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THE ESTRELLA WARBIRD MUSEUM EAGLE NEWSLETTER



Honoring the Past - Inspiring the Future

Paso Robles, California ~ September 2008

VOL XXIX-09



DINNER MENU

Wednesday, September 3

"Readin', Writin' 'n Rithmetic"

BBQ Chicken

Baked Beans

Tossed Green Salad

Fresh Veggie Salad

Larry's Homemade Rolls

Dessert

Ice Tea & Coffee

No Host Bar

Dinner Catering by

Larry Eastwood

\$15.00 Per Person

RESERVATIONS

PLEASE

Call 467-3521

By NOON Tuesday

Thank You

Social Hour 6pm-7pm

Dinner & Program Follows



Wednesday, September 3 Speaker--Tomas Akers

Tomas Akers was a sophomore in Cal Poly's engineering department when he decided to stay in San Luis Obispo after graduation. So, he teamed up with Norm Timbs, a Cal Poly engineering alum and fellow model sailplane enthusiast, to start a company that produces unmanned aerial vehicles. (UAV's)

The pair founded Aeromech Engineering nine years ago, using only their personal savings and credit cards. They began with less than \$1,000 in start-up cash, Akers recalled. "Norm already had a shop in his garage with the necessary tools for us to get started, so that helped a fair bit," he said.

The company has experienced significant growth since then, now employing 85 people and occupying 45,000 square feet in an industrial area of San Luis Obispo. Aeromech employees work on a host of projects for the U.S. military and major defense companies including Lockheed Martin.

The airplanes that Aeromech produces are like "an eye in the sky" for soldiers and bases that need protection from ambushes and attacks, Akers said. The company also makes target drones – jet-engine-powered versions of unmanned air vehicles – used to test radar systems and missiles.

BUSINESS SOURCE IN CALIFORNIA POLY ALUMNI



Tomas Akers, holding a Desert Hawk, an autonomous unmanned air vehicle, with a companion who he co-founded Aeromech Engineering in San Luis Obispo with fellow Cal Poly student Norm Timbs in 1999. They make unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for aerospace companies.

'AN EYE IN THE SKY'

Aeromech, Akers said, is one of the larger producers of small-unmanned aircraft in the nation. "There are a few companies that produce more than we do on an annual basis, but we are definitely on the upper end of the scale," he noted.

Tom Akers will talk to the Estrella Warbird Museum about Aeromech, why he's excited about its future and his commitment to stay in our local community. Information on his company can be found on the internet at: www.aeromechengineering.com.

Reservations

Please

467-3521

THE PREZ SEZ Ed Morrison

If you have not yet had an opportunity to see the work in progress of the mural on the rear wall of Freedom Hall, it's well worth a visit to the EWM just to check it out. I was working on the F-18 Simulator last Monday and watched the artist, Gerri O'Brien for a few moments while she was painting. She is one talented lady.

As most of you know, the subject of the mural is a MASH scene in Korea (my all time great TV series, even the reruns today). Interestingly enough, in addition to the little chopper that we have all seen in every segment of MASH, an H-19 Sikorsky helicopter is also depicted. As an Infantry Squad Leader in the 10th Mountain Division on the East German border in the early '50's, I spent a fair amount of deployment time in the H-19 and it was a great old bird that never failed us.

