

Museum Board

Executive Committee

President & CEO
Paul Clark

1st Vice President
Chuck Miller

2nd Vice President
Ed Chidlaw

Secretary
Jackie Brooks

Treasurer
Rosemary Netto

LB
Elizabeth Renton Miller

Board Members
Obbie Atkinson
Ron Brooks
Gary Corippo
John Cromwell
Fred Hahn
Dave Highland
Al Schade
Glen Thomson
Brian Webster
Tom Weiss
Conrad Martin

Advisory Board
RADM James M. (Mac)
Gleim USN Ret.
Martin Wright

Honorary Advisory Board
The Hon. William P. Clark
Tom Bordonero

Museum Info
Phone 227-0440

Answered by Machine
www.ewarbirds.org
FAX 238-9317

Can also be used to reach
personnel at Museum

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

Estrella Warbird Museum, Inc.

Estrella Warbird Museum *Newsletter*



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

Volume XV Number 5

Paso Robles, California

May 2004

May Meeting

The May Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 5, 2004 at Thomson Hall with Social Hour beginning at 6:00pm and Dinner at 7:00pm.

Chef John and our wonderful crew will be offering pork loin chops in scalloped corn with green beans and mashed potatoes

Reservations will be necessary as usual!

Call the Museum at 227-0440 or Betty Miller at 466-1212.

Our speaker for the evening will be Dorothy Moulton Rooney, a fabulous lady who learned to fly in 1937, became a WASP in 1943 and had the daunting task of doing maintenance test flying of aircraft after being serviced or otherwise worked on by military mechanics. Needless to say she had a number of emergency landings and other interesting happenings.

After the WASP program was closed down she was offered a job as an air traffic controller but chose another field of endeavor and finally retired as an Accident Analyst in San Bernadino.

In later years she joined the Ninety-Nines and is still a member. Dorothy's brief biography is reprinted on page 6.

This will be an interesting meeting based on a question and answer format

so there will be ample opportunity to ask questions from the floor.

Saturday Lunch Cooks Needed

Our program of providing a simple lunch for the volunteer workers on Saturday has resulted in a much greater turnout of workers. These are just simple meals, hot dogs and the like or maybe a stew or lasagna. We desperately need additional volunteers to cook a Saturday lunch since we cannot expect the regular dinner crew to take on this additional task. The food is provided by the Museum and volunteers will be walked through the use of the stove, etc. If we are unable to find folks willing to do this we may have to cut back to just twice a month instead of every Saturday. This would be a shame because we are getting a great response and many tasks are being accomplished by our volunteers who really appreciate a chance to take a break and not have to brown bag it. Call Betty Miller at 466-1212 if you are interested and can help. We will also be displaying a sign-up sheet in Thomson Hall similar to the one requesting Docent volunteers. Please give some thought to helping those others who are already giving of their time in preparing these simple meals. They are really making a difference.

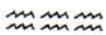
Additional Info

We would like to remind our members that these lunches are being provided

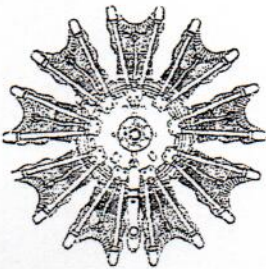
The Estrella Squadron Newsletter

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 btomey805@charter.net.



Final hand folding sealing and stamping of the newsletter as well as the cost of mailing is being paid for as a donation from Pete Johnston and his helpful crew at Pete Johnston Chevrolet Cadillac.



by the Museum at no cost to the Saturday volunteers who are actually working on projects on that day. If any other members wish to partake of these meals they are welcome do so but there will be a charge of \$7.00 for those who are just casually visiting the museum as well as visitors and/or guests.

Speaking of Volunteers

We would like to remind the members to be aware of those who are handling the numerous tours that are coming to and through the Museum. On April 21 a group from Sacramento was entertained at the Museum with an interesting program provided by Chuck Miller and new member, Lyle Warren, MD, who spoke about the group of Under-Age Veterans pertaining to those many young men who enlisted in the military during WWII when they were younger than 17 and some much younger. The program was very well received as was the delicious breakfast prepared by John and Mira Himes and Betty Miller. This was a "sit-down" meal served by Betty and Chuck Miller, Diane O'Conner and Jackie Brooks.

