June 2014-May 2015
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#### REMEMBER:

Dinner reservations will only be accepted, on line or by phone, until 6:00PM Mar 2nd

NOTE: Phone # 805-296-1935

Estrella Warbirds Museum The EAGLE

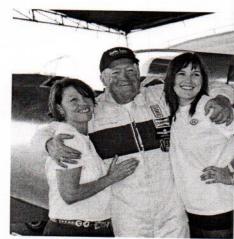
Honoring the Past—Inspiring the Future

NEWSLETTER Vol. 20, Number 3 March, 2015 Paso Robles, CA

VOL XXVI -03

## The Prez Sez

By Estrella Warbirds President Sherm Smoot



Hope you all had a great Valentine's Day.

Things are happening at a steady pace at our Museum — We have hired a fine lady to spearhead our Curator responsibilities and get our backlog of artifacts squared away. Her name is Jill Thayer. She has a stack of credentials that would make any organization proud. She also comes to us from a long list of family members who served this country in WWII and Korea. We are honored and lucky to have her. Not only can she do the curating job, she has an extensive background in marketing, IT, digital media, and graphic design. She specializes in corporate identity and branding. I know you will welcome her with open arms. Get ready for some exciting things to come from her. Our own Betty Miller has been working closely with her during her orientation. Thank you Betty for spending the time to help.

I will be submitting paperwork to the city for the two 5 ac. parcels west of us this week. Ken Nagahara, our architect, has been working with us to get the drawings necessary. I want to personally thank him for all his effort. He contributes a lot of his time and effort to help this museum succeed. If you need an architect, he's your man. The Pfauter building steel will be erected next month. All the concrete work is done. Once we get the two new parcels, nothing will stop us from becoming the premier exhibit on the central coast. We are the number one attraction on Trip Advisor in Paso Robles. Thanks to our volunteers for all of your hard work. Your museum is on its way to the having the most comprehensive and unique artifacts display on the left coast!

Our March speaker is Christina Olds, the daughter of Brigadier General Robin Olds, one of the most famous, charismatic USAF fighter pilots in military history. His book "Fighter Pilot" says it all. Please join us for the dinner meeting **Wednesday**, **March 4**, **2015** and hear Christina talk about her Dad. Make your reservations by calling 805.296.1935 or going to our website, click on Activities, then Event Registration, and then monthly dinner reservations. Remember, we are always on a membership drive so bring a friend. Thanks for your continued support.

My prayers to you and all in harms way,



## Wednesday March 4, 2015 MENU



Corn Beef and Cabbage
Green Salad
Carrots
Red Potatoes
Corn Muffins & Butter
St. Patty's Dessert
Ice Tea & Coffee

\$17.00 pp

(Includes Tip & Gratuity)

# RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY MONDAY, March 2

805-296-1935 You can leave a voice message or text to this number.

or

Use our Website Link: www.ewarbirds.org/dinnerrsvp.html



SOCIAL HOUR

6:00 PM

DINNER

7:00 PM

#### MARCH PROGRAM

Christina Olds
Author:
Fighter Pilot
The Memoirs of Legendary Ace
Robin Olds





Christina Olds was born in Manhattan, NY and lived around the world with her USAF fighter pilot father, Robin Olds and Hollywood actress mother, Ella Raines. Raised mostly in Washington D.C., England and Colorado, she graduated from Vassar College with a BA in English/Creative Writing in 1974 and spent 25 years living in Marin County where she raised her daughter Jennifer Olds Newman (now a costume designer in Los Angeles). In 2001 Christina moved to Colorado to be near her aging father, who had retired in 1973 from the air force as a brigadier general. She worked for Vail Resorts for six years. While caring for her father during his terminal illness in 2007, Christina promised to complete his half-written memoirs from his gathered notes. Robin Olds passed away June 14, 2007. She spent the next two years researching and writing the book, including interviewing veterans who flew with her father in WWI and Vietnam. Her book was published April 13, 2010 by St. Martin's Press and has been heralded as an exceptionally literary and lyrical biography/memoir. This is her first book. Christina moved back "home" to California in July 2011, this time choosing Sonoma County over Marin. She currently lives in Healdsburg and is Director Of Museum Operations for the Pacific Coast Air Museum at the Charles M. Schulz-Sonoma County Airport. She frequently travels to speak to aviation museums and air shows around the country.

### VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR WINNERS

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Member of the Year: Ron Brooks
Grunt of the Year: Keith Dekker

Volunteers of the Year: Jackie Brooks, Jeanne Thibeau, Linda Hermansen, Penny Takier

Extra Mile: Richard Humble, Jerry Crabill

Top Gun: George Marrett
Directors Choice: Peter Visel





#### WE HAVE A CURATOR!!!!!!!

Her name is Jill Thayer, Ph.D. She brings her experience, education, and passion to the curatorial position at our Museum. A native of Sacramento, an over 40-year resident of Bakersfield, and a new resident to the Central Coast, her father William G. Thayer served in the US Army as Sergeant of Transportation in the Korean War, and her great uncles were WWII pilots, namely Laurence "Bud" Schilling Thayer, a Flight officer in the US Army Air Forces, and Alan Austin Thayer, a Lieutenant Junior Grade in the US Navy.

Her academic and professional experience will translate to her role as curator in

preserving and honoring military aviation history. Jill adds, "I am privileged to be a part of Estrella Warbirds Museum to preserve and perpetuate the legacy of those who have contributed to its success.

(Due to space constraints Jill's educational background and wealth of experience will be shared in the next newsletter) PLEASE WELCOME THIS VERY VALUABLE NEW MEMBER TO OUR FAMILY!

#### WE CELEBRATED THE WESTERN NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS IN FEBRUARY













On February 7, 2015 the Woodland's hosted the United States Auto Club's West Coast Championship Awards Banquet with approximately 160 attendees, mostly coming from out of the area. This was held in our newly/mostly refurbished Hangar 1 along with a sneak preview of the Woodland Building Expansion.

In May, the 21st Annual Kyle Petty Charity Celebrity Motorcycle Ride Across America will be hosted by the Woodlands. Expected are 150 celebrity riders to stop in for a tour, lunch at Thomson Hall and a photo op/autograph session for their fans. This event is highly publicized throughout the country.



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

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## Papa Ducks Pond

Woodland Family Collection

Come take a look at the newest addition to the Woodland collection. It is a 1996 Eagle Indy Car which is the last one constructed by Dan Gurney's All American Racers in Santa Ana, CA. This one, with the familiar Jones and Agajanian #98, was driven by Parnelli's oldest son, PJ.

And be sure to take a look at the brand new addition to our Museum.



# **DATES TO REMEMBER!**

Wednesday, March 4 Dinner Meeting 6:00pm Social/7:00pm Dinner

Wednesday, March 18 Board Meeting 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm