



February 7 Program: "The Barnstormers"

Vol. XVIII-02

With Frank Rezich of San Miguel

Barnstorming lived again last summer when a fleet of 14 antique airplanes landed at Whitman Regional Airport in Oshkosh, Wisconsin just in time for the annual EAA convention. It was the culmination of the 2006 American Barnstormers Tour, a five-state, nine-city event that reintroduced the Midwest to the age-old barnstorming tradition. The tour began in Kalamazoo, Michigan on July 15.

The pilots and crews were dressed in period attire to recreate the era between World War I and World War II, when aviation was making headlines. The master of ceremonies and narrator was the legendary Mr. Travel Air, 83-year-old Frank Rezich from San Miguel, California. Frank, who is an all-around expert on 1930s aircraft, was the "barker" for the tour. He was a biplane mechanic and pilot who first soloed from at a dirt field near today's Chicago Midway International Airport. Always dapper and full of pep, Frank, dressed in white shirt and pants, red suspenders and tie with a straw hat, sold rides to spectators. He always had a stogie in his mouth but it was never lit. He used to smoke them, but not anymore.

At the end of World War I, there was a large surplus of airplanes - most of them Jennies and Standards, and a lot of pilots with extensive flying experience who did not care much to go back to their pre-war jobs.

With no federal regulations governing aviation and no significant commercial flight industry, barnstorming quickly became a means of income for many aviators as the skies above

The Prez Sez...

It's been cold long enough... ..

Cold, cold and colder and still not much rain in sight is what Mother Nature has provided us for our work environment.

America became their playground. Barnstormers would buzz a town and drop handbills offering "joy rides" for nominal fees. The appearance of the barnstormers would shut down the town so folks could watch the show and ride the planes.

The nostalgia of those times lives on in the lives of aviators like Frank Rezich. He will talk about the barnstorming era and his recent flights on the American Barnstormers Tour at our dinner meeting on February 7th.

George Marrett, Program Chairman

February 7 Dinner Menu:

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

Roast Pork Loin
& Apple Sauce
Potatoes Au Gratin
Baby Carrots
Green Salad
Dinner Rolls
Apple Cobbler
Coffee/Tea

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

RSVP: 466-1212

Even during these freezing weather conditions our volunteer workers are making progress on many projects. The bent propellers on the S-2 have been removed and the process of installing new blades is underway. Our crew did a great job of reinstalling the bottom section of this aircraft that once provided space for the Department of Forestry fire retardant. I wish to express my appreciation to our work force that



keeps on working during the extreme Paso Robles weather.

Our trip to the Castle Air Force Base Museum is set for March 6, 2007. The Castle Museum is a first class facility with about 40 aircraft on display. Those that put their names on the list (at our January dinner meeting) will be contacted and should purchase their tickets at or before our dinner meeting February 7. At that time the remaining tickets will go on sale. Tickets prices are \$40.00 per person which includes the tour bus and admission to the Castle Air Force Museum. Lunch will be pay on your own at the museum snack shop/restaurant. I am told the "Bomber Burger" is something to look forward to along with several other choices on their menu. Do not miss this trip. I am sure it will be a good one. I can be contacted for more information at 448-7402 or e-mail taylor76@msn.com

"Freedom Hall" is close to being ready for its final city inspection. This new facility has only been possible due to the hard work of our members and the support of the community. A big THANK YOU to all that have made this possible. Ron Brooks and many of our hard working members have been busy putting the final touches on "Freedom Hall". Also Ron has directed his efforts to repairing the broken water pipes at Thomson Hall that the freezing cold weather has created.

The Estrella Warbird Museum board of directors is looking for a dedicated member to take over the leadership role as facilities and event manager. Betty Miller has developed this program into a true professional operation that generates a significant part of our yearly income. This position involves scheduling events to be held at Thomson Hall and processing the necessary papers such as insurance and deposits. This position would also involve attending our monthly board meetings to stay in contact with the many activities and events we support. Please contact Betty Miller for more information about this opportunity to serve in a vital position with our organization.

Gary Corippo: "Crew Member of The Month"

I wish to proclaim Gary Corippo as "Crew Member of The Month" for February 2007. Gary continues to amaze me with his abilities. Gary is successful with everything from fund raising, equipment and aircraft procurement to just getting the job done.

Many of the assets we have are due to Gary finding them and getting them donated. Not only does Gary have the ability to locate and procure items for the museum, but Gary is often found doing the day to day projects that keep us operational and looking sharp.

Many of our strongest supporters joined the museum after they took that first ride in the back seat of Gary's BT-13. Thank you Gary for all the good times and pride in the museum that we share with you.