In addition to the above we also had two groups on Saturday including a 25 member Ford V8 club who were also treated to sandwiches made by Betty Miller and Dorothy McBain. This just in case you wondered what some of the Board Members do in their "spare time".

Still Looking For More Display Cabinets

The Museum Artifact Coordinators, Carol Weiss and Betty Miller are still looking for more display cabinets. If you know of any business that might be closing or moving, etc. let them know that they can contact the

Museum for a donation of excess cabinets and receive a tax credit for donating to a 501c corporation. The Coordinators have lots of artifacts and pictures that are in storage just waiting for room to expand.

Calendar of Events

A Listing of Meetings and Events of Interest to Museum Members and Airport Supporters

Meetings

Airport Advisory Committee Meetings
4th Thursday of each month.

Paso Robles City Council Meetings
1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month.

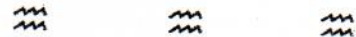
Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 465 Meetings
1st Thursday of each month.

Events

Ultralite Aircraft Chapter 93 Fly-in at the Museum May 14, 15 and 16.

Private Party at the Museum Saturday, May 22

(Museum Member Volunteers are asked to bring their own lunches on this day, the 22nd, and eat in the Museum or outside so that those leasing the facility can prepare for the party and decorate the dining room for their own use.)



Dues Due May 1

Another of our gentle reminders that Dues are due on May first. Dig deep troops because our dues are the foundation of our expenses for the year. By this time you have all received an invoice and it will be of great help if you send in your renewals as soon as you possibly can.

Committee Chairpersons

Program
George Marrett
466-7640

Dinners
John Himes
466-6680

Membership
Obbie Atkinson
238-9212

Gift Shop
Jackie Brooks
462-8141

Grounds
John Kendall
239-8029

City Liaison
Chuck Miller
466-1212

Ground Equipment
Dave Geiger
238-1598

Insurance
Brian Webster
237-0222

Refreshments
Rosemary Netto
467-3521
Cathy Neitz
Bob Miller

Decorating
Rosemary Netto
Judy Corippo

PIO..
Jim Pickens
783-2334

(e-mail) jpickens57@yahoo.com

Photo
Wally Engle
227-0245

Site Maintenance
Glen Thomson
238-4858

Newsletter Editor
Bruce Toomey
238-9266

Mail to: Rosemary Netto, 998 River Road, San miguel, CA 93451. Thank you!!

Plans For The Future

As was discussed to some extent in the last newsletter, plans for the additions to the present hangar are being thrashed out by several committees. The Building Committee composed of Ed Chidlaw, Chuck Miller, Glen Thomson and Gary Corippo met with an architect this week and

things are progressing nicely. The inside Display Committee and the Outside Grounds Committee are working diligently on plans for location of displays. We will also have a Fund Raising Committee and this will be empowered to locate an outside Fund Raising Group if this proves to be the way to go.

More information will be made available as time goes on so that the membership will be fully informed.

TRAVELTIME
Professional Travel Services

Judy Corippo
Travel Consultant
805-238-2090

Travel Service Representative

CST#2011760-10

183-B Niblick Road • Paso Robles, California 93446
Agency: 805-239-1700 • Fax: 805-238-2152
E-Mail: travelbug@tcsn.net • Web: www.tvtm.com

PETE JOHNSTON
CHEVROLET • PONTIAC • OLDSMOBILE
BUICK • Cadillac

verizon wireless
Authorized Agent

JOCELYN JOHNSTON-SLASON 2465 THEATRE DRIVE • BOX 607
805-238-7800 FASO ROBLES, CA 93446
805-543-3804 FJCPHONES@TCSN.NET

PETE JOHNSTON
24 HOUR TOWING & ROAD SERVICE

All Auto Clubs and Insurance Honored
Wheel Lift - Flat Bed - Commercial - RV

(805) 238-1535
1-800-549-1535

AAA MEMBERS CALL 1-800-400-4222
2485 Theatre Drive, Paso Robles, CA 93446

D.P. INDUSTRIES
AIRCRAFT HANGAR DOOR SPECIALISTS


OVER 26 YEARS EXPERIENCE
Aircraft Hangar, Air Filter,
Plenum, Blast, One Piece Partial
Canopy, Free Standing, and
Specialty Door Systems

(800) 411-8996
Web: www.dpindustries.com
Email: doors@dpindustries.com

Phone (805) 238-9011 Fax (805) 238-1917
"The Difficult We Do Daily, The Impossible Is Our Specialty!"


