

# Estrella Warbird Museum

ESTRELLA SQUADRON NEWSLETTER

Volume XIV Number 5

Paso Robles, CA May 2003

## Museum Board

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Martin B. Wright

#### Honorary Advisory Board

The Hon. William P. Clark

Tom Bordonaro

## MUSEUM INFO

Phone: 227-0440 (Machine)

Sat & Sun 238-9317-Docent

website: [www.ewarbirds.org](http://www.ewarbirds.org)

## MUSEUM HOURS

**Saturday** 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Sunday** 12 noon to 3:00 pm

## Group Tours By Appointment

Monday thru Friday

466-1212



## May Dinner Meeting Speaker

*Joan Cox from Templeton. Joan was 12 years old when her father, a Navy Seebee, was killed in Vietnam. She will talk about growing up without a father as well as a most interesting story about some of the men who served under her father and survived. This will be a rewarding and interesting evening and everyone is urged to attend.*

## More Changes in the Museum!



Check out the newest additions to the Museum displays. We have added more cases and have more new items out for you to see. We hope to have our WW I Ambulance in place, and a complete WW I Officers uniform to go along with it! We are growing, and getting more visitors every weekend.

## May Meeting

Wednesday, May 7, 2003

Thomson Hall

Social Hour 6:00pm

Dinner 7:00pm



**OLE!**

Chef John & Crew are cooking up a "Mexican Fiesta" which will include various favorite Mexican Dishes.

\$10.00 per person

# RSVP

# Phone:

# 227-0440

Don't Forget!

Mother's Day

May 11

Memorial Day

May 26





**"USING YOUR PILOT TOOLBOX "** Why do smart pilots do dumb things? Do they fail to use their toolbox or fail to know of its contents? Learn what is in your PILOT TOOLBOX and how to use your pilot tools. This informative seminar will be provided by Jack Hocker, San Jose Aviation Safety Program Manager. **Tuesday, May 13, 2003** San Luis Obispo Veterans Hall 801 Grand Avenue San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 6:30 to 9:00 PM Reservations Not Required - Refreshments Served For More Information Contact Patrick Duncan at... [pduncan@vip.FlightAdventures.com](mailto:pduncan@vip.FlightAdventures.com)



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The Museum has been asked to sell sandwiches, ice tea and lemonade to participants in the International Aerobatic Competition (IAC) on May 5-6-7 (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) We will set up in the new Terminal from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. This is a great way to earn money for the Museum and meet some really neat folks! Call Betty at 466-1212 today!



**DUES DUE!**

If you haven't had time to send in your May 2003-May 2004 Dues yet, now is the time! Your participation means a great deal to keeping the Museum alive. We are making a lot of progress with new exhibits, aircraft, and static displays, but we need your support, both financial and physical! We have included a mail in form in this issue. Send yours in today! *Thank You.*

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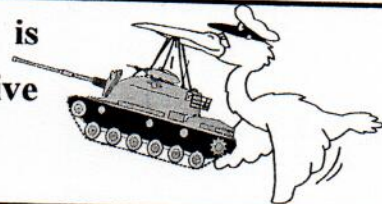
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"The Difficult We Do Daily, The Impossible Is Our Specialty!"

**No Cooking Classes in May**

The Italian cooking classes were a hit and we are working to schedule more in June and July. We will limit the number of participants to 15 so that folks can do more "hands on". Watch for the schedule & menu in the June Newsletter!

The M-60 Tank is scheduled to arrive by the end of May!



**Civic and Media Reception Update**

The Board of Directors held a reception for Civic and Media personalities on April 23. It was well received by all the attendees and will become an annual event to thank our many supporters in the community and media. Hors d'oeuvres were provided by the Board of Directors and some of our dedicated members. Tours were conducted by Docents Al Smith, Tom & Carol Weis, Gary Corippo as well as 2nd Vice President Al Schade and some of the other members of the Board.



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## Museum to Host IAC Banquet

The Museum will be hosting its' first banquet in Thomson Hall using the new kitchen equipment on Saturday, June 7th. The International Aerobatic Competition has rented the Hall and has arranged for us to cater the event. We hope this is the start to being able to raise funds with our wonderful facility.



