of the school administrators is Jeffrey Williams who, along with his son, was given a plane ride during the summer; Jeff was so impressed that he extended the invitation to make a presentation at his school.



It was arranged that we would be speaking to the 6th grade students which were divided into two groups. The class had studied the heroic feats of the Tuskegee Airmen and was familiar with African American Aviators; the Draper Chapter presentation was a culminating experience for the unit of study. The eager and attentive students were impressed by our chapter President, Derek Grier, Vincent Mallory, and Doug Tolbert; however the students broke into spontaneous applause upon learning that the quiet gentleman in the corner was Roscoe "Coach" Draper. You should have seen it, they were genuinely in awe. Many asked for his autograph; remember they had just finished studying about the Tuskegee Airmen. The questions were plentiful and showed they had been paying attention, especially one student who asked a question that Vince Mallory didn't want to answer; what a bright kid he was.

The students were entered into a raffle and the winners given AOPA "Junior Pilot" wings which were provided by AOPA. Students that asked noteworthy questions were also given gifts provided by Vince. Vince Mallory invited the students out to the airport for a tour at a later date, and Jeffrey Williams said he would try to work out the details for such a trip. After the presentation we met the schools' administrative staff who expressed their gratitude for our visit.

All in all it was a great day for the students of Young Scholars Charter School as well as the Roscoe Draper Chapter.

Our goal is to do more speaking engagements to introduce minority children to the many opportunities in the field of aviation and aviation support services.

President's Corner



**Black Pilots
of America,
Inc.**

Founded 1997

The Black Pilots of America is a non-profit membership organization committed to introducing under represented youth to the field of aviation

Chairman: John W. Hicks, Jr.
dhawkjwh@aol.com

President: Palmer Sullins, Jr
PalmerSullins@cs.com

Vice Pres.: Juan Haygood
j-haygood@sbcglobal.net

Operation Off.: Ron Lisberg
rlisberg@gte.net

Secretary: Theresa White
mstee6151@aol.com

Treasurer: Bill Morgan, Jr.
space_traveler@juno.com

Membership: Cedric Grimes
Zulu622@aol.com

Web Master: Ron Lisberg
Derek_grier@yahoo.com

BPA ATIS is published four times a year by the
Black Pilots of America
P.O. Box 7463
Pine Bluff, AR 71611
www.BPAPilots.org

Editor: "Gene" Stanley
eestanleysr@verizon.net

**Deadline for June 2006
issue is June 7, 2006**

Greetings Black Pilots of America! 2006 marks our tenth year of success. It is wonderful to remember the first meeting in Miami in February, 1997 when we organized and formed the great organization we have today. We have much to be thankful for and many to thank. Hard work and dedicated membership support are the hallmark ingredients for where and who we are today. As we move forward, challenges ahead include the 10th Anniversary Skyhook Celebration, Summer Flight Academy, the August General Membership Meeting in Phoenix, AZ and the 2007 January Board of Directors Meeting in California. Our work is cut out and in order to make these successful events, your participation is essential. Oh yes, let's not forget the Chapter activities which are the back bone of this organization. We stress flying and exposing our youth to the golden aeronautical threshold which we experience each time we enter the cockpit, start the engine and head off into the blue and sometimes grey skies. An additional plateau is to own and fly your airplane. Many of our members have reached that level and we salute them all.



Congratulations to John W. Hicks, Jr. who was sworn in as Chairman of the Board. He has done an outstanding job representing BPA for the past three years and it was indeed an honor to conduct his swearing in this year. I look forward to working with John over the next two years. Thanks to him and the Tuskegee Chapter for hosting the January Board of Directors Meeting.

As mentioned previously, our 10th Anniversary Skyhook Celebration is rapidly approaching. We expect record attendance and urge you to make plans now to join in the festivities. A new hotel for increased comfort and added seminars will offer aviation educational opportunities to enhance pilot skills. Those who are not flying can enjoy the sights and community heritage around Little Rock and Pine Bluff. AOPA Magazine is scheduled to be in attendance to view first hand how Black Pilots of America, Inc. makes flying worth all the effort put into it. Remember to register early.

