

# EAGLE

**Estrella Warbirds Museum  
Woodland Auto Display  
Paso Robles, CA 93446**

*Remembering The Past/  
Inspiring The Future*

Vol 29 No 12 December 2019

## Prez Sez

EWM President Rob Kinnear

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you! Our fall season has been good. Visitor attendance has stayed solid with tours and most people from out of the county. With the successful trip of **Betsy's Biscuit Bomber**, we are seeing visitors from Europe.

The **Curator storage** at the south end of Freedom Hall is moving along.

We held our annual **Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in November**. The purpose of the dinner is to get our volunteers together and have a good time, to show our appreciation of all their hard work. This Museum does not happen without the volunteers. I wish we could have gotten all of our volunteers to attend, but if you have a hard time getting 6 people together, try 130 volunteers and their guests. I had a great time and I was working the dinner. We got many compliments from the people who attended. We are looking at doing a spring barbeque and a fall dinner.

If you can give us some time, we can always use more hands to help us grow the Museum. If you are volunteering, bring a friend. As always, come out and join the fun with us. *Merry Christmas!* -Rob



**One of the oldest Taylor J-2 Cub's on the FAA registry** is now suspended in flight at the Obbie Atkinson Hangar (Hangar One). Over 1200 J-2 Cubs were made between 1935 and 1938. This aircraft was donated to Estrella Warbirds Museum by Stephen Dwelle. Thank You Mr. Dwelle!. Now invite a friend and check it out. See Page 5.

## RAFFLE TO SUPPORT HANGAR FOR C-47 "BISCUIT BOMBER"

Donation • Drawing • June 3, 2020 Dinner Meeting

**\$5 each or 5 Tickets for \$20  
RAFFLE TICKET**

Commemorative custom etched bottle  
Courtesy of Gary Eberle

ALL PROCEEDS WILL HELP  
BUILD BETSY'S HANGAR

The Gooney Bird Group is a California 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Corporation C 2995105

The bottle was flown  
to Europe aboard  
Betsy's Biscuit Bomber.  
It features  
dual-sided labels signed  
by WWII Veterans and  
dignitaries in Normandy  
to commemorate  
the historic mission.

Winner does not need to be present.  
If not claimed within 4 weeks, another drawing  
will be held at next EWM dinner meeting.

- Make checks payable to Estrella Warbirds Museum. Mail checks to: Estrella Warbirds Museum, ATTN: Bookkeeper, 4251 Dry Creek Road, Paso Robles, CA 93446
- Purchase at the museum gift shop at address above
- Buy On Line at [www.ewarbirds.org](http://www.ewarbirds.org) \$5 each ticket, \$20 for five tickets

## Volunteer Dinner Honors Everone Who Pitches In

Don't Have to be "full-time" to get recognized

A very special *THANK YOU!* to all our volunteers, working together to help Estrella Warbirds Museum grow! **A Volunteer Thank You Dinner** was held Saturday, **November 9th**, recognizing docents, restoration crew, setup and clean up crews, administrative staff, gift shop workers and everyone who has played a part this past year! This special dinner was prepared and served by the EWM Board Members! Thank you everyone!

## PRAC GETS INSIDE LOOK AT WHAT IT TAKES TO BATTLE THOSE WILDFIRES FROM THE AIR

Paso Robles Aviation Club Leaves Thomson Hall For  
CHP and CalFire Sessions. Hands-on the hardware!



Fire Capt. Matt Mihalco (LEFT) hosted the tour of Cal Fire's Air Attack Base where two Grumman S-2 air tankers and a North American OV-10 air attack observation plane are based.



CHP Officer Joe Kingman explained that the role of aviation in their Department consisted of medical/rescue response, surveillance, and enforcement. Here he leads an inspection of CHP's AS 350 helicopter. Keegan Lee, one of the Aviation Youth Program students said, "This is so cool! I learned a lot today, but what I liked the most was talking to Ann, the air tanker pilot. The controls and instruments look so complicated, but her job is so exciting."

