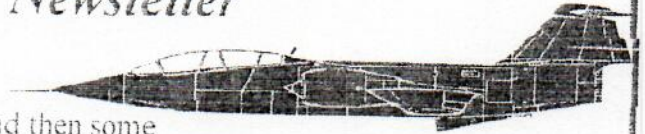


Estrella Warbird Museum

Estrella Squadron Newsletter



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

Volume XII Number 7

Paso Robles, California

July 2001

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Tom Bordonero

Lt. Col. Oliver North

USMC

RADM James M. Gleim

Will Irwin, MD

Museum Information

Phone (805) 227-0440

(Machine Answered)

(FAX 238-9317

Can also be used to reach
personnel at the Museum)

Museum Hours

Friday 2-6

Saturday 10-4

Sunday 12-3

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 570

Paso Robles, CA 93447

Web Site

<http://www.tcsn.net/ewm>

July Meeting

PLEASE NOTE!!

The July Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 11, 2001, **NOT** July 4 which would have been our normal date. The Meeting will be held at Thomson Hall with Social Hour commencing at 6:00pm and Dinner at 7:00pm.

Chef John has promised us a Baked Ham dinner with au gratin potatoes, cole slaw and a slightly sweet baked bean dish which will be the usual excellent fare provided by the dedicated cuisine team.

Reservations are again Strongly Requested - 227-0440

Our program for the evening will be provided by our own Richard (Dick) Blomquist who was a B-17 Bomber Pilot and who flew some very interesting missions. More on Dick on page 3.

It should also be mentioned that Dick is one of our most devoted and hard working Docents. Not only is he always on the job but he actively asks for tasks to accomplish during his scheduled time, many of which are not too savory, such as cleaning up after the birds. All of these tasks are

done with a willingness that is much appreciated.

Personal Thanks

I am delighted with the response from all of you who have sent back my postcard with dues information. Within two days I had received several phone calls as well as at least 10 cards and have been able to commence reconstructing my records. I have also learned how to back up the data in my database!! Thank you all for your wonderful response.

Rolling Stock

As you all know, out in back of the static displays there are a number of trucks, specialty vehicles, fire trucks and the like, all military and all in need of refurbishment. Most of these can be brought up to running condition with a little effort and they all could be made to look more presentable. The Dodge pickup that belonged to the CAF, and which is now at another CAF base, is a case in point. A number of members worked on it and it became a quite serviceable little unit.

There must be a number of automobile buffs in our group who might be interested in the rehab of some of these units or who would at least offer guidance to those of us with good intentions but not too much

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Program

George Marrett
466-7640

Dinners

John Himes
466-6680

Membership

Obbie Atkinson
238-9212

Grounds

John Kendall
239-8029

Airshow

Chuck Miller
466-1212

Ground Equipment

Dave Geiger
239-1598

Insurance

Brian Webster
237-0222

Public Relations & Media

Catherine Paine
239-2274

Supply & Refreshments

Tom Gabele
237-1567

Site Improvements

Glen Thomson
238-4858

Research Librarian

K.O. Eckland
466-5373

Restoration

Al Schade
927-8303

knowledge. If anyone would be interested I would be happy to approach one or more people who might be able to offer helpful ideas. 238-9266.

Tug Drivers

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we will be needing a number of tug drivers on the Saturday before the Airshow as well as on Airshow day itself. Please consider this request. It's a chance to be right down in the middle of everything that is going on during the show and it is a much needed voluntary job.

As also mentioned before, we have an interesting tape which was purchased (privately) from the CAF with regard to Marshaling and ground handling. There will be several sessions of watching this tape and having discussions with our Safety Officer, John Cromwell, for those who will help out in this area. As a result, whoever volunteers will have a pretty good idea of what to expect.

If you are interested, please contact Judy Crownover, the Volunteer Coordinator for the Airshow, at her home number, 238-3426.

Restoration

Continuing with the program that Al Schade has put into motion, we again list a couple of specific jobs that need doing on the static displays and other items.

1. A tailpipe cover for the A-7. This can be plywood and, as stated before, is something that could be made in someone's home shop.

2. Again, looking for someone who can rivet the nose cone on the F-86.

We are pleased to say that the zinc chromating of the cockpit area in the L-17 (Navion) has been completed which was the number 1 job requested in this column last month. This is the kind of response that gets things done!!

