



**The Eagle**  
*Remembering The Past*  
*Inspiring The Future*  
 Volume 21 Number 12 December, 2016  
 VOL XXVII-12

**Estrella Warbirds Museum**  
**Woodland Auto Display**

The Prez Sez....

President Sherman Smoot

I just got back from flying our **Freedom flight** over various cemeteries celebrating Veteran's Day – A very special day to many members of EWM. It reminds us of the ultimate sacrifice so many of our citizens made in support of this great nation. We shall always honor them.

By the time you read this, **Thanksgiving** will be over and the **Christmas** holiday season shall be upon us. I'm sure there are some that would say I shouldn't say Christmas because it's not politically correct, but hey, I am a Christian and it's always been Christmas to me. So here we go again – Holiday decorations, mistletoe, parties, etc. ... All of us here at Estrella Warbirds Museum and Woodland Auto Display wish you the best holiday season!

Here's what's happening at the museum – **The Grumman F-9** photo aircraft is out of restoration. What a fantastic job the restoration crew did! It will be placed among the other relics we have outside in the courtyard. More and more people are coming from all over to visit our various displays. When the new project on the adjacent property is completed, we will be a force to be reckoned with. To all of our volunteers, and you know who you are, I want to sincerely thank you for all your tireless effort. We cannot thank you enough. We will be working on getting an approved audit. With that successfully behind us and with Jill Thayer as our Curator, we will qualify for a wider range of grant money. Grants are a museum's life blood and we will get our fair share.

**REMEMBER**, our next dinner meeting is the **Christmas Special on Wednesday, December 7, 2016**. We have a great program for everyone. See you then!

My prayers to all in harm's way,

Sherm



May, 2016 –June, 2017

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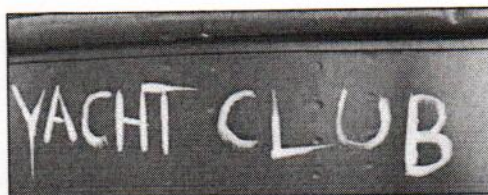
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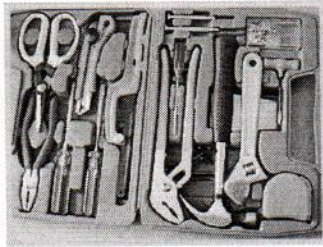
**OK MEMBERS,**

WHAT YACHT CLUB ARE WE TALKING ABOUT  
HERE? WHERE IS THIS YACHT CLUB FOREVER  
MEMORIALIZED?

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T GUESSED, SEE PAGE 4

# Restoration Corner

Updates from Dennis Johansen



I walked into the rear section of the Restoration Building recently and was confronted with the business end of a 2-1/2 ton truck that I recognized from Vietnam. **Bill Lander, the Warbird Assistant Acquisitions Manager** was welding on the side of a truck that the guys in Vietnam affectionately called the duce-and-a-half. I asked Bill what he was up to.

Bill pushed back his welders helmet and responded, "I'm building a gun truck like the ones used in Vietnam." Later, I watched as Bill maneuvered in a long sheet of steel plate that **Gary Corippo had procured from McCarthy Tank and Steel**. To build a realistic gun truck, Bill would have to fabricate the steel sheet into armor plate as the troops in Vietnam did .

In Vietnam, the mission of the US Army Transportation Corps was to ferry supplies from the coastal ports inland to base camps located up and down the country. The logistic requirements of **MACV (Military Assistance Command Vietnam)** were huge and 200-truck convoys were not uncommon. Like Humvees, combat action caused unacceptable attrition rates of rolling equipment like trucks and tracks. So, Army maintenance yards stepped in and began up-arming duce-and-half trucks along with its big brother the M-54 five-ton truck. Armament usually consisted of two M-60 machine guns mounted along the sides of the truck and one 50 caliber machine gun mounted on the roof of the cab. In the case of the five-ton, often the hull of a M113 armored personnel carrier was placed in the truck bed which considerably increased



2 1/2 ton Gun Truck  
Undergoing Phase One



The Real Thing Cr 1967

the safety of the crew and increased the firepower of the gun truck. The in-country fabricated gun trucks were successful to the point where by late 1968, prefabricated armor kits began arriving in Vietnam to ease the process of creating the gun truck. Armament was sometimes increased to include the XM-134 mini-gun and the quad-fifty, a four-barrel combination of four 50 caliber guns which was originally designed as a anti-aircraft weapon during the Second World War.

Bill's truck will have a name and graphics added to the side of the truck to complete the accurate restoration. Bill isn't talking yet about the name, but names like "the Deuce is Wild", "Cold Sweat" "Iron Butterfly" and "The Eve of Destruction" were common in Vietnam. Bill's gun truck is about ready for the paint shop, after which it will join several other vehicles restored in the shop that make up the parade element of the Warbirds that join several Armed Forces Day parades around the County.

- Dennis Johansen



**"Alfa Dogs"  
Dress Up  
Warbird Frontline**

**Alfa Romeo Club  
Pays A Visit to EWM/WAD**



Alfa Owners from left: David Rossi, Bill Walls, Bob Walls, Paul Foley, Chris Armstrong, Daryl Klomp

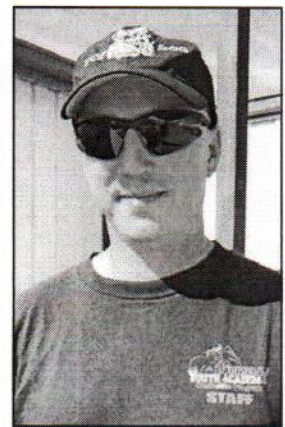
**EWM October 23**— More Hardware Geeks are in town! The Alfa Romeo Owners Club Central California stopped by Estrella to see what all the talk is about. They were in a group that woke up and tried to decide amongst themselves how they would finish up a road trip before heading home. Half of them wanted to see more of the Central COAST. The other half decided to do something really interesting: a trip over to Paso to check out EWM/WAD. They were happy with their decision. Greeted by Docent **Walt Stacy** that day, AROCCA member Chris Armstrong said Walt's stories of his flying days kept the group at attention and was, as he put it "something I will not soon forget". Paul Foley, the group's leader said it best: " I don't care if it's old planes or old cars I love 'em and I want to see them. Thanks for showing us around and I hope we can return soon with another group." Thanks, Mr. Foley.....and bring a whole bunch more Alfas with you!

Text Photos Steve Lochen

**Cleanup In Aisle 4 No Hard Task For Invading Grizzlies**

**Grizzly Good Guys Spreading The Mulch.....On EWM!**

**SFC Benjamin Federic led the 3rd Platoon Top Dogs, Grizzly Youth Academy**, in beautifying the grounds at **EWM**, thanks to a donation of 127 bags of garden mulch from **Lowe's**, courtesy of Todd Pederson. The Grizzly Youth Academy provides service to the community to promote hard work. The organization's pride is giving back to the community. All cadets must do 40 hours of service to the community in their commitment. Thanks to all for your support of our museum!



SFC Ben Frederic

Text, Photos Dr. Jill Thayer



**3rd Platoon Top Dogs From Grizzly Youth Academy**



No such thing as  
and easy job  
done right!  
Right?

## Biker Gang Descends on EWM, Demands Tour

Issues Stern Warning: "...We Will Be Back"



Photo - Steve Lochen

SLO Bicycle Club, Tortoises Sub-Group line up at EWM November 11

EWM/WAD-18 members of The San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club-Tortoises Div., 5 of whom are Veterans, attacked EWM/WAD on November 11, Veteran's Day looking for an experience appropriate for this Day. The Group Leader, **Dee Mckelvie** (center red shirt) led the "bale" (look it up). A tour led by **Betty Miller** and **Peter Snyder** concluded with a group photo and a few comments: "The tour and experience was top-notch, and it met and exceeded our expectations. Many of us plan to return to the museum with our family and friends." "Dedicated, informative volunteers" "Jerry, Peter, and Betty were awesome." "I like the history of the German Airforce during WWII, the models and paintings about the highly decorated German warbird pilots." SLOBC chose to ride to EWM for Veteran's Day. We say, please come again! And wear your uniforms. For more on SLOBC: [www.slobc.org](http://www.slobc.org). For the Tortoises Div: **Stu Goldenberg 805 544 4720 / [sgoldenb@calpoly.edu](mailto:sgoldenb@calpoly.edu)**

## YACHT CLUB.....

### 1942 General Motors Corporation "DUKW"

The DUKW was developed quickly during World War II to meet the need for amphibious cargo transfer from ship to shore. General Patton and General Eisenhower realized the DUKW was an invaluable war tool, and they were impressed by its capabilities. Over 1,000 DUKWs were used in the Sicilian landings of 1943 alone. Operation Overlord, the landing in Normandy, was the most crucial operation in history with circumstances that made the DUKWs virtually indispensable. Approximately, 2,000 DUKWs brought to shore 40% of all supplies landed between June 6 and September 1, 1944. Ours came in late 2010 from a surf shop down in the OC, looking like the *Magic Bus*, traded with a retired Army Colonel for an anti-tank gun ! Yeah!! Go Figure. That's how it's done.

The nomenclature DUKW was assigned by the manufacturer, General Motors Corporation, from:

D—First year of Mfg, 1942

U\_\_ Utility Vehicle (amphibious)

K—All Wheel Drive

W—Rear Tandem Axel



See our IWO JIMA YACHT CLUB DUCK  
In the RED BALL EXPRESS/PFAUTER Bldg.

# NOW HEAR THIS.....

### *Holiday Dinner Menu*

*Wednesday, December 7, 2016*

*EWM/WAD Thompson Hall*

*7:00 pm Sharp*

*\$20.00*

*Prime Rib*

*Baked Potato*

*Seasoned Salad*

*Holiday Green Beans*

*Rolls*

*Cheesecake*

*Reservations: 805-296-1935*

That Is All.



**EVENTS TO CONSIDER....**

**November 26** Thanksgiving Day

**November 27** Paso Robles Tree Lighting Ceremony 7pm

**December 3** Paso Robles Christmas Light Parade 7pm

& Community Volunteers PRESENTS. . .

**The 55th HOLIDAY LIGHT PARADE**

Entry Deadline: Tues., November 22nd

Cash Awards! Get Your Parade Entry Forms at . . .

Main Street office - 835 12th St. "D" (in the alley), 238-4103  
or on the web at [pasoroblesmoww.org](http://pasoroblesmoww.org)

Theme: *"The Music and Magic of Christmas"*



**December 7** 75th Anniversary Japanese Attack On United States at Pear Harbor



**December 7** Monthly Dinner Meeting EWM Thompson Hall

**December 9** Winter Wonderland Downtown Atascadero , Sunken Garden 7 to 9pm

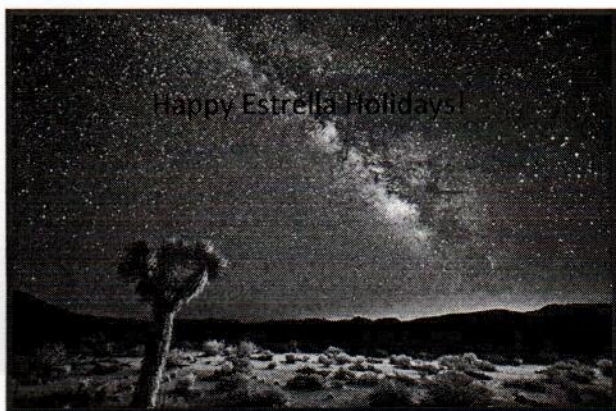
**December 10** Vine Street Victorian Showcase 6 to 9pm

**Vine Street Victorian Christmas Showcase**

Saturday, December 10th  
 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
 Vine Street Between 8th & 21st Streets