From  
Paso Robles Magazine

Hey, Join PRAC at  
EWM Contact **Brad  
Eaton:**  
805-550-8755 or  
[N39WR@aol.com](mailto:N39WR@aol.com)

**George Marrett Presents:  
Banjoman and EWM'er**



Join Founding Member **Gary Ryan**, master of the stringed instruments, as he plays a “be-bopped” version of Christmas songs in a way you may not have experienced in your short life. This is someone who helped found EWM and has backed up Dean Martin, Rosemary Clooney and DerBingle Crosby! Do not miss this one. Bring your appetite and Christmas Spirit to Thomson Hall **December 4th!** Oh, he is building an airplane.

**Monthly Dinner/Meeting  
December 4th 2019**

**Thomson Hall**

**\$25.00 (This Month) At The Door**

**5:30 Social 6:30 Dinner**

**Presentation...**

**Gary Ryan**

**CHRISTMAS MENU**



- PRIME RIB**
- SCALLOPED POTATOES**
- VEGETABLES**
- TOSSED SALAD**
- ROLL & BUTTER**
- CHEESECAKE DESSERT**

**ESTRELLA WARBIRDS MUSEUM  
WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY**

Rob Kinnear-President  
Scott Stelzle-Vice President  
Cindy Bergin—Treasurer  
Carol Verstuyft - Secretary

*Directors*

Ron Brooks  
Bob Burgess  
Margi Bauer  
Dennis Johansen  
Bill Lander  
Toni Moore  
Charles Rooks

*Staff*

Margi Bauer — Volunteer Program  
Ron Boyte— Vehicle Restoration  
Ron Brooks - Buildings Maintenance  
John Everett — Parade  
Jason Holland— Asst. Museum Coordinator  
Jerry Jones—Museum Coordinator  
Bob Kelly—Membership  
Mike Kelley—Tech  
Rob Kinnear — Aircraft Restoration  
Bill Lander — Grounds Maintenance  
Steve Lochen—Newsletter  
John Madden — Safety  
George Marrett—Guest Speaker Coord.  
Ken Neuman — Hall Rental Coord.  
Marcia Rice—Library  
Wayne Rice—Kitchen  
John Spooner—PIO  
Dr. Jill Thayer—Curator  
Carol Verstuyft—Advertising  
Peter Visel—Webmaster



Welcome Ken Neuman!

**RESERVATIONS:**

**PHONE: 805-296-1935**

**ONLINE: [ewarbirds.org](http://ewarbirds.org) Drop  
Down To Dinner Reservations**



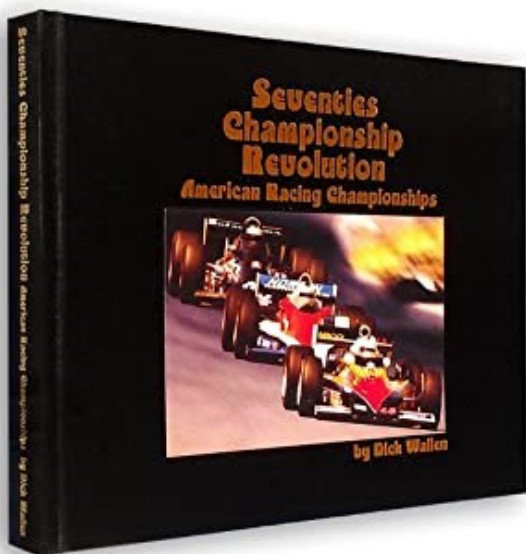
**TREASURE TROVE OF RACING BOOKS FOR THE GIFT SHOP IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS.**

The Estrella Warbirds Museum is the very fortunate recipient of approximately 600 hardcover auto racing books **written by the extremely well known and highly regarded Dick Wallen**. These books were published but never put into circulation. These beautiful books are a treasure for auto racing enthusiasts, the men who drove, owned, wrenched Midgets, Sprint Cars, Indy Cars, etc.

