

# Estrella Squadron

## Newsletter



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

Volume X Number 6

Paso Robles, California

JUNE 1999

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### June Meeting

The June Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 2, 1999 at the Meeting Building with Social Hour commencing at 6:00pm and Dinner at 7:00 pm.

We regret to announce that Lt. Col. Oliver North will NOT be able to attend this meeting due to other commitments.

Any previous statements or conjectures about his appearance were very premature since we had no firm date from him whatsoever. Sorry to disappoint everyone but we will definitely try to get him back at a later date.

Since this meeting will be held only 11 days before the Air Show it will deal primarily with the plans and last minute details regarding the Show. Please plan to be there. This is not a conscription meeting. You won't be pressured into "volunteering" since we have an adequate number of volunteers already signed up. Those of you who are involved, however, will hear the latest information and will be made aware of some necessary details.

Please call Betty Miller at 466-1212 or Bruce Toomey 238-9266 (after 9:00am please!!) for reservations. We have no idea what sort of crowd we will have at a meeting such as this and we do NOT want to buy too much food. That's why we want to establish the reservation system for our own people as well as guests. It is our understanding that

### Air Show '99

## A Sentimental Journey

### June 13, 1999

Voice Mail # for Air Show Info  
805 227-2142

many if not most of the local civic groups require that reservations be made for their monthly meetings. In our case we don't have the money to squander by wasting food.

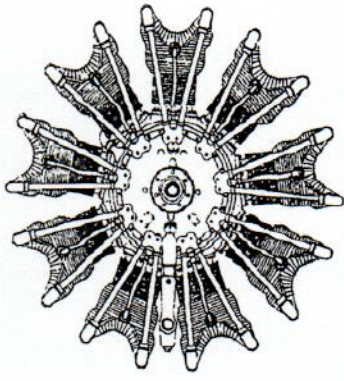
Chef John has promised us a chicken dinner. He doesn't know at this point whether it will be barbecued or what but chicken sounds good to me!

So, c'mon out on Wednesday if only to see what has been done with the place in the last month. You will be amazed!!!

### Membership Drive

This month marks the beginning of a full-scale membership drive as conceived of by our Chairman, Col. Obbie Atkinson. Obbie has had this in mind for some time and has been working for months to bring this to fruition.

We are including a new hand-out brochure in the newsletter. This also is a product of Obbie's efforts and several thousand copies will be distributed at the Chamber of



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 or Fax to 238-9516 or e-mail to [bruce@toomey.com](mailto:bruce@toomey.com)

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).



Commerce office and other appropriate sites. They will also be distributed to members and others.

I don't want to say any more because Obbie has already done an excellent job of preparing the program himself and the plans are as explained below:

The '99 -'00 Estrella Squadron and Museum Membership Drive

by Col. Obbie Atkinson

Enclosed please find the Official Squadron and Museum brochure and Membership Application. This has been enclosed to inform and assist you with your support of the 99-00 Estrella Squadron and Warbirds Museum drive.

The membership drive will be officially launched at our next dinner meeting, June 2. The Squadron goal is to recruit 100 new members during the 99-00 anniversary. This event will celebrate our achievement of a completed Museum and Meeting Hall facility. Every member deserves to be justifiably proud of this exceptional accomplishment, an outstanding example of, what man can conceive and believe, he can achieve.

We will become, with your help, the leading organization of its kind in California in the year 2,000. As we grow with new members we double our resources and influence and will become fully capable of meeting the new challenges of the century in preserving the history of our freedom and educating our sons and daughters to proudly continue the freedom battle.

This is what you do. Tell the story. Let the community know who you are and present each of them with the opportunity to belong.

**Air Show Volunteer Coordinator**  
**Judy Crownover**  
**238-3426**  
**e-mail: [lolalu@tesn.net](mailto:lolalu@tesn.net)**

The Recruiting Program

Each member is challenged to recruit one new member during this period. Brochure/Applications are conveniently located throughout the museum and meeting hall. Those who have questions or need assistance may contact Col. Obbie at 238-9212 or Col. Bruce at 238-9266 (after 9:00am please). Be sure you enter your name on the last line of the application to receive credit as the Recruiter.

Rewards - Awards - Recognition

You will receive one free Squadron dinner voucher for each paid application. Recruiter of the Month will be honored monthly. Recruiter of the Year ending 6-30-2000 will be permanently honored in the meeting hall with appropriate ceremony and a plaque. Any member with 10 recruits or more for the year will be eligible for inclusion in a drawing for an Estrella Squadron Life Membership.

(Squadron Life Memberships are now available for \$400.00 and the words "Life Member" should appear on your check. If you have already paid 99-00 dues of \$50.00, Life Membership will be an additional \$350.00 payable at this time. All checks should be made payable to the Estrella Squadron.

Life Memberships will be published monthly in the newsletter and will be issued with permanent identification i.e., Certificate, Patch and Badge)

Estrella Squadron Staff

- Commanding Officer  
Col. Bruce M. Toomey
- Executive Officer  
Col. Elizabeth R. Miller
- Finance  
Col. John Himes
- Adjutant  
Col. Conrad L. "Marty"  
Martin
- Operations  
Col. Glen Thomson
- Maintenance  
Col. Al Schade
- Safety  
Col. John Cromwell

Staff Appointments

- PIO  
Blake Wideman
- PX Officer  
Marty Wright
- Aircraft Restoration Projects  
Col. Al Schade
- Historian  
Rosemary Netto
- Flight Coordinator  
Col. Bob Singleton



CAF Hangar  
Phone  
227-0440

A drawing will be held each month for the previous month's new recruits and the lucky winner will receive a free warbird ride!! (An authentic thrill with a museum piece and a museum driver!!)