Dates to remember

Wednesday, February 7 - Monthly dinner meeting

Friday, February 23 - Navy League and Estrella Warbird Museum Dinner and "Speed & Angels" Film Premiere. Don't miss this one!!

Wednesday, February 28 - Freedom Hall Grand Opening, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday March 6 - Estrella Warbird trip to Castle Air Force Base Museum

Please call ahead for our Wednesday dinner meetings so that our Chef John Himes and crew can have an accurate count when preparing the meal. Call 466-1212 to make your dinner reservation.

It is my honor to serve as President of The Estrella Warbird Museum

George Taylor

President, Estrella Warbird Museum

"Honoring The Past, Inspiring The Future"

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>

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Navy League of the United States

&

Estrella Warbirds Museum

Present

The Central Coast Premiere of

"Speed & Angels"

A film by

Cmdr. F.A. "Paco" Chierici, USNR

Directed by

Peyton Wilson

23 Feb 2007@ 1800

Estrella Warbirds Museum

4251 Dry Creek Road

Paso Robles

Dinner and Movie

\$25.00

Dress:

Flight Suits and Cowboy Boots

Reservations Required

RSVP (Navy League)

rbrynnavyleague@sbcglobal.net

805-549-9204

BBQ Tri Tip

Ranch Beans

Garlic Bread

Green Salad

Dessert

Coffee

EWM RSVP: 466-1212

Museum Musings

By Betty Miller

February Greetings from your **Freedom Hall** Curators, Carol and Betty. We hope you had a wonderful start to 2007 and that you will have a very Happy Valentine's Day with your family or special someone.

We are working to complete our punch list on **Freedom Hall** so that we can get our final inspection from the City and open to the public.

We hired a planting crew on January 15th and 16th to plant our required landscaping. Unfortunately what were healthy, happy plants before the *Big Freeze* the week of Jan 8th suffered frost damage while still at the nursery. Finley Family Farms will replace any of the Oleander that doesn't come back. The Rosemary is very healthy and the Lambs Ear is coming back already. The trees are Locust that will bloom with a reddish

From: Rob Bryn

<rbrynnavyleague@sbcglobal.net>

Subject: Save the Date-23 Feb 07

Attached is the advance notice for the Central Coast Council, Navy League of the United States special event at the Estrella Warbirds Museum. This is an open event to members and guests, however seating is limited and reservations are required. If you want to view trailers for the movie in advance visit, <SpeedandAngels.com> website. This will be a great evening to introduce your friends, children and grandchildren to naval aviation and meet the producer of the movie and tour one of the stars of the show! This film follows two nuggets from flight training to combat, one male and one female naval aviator. You don't want to miss it! The event is titled "Flight Suits and Cowboy Boots" (I don't care if none of the gear fits anymore or come as you are) to honor the museum and have a great BBQ dinner. Proceeds will benefit our chapter and museum programs.

All the best,

Rob Bryn

blossom in the spring. We thank the **Dorothy Renton McBain Trust** for paying for the labor and truckload of planting mix. I am sure our hardworking volunteers are glad that they were spared 16 hours of digging as well!

Freedom Hall changes daily. We are hanging pictures—many that have been in storage, as well as some of our treasures from the old Hangar, and moving display cases around to make a better presentation.

After the pictures and other artwork have been hung we will be setting up displays in our display cabinets. We have items stored all over the north county that will now see the light of day!

Thanks to the help from **Gary Corippo**, we have been able to get back into the Storage room in the Hangar and organize the great collection of uniforms we have amassed over the past 6 years. Gary has agreed to take on the task of keeping our uniforms organized. We have finally been able to get file cabinets moved (thanks to Gary's

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muscle)and have organized the uniforms from the US Army and Army Air Corp(flying portion of the WW II US Army for those of you under 50!), US Navy, USMC, US Air Force and the US Coast Guard. This also enables us to get to the many items that have been stored in the store room...it's like Christmas all over ag ain!

Our progress has been aided immeasurably with the dedicated help from **Don & Charmaine Peckinpough, Tom Weiss, Jackie Brooks, Chuck Miller, Wayne Rice, Gary Corippo,** and of course our very talented (is there anything this guy can't do??!!) **Ron Brooks!**

Many of you have asked repeatedly if there is anything you can do to help us... unfortunately it is a slow process and the muscle part is pretty much over. Now we will be laying out and labeling everything. This is one of those things that is up to the two of us.

