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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 10

Paso Robles, California

October 2004

October Meeting

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

Chef John and the Museum Gourmet Group will provide us with a delicious Chicken Parmagiana which will undoubtedly be up to their usual standard of excellence.

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 none other than our own George Marrett who will be following up the success of his last book, "Cheating Death", about his experiences in Vietnam, with a new one entitled, "Howard Hughes, Aviator", which he will review at the meeting

We quote below from a press release regarding the new book..

"A test pilot for Howard Hughes separates fact from fiction to tell an insider's story of the aviation genius who set speed records in the 1930s and went on to develop some of America's most famous aircraft and

weapons. George Marrett tested forty different military aircraft and his personal draws on experiences and those of other confidants to take readers inside Hughes's complex world - a world that kept its secrets for nearly six decades. Both a gifted story teller and an expert in the field of the author integrates aviation. stories of Hughes the ace pilot with Hughes the designer, who insisted on test flying every plane he built, and Hughes the business man, who became America's first billionaire.

Through revealing, humorous and sometimes tragic stories, Marrett succeeds in providing a full picture of the elusive Hughes despite his instance on working in secrecy. The author recounts the scores of aircraft Hughes purchased, borrowed, sometimes flew and then stored all over the country, and he provides details of the top secret airfield that Hughes owned at Culver City, just a few miles from the Los Angeles airport. Offering a narrative as exciting as its subject, Marrett begins in the 1920s when Hughes learned to fly at the Santa Monica airport, continues into the 1940s with his famous flight of the Spruce Goose, follows into the post World War II era and the invention of airborne radar at the Hughes Aircraft Company and then moves into the 1960s and 70s at the

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 btoomey805@charter.net.

mmm

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

Culver City Airport where Marrett tested weapon systems that are still in use by the U.S. military

The publication of this book precedes the December release of a movie about Hughes directed by Martin Scorsese and starring Leonardo DiCaprio.

George J. Marrett flew 188 combat missions in Southeast Asia for the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War and later worked 20 years as a test pilot for the Hughes Aircraft Company. He now lives in Atascadero, California."

This will be an unusually and extremely interesting meeting so try to be there!!

Notes from the Prez...

Dear Fellow Members and Friends.

Where did the summer go? It seems like just yesterday it was June and Hot! Now it is almost October and still hot most days.

Well, the weather hasn't changed much but the Museum keeps-on-a-changin', and all for the better I might add. I believe I said in last month's newsletter that all that was needed on the kitchen wall was a little taping and texturing. One of our new members, Bob Kelly, came forth and said he had a little experience at that type of work, and lo and behold, when he finished it was impossible le to tell that there was ever an opening between the Hall and the kitchen!!

Not to be outdone, Ed Chidlaw of the "Fred & Ed Team" decided to build and hang cabinets on the kitchen side of the wall. It is a very impressive and professional job. As a consequence, my wife, Betty, says I should do something worthwhile as well-like replace <u>our</u>

kitchen cabinets! I'm afraid she is out of luck because both Fred and Ed tell me they don't hire out

A lot of projects have been completed during September with a lot of hard work from our dedicated volunteers. I know the entire membership joins me in thanking you all.

Many of our "hard core" volunteers decided that a little fun was in order and 21 folks went back to the Smithsonian Air and Space

Museum (including the new wing in Washington, D.C. and many of the other historical sights in the area. Hopefully we can get one or two of them to participate in an upcoming program to tell us about their fabulous trip and adventures.

I am very sorry that Betty, Dorothy McBain and I will miss the October 6th Dinner Meeting. We will be in San Francisco putting Betty on a flight to New York. (She's headed back to her Godson's wedding in Connecticut. We three will look forward to seeing you all in November. In the meantime, I will leave the October 6th Meeting in the capable hands of First Vice President, Fred Hahn.

Chuck Miller

Museum Hosts Main Street Event

This and next two articles by Betty Miller

After the December 22nd, 2004 earthquake, the Board of Directors voted to offer the use of Thomson Hall to the members of the Paso Robles Main Street Association for an event. Almost all of the downtown merchants of Paso Robles were affected by the disaster and it was felt that since the Museum has had much support for our past events from those fine folks it was fitting to reciprocate. Norma Moye, the Executive Director, asked to hold the 2004 Installation of Officers and Board members at Thomson Hall. Accordingly, on Monday September 13th Thomson Hall was transformed into an "Academy Awards" event. Main Street asked us to provide 140 meals_which brought in some much needed dollars.