So Go Get 'm Gang!!! Get a head start!!! A \$50.00 membership, or as the marketing folks say, "all the fun, excitement and benefits for just 14 cents a day!!!"

An Apology

In view of our efforts to enlist new members a subject has come up that requires some immediate thought and attention.

It has been brought to the attention of the writer that some of our most valuable and treasured members have been embarrassed by work requests. The Staff regrets having made any member uncomfortable. Work donations are NOT a requirement of membership. We recognize that many of you, in many ways, have made it possible for our present success and your help has not gone unnoticed.

As the editor of the newsletter and now as CO I feel I should shoulder much of the blame because I am always harping on volunteerism and I perhaps push too hard in this respect. Believe me, every single member is of great value to all of us just by being a member. Some may like to do certain things like working on airplanes or some other physical activity but there are others who don't have time to work or who can't work and there are others who just don't want to work but simply wish to be part of a group that interests them There is absolutely nothing wrong with anyone's choice.

The one requirement that is stated on the application is that the individual should enjoy him or herself in a friendly and pleasant atmosphere. As a volunteer you volunteered to be a member of a group not to rake rocks or

dig in the dirt or anything else. We can all do that at home.

What really is of value is your knowledge and experiences both of which can be equally or more effective in our growth than manual labor.

We have some members we have never seen! They live elsewhere and can't get here or they are more than happy to support the place with dues but simply can't take part or just don't care to be that involved.

Your current Staff is doing quite a bit of thinking about the subject of volunteerism and there are those of us who believe that some of our perspectives have become a bit clouded. The Flight Leader organization was originally set up so that new members wouldn't fall through the cracks and would be introduced to other members and to what we are all about. It was NOT designed as a labor pool. Each Flight is asked to help with the dinners once a year but that is not carved in stone either. Perhaps this program has contributed to the problem but we are definitely working on this

Anyway, this is bit long winded (as I am prone to be) but I would feel terrible if I thought a member quit or was embarrassed because he felt pressured by anyone else. This place is supposed to be fun. Let's keep it that way.

Your attendance and participation in our monthly meetings or in any way you see fit is very important So, please continue to honor us with your presence, share with us your experiences and "applaud the joy of harmony, fellowship and goodwill." (Thank you Obbie, for this last part!).

## 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

Linda Hermansen  
Maria Goldman

#### Photo

Wally Engle

### JOINT CAF/EWM

Joint Site Improvements  
Glen Thomson

Joint Community Events  
Committee  
Gary Corippo

## CAF Staff Meeting Minutes 19 May 1999

Submitted by Col. Marty Martin, Adjutant  
Paraphrased for length by Editor

Meeting called to order by Col. Toomey.  
Roll call of officers, Staff present, Cols.  
Thomson, Schade, Cromwell, Himes  
and our new Adjutant, Conrad L.  
Martin.  
Also in attendance: Col. Corippo, Col.  
Atkinson.

Minutes A motion was passed to  
dispense with the reading of the April  
Minutes since they were not available.

Treasurer's Report A financial report  
on the receipts and disbursements since  
the close of the last meeting was read by  
Col. Himes. He reported that a few bills  
will be held over until after the  
upcoming air show. A motion was made  
and seconded to accept the report as  
read. Motion passed.

Committee Report A report was given  
by Col. Corippo on the communication  
regarding the attempts to get an A-10  
aircraft. This is still in the works.

Col. Toomey reported on the new signs  
in front of the building and the  
proposed ones on Airport Road.

Col. Toomey reported that the web page  
is still in the works but has a ways to go.

Col. Corippo gave a report on name  
inlays for the concrete pad and the  
Buy-a-Block program. He received a bid  
of \$10.00 each for the inlays and a  
motion was passed to have him go ahead  
with this project.

Col. Toomey gave a report on proposed  
letter of agreement to HQ

#### New Business

Ollie North will not be available for the  
June Meeting. It will be an Air Show  
meeting instead and Col. Chuck Miller  
will give us an update.

139-4  
Col. Atkinson gave a report on the  
operation of the L-5 and L-16 aircraft.  
After considerable discussion a motion  
was passed to suspend the hangar rent  
fees on both aircraft.

Col. Atkinson gave a report on the  
membership committee and presented  
a pamphlet that he has designed for a  
membership drive. He proposed that  
we give a free dinner to any member  
for each new member signed up.  
Those signing up 10 or more would be  
eligible for a drawing for a Lifetime  
Membership. A motion was passed to  
support the membership drive and the  
promotional suggestions.

A motion was made and seconded to  
form a committee to work on the  
HQ/Squadron agreement and Col.  
Toomey will appoint the members of  
that committee.

Adjournment at 2105 hours.

This is it kids. Sorry it's so short but I  
have a ton of stuff to do for the Air  
Show besides getting this printed,  
folded, stamped, addressed and in the  
mail. Also trips to Modesto and  
Fresno for son Stuart as well as  
picking up T-shirts in Clovis for the  
Air Show and doors in Fresno and  
checking on and maybe picking up  
some vanities for the new bathrooms  
in Fresno and then putting up signs  
along the highways for the show. And  
that's just this week!

Only kidding a little bit but I am sort  
of busy.

Please come to the meeting and check  
out what's going on. A lot of guys and  
gals have been working on this for a  
lot of months.

See you there!

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