Summer flight Academy will be held in July. Volunteers are requested to help make this year another roaring success. Les Morris and the Bronze Eagles of Texas are commended for the outstanding past classes and this year is headed for the same. Students are needed so get them prepared and registered right away.

Keep in mind the BPA August Membership Meeting to be held jointly with other International Black Aerospace Council (IBAC) organizations in Phoenix, AZ. Your Chapter support is requested.

The Sunshine Committee needs to hear from your chapter. Select a contact so that BPA can remain aware of member issues. BPA cares about you. June Marsh has done her best but she needs your help.

Palmer Sullins, Jr.

Page 2

10th Anniversary Operation Skyhook Schedule

Thursday - May 25, 2006

- 09:00 Registration Opens @ Airport
- 13:00 Depart for Little Rock Clinton Library Tour/Falcon Jet
- 17:30 Hospitality/ Welcome to City

Friday - May 26, 2006

- 08:45- 0945 Seminar at Airport
- 0800 – 1700 Registration @ Airport
- 09:50 Competition Briefing
- 10:00 Flour Bomb Drop & Spot Landings
- 15:00 Formation Flight over City
- 17:30 Membership Meeting @ Waterfront Bldg.
- 19:00 Dinner “Southern Cuisine” Waterfront Bldg. Regional Park
- 21:00 Hospitality @ Hotel

Saturday - May 27, 2006

- 08:00- 14:30 Registration Continues
- 08:45-09:45 Seminar at airport
- 09: 50 Pilot Briefing
- 10:00 Competition (Pylons/Formation Flying)
- 16:30 Youth Aviation Rides
- Dinner at Charles Kelly’s (Redtail 17)
- 20:00 Hospitality @ Hotel
- 22:00 Y-Knots Blues/Jazz Club

Sunday - May 28, 2006

- 8:45-09:45 Seminar at airport
- 09:50 Pilot Briefing
- 10:00 Competition Balloon Bursting
- 16:30 Youth Aviation Rides
- 19:00 Awards Banquet (Business Dress)
- Harbor Oaks Golf Resort

Monday - May 29, 2006

- 07:30 Departures

REGISTRATION FORM

10th Anniversary
Operation Skyhook
May 25-29, 2006
Grider Field Airport (PBF)
"Home of the Black Pilots of America"
Pine Bluff, Arkansas
www.bpapilots.org

FEATURING

Fly-In Competition, Aviation Workshop, Aircraft Static Displays, Youth Airplane Rides & Activities, Hospitality, Arkansas Tours, Banquet & Awards, FLYING, FLYING AND MORE FLYING!
LARGEST FORMATION FLIGHT OVER THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF ON FRIDAY, MAY 26TH.

REGISTRATION FEES

(Pre-Registration Special)

MEMBERS NONMEMBERS

Registration Made by May 1, 2006

\$125.00 \$160.00

Registration Made After May 1, 2006

\$150.00 \$185.00

\$60.00 - Future Aviators (10 – 18 yrs. of age)

Make all Checks Payable to: Black Pilots of America, Inc.

Mail Your Registration Form and Check to:

Black Pilots of America

P.O. Box 7463

Pine Bluff, AR 71611

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS (\$70.00 per Room)



2903 Pines Mall Drive, Pine Bluff, AR 70603

Hotel Reservations 870-534-1810

"Black Pilots of America Memorial Day Fly-In"
"Rental Cars call Enterprise Rental Car (870) 534-7766"

_____(Fill-out, Print, Detach and Mail along with your check)_____

Name: BPA No.: Arrival Date:

Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

Phone: EMail:

Check #:

Note: (Registration fees are based on individual registration only)

Please make a donation to BPA Summer Flight Academy:

Credit Card No.: Type: Exp. Date:

