



STELLAR EAGLE

ESTRELLA WARBIRD MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2002

VOL XIII-12

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Last month we started our "Getting to Know You" member biography section with member John Himes. This month we feature another John
- John Kendall.

Many of you know John Kendall as the soft spoken man who, along with member Ron Thompson, is responsible for keeping our grounds mowed and maintained in an attractive manner. But John is not a landscape technician by trade. Far from it! Here is the rest of his story.

John Kendall was born in Albany, Oregon, later moving with his parents to Tillamook, Oregon where he graduated from Tillamook High School in 1947. After graduation John enrolled at the University of Oregon where he stayed until 1949 when his father passed away. Leaving the green, moist Willamette Valley, John and his family moved to Sunny Paso Robles, California. After the move to Paso Robles, John was drafted to serve in the Korean War (or "Conflict"

as some politicians prefer to call it.) in 1951.

During his stint in the service John was trained as a helicopter mechanic. After his discharge in 1953, John went to the Hancock School of Aeronautics in Santa Maria and received his AP, as well as his Private Pilot's License in 1954. After a year working in Stockton for a Crop Duster operation, John went to Egypt for 11 months, then on to Borneo where he became the Chief Mechanic. From exotic Borneo John was transferred to New Guinea, and then to Libya.

Returning to the United States in 1959, John worked as a mechanic in commercial air operations until 1966 when he was hired by the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department. After 26 years with the LA County Sheriff, John retired as the Chief of Maintenance for the department and moved back to Paso Robles with his lovely wife Jean in 1994. John has had some fantastic experiences and thoroughly enjoyed his aviation career, which all started when he joined the service in 1951. ✪

PRIME RIB!!!

Bring your family and friends for a December Spectacular Dinner! We will have linen table clothes, china plates, candles, AND we will be served by Tux clad servers a wonderful Prime Rib Dinner, includes Prime Rib, seasonal veggies, baked potato, rolls, salad, desert and coffee ONLY \$10.00 per person.

We have seats for only 90 so you must CALL and reserve a seat for this one! 227-0440, when message starts press 1 and leave your name - the number attending - your phone number.

On that note: We gets lots of hang ups from our members who think they should have a real person at the other end...we don't...but I check the message machine and get the info. ✈

DECEMBER PROGRAM

Gary Ryan

Gary Ryan wears many hats. He has been a licensed pilot since high school, earned his degree from UC Berkley in architecture, has been a radio announcer, has his Captain's license to pilot 100-ton water craft on the ocean, is a businessman; he owns Goofy Graphics, a sign business in Morro Bay, AND is an accomplished musician playing jazz guitar, banjo and piano in a style he describes as "kind of a jazzy be-bop"! Gary is also one of our members, and has provided all the markings on our newly painted aircraft. Thank you Gary!



Gary spent over 20 years on the road with the likes of Bing Crosby, Dean Martin, and Rosemary Clooney. He finally settled down in Morro Bay. Gary performs at several well-known jazz festivals, including those in Mammoth, Monterey and Palm Springs. He plays for special parties aboard the "Tiger's Folly II" and shares Captains duties with another skipper.

Gary Ryan will perform for our December Dinner Meeting, so put your hands together and welcome him! ✈



2

CALLING ALL ARTISTS & DESIGNERS

We need to design a new sign for the corner of Airport Road and Dry Creek Road. Sharpen your pencils, wet your paint brushes, try out that graphics program in your computer and win a Free Dinner for Two at the February Dinner Meeting!

The sign will be rectangular, larger than our existing sign and be done in reflective materials. Limit your entry to three colors please. Contest is open to amateurs and pros alike.

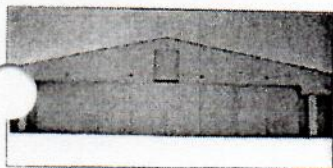
Entries on white paper, minimum size 8 1/2" x 11", need to be turned in by Wednesday, January 15th. Put in our President Betty Miller's mail slot by the Volunteer Hour book, or mail to Betty Miller at 3005 San Fernando Road, Atascadero, CA 93422 ✈

