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Museum Info

Phone 227-0440
Answered by Machine

FAX 238-9317

Can also be used to reach
personnel at the Museum

Museum Hours
Friday 2pm - 6pm
Saturday 10am - 4pm
Sunday 12n - 3pm
In reality, whenever the
gate is open!

Estrella Warbird Museum

Estrella Squadron Newsletter



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

Volume 1 Number 8

Paso Robles, California

September 2000

September Meeting

The September Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2000 at Thomson Hall with Social Hour commencing at 6:00pm and Dinner at 7:00pm.

Chef John Himes has indicated that he will prepare roast pork for the dinner and this should be delicious.

**DON'T FORGET TO CALL
227-0440 FOR RESERVATIONS!**

Our speaker for the evening will be one of our own. Allen Smith, who turned in one of the most interesting biographies I have ever read since writing this rag. I have often noted that we have a tremendous number of members right here in our midst with fantastic backgrounds and this one is certainly one of the most unusual.

Allen sent in two biographies, one a page and a half single spaced sheet chock full of incredible information, and another, very short version which will be printed on page four. I would love to print the long one but Allen will probably discuss much of what is in the longer version and I would rather you hear this outstanding story from Allen himself. This will be a very worthwhile evening.

"TAPS"

Andy Henry Dies Suddenly

The entire Squadron was shocked to hear that our good friend, tireless worker and devoted member, Andy Henry, was taken from us as a result of an aortic aneurism on Wednesday, August 9, 2000. The loss of Andy is especially disturbing because he was working away with a crew at the Museum in the Library for most of the weekend and three days later he was gone.

Andy was so quiet and unassuming that many did not know of his past accomplishments because he never really spoke of them. His formal obituary from the Telegram-Tribune is printed below which will give us a little insight as to his past.

Typical of Andy was the fact that he always showed up at 8:00 o'clock in the morning on the Monday after every Air Show. This is the worst day of all for the Set-up and Clean-up crew and as I would stand on the tarmac looking forlornly at the mess I would soon hear the soft sound of car tires coming up behind me and there he would be, asking if he could help.

We never saw Andy at the Museum

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program
George Marrett
466-7640

Dinners
John Himes
466-6680

Membership
Obbie Atkinson
238-9212

Grounds
John Kendall
239-8029

Air Show
Chuck Miller
466-1212

Ground Equipment
Dave Geiger
239-1598

Insurance
Brian Webster
237-0222

Refreshments
Tom Gabele
237-1567

Activities
OPEN

Photo
Wally Engle
227-0245

Site Improvements
Glen Thomson
238-4858

Newsletter Editor
Bruce Toomey
238-9266

when he wasn't working at something, either in the buildings or on the grounds, often doing a job that no one else particularly wanted to take on.

Andy Henry's death leaves a big hole in our organization and his quiet, constant devotion will be forever remembered by every member of the Squadron

A Celebration of Life Memorial will be held at the Museum on Saturday, September 23, which will be attended by family and friends and it would be especially appropriate if as many members as possible would join in.

Andrew Henry

Retired Lt. Colonel, Andrew Henry, USAF, 74, of Paso Robles died Wednesday, August 9, 2000, suffering a sudden aortic aneurism.

A celebration of his life will be held Saturday, September 23 at the Estrella Warbird Museum at the Paso Robles Airport.

Andy Henry was born in Duck Run, Ohio, September 1, 1925. His family emigrated to California during the Depression. The family truck they travelled in may still be seen at the Victorville museum devoted to his uncle, Roy Rogers.

Graduating from Leuzinger High School in 1943, he and his friends enlisted in the Navy or Army Air Corps. At the end of WWII he attended Compton Junior College and the University of Southern California, part of the great wave of the GI Bill. Upon graduation from USC he was recalled with the activated Air Force Reserve to the war in Korea in 1950.

Deciding to make the Air Force his career, he graduated from jet pilot training in 1952. He married Gwen Clemensen, whom he had met in 1946.

There followed a colorful and interesting life in the Air Force with assignments all over the United States and abroad, including Taiwan. where his son, Christopher Alan was born in 1957.

He flew a wide variety of aircraft including the B-24,, P-51, T-33, F-86 and F-100. He spent a year in Saigon in 1966 flying the T-39 and the A-1. Upon his return to the states he flew missions to Vietnam and other Southeast Asian countries in the C-141, a cargo and transport aircraft.

Col Henry retired in 1970 and engaged in several businesses. In 1977 he began a year's adventure with his son, Chris, driving a Volkswagen van around the world. This adventure ended in Australia and New Zealand with stopovers in many other countries, New Guinea, New Caladonia, Malaysia, Burma. Singapore, Nepal, India, the Middle East including Iran and Afghanistan and all over Europe including the Azores. Shortly after his return he spent several months flying in Alaska out of Nome.