<HELP PROMOTE THIS EVENT BY FLYING YOUR OWN AIRPLANE TO PINE BLUFF >





2006 BPA Operation Skyhook
Competition Form
May 25-29, 2006
Grider Field Airport (PBF)
"Home of the Black Pilots of America"
Pine Bluff, Arkansas



Name:

Chapter:

Aircraft Call No.: (ie Redtails #1)

Certificate Held: Certificate No.:

Competitive Events

Flour Bomb Drop - Aircraft Type: Call No.:

Balloon Bursting - Aircraft Type: Call No.:

Spot Landing (PO) - Aircraft Type: Call No.:

You must hold a Commercial or higher certificate to compete in the following events. Student or Private pilot certificate holder must present a waiver signed by a CFI to participate in the following event. The waiver must be attached to this registration form.

Pylons - Aircraft Type: Call No.:

Formation Flying:

Aircraft Type: Call No.:

Aircraft Type: Call No.:

Aircraft Type: Call No.:

Waiver



2006 BPA Operation Skyhook

Waiver May 25-29, 2006

Grider Field Airport (PBF)

"Home of the Black Pilots of America" Pine Bluff, Arkansas



PRIVATE PILOT WAIVER FORM

A waiver signed by a Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) is required for pilots holding a Private Pilot Certificate in order to participate in the Pilot Proficiency (Pylon) event at the Memorial Day Fly-In in Pine Bluff, AR (May 25-29, 2006).

The Fly-In Rules Committee requires that all Private Pilots that wish to participate in the Pilot Proficiency (Pylon) event have the required waiver signed prior to arriving in Pine Bluff.

This waiver has to be attached to the registration form in order to be scheduled for these events. Without a waiver, a Private Pilot will not be allowed to participate in this event.

This form may be used as a required waiver:

Date: _____

I hereby certify that _____,

Certificate # _____ is qualified to participate in the Pilot Proficiency (Pylon) event at the Memorial Day Fly-In in Pine Bluff, Arkansas (May 25-29, 2006).

Flight Instructor's Signature: _____

Certificate Number/Expiration: _____

BPA Summer Flight Academy

To the Parents of students that are interested in attending the BPA Summer Flight Academy

At the BPA Summer Flight Academy, we seek to excite young people about flying and their potential as a participant in the aviation field. Furthermore, we help them translate this excitement to academic studies which form the foundation of a productive career in aviation. Our instructors are all experienced flight instructors who volunteer their time to share their combined experience of 165 years in the aviation field with the young people in the BPA Summer Flight Academy.

Your son/daughter will receive 10 hours of flight time and 40 hours of ground school. They must have at least a "B" average and be between the ages of 15 - 19.

To the Students interested in attending the BPA Summer Flight Academy

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to take the control of an aircraft in the skies? Well, here is your chance. You will begin your flight by pre-flying your aircraft under the supervision of an experienced flight instructor. When you and your instructor are satisfied that the aircraft is safe to fly, you will then enter the cockpit and complete the Before Starting Checklist.

You then start the engine and once the engine fires to life, you get a taxi clearance and start taxiing the aircraft. At the end of the runway you turn the aircraft into the wind and complete the runup check. Once you and your instructor are satisfied that the aircraft is ready, you get a takeoff clearance. You then taxi onto the runway, apply full power and takeoff.

You are now flying and after an hour of flight instruction you return to the airport, line up with the landing runway and land the aircraft. You then taxi back to the parking area, set the brakes and shut down the engine. After completing the Shutdown Checklist, you log your flight time in your log book and have your instructor sign it.

Learning to fly requires more than getting into an airplane and flying, it also requires that you learn the subjects required to pass the FAA Private Pilot Written Exam. So each day you will attend ground school. The ground school is taught by experienced teachers using the latest audio visual equipment and computers.

The BPA Summer Flight Academy is a 14 day ultimate rush. Are you up to the challenge?

Parent / Sponsor Information

Because of the highly concentrated ground school and flight training given at the BPA Summer Flight Academy, it is required that the student have at least a "B" average and be highly motivated towards flying.