**Through December 23** Cambria Lights & Christmas Market

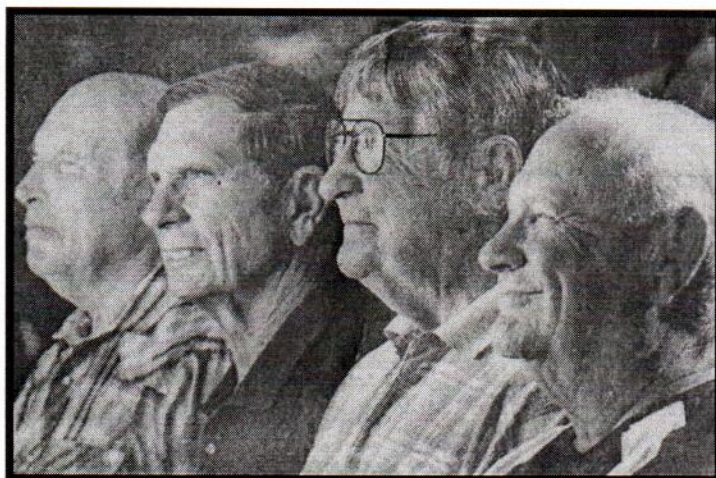


***MOWW Honors George Marrett and 340 Others***

***Recognized for Their Military Service***

***Viet Nam, Korea, and World War II***

**EWM--** In case you missed it. **George Marrett**, along with about 340 other veterans, were honored and recognized in public at the Madonna Inn Expo Center on October 27th. The tribute was organized by **The Military Order of the World Wars**. This was the final event of three consecutive annual luncheons held simply to honor local Central Coast veterans. Joe Brocotto, the MOWW's chapter president puts it simply: "It is time for people to honor their service."



Left to right - USA Capt. James Brenneman, USA Lt. Col, G. Russell Zink, **USAF Capt. George Marrett**, Marine Corps Cpl, Timothy Haley were all honored at the October 27 Order of the World Wars luncheon at the Madonna Inn Expo Center.

(Photo Joe Johnston [jjohnston@thetribunenews.com](mailto:jjohnston@thetribunenews.com))

George could fill up a monthly dinner talk himself, perhaps a welcome relief from having to come up with those hilarious gag bits before dinner. He completed/survived close to 200 combat missions in the A-1 Skyraider supporting ground operations and rescue missions to pick up downed pilots under fire. He and the others recognized at this event gathered in order to honor those who did not return. George readily admits that "we saved a tremendous number of lives."

*Story lifted from SLO Trib Nick Wilson dated Oct 25)*

George Marrett Bringin' It Again For The Holidays

Fabulous Lindy Sisters Coming To EWM/WAD



Lindy Sisters Lynette, Loralee, & Linda Lou



George Marrett is pleased to announce that the **Lindy Sisters ([www.thelindysisters.com](http://www.thelindysisters.com))** will perform on December 7 at 8:00pm in Thompson Hall. The three gals will sing a mixture of Christmas carols and World War II patriotic songs. Go to their website and click on the DEMO REEL.

The Lindy Sisters are masters of 1940's melodies, these sweethearts have been mesmerizing audiences with their luscious harmonies from coast to coast. Every detail of their act from the scrumptious vocal arrangements to the seamed stockings and ruby red lips smacks of classic vintage swing.

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7, 2016**

**SOCIAL 6PM, DINNER 7PM, SHOWTIME ABOUT 8PM**

**RES: 805-296-1935 OR**

**ON LINE: [www.ewarbirds.org/dinnersvp.html](http://www.ewarbirds.org/dinnersvp.html)**

**PS: The hat will be passed to pay for this entertainment. Be as generous as you can!  
Merry Christmas!**



### **Local CAP Offers Ways Into The Air USAF Aux. Paves Way Into Pilot Training, Academy Scholarship**

**Air and Space**— You into airplanes? In the USA you can learn to fly an airplane before you learn to drive a car. The Civil Air Patrol, an auxiliary of the United States Air Force, is set up to help you do just that. Sure there is a cost. But, surprise, it is most reasonable! And CAP is missioned to assist anyone who is really interested. All those who become Cadets populate a certain age bracket: "teenagers". They pick it up like a sponge...instruments, navigation, communication, weather. Just ask **Col. Nicole Malachowski**, a CAP product who is now a "Lady Thunderbird". That's right, **she** flies F-16 #3 with the finest pilots in the world.



