

# Estrella Squadron Newsletter



All the news that's fit to print and then some!

Volume IX Number 4

Paso Robles, California

April 1998

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## April Meeting

The April Meeting will be held on April 1, 1998 at the Hangar with Social Hour commencing at 6:00pm and Dinner at 7:00pm.

Chef John Himes has indicated that the main dish will be Beef Bourguignon served over noodles. He has prepared this for us before and it was delicious as are all of his offerings.

Our speaker for the evening will be, hopefully, John S. Gong, Colonel, Transportation Corp, CAARNG whose present National Guard assignment is: Commander, Detachment 1, State Area Command (USPFO Support), Camp San Luis Obispo, California. His civilian occupation is: Superintendent, (WS-16), Camp Roberts Mobilization and Training Site, Camp Roberts, California.

Col. Gong was born in Canton, China in June of 1947. He was graduated from Dos Palos Joint Union High School, Dos Palos, CA in 1965, attended Cuesta College, received a BS in Management from Pacific Christian College in Fullerton, CA and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of San Francisco.

The list of Military Schools Colonel Gong attended from 1968 on reads like a compendium of technical, financial and management courses, to categorize just a few. His duty assignments over the years reflect the variety and depth

of the training he has received. The Colonel is truly a multi-talented individual.

Col. Gong has over 26 years of active Commissioned Service and currently resides in Morro Bay with his wife, Betty.

With the Colonel's background and responsibilities in the support, materials and training readiness fields, his knowledge will be of definite interest to us. Please try to make this meeting.

## Things In The Works

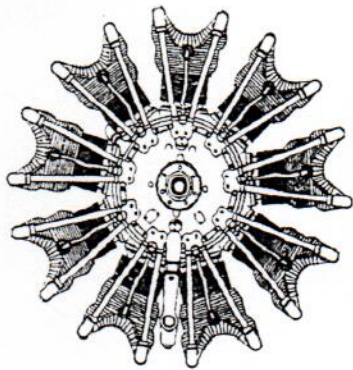
### Cement Poured for Hangar Extension!

As of this writing (3-23) the cement was poured for the hangar extension! It will be a 25 foot addition to the north side and the big hangar doors will be moved further out to accommodate the extension. This is the first sizable cement pour in quite a while and represents some real forward movement. We've been wanting to do this for years and it will really make a difference as far as the Museum proper is concerned.

### Missile Progress

The cement pad has also been poured for the erection of the Second Stage of the missile as well as the steel frame for the First Stage which will be a horizontal display. This whole thing





**The Estrella Squadron**  
**Newsletter**

is published monthly as an unofficial and voluntary contribution. Contents and opinions, other than by-line columns, are the sole responsibility of the Editor, Col. Bruce MacE. Toomey unless otherwise noted.

Submission for inclusion are not only welcomed but solicited, including articles, display and classified ads, etc. Please send all submissions to the Editor (by name) at P.O. Box 3065, Paso Robles, CA 93447.

Graphics, computer layout, design and use of photocopying machine as well as paper and other supplies are the contribution of Stuart Toomey and,

Toomey Racing USA  
3019 Propeller Drive  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

(Bruce Toomey has no business connection with or financial interest in Toomey Racing).



will be a knockout exhibit when it's finished. The Second Stage will be lighted and can probably be seen from route 46! The First Stage will be open as it is now and set in the cradles which have been made to hold it horizontally so that people can see the motors and other innards

The entire surface of Stage Two is being sanded, mostly by Gary Corippo with help from Ray Barksdale and hoped-for, new member, Walt Martin. It will then be painted so it will look pretty spectacular when it's raised up on the pad.

With any luck at all, depending on the weather, the Second Stage could be on the pad as early as Saturday the 28th!

**More Stuff**

Let's see, what else is happening. . . The military tires were taken off the two old trucks and will go on the newest open truck we have received. The flotation tires on the new truck are up for sale. If anyone is interested or if anyone knows someone else who might want these tires please contact Gary Corippo. These are very special and expensive items and should be of real value to the right person.

The two old eyesore trucks will probably be hauled off on the 28th and that whole area can be cleaned up which will make the missile display that much more spectacular.

We also have a new 20 foot storage box at the southeast corner of the Hangar. It came off the old yellow truck (cab and chassis) that is presently sitting nearby. This truck, by the way is evidently in pretty good condition and we are hoping to sell it to recoup the cost of the box. There is a 20 foot flatbed available in Arroyo Grande (it will be checked out) that could be just bolted on and it would make a darn good ranch truck or maybe even a licensable road vehicle, it's that good. Give it some thought!

