Estrella Warbird Museum "Eagle" --- April 2006

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Military Intelligence & the "War on Terror"

Lt Col Alfred J. Fonzi II, USA (Ret)

LTC Fonzi completed over 36 years of military service upon his retirement in the Winter of 2006.

Military Career; He served multiple combat tours of duty in Vietnam, as well as serving overseas throughout the "Cold War" in Europe and Korea, The Gulf War of 1990-91, Bosnia and Iraq.

He has served in a wide variety of military units, including as the operations officer for the Combat Intelligence Company, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in the 1980s.

A career intelligence officer, he was directly involved in counternarcotics intelligence operations, working with the FBI and DEA in South Central Los Angeles.

He participated in counterterrorist operations in the Balkans, while assigned to the Chief of Counterintelligence for the National Intelligence Cell in Sarajevo, Bosnia and again in Baghdad, Iraq in 2004, directing intelligence collection and analysis for a special operations unit with responsibilities throughout Iraq. A highlight of these operations was neutralizing the ability of insurgent forces to disrupt electrical power and the flow of oil in major Iraqi pipelines.

Injuries complicated by an ambush and IED attack in late July, 2004, resulted in his being medically evacuated to Fort Bragg, NC for further treatment in August, 2004, eventually leading to his retirement.

Civilian Career; During peacetime LTC Fonzi was the Deputy Director of the National Interagency Civil-Military Institute, the located at Camp San Luis Obispo where he designed, directed and coordinated interagency disaster management training for mixed classes consisting of military officers and civilian first responders from agencies throughout the United States.

These courses offered the only training of its kind in the nation where military personnel and

civilian first responders (police, fire, emergency medical) and civilian administrators worked and learned in the same classroom environment to prepare for natural disasters, technological emergencies and to mitigate terrorist attacks upon civilian population.

LTC Fonzi also has over twenty years of experience in the field of emergency services at the local, state and federal levels.

Background; He is a graduate both of Cuesta College and California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, and holds a Master's Degree in International Relations from the University of Southern California.

A resident of Atascadero, married to Roberta with four children: Joshua (27), who is also an Iraq War veteran recently returned from duty with the 1st Marine Division; Lisa (25), a junior at the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo; Rachel (22), a nursing student aspiring to earn her doctorate; and Ben (17), completing his senior year of high school and starting Cuesta College this Spring.

April 5 Menu:

We hope to celebrate Spring -- soon! Estrella Warbird Museum Proudly Presents its April Menu:

Oriental Delight

Honey Orange Sesame Chicken
Oriental Rice
Asparagus
Green Salad
Desert
Coffee/Tea

Social at 6, Dinner at 7, Only \$12 per Please RSVP: 466-1212

The Prez Sez

I welcome all of you to what's going to be a beautiful Spring in 'darn near paradise'. My only problem is I don't know whether to wear a short sleeved Hawaiian shirt or put on my thermal long johns! Both have felt very comfortable during the last few days.

The Estrella Warbird Museum continues to look better and better every day. Gary Corippo and Ed Morrison have been out at the Museum almost on a daily basis. They have been going through parts and tools in the Restoration Hangar and our storage units, rearranging, discarding and labeling items as they see fit. A word to the wise-If you have something that you think you may have a use for or plans for in the future, please label it and let them know that it needs to stay and not make the trip to the recycler or the dump!

Thursday, March 23, was a very busy day. Gary Corippo, Ed Morrison, Ron Brooks, Don Peckinpaugh and myself, drove two trucks and trailers to Point Mugu to see what useful items we could get for free for the betterment of the Museum.

We did get some very good desks, chairs, and filing cabinets, plus some other items that will go very well in our new *Freedom Hall*.

We hope to get our approved building plans for *Freedom Hall*. back in the very near future from the City of Paso Robles so that we can get them out for final bids, break ground and start construction. It would be great to start the foundation sometime in April, weather permitting. I must say that it is exhilarating working to bring a dream like this one to fruition.

I know that we will all proudly say that we were a part of this, and helped make it happen either by the sweat of our brow, or financial aid, or just because we were supportive in the fund raising efforts.

My 'Unsung Hero' for April is a dedicated member who doesn't say much. He is a devoted golfer, traveler, and still finds time to do many physically challenging jobs to make the Museum a better place. It is people like Ed Morrison who help make the Estrella Warbird Museum a great place to be a part of. Thanks **Ed** and congratulations on being my "Unsung Hero" for the month of April.

I hope to see many of you at the April dinner meeting. It sounds like a very interesting program.

Chuck Miller

Museum Musings By Betty Miller

Carol Weiss and I have been busy getting many of our display items re-catalogued. We are eagerly awaiting our April visit from George and Gloria Duck who will be helping us get things organized and labeled in proper museum format and terminology.