The Titles of the books are Seventies Championship Revolution, American Racing Championships. Distant Thunder, When Midgets Were Mighty; Riverside Raceway, Palace of Speed; Fabulous Fifties, American Championship Racing; The Road to Indy; Roaring Roadsters; Hard Driving Men, Images of Speed 1895-1960.

**Perfect for the race fan for Christmas, Birthday, etc.**

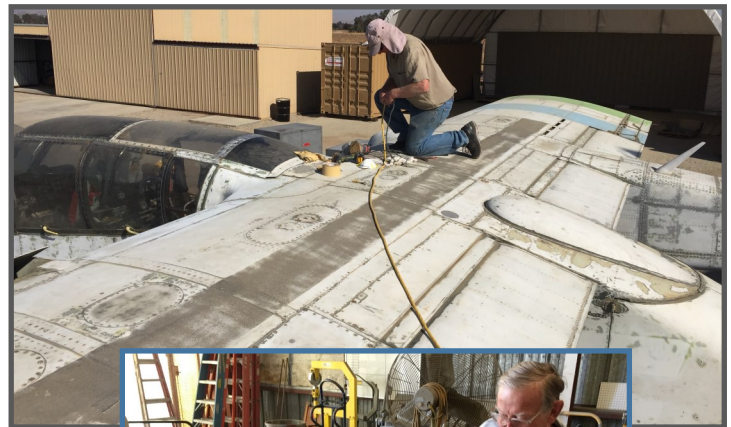
**These Books are Available in the Estrella Warbirds Gift Shop:** \$20 per book + tax or \$100 + tax for the 6 book set. You can purchase them in the Gift Shop or you can order them at [tonimoore@ewarbirds.org](mailto:tonimoore@ewarbirds.org) (Gift Shop Manager) 805-248-9713. For an additional fee we can ship them to you.



**RESTORATION CORNER**

*OV-10 BRONCO, ENGINE RACKS*

Work continues on the **OV-10 Bronco** as the numbing task of sanding the surface enters week number ? The outside surface sanding is nearly complete. **Tom DuVaul, below**, manages to find areas to touch up on the expansive top-wing area prior to applying the first layer of paint. **Dennis Johansen** will spruce up the cockpit, clearing up the slightly foggy Plexiglas. The whole **Restocrew** will attend to the **aircrew** cockpit details before the grand unveiling, sometime in ?



Ron Boyte contemplates next move as he assembles spinner/propeller for the Bronco





# CURATOR FINDS

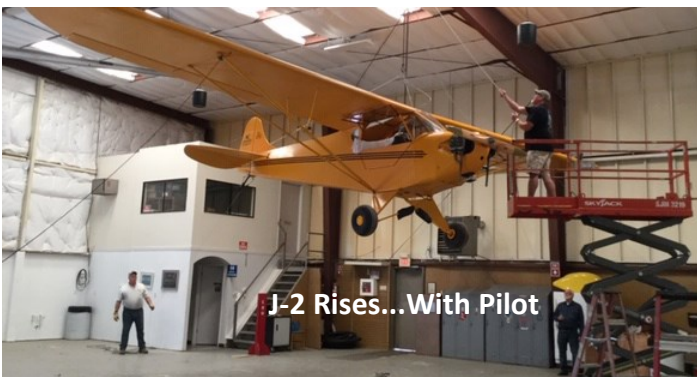
Jill Thayer, Ph.D.

We hear a lot about how the Museum is growing. In addition to our facility expansion and growing list of patrons, our valued collection is growing as well! The artifacts (large and small) are an important part of what makes EWM a destination museum, as the care and storage of the collection are vital to our ongoing mission as stewards. The displays are being updated and rotated often with new acquisitions in our buildings and on the airfield. The Museum is running out of room.



