

## THE EAGLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ESTRELLA

WARBIRD MUSEUM VOL: XX 1-0

Honoring the Past - Inspiring the Future

Volume 15, Number 7 ~ Paso Robles, California ~July 2010

July 7, 2010 Program
"Rosie the Riveter" Marries
Navy Pilot...and the Rest of the Story
Unfolds on July 7th!

"Rosie the Riviter", AKA Doris Thompson, left her job at Bradley Field in Connecticut during November, 1944 to marry her long time boy friend, Walter Stacey. Walter had recently received his pilot's wings at Pensacola, Florida, as a graduate of the U.S. Navy V5 program and was now training for carrier take-offs and landings at the Glenview Air Station in Chicago, Illinois.

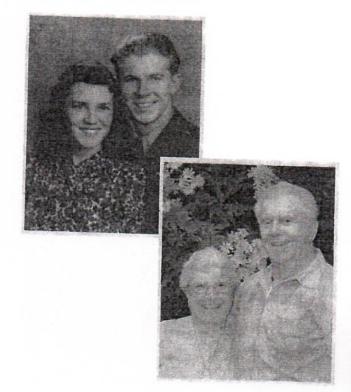
Doris' arrival was greeted with a series of miscommunications and near misses. After they finally found each other, they were forced to hitch-hike to their wedding. It was a tumultuous start on December 1st, 1944. Walter and Doris traveled by train to San Diego, up to Washington, and back to San Diego before he was sent to the Pacific theater aboard the aircraft carrier "." Doris went home to Manchester, N.H., again by train, to await her husband's return and the end of World War II.

At the end of the war, Walter resumed his career working for Ma Bell. He also remained in the Navy Reserve, flying F4U Corsairs, the F9F Cougar (one of the fastest fighters at the time), and the S2F (the slowest at the time, used in anti-submarine warfare), and eventually became the Commanding Officer of his squadron.

Doris had her hands full raising their two boys, Walter Jr. and Richard. When the boys graduated from high school, she took a job as a printer. Water and Doris both retired in their 50's as work was interfering with their square dancing.

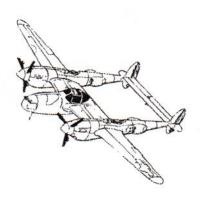
After living in the same house in Rochester for 60+ years, they recently moved to Cambria, where they are literally surrounded by family. They remain active in their church, the Cambria Couples Dance Club, the Pioneers, American Legion, Estrella Warbirds Museum and the Military Officers Association of America.

Doris and Walter recently celbrated their 65th wedding anniversary. They will both be sharing their experiences during World War II and beyond.



## President's Museum Updates.....

### **Rob Kinnear**



It is an honor to serve the Museum as your new President. And coming in after Peter Visel is going to be a hard act to follow. Peter did a phenomenal amount of work this past year and the Museum has prospered for it.

The F-104 repaint is almost completed. After many years of sitting outside, the paint was beginning to show significant wear. The long rainy season slowed the work, but once the gold stripe is done and a couple of missing placards are replaced, it will be ready to go back on the display line. We just received a Navy AT-4J Skyhawk from the Fallon NAS bomb range. The good news is that we saved it from the smelter. The bad news is that because the Navy was originally going to use it as a target, they cut the wings off just outside of the landing gear. Al Schade and the Restoration Group have got some work ahead of them.

We have had two very busy and interesting months. At the beginning of May we had over a dozen aircraft use our facility as their annual formation-flying clinic. If you are a pilot who is going to do this at air shows, you must attend one of these. Most of the aircraft attending were T-6 Texans, and T-28 Trojans. But we did have a T-34 and others here. As usual, it was a thrill to see these aircraft coming and going at the Museum and flying around the airport in formation.

If you missed the Warbird Wings and Wheels the weekend after the fly-in, you missed out on some fun. Having Parnelli Jones attend the event was a real plus. The cars, trucks and even the competition tractors were amazing. Everyone, including the Museum members who volunteered to work the event, had a very good time. We have already begun planning for next year's event. We hope to see you here next May for #3.

May 30th of course was Memorial Day. Aircraft based at the Museum performed missing man formations at three events. Several of us attended the Memorial Event in Atascadero and saw the flyover. We hoped that most people understood the symbolism of the missing man. Memorial day is the beginning of the patriotic season for the year. You then have Flag Day on June 14th and the celebration of our nations birthday on July 4th. This should remind us that the purpose of our Museum is to honor the men and women who have served, or are now serving, our county in the armed forces, whether they stood behind a PX counter in the states or gave the full measure of their life on the front lines, and to educate the young about their story.

I'm usually out in the restoration area on Saturdays. If you have a suggestion or idea for the Museum, come by and talk with me. If not, just come by, see what's happening and say HI.

Best Regards
Rob Kinnear
President, Estrella Warbird Museum
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robkinnear@ewarbirds.org



### Happy Birthday America!

## DINNER MENU

Wednesday, July 7, 2010 Larry's BBQ Chicken

Baked Beans

Veggie & Pasta Salad

Vic's Summer Salad

French Bread

Desert ~Jan's Choice

Ice Tea & Coffee

No Host Bar

Dinner Catering by

Larry Eastwood of Vic's Cafe

\$15.00 Per Person

## RESERVATIONS PLEASE

Call 467-3521 By NOON

Tuesday, July 6th

Thank You

or visit our website to RSVP at:

http://www.ewarbirds.org/dinnerrsvp.ht

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Social Hour 6pm-7pm

Dinner & Program Follows

# 2010-2011 MUSEUM BOARD of DIRECTORS

#### **Executive Committee**

President & CEO

Rob Kinnear

Vice President

Wayne Rice

Secretary

Margi Bauer

**Treasurer** 

Rosemary Netto

ExOfficio Member

Betty Miller

### **Board Members**

Ron Boyte

Ron Brooks

Gary Corippo

Dave Highland

Mike Kelley

Peter Visel

### Museum Info

Phone: 805-227-0440

(Voice Mail Only)

Fri/Sat/ Sun Phone 238-9317

### **WEBSITE**

www.ewarbirds.org

Web Master

Peter Visel - 423-6409



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