Each student is expected to put forth a maximum effort to complete the program. This intense "total immersion" aviation course conducted by highly qualified, competent and demanding volunteer staff, is not for the casual camper. ***Students not ready and willing to expend the required intellectual and physical effort should not attend.***

Excellent character, good conduct and maturity are required of all students. It is essential that the parent and/or sponsor making application understand that the student, for whom application is made, must have no characteristics which will make him/her an undesirable companion for the other students. Students who, in the opinion of the BPA Summer Academy staff, fail to make satisfactory aeronautical progress, behave contrary to Academy rules, or whose actions are contrary to Academy objectives, will be expelled from the Academy. Expelled students, their parents and/or sponsor will receive no refund of fees.

What our Former Parents and Student say...

Ever since I was young I have dreamed of flying an airplane, and now I know that my dream can become a reality. During the two week experience, I ascertained a great wealth of knowledge on every aspect of flight.

Andrew Burgdorf - Student.

It is amazing how you could take someone who knew nothing about flying an airplane like myself, and in two weeks have them knowing all of the basic principles, procedures and maneuvers of flight.

Kevin Dupree - Student

As an educator, I am very much impressed with the methods, substance, and results of your instruction. What your students learned and what they have done within a two-week period is remarkable.

Ava Taylor – Parent

Requirements, Location and Fees

The BPA Summer Flight Academy will be held at Texas Southern University in Houston, TX. The Students should arrive at the BPA Summer Flight Academy on Saturday, July 15, 2006 and will depart the Academy on Saturday, July 29, 2006.

Those Students arriving via commercial airline should fly to Houston International Airport, or Hobby Airport, Houston, TX. There, they will be met by the BPA staff. Further arrival information will be included in the registration information.

Students who complete the course and at the approval and supervision of the instructor may be allowed to perform a solo flight of the aircraft

The fee for the BPA Summer Flight Academy is \$1900 for BPA Members and organizational members of IBAC and \$1970 for a non BPA member. The application and a \$500 deposit must be postmarked by June 1. The balance must be paid by June 30.

The application is the key to the efficient operation of the BPA Summer Flight Academy. Therefore, it is absolutely essential to have all applications postmarked no later than June 1. There will be an additional \$100 charge if the application is postmarked after June 1. An application may also be completed on our web site at www.bpapilots.org

Proof of Citizenship

Any U.S. citizen applying for training to be used towards a recreational, sport pilot, private pilot (single or multiengine) certificate, multiengine rating at any level, or instrument rating, in an aircraft weighing less than 12,500 pounds must present the flight school or flight instructor with evidence of U.S. citizenship. Evidence may be shown by one of the following:

- Valid unexpired U.S. passport
- Original birth certificate of the United States, American Samoa, or Swains Island, and government-issued picture ID
- Original U.S. naturalization or citizenship certificate (Form N-550 or N-570) with raised seal and government-issued picture ID
- Original certificate of U.S. citizenship with raised seal (Form N-560 or N-561), or a Certificate of Repatriation (Form N-581), and government-issued picture ID
- Original certification of birth abroad with raised seal (Form FS-545 or DS-1350) and government-issued picture ID.

A copy of proof of citizenship MUST accompany the application

Make check payable to Black Pilots of America Summer Flight Academy and mail application with \$500.00 deposit to:

BPA Summer Flight Academy
P.O. Box 1295
Green Valley, AZ 85622

A full refund of the deposit will be made if the request, in writing, is received at the above address or at bronzeagle@cox.net at least 30 days prior to the scheduled starting date of the BPA Summer Flight Academy. No refund of fees will be made to any student, sponsor or parent, if the student is dismissed from the Academy because of improper conduct and/or attitude.