Anyway, all kinds of things are happening, friends and more is to come!!

**Building Progress**

The building plans are coming along well and are just about ready to be turned in to the city, if not already in their hands by the time you read this.

When the plans are approved, the present idea is to pour the slab for the first building, west of the hangar, and at the same time, pour the slab for the other 40' by 100' building on the east side of the hangar. The east side building can be put up later by the members themselves. The other is considerably more complicated and will require some outside help to erect.

**"Let's Do It Right"**  
**Fly-In And Safety**  
**Seminar April 18 at**  
**Paso Robles Airport**

This headline was going to be accompanied by a little bit of editorial "fluff" but after reading the handout it sounded so good I decided to print the whole thing for all to see! The handout will be available at the meeting as well, but by printing it here every member will see it, or at least those who read their newsletter will see it!

If you have any questions as to this upcoming event please call, Patrick Duncan, Coordinator at, 466-9725.

This should not only be interesting but a lot of fun too!



**Estrella Squadron Staff**

Commanding Officer  
Col. Gary Corippo

Executive Officer  
Col. Ron Mullisen

Finance  
John Himes

Adjutant  
Col. John Davis

Operations  
Col. Glen Thomson

Maintenance  
Col. Al Schade

Safety  
Col. John Cromwell

**Staff Appointments**

At Large  
OPEN

PIO and Activities  
Elaine Borden  
Linda Hermansen  
Maria Goldman

PX Officer  
Willa Killion

Aircraft Restoration Projects  
Col. Al Schade

Historian  
Col. John Davis

Flight Coordinator  
Col. Bob Singleton

CAF Hangar Phone  
238-9317

**Staff Present**

Gary Corippo, CO; Ron Mullisen, XO; Glen Thomson, Operations Officer; John Cromwell, Safety Officer; John Himes, Finance Officer; John Davis, Adjutant; Tom Gable, Supply Officer; Bob Singleton, Flight Program Dir.; Gary May, Exec. Director, Estrella Warbirds Museum; Chuck Miller, Airshow Chairman; Bruce Toomey, Newsletter.

**Adjutant's Report**

Minutes of last Staff meeting; approved as amended.

Minutes of last general meeting; Approved as amended

**Finance Officer's Report**

Approved with a total of \$1,363.43 in balance.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1) There was further discussion on the need for Property Hand Receipts on property in member's possession as well as the need for Purchase Orders for all purchase in excess of \$20.00.

2) The Paso Robles Rotary Club wants to hold their May monthly meeting at the Hangar on Thursday, May 21. They have suggested that we provide a Bar-B-Que on that date at approximately \$10.00 a head.

3) Saturday 03/21/98 will be a work party to take a full sized container off the truck it is mounted on and upgrade the truck a bit.

4) The local (SLO) Civil Air Patrol has had their first adult staff meeting at the Hangar. They will meet twice a month with a CAF member monitoring the facility. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 03/19/98.

5) Target Stores grants to local non-profit organizations did not result in anything for us at this time, although

applied for by our CO. (They do this all year so there is still a chance. Ed.)

6) Col. (Judge) Ed Chidlaw is reviewing the Draft Agreement to make sure that all of the requirements are met to make the Museum a special sub-committee of the Squadron.

7) The money from past airshows, held by the Museum, was discussed and it was decided to borrow this money from the Museum and pay it back after the airshow.

8) Squadron dues assessment was decided to be pro-rated for the first year, depending on when a member first joins the unit.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1) A new membership recruiting plan called "Code Alpha" from CAF Headquarters was discussed. The plan calls for the recruiting of younger colonels since the average age of over 50% of the current colonels is 65 to 75 years old.

2) There will be an FAA Flying Safety Seminar held at Paso Robles Airport on April 18, 1998.

3) There is a need to recertify our fire extinguishers.

4) We need to obtain insurance on all of the vehicles which might appear in parades or which might be used to transport items on the behalf of the Squadron.

5) There is a need for a Motor Transport Officer. Several names were suggested.

6) Additional signs along Highway 46 and Airport Road were discussed.

7) PX procedures were suggested and discussed.

## **CAF Staff Meeting Minutes**

### **March 18, 1998**

Submitted by Adjutant Col. John Davis

Edited and paraphrased for length by Ed.



