

Estrella Warbird Museum Newsletter --October 2005

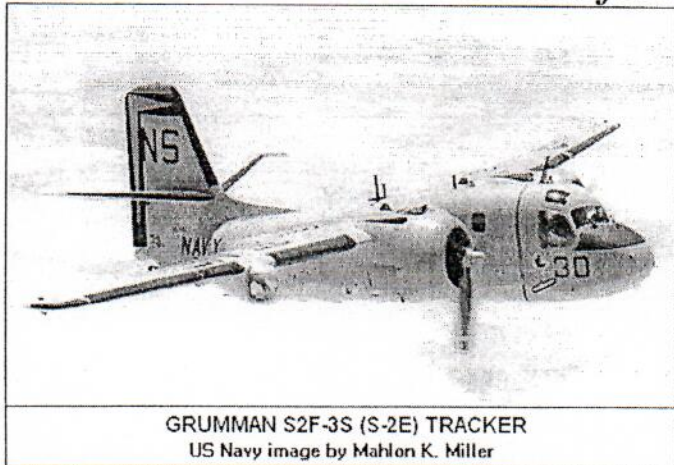
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CDF Grumman S-2F tankers flown by 5'1" lady pilot



GRUMMAN S2F-3S (S-2E) TRACKER
US Navy image by Mahlon K. Miller

CDF Grumman S-2F tankers flown by 5'1" lady pilot

Speaker for Oct 5th is Ann Le Bris. She is one of two female pilots statewide contracted to fly California Department of Forestry (CDF) tankers. Thirty-seven year old Ann grew up in rural France. She didn't intend to come to the United States. She tried to get into the French Navy to fly planes but being 5-foot, 1-inch tall, she was not accepted because she was too short.

Six years ago she applied to the CDF, was accepted and now flies the Grumman S-2F.

Another goal is to eventually fly humanitarian missions in Africa.

"I like the idea of fighting fires, it is useful, it's like going to war except everyone wants you to win."

Fellow CDF tanker pilot Chuck Lees: "In this business you get respect by how good a pilot you are and how well you get along with other people. ...She's probably one of the best."

Reservations, Please -- October Dinner

Due to the popularity of our speaker we have already had a group of 32 people book reservations for this dinner. To ensure that we have enough food for all who wish to attend, it is **STRONGLY** suggested that you call 466-1212 to make your reservations **TODAY!** Unfortunately we still have members who don't call and just show up. We love to have your company, but we want you to be able to enjoy a meal as well. Remember we can only seat 125 comfortably. Please RSVP!

October 5 Menu

Barbecue Chicken

Mashed potatoes/Gravy

Green Peas

Green Salad

Garlic Bread

Desert

17
3

14
2

12



The Prez Sez.....

Looking out my window I see Summer seems to have gone and Fall is fast on it's heels. It is hard to believe that time has passed so quickly!

The Museum has progressed quite well. It is very impressive to see so many enthusiastic volunteers working so hard on so many projects on Saturdays. Folks like these are what makes the Museum grow and flourish. Thank you all for seeing a need and taking care of it.

I don't want to slight some of our other volunteers that may not be around on Saturday's but are working hard during the week to do necessary work around the Museum...these are folks such as Obbie Atkinson, our Membership Chairman; Rosemary Netto who not only takes care of being the Treasurer but does double duty as our Bar Manager as well; Jackie Brooks who is the Gift Shop Manager, a Docent and also Secretary for the Board; Carol Weiss who does all our framing of our valued photos, posters and paintings and still finds time to be a Docent for both Special Group Tours and on weekends; Ed Chidlaw who is our Budget Chairman and does concrete work, and anything else that requires a skilled carpenter; Gary Corippo who

A Note from the Prez...