The fee INCLUDES:

1. 10 hours of flight time (weather permitting)
2. Flight computer, log book and plotter
3. Ground school textbooks and supplies
4. Room & Board
5. Planned Tours (weather permitting)

The fee DOES NOT INCLUDE:

1. Travel to and from the Academy
2. Required personal items
3. Laundry
4. Spending money
5. Excessive breakage in dining hall and dormitory and/or deprecation to Academy equipment.
6. 3rd Class Medical/Student Pilot Certificate.



BPA

BLACK PILOTS of AMERICA

P.O. Box 1295 Green Valley, AZ 85622

Summer Flight Academy Application

First Name M.I. Last Name Jr./Sr.

Street Address Apt. City State Zip

Home Phone Age Date of Birth Height Weight Sex Internet Address

Has applicant had any flying experience? _____ Has applicant soloed? _____ Type of aircraft _____

Has applicant attended an aviation ground school? _____ Has applicant passed the FAA Private Pilot written exam? _____

TSA Requires proof of U.S. citizenship prior to start of flight training. A copy of proof MUST accompany this application (See back of application)

What is the applicant's general state of health _____

Does the applicant possess any physical needs requiring special attention, treatment of medication, or that would make it difficult for them to participate in Academy activities? _____

If yes, please explain _____

Name of Insurance Co. _____ Policy No. _____

Parent / Guardian Information

First Name Last Name Jr./Sr. BPA Number

Street Address Apt. City State Zip

Home Phone Business Phone Ext. Emergency Phone Ext.

Sponsor / Chapter Information

First Name Last Name Jr./Sr. BPA Chapter

Street Address Apt. City State Zip

Home Phone Business Phone Ext. Emergency Phone Ext.

*** If this applicant is not sponsored by a BPA Chapter a copy of the applicants school transcript or report card must accompany this application. The fee for the BPA Summer flight academy is \$1900 for current BPA Members and IBAC affiliated organizations. The fee for NON BPA Members is \$1970. A \$500 deposit is required with this application and the balance due by June 30. Mail applications to: BPA Summer Flight Academy, P.O. Box 1295, Green Valley, AZ 85622.

Parent/Guardian please complete the agreement on the back.....

I hereby make application to register my son/daughter in the BPA Summer Flight Academy for the period July 15 - 29, 2006, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in your current brochure, and hereafter mentioned; and subject to the rules and regulations of the BPA Summer Flight Academy. If my child is accepted, then it is understood and agreed that this application, including the final registration package by reference, constitutes the sole agreement between the BPA Summer Flight Academy and the undersigned and there are no conditions or provisions other than herein noted.

I agree to the terms and conditions set forth below, and to adhere to the rules and regulations of the BPA Summer Flight Academy, and to be responsible for any damage to Academy property caused by my son/daughter (ward) or chargeable to him/her under the rules and regulations of the Academy. I further agree to release the Academy and its employees from any and all obligations or financial liability incident to or resulting from any mishap or accident occurring to my son/daughter (ward) while participating in or observing any athletic, recreational or flying activity, or while in transit to or from any of these; or any physical ailments and or accidents occurring while enrolled; or in any course of action which the Academy may deem wise to adopt in the event of such emergency and all cost incident or appertaining thereto; and to assume the risk of loss which might be occasioned in the event a student is withdrawn or is expelled from the Academy for any reason. Permission is given to use, in booklets or other promotional materials, any photograph in which my son/daughter (ward) may appear.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Make first fold here then place check in fold

TSA Citizenship Requirements

Any U.S. citizen applying for training to be used towards a **recreational, sport pilot, private pilot (single or multiengine) certificate, multiengine rating at any level, or instrument rating**, in an aircraft weighing less than 12,500 pounds must present the flight school or flight instructor with evidence of U.S. citizenship. Evidence may be shown by one of the following:

- Valid unexpired U.S. passport
- Original birth certificate of the United States, American Samoa, or Swains Island, and government-issued picture ID
- Original U.S. naturalization or citizenship certificate (Form N-550 or N-570) with raised seal and government-issued picture ID
- Original certificate of U.S. citizenship with raised seal (Form N-560 or N-561), or a Certificate of Repatriation (Form N-581), and government-issued picture ID
- Original certification of birth abroad with raised seal (Form FS-545 or DS-1350) and government-issued picture ID.