NATURAL HEALTH CARE FOR THE FAMILY

THE FAMILY • NATURAL HEALTH CARE FOR THE FAMILY



Dr. Martha
Chiropractor
(805) 434-0888

NATURAL HEALTH CARE FOR THE FAMILY



SONJIA JOHNSTON BAER
COMMERCIAL PILOT
FAA-CERTIFIED FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR

PRIMARY AND ADVANCED
MULTI-ENGINE
INSTRUMENT

(H) 805.434.3029
(VM) 805.550.3436

three oaks
real estate brokerage

office (805) 227-6010 fax (805) 239-9641
cell (805) 321-6571
email: rocky@tcsn.net web: jonjonos.com

Estrella Warbird Museum

Minutes of Board Meeting

April 21, 2004

Meeting opened at 5:10 p.m. by President Paul Clark. Others Directors present were: O. Atkinson, R. Brooks, J. Brooks, E. Chidlaw, G. Corippo, J. Cromwell, F. Hahn, D. Highland, C. Martin, B. Miller, C. Miller, R Netto, G. Thomson., B. Webster, T. Weiss. And Guest: ""Chef"" John Himes.

Minutes --MOTION: Glen Thomson moved to accept the March 17 minutes as received on e-mail. Second by: Obbie Atkinson. CARRIED.

MOTION: Conrad Martin moved we accept the March 30 Special Board minutes as received on e-mail. Second by: Glen Thomson. CARRIED.

Treasurer Report was handed out and reviewed.

MOTION: Conrad Martin moved to accept the Treasurer report as handed out at the meeting. Second by: D. Highland. CARRIED.

Committee Reports

Facility Rental : Betty Miller- Last Wednesday we cooked breakfast & had a tour for 43 people from Sacramento area. We also had a two groups on tour Saturday. 25 of early Ford V8 group, we made sandwiches for.

We need Tour Docents to help Wednesday, April 28 with the Sun City R.V.'rs. group.

Premises Clean-up: Fred Hahn reported things are pretty well finished here. We hope to clean Glen's unit this Saturday.

Kitchen Report: John Himes reported the Gas Co.'s inspection revealed a need to replace some parts in the stove. The work is in progress.

Ron Brooks reported the garbage disposal is complete. However, a sink trap is needed on the dishwasher, which will be installed this week.

Building Committee: Ed Chidlaw reported the committee met with the architect today and things are progressing nicely. A pretty full report is expected to be presented at the next meeting.

Nominating Committee: Obbie Atkinson reported the following people have agreed to be nominated to serve a three year term on the board for 2004-2005.

C. Miller; E. Chidlaw; J. Cromwell; B. Webster; P. Clark. If there are others interested they may give their names to Obbie at the May 5th dinner meeting. Nominations for Officers (of willing individuals) will be made from the floor at the May 19 Board Meeting. The board will hold Elections at the May 19th meeting.

Gary Corippo brought a price for parking lot Asphalt. **MOTION:** Glen Thomson moved we go ahead with this project. Second by Betty Miller. Discussion followed. **MOTION:** Ed Chidlaw moved to table this motion pending further bids, until the May meeting. CARRIED. There are 53 regular and 2 handicap spaces. Ample paint has been donated to finish the striping.

Discussion followed regarding the need to form a committee to design a general plan for the airplane display area, prior to oiling that area.

Old Business

Glen Thomson reported the new Estrella Warbird Museum sign for the back of the hanger has arrived. It was donated by Ellis Sign Co., is 42''x 4''. It is very attractive Blue with Gold letters. To be installed after the remodel is complete.

Old Business

Name Tiles will be ordered as we now have 26 names for the Buy-A-Block program.

City presentation regarding lease: Chuck Miller reported there will be an ADHOC meeting this week. It appears their recommendation will favor us in obtaining a lease on the 80' to the east of our current lease site from the City.

Gary Corippo reported Fire trucks are spoken for and should be removed in the near future.

It was the General consensus of the Board to accept Jackie Brooks recommendation to abandon the Juke Box Jive fundraiser this year.

Rack cards/Membership flyers--Obbie Atkinson showed the board the sample of our new flyers. Approval to order was given.

