

# Estrella Squadron

## Newsletter



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

Volume IX Number 9

Paso Robles, California

September 1998

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NOTE THE DATE!!!!

### September Meeting

The September Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 2, 1998 at the Hanger with Social Hour commencing at 6:00pm and Diner at 7:00pm

Chef John Himes has promised us "fajitas" for our Wednesday night dinner and they should be great. Something different!!

Our speaker for the evening will be Aeronautical Engineer Art Duvall who is, incidentally, one of the new owners of the Berry Hill Farm in Paso Robles. He will speak on the development of the A-6 Intruder family of Naval aircraft.

Art spent most of his aerospace career working with the A-6 aircraft at China Lake as a manager for Grumman and then Northrop-Grumman after the merger. He spent most of his career (starting with Grumman in 1964 and retiring in 1998) integrating new technologies and weapons on the A-6 plus other advanced development systems and was at China Lake from 1970 until retirement.

Art's experience includes work on the A-6, F-14, E-2C, C-2, EA-6A&B, F-111B, OU-1, F/A-18, JSF and a number of weapons and other defense related aerospace activities.

Art received his BS in Aeronautical Engineering from Purdue University and has lived in New York (Long Island). San Diego and Ridgecrest/China Lake.

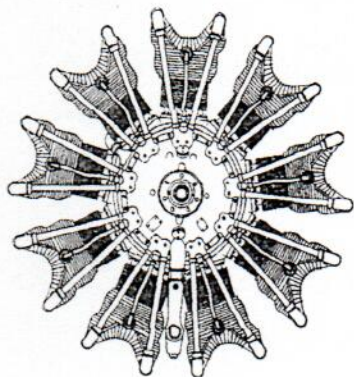
In view of "our own" A-6E, courtesy of the U.S. Navy, and our personal attachment to it we heartily welcome Art Duval and will be most interested in his discussion.

### Progress By Leaps And Bounds!

In the last newsletter it was mentioned that by the August meeting time we might have some red iron up on the second building and maybe a roof.

Well friends, by the September meeting time we not only have the entire structure up for the second building, the roof is on and insulated, the window frames are in, the doors are hung, it has been sand-blasted and painted, some trim is up, the grounds have been raked, the slab has been poured for the third building and red iron in place on the slab ready for erection! Whew!! As was said last month more has been accomplished in the last few weeks than during the preceding two or three years but we didn't expect THIS much!

Tom Dueck, our contractor and his crew have been have been working days, evenings and weekends. This is not to overlook our own "always on hand" bunch who have been supervising and doing more than a little work on their own. We can really be proud of what has been accomplished in such a short time!



### 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.

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3019 Propeller Drive  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

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



## Restorations

The A-7 has been turned around so it looks like it belongs and the wings have even been added so in spite of being a bit raggy it looks pretty darn good. When one drives by it's a pretty impressive line-up of aircraft. It is to be hoped that the T-33 pads will be poured soon as it will be nice to finally have it in place.

## CAF Staff Meeting Minutes, August 19, 1998

Submitted by Adjutant Col. John Davis  
Edited and paraphrased for length by Ed.

### Staff Present:

Col. Gary Corippo, CO; Col. John Davis, Adjutant; Col. Chuck Miller, Airshow Chairman; Col. Betty Miller, Drawing Chairman; John Himes, Finance Officer.

### Adjutant's Report:

Minutes of last Staff Meeting: Approved  
Minutes of last general membership meeting: Approved

### Old Business:

- 1) The third building is ready to have the red iron erected and the roof put on.
- 2) The Casa aircraft insurance, both liability and hull, was discussed.
- 3) The City of Paso Robles will co-sponsor the Air Show next year with \$10,000 in sponsorship.
- 4) Aircraft acquisition is increasing. A Douglas A-4 Skyhawk may be acquired.
- 5) The windows and glass are ready to be painted and glazed on the second building.

## New Business

- 1) Cols. Davis and Miller have been purchasing the small gifts for the drawings out of pocket. A monthly amount of \$30.00 was suggested.
- 2) Blake Wideman is the new PIO and we are sure he will do an excellent job.

Adjourned: 2030 hours.