Fencing Project

We need to place some anchor fencing at the east end of the parking lot as well as the north end. In addition, the area between Thomson Hall and the Museum should also be blocked off. This would discourage visitors from wandering around the static displays before a Docent can get to them and would lead them to the main entrance to the Museum. There would be a personnel gate in the area between the buildings that would be open most of the time to give members their usual access. The gate could be closed, however, during visiting hours and during the times when a crowd is expected for an event. The other two areas are driveways and we would need a couple of fairly wide gates there for trucks and service vehicles.

This is, of course, a request for the fencing. We are looking for probably 4 foot high fencing between the buildings so it isn't a daunting barrier to guests and could either use the same size or higher for the driveway areas. These are not intended to be security fences but mainly for crowd control. Anyone who have a few sections of anchor fence and some posts that you don't need could help a great deal. We only need about 30 feet on the north, maybe 60 feet on the east and whatever it would take to go between the Museum and Thomson Hall.

Also, we need some fencing and a gate along Dry Creek Road at the east end of the main fence where that bunch of

The Estrella Squadron Newsletter is published monthly as an unofficial and voluntary contribution. Content and opinions, other than by-line columns are the sole responsibility of the Editor, Bruce MacE. Toomey unless otherwise noted. Submissions for inclusion are welcomed and requested

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

tangled barbed wire is called a gate. This would require the same height fence that we have out front as well as at least a single gate as wide as one of the double gates at the main entrance.

So there you have it. Another small plea for something that would be of great help.

Theft at the Restoration Building

As you will note when reading the Board Minutes, we have had a quite serious loss of valuable aircraft and engine parts from the Restoration Building. The building was broken into twice, the second time after Al Schade has placed a massive lock on the door, which was destroyed.

The items taken were pretty specific so whoever it was knew exactly what he or they wanted as far as airplane parts were concerned. This is a very unnerving situation because it indicates that the thieves know what is going on at the Museum.

Most thefts of this type on airports are conducted by knowledgeable people who either steal to order or who have a good idea of what valuable items are on hand. This is why they break into certain hangars with airplanes that have very expensive electronics mounted in them. They know just what they are after.

The thefts have been reported to the police and measures are being taken to prevent further losses. If anyone has any information as to who might be involved in these thefts we would, of course, be grateful if you could enlighten us.

Loan of Motor Home Needed for Airshow.

We will again have a base of operations near the main entrance to the Airshow where tickets will be available to our ticket sellers and where money will be accepted from them and counted. We would like to have the loan of a fair sized motor home that can accommodate several people who will be handling money and ticket sales. This will be needed by late afternoon on Saturday before the show and through the end of the show plus a little extra time. If someone would loan us a vehicle of this type we would be most grateful.

Brief Bio of Dick Blomquist

Enlisted in the US Army Air Corps May 19, 1941 as an Airplane Mechanic at Maxwell Field, Alabama. On August 10, 1942 received Flying Cadet appointment. Was awarded Pilot's Wings and Commission at Moody Field, Georgia on May 28, 1943

Next assignment was for heavy bom-

bardment: B-17's were the planes in production at that time. Crew assignment and all phases of training were completed in November, 1943. On December 7, 1943 we departed from Florida for South America. Flew from Fortaleza, Brazil to Dakar, Africa, then on to Casablanca where the crew spent Christmas, 1943. At Casablanca, received orders to report to the 15th Air Force, 2nd Bomb Group, 96th Squadron, the Base being at Foggia, Italy, arriving December 31. The first Shuttle Mission to Russia completed his Combat tour of 50 Missions. Returning from overseas, married a Williamsport, PA girl Shirley, now his wife, of 57 years.

After returning from overseas, reported to the Re-distribution Center in Santa Monica, CA. Assignments following were: Biggs Field, El Paso, TX, Pratt Air Force Base, KS, Chanute Field, Ill., Release from active duty August, 1944. Lived in PA 18 years, moved to VA in 1963 as a Regional Manager for Sun Electric Corporation. Retired from Sun Electric after 22 years. The last move was to Paso Robles in June 1998

Dick was awarded the Air Medal with nine Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters. The Group was awarded a Citation for the Steyr, Austria Mission on February 25, 1944.

Russia presented a Commendation Medal on the 50th Anniversary to all who participated in the first Shuttle Mission. It reads: "On behalf of President Boris Yeltsin, the Russian Government and the entire Russian people, I am pleased to

inform you that you have been awarded the Commemorative Medal, the 50th Anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War". (World War II)

Shirley and Dick have two daughters. Susan Shipman, husband Ron, Rancho Cordova, CA and Cheryl Armstrong and husband Craig, Paso Robles; three Granddaughters and one Grandson.

Minutes of the June 2001 Board of Directors Meeting of the Estrella Warbird Museum.

