

EAGLE

Estrella Warbirds Museum
Woodland Auto Display
Paso Robles, CA 93446
Vol 29 No 2
February 2019

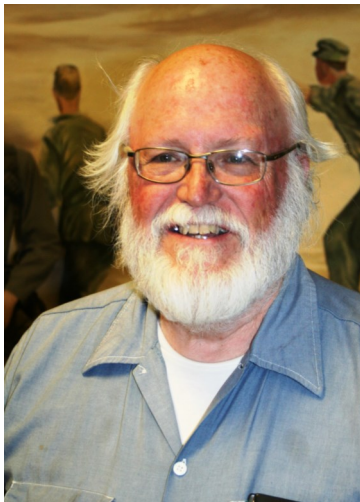


Remembering The Past
Inspiring The Future

Prez Sez President Rob Kinnear

We are definitely into winter at the Museum, and as expected the projects have not slowed down but the number of winter visitors is smaller. The good news is that we broke our visitor attendance record with **11,244 people in 2018**. This does not count special events like Warbirds Wings and Wheels, and hall rentals. And even with the roadwork and the rain our January attendance is very respectable.

The February Dinner Meeting with ex Navy frogman **Nick Nickelson** talking about the Mercury space missions and his involvement in the recovery of the capsules should be very interesting.



We have had some personnel changes recently. **John Everett** is back in the saddle again as the Parade Manager. **John Madden** has become our new Safety Manager. **Leona Kriegh** has stepped up a Bar Manager. Speaking of the bar, we hope to increase the number of events this year involving the bar, and want to add people to our bartender list. If you are interested, please contact me.

Looking at the rain we are getting it is hard to believe Warbirds **Wings and Wheels 11** will be happening soon. **Carol Verstuyft** is heading the event again and it is looking bigger and better than ever. She is already having organizational meetings. This event is always a lot of fun. We are including the swap meet again. Be looking for the event fliers or if you can pass the fliers on to people who will be interested. There are always

Cont page 8



Note to Membership:

Attendance at EWM/WAD surpassed 11,000 in AD 2018.

This is an all-time high and represents the beginning of the new era of growth and presence for the Museum as well as the entire Central Coast/North County area.

Buff DC3 from **DC3 FLYING CIRCUS, LOS ANGELES**, TAXIS OUT TO 31 FOR DEPARTURE RECENTLY AFTER WINKING AT DISTANT COUSIN PARKED AT ESTRELLA WARBIRDS MUSEUM.



George Marrett Presents. . .

Nick Nickelson: UDT12, Astronauts,
A Life of Service.
Monthly Dinner/Meeting Feb. 6, 2019

Nick was one of three Navy Frogmen who placed the flotation collar on Gordon Cooper's Mercury Capsule when it splashed down in the Pacific on May 16, 1963. His presentation is about the Original Seven Mercury Astronauts of which six were America's first men in space. They flew both sub-orbital and orbital flights starting in May 1961 and concluding in May 1963. These six Astronauts were real American heroes and there is a story related to each one, some funny and others compelling. Nick will show pictures of each flight and explain the problems each encountered.



Do not miss this presentation!



CURATOR FINDS

Jill Thayer, Ph.D.

Much is happening at the museum! I have finished the design for the 26ft. digital mural that will be installed in Hind Pavilion next month. It depicts C-47s and paratroopers landing in Normandy. This commemorates the 75th Anniversary of D-Day and our Gooney Bird Group's C-47 participation abroad.

The museum just received a donation from **Steve Dwelle** of a **1936 Taylor J-2 Cub**. We are finalizing logistics from Visalia Airport with **Scott Stelzle** and **Sherm Smoot** leading the charge. Master aircraft restorers at "DeIAir" at KTPV (Porterville Municipal Airport) turned out yet another jewel in this impeccable aircraft. The Cub was originally intended as a trainer and as a general aviation aircraft. Due to its performance, future models including the J-3 and L-4 Grasshopper became well suited for military uses such as reconnaissance, liaison, and ground control during WWII. The J-2 signifies an important part of aviation history and may be installed in Hind Pavilion or elsewhere depending on specifications. The first Piper J-2 is in the Smithsonian Museum and we here at Estrella are privileged to have this model.