The family moved to the Central Coast in 1985 and Andy soon began an association with the Estrella Warbird Squadron, formerly part of the Confederate Air Force. He was proud of the work done at the Museum and treated many visitors to a tour.

He is survived by a large extended family and a wide circle of friends including his wife Gwen, his only son Christopher and his wife, Tammy, and their daughter Sierra Hannah, a sister, Gloria; nephews Eric, Ron, Rick and Bob; nieces Cathy and Lorice and many cousins and friends all over the United States, many of whom became family.

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, Bruce MacE. Toomey, unless otherwise noted

Submissions for inclusion are not only welcomed but solicited, including articles, display and classified ads, etc. Please send all submissions to the Editor at P.O. Box 3065, Paso Robles, CA 93447 or FAX to 238-9516 or e-mail to btomey@thegrid.net

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

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Paso Robles, CA
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(Bruce Toomey has no business connection with or financial interest in Toomey Racing USA

Donations can be made to the Research Library Fund which he helped establish. Contact Betty Miller, 466-1212 or Gwen Henry, 528-2722 for more information or send to P.O. Box 570, Paso Robles, CA 93447

September Fly-In

Enclosed you will see the notice of our September Fly-In (fund raiser) which will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2000. This information is being sent out or taken personally by Obbie Atkinson to at least 20 airports throughout the northern part of the state.

This will be a fun day and is just the beginning of a number of activities to come designed as fund raisers, get-togethers, promotional events etc. We will need a good deal of help to put this on properly starting Saturday after Andy Henry's Memorial Service and especially on Sunday.

Not only do we need some helping hands but we would also like to see as many members as possible just show up for support and maybe bring some friends. Any effort at all will be gratefully accepted. Support your local Museum!! Thank you!

President's Corner

These cooler nights and days mark the beginning of Fall. The kids and grandkids are back in school, many of us have had a vacation trip or two and our "normal" schedule is getting back to normal. Welcome back all of you who have been away during the summer.

I hope this newsletter finds you all rested and recharged for a busy 2000-2001! Please mark your calendar for the Sunday Breakfast and Fly In

September 24, 2000. We will be serving breakfast from 8AM to 1PM. Lets turn out and support or fund raiser. Any of you folks who would like to flip pancakes or serve, please contact John Himes at 466-6680(work#)

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Great news! - Our membership has grown to almost 140 strong! Keep up the great work! I know I speak for the entire membership who are enjoying the great speakers, food and fellowship of the morthly meetings. We owe many thanks to our Program Chairman and EWM Vice President, George Marrett and Chef John Himes and out kitchen crew for such enjoyable meetings!

On a sadder note, please join me in offering a final salute to member, Andrew "Andy" Henry, who passed away suddenly on Wednesday, August 9, 2000. Whether striding down the aisle as " General Douglass MacArthur" during the recent USO Show or wielding a paint brush to complete the Research Library, Andy was always asking what he could do to help. Andy was a class act and will be sorely missed by all of us. (Please see "Taps" elsewhere in this newsletter.

Helping Hands

Tasks that need filling last month got a great response. Thanks to: Dori Foxworthy and new member Jackie Brooks and her husband Ron Brooks for taking on the decorations for our dinner meeting for the next few months.. Rosemary Netto has taken on the cleaning up framed prints, thanks Rosemary!

Tasks for the Month of September

1. We desperately need book ends for our new soon-to-be-completed Research Library. I would love to find some folks to either make or buy some at Staples or Office Depot (about \$10.95 per pair) and donate them. Call me.

2. August Volunteer Hour sheets need to be tallied up with the hours worked by individual members and total for all. You will need an adding machine for this.

3. Hoe, Hoe, Hoe! If you have a hoe (or a weed whacker) we need both to remove some weeds along the front of Thomson Hall and between the Museum Hangar and the Hall. You can schedule this at your convenience but please call me at 466-1212.

4. The Research Library has painting that still needs to be accomplished. Our own Andy Henry was doing a great job on this. It would be a real tribute to his memory to complete what he started. We have rollers, brushes and paint....call me to get info at 466-1212.

Volunteering

Along these lines, some of you have indicated that you don't like to come out to the museum on weekends, others of you say that you want to be able to work at your own pace, without a lot of interruptions, and still others wish to do a project in your own way without any kibitzing. These are some of the main reasons I have tried to come up with jobs that really need to be done that meet all of the above criteria. Now I ask that you who have spoken (as well as those who haven't) to contact me to get these small jobs accomplished. Just pick up the phone and dial 466-1212. (Of course if you would rather just write a check, your donation will be gratefully accepted!)