By general consensus, Fred Hahn was given permission to contact and interview a Fundraiser person for our Museum. Other recommendations were mentioned.

MOTION: Betty Miller moved we charge the EAA Fly-in group, \$20.00 per person for the steak dinner on May 15th at 6 p.m. A guarantee of 60 reservations by Thurs. 5/13 is necessary. Second by: Ed Chidlaw. CARRIED

MOTION: Glen Thomson moved we charge \$5.00 for Sunday morning pancake breakfast from 8 to 10 a.m. with 40 guaranteed.

Second by: Gary Corippo. CARRIED.

MOTION: Gary Corippo moved we set up ONE or MORE supervised concession stands for the EAA activity. Open Saturday, from 9 a. m. to 4 p.m.

Second by: Chuck Miller. CARRIED.

MOTION: Ed Chidlaw moved we order the 20' storage container for \$85.00 month as recommended by Chuck Miller, unless a better offer can be arranged. Second by: Dave Highland. CARRIED.

Conrad Martin will correct the problem on the library steps.

MOTION: Gary Corippo moved we approve Jackie Brooks to hire Key Termite and Pest Control at \$68.00 a quarter, for our Museum premises. Second by: Brian Webster. CARRIED.

Betty Miller presented Publicity costs for advertising information for our consideration. The cost is \$200 to \$300 per month. No decision was made.

The need for a coordinator for Saturday lunches was discussed. Jackie Brooks will make some contacts in hopes of filling the position. Conrad Martin is in charge of lunch this Saturday.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by, Jackie Brooks

Recording Secretary

PETE JOHNSTON
 
CHEVROLET *Quality*
MICHAEL T. SLASON
FLEET SALES / OPERATIONS MGR.
805-239-7800
m.slason@petejohnston.com
CELL (805) 458-2851 2405 THEATRE DRIVE • BOX 607
FAX 805-521-9038 PASO ROBLES, CA 93447
 

K. PAGE ROOFING INC.
Commercial & Residential
 
State License #C-35-783692
805-239-0583
PO Box 638 ~ Paso Robles, CA 93447

PROFILE

DOROTHY MOULTON ROONEY

Dorothy is a lady who does what she puts her mind to do. She decided that she wanted to go snorkeling in Tahiti for her eighty-fifth birthday, and that is just what she did. She loves to swim and snorkel and she loves to travel. What a great way to spend a birthday.

She grew up in Los Angeles. She always knew that she wanted to learn to fly an airplane, so as soon as she had a job after finishing high school, she headed out to Mines Field (now LAX). There was one hangar on the field and a flight school with two planes. Her log book documents her first flying lesson on November 12, 1937. She was the only woman taking lessons there at the time. When ever she could get enough money, she would go for a lesson. Much of her flight time was logged in increments of 15 minutes because that was all she could afford. For her first cross-country, she and her instructor flew to San Diego. She remembers wearing her white leather flight jacket and her a white leather helmet. There was no intercom in the tandem seated, open cockpit so they communicated by shouting over the engine noise.

When World War II broke out, general aviation was completely grounded within 150 mile of the west coast. Her brother had joined the military, and when she heard about the WASPs, she announced "That's what I'm going to do!" Her mother was all for it. It took a while for her father to finally come around. She did not have the requisite 35 hours of flying, so she sold her car and went to Reno, Nevada to complete her required time. Then she waited. She stayed in a boarding house with some other young women aspiring to fly for their country. And she waited. Finally she went back home and started working at Lane Wells, a bathing suit company that had converted to making depth charges.

Finally in October, 1943, she got the call, packed her bags and hopped on the train to Sweet water, Texas. It was an intensive program. They were up early every morning, taking classes and flying every minute of the day. She was the first in her class to solo. She loved flying the AT-6. There was tremendous pressure to do well, and the program was exhausting. They had fun too and lots of good times. They logged many hours flying, and she loved the acrobatics. There was always the pending threat of being "washed out" and there was sense of common cause among the women. They wanted to opportunity to serve their country. It would be humiliating to be sent home, though many were. Of the 100 women who started in her class, 57 completed the program to graduate in the class of 44-W3.

