Estrella Warbird Museum "Eagle" --- July 2007

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July 11 Program: Bob Scamara, "Home-grown" Air Corps & WWII Pilot

Robert S. "Bob" Scamara was born in San Luis Obispo and graduated from San Luis Obispo High School in June of 1942. He volunteered for the US Army Air Corps and was called to active duty in December of the same year. Scamara attended flight training in Santa Ana and Blythe, California, Marana, Arizona and finally Luke Field where he received his silver wings and gold 2nd Lt. bars graduating in class 44C in March of 1944.

Scamara was then sent to the Hawaiian Islands, assigned to the 47th Fighter Squadron of the 15th Fighter Group. Squadron pilots were flying the Republic P-47 Thunderbolts, a big change from the AT-6s he flew in training command. Scamara flew the P-47 until December of 1944 when the squadron transitioned to the North American P-51D Mustang. The squadron was then sent to Saipan while they waited for the US Marines to take Iwo Jima. Scamara arrived at Iwo Jima on March 6, 1945, in the first fighter squadron to arrive on the island.

He made his first long-range mission to Japan on May 19, 1945. After three missions to Chichi Jima and a ten-day R&R back to Hawaii, Scamara got his first air-to-air kill on June 1, 1945 on an escort mission of Boeing B-29s to Osaka, Japan. Between escort missions the squadron pilots strafed enemy airfields.

Scamara's big dogfight mission was on June 23, 1945 when he claimed seven victories but only got credit for three destroyed and seven damaged. For this mission he was airborne for eight hours and 17 minutes. (Most of his missions were about eight hours in duration because he had to fly about 650 miles to Japan and a like distance on return.) Scamara never got a chance to add to his score; World War II in the Pacific was over in August and he was discharged in November of 1945.

Scamara returned to San Luis Obispo and graduated from Cal Poly in June 1949 with a degree in aeronautical engineering. He married Lois Sharp during college and they have five children. Scamara worked for Cal Trans for 37 years and retired in March 1987. Bob and Lois have been married for 60 years and live in Atascadero! - George Marrett, Program Chair

JULY 11 DINNER MENU

An Old Fashioned Summer Picnic
BBQ CHICKEN
BAKED BEANS
POTATO SALAD
COLE SLAW
GARLIC BREAD
WATERMELON
COFFEE/ICE TEA
Social at 6, Dinner at 7
Only \$12 per person
Please RSVP 466-1212

Museum Musings

By Betty Miller

Greetings from your two Freedom Hall Curators! The cataloging of the Freedom Hall artifacts continues to take up 95% of our time. We are trying to get all our research data, donor information, and accession numbers correlated on the new accession forms. Once that is done we will transfer it into the new "Past Perfect" computer software that our friend, Jack Reich so graciously donated to the Museum.

We not only have to get things placed into the display cases, but then we have to make sure we have done all the research so that we can display the correct information for each artifact. We have already found some major errors that were based on incomplete information. We are getting this corrected. It is going much more slowly than we would like, but we are persevering.

We are using the internet to get our information updated and corrected, but we have a dial-up internet connection at the Museum. If the curators are on the line then the Gift Shop is unable to use their credit card machine. A DSL connection would not affect their line and it would go much faster! We will need to figure out a way to raise some money for this before next year. In the meantime please bare with us.

Lockers Needed! We do need your help in finding one or two steel lockers that are at least 5' tall and 24" wide to store items that come in when Carol and I are not available. This is the type you see for employees to store work uniforms and personal items in their break rooms. If you know where one or two might be found, please give us a call at 805-471-0472.

What to do if you have an item you want to donate...

We have been extremely lucky in receiving

such great treasures from so many people. We are very grateful that you have all been so generous in donating your historical items. However we have a bit of a storage problem at the moment and we would like to ask your indulgence in following these guidelines before you bring something out to the Museum:

 I^{st} , Please call either Betty at 805-471-0472 or Carol at 239-2637. Let us know what you are considering donating. We are getting duplicate items and storage is a problem.

2nd. <u>Do Not</u> bring in anything to the Museum unless you have called one of us and discussed it first. If we are able to use it, we would like to have one of us present to accept it and complete the "Deed of Gift" paperwork and secure the item properly. Leaving an artifact by the Curator Office door is no longer an option.

3rd Uniforms - Unfortunately we are not accepting any uniforms on "loan" at this time. We are at capacity on uniform storage at the moment and we have no room to store loan items.

4th Photos, Prints, Posters - At this time if we accept any large (11" x 14" and up) photo, print or poster we are asking that you have it framed prior to it being displayed. Carol has been graciously donating her time, and recycling materials to help save the Museum money, but our framing allotment has already been depleted for the 2007 budget, so we will no longer be able to frame items in-house.

Change is Exciting! There are already changes in your Museum, so come visit soon. Remember as an Estrella Warbird Museum member in good standing, you are free.

See you soon!