**Committee Chairs****CAF****Program**

George Marrett  
466-7640

**Dinners**

John Himes  
466-6680

**Membership**

Obbie Atkinson  
238-9212

**Hangar/Grounds**

OPEN/  
John Kendall

**Air Show**

Chuck Miller  
466-1212

**Ground Equipment**

Dave Geiger  
239-1598

**Project Manager**

Gary Corippo  
238-2090  
237-2090

**Insurance**

Brian Webster  
237-0222

**Refreshments**

Doug Miner  
239-1054

**Activities**

Elaine Borden  
Linda Hermansen  
Maria Goldman

**Photo**

Ralph Grasso  
237-2813

**JOINT CAF/EWM**

Joint Site Improvements  
Glen Thomson

Joint Community Events  
Committee  
Gary Corippo

8) Moving aircraft in and out of the Hangar before and after the Monthly General Membership Meeting was discussed. Several of the "L-Birds" have been damaged because of careless movement of the aircraft. If you are not sure of what you are doing - Don't Do Anything.

ADJOURNED: 2140 hours.

**About Visitors**

We have had a somewhat informal arrangement for visitor sign-up at the monthly meetings and your Ed. has been woefully neglectful with regard to obtaining these names, after the meetings, from Col. Obbie, our Membership Chairman.

So for the future, when you bring visitors, whatever their interests, would you PLEASE make sure that they sign the register that Col. Obbie keeps by the cash box during the meeting. Would you also see to it that they write legibly and include their name AND ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE. We would like to acknowledge their presence at the meeting in the next newsletter and send them a copy of it to pique, hopefully, their interest in our operation! Anyone who is interested enough in attending a meeting in the first place should be welcomed and cultivated further.

**Music Tapes Needed**

Gary Corippo has donated a tape deck to the group to replace the old one which was on its last legs or maybe even over the hill. In any event it's there for our use and he has suggested that we assemble a small library of WWII music tapes so we can play them at meetings for background or on weekends as well as the Air Show Dinner Dance. It might be kind of nice to have some music during the times the Museum is open as well, to sort of liven up the big old barn of a Hangar. So dig through those

drawers with your old uniforms in them and see what you can come up with. If you have something you don't want to give up we can have them copied.

**OLD PICTURES  
NEEDED**

In line with the old forties music, those in charge of the Dinner Dance are asking for any pictures of the members which were taken in the forties era. The idea behind this is that part of the decorations for the Dance will be to assemble as many old pictures of our own members as we can and use them in the decorating scheme

Now, before you panic at the idea of giving up your treasured photos of yourselves in a uniform that you can't even get your thumb in today, the idea is that the photos would be enlarged at a studio into 8 x 10s or whatever and you would not have to give up your originals. As a matter of fact, you might even get the enlargements back as thanks for the use of the originals.

This could be a lot of fun and the pictures do not have to be military oriented. You could have one of yourself standing by your '32 five window V8 with your foot on the running board and an Iron City Beer in your hand. Or one of your wife and yourself or significant other and yourself or...well you get the picture. Anything of the forties era would be of interest. Contact Betty Miller or Catherine Davis at 466-2666 about the above.

**Airshow Sponsorship**

As you all know, one of the main efforts of the Airshow Committee is to hopefully, procure enough in the way of paid sponsorships to offset as much



of the Show expense as possible. This is in the hope that as much of the income as possible from the gate can accrue to US!

You will note the insert with all the prices and information about sponsorship and all the things a sponsor can expect from donating.

Now, there is almost nothing in the world that most of us dislike as much as hitting up our friends, business acquaintances and others for donations to our causes. This is a personal thing and we all hear that "everyone" has hit them up this year for something. This is just the point, everybody does it! It's very likely that every person you talk to has some particular project he or she is promoting and canvassing for in one way or another.

So, let's not be too sensitive about asking someone for a few bucks. For 100 clams he or she can at least have their business card included in the program and 10 of these is \$1,000! Look this plan over and give it some thought. Personally, I am in the process of approaching several good friends whom I have never even dreamed of going to before. I'm doing so because I think what we are doing is patriotic, educational and a worthy, if small, bulwark against the mediocrity, moral decay and indifference that surrounds us today and I think I can sell this idea!

## Estrella Squadron

### "Star of the Month"

We have one member of our group who has been called the "Rain or Shine" guy. This member is Robert C. "Bob" Kinsell of Paso Robles. Bob was one of our "in house" speakers from whom we enjoy hearing so much because they are "one of us". At the time we tried to incorporate a short biography in the newsletter but there was so much incredibly interesting information in the biography that it ran to four packed pages! All of this is mentioned simply because of the tremendous fund of aviation knowledge he brings to us.