## LOST!

Missing Sink (Not Link!) We have been informed that a very important item is missing from our inventory. Some time ago we purchased a used "hand washing" sink for the kitchen remodeling. It is a 12" x 15" stainless steel sink with no faucets or other fittings attached because Betty Miller took it apart and spent several hours cleaning off all the crud that had accumulated in it's past life! We need the sink to be "legal" as far as PHS folks are concerned. This type of sink is \$80.00 new, and we don't have the \$\$ to replace it. It was last seen in the main dining room with all the other sink items. If you have seen it or know where it got stored, please let Ed Chidlaw or Chuck Miller know ASAP! We really need it. Thanks.



## STAIRS ALMOST COMPLETE

The new stairs to the Research Library are almost complete. Once done and signed off by the City of Paso Robles, we will be finished with the construction on Thomson Hall! Thank you Gary Corippo and Gary Weldon for all your work on these important steps!

## NEW CARPETING

Those who are making contact with people and groups who might be interested in renting our facilities have reported that, while many are interested, a fair amount of comment has evolved around the rather shabby condition of the carpeting in Thomson Hall.

As you may remember, the carpet we have was a generous donation by our member Bob Weiss and his wife and came from a shop owned by them. It was an absolute godsend at the time when we were dead broke and in need of everything. Their donation really made the Hall presentable in the very beginning. Since then the carpet has seen a lot of traffic over the past several years and we are in dire need of new covering.

Thanks to the generosity of members Jackie and Ron Brooks, who have offered to donate 50% of the total cost for new carpet if others will volunteer to make up the balance, we have a chance to get this accomplished. Your donation of \$100, \$50, \$25 or whatever you can spare will enable us to get some good commercial grade carpet in a tweed pattern that won't show every cookie crumb and other unappetizing things as does the dark blue we presently have. Several members of our Board have already donated money to the "Carpet Fund". This will be a charitable donation for your 2003 taxes. Please contact Rosemary Netto and indicate how much you might be able to contribute. This will go a long way toward getting much needed rental funds from various groups and individuals.



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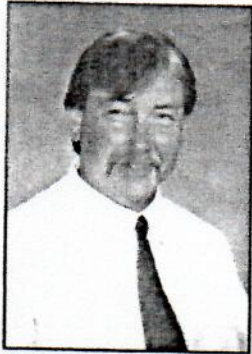
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**Elections for 2003-2004 Officers and Directors to be held.**

by Bruce Toomey, Editor

The terms of several Board members will expire at the end of June. The slate will be presented at the May 21st Board of Directors meeting and elections will be held at the June 18th Board Meeting.

The Nominating Committee is searching diligently for folks to fill these slots. As you know, for a number of years Board members have been chosen by the Board rather than by open elections. This is because our former open election method turned into an embarrassment for many who were nominated at dinner meetings by those who had never considered whether or not the individual wished to serve. In the past, nomination and election to the board was sometimes used to "reward" someone for meritorious service and again the actual wishes of the nominee were not considered or determined in advance.

This being said, the Board is MOST interested in hearing from any member who would like to serve. The Board is especially interested in getting newer members to serve as well as younger members who can carry on the business of the Museum after some of the antiques have gone on to the final reward. If you have an interest in serving please contact Obbie Atkinson (238-9212), Betty Miller (466-1212) or Bruce Toomey (238-9266), the latter being a representative of the membership at large and NOT a Board member, although he is included in the antiques category!

Also, contrary to the belief of some, the Board is NOT a closed group, it is NOT an elite group, but rather, a group dedicated to the betterment of YOUR Museum. The proof of which can be

seen on every weekend and many week days as they work on every facet of the Museum - from painting airplanes, improving the displays, to cleaning toilets, cutting grass, hanging doors and most of the other manual labor around the place. This is not to say they are alone because MANY members come out almost as often as the Board members but those who think the Board is composed of pontificating do-nothings are DEAD WRONG! So there, spoken by a non-Board member! (BT)

**AVIATION FLY -IN AND FLEA MARKET POSTPONED**

Our planned for activity scheduled for the end of May has been postponed for a number of reasons. With so many other community events going on for the month, it was decided that to try to put on a meaningful fly-in and flea market on short notice would not be in the best interests of the Museum. We want to have a first class operation when we do decide to get this up and running. The new schedule for the event will be in September, so save those items you were going to donate! More info will appear in later newsletters.