## Dues

Most of the Squadron dues are in but there are still a few laggards. Please, let's get with it guys Show your support of the group because we really need these dues. Besides, this is the last copy of the newsletter you will receive if they are not paid and how will you know about all the fascinating things that are going on if you don't get the word?

## A-4

According to usually reliable and enthusiastic sources we still may be getting the A-4 from China Lake. It is presently in an area which is not available to "outsiders" so it will have to be moved which will probably take two months or a bit more before we can get to it.

In any event, the prospects look good and it would be nifty to have on our pad.

## Casa Jet

As most of you know, the Casa Jet which was donated to the Museum by Dr. Bill Russell and partners, is now "ours" and is residing in the Hangar.

A good deal of discussion has been in the works as to how to handle the expense of owning something like this as far as the Museum is concerned as well as the membership. There was a legitimate concern about the fact that

**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  
OPEN  
Aircraft Restoration Projects  
Col. Al Schade
- Historian  
Col. John Davis
- Flight Coordinator  
Col. Bob Singleton

**CAF Hangar  
Phone  
238-9317**

there be no expense to the membership in general, only to and for those who flew it or accepted rides or familiarization sorties.

From an insurance standpoint there cannot be even a hint of

any type of commercial operation so many ideas have been under consideration..

Suffice it to say that things have been resolved to everyone's satisfaction and we would like to particularly mention the generosity and most cooperative attitude of Dr. Russell. He has bent over backwards to help us make this work

and has shown a most agreeable outlook as regards the problems that the Museum faced.

We will not go into detail as to the arrangements at this point since they are not all finalized but we would like to say that this has been a most positive undertaking which should satisfy all concerned.

A Little PR Work from Col. Wayne King!!

Capt. Scott Ronnie  
Cmdr. C. Mosely

Re: WARRANT OFFICER G. HUMPREY

Gentlemen:

I have had the pleasure of visiting China Lake NWS on three occasions with WO Humprey.....What a guy! This dedicated sailor simply is one of the greatest, unselfish, hardworking gentlemen I have met in a long time; no doubt he has a truly aviation spirit with a photographic memory for the damnest details..... I am impressed: .. And as taxpayers we are certainly pleased to have him on our payroll. Whatever rewards he receives at the end of the month are richly deserved.

On this last visit to retrieve the tired old A7 Officer Humprey also selected two great people as his able bodied assistants, Tim Mc Cann and Troy Sedatole; another good trait of being able to recognize talent; size up the situation and be prepared for all eventualities. As you are now probably aware; The Volunteers believe that, on a scale of 1 to 10, this Warrant Officer deserves a vote at the top. Thanx for the consideration; Please advise WO Humprey of our sincere approval of his efforts and cooperation: The museum is enhanced by his professional assistance..... We , the volunteers, the visitors of the Museum, and the citizens of our city, appreciate the help.

Sincerely  
*Wayne King*

Wayne King  
Estrella War Birds of Paso Robles  
965 Airport Dr.  
Slo Ca 93401  
cc. Jim, Al, Dave, Glen, Bruce @ Museum bulletin

**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**

**Tom Gabele  
237-1567**

**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**

**Estrella Squadron**

**Star of the Month**

by Col. Gary Corippo CO

The "Star of the Month" for the month of September is our own Col. Wayne King. Wayne is the type of guy that you just cannot get along without. He is not a guy to mow a lawn or paint, he doesn't drive tractors, he really is not in love with any physical type work BUT he knows how to get THINGS and he is unparalleled in this endeavor! When he hears of something we need for the Museum, mainly airplanes, he has the knack to know where to go and the contacts to find the people who control them and then talking these people into giving them to us. Col. Wayne and his wife, Dolores, have supported the group since we first got started and I hate to think of what we would NOT have if it was not for Wayne.

Several years back, Col. Wayne came up with the idea of taking an old F-7 Phantom nose section and rebuild it to a Blue Angel type of cockpit. Dumb idea that just would not work. After much effort, work and money the nose section was recovered from NAS Alameda and brought to the museum where it sat as an eyesore for several months. Nobody could see the worth of it and nobody really did anything to do something with it.

