

June 2011-May 2012
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Estrella Warbird Museum

The EAGLE

Honoring the Past—Inspiring the Future
NEWSLETTER Vol. 16, Number 12 Paso Robles, California,
December 2011

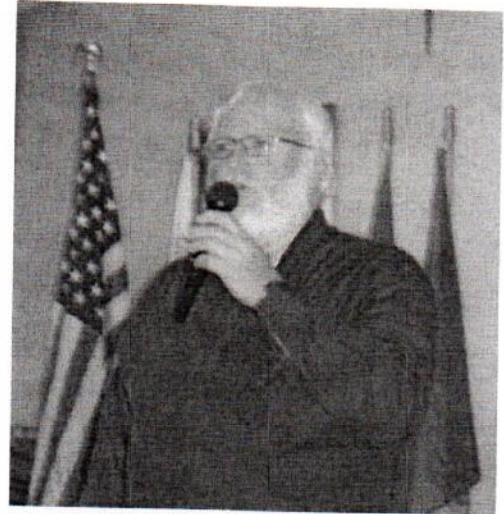
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The Prez Sez...

By Estrella Warbird President
Rob Kinnear

Happy Holidays to you! I expect you had a great Thanksgiving and are looking forward to the rest of the celebrations this month.



Brigadier General John Gong gave us a very interesting and informative presentation on the Guantanamo Bay detainee operations camp at the November Dinner meeting. He was the second in command during the beginning of the camp and it is always good to get information first hand from someone who was there. Larry Eastwood and his crew served up a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

We have a new Safety Manager. Terry Cagan is a relatively new member of the museum, and has been volunteering as a docent since he joined us. In addition to his business and management experience, he worked as a Safety Officer on the Midway Museum in San Diego for 4 years before moving into the area. Welcome aboard Terry.

Another volunteer who has been working very hard for us is John Everett. John is our Vehicle Restoration Manager. John and his crew recently rolled out the great looking Korean War vintage ambulance. Besides restoring our display vehicles, he is responsible for registering and keeping the parade operational vehicles in running order and organizing the drivers for those events. He is currently overseeing the restoration of our Duce-and-a-half truck that was donated by Glen and Betsy Thomson. We are hoping to have it ready for the Christmas Parade in Paso Robles.

Things are a little slow on the acquisitions front, but we are talking with several people about the loan and display of their vehicles and hope to have something to report next month.

Remember, we can always use more Docents, and there is always something that needs to be restored in the restoration shops. Come out and have some fun with us.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

Rob

**Wednesday
December 7, 2011
MENU**



**Succulent Prime Rib
Baked Potato
Seasonal Salad
Cheri's Holiday Green Beans
Rolls
Cheesecake
Ice Tea & Coffee
\$20.00 pp
(Includes Tax & Gratuity)**

Reservations Please

By Monday December 5

805-227-0440 press *2 when
asked & follow instructions

or

Use Our Website Link :

www.ewarbirds.org/dinnerrsvp.html



Social Hour 6:00pm

Dinner 7:00pm



PROGRAM

Gary Ryan Returns

Gary Ryan returns once again as our very special guest speaker and entertainer for our Annual December Estrella Warbird Museum Dinner.

Gary is not only one of the original founders of the Estrella Warbird Museum but there is more! He's had a great career as a professional entertainer appearing at numerous venues throughout the United States. One individual summed up Gary's life as, "Gary has a phenomenal scope of interests and capabilities, matched only by his self-effacement. Not only is he a great piano player as well as banjoist, he's an aircraft builder and pilot, airshow announcer, licensed cruise boat captain and artist; he's run for U.S. president. He's turned a hobby into a six-figure business and, in all these endeavors, puts a smile on the faces of those around him. He is the only person I know who's a jack of all trades ... and the master of all."

Don't miss the opportunity to join with your friends in celebrating the holidays with Gary and his music.

Gift Shop Gab

By Jackie Brooks



Come early and visit your museum Gift Shop *before* Dinner on Wednesday, December 7 to see the new arrivals for **Christmas Giving**. There are many new items under \$20.00 that will please the most discriminating recipient!

We have a new line of costume jewelry with aviation themes that will certainly attract attention when you wear it to your next holiday party. Check out the enamel airplane earrings and the delicate crystal necklaces with a biplane in full flight.