Meeting called to order by Chairman, Glen Thomson. Board Members present: Atkinson, Chidlaw, Clark, Davis, Engle, Irwin, Marrett, Martin, B. Miller, C. Miller, Paine, Schade Thomson, Toomey and Wright

Minutes of the May Meeting as printed in the June Newsletter were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report given by Conrad Martin.

4/30/01 Net total 3974.23

5/31/01 Net total 3217.92

Report accepted as read.

Committee Reports:

Program: George Marrett
July 11th speaker - Dick Blomquist, WWII B-17 pilot.
August speaker - United Airlines pilot of Sioux City crash.
September speaker - Chuck Miller P.R... Airshow

Discussion ensued giving speakers some recognition and it was decided that a T-shirt and a free membership for the remainder of the year was appropriate.

Membership Obbie Atkinson

Discussed radio promotion for August Meeting.

Displayed aerial photograph of the Museum and static view of the F-104.

Copies of the photos were recommended for the website, postcards and the new Terminal Lobby at the dedication September 8.

Gift Shop

Accounting Report from Mar '99 to June '01 was detailed and is on record with the Secretary and Treasurer.

Marty Wright displayed the design for enameled pins to be sold to promote the Museum. The Board approved the design and ordering of 1,000 pins.

Airshow Chuck Miller

A 2 1/2 hour Airshow is complete and should be spectacular.

Good publicity is lined up but, as usual, sponsors and cash are a little short and we need everybody's help.

The USO show is all set.

794
Improvements Glen Thomson
Kitchen
THE HOOD IS UP!

Fire suppression system needs to be inserted before becoming functional and is estimated to cost \$1400.

Library

An assistant was proposed and acquisition of 6 more bookcases was reported.

Restoration Al Schade

Listings in the Newsletter should begin this month to specifically target restoration areas and solicit proper help.

Old Business

1. Break-ins Al Schade reported equipment and tools worth \$25,000 were listed in a police report. New measures are now in place.

2. President Engle, after formulating our Mission Statement will proceed with formulating goals and objectives for the Museum with the help of the Board.

3. Bruce Toomey reported on a new style name tag for Life Members

4. A strong letter was received from William Russell, M.D. with regard to the Casa Jet. Much discussion followed as regards to liability, legal aspects, insurance, etc. A motion to draft a letter to Dr. Russell by the Chairman, President and V.P., carried.

New Business

1. Wally Engle distributed hand-outs

concerning Grant Money

2. Kitchen funds were discussed. Money to finish the construction and the logical steps to obtain that goal followed. The Secretary was instructed to send letters to prospective lenders. A "Master Plan" is to be initiated.

3. Agreement with the Hearst Castle people has been made as regards the fire truck that is being donated to a small town in Mexico.

4. P. R... City Council finally responded to our request to obtain an 80' strip of land adjacent to the EWM and they said "NO". (but it was an interesting letter!). We will try again to communicate with them.

5. Al Schade reported that a DC-3 is available through China Lake.

No other business resulted in adjournment at 9:55p.

Brief Explanation

To those who are wondering what the "Personal Thanks" column is all about on page one, I had a hard drive failure in my computer and lost my records of who has paid their dues and who hasn't. All regular members received my letter of explanation and a post card asking them to fill out whatever their status was and return it. Trade members, honorary and Life Members did not receive the letter so not everyone knew what a dumb mistake I had made by not backing up my data. So that's my lame-faced explanation for the column!!

Estrella Warbird Museum, Inc.

Life Members

1. Glen Thomson
2. Obbie Atkinson
3. Allen Smith
4. Conrad Martin
5. Gary Corippo
6. Al Schade
7. John Cromwell
8. Ed. Chidlaw
9. Ken Grubb
10. William Sima, MD
11. Gerald Taylor
12. Marty Wright
13. Marilyn Webster
14. Brian Webster
15. Jim Pickens
16. Arnold Hermansen
17. Greg Sudderth
18. Bob Kinsell
19. James Bryant
20. Bruce Toomey
21. Kenny Finch
22. Marie Kinsell
23. Ron Brooks
24. Jackie Brooks
26. Mary Baiamonte
27. Bob Singleton
28. George Marrett
29. Larry Campo
30. Al Davis
31. Bob Weiss
32. Chuck Miller
33. Dirk Hale
34. Dick Umphrey
35. Gerald Grady
36. Dieter Eckert, MD
37. Art Britton
38. John Kendall
39. Will Irwin, MD
40. Tom Gabele
41. Stuart Toomey
42. Bob Miller
43. Dave Highland
44. Steve Forsman

Calendar of Coming Events

July 2001

July 11, Wednesday Estrella Warbird Museum Dinner Meeting

and Speaker 6:00pm, Thomson Hall.