The Rain or Shine part comes from the fact that every Saturday, without fail, Bob is at the Hangar ready to work. Usually he is there first to open it up. He then starts up whatever project he is currently involved in and works straight through till 3:00 or 4:00; no breaks, no lunches, just work!! As the head of Environmental System Test Engineering for AiResearch Manufacturing and as Chief Engineer, Aircraft Systems for Garrett he brings such a wealth of hands-on knowledge with him that he could probably reassemble the Navion and the F-86 with a fork!

Interestingly enough, Bob was first graduated from the U.S.A.F. Mechanics School at Chanute Field in Illinois as a Master Aircraft Mechanic and after that became an Aviation Cadet at Kelly Field. Consequently, Bob has a rather unique background as both mechanic and pilot and it certainly shows!

He has been indispensable in working on both of the reassembly jobs and every other task he has been asked to work on. Bob is just exactly the kind of person that this small but meaningful award is meant to honor. One who works quietly and without fanfare but one who makes a tremendous contribution to the Squadron and the Museum. Our "Star of the Month," Bob Kinsell!



The SLO Aviation Safety Program & FAA SJC-FSDO Is Proud To Present The.....

# “Let’s Do It Right !!!” Fly-In & Safety Seminar

## Saturday April 18, 1998 - 8:30 to 4:00 at Paso Robles Airport

The “Let’s Do It Right” Fly-In and Safety Seminar, a joint venture of the SLO Aviation Safety Program and FAA SJC-FSDO has four primary goals.....

>Help Everyone Sharpen Up Their Takeoff and Landing Skills With Video’s of Each Pilot’s Performance<

The SJC-FSDO will video tape TO&L’s of every pilot who wishes to participate. At the conclusion of the video session each takeoff and landing will be reviewed, critiqued and discussed by FAA Operations Specialists and local flight instructors. This will afford an excellent opportunity for all pilots to review techniques as well as receive tips and hints and the benefits of many experienced and tenured pilots. Besides...how often do you get a chance to see a video of yourself defying gravity? Pilots must sign-up at 8:30 AM to participate!!!!

>>Provide Everyone With An “Aging Aircraft” and “Enhanced Pre-Flight” Training and Clinic Sessions<<

Al Yecny, Dan Powell, Chuck Wentworth, Eric Struve, Patrick Duncan and SJC-FAA Airworthiness Inspectors will present an in-depth review of the “General Aviation Aging Aircraft Issue..What Pilots and Owners Needs To Know”. Background presentations will be provided on the scope and depth of general aviation aircraft aging problems and what the future holds for older aircraft. Examples of degraded, corroded, deteriorated and failed structure and components resulting from “Age” will be provided, displayed and discussed. Each aircraft system will be reviewed for typical candidate areas that require special “Aging Oversight and Monitoring”.

“How To Conduct an Effective Pre-flight” will be the subject of an accompanying presentation provided by the above airworthiness technical personnel. A detailed review of all critical elements of an effective and productive pre-flight will be reviewed. Emphasis will be placed on “where and how” pilots should look for “Aging” problems and symptoms during pre-flight. Aircraft with known ‘bugs’ will be available for all participants to pre-flight and silently document observed discrepancies. All pre-flight findings will be reviewed and critiqued.

>>>Provide All Attendees With Training On Use of Fire Extinguishers & Demonstration of Fire-Rescue<<<

Paso Robles Airport Fire-Rescue personnel will provide attendees with demonstrations and hands-on fire extinguishers training as well as a live fire demonstration of foam suppression and simulated personnel extraction. Pilots will also learn what they can expect from ground emergency crews during a crisis and what they, as pilots, can do to aid emergency crew effectiveness and enhance their own rescue and survival.

>>>Booths & Displays By Local SLO Aviation Groups, Food Service By EAA, and Lot’s of ‘Ramp’ Flying<<<

The 99’s, SLOPA, EAA, CAP, SLO Sheriffs and Estrella Aero Squadrons have been invited to provide displays of organization functions and goals. EAA will have food service, the CHP will have aircraft & rescue capabilities on display and Air San Luis will have a new 1998 Cessna to drool over, and hopefully some more surprises as well. So.....