Don't forget the grandkids, we have a new arrival of Kids Table Ware Sets in stock consisting of a divided plate, bowl, cup, spoon and fork with really cute airplanes on them. We also have a "sippy cup" with a floating airplane for the younger set. The older kids love the NASA space shuttle sets with all the related items to launch their own space adventure.

Kids Flight Jackets have been selling like mad, so get yours now. We are also open Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 4 pm.

ILLNESS AND CONCERN

Margi Bauer (Recovering from shoulder surgery), Mary Houston (Recovering from stroke), Edie Knight (Broken arm), Del Knight (Declining health), Chuck Miller (Home and getting better from stroke), Jeanne Thiebaud (Surgery for Carpal tunnel on both hands), Andie Taylor (Undergoing treatment for multiple myeloma)

Call Secretary, Carol Verstuyft 467-2640 for addresses to send a card.



MUSEUM MUSINGS

By Jeanne Thiebaud, Museum Coordinator

Take the time to meet our new Safety Officer, Terry Cagan. He has quite an interesting and full history.

Terry was born in Brooklyn, NY. He graduated from Columbia University with a BS in Microbiology. He, then, graduated from Chiropractic College practicing in Denver CO as an intern resident and chief resident at Spears Chiropractic Hospital.

Terry spent most of my life in marketing and sales of office equipment, from pencils and paper clips to copiers and computers. Retired in 2001 and became an active volunteer, as follows:

Red Cross Instructor, Meals on Wheels, Reserve Deputy Probation Officer, Juvenile Field Services, San Diego for 8 years, Safety Officer aboard the USS Midway in San Diego Bay for 5 years.

He is married to his wife, Karen, with 8 children between them. His hobbies are mineralogy, photography and the love of travel. He moved to Arroyo Grande in November, 2011. He commutes to the museum to perform his duties.

Please take a minute to introduce yourself to this very interesting addition to our museum family.

Who's WHO Contact Information

Acquisitions (Macro)

Gary Corippo 805-712-1222

Aircraft Restoration—

Al Schade 805-927-8303

Car Club Liaison

Howard Love 805-466-4483

Catering

Larry Eastwood 805-238-3988

Curators

Betty Miller 805-471-0472

John Gramentine

JohnGramentine@hotmail.com

Docent Coordinator

Jeanne Thiebaud 805-238-3897

Facility Rental

Betty Miller 805-471-0472

Fund Generation

Gary Corippo 805-712-1222

Gift Shop Manager

Jackie Brooks 805-462-8141

Ground Support Equip.

Dave Geiger 805-239-1598

Grounds Maintenance

Yardvark The Weedeater

805-238-7354

Group Tours

Jeanne Thiebaud 805-235-0163

Health & Welfare

Judy Corippo 238-2090

Insurance

Bramar Associates 805-237-0666

Librarian

Charmaine Peckinpaugh

805-239-9919

Membership

Bob Kelly 805-462-9128

Museum Member Bus Tours

George Taylor 805-448-7402

Museum Vehicles

John Everett 805-237-9523

Movie Night

Hal & Margi Bauer 805-466-4440

Newsletter

Penny Takier 239-5801

Programs

George Marrett 805-466-7640

Public Information Officer

Sue Dollemore 805-239-7675

Refreshments

Rick Brandt 226-8605

Rosalie Joyce 805-226-0376

Safety Officer

Terry Cagan

Webmaster

Peter Visel 309-831-5682



MOVIE NIGHT
Wednesday, Dec. 14
6:00 pm Pizza & Popcorn ~ 6:30 pm Movie Time



SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

Directed by
 Stanley Donan and Gene Kelly

Starring
 Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor, Debbie Reynolds, Cyd Charise
 COLOR, 1951 103 minutes

Watch the transition of two silent film stars moving on to the talkies. Will their voices be compatible for the new movie genre? A great way to remember those unforgettable song and dance numbers. Enjoy it all on our big screen and sound system!

The Movie is FREE, but there is a minimal charge for Popcorn or Pizza

New Newsletter Editor Takes Over

Member Penny Takier (wife of Director Jerry Takier) has graciously agreed to take on the role of Editor of the Museum Newsletter, "The Eagle", effective with this issue.

Penny is a retired home health nurse and psych nurse. She now volunteers with Loaves & Fishes as the Telephone Tree Chairperson and once a week "bag lady". She is an advocate with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children) for the County of San Luis Obispo.

Penny serves as a Director and the Secretary of the Rancho Paso Homeowners Association. Penny and Jerry enjoy traveling in their "spare time" and visiting with their two adult children and seven grandchildren.