Second fold

From: _____

First Class
Postage

BPA Summer Flight Academy
P.O. Box 1295
Green Valley, AZ 85622

Tape or Staple Here

Tape or Staple Here

Theos Dickson McKinney Jr.



McKINNEY, JR., THEOS DICKSON, 70 - died on Saturday, February 4th, at his home in Pomona. Theos was the son of Theos Dickson McKinney and Violet (Massey) McKinney. He was born in Boston and raised in Roxbury, MA.

He also treasured the time he spent with his mother's sisters in Brooklyn, NY, and on Edisto Island, SC. He graduated from Roxbury Memorial High School for Boys and earned Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Electrical Engineering from Northeastern University in 1959 and 1961.

He worked as an electrical engineer for many years, including two years of service in the U.S. Army, and later learned to fly at Nashua Aviation in NH, where he then worked as a charter pilot and flight instructor. In 1978, he moved with his wife and daughters to Galloway Township, where he was a pilot with the Flight Inspection Field Office and later a flight pilot at the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center until he retired in 2001.

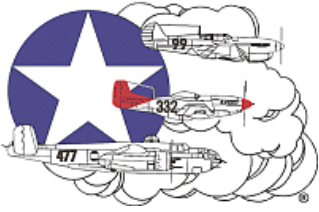
He taught numerous student pilots, including two of his sons and two of his daughters, and served the Negro Airmen International (now Black Pilots of America) Summer Flight Academy as a volunteer instructor and later director.

He was a member of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots, the FAA Flying Club, the American Radio Relay League, and the NAACP. He enjoyed all modes of transportation, model trains, and writing occasional letters to the editor of the Press.

He will be deeply missed by his wife, Nancy; his sons from his first marriage, Theos III and his wife Sylvia, Kenelm and his wife Gweneth, Kyle and his wife Michelle; his daughters, Alythea, Karena and her husband Chris Walker, Rebekah and her husband Mutlu Sozer; his grandchildren, Nicole, Aubrey, Miriam, Maxwell, and Deren; and many other relatives and friends.

The family will receive friends from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 11, 2006 at the Wimberg Funeral Home, 211 E. Great Creek Rd. Galloway. A memorial service will follow at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that donations be made to the Dr Albert E. Forsythe Chapter of Black Pilots of America, c/o Alyson Holt, 12 Jefferson Court, Jackson, NJ 08527.

The Theos McKinney Scholarship Fund will enable young people to attend the Summer Flight Academy. For directions and/or condolences, please visit: www.wimbergfuneralhome.com



Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. - Congressional Gold Medal

Great news. The U.S. House of Representatives voted unanimously last evening (400-0) to approve granting the Congressional Gold Medal to our Tuskegee Airmen. (The U.S. Senate had passed the measure 99-0 earlier.) The full text of the House Resolution as passed can be found in: <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/D?c109:2:./temp/~c109SntiUF>

The ceremony won't take place right away, because the medal must be designed and produced and determinations must be made about the ceremony (where and when it will be held and who will receive the medal on behalf of the Tuskegee Airmen.) A decision must also be made as to where the official gold medal will be displayed. There are folks within TAI and Congress working these issues, and we will keep you posted as things happen. President Bush will do the actual presentation. Since the House just approved HR 1259 late yesterday, I was pleasantly surprised to see this article in this morning's Columbus Dispatch:

Congress about to honor pivotal Tuskegee Airmen Wednesday, March 01, 2006 Jonathan Riskind

Robert Peeples, 77, of Columbus, is one of about 5,000 surviving Tuskegee Airmen in line for a Congressional Gold Medal.

WASHINGTON — Robert Peeples started his military career as a cook held back by racism. But Peeples ended that career as a master sergeant and mechanic — and a proud member of the Tuskegee Airmen.

