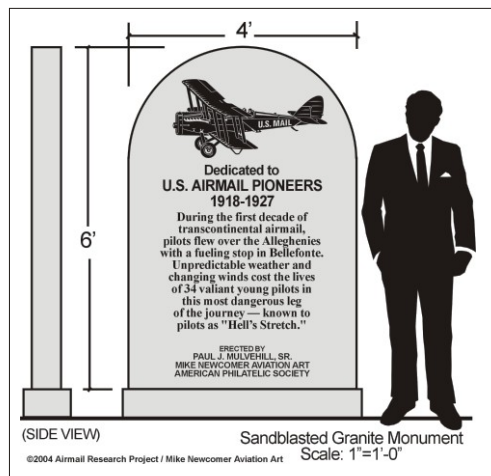


Airmail Monument Moves Ahead



From the final approved drawing for production

The granite memorial project, started a few years back by Paul Mulvehill of Ebensburg, Pa, is gradually coming to completion. The early fall flooding our area endured caused some setbacks. The monument is to be installed in the garden area of the new American Philatelic Society's Bellefonte, PA location. Sandblasting of the graphics is complete as are engineer drawings for the foundation and landscaping. This project is a joint effort being carried out by Paul J. Mulvehill, Mike Newcomer Aviation Art and the American Philatelic Society to honor the brave airmail pilots who lost their lives in the line of duty.

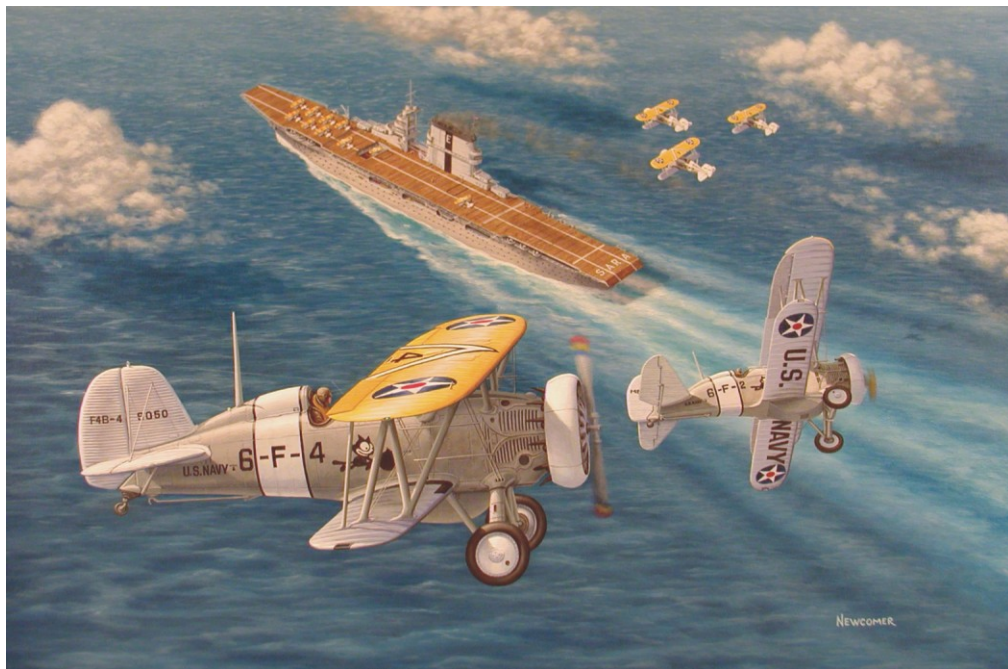
The Nicest People Drag Their Tails

I was invited by Craig Lawler of the Danville, PA chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) to give a short talk about the Airmail Project last September. It was a great time and I met a lot of great people. The members build and fly their own planes (which require an "experimental" designation by the FAA) most of which are conventional geared or "taildraggers". The headquarters of the EAA is in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, home of the greatest aviation show in the world. www.eaa.org

Death is just nature's way of telling you to watch your airspeed.

— Anon

Just Completed Painting...



"Back to Sara" by Michael R. Newcomer

This just completed painting depicts Boeing F4B's of CV-3 Saratoga returning home after a patrol. The scene takes place in the mid to late '30s. The F4B was the Navy's last biplane fighter. This was an interesting project in the fact that the Saratoga was the third carrier in the US fleet and was built along with her sister ship, the Lexington, in the 1920's. The wood deck of the Sara had a distinct curvature of the forward flight deck at this time. In 1940 (just before the outbreak of World War II) she and the Lexington were put in drydock and received a major overhaul which changed her look dramatically including the larger, more squared off forward deck, and more modern gun batteries. The Saratoga and Lexington were almost identical ships, and to avoid confusing returning pilots, the Saratoga had a wide black stripe painted down either side of her smokestack and both ships had "SARA" and "LEX" lettered on the aft part of their respective flight decks. This painting will be available as a limited edition print in late winter or early spring.

Take Cover! New Book Is Released

I recently had the honor of having two of my airmail paintings gracing the front and back covers of a great new book by A.D. "Don" Jones. *"MAX I didn't get to know him very well"*, is the biography of Max Miller, America's first government airmail pilot. *"Max Picks Bellefonte"* on the front, and *"Max Miller's Last Flight"* on the back. The book is available online at www.americanairmailociety.org



Front and back covers of *"MAX...I didn't get to know him very well"*.