Committee Chairpersons

Program George Marrett 466-7640

> <u>Dinners</u> 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
467-2158
Bob Miller
434-1594

Decorating Rosemary Netto Judy Corippo 238-2090

> PIO. Fred Hahn 464-0863

Photo Wally Engle 227-0245

Site Maintenance Glen Thomson 238-4858

Aircraft Acquisitions
Gary Corippo
238-2090

Because of the hard work of John Himes, Jackie Brooks and Ron Brooks acting as chefs, a wonderful spaghetti dinner with all the fixin's was provided. The downtown merchants are still raving about their meal!

The Oak Park Youth Program provided tux-clad servers who were overseen by Paul Sacks, Carol Weiss Tom Weiss, Linda Hermansen, Arnold Hermansen and Gary Corippo.

Dorothy McBain sold drink tickets while Rosemary Netto, Chuck Miller, Cathy Nietz and Rosalie Joyce capably handled the bar.

Betty Miller was drafted by Norma Moye to perform as the featured singer and to MC the event as well.

Please take a moment to thank these folks for their hard work to help bring in money that pays our utilities and the lease payment to the city.

Mercedes Benz Auto Club Visits

On Saturday September 18, thirty members of the Mercedes Benz Club from Morro Bay visited the Museum for a guided tour of the Museum. They were served Chef Salads created by Rosalie Joyce, Fred Hahn, Dorothy McBain, Carol Weiss and Tom Weiss. Our servers, using our new busing carts were Tom Weiss and Betty Miller The group enjoyed their visit and were most generous in their Gift Shop purchases and Donations.

Upcoming Events

Although the Museum will no longer be catering events (see Board Minutes of 9/15/04 we will be renting out our facilities to generate an income for the Museum. The decision to no longer cater was based on the fact that some 10 to 12 volunteers were working 5 to 10 hour shifts three or more times a month, in addition to volunteering as Docents. and restoration maintenance workers.

To keep you up to date on what events are coming up here is our current Museum calendar:

Sunday, October 17, 3pm Birthday Party and Tour for 10 eight year olds . (Betty Miller and Carol Weiss, Docents.)

Thursday, November 4, 3pm to 10pm, San Luis Obispo County Contractors Association. Catered by Odette Howard.

Friday, November 19, 12 noon, Paso Robles Women In Business. Privately catered.

Additional Information

Meetings

Estrella Warbird Museum monthly Dinner Meeting 1st Wednesday of every month.

Airport Advisory Committee Meeting 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.

Docent Schedule October 2004

Saturday Oct 2 Dick Blomquist 10am - 1pm Ruth Dickey 1pm - 4pm

Sunday Oct 3 Tom Weiss 12n - 3pm

Saturday Oct 9 Doug Miner 10am - 1pm Arnold Hermansen 1pm - 4pm

Sunday Oct 10 OPEN

Saturday Oct 16 Ruth Dickey 10am - 1pm Tom Weiss 1pm - 4pm

Sunday Oct 17 Ray Passon 12n - 3pm

Saturday Oct 23 Dick Blomquist 10am - 1pm Bruce Toomey 1pm - 4pm

Sunday Oct 24 Gary Corippo 12n - 3pm

Saturday Oct 30 Arnold Hermansen 10am - 1pm John Whitworth 1pm - 4pm Docents and phone numbers: Dick Blomquist 227-0362 Gary Corippo 238-2090 Ruth Dickey 239-8242 Jackie Brooks 462-8141 Norma Holzer 461-5186 Linda & Arnold Hermansen 467-5186 Doug Miner 239-1054 Ray Passon 466-7234 Bruce Toomey 238-9266 Tom & Carol Weiss 239-2637 John Whitworth 772-0847

Estrella Wardbird Museum Minutes of Board Meeting

September 15, 2004

Meeting opened at 5:00 p.m. by President Chuck Miller. Others Directors present wer O. Atkinson, R. Brooks, J. Brooks, E. Chidlaw, G. Corippo, J. Cromwell, F. Hahn, B. Miller, R. Netto, A. Schade, G. Thomson, T. Weiss.

Minutes: MOTION: Ed Chidlaw moved to approve the minutes received on e-mail, for August 18, 2004. Second by: Glen Thomson. CARRIED.

Treasurer Report: was handed out and reviewed.

MOTION: John Cromwell moved to accept the Treasurer report. Second by: Paul Clark. CARRIED

MOTION: Ed Chidlaw moved we purchase 2 kitchen "buss" Carts from the general account. Second by: Gary Corippo. CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Facility Projects -Ed Chidlaw reported 13 items have been finished. There are still 17 more, on the list to be completed. BBQ Roof, materials are ordered. Slats for chain link fence & gravel to skirt the fence are due this month.