The Columbus resident says it was while serving in the groundbreaking unit between 1947 and '49 at the old Lockbourne Army Air Base (now Rickenbacker) that he realized he and other blacks could achieve more in the military. Peeples, 77, is proud of the role the unit played in desegregating the U.S. military. And he is proud that the federal government is on the verge of honoring that history by awarding a Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the Tuskegee Airmen.

The House approved a bill authorizing the medal last night. It is an honor given out since 1776 to fewer than 1,800 people, said the office of Rep. Charles Rangel, the bill's author. A similar bill passed the Senate last year and the legislation should soon be on its way to the White House after a final, reconciled version is approved. The Airmen comprised more than 1,000 pilots, bombardiers and navigators and about 16,000 support personnel, serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II and later.

The unit was based at Lockbourne, the only air base operated by blacks from 1946 until President Truman integrated the military in 1949, noted Rep. David L. Hobson, R-Springfield. The base is in his district, and he is one of a number of Ohio co-sponsors of Rangel's bill. "This honor is long overdue for a group of individuals who were not only heroic through their actions on the battlefield, but also for helping to break down racial barriers," Hobson said. Rangel pushed to have the legislation passed before the end of February, Black History Month. He recounted the record of the unit, which protected American bombers during air raids over Europe. It collected nearly 1,000 military awards while losing 60 members in combat.

Fewer than 5,000 Tuskegee Airmen are around to enjoy the official recognition, said Peeples, who is vice president of the Ohio chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc. "I'm proud they're recognizing us," he said. "My only regret is I wish they had done it earlier, before so many of us passed away."

Copyright © 2006, The Columbus Dispatch

Tuskegee Airmen Receive Honorary Degrees

Sixty-three of America's first African-American fighter pilots received honorary degrees from Tuskegee University, as part of the Sixth Annual Tuskegee Airmen Convocation. The event recognized the Tuskegee Airmen's exemplary combat performance during World War II, which included the destruction of 260 enemy aircraft while not losing a single bomber to enemy fire in more than 200 combat missions, a record unmatched by any other fighter group.

The Tuskegee Airmen comprised about 1,000 pilots who trained at Tuskegee in segregated units from 1940 to 1946. Sixty-six airmen were killed in action, 32 were taken prisoner, and 850 medals were awarded to members of the group. Following the convocation, the National Park Service, Tuskegee University and the Tuskegee Airmen hosted a groundbreaking ceremony at the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site at historic Moton Field airport, where the airmen trained.



ATTENTION BPA MEMBERS

Join us at our Annual Membership Meeting

and

2006 IBAC member organizations co-conventions

31 July through 5 August 2006

J.W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa in Phoenix Arizona



The International Black Aerospace Council (IBAC) was founded in 1996 and works to facilitate opportunities for blacks in transportation, aviation, and aerospace. IBAC is a consortium of member organizations representing every major branch and career option in aviation and aerospace. These organizations' collective membership includes many of the active and former black pilots and aviation professionals in our nation. The volunteer base for our enrichment and training programs are the IBAC member organizations and their collective membership. They are uniquely positioned to introduce at risk youth to education and career options they might not otherwise consider.

Our individual organizations joined as a council to enhance and expand the impact of their once separate efforts to define, fund, and sustain the involvement of blacks in transportation, aviation and aerospace. Guided by the presidents of the seven leading black aviation organizations, IBAC offers young students exposure to options as varied as:

- ❑ Entry level small airplane operations
- ❑ US military operations
- ❑ Domestic and international commercial airline maintenance and piloting
- ❑ All aspects of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

IBAC through its member organizations works to create a pipeline of candidates prepared to enter college and careers in transportation, aviation and aerospace by utilizing a network of programs that include mentoring, aviation career camps, flight and maintenance training programs. Programs conducted by organizations in the council include:

- ❑ Presentations to middle school and high school students
- ❑ Short duration camps focusing on aviation career options, for high school students
- ❑ Maintenance and flight training programs, for high school and college students
- ❑ Scholarships for academic education for students at all grade levels
- ❑ Advanced flight training and career counseling for aspiring airline pilots