Betty Miller - 466-1212
Carol Weiss - 239-2637
Freedom Hall Curators

The Prez Sez

"One of our own honored"

Estrella Warbird Museum past president and current advisory board member LTC Chuck Miller has received the honor of being selected as the Grand Marshall of the 2007 Great Americana Festival and Parade. This recognition is well deserved and speaks volumes about the lifetime accomplishments that LTC Miller has achieved.

Among his numerous awards and medals are the Distinguished Flying Cross; the Bronze Star with two Oak Leaf Clusters; the Distinguished Service Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster; the Air Medal with V for Valor and 10 Oak Leaf Clusters.

Most of us know Chuck Miller as a dedicated member of The Estrella Warbird Museum and a good friend. I can think of no one more worthy to be Grand Marshall of the 2007 Great Americana Festival and Parade.

Congratulations LTC Miller.



LTC Miller has over 8,000 flight hours in helicopters and Fixed wing aircraft. Holds a CFI license for fixed wing, rotary aircraft, and an Airline Transport Rating.

LTC Chuck Miller will be driven by our own Col. John Cromwell in a 1946 Jeep accompanied by soldiers who recently returned from Iraq.

"Lights Camera Action"

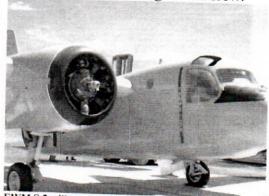
The Game Show Network was at our facility taping an episode of "Smartest Guy in Town". Warbird Chef John Himes prepared a much appreciated lunch and the cast and crew worked until sundown taping the episode. It sure takes a long time to find the "smart one"??!!!



Game Show Network cast and crew taping episode of "Smartest Guy in Town" at the EWM June 20th. 2007.

"S-2(US-2D)Looking Good"

Lots of hard work by our crew is apparent when you see the transformation of this worthy aircraft. Soon the new propellers will be installed and the official US Navy markings will be placed back on this aircraft. Thank you to our hard working EWM crew.



"Honoring the Past Inspiring the Future"

Very Respectfully George Taylor

President Estrella Warbird Museum

"The Pres Sez"

"Warbirds & USS Howard"

Several Estrella Warbird members attended a briefing Saturday June 23rd. from the Commanding Officer of the USS Howard. Commander James Morgan (aka) Captain Morgan. The luncheon/briefing was hosted by the Navy League of the United States. Our good friend from the Navy League Rob Bryn had recently completed a "Tiger Cruise" aboard the Howard their adopted ship.

The USS Howard has recently returned from the Arabian Gulf, operating in the area where the British Sailors were taken prisoner by Iran.

Receiving this information first hand makes one appreciate even more how talented and dedicated our young troops are.



The USS Howard DDG-83. Four powerful gas turbine engines provide the Howard with speeds greater than 31 Knots.

The USS Howard is ready to conduct prompt, sustained combat operations at sea in support of carrier battle groups, surface action groups, amphibious assault groups and stands ready to become and integral part of interdiction forces.

HOWARD'S weapons include surface-to-air missiles, Tomahawk cruise missiles, antisubmarine rockets, torpedoes, Phalanx Close-in Weapons Systems and a five-inch rapid-fire deck gun. The Howard is complimented with an Air-Wing that has two helicopters and guess what!! Two of the three very talented and capable pilots are women.

Thank you to the Navy League and Rob Bryn for the invitation to meet Captain Morgan and attend the briefing.

"Letter from VFA-2"

Mr. Taylor,

Estrella Warbird Museum:

I just wanted to say thank you so much for the wonderful letter, newspaper article, and photo's that you sent to Lt. Mike Harvey and musell.

We truly enjoyed our time in Paso for the Youth in Action Day and hope that everyone else had as much fun as we did answering questions and showing the kids what we do on a daily basis.

The photo's are wonderful and will serve as a constant reminder of our trip and equally important...that we need to get back down there soon.

Thank you so much for your kind hospitality and please pass on our deepest appreciation to all the members of the Estrella Warbird Museum for going out of their way to ensure that we were so well taken care of.

Fly Navy, Lt Ricky Lang VFA-2 PAO



LT. Ricky Lang, VFA-2 Public Affairs Officer



The Prez Sez

"Honored Guests Attended our June Dinner Meeting"

At our June dinner meeting we were honored to have 12 guests from Camp Roberts. These young men and women took time from their active duty to join us for the evening. Our warbird members insisted on buying their dinner and the young troops expressed how much they enjoyed the evening.

Our members gave the troops a standing ovation of applause that meant the world to the troops. I was later approached by one of the troops that had recently returned fro Iraq and he told me that "This was the best welcome home he had received since returning."

The Estrella Warbird Museum has extended an open invitation to the Camp Roberts troops to join us at any time.

"Docents Needed Now"

Maybe the word Docent scares people off from volunteering to perform this vital function. The docents duties are that of a greeter or host. The shifts are short and are inside our air condition building. The docent's job is to meet our visitors and ask them to sign the guest book along with making the visitors feel welcome and comfortable. The docent is present to ensure that the visitors follow common safety rules and do not get hurt or damage our displays. We need to fill critical time slots to enable us to offer the hours of operation we are required to have.

Please contact Betty Miller for more information about this opportunity to become involved with your museum. 466-1212.

"Do Not Miss These Events"

***SATURDAY JUEN 30TH.,.
Great Americana Parade at 10:00 am.

***WEDNESDAY JULY 4TH.

Firestone Vineyard BBQ 7:00 pm "Great View of the Fireworks"

That's right our good neighbors at the entrance of Airport Road are putting on a July 4th. BBQ and the proceeds benefit the Estrella Warbird Museum. That's right the PROCEEDS BENEFIT YOUR MUSEUM. Come check out this new facility and enjoy the fireworks show and be entertained by Solo Acoustic Guitarist Tim Pacheco.

The Firestone Vineyard will be grilling up burgers and hot dogs on Wednesday, July 4th. From 7pm to 10pm. Tickets are \$25 each and includes parking, bottled water and sodas, burgers, hot dogs and all the fixings, plus some All-American apple pie for dessert. Bottles of wine will be available for purchase. No outside food or beverages allowed.

LIMITED TICKETS ARE BEING SOLD. Reservations can be made by calling the winery at 805 591-8050. Did I mention the proceeds benefit your museum. SUPPORT YOUR MUSEUM

***FRIDAY JULY 6TH...

US Air Force Band Concert & BBQ
This event will be held at the Estrella
Warbird Museum in our hangar. BBQ is
at 5:30 to 6:45pm \$15.00 ea
The FREE Concert starts at 7:00pm.
Support your museum and do not miss
this one. Call 466-4196 for tickets and
preferred seating.

***WEDNESDAY JULY 11TH.

Estrella Warbird dinner meeting 6:00pm. Call 466-1212 for reservations.

562nd AF Band - "Big Band" Music-Friday July 6

Support our Troops and Honor Our Nation. Join us Friday, July 6 at 7 pm at the Estrella Warbird Museum of Paso Robles for a FREE concert by the 562nd Air Force Band of the Southwest.

The Estrella Warbird Museum will host a BBQ Beef dinner from 5:30pm for \$15.00 per person with preferred concert seating for those wishing to have dinner before the concert.

Seating is limited for both events, so pick up your free concert ticket or your BBQ/Concert ticket at the Paso Robles Chamber Office, the Main Street Office or the Atascadero Chamber Office today!

The Estrella Warbird Museum is located at 4251Dry Creek Road . Call 466-4196 for more information.

U. S. NAVAL SEA CADET Corps Jt. Summer Training Graduation

At Camp San Luis Obispo, Saturday July 14, 2007 at 11:00 (sharp) Visit our website for details:



WWW.USNSCCSLO.ORG

MEMBERSHIP----

Welcome New Members:

FOREST & JEAN SCHMIDT-----FAMILY ERNIE & HEATHER BILLING-----FAMILY DAN VERSTUYFT & CAROL HERON---FAMILY WOODY & SUZIE BUSSACCO-----SUSTAINING

SKIP SPINDLER & SUSAN LINTZ----PATRON ROBERT GILLILAND-----LIFE

SISSEE KUROWSKI-----STAR LIFE -

THUNDERBOLT FLIGHT LLOYD PLYMATE-----STAR LIFE -THUNDERBOLT FLIGHT

WILLIAM C. McINTYRE----STAR LIFE -THUNDERBOLT FLIGHT DONATION WAS MADE IN MEMORY OF Dr. WILL IRWIN THANK YOU TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE MUSEUM.

Don Peckinpaugh, Membership Chairman

GOLF UPDATE

Our second golf tournament plan is well underway. We are seeking players for the date of October 8, 2007 at Hunter Ranch Golf Course. It will be a fun and productive time for all. Since it is a benefit event, you can use the term "productive" to sway skeptics who think you're just out goofing off for the day!

Many thanks to our first two business supporters, Pete Johnston and Bob Burgess who have stepped in and put up vehicles from their respective dealerships for hole-in-one prizes. Additional sponsors are needed from other businesses or individuals. Sponsorships can take one or two forms: a cash sponsorship at the \$150 or \$250 level, and/or contributions to our "door prize" pool. Either form of support is welcome.

Last year our focus was supporting construction of Freedom Hall. This year our focus is to support a long-term goal of the museum to offer scholarships for deserving high school graduates from the North county. Specifics are being worked out, but, in general terms, the scholarship will be to support students who are majoring in aviation related fields of study. Your Board of Directors envisions this to be a long-term program, however, we need funds to tee it off.

Contact Tournament Chairman, Wayne Rice for further information or offers of support. 805-467-9710 or email:

riceatpaso@msn.com.



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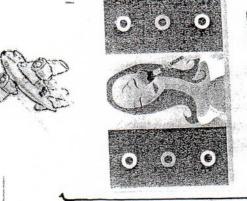
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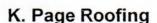
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