As part of our annual "spring cleaning" you may see some "new" things on display, different uniforms on our mannequins and different pictures and photos on display. We will be rotating some of our items and replacing some uniforms that will be going in for cleaning. Don't worry, nothing has "gone away", Uncle Fred's WW II US Army Air Corp uniform is safe, just in need of cleaning to help preserve it.

It is important to change exhibits around to keep fresh displays for repeat visitors. We are looking forward to getting going on *Freedom Hall*. It will make it so much better on our wonderful artifacts to house them in a relatively dust-free and dry environment with temperature control! We have been spending much thought on our future layout and we think you will find it much improved over our current layout.

We are looking for:

We are looking for classbooks from military schools that you or your family members may have attended , while in service during WW II, Korea or Vietnam.

We are also still looking for plain (military style) BROWN and BLACK shoes size 10 to 11. We could also use some jump boots or boon dockers in black or desert sand.

Important! If you wish to donate uniforms, pictures, or artifacts, *please* call us <u>before</u> bringing out your item. We are very limited now in available.

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storage and we are starting to get duplicates. We appreciate the generosity of our past donors, but ask that all future gifts be approved by one of us before leaving them with a Docent. You can reach us at: Betty-466-1212; Carol - 239-2637. We will issue you a "Proffer of Gift" form which should be completed at the time of your donation.

Our *Freedom Hall Fund Raising Committee*, headed up by Gary Corippo, is still trying to reach 100% Member Participation. We can't expect the general public to open their wallets if we don't have the backing of *all* of our own members! In this vain we have been calling on some of our folks who have not yet made a commitment. We welcome whatever you can contribute to get our 100% goal.

Wayne Rice, our May 8th Golf Tourney Chairman, has some great posters for this major fund raiser. He will be handing out some posters to those of you who have businesses, or know a business that will put one up in their window. We need more golfers to sign up, so please spread the word.

WW II B-17, B-24 and B-25 Visit will be Monday May 15, Tuesday May 16 and Wednesday May 17 this year. The Collings Foundation will bring these historical aircraft in and are scheduled to base them at our facility rather than at the Airport Terminal. If you missed it last year, be sure to visit this year! We hope to have a drawing to award some lucky person a free ride aboard one of these awesome airplanes.

Betty and Carol

From the S.L.O. Tel Trib Wed, Mar. 29, 2006

"Pioneer of the skies dies"

Wanda Strassburg helped found local chapter of Ninety-Nines, the women's flying club

By Leslie Griffy

Wanda Strassburg was a different kind of trailblazer - on e who took to the skies.

The 74-year-old who taught pilots, helped launch a woman's flying club in San Luis Obispo County and gave her steadfast spirit to friends in need died Monday night after battling ovarian cancer.

Strassburg first learned how to fly in 1960, after getting caught up in her husband Don's flying hobby. She became hooked.



She went on to work for the Swift Aire airline and became a flight instructor. As a woman, she was a rarity in a field where even today only 6 percent of private pilots are female.

While her work life detoured into other projects, she kept her love of flying.

Strassburg was spokeswoman for San Luis Sourdough for 10 years. She was the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce board chairwoman and executive director of Hospice of San Luis Obispo.

When she worked with San Luis Sourdough, she also served as the company's corporate pilot.

And when Strassburg retired, she returned to the skies. She was recognized as a master flight instructor by the National Association for Flight Instructors in 2003.

"Once you get hooked, you're hooked," said Criss Yecny, who along with Strassburg is a founding member of the San Luis Obispo chapter of the international women's flying club, the Ninety-Nines. And the women who flew together, even if they competed, supported each other. "A lot of the other gals were very willing to help," said

Marci Barnet, who served as Strassburg's co-pilot when they were the county's first representatives at a Powder Puff race. Barnet also remembers her friend for support outside the cockpit. "When my husband passed away, she was right there," Barnet said.

Strassburg's commitment to community came through in much of what she did, whether it was pushing young women to the skies, organizing programs at San Luis Sourdough to take bread to the needy, showing up at the doorstep of a family in transition with dinner or raising her younger brother after their parents died.

The Strassburgs moved to San Luis Obispo in 1955. She is survived by Don, her husband of 55 years, and daughters Jan Hagel and Karen Kinne. Services are pending.

Reach Leslie Griffy at 781-7931. lgriffy@thetribunenews.com

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CPR/AED Class Scheduled

OUR NEXT CPR/AED CLASS IS SET FOR APRIL 15, 2006. CONTACT GEORGE TAYLOR AT 448-7402 IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND THIS OR OTHER CLASSES IN THE FUTURE. SIGN UP EARLY, CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED. THIS FOUR HOURS OF TRAINING COULD MAKE A DIFFRENCE IN THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR SOMEONE YOU LOVE. *George Taylor*

"High Flier"

I believe an explanation is needed as to why I have named this "BULLETIN" from the, to-be-restored Library, as "THE HIGH FLIER".