Some Concern - I am seeing the same 20-30 folks carrying the load for the other 110-120 members each month! I would ask that you all take a moment to reflect on what it takes to make an organization run effectively.

Without many volunteers willing to donate some time and expertise, no organization is able to survive. The Estrella Warbird Museum is in the same boat. To keep on we need to have everyone to pitch in. I know it is tough when every club or organization you belong to is asking for your support. As a member of two other organizations, plus dealing in real estate, trying to complete a major construction project at home, two horses that need to be kept ridden, and family commitments, I am only too aware of the many tugs and pulls that each entails. Having said that, I still ask that each of you see if there isn't at least one small task that needs doing that you could volunteer to complete. These are mostly 'one-shot' tasks that can be completed in a short time frame, so how about lending a much-needed hand folks!?

Growth Noted

The Estrella Warbird Museum continues to gain visitors. With fund raisers, programs and aircraft restoration, public awareness likewise increases. The museum will always have things that need to be completed, but the most major things are getting to the final stages. We are growing and things get more exciting daily. It is great to be part of this organization. Your

Support is greatly appreciated by your Board of Directors

Betty Miller
President

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Allen Smith's Short Version Biography!!

"Succinctly put Smith spent 17 years in Pennsylvania, 34 years in the Navy, 1 year with Colorado Interstate Gas and 11 years with the Hughes Aircraft Company. During these times he married, raised a family of 3 sons, 2 grandsons, learned to fly, fought in 3 wars and retired 4 times. He is now retired, speaking the 'retirement language' fluently. He visits his 'Heimat' in Germany yearly, attends two W.W.II and one Vietnam flying boat squadron reunion each year, plus a family reunion in Pennsylvania. He also spends much time on the golf course, fly fishing in Pennsylvania and eating lobster in Maine. Just what would be expected of a beached destroyer sailor and a grounded flying boat pilot."