The artifacts encompass not only macro-artifacts (aircraft and rolling vehicles), but the micro-artifacts (featured displays in Freedom Hall. **I recently noted, (actually pleaded), "Ok guys, I REALLY need more storage!"** Margi Bauer snapped this photo as I was showing her our cedar-lined closet during a tour of the curatorial storage on campus recently.

EWM has grown exponentially over the five years I've been there, thanks to volunteers, staff and patrons. In the process, storage for our collection has become a tad impacted. Fortunately, plans are underway for an expanded curatorial archival facility that will be built on the south end of Freedom Hall, thanks to the generous donation of one of our directors. Color me grateful!



J-2 Rises... With Pilot



## "BOMBER" HITS SHAFTER FOR THEIR WINGS & WHEELS



WWII C-47 Betsy's Biscuit Bomber with pilots and crew back from a day trip participating in Minter Field Air Museum, Shafter Wings 'n Wheels on November 2d. Pictured top: Shane Wallace; l-r: Cody Blankenship, Jake Stelzle, John Doyle, Scott Stelzle, Rob Kinnear, and Ian Kinnear. Photo: Jill Thayer



Dirt Busters

Mike Kelly drives the auger, Bill Lander and Ron Brooks digging deep for supports to hold up new protection for the aircraft engine display next to Hangar One.

A BIG Shout out to our EWM "A-Team": Scott Stelzle, Rob Kinnear, Ron Brooks, Bill Lander, Brad Eaton, Ron Boyte, and Ed Hughes who masterfully engineered and installed our 1936 Taylor J-2 Cub in Hangar One. Maybe a contest to name the "pilot"?

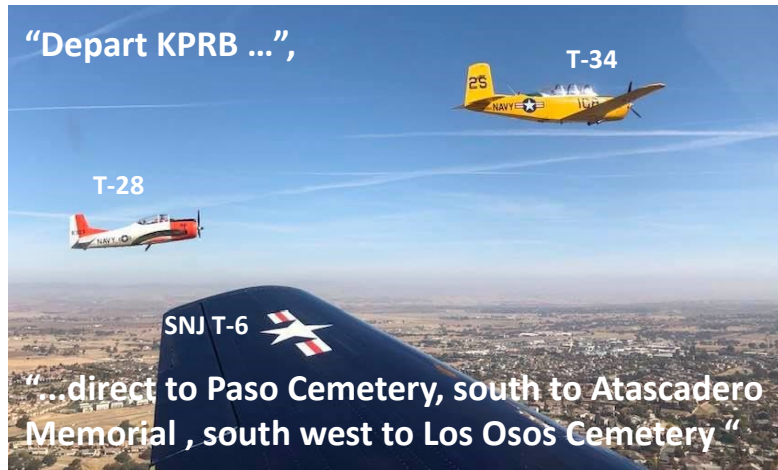
## LIBRARY QUIZ FOR DECEMBER:

### THE BERLIN AIR LIFT

- The Berlin Airlift was initiated by:
  - Floods which isolated Berlin in June 1948
  - A critical shortage of Rail and Truck transport
  - The Soviet Blockade of the city
- The airlift supplied critical food and supplies for:
  - 11 months
  - 3 months
  - 16 months
- The airlift was supported by aircraft from almost all of the allied Nations of WWII.  
True or False
- The operation was called:
  - Operation "not so fast"
  - Operation "Stork"
  - Operation "Vittles"
- The participating aircraft were primarily:
  - C-47's and C-54's
  - Converted B-24's and B-17's
  - The new "Globemaster"
- The Airlift was first commanded by:
  - Brigadier General Joseph Smith
  - Major General Curtis Le May
  - Major General William H. Tunner
- The "Candy Bomber" of the airlift was:
  - Lieutenant Gale S. Halversen
  - Lieutenant John K. Cannon
  - Lieutenant John Finn
- The C-54 could carry 10 tons of cargo as compared to the 3.5 tons by a C-47.  
True or False
- The flight crews had no time to eat so the airlift developed "Snack Jeeps" driven by charming German "frauleins" to aid morale.  
True or False
- The Soviets lifted the blockade on 15 April 1949. Did the airlift continue?
  - Yes, until 30 Sept 1949
  - No, it stopped the next day
  - Yes, until it was clear the Soviets would not resume