Committee consisting of Ron Brooks, Glen Thomson & Ed Chidlaw will research & bring final ideas for completing the <u>Patio & Patio Cover</u>.

The committee to finalize <u>spotting & tie down</u> of Airplanes consisting of Betty Miller, Chairman; John Cromwell, & Gary Corippo will meet.

Facility Reutal reported by Betty Miller Chemron rental check received. Mercedes Bacar Club is Sept. 18. We need 2 more people to help prepare & serve lunch.

MOTION: Ed Chidlaw moved that in the future, we no longer prepare, provide nor serve meals for groups who rent the facility. Second by: Al Schade. CARRIED Gift Shop Jackie Brooks reported we took in \$578.00 at Airport Days Sept. 11. Replacement stock is on order and will be here for October 2.

Obbie Atkinson reported we need people for October 2 to meet & greet 30 + c; club members that will be touring the museum.

Membership Obbic reported our records show 22 new members in the last 6 months. However, we need to get active with a PIO and get the publicity moving. MOTION: Obbic Atkinson moved we appoint Fred Hahn as our new PIO. Second by: Glen Thomson. CARRIED. MOTION: Rosemary Netto move we drop13 unpaid members from the membership list.. Second by Obbic Atkinson. CARRIED

Restoration reported by Al Schade -#1the F-4 is progressing and ready to paint.

#2 The BD-5 needs to be properly assembled to preserve it shown intact.

City Lease Negotiation on Additional Land

MOTION: Ed Chidlaw moved we authorize Chuck Miller to contact engineer and ask them to put drawings together for us. Second by Gary Corippo CARRIED. Committee for new building and layout of airplanes, consists of: Conrad Martin Gary Corippo and Glen Thomson. Report back to the board next month.

Discussion regarding Our American Flag. John Cromwell gave us a catalogue from which we can order custom or American flags from.

OLD BUSINESS:

Adopt A Poll Jackie Brooks reported we will man a polling place for the November: election. The location is again at Grace Baptist Church in Paso Robles. Those who signed up to work will be given information, by the October Dinner meeting.

Washington Trip a Great Success

According to sketchy reports received by your Editor, the trip by 21 members and friends to the Smithsonian in Washington was most enjoyable. As Chuck Miller said in his column, we hope to get a lot more information during a future program. Evidently most of the male members were taken to some of the storage facilities outside of the Museum which are places that not everyone gets to see.

The gals, most of whom are not all that interested in grease and old aircraft parts were treated to other entertainments so a good time was had by all. A list of those who went on the trip is shown below:

Paul & Karen Baum (Friends of the Chidlaws) Ron and Jackie Brooks Rich & Jean Campbell (friends of the Brooks) Ed and Emily Chidlaw Gary and Judy Corippo Doug Miner Jean Coulson (friend of Doug Miner) Al & Bobbie Schade Glen & Betsy Thomson Forrest & Marilyn Johnson and

You might pin down some of these people and find out what went on. A lot of fun and a great idea for a Museum get-to-gether.

(friend of the

Arliss Johnson Fred Hahn

Corippos

Connie Turnbow

Miscellaneous Unfinished Kitchen items. 1—Betty Miller showed photos of needed repairs. The installation of Door Sweeps on the kitchen doors is top priority.

2--Discussion regarding the need of a "Building Monitor" a person to be in charge when the facility is rented.

MOTION: Fred Hahn moved we work with the city of Paso Robles to put an aircraft o display in front of the Terminal. Rotating as we choose. Second by: Obbie Atkinson. CARRIED.

Meeting closed 7:18 p.m.

Submitted by, Jackie Brooks Recording Secretary

NEW ARRIVAL AT ESTRELLA WARBIRD MUSEUM

For those of you who are 007 fans ("Bond, James Bond") you will instantly recognize the Museum's newest aircraft, the Bede BD-5B, as the same jet that Bond (played by Roger Moore- in "Octopussy") performs aerobatics in and even flies through a hangar to escape from evil forces. The Bede BD-5B was recently donated to the Estrella Warbird Museum by John Graves, President of Greater California Financial Services. The aircraft was one of the aircraft used in the picture and eventually found its way to Paso Robles. The BD-5B was designed by James Bede as a kit to built by a home builder. In 2002 about 150 were flying, and the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum has one that was donated in 1984.



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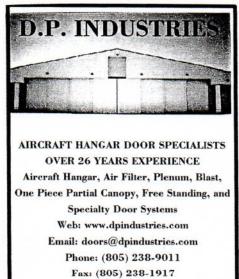
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