On the labeling vein, we just got a great deal on a new printer that prints, scans, copies and even will take three sizes of digital camera memory cards and print up 4" x 6" prints! And all for under \$90.00!!! Our first NEW piece of equipment—we ar so excited!

We will be having a **Ribbon Cutting** with the Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors on **Wednesday, February 28 at 5:30pm.** We hope that all of you will mark your calendars to come by at 5:00pm and participate in another Estrella Warbird Museum Milestone.

Again, we appreciate all the hard word and financial help from so many of our members to make Freedom Hall a reality. Thank you all, we know you will be proud of what you have accomplished.

Betty and Carol

Curators: Betty-466-1212; Carol-239-2637

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 designed for you. 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

Docent Coordinator, 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

I would like to once again thank Obbie for his trust in turning over the Membership Committee to me.

I am looking foreword to working with Obbie and the committee members, Betty Miller, Pam Morrison, Rosemary Netto and Charmaine Peckinpough.

We will continue to strive for the success that has been achieved in the past.

Don Peckinpough.

Membership Chairman

Sunshine committee: Joe Benson

Joe Benson has been a strong supporter of our museum. The following article was in the Friday, January 19th issue of *The Tribune* and should be included in our newsletter. I recommend that members send cards and letters to radio station KPRL, PO Box 7, Paso Robles, CA 93447.

"Joe Benson, news director and host of "Soundoff," the news talk show on KPRL 1230 AM is off the air -- at least for now. Benson had a serious heart attack Oct 30th and has been off the air ever since. A quadruple or quintuple bypass surgery is needed within the next few weeks.

The surgery will put Benson on the sidelines for at least three months. In the meantime, Benson said he is on unpaid leave of absence from the station.

Benson has received an enormous amount of support from staffers at KPRL and the community. "Its amazing, I just never knew that people cared for me as much as they do, and I love every one of them more than they'll ever know," he said.

A call to station manager Kevin Will about Benson's departure was not returned Thursday afternoon. Benson said he hoped to return soon.

George Marrett
GMarrett@charter.net

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



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

reminder of the sacrifice required. Our community agrees with it's support.

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!

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 Donation: \$ _____ **

**If you wish to pledge an amount and make monthly payments, please indicate here:

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!

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Paso Robles EWM--Board of Directors [Updated]

Obbie Atkinson, Ron & Jackie Brooks, Gary Corippo, John Cromwell, John Dolan, Dave Highland, Betty Miller, Chuck Miller (Past President 2005-6), Rosemary Netto, Don Peckinpugh, Wayne Rice, Al Schade, George Taylor (President 2006-7), Glen Thomson, Tom Weiss, John Whitworth.

To Whom It May Concern:

The phone line including the Credit Card Machine for the Gift Shop, - is connected and operative in Freedom Hall as of Tuesday, January 23, 2007.

The number is the same as it was when we were in the hanger:-- 805-238-9317.

That's it for now. *Jackie*

HUMOR at the airport:

Dallas ATC -
"Tower to Saudi Air 911, you are cleared to land eastbound on runway 9R."

Saudi Air -
"Thank you Dallas ATC. Acknowledge cleared to land on infidel's runway 9R. Allah be praised !"

Dallas ATC -
"Tower to Iran Air 711. You are cleared to land westbound on runway 9R."

Iran Air -
"Thank you Dallas ATC. We are cleared to land on infidel's runway 9R. Allah is great !"

(Pause . . . static)

Saudi Air -
" DALLAS ATC ! DALLAS ATC !!! "

Dallas ATC -
"Go ahead, Saudi Air 911?"

Saudi Air -
"YOU HAVE CLEARED BOTH OUR AIRCRAFT FOR THE SAME RUNWAY GOING IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS !!! WE ARE ON A COLLISION COURSE !!! INSTRUCTIONS PLEASE!!!

Dallas ATC - "Well, bless your hearts. Y'all be careful now, and tell Allah 'hey' for us - ya'll hear?"

Getting old sucks

An elderly lady was standing at the rail of the cruise ship holding her hat so that the wind wouldn't blow it away.

A gentleman approached her and said, "Pardon me, madam I do not intend to be forward but did you know that your Dress is blowing up in this wind?"

"Yes, I know," said the lady. "But I need my hands to hold onto my hat."

But madam, he said, "you must know that you're derriere is Exposed!"

The woman looked down, then back up at the man and said, "Sir, anything you see down there is 85 years old, but I just bought this hat!"



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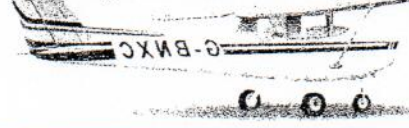
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