This monthly report to all members of the Estrella Warbird Museum is in effect, a bulletin. And clearly, it is about airplanes, flying, fliers and last but not the lease reason, we are located up <a href="https://high.nih.gov/high.gov/high.nih.gov/high.nih.gov/high.gov/high.nih.gov/high.gov/high.nih.gov

Don and I have begun to set up the BAYS. This is the beginning of the separating of all the books (over 6,000), as they pertain to the many, many varied subject matter dealing with Airplanes, from the GREEK word, Aeroplane, "the wandering in the air".

As we go thru this very complicated and time consuming process, we are preparing a very <u>basic</u> <u>list</u> of all of the books that are slowly appearing on the shelves each week.

This is being done so that all of our members can begin to make use of the Library, as it is open every weekend.

Members of the Museum have given generously with donations, such as the computer from Ed and Pam Morrison and time and donations as Ron Brooks has, who is always there to put everything together, whether it be High Tech equipment or fixing anything that might be needed for use in the Library. And Linda Hermansen, who has on several different occasion, taken time out from her busy schedule, to help in the division of material. Thank you", many, many times over.

Keep'em flying,

Charmaine

John & Sue Everett

I just finished talking to John. He is at Stanford Medical Center and they have made Sue more comfortable and have given them a ray of hope. She is surrounded by friends and family and he feels well supported. His number is 423-4903 he is not able to

answer all but I'm sure he will appreciate prayer and well wishes. My number is 674-7741 if you want more detail. *John Dolan*

Plane Folks!,

This week's essay is very down to earth, entitled, Hangar Time. http://maxair2air.com/ Enjoy, Max Haynes

P.S. There are two new features on the site-

· You can leave a comment for everyone to see

• You can show your support for MaxAir2Air, buy yourself a coffee mug.

Gift Shop Notes:

New "patches" are available at the gift shop at \$5 each. Check with Jackie Brooks.
Older style computer monitors are available.
Check with Jackie or Ron.

GOLF Shootout open for entrants

Hunter's Ranch will be the location of the first Estrella Warbird Museum "Golf Shootout" on Monday, May 8, 2006. This event is open to any golfer with an established handicap. Entry forms for the museum's May 8 golf shootout are now available in the newsletter as well as various locations around the museum and the local community. Please help support this effort by playing, volunteering or recruiting players.

Wayne Rice (805) 467-9710; Email: ricefolk@tcsn.net

TOUR& HALL RENTAL SCHEDULE:

Saturday April 1 - Tour; Golden State Car Club Friday April 7 - Tour; Boy Scout Troop 65 Saturday April 8; Optimist Club "Casino Nite"

Monday April 10 - 10 AM Tour; Boy Scout Troop 264, Aviation Merit Badge group Wednesday April 12 - 7 AM Breakfast; Sunrise Rotary Saturday April 29 - Private Party; 3 to 11 p.m.

More About our Members...New:

George Schmutz Atascadero, Ca. 93422 Sponsor: Pete Johnson

Jim and Lois Gall (family) San Luis Obispo, Ca. 93401 Sponsor: John Durant



The Estrella Warbird L. Jesum Yes, I wai. A support the Estrella Warbird Museum Construction Campaign with a gift. I would like to make a total gift of: \$_

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You may make a single payment or set up a Donor Account by contacting the Treasurer - Rosemary Netto at 805-467-3521 to manage your Multi-payment Pledge. Please return this form and your gift to: Treasurer, Estrella Warbird Museum, 4251 Dry Creek Road, Paso Robles, CA 93446

For Credit Card Donations-

Please send me a reminder in the following month(s) and the amount(s):

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ENTRY FORM

ESTRELLA WARBIRD MUSEUM GOLF SHOOTOUT MONDAY, MAY 8, 2006 - 9:30 AM SHOTGUN AT HUNTER'S RANCH GOLF COURSE, PASO ROBLES

ENTRY FEE \$125.00 PER PERSON:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	HANDICAP	NCGA or SCGA#	PHONE NBR. or EMAIL
		2000 2000 2000 2000		
			The Comments	

Entries are welcome for any number of players. The Committee will pair entrants who do not specify partners. Please note that entries must be in the hands of the committee no later than Wednesday, May 3, 2006. Entries received later will be retained on a standby basis.

<u>Tee Sponsorships</u> are available for the Tournament from \$150.00 to \$250.00 Call Tournament Chair Wayne Rice at 805-467-9710 for details

Mail your check and this form to:
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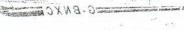
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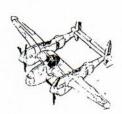
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