NEW WALL DISPLAY AT THOMSON HALL

If you walk through the hall between the Bar and the door to the Museum Hangar you will note the first item to be displayed on our new "Solo Flight Wall". That's right, for all of you who decided to take to the skies, you will remember that moment when your Flight Instructor decided you were ready to fly "solo". He asked you to taxi over to the side of the taxiway and stop. Then he opened the door and stepped OUT, and bid you a safe flight. At this point, you either said (1) Whaaaaaaat? Hey I'm not ready! (2.) Oh migawd! (3.) Fantastic!!! or something more colorful! Then you went through everything you had been taught and took off to make your three required landings and take offs around the home field. Once you were airborne you probably couldn't wipe the huge grin off your face, and some of you, (even the tone deaf folks who can't carry a tune), have been know to sing at the top of their lungs! It is a fantastic experience. Of course you will also remember that when you successfully completed your three solo trips you landed, got a debriefing from your Instructor and then had the back of your shirt CUT OUT! You are so happy at that moment that you don't even care that it was your very best, favorite shirt! Your Instructor signs it and you have your first "badge of honor" The first "Solo Shirttail" to be displayed is that of our very own Rick Dykhous and is signed off by CFI Rod Dykhous, who also happens to be Rick's Dad! Our heartfelt Congratulations Rick, on your Solo Flight. Thursday, November 21, 2002 ✈

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MUSEUM DOINGS

There are some new exhibits over in the Museum Hangar so stroll over and check them out! First we have the Vietnam exhibit with artifacts and photos of some of our own members, who are Vietnam vets .

Rod Dykhouse has loaned us two of his flight suits from his chopper days, one on our one and only male mannikin, and one that has a very interesting story to tell - a near miss with a potential fatal bullet!

On Mullisen has donated some fantastic pictures of the A-6 Intruder that he flew as a USMC pilot during his Vietnam tour of duty. (You will remember that OUR A-6 Intruder aircraft turned out to have also been flown by Ron - this was discovered when he matched the tail number up in his Pilot Log book)

Chuck Miller has loaned us a model of the UH-1B helicopter he flew during his second tour in Vietnam, as well as some photos and artifacts from his first tour over there.

Check out these lean, good looking pilots and don't forget to say "thanks" to these Vietnam vets for spending time in a place without much support from some of the folks back home. We should all remember that our troops need our support - regardless of whether we agree with the politicians (from all the countries) who put them there.

We are displaying two signed watercolor prints of the helicopters in battle by artist Joe Kline, plus we have a TV/VCR (thanks Betty and Chuck Miller!) playing a video about the aircraft and their support during Vietnam.

We will be using the TV/VCR to show film footage of aircraft, tanks, military life, etc as part of our ongoing program to be an interactive museum.

We also have some new materials on loan from member Kevin Craig about his uncle, First Lieutenant Elwyn Mann who was a Army pilot during WW II. Lt. Mann was shot down and killed in North Africa, but his story is told by the pictures, medals, and letters to his family.

Gary Corippo has been working to set up the USMC corner (it keeps expanding - ya gotta watch these Marines, give 'em an inch and they take the hill!) honoring his branch of service. It is in progress, but looking good!

Al Smith and Doug Miner have been working on the US Navy exhibit. New aircraft models are in place, and more Navy memorabilia is promised. We need some more display cases...but we are short on cash at the moment, if you know or hear of any business closing, please ask them to consider a donation of one or more display cases. We also need more male manikins - we have lots of great uniforms, but nothing to show them off on! ✈

MARIE KINSELL DONATES AIRCRAFT PHOTOS

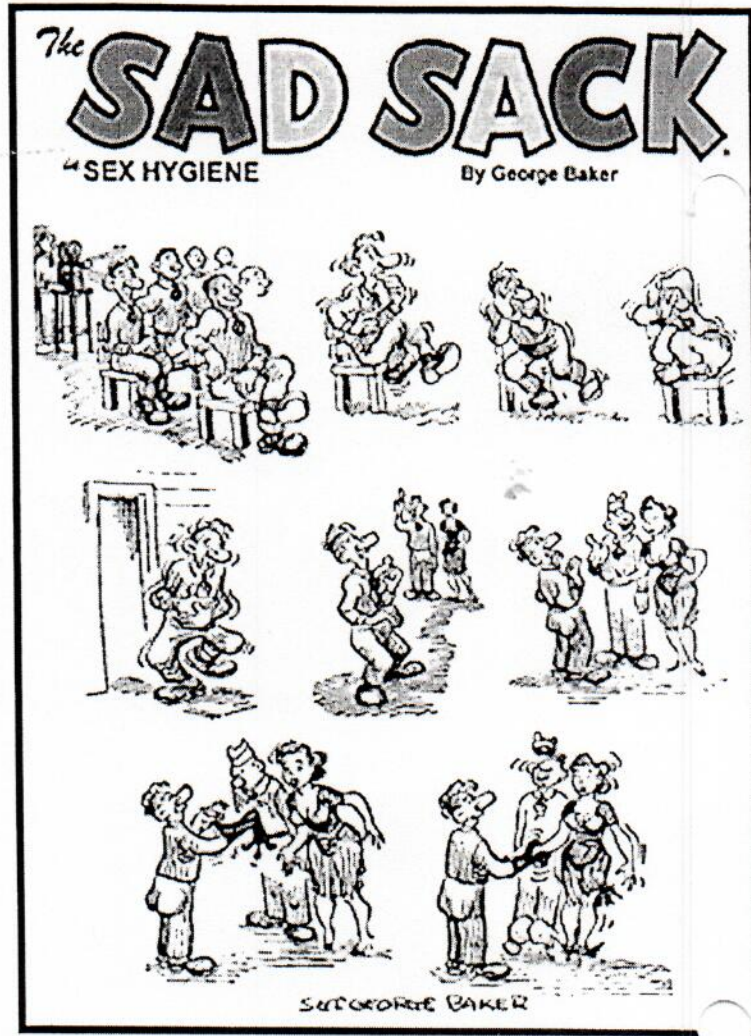
We have a new aircraft photo display on our north wall at Thomson Hall. These great framed, black and white photographs were donated in the memory of our beloved member, Bob Kinsell, who had these in his office. There are military aircraft and civilian passenger aircraft, and we will enjoy the many memories that these will bring us in the coming years. Thank you Marie. ✈

