Estrella Warbird Museum "Eagle" --- January 2007

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January 3 Program: "The Cold War Years"

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Peter D. Visel, a new member of the Estrella Warbird Museum, will speak about his truly unique experiences having enlisted in the military towards the end of the Vietnam conflict and found himself in the middle of the Cold War for the next seven years.

Peter was assigned primarily to the Chief Surgeon's Office for the US Army, Europe, but wore different hats with special attachments to the Defense Nuclear Agency, Department of the Army Inspector General, the US Army Medical Command, Europe, and special assignment with the Secretary of State. His military experience was unlike any other having been at the "right place at the right time."

Peter was raised in a large family, with seven brothers and four sisters. If you looked at that from a veterans' perspective (including spouse), that would be two Navy, three Air Force, four Army, one Marine, and several who wish they had been in the service.

Peter attended Parkland College, University of Illinois, and University of Maryland (European Division). He received a BS in Business Administration & Computer Sciences. Peter has spent the last ten years as the Information Systems Manager and Facility Operations Manager for Santa Cruz Biotechnology, the world's largest producer of research antibodies used for cancer and AIDS research. He relocated to the Paso Robles area from Santa Cruz three years ago, to open the facility just down the street from Estrella WarBirds Museum. Peter and his wife, Candace, have raised two sons and 3 daughters. Now that the kids have grown and left home, they currently raise their own back yard zoo of exotic reptiles plus the normal mixture of cats, dogs, birds, goats, miniature horses, tortoises, etc.

George Marrett, Program Chairman

January 3 Menu:

Please RSVP a.s.a.p. @ 466-1212

!!Happy New Year!!

Roasted Chicken
Mashed Potatoes
Gravy
Green Peas
Dinner Rolls
Green Salad
Desert
Coffee/Tea

Social at 6 pm, Dinner at 7, Only \$12 per

Please RSVP: 466-1212

The Prez Sez...

"What a great start for a New Year"

How better could we start the 2007-year than with the dedication and grand opening of

"Freedom Hall?" Jackie and Ron Brooks are putting the finishing touches on the new gift shop. Walking into the gift shop gives you the feeling you are in an upper end retail store. Jackie Brooks and her crew have worked tirelessly stocking the store with many items



Prez Sez...that will strike the interest of our visitors and members.

The displays inside the new museum are coming into shape with the hard work of Betty Miller and Carol Weiss along with the support of many volunteers. I wish to thank Dr. Will Irwin for the numerous items he donated that will enhance our displays in Freedom Hall. Gary Corippo and our Saturday crew are always willing to do the heavy lifting and hanging of large objects. It is essential to hang or mount something large and heavy into place before the new displays can be positioned in their new home. Many dedicated people have worked long and hard hours to bring this new facility into a reality that we all can be very proud of. Thank you to our members and the community that have made it possible.

The old Hangar/Museum building is also taking on a new look. It will give our visitors a chance to view the flyable aircraft of "Eagle Flight" and some of our more durable displays. The floor will soon receive a new coat of paint and the area will serve as a venue for large parties. Betty Miller already has an inquiry from a group of 400 interested in having a party in May. I feel we can look forward to many new activities in this hangar that will bring hundreds of visitors to "The Estrella Warbird Museum" every year.

I wish to proclaim Rosemary Netto as our January "Crew Member of the Month". Rosemary's dedication and commitment to the organization is greatly appreciated. She not only works long hours keeping our books in order and a firm grip on our purse strings, but her smiling face can also be found organizing and providing beverage service during our dinner meetings and the many other functions Rosemary prepares our financial information and is always ready to answer questions at our board meetings. With the construction of Freedom Hall Rosemary has had the added burden of tracking all the donations and expenses with this project. Thank you Rosemary.

You may have noticed a very large T-hangar now sitting on the hard stand just North of us. This hangar was generously donated by the Bruce Toomey family and will eventually be located on the East side of our Warbird Taxi Way. This is another of those heavy lifting projects that Gary Corippo and Glen Thomson will direct. Thank you to the Toomey family

for yet another donation enhancing the Estrella Warbird Museum.

I was pleased that we had a very large turn out for our December dinner meeting. The Silver Belles performance was greatly appreciated and our member's generosity supported the Silver Belles major project. The Silver Belles support a music scholarship program at the Paso Robles High School. Thank you to The Estrella Warbird Members for their kind support.

I look forward to having a large crowd at our dinner meetings, but need the assistance of our members. December we had 101 people call in for dinner and we served 130 dinners not including our volunteer help! Our kitchen crew led by Chef John Himes did an excellent job and made it all work out. If you know you are going to attend please call so that our staff can prepare a great meal along with having enough tables and chairs set up. Chef Himes calculates a buffer zone to accommodate last minute guests, but those that know they will attend need to call (466-1212) so that we can have some flexibility to accommodate last minute guests.

The Ronald Reagan Library tour was a great success. This facility has so much to offer that you cannot take it all in with just one visit. I felt that the Air Force One and Oval Office exhibits were the high point of our visit. American Star Trailways tour bus was very comfortable and our driver Dan Brown did an excellent job getting us there ahead of time. I look forward to having more trips in 2007 and will be working on some exciting destinations.

Don Peckinpaugh has stepped into the prestigious position as "Membership Chairman." We all wish Don well as Chairman and pledge our support to him. Obbie Atkinson along with Charmaine Peckinpaugh, Betty Miller and Pam Morrison will remain on the committee supporting Don. I wish to personally thank Obbie for his leadership, dedication and accomplishments as chair of this committee. Obbie's tireless efforts creating "Lightning Flight," "Thunderbolt Flight" and now "Freedom Flight" has enabled The Estrella Warbird Museum to become the great place it is. Thank You Obbie.