From President Charles Miller

not only is our Acquisition Officer (read scrounger!), but is our Fund Raising Chairman and always sees the weeds to be pulled and rocks to be raked. Then there is my lovely wife of 33 years (as of 23 September) who seems to be everywhere when the need arises as well as setting up and handling our Groups. John Himes takes care of ensuring that provisions are on hand to feed the Saturday Volunteers and turns out our great meals for our Monthly Dinners and our Banquets. Gary Ryan of Goofy Graphics creates our insignia for our restored aircraft and did our new sign on Hwy 46 East. These are just a few of the volunteers who work behind the scenes to make it all happen.

There are many exciting activities coming up in October. On September 29, 30 and October 1 we will be hosting the First Annual T-28 and L-39 Formation Training Fly-In. We expect about 16 T-28's and 6 L-39's to attend this event. You are all welcome to come out and see them. Pioneer Day is Saturday October 8 and we will have several of our vehicles in it as well as members of Eagle Flight overhead. Also on October 8th, there will be a Memorial BBQ honoring our late member Fred Leballister (Bear Signs) at the park in San Miguel at noon. Fred and his wife Bobbie donated time and materials to rig out the Bede 5 in it's original James Bond paint scheme as well as our magnetic signs for our Parade vehicles.

Saturday, October 15 is Colony Days in Atascadero and again we will be represented with our vehicles in that parade.

In November some of our volunteers will be manning a Voting Precinct in Paso Robles to earn \$425.00+ for the Museum.

Member Wayne Rice is organizing a Golf Tournament as a Museum Fund Raiser set for May 8, 2006. He is in need for volunteers to help out (you do not need to be a golfer) More on that at our Dinner.

George Taylor has set up our second CPR/AED Defibrillator Class and is taking names for the third one as well. This 4 hour class could save the life of a family member or a friend and is something you should take time to learn.

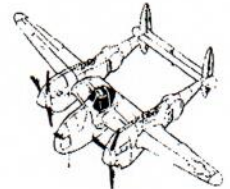
I am looking forward to seeing you all at our October Oct 5 Dinner Meeting.

Chuck Miller

Received dues:

John and Margaret Ybara
Paso Robles, Cal. 93446

Grant Family
Shandon, Ca. 93461



New Members:

Virginia Cameron (wife of Tommy - deceased)
Paso Robles, Ca. 93446
Sponsor: Gary Corippo

Kerry Langford (wife Cheryl)
Oceano, Ca. 93445
Glen and Joy Gibson
Paso Robles, Ca. 93446 (Family)

Chuck & Jill Keezer
Atascadero, Ca. 93422
Occupation: Irrigation Tech.

Jim and Lynn Moody (actually a renew for Jim)
San Miguel, Ca. 93451
Occupation: Rancher

Address changes

Jim Cone New address
Fred Hahn change of address

Deceased member:

Fred LeBallister is deceased. Leave Bobbie as they paid for family membership in Jan. '05.

Docent Orientation

Come and learn a job that is easy & fun. One that helps the Museum in a special way.

Contact Tom Weiss for Docent information: 239-2637

BOTH new Docent and Gift Shop volunteer orientation -- will be in October.

"The Gift Shop is looking for **Flat PANEL**

Monitor any size even B & W.

("Thank you"-- to the person who brought us a flat screen monitor on Sat 9/03)



Museum Musings

By Betty Miller

We will be reorganizing the Museum Hangar on Monday, October 10 at 8:30 am. If you can help out on Monday the 10th, call Betty at 466-1212. The Gift Shop will be moving into the area currently used for the Link Trainer to allow them more space for all of the great things that Gift Shop Manager Jackie Brooks has ordered. As you know the Gift shop is one of our main sources of revenue. If you haven't check out the stock, be sure you do after the 10th!

The shift of spaces requires many of our existing displays to be moved into new areas. We will need some folks to offer to temporarily house some of items that will no longer be able to fit. You will only have to store an item until the new Museum is finished. At that time these will be moved back into the Hangar. Some items that need a temporary home are:

1. Huey jet engine on stand
2. Small jet engine on stand
3. Wooden ammo (empty) boxes
4. Small WW II generator
5. Ejection Seats(2) unarmed
6. Chinese antiaircraft gun

Again, call Betty at 466-1212 if you can store one or two of these items.