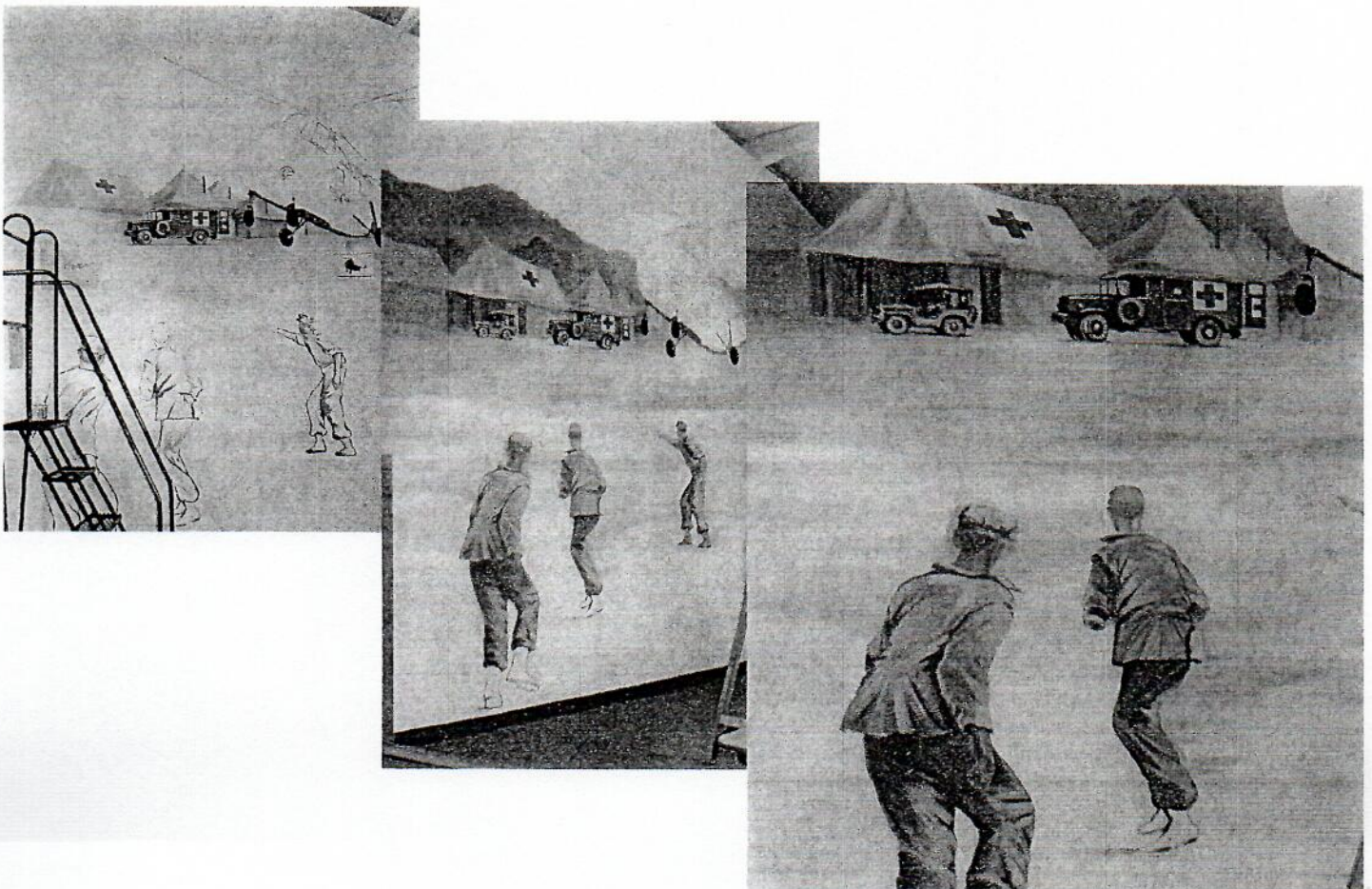
Many thanks to our Curator, Betty Miller, for spearheading this project and to our fine artist, Gerri O'Brien, for her contribution to the Estrella Warbird Museum.

Safe flights and good landings,

Ed

Edward Morrison

edandpammorrison@sbcglobal.net



M.A.S.H. Mural ... About the Muralist, Gerri O'Brien

Gerri O'Brien showed early signs of artistic talent. According to her mother, "She could draw before she could walk, and even painted her first mural at age two... on my new white dresser... with my new red lipstick!"

Throughout High School, all of O'Brien's electives were in Art. She sold her first commissioned portrait at age 16. Her art training continued over the next several years through: The fine Arts Program at Orange Coast College, The L.A. Art Students' League under Joyce Pike and Hal Reed, and the International Portrait Seminars in New York with John Howard Sanden.