July 18, Wednesday EWM Board of Directors Meeting 7:00pm. Thomson Hall. Open to all members.

July 19, Thursday Air Show Committee Meeting 7:00pm Thomson Hall

July 26, Thursday, Airport Advisory Committee Meeting, 7:00pm, Thomson Hall

August 25, Saturday, Dinner Dance and Show, A Night in the Tropics, at the Museum. Social Hour at 6:00pm. Dinner 7:00pm and Show at 7:45pm. Dancing 9:00pm to ??.

August 26, Sunday 2:00pm Air Show Volunteers lunch and Show prep (T shirts, badges etc.) To be a volunteer one must call the Volunteer Coordinator, Judy Crownover at 238-3426.

September 8, Saturday Sponsor's Reception 6:00pm to 9:00pm for those sponsor packages of \$200.00 and above. This reception is not open to the public.

September 9, Sunday "28th Annual Paso Robles Air Show". Rollie Gates Entrance. Gates open at 8:00am. Parade at 11:00am to 12:30 pm Show at 12:30pm to 4:00pm.

2002

January 9, Wednesday. Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce "Mixer" at the Museum.

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Docent Shift Assignments

July 2001

as of June 29, 2001

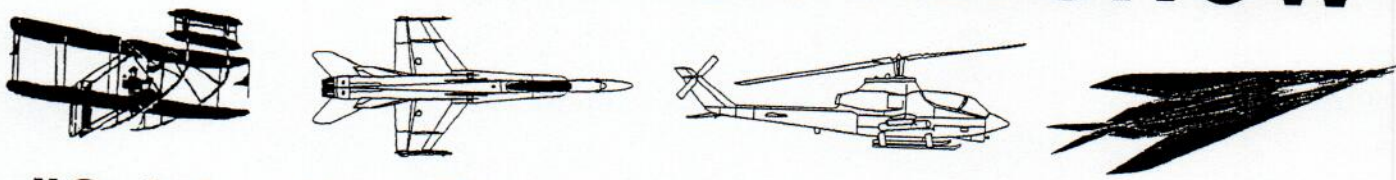
<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Docent Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Sun 01	12 - 3	A. Britton	226-9627
Fri 06	2 - 6	D. Miner	239-1054
Sat 07	10 - 1	L. Campo	238-7702
Sat 07	1 - 4	R. Blomquist	227-0362
Sun 08	2 - 6	T. Weiss	239-2637
Fri 13	2 - 6	OPEN	
Sat 14	10 - 1	L. Campo	238-7702
Sat 14	1 - 4	R. Kinsell	237-2586
Sun 15	2-6	H. Earley	239-2353
Fri 20	2 - 6	B. Toomey	238-9266
Sat 21	10 - 1	L. Campo	238-7702
Sat 21	1 - 4	A. Hermansen	467-3343
Sun 22	2 - 6	R. Passon	466-7234
Fri 27	2 - 6	C. Weiss	239-2637
Sat28	10 - 1	L. Campo	238-7702

Problems: call B. Toomey at home 238-9266 or on cel 459-1867.

DOCENTS: PLEASE REMEMBER, ONLY DONATIONS GO INTO RED BOX ON WALL. ALL SALES INCOME GOES IN CASH BOX UNDER COUNTER WITH SLIPS.

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28th Annual Paso Robles Airshow



"Celebrating Flight, Past, Present & Future"

Sunday, September 9, 2001

8:00 am Gates Open

**K-9 Action Demo, Remote Controlled Aircraft Aerobatics,
"Parade of Veterans" 11:30 am**

(Featuring Antique and Vintage cars, Marching units, Drill Teams, Bands)

***Airshow* 12:30 pm**

**"Silver Wings" a vintage Steerman aircraft with a WingWalker
John Collver and his AT-6 Warbird in "A Salute to Veterans"**

The "China Doll", WW II C-46 Warbird

Helicopter Act

"Just In Time" Skydiving Team

"Russian Thunder" Aerobatic Act

F-18 Flight Demo Team

**"Legacy Flight" - F-18 and a F4U Corsair Warbird
Steve Stavrakakis and "Wild Thing"**

WW II Warbirds, Vintage aircraft and Experimental Aircraft

Military Mass Parachute Drop

Military Tank and Helicopter Repelling Demos

CDF Air Tanker Water Drop

And Much, Much More!

Adults \$8 Child \$4.00

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 Paso Robles, CA 93447

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