INTERACTIVE ADDITIONS

(4)

Ron Brooks is working on installing an interactive addition to the F-4 Phantom. Once installed, the "pilot" will be able to hear the sound of the jet cranking up, and his guns firing at the "enemy", depending on the button pushed. Ron is working on having the same thing for our Huey Helicopter, but we are looking for a helicopter toy with sound effects of a helio engine. If your kids or grand kids have a toy helicopter (with sound) that they would like to donate, or you would like to donate after 10 hours of listening to it on Christmas morning, call Ron or Betty Miller!

Because of the large (and growing) numbers of smaller children, under the age of 5, coming to the museum we will be installing a carpeted airport play area. A low platform will have a painted layout of the Paso Robles Regional Airport and plastic toy aircraft, fuel trucks, etc for some of our smaller guests to enjoy. (They could care less about the principles of how a jet engine works!) If you have some plastic trucks, airplanes, etc we would welcome your donation. Be sure they are at least 3" inches and child-friendly. (We need plastic toys to be able to wipe them down and 'sanitize' them as much as possible.) Call Betty at 466-1212. ✈️



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AIRCRAFT UPDATE:
F-4 Phantom and F-8 Crusader



Glen Thomson reports that the "Aircraft Retrieval Gang" went to Yuma, but came home without the complete F-4. The base's crane broke down and it takes more than seven guys to lift an F-4! They will be going back mid-January and a call for volunteers to help will be forthcoming. The wings will be cut off the body and reattached once we have the aircraft here. The F-8 located on the USS Hornet is scheduled to be brought down the first part of December. If you are interested in helping out (and staying aboard the Hornet) call Glen at 238-4858 or Al Schade at 927-8303.

F-14 , T-34, T-2 Buckeye

We are on the list to acquire an F-14. An F-14 was located in El Centro by member Wayne King. A visit was made to El Centro to evaluate the condition of the aircraft, and the cost to transport the aircraft to the Museum by truck was obtained. After much consideration, the Museum Board decided to try to get one that could be flown in and demilitarized here. (As was done with our A-6 Intruder) The Museum is back on the list for an F-14 that can be flown to us. The Museum is also on the lists for a T-34 trainer (prop) and a T-2 Buckeye (twin jet) trainer.

Your Museum is gaining credibility , and you all have much to be proud of. Please keep your support coming in the form of your membership dues, Dinner attendance, helping out on work parties and bringing visitors to your museum. You are needed to keep us on the growth and success track. ✈

ORAL HISTORY

We desperately some volunteers to take a video camera and/or cassette tape recorder and get oral histories from our WW II, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm vets. None of us are getting younger, and when we depart, our stories and history of events as we experienced them goes with us unless we can capture it on film and tape. This is a rewarding project and beneficial to the interviewer as well.

Please sign up today! Call Betty Miller at 466-1212 to volunteer. ✈

AILERON

"Aileron" - A movable surface near the trailing edge of an aircraft wing, used to control roll and to perform banks. - Websters College Dictionary -

Have you met "Aileron", our Museum mascot yet? She is hard to miss, especially when we have visitors! She is the very large, black cat that has adopted the Estrella Warbird Museum. She can usually be found over a gopher hole, in the Restoration Hangar, or wherever she can get her tummy rubbed or a friendly pat on the head.