In her late twenties as a wife, and mother of three young sons, she began teaching oil painting, as well as continuing to paint client commissions. All in all, O'Brien has about 35 years experience in the art field. 14 years ago, this experience took a new direction: Murals.

Murals have become her most rewarding means of expression. "The deadlines are short, the subjects are vast and varied, and the opportunities for learning and growth are challenging!" A constant desire to learn more and bring more to the work has brought her to her love for travel. Specifically, travel in Europe.

"Even though I had studied (from books) and painted from the work of the masters of the High Renaissance period for years, nothing has influenced the quality of my work as profoundly as experiencing these wonderful masterpieces in full scale and in situ. Viewing the artwork on walls, ceilings, and canvases of palaces, villas, residences and civic/religious buildings has made a permanent imprint on my soul. The phrase 'waiting to exhale' doesn't *begin* to describe the feeling I experienced. Awe, wonder, deep appreciation, and a fresh dose of humility, *does*.

Infused with new inspiration, I now seek to *paint from the heart*. My heart belongs to the Master Artist, the Lord Jesus Christ. The very One who gave me, not just the talent but, the opportunity, the health, the will, and the ability to do what I'm doing."

With constant challenges of painting new and diverse subjects, and with the fluctuations in the economy, O'Brien confesses that both fear and anxiety, do visit her on occasion. "There's a passage in the Bible that instructs me, not just in life, but in Art as well: Phil. 4:6&7 ▲ 'Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.'

And when I finish a painting that is especially lovely, I stand back in amazement and say, "Wow, Lord, thank you so much for enabling me to do that!"

Getting to Know Your

Committee Chairs

Questions? Suggestions?

Please give us a call!

Aircraft Acquisitions

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Aircraft Restoration

Al Schade - 927-8303

Bar

Rosemary Netto - 467-3521

City Liaison

Chuck Miller - 466-1212

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Judy Corippo - 238-2090

Rosemary Netto - 467-3521

Docent Coordinator

Randy Majewski - 237-1054

Exhibit Hall Curators

Betty Miller - 471-0472

Carol Weiss - 239-2637

Facility Rental

Peter Visel - 237-2661

Freedom Flight

Obbie Atkinson - 238-9212

Bob Kelly -

Gift Shop

Jackie Brooks - 462-8141

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John Everett - 237-9523

Dave Geiger - 239-1598

Grounds

Gary Corippo - 712-1222

Insurance

Brian Webster - 237-0666

Ian Webster - 237-0666

Membership

Don Peckinpaugh

239-9919

Movie Night Directors

Margi & Harald Bauer

466-4440

August Newsletter

Betty Miller 466-1212

Photographer

Wally Engle - 227-0245

Public Information Officer

Dick Reddick - 238-2316

Programs

George Marrett - 466-7640

Site Maintenance

Ron Brooks - 462-8141

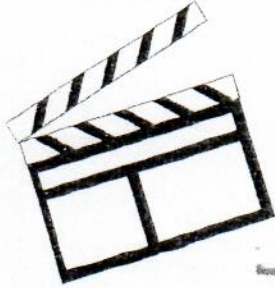
Group Tours

Betty Miller - 471-0472

Web Master

Peter Visel - 423-6409

Museum Movie Night



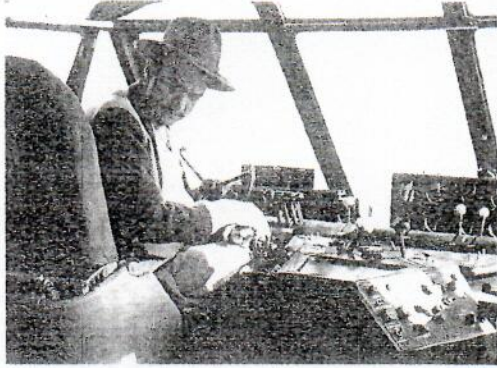
"The Aviator"

Friday, September 12

6:00 PM - Thomson Hall



Come at 6pm & enjoy a bite to eat. Movie starts at 6:30pm SHARP!