IBAC has solicited grants from a variety of organizations including Alabama Power, FedEx, Raytheon Company, and UPS. Raytheon was a lead fund supporter of IBAC providing a challenge grant of \$100,000 in support of program development and general operations. Raytheon matched foundation grants at a ratio of 1:2 (one dollar from Raytheon for every two dollars from the foundation; individual gifts from employees of matching gift companies at a ratio of 1:1; and other individual contributions at a ratio of 1:2). This grant had a three year window and we were able to receive all the matching funds before the expiration of our time limit. During the three year window, the Black Pilots of America Inc. Les Morris Summer Flight Academy has received funding on an annual basis and will continue to be a recipient.

In a board meeting in February of 2005 the IBAC member organizations agreed to hold co-conventions in 2006 in Phoenix. This will be the first formal meeting of the major organizations in black aviation. This significant event will occur the 31st of July through the 5th of August 2006 at the J.W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa in Phoenix, Arizona. Our estimate is that we will have over 1200 registered attendees, along with approximately 1000 family and friends, as well as 300 to 400 sponsors and exhibitors at the co-conventions. The co-conventions program and local advertising should draw another 300 to 400 visitors each day to the convention site from the greater Phoenix area.

Attendees at the co-conventions will include senior leaders from the Department of Defense, Federal Aviation Administration and Department of Transportation. These governmental agencies will join transportation, aviation and aerospace companies at the co-conventions as speakers, exhibitors, and sponsors.

2006 IBAC member organizations co-conventions
31st July through 5th August 2006
J.W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa
Phoenix Arizona

Special room rates are \$119.00 for IBAC/BPA participants. You must register by July 6, 2006 to receive special convention rates.

JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa, Arizona's premier luxury resort, is woven into the Sonoran Desert where northeast Phoenix meets Scottsdale. Offering majestic views of the McDowell Mountains, the resort is conveniently located, with easy access to the Loop 101 freeway and is just 20 minutes north of the Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. The resort offers 8 lighted tennis courts, Kokopelli Kids Club for ages 4-12, Fitness Center, Spa, Golf, 4 acres of shimmering pools, including the Lazy River with slide and nearby adventures including jeep tours, hot air ballooning, hiking and horseback riding. Located across the street is Desert Ridge Marketplace with complimentary shuttle from 9am to 9pm every 30 minutes is 1.2 million square feet of retail space – home to over 110 retailers and restaurants – bursts with color, energy and fun, creating a one-of-a-kind lifestyle destination.

BPA Co-Convention Overview

BPA Registration Fee - \$200.00

Other organizations registration fees are \$250.00 and up

BPA Registration Fee includes:

Hospitality Suite

Refreshments (drinks – soft/hard)

Refreshments (finger food, snacks)

- Hospitality Suite Staffed by the California Redtails
- BPA Dinner Banquet – Saturday, August 5 - **\$65.00**
SHOWCASE BPA “Les Morris Summer Flight Academy
Give recognition to SFA Staff.
Invite IBAC members to this dinner
- Admission to and participation in the Joint C. Alfred Anderson Recognition Banquet and Reception Friday August 4 - **\$105.00**
- Coffee/Tea/Juice/Water- BPA General Membership Meeting – Sat. 8/5

Transportation - Hotel provides shuttle

- To and from PHX Airport and Private Airport (negotiate tie down fees for BPA pilots)
- Shopping and Near By Attractions

Meeting Room **Exhibit/Expo Hall** – Booth to be reserved for BPA - volunteers are needed to Staff.

SHOWCASE BPA “Les Morris” Summer Flight Academy (Video & Display Board)

Tennis Tournament – Sponsored by the California Redtails -

The Tennis tournament will be a Round Robin doubles tournament starting @0800hrs on August 4th 2006.

Entry fee \$25

Contact : Gene Stanley eeestanleysr@verizon.net for additional registration information.