**Mark Your Calendar For April 18th & Joins Us  
For An Educational and Fun Day at Paso Robles Airport!!!**



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To:



# Paso Robles Airshow

1299

**CELEBRATING OUR SILVER ANNIVERSARY 1973-1998**

"THE BIGGEST LITTLE AIRSHOW ANYWHERE"

## Souvenir Program Advertising

Don't miss out! It's time to get your ad in the 1998 Silver Anniversary Airshow Souvenir Program. This will be a high quality, slick, color cover program and will have photographs and bios of the performers as well as a complete Schedule of Events, Airfield layout, and the Sponsors that make this airshow possible. There will be some fantastic Sponsor Activities & benefits, as well as a great advertising opportunity.

Please refer to the back of this sheet for **\*\*Sponsor Benefits**.

- |             |                               |             |                                       |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| **\$1000.00 | FULL PAGE ad (10" x 7 1/2")   | **\$ 200.00 | EIGHTH of a PAGE ad (3 3/4" x 2 1/2") |
| **\$ 750.00 | HALF PAGE ad (7 1/2" x 5")    | **\$ 100.00 | BUSINESS CARD SIZE                    |
| **\$ 500.00 | QUARTER PAGE ad (5" x 3 3/4") |             |                                       |

Please call Program Chairman, **Catherine C. Davis** at 466-2666 or FAX 466-2665 as soon as possible with the size of ad desired so we can reserve your space. Please return your completed form with a check for 50% of the total cost of your ad. Your camera-ready copy, photo(if desired) and check for the balance, must be submitted on or before **May 1, 1998**. There will be a \$25.00 set-up charge for ads not camera-ready.

\* \* \* \*

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Check One:  
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BUSINESS CARD SIZE \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_ (Please make check payable to **Confederate Air Force**) AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed form and check to:

**COL Catherine C. Davis  
Estrella Squadron, CAF  
P.O. Box 666  
Atascadero, CA 93423**



# SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

## 1998 Silver Anniversary Paso Robles Air Show

### \$1000.00

1. **FULL PAGE** ad in the official Souvenir Anniversary Air Show Program.
2. Sponsorship mention in all **Radio & Television** advertising.
3. Sponsorship listed on all **posters and Sponsored Aircraft signage**.
4. Aircraft name and **Sponsor will be mentioned** on Public Address system during Air Show.
5. 8 Free tickets to "The Way It Was" Dinner -Dance on Saturday June 6
6. 8 Entrance passes to the **Performer-Sponsor area** with snacks, beverages, and lunch on Sun. June 7.
7. 4 Free **VIP parking passes** and 8 Free **VIP Entrance Passes** to the Airshow, Sunday June 7.

### \$750.00

1. **HALF PAGE** ad in the official Souvenir Anniversary Air Show Program.
2. Sponsorship mention in all **Radio** advertising.
3. Sponsorship listed on all **posters and Sponsored Aircraft signage**.
4. Aircraft name and **Sponsor mentioned** on Public Address system during Air Show.
5. 6 Free tickets to "The Way It Was" Dinner -Dance on Saturday June 6
6. 6 Entrance passes to the **Performer-Sponsor area** with snacks, beverages, and lunch on Sun. June 7.
7. 3 Free **VIP parking passes** and 6 Free **VIP Entrance Passes** to the Airshow, Sunday June 7.

### \$500.00

1. **QUARTER PAGE** ad in the official Souvenir Anniversary Air Show Program.
2. Sponsorship listed on all **posters and Sponsored Aircraft signage**.
3. Aircraft name and **Sponsor mentioned** on Public Address system during Air Show.
4. 4 Free tickets to "The Way It Was" Dinner -Dance on Saturday June 6
5. 4 Entrance passes to the **Performer-Sponsor area** with snacks, beverages, and lunch on Sun. June 7.
6. 2 Free **VIP parking passes** and 4 Free **VIP Entrance Passes** to the Airshow, Sunday June 7.

### \$200.00

1. **EIGHTH PAGE** ad in the official Souvenir Anniversary Air Show Program.
2. **Aircraft signage** by aircraft will list Sponsor.
3. Aircraft name and **Sponsor mentioned** on Public Address system during Air Show.
4. 2 Free tickets to "The Way It Was" Dinner -Dance on Saturday June 6
5. 2 Entrance passes to the **Performer-Sponsor area** with snacks, beverages, and lunch on Sun. June 7.
6. 1 Free **VIP parking pass** and 2 Free **VIP Entrance Passes** to the Airshow, Sunday June 7.

### \$100.00

1. **BUSINESS CARD SIZE** ad in the official Souvenir Anniversary Air Show Program.