Being a lady, she's not telling her age, but a guess would be 2-3 years old. Seems to be spayed, but we are hoping to get her to the vet for shots after Thanksgiving, and will do a thorough check. In the meantime, some of our animal loving members have been buying feed for her and checking her water every other day. She is a great cat and would love to find a family to give her love and attention. Aileron is great with kids (20 at a time!) not too crazy about dogs, and VERY friendly. If you can provide her a home, call John Kendall at 239-8029, or Betty Miller at 466-1212. If you can't take her but would like to bring a bag of cat food for her on a working Saturday or a Dinner meeting night please do so. Aileron would appreciate it! ✈

DOCENTS ENJOYING NEW SHIRTS

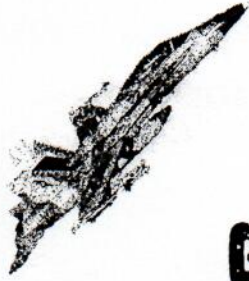
Thanks to the generosity of member Glen Thomson, the DOcents received new Museum Tees. Glen felt that a Docent should wear something to identify them as a Museum member and graciously donated a new navy colored tee shirt to each Docent. (If you are a Docent and did not get yours, please call Jackie Brooks at 462-8141. THANK YOU GLEN! ✈

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YOUR GIFT SHOP NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Due to the overwhelming response to our sale last month, we offer Gift Shop Pre-Holiday sale table —again— at the December 4th dinner meeting. As always, purchases can be made at the gift shop every Saturday 10-4 pm. and Sunday 12-3 pm.

Jackie Brooks, Manager

RESERVATION, RESERVATIONS, RESERVATIONS!

We must have a firm count for the December Dinner, since it will be a served meal, and we can only feed a set number. PLEASE call in to 227-0440 and when the message starts, press "1" and then leave your NAME, # in your party, and your PHONE NUMBER by Tuesday, December 3 at 9PM so we can serve everyone. This will be a special meal with great entertainment, and always has a high turnout, so your help in calling in an RSVP is appreciated!



On 5 November 2002 at Hollister Municipal Airport in California Ralph "Rufus" Davis fulfilled a dream by taking a flight in a **P-51 Mustang** called *Ridge Runner III*, owned and operated by Dan Martin of San Jose, California.

Dan took Rufus on a great ride. They flew out of Hollister airport and headed out through the Salinas valley to Monterey Bay. A few aileron and barrel rolls were followed by buzzing a grass strip in the Santa Cruz mountains. They returned to Hollister airport with a high speed pass and a sharp pull and turn up into the pattern ending in a smooth landing. A thrilling ride overall, fulfilling a dream for Rufus.



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EYE ON THE WORLD

We take you now to the Oval Office.



George: Condi! Nice to see you. What's happening?

George: The Chinaman!

Condi: No, sir.

George: Milk! Will you please make the call?

Condi: Sir, I have the report here about the new leader of China.

Condi: Hu is leading China.

George: Then who is?

Condi: And call who?

George: Great. Lay it on me.

George: Now whatcha asking me for?

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: Who is the guy at the U.N?

Condi: Hu is the new leader of China.

Condi: I'm telling you Hu is leading China.

George: Yassir?

Condi: Hu is the guy in China.

George: That's what I want to know.

George: Well, I'm asking you. Who is leading China?

Condi: No, sir.

George: Look, Condi. I need to know the name of the new leader of China! Get me the Secretary General of the U.N. on the phone.

George: Will you stay out of China?!

Condi: That's what I'm telling you.

Condi: That's the man's name.

Condi: Kofi?

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: That's what I'm asking you. Who is the new leader of China?

George: That's who's name?

George: No, thanks.

George: And stay out of the Middle East! Just get me the guy at the U.N.

Condi: Yes.

Condi: Yes.

Condi: You want Kofi?

Condi: Kofi.

George: I mean the fellow's name.

George: Will you or will you not tell me the name of the new leader of China?

George: No.

George: All right! With cream and two sugars. Now get on the phone.

Condi: Hu.

Condi: Yes, sir.

Condi: You don't want Kofi.

(Condi picks up the phone.)

George: The guy in China.

George: Yassir? Yassir Arafat is in China? I thought he was in the Middle East.


George: No. But now that you mention it, I could use a glass of milk... And then get me the U.N.

Condi: Rice, here.

Condi: Hu.

Condi: That's correct.

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: Rice? Good idea. And a couple of egg rolls, too. Maybe we should send some to the guy in China. And the Middle East. Can you get Chinese food in the Middle East? 

George: The new leader of China.

George: Then who is in China?

George: Not Yassir! The guy at the U.N.

Condi: Hu.

Condi: Yes, sir.

Condi: Kofi?

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