We continue to receive some great items for display. At the moment we are looking for black and brown leather mens shoes for our mannequins. We need ladies shoes in black or brown in the 1940's style-both dress and walking.

If you have any womens' military uniforms we would love to have you donate them. We are also looking for dresses-evening or daytime dresses of the 1940's.

Also if you have a 1930's-1940's type radio(plug in or battery type) or record player, we need one for a display. This could be a reproduction type or original. (No 1960's record players please!)

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HK1 - aka "Spruce Goos"

History Channel taps George Merritt for October 4 program: "Howard Hughes and the Spruce Goose"

I've just been notified that my appearance on the History Channel will be aired on Tuesday, October 4th. The series is titled: "Man, Moment and Machine" and I will be on the program: *Howard Hughes and the Spruce Goose*.

Program airs at 10 pm Eastern.

Also I just signed a book contract for a manuscript about my 20 years as a test pilot for Hughes Aircraft Company. Final manuscript is due to the publisher on October 15th with a book release date of May or June 2006.

George jmarrett@tcsn.net

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for Reservations

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T-28 Trojans and L-39 Aircraft visit Warbird Museum

Thursday afternoon, September 29 and Friday morning, September 30 saw the arrival of sixteen T-28 Trojan aircraft built by North American and six or seven L-39 Albatros built by Aero, a Czechoslovakian company, for

a three day formation flying seminar.

The T-28 Trojan was designed in 1949 to replace the AT-6 Texan for all branches of the military. The Trojan was the heaviest and most powerful piston-engine trainer ever projected for primary training. It was also the first U.S. military trainer to have a tricycle gear.

The first production, as **T-28A**, numbered 1,194 planes, then the Navy got their **T-28B** in 1952, having a more powerful engine to replace the 800hp Wright R-1300, and a two-part canopy, plus structural modifications for duty aboard carriers. For counter-insurgency combat, Trojan was again revised, this time as the single-seat **T-28D**, with armament and rocket-launchers.

The L-39 Albatros is an Eastern European built single jet engine light attack aircraft and trainer that entered service with the Czech air force in 1971.

Used as a trainer, most L-39 aircraft are powered by a Lvchenko AI-25TL turboprop jet engine. This aircraft can climb at a rate of 4,920 feet per minute at sea level and can reach a max speed of over 540 m.p.h. at 16,500 feet.

Since the end of the Cold War and the break up of the Eastern Bloc, a number of these aircraft from the former Warsaw Pact and its allies have found their way into private hands in the West.

The aircraft began their flying from the Estrella Warbird Museum in the mornings. The Museum was open to the public on Friday, September 30, Saturday, October 1 and Sunday October 2.

The Estrella Warbird Museum is located at the southern end of the Paso Robles Regional Airport at 4251 Dry Creek Road. Call 466-1212 for more information.

"The Gift Shop needs YOUR help"

We are expanding and need people to "man" the gift shop and greet people.

This will allow the Docent on duty, to be free to conduct tours of the museum.

This is a fun job where you meet interesting folks. Your time will be structured to meet *your* need, during the hours of

10 am to 4pm Saturdays & Noon to 3 pm on Sundays.

I need to hear from you by the October 6th dinner meeting.

Orientation will be in conjunction with the Docents in October.

Thanks for your help. Jackie Brooks at 462-8141.

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Jackie hunting for volunteers to work as Welcoming committee and serve in the Gift Shop.

Please contact me at: 462-8141 for details.

If you have anything you think might be appropriate for the Museum, please give Betty Miller (466-1212) or Carol Weiss (239-2637) a call prior to bringing the item out.