**Committee Chairs**

- Program: George Marrett 466-7640
- Dinners: John Himes 466-6680
- Membership: Obbie Atkinson 238-9212
- Grounds: John Kendall 239-8029
- City Liaison: Chuck Miller 466-1212
- Ground Equipment: Dave Geiger 239-1598
- Insurance: Brian Webster 237-0222
- Refreshments: Rosemary Netto 467-3521
- Kathy Neitz 467-3521
- Bob Miller 434-1594
- Photographer: Wally Engle 227-0245
- Newsletter Editor: Bruce Toomey 238-9266





## Star Life Membership

# The Lightning Flight

by Obbie Atkinson

"Star Life Membership" is off to a great start with seven members already signed up. This new level of membership was developed for several good reasons, all for the sustained growth of the Museum. It will be the primary source of our financial backing and offer permanent recognition for those that are in a financial position to advance our mission. It also offers an opportunity for permanent "Memorial" gifts, honoring deceased family members or distinguished veterans.

Star Life Membership represents the highest level of membership recognition, including paid membership for life. All previous levels of membership remain the same. By direction of the Board of Directors, the first fifty "Life Members" are now recognized as "Charter Life Members". Life Membership is again open for those who can participate at the level.

The "Lightning Flight" composed of "Star Life Members" works like this: "Lightning Flight" is limited to fifty members. Membership begins with a donation of \$1000.00 to the Estrella Warbird Museum, and the donor is awarded one star on a unique name badge. Each additional \$1000.00 gift will be recognized by an additional star, with "Five Star" membership as the highest level.

"Lightning Flight" Membership will be honored in the "Lightning Flight" display cabinet; a distinctive "Lightning Flight" name badge and a "Lightning Flight" membership certificate will be issued. Gifts of "Memorial Stars" may be added in the future to any member name. When "Lightning Flight" is complete with fifty members, a new "flight" will be named by your Board of Directors to sustain the Museums' future growth.

As an incentive to get "Lightning Flight" off to a fast start and to credit members for previous gifts, existing paid members are provided the opportunity to join "Lightning Flight" by paying the difference between their present membership level and the "Lightning Flight" level. This offer is being extended for a limited time and will not be available after October 31, 2003.

**Questions may be directed to "Lightning Flight" Chairman, Obbie Atkinson  
Phone: 238-9212.**



*If you would like additional copies of this newsletter, contact Bruce Toomey at 238-9266*



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# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

FIRST Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthdate: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Or Retired from: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please select type of membership:**

- Regular \$50.00/yr     Family \$75.00/yr     Sustaining \$100.00/yr  
 Patron \$200.00/yr     Life Member \$500.00



**STAR Member \* \$1000.00-\$5000.00**

\* For more information on the STAR Membership, please call  
Obbie Atkinson @ 805-238-9212

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose This Application and Your Check payable to: **ESTRELLA WARBIRD MUSEUM**  
and Mail to:

Estrella Warbird Museum Attention: Treasurer  
4251 Dry Creek Road Paso Robles, CA 93446



## Eagle Flight Flies Over Vietnam Wall

By Obbie Atkinson

The Estrella Warbird Museum "Eagle Flight" consisting of member pilots Obbie Atkinson, George Marrett, Bob Foote, Doug Erway and Obbie Atkinson, MD, gave the Museum an aerial presence at the very successful Vietnam Wall memorial program held in Atascadero recently.

The "Eagle Flight" Missing Man formation flyby roared "quietly" overhead at the 9:35 am appointed moment in the ceremony. The crowd of over 200 watched in silence and then clapped with emotion as a lone aircraft separated from the rest and "flew west"

Watch for them again on Memorial Day as they take our presence across the Ccentral Coast cemeteries.

For the Veterans, We'll be there!

*Obbie*

**Vol-un-teer n. adj., v**

**1. a person who voluntarily offers themselves for a service or undertaking**





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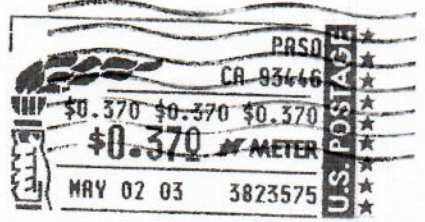
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**Sometimes...**

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**Estrella Warbird Museum**  
4251-A Dry Creek Road  
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**TO:**

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~~998 River Road~~  
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