This 2004 Academy Award winning film is about Howard Hughes from the late 1920s to the late 1940s, from his movie production of "Hells Angels" (spending a fortune on details) through the only flight of the Hercules, a huge, money-losing transport plane. Along the way, the public Hughes sees the big picture - in movies and in aviation, building TWA and leading it through a fight with Pan Am and the US Senate. In private, phobias and compulsions threaten him with self-imposed solitary confinement. It is only a question of how long his imagination, drive, and the sympathies of Katharine Hepburn, Ava Gardner, and the men who work for him will stave off these internal disorders.

Color; 2004; 170 min (We will have an Intermission)

Margi & Harald Bauer, Movie Nite Chairmen

Movie is FREE

Fresh Popcorn

Hotdogs

Potato Salad

\$2.50



DOCENT DOINGS

Docent Coordinator Randy Majewski is trying to get our Docent Schedules set up as soon as possible. Docents: Please check you calendar when he calls and say "YES", then write it down on your calendar. If you have not yet thought about becoming a Docent, please call *Betty Miller* - 471-0472

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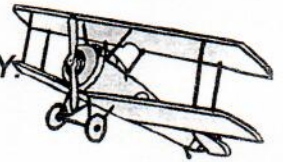
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THE FLIER



WELCOME TO THE HISTORY OF FLIGHT WARBIIRD LIBRARY.



The Estrella Warbird Museum's Library staff is putting out the welcome mat to all members and specials guests to come to the Library and sample our wares.

We hope that every member will make the special effort to come up into the loft and look over the incredible number of books, journals, magazines, albums, tapes and dvds, available to read or view at the library or check-out and enjoy them at home.

BEGINNING **SEPTEMBER 6**, 2008, ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO VISIT ON SATURDAYS FROM THE HOURS, 10:00 a.m. TO 12:00 p.m. THE CHECKOUT PERIOD FOR ALMOST ALL OF THE ITEMS WILL BE, TWO FULL WEEKS, SATURDAY TO SATURDAY!

A special day and time for checkout has recently been added to the schedule. Because of the generous offer from Assistant Librarian, Marcia Rice, the Library will be open on the first Wednesday of each month, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., (the regular scheduled monthly meeting / dinner night).

Keep'm flying,

Charmaine Peckinpaugh, Research Librarian

How to Support Your Museum

1. Bring a guest to the Dinner
2. Invite your friends to Visit the Museum
3. Tell your family about "Movie Night"
4. Become a Volunteer



Movie Night Bonus

George J. Marrett, longtime Estrella Warbird Museum member, past Estrella Warbird Museum Director and Nationally acclaimed author will be present at our September 12 Movie Night. George was interviewed extensively about his book, **Howard Hughes: Aviator** during the filming of "The Aviator" and will give a short talk about his research on Howard Hughes, and meeting the producers , Director, and cast members of the 2004 movie "The Aviator"

6

SPECIAL MEMBERS' September SALE AT THE GIFT SHOP.

Stock Up for Christmas and SAVE!

Come Shop **Before** the September Dinner Meeting. All EWM Members will get First Choice of Clearance Items. -- The Museum & Gift Shop will be **Open 5:30 to 6:45 pm**

Here are some of the September Specials:

Flashing Flags (\$1.00); EWM Golf Towels (\$5.00) EWM Ink Pens (\$1.50) Mood Pencils (7 for \$1.00) EWM License Plate Frames (\$1.75) Collectors' Tee Shirts: The Last Airshow after 9/11 - here in Paso Robles! (\$7.00) F-14 "Save a Cat" (\$5.00) "Juke Box Jive" Dance (\$5.00) Ladies Size Small Hawaiian print shirt (\$15.00), books from \$5.00 to \$12.00, and miscellaneous Model Airplane Kits - assorted prices.

NO Members Discount on Sale merchandise.