Col. Nicole Malachowski

FYI: CAP contact at Estrella: CAP SQ Commander Mike Huff 805 423 0087

# ESTRELLA WARBIRD MUSEUM

4251 Dry Creek Road

Paso Robles, CA 93446

Website: [www.ewarbirds.org](http://www.ewarbirds.org)

November 12, 2016

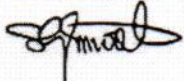
Dear Warbirds Members:

This past year has again been an extraordinary one for Estrella Warbirds Museum and Woodland Auto Display. The most exciting news is that we have signed an agreement with the City of Paso Robles to acquire adjacent acreage for the construction of a large aviation display complex and new meeting/dining facilities. This additional property doubles the size of our museum site.

We realize that at this time of year you receive many appeals for support. Besides the wine industry, we want you to know that Estrella Warbirds Museum is the #1 tourist destination in the Paso Robles area. To realize our plans for future expansion we have a multi-million dollar fundraising goal. Our plans include several large hangars for the protection of our existing and future aircraft along with the required associated infrastructure. As you may know, many of our buildings carry the names of generous donors and with our upcoming expansion we now can offer additional opportunities for building donor name recognition.

We routinely receive visitors from all over the world and from every state in the union. The museum depends strongly on financial and other kinds of civic backing and community support. Your anticipated contribution is very important to us and we are genuinely grateful for each and every gift. We thank you in advance and look forward to having you visit us.

Yours very sincerely,



Sherman Smoot, President  
Estrella Warbirds Museum

If you have visited and supported us in the past we thank you. If you have not visited us we look forward to offering you a tour of the museum. Thank you for helping preserve this important part of America's history.

Your donation is tax deductible - Our federal tax ID number is 77-0324714

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of \$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_

Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to *Estrella Warbirds Museum* (all gifts benefit *Estrella Warbirds Museum*) OR Credit Card:

\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_ MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_

Call us at (805) 238-9317  
or visit us online at [www.ewarbirds.org](http://www.ewarbirds.org)

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

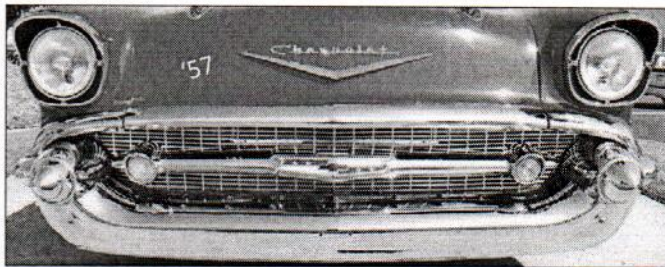
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**ESTRELLA WARBIRDS MUSEUM**  
**WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY**



**4521 DRY CREEK ROAD**  
**PASO ROBLES, CA 93446**  
**805-238-9317**

**THURSDAY—SUNDAY 10:00AM - 4:00PM**



**Volunteers Wanted.....**

**GIFT SHOP:** Thursday through Sunday, 10am until 4pm. Call Toni Moore at 805-238-9317.

**LIBRARY:** Open when the Museum is open. Contact Tom Gorham at tag2878@cox.net or call the museum at 805-238-9317.

**MUSEUM GREETER/DOCENT:** Open when museum is open. Meet and Greet. Call Jerry Jones, Museum Coordinator at 805-238-9317.

**RESTORATION:** Hands On! - "Get Dirty"! Just show up Monday, Wednesday or Saturday. starting at 9AM. Gourmet Lunch on Saturday provided by Wayne Rice. See Ron Boyte or Anyone in the Shop.

**Non Profit Org.**

**PAID**

**Permit 163**

**Paso Robles, CA**



**From The Editor:**

If you see or experience anything concerning planes and/or automobiles that you think may be of interest to our membership, send it to me via email:

steve@lochenphoto.com

Send by the 12th of the month deadline.

Everything will be considered. Send names with photos. Easy as that! Thanks! Steve Lochen