After graduation, Dorothy was assigned to Williams Air Force Base in Mesa, Arizona, to do maintenance test flying. When she arrived at the base, she reported to the commanding officer who announced to her "Of course you won't fly here". The WASPs were a civilian program and the commanding officer did not like them at all. She paid him no mind. She knew what needed to be done, and the next morning, she went down to the maintenance hangar and signed up to take the next plane up. There were 8 or 9 WASPs stationed there when Dorothy arrived, and she was impressed with the uniforms that had been put together for them. Their caps had officers insignia. It took her a while to get used to the enlisted men saluting her as she walked across the base since she had not had any formal military training. She and the other WASPs stayed in the nurses' quarters as there was no other suitable place for them to stay. Her responsibility was to take the planes up after they had been serviced or repaired. She had many emergency landings. The mechanics were not as careful as they might have been. Things got better though, after she took one of the chief mechanics up for a ride, and the throttle portion of the instrument panel fell off while they were flying. After that she felt like he knew first hand the consequences of his staff's workmanship and kept a better eye on their work. She put in 15 months flying at Williams and logged almost 500 hours of flying time. She actually had lunch with Jackie Cockran one day when Jackie was touring bases where WASPs were assigned.

When the WASP program was closed down, Dorothy was offered a job as an air traffic controller. She started as a trainee, but she did not like the hours. She took a lower paying job as a clerk-typist, and over the next 20 years worked her way up to GS12, and when she retired she was an Accident Analyst in San Bernadino.

After the war, Dorothy joined a flying club for several years but then her life went in other directions, and she did not fly again until she had moved to Los Osos. Her brother lived in this area and she would come to visit and finally moved here herself. She knew this world be a beautiful place to fly so, at age 75, she started taking lessons flying with Elizabeth Dinan. Elizabeth got her started with The Ninety-Nines, and she is still a member.

A couple of years ago, she had brain surgery for an aneurysm and lost part of her vision, so she quit driving and flying. It does not seem to have stopped her from doing anything else. She swims regularly and travels extensively. She lives on the water in Los Osos with her friend, Liz Blake, and loves to be out on the water in one of her boats. She has a kayak, a canoe and a sailboat.

She is still doing what she puts her mind to!

DOCENT SCHEDULE

MAY 2004

Saturday, 1 May
MINER,10- 1pm
SMITH,.....1- 4pm

Sunday, 2 May
SMITH,.....12 - 3pm

Saturday, 8 May
DICKY,.....10 -1pm
HERMANSEN,..1 - 4pm

Sunday, 9 May
TOOMEY,.....12 - 3pm

Saturday, 15 May
BLOOMQUIST, ..10 - 1pm
WEISS,.....1- 4pm

Sunday, 16 May
PASSON,..... 12 - 3pm

Saturday, 22 May
DICKY,.....10 - 1pm
SMITH,1 - 4pm

Sunday, 23 May
CORIPPO

Saturday, 29 May
MINER,.....10 - 1pm
HERMANSEN,.. 1 - 4pm

Sunday 30 May
BROOKS/HOLZER,...12 - 1pm

JUNE 2004

Saturday, 5 June
SMITH,10 - 1pm
SMITH,1 - 4pm

Sunday, 6 June
PASSON, 12 - 30m

Saturday, 12 June
DICKY,10 - 1pm
MINER,.....1 - 4pm

Sunday, 13 June
WEISS,.....12 - 3pm

Saturday, 19 June
BLOOMQUIST,....10 - 1pm
HERMANSEN,1 - 4pm

Sunday, 20 June
BROOKS/HOLZER,... 12 - 3pm

Saturday, 26 June
DICKY,10 - 1pm
TOOMEY,1 - 4pm

Sunday, 27 June
CORIPPO,...12 - 3pm

• Phone / TV
• Full Hook-ups
• Pull Throughs
• Pool / Spa
• Store / Laundry / Arcade
• Clubhouse with Kitchen
• Group / Club Rates

For reservations call (805) 237-0666
Ken & Bill Munde: Owners / Operators
2500 Airport Rd. • Paso Robles, CA 93446
www.winecountryresort.com
Email: wvrv@csn.net

N ↑
HWY 48 EAST
AIRPORT RD.

BRAMAR ASSOCIATES
Insurance Services, Inc.

AVIATION INSURANCE

Brian Webster
2135 Golden Hill Road
Paso Robles, CA 93446
Lic. #0A91048

Tel: (805) 237-0666
Fax: (805) 237-0690
E-mail: iwebster@csn.net