All items are on a 1st come 1st serve basis. ---- All sales are Final

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

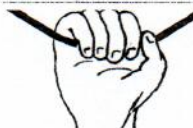
REGULAR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Larry Beck
Darren Chambers
Sue Dollemore
Hugh Early---Returning Member
Christopher Giese
Joyce Herman---*Sponsor Betty Miller*
Michele LaChance
Ed Patague---*Sponsor Rob Kinnear*
Jonathan Riegler
Leslie Whittlesey
Keith Williams---*Sponsor Bob Spielman*
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FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

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Hal Konklin & Guadalupe Lopez

Don Peckinpugh---Membership Chairman



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How many of these folks can you identify from our 2005 Board of Directors?

Hint: Four of these folks have retired from the Board. There are four Past Presidents, one former Chairman of the Board and a CO from our very early days, and six founding members. All but two continue to be active members--and are serving as Docents, Department Chairmen, a Curator, Treasurer, Gift Shop Manager, etc. Go up to these folks at the Dinner Meeting, introduce yourself and tell them you saw their picture!

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See if you can identify which of our advertisers (and long-time members) had something to do with this picture.

Hint: Their first names are Dave and Cathy



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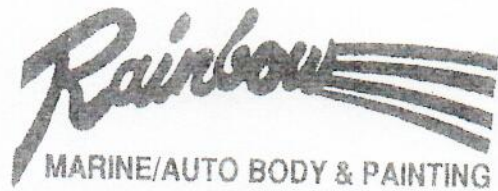
FALL CONTEST

We will have a contest in our September and October Newsletters. We will be inserting a small symbol or word someplace in each issue. The first **two** -2- people who have found it and come to our bar with the correct page they found it on, will get a FREE Beer, Wine, or Soft Drink.

We will tell you what to look for in each issue. Have fun!! September Clue: A sewing needle!

YOUR AD HERE

CALL 467-3521

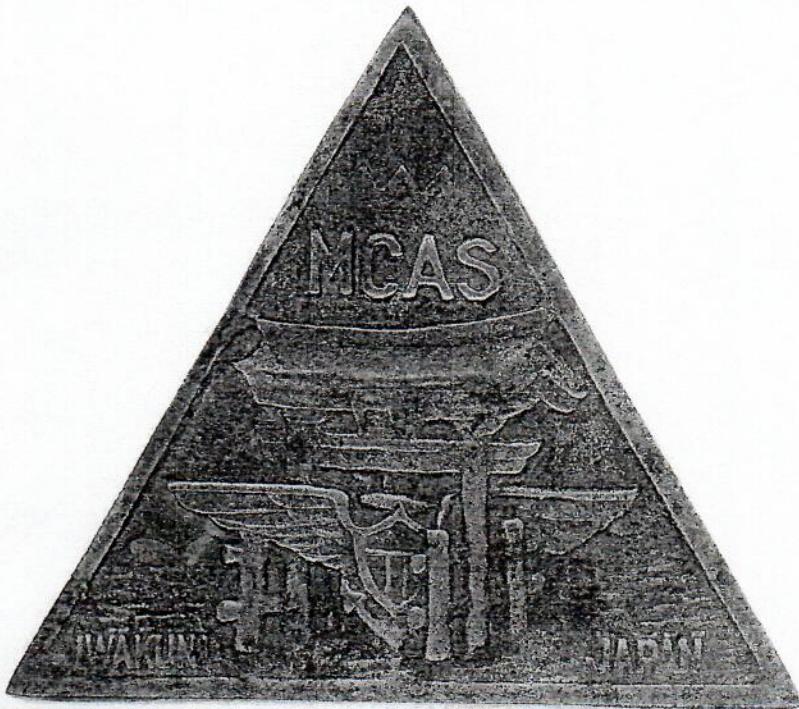


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IS THIS AN EGYPTIAN PYRAMID?

No, it is an artifact that is in one of our US Marine Corps display cases!

It is a brass plaque that came from "IWAKUNI MCAS" in Japan. It may have come off of a entry gate or a building.

It came to us from a farmer in King City who said he unearthed it while plowing a field. We will never know how it got there, but it is a bit of history.

One of our members, Wayne Rice was stationed there for a period of time and he can't figure out how it ended up in King City either!

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