# SIMPLE FLIGHT PLAN FOR FREEDOM FLIGHTS ON NOVEMBER 11 FLY OVERS



**The 2019 Veteran’s Day Freedom Flight**, consisting of 6 planes based at Estrella at Paso Robles, flew in salute to all Veterans over Memorial services in Paso Robles, Atascadero and Los Osos. Randy Wilbur (T28), Scott Stelzle (T-34), Jeff Quaid (SNJ), George Marrett (L-5), Bob Kelley (L-16) and Brad Eaton (Stearman with co-pilot Ed Hughes). Ed comments on the mission:

“We went in two groups. The “slow” planes (Brad’s Stearman, the L-16 Bug smasher, and George’s L-5) flew over the Paso Robles Cemetery, then over the ceremony in Atascadero. The “fast” group (Jeff Quaid’s SNJ T6, the T-28 and T-34) did the same then continued on to fly over the Los Osos cemetery.”

## MORE RESTORATION/CONSTRUCTION



Our EWM crew laid down the cement for a security gate and fence for our new Motor Pool and Military Vehicle structure on campus. Thanks to: Mike Kelly, Scott Stelzle, Bill Lander, and Ron Brooks for making it happen!

This Editor assisted mildly in the laying down of this very drainage tube. Investigative theory: Mob-like dogs on rabbit chase/hunt dug up this infrastructure....because they could! Anyway, **Rob Kinneer**, in addition to C-47 and Presidential duties, ensured that this pipeline was secured in place for good. Nothing stops around EWM/WAD. There is always something to attend to. And look: he is smiling!



## Visitors From *Outside The Wire*

<b>NOVELLA HANDICAPPED GROUP</b>	<b>8 Guests</b>	<b>Oct. 31</b>
<b>HEAVENLY HOME RETIREMENT GROUP</b>	<b>15 Guests</b>	<b>Nov 8</b>
<b>ENGLESIDE RETIREMENT HOME</b>	<b>12 Guests</b>	<b>Nov 8</b>
<b>SOLID ROCK SCHOOL GROUP TOUR</b>	<b>50+ Guests</b>	<b>Nov 14</b>
<b>FRESNO FLOATERS WINNEBAGO CLUB</b>	<b>20 Guests</b>	<b>Nov 15</b>

*Please come again! Tours with Jerry Jones and Dave Brooks*



**Mike Kelly (left) and Scott Stelzle** attend to yet another task: pouring the concrete footings and erecting the supports for the Engine Display. Target is end of the year to have the engines under protection and off the ground. Display will stand on west side of Hangar One. PS: They are standing about 40-ft apart.



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**ESTRELLA WARBIRDS MUSEUM  
WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY**

**4251 Dry Creek Road  
Paso Robles, CA 93446  
825-238-9317  
Thursday—Sunday  
10am till 4pm**

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**DOCENTS:** CALL COORDINATORS JERRY JONES OR JASON HOLLAND  
805-238-9317

**GIFT SHOP:** THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY CALL TONI MOORE 805-238-9317

**LIBRARY:** CALL MARCIA RICE 805-238-9317

**RESTORATION:** JUST SHOW UP MONDAY, WEDNESDAY OR SATURDAY AND GET DIRTY. GOURMET LUNCH ON SATURDAY PROVIDED BY WAYNE RICE.

**KITCHEN:** CALL FOR WAYNE RICE AT THE NUMBER LISTED ABOVE.



**HAVE AN INTEREST IN AVIATION?  
LIKE AIRPLANES?  
LIKE MECHANICS, PHYSICS, ENGINES?  
STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL?  
CHECK OUT:  
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