(Ed. Note: Wait till you hear the long version!!)

~~~~~

### An Open Letter to the Membership

### MUSEUM CLOSSES FOR LACK OF INTEREST!!

I had planned to use this headline as a front page shocker but wiser heads prevailed. It still has some validity, however.

Many people, members and others, have spent uncountable hours for the past 11 years to make the Museum what it is today. Our Mission and our reason for existence is well known to ourselves but the main thrust for both is to get the word out to others. This cannot be done unless the Museum is open for specific times on different days of the week. The only way this can be accomplished is by having Docents on those days.

### WE NEED DOCENTS!!!

For a short time this year we had 12 volunteers who served at least one day a month and many who worked two or three days a month. At this point we have approximately six dedicated Docents. We cannot keep going like this. It is an imposition on those who are so helpful and it is a typical example of why people get burned out as far as being a volunteer is concerned.

We have rearranged the Docent schedule to be open on Fridays from 2pm to 6pm in the hope that those who work during the week and who might like to visit the Museum may take this opportunity to come out after work and after school is out and not have to interrupt their weekends. We are also open on Saturdays from 10am to 4pm. This proved to be a bit too many hours on a Saturday so we have split the shift into two 3 hour periods i.e. 10am to 1pm and 1pm to 4pm.

We hoped that by making these changes we would be able to get some of the interested wives, lady

friends and female members to take on at least one shift per month. We realize that the Friday and Sunday schedules are bit difficult because most of the women do not like to work alone and we agree completely.

What we would really like to see, however, are a few wives, lady friends and any others who would take one of the Saturdays split shifts because there are always a number of male members on hand throughout the day so they won't be alone. We presently have two devoted ladies as Docents but would dearly like to have some more. (I noticed in going through the CAF facility in Arizona that the ladies seemed to run both the gift shop and handle Docent duty on a daily basis.)

Being a Docent is not an unpleasant job. The Docent instruction book, while a bit out of date at the moment, has much information in it available for reference so one does not have to feel embarrassed about questions. As a matter of fact many of the people who have the interest to come by the Museum are old timers or others who are fountains of information in themselves! A person can do as much or as little as they wish. Some do a bit of dusting, some do considerably more and others are just available to see that the place is open. This is a volunteer organization and no one is riding herd on anyone to do anything other than **BEING THERE!** Bring a book, bring some paper work, whatever.

If we had just had 28 people they would be asked to work only one short shift every two months!!! If we had just had as few as 8 more volunteers each one would work only one day a month.

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Please give this some consideration. I know you are always getting harangued about volunteering but this is a vital part of our existence. Call Bruce Toomey at 238-9266 any time after 9:00am up till midnight if you would like to discuss the possibility of becoming a Docent.

### Donation of Very Small Ryan Aircraft or Very Large Ryan RC Model!!

Those of you who have walked around the Museum in the last few days might have noticed an airplane that looks as though it shrunk in the rain. The story is that your Editor ran into a very nice guy over by Nunno's, a Mr. Arthur Van Rhyn who has a Gallery in Cambria, who was trying to start a 2 stroke ultra light without much luck. We just got to talking and the Museum came up and he brightened and allowed as to how he had a Ryan RC model airplane that he had crashed and rebuilt but just didn't want to fly again. He said he put too much into it to just throw it away and asked if the Museum might like it. I said "sure" thinking it would probably be like our present models hanging up by the counter. Well, to make a long story short, he called a couple of days later and said he would like to bring it over if I could meet him. When he arrived he had the

plane tailed in the back of a station wagon with a tarp over it. When he threw back the tarp I was dumb-struck at the size of the thing!

Anyway, here it is and I guess we can find a cable to string it up with! Actually it's a neat model and I think we will enjoy it. The jugs aren't to scale but he just couldn't find any better ones. I hope our old original and one of our favorite members, Mike Wing, will enjoy it!!

Minutes of the Board of  
Director's Meeting - Estrella  
Warbird Museum  
August 23, 2000

1. Call to Order/Member Roll Call (Determination of Quorum Status)

Present: Chidlaw, Davis, Al., Marrett, Miller, B. Thomson, Toomey, Wright.  
Absent: Atkinson, Clark, Corippo, Cromwell, Miller, C., Russell, Schade. Guest: Bob Singleton

2. Welcome: Chairman of the Board Glen Thomson

3. Reports: Minutes from the Board Meeting of July 19, 2000 were not able to be read due to the absence of Paul Clark.

Treasurer, Marty Martin gave the Treasurers Report  
Beginning balance (6-30-00)  
\$13,215.00  
Deposits totaled \$1,581.00  
Expenses totaled <2,038.80>  
Ending Balance (7/31/00)  
\$12,757.83

Expenses were <\$457.80> more than income from the monthly Dinners, Bar and Raffle income.

Bob Singleton gave a brief report on Museum Docent procedure from a northern California Museum.

4. Old Business

Fly-In Breakfast was discussed and entry fee amounts were set at \$30.00 per event or \$50.00 for two. Need for volunteers to help with parking aircraft and breakfast prep and serving. Call Obbie Atkinson for flight contest volunteers and John Himes for Breakfast.

October Rummage Sale was discussed. May need to have in November to allow time to gather and sort rummage items.

5. New Business

CAP Search & Rescue Exercise update on scheduled exercise for CAP and Sheriff's Squadron.

Andy Henry "Celebration of Life" is scheduled for Saturday, September 23 at 3PM in Thomson Hall.

Adjournment to Regular Meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 2000 at 7PM

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Please Read The  
Docent Shift Page

Please Note The  
OPEN Days

Please Think About  
Filling One Of These  
Days

We Need Help

Thank You

# Docent Shift Assignments

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## September 2000

Dated 9-1-00

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Docent Name</u> | <u>Phone #</u> |
|-------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Fri 01      | 2 - 6       | B. Toomey          | 238-9266       |
| Sat 02      | 10 - 1      | C. Weiss           | 239-2637       |
| Sat 02      | 1 - 4       | B. Toomey          | 238-9266       |
| Sun 03      | 12 - 3      | A. Britton         | 226-9627       |
| Fri 08      | 2 - 6       | OPEN               |                |
| Sat 09      | 10 - 1      | OPEN               |                |
| Sat 09      | 1 - 4       | R. Blomquist       |                |
| Sun 10      | 12 - 3      | A. Britton         | 226-9627       |
| Fri 15      | 2 - 6       | M & E Hudson       | 467-2619       |
| Sat 16      | 10 - 1      | OPEN               |                |
| Sat 16      | 1 - 4       | OPEN               |                |
| Sun 17      | 12 - 3      | A. Britton         | 226-9627       |
| Fri 22      | 2 - 6       | R. Blomquist       |                |
| Sat 23      | 10 - 1      | OPEN               |                |
| Sat 23      | 1 - 4       | OPEN               |                |
| Sun 24      | 12 - 3      | OPEN               |                |
| Fri 29      | 2 - 6       | OPEN               |                |
| Sat 30      | 10 - 1      | T. Weiss           | 239-2637       |
| Sat 30      | 1 - 4       | OPEN               |                |

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### Joe Modica Jr. CFP

Certified Financial Planner  
Registered Investment Advisor

7070 Morro Road, Suite C (805) 461-5903  
Atascadero, CA 93422 Fax: 461-5922



Estrella Warbird Museum, Inc.  
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Paso Robles, CA 93447



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To:

~~PO Box 570~~  
~~Paso Robles~~  
~~Atascadero, CA 93422~~