I have enjoyed being your Newsletter Editor and I know you will enjoy Penny's fresh take on things.

Betty Miller

A Final Flyover

May 26, 2011 – *To commemorate Memorial Day, Focus FAA posted this story about an American hero and how the FAA was able to grant him his final wish. We also use this occasion to remember with gratefulness the sacrifice of so many Americans.*

William Bower never asked a lot from his country, and even if he had, it's doubtful this country could repay its debt to him and so many other Americans like him. But the United States, and particularly the FAA, was able to fulfill one final request of Bower's. The retired Air Force colonel and WWII veteran asked that a B-25 bomber be allowed to fly over his grave upon his burial at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

The B-25 is significant to this story, because it was the type of plane that Bower piloted during the famous Doolittle bombing raid on Japan during WWII. The raid — named after its leader Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle — was a huge morale lift for Americans, coming shortly after the catastrophe at Pearl Harbor, when America's fortunes seemed at low tide. Sixteen bombers carrying 80 crewmembers took off on April 16, 1942 from the USS Hornet aircraft carrier to strike at the heart of Japan.

There were several catches: a B-25 had never flown off the deck of a carrier before, and no one was sure if it was possible. The other catch: the plane could not carry enough fuel for a return trip. After the bombing raid was completed, pilots were to ditch their planes in the ocean, or perhaps in China, if they could reach the mainland.

All planes made it off the carrier, reached their targets and fulfilled their missions. One plane made it to Russia, where the crew was interned for 14 months. The other planes either ditched in the water or over China. Seven men from the mission died while bailing out, or from drowning, execution by the Japanese, or from malnutrition. The story of the Doolittle Raid lives on in military annals.

The end of this story began a few weeks ago when William Bower died at the age of 94. His family approached the Transportation Security Agency for a waiver to allow the civilian flight of a B-25 through restricted airspace (Arlington National Cemetery is within restricted airspace). The TSA denied the waiver, not understanding the back story of this unusual request.

But controllers at the Potomac TRACON understood the symbolism of the event. Determined to help the Bower family, the TRACON notified JJ Johnston, manager of the National Capital Region Coordination Center.

Johnston was familiar with the Doolittle Raid and its significance in U.S. military history. He knew that "due to the special nature of the requirement, the sensitivity of the event, and internally [at the FAA], it was the right thing to do.

"I took it upon myself to work with the TSA and the other air security partners in the national capital region to take a second look and — consistent with security protocols — get this approved," Johnston said.

Johnston knew he had to hustle, because the funeral was only two weeks away. He provided William Bower's background and history, and information on the raid, to the TSA. "I knew I could make a convincing argument," he recalled. He was right. The TSA agreed to a waiver for the flight.

Natalie Smith, the procedures manager at Potomac TRACON, coordinated the flight path, while Johnston worked on the security side of things. "Everyone was terrific and jumped on board to get it done," said Johnston.

On the day of the funeral, Johnston and his staff watched as the B-25 was put into its holding route to await its cue. "We watched the entire flight come in toward D.C. and climb slowly back out towards the east," said Johnston. It was an emotional moment for all involved.

"I was so proud to be part of it," he said.

Thomas Casey, director of Doolittle Tokyo Raiders, an organization dedicated to the memory of the raiders, who helped fulfill the pilot's final wish, offered his "deepest thanks" to everyone involved. "The Bower family may never realize the time and negotiating involved in this effort; however, they will see and hear the results at 1100 hours on Monday April 16th on a hill at Arlington National Cemetery, when [the B-25] breaks the morning silence overhead in a final salute to an American hero."

Col. William Bower (Ret.) was buried on that day, just two days short of the 69th anniversary of the Doolittle Raid, with full military honors and the final flyover of a B-25, the plane he flew into history.





Estrella Warbird Museum
4251 Dry Creek Road
Paso Robles, CA 93446

Non Profit Org.
PAID
Permit 163
Paso Robles, CA 93446

3*1*****3-DIGIT 934
BOB & JANET TULLOCK
5335 MONTEREY RD
PASO ROBLES CA 93446-8644

DATES TO REMEMBER!

- Wednesday, December 7 Dinner Meeting 6:00pm Social/ 7:00pm Dinner
- Wednesday, December 14 **MOVIE NIGHT** 6:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 21 **EWM Board Meeting** 6pm to 8pm