Col. Wayne took it to his shop in SLO and started doing the things he envisioned to make it onto what it is today. A beautiful F-4 Phantom in BLUE ANGEL colors that has become a neat artifact and advertising for the Museum. Every that sees it is astonished at what that junk nose section became and it would not be here if it were not for Col. Wayne King.

When you see him you might just say, "Thank you Wayne," but stay out of his way because he is most likely on a new project of which we will become the benefactor. It is for these reasons that we have nominated him for the Advisory Board with other notables such as Tom Bordonaro, William P. Clark and Ollie North.

With all of the above in mind we have declared Col. Wayne King the STAR OF THE MONTH!

In view of the beautiful (and expensive!) aviation print that was donated to us last year by Chris Munro of the Aviation and Historical Art Gallery, "The Soldier Factory," in Cambria, we are pleased to include the front page of his latest brochure below as well as information about when the artist will be appearing in Cambria this October. If you haven't been to the gallery, waste no time in getting there. You'll be glad you did.

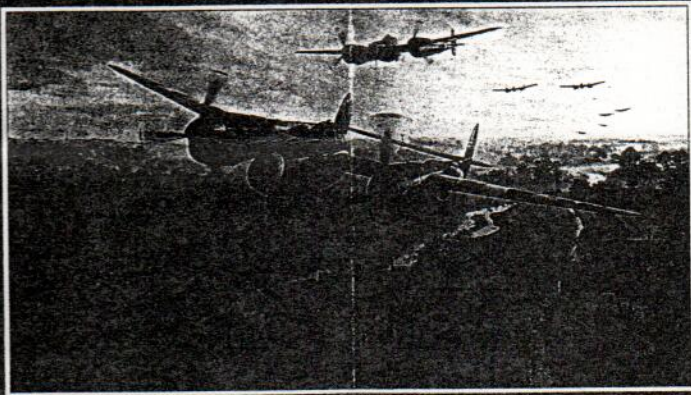
# NICOLAS TRUDGIAN

## AIR COMBAT LEGENDS



# NICOLAS TRUDGIAN

## AIR COMBAT LEGENDS



FOREWORD BY GENERALLEUTNANT GUNTHER RALL

A LIMITED EDITION BOOK AND SET OF THREE PRINTS  
SIGNED BY THE ARTIST

FOREWORD AND CO-SIGNATURE  
BY GENERALLEUTNANT GUNTHER RALL

### AVIATION ARTIST NICOLAS TRUDGIAN

Will be appearing in person at the Soldier Factory  
at 789 Main Street in Cambria  
on Sunday, October 25th from Noon to 4:00p.m.,  
while touring in the United States  
from his home in England.

Nick will be personally signing his first book:

### NICOLAS TRUDGIAN AIR COMBAT LEGENDS

FOREWORD BY  
Generalleutnant Gunter Rall

To find out more information and  
to reserve your copy of this  
long awaited first volume call:

The Soldier Factory  
(805)927-3804

**San Luis Obispo Aviation Safety Program  
And  
The FAA San Jose Flight Standards District Office**

*Presents the September 8, 1998 Safety Seminar*

**“Flight In and Out of Los Angeles Basin”**

Have you ever had an ‘aging’ experience getting in or out of LA??? Are you reluctant to go into the LA area??? If so...join us on September 8th for some help and sound advice on “Flight In and Out of Los Angeles Basin”.

FAA Air Traffic Control specialists familiar with Los Angeles TCA operations will cover all aspects of VFR and IFR operational requirements when flying in and out of airports within the LA basin area and help you avoid the common pitfalls associated with the highly congested and complex LA TCA area. Bring a current LA Sectional Chart !!!!

**“Flight Operations at Nontowered Airports”**

On the other end of the air traffic spectrum....local flight instructor Wanda Strassburg along with airport management personnel from SBP, PRB and Oceano will discuss and review all operational and safety procedures associated with flight and ground operations at nontowered airports. Emphasis will be placed on special considerations unique to local San Luis Obispo county non-towered airports. The new AOPA video on “Nontowered Operations” will also be presented.

**Date - Time - Location**


Join us for this free seminar at the SLO Veterans Hall from 6:30 to 9:00 PM on Tuesday, September 8, 1998. The September seminar is hosted and sponsored by the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the “Ninety Nines”.

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To:

|||||  
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