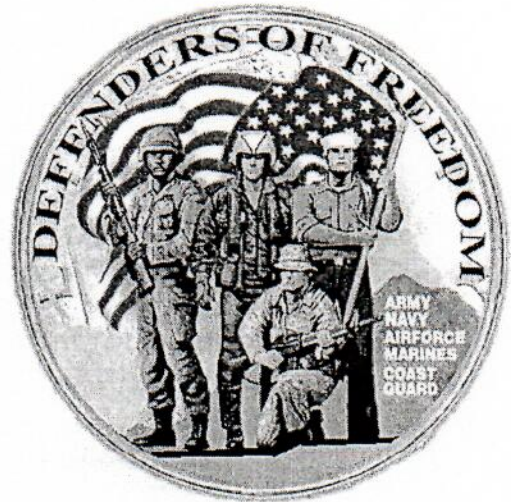
Happy October!

Sunshine committee

Judy Corippo is our Sunshine Chairman, so please let her know of anyone who we could/should call or send a card to.

Either e-mail to travelbugg@charter.net

OR phone Judy at: 238-2090



Work November Special Election?

Museum Members to Work November Special Election

We will once again staff a precinct for the November 8, 2005 Special Election. This enables the Museum to earn \$425.00 for "manning the polls". Jackie Brooks is the coordinator and Betty Miller will be the Precinct Supervisor. The following members have volunteered to work the polls:

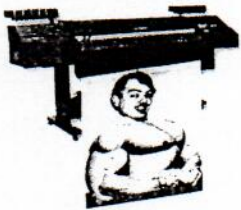
Jackie Brooks, Gary Corippo, Judy Corippo, Ruth Dickey, Betty Gabele, Bob Kelly, Rob Kinnear, Chuck Miller, Betty Miller, Rosemary Netto, Don Peckinpaugh, Charmaine Peckinpaugh, Frank Ragland, Noreen Ragland, Clark Scott, Glen Thomson and Carol Weiss.

Please take time to thank these folks for helping the community AND earning some money for the Museum!

Bases Voted for Realignment:
 Texas - Red River Army Depot
 Virginia - NAS Oceana (moving the Fleet Atlantic Master Jet Base to FL)
 Bases Voted to Close:
 California - Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment in Concord,
 Navy Broadway Facility in San Diego,
 Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant

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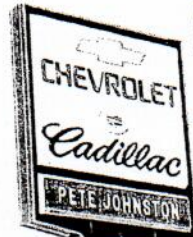
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 7600 Santa Cruz Road • Atascadero, CA 93422

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Estrella Warbird Museum - Commitees:

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- Aircraft Acquisitions - Gary Corippo
- Automobile Acquisitions - Gary Corippo
- Aircraft Maintenance - Al Schade
- Artifacts/Museum Exhibit Hall - Betty Miller and Carol Weiss
- Bar - Rosemary Netto
- Building Maintenance - Ron Brooks
- Budget Coordinator - Ed Chidlaw
- Concrete Construction - Glen Thomson
- Culinary Depart (Dinners & Lunches) - John Himes
- Decorations - Judy Corippo
- Facility Rental - Betty Miller
- Gift Shop - Jackie Brooks
- Grounds Maintenance - John Kendall and Ron Thompson
- Janitorial - Linda & Arnold Hermansen
- Membership - Obbie Atkinson
- Newsletter & Publicity - Dick Reddick
- Safety - John Cromwell
- Secretarial & Office Expense - Jackie Brooks
- Vehicle Maintenance - Dave Geiger and George Taylor

Raindrops falling on your head? Call

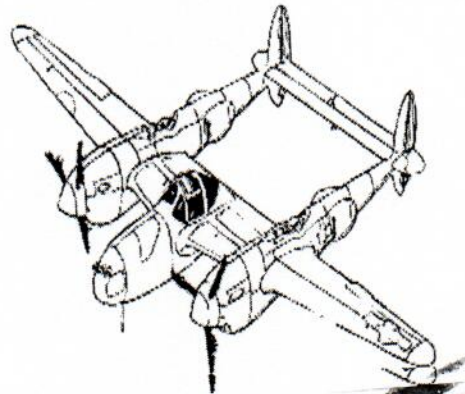


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TO:

~~Rosemary Netto~~
~~998 River Road~~
~~San Miguel, CA 93451~~

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