I also proclaim that Obbie Atkinson is "Crew Member of the Month" for the month of January.

It has come to my attention that many of our newer members including myself are not aware



of the Estrella Warbird Museum Heritage. I have asked Charmaine Peckinpaugh and Betty Miller to publish a series of articles "Estrella Warbird Heritage." Future newsletters will bring to light the contributions of our founders who had the vision to enable the Estrella Warbird Museum to become the great place it is today. I look forward to these articles, as I am sure our members will.

I wish to invite our members and guests to our January 3rd. dinner meeting to kick off the New Year in style. Please call ahead (466-1212) so that we can provide an accurate count to Chef John Himes and crew.

It is my honor to serve as president of the Estrella Warbird Museum.

Museum Musings -- "Needs" list

We are hoping to get a mural of WW I aircraft involved in a dogfight over the fields of France painted on our east wall and another mural on our north wall of some Korean-era helicopters coming in for a landing at a M.A.S.H. unit.

We are desperately seeking a canvas tent in khaki or a tan color, for our new *Medical Corps Exhibit*. If you have one, or a portion of one, please call Carol or Betty asap.

The "Stagedoor Canteen USO Theater" will house 8 seats and a TV with a DVD and VHS player so that our visitors can see some of the great videos we have about WW II aircraft and related items.

Still looking for

1. Snapshots of folks at dances, picnics, etc during the 1940-1946 era. We will scan them and return your original to you, so check out that old scrap book you have been storing in the attic!

Betty and Carol

Betty-466-1212; Carol - 239-2637

DOCENTS for December 2006

Sat. Dec 30 10am--1pm Jackie Brooks 1pm--4pm <u>??</u> Sun. Dec 31 11 noon--3pm Weiss Very Respectfully,

George Taylor

President Estrella Warbird Museum

"Honoring The Past, Inspiring The Future"

Museum Transition

During the transition into "Freedom Hall" our normal Museum displays and Gift Shop may not be available. However visitors are invited to enjoy our static Aircraft displays.

Adopt-a-Poll Evaluation

Thanks to all the volunteers, we have received an "Excellent Evaluation Report" from the SLO County Election Board.

P.S. They requested us to be available for the next election. We receive \$1000 for the EWM treasury, for each election. Thanks for everything you folks did. *Jackie*

Gift Shop Workers and Docents Needed.

Our new building is a wonderful addition to the Estrella Warbird Museum.

However, it takes up to 30 people per month to keep the Museum & Gift Shop open.

Let's talk about a weekend time and job <u>designed</u> <u>for you.</u> I feel it is a privilege to be a part off this wonderful group, you will too. We look forward to

working with you. Jackie Brooks

Gift Shop Mgr. Jackie at: 462-8141 <u>Docent Coordinator</u>, Tom Weiss at:239-2637

BUY A BLOCK

We need to pour some more cement for the display aircraft area. \$100.00 will buy a block with your name, or the name of a loved one. Call Rosemary Netto at 467-3521 to add yours today.

Membership News

Please welcome new "Members".

Regular
Joe Griffith

Family
Jim &Lillian Howell,
Gary & Sandra Nemeth,



Matt & Maureen Trevisian

Life
Tazio Bucciavelli

Star

Gary McMaster, Gary Nelson

The Museum membership recently passed the 300 mark. This puts the "Estrella Warbird Museum" at the top, or close, for museum organizations in the "North County." We are all thankful for the "Freedom" we inherited and continue to share. The "Museum" serves as a reminder of the sacrifice required. Our community agrees with it's support.



Picture program is growing

We want all of our members that were in the service (even the Army) to send or bring a picture of themselves when they were in the military. We will have them blown up to an 8x10 size, framed, and hang them on the back wall of the Bar. We have already received about thirty of them and they are now hanging for all to see. We would prefer to have you guys in your working uniforms (utilities, fatigues, pilot outfits, etc.) so that all can see you as you were when you were working or in combat. Get the pictures to Gary, Betty, George, or just leave it at the Museum counter in an envelope. It is IMPORTANT that you put your Name, rank at the time, date and station/ship on the back so that we can identify these young kids that have changed so much over twenty or fifty (?) years ! I think it will be alot of fun and hopefully everyone will want to be part of it as it grows. Could have upwards of 100 pictures on the wall. For the members that were not in the service, send us a picture of yourself or we will take a picture of you working at the Museum. Please include \$ 3.00 for the frame and we will have the picture enlarged for you.

Gary Corippo-Director

FREEDOM HALL - Support

Help out and please donate to the Freedom

As the "Museum" continues to serve the community and our nation with the visual reminders of what our "Freedom" is about, we welcome more new members and supporters as we grow. Members, share this great experience with your friends. Ask them to visit, to join, and to share the joy in our success. --Obbie Welcome New Members!

E-Mail addresses need updating! Editor is building a new list for testing electronic version of the EWM Eagle. Please send yours to <rdreddick@charter.net>

Hall Fund Raising effort. Let's make it "100% support" from the membership. Your entire Board of Directors were the first to donate and pledge, many of your fellow members have already done so, and we have the support of many from our Community as well. Now it's time for all of us to contribute whatever we can to get to 100%

DONATION FORM --- FREEDOM HALL

Name	`	
Address:		
City	State_	ZIP
Phone		
Email		
address		-
Amount of I	Donation: \$	**
**If you wi	sh to pledge an	amount and makes indicate her

Send this form and your check to:
Rosemary Netto, Treasurer
Estrella Warbird Museum
4251 Dry Creek Road
Paso Robles, CA 93446
Or you may use your *Credit Card*! Please call
Rosemary at 467-3521 between 7 am and 4 pm to arrange this.

Thank You!





Alejandra Martinez

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