Monthly Dinner Meeting
February 6th, 2019
Social 6pm, Dinner 7pm
\$20

Menu
Baked Chicken
Salad
Veggies
Scalloped Potatoes
Dessert

Reservations:

Phone: 805-296-1935

**On Line: ewarbirds.org Drop Down
To Dinner Reservations**

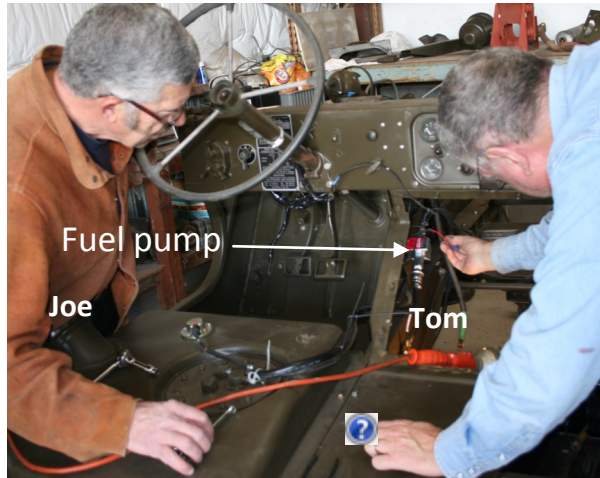


J-2 Cub

Restoration Corner. . .

M151A1 Jeep, UH1D Huey

There are two projects in house right now: the Jeep and the Huey. M151A1 Jeep is starting to look like a Jeep. The frame is finished and rewiring is underway. Joe Caetano and Tom Gorham just finished installing the fuel pump. Towards the end of January, the engine will be ready for installation and hooked up to the drive train. No one is saying the M151A1 is almost ready to drive out the showroom floor, but from the looks of things much of what has to be done is like putting the puzzle back together. Another jewel for the parades.



Remember Jerry Greer

Restoration lost one of its first string players in December. News of Jerry Greer's passing stunned the Museum. Greer Engineering manufactured parts for Indian motorcycles. He raced and restored motorcycles in Southern California as a young man. Here at EWM he "honchoed" the DUCK restoration, the BSA resto and the **Steve McQueen Indian**. Plans for a memorial are in the works. Farewell to a true Friend of EWM/WAD.



More Resto On Page 4

January 12, 2019

IT'S HUEYTOWN AT RESTORATION

Everyone is a Sandman today

Tom DuVaul pre paint inspection of Huey rotor blade



Mike Brophy has big fun under Huey cockpit. Great upper body workout!



Scott Benedict down on starboard skid



Over on the north side of Resto the door is open to anyone who wants to walk in , look and wonder just what is going on. Grown men are on their backs in breathing masks sanding metal like mad. The Editor commented on the spectacular condition of the tail boom(see photo above). A few yuks when I notice that chief painter Dennis Johansen is absent on a Saturday. Ran out of paint. Remember, this "paint" runs over \$100 per gallon. This place is as busy as an ant farm and getting busier. 2 "new guys" in Resto, **Scott Benedict and Carl Robbins**, volunteered to get dirty this day with the hand sanders.....rivet by rivet. That is simply HOW it is done. This Huey will be a masterpiece!

Carl Robbins gets down on a door with hand sander



EWM Library Theme: **THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN**

1. The Battle of Britain occurred in:

- A. The fall of 1939
- B. The summer of 1940
- C. The spring of 1945

2. The battlefield was:

- A. The skies over Britain
- B. The beaches of Dunkirk
- C. The North Sea

3. The British had the advantage of state of the art radar.

- True
- False

4. Women were specifically recruited for radar and radio control of Fighter Command.

- True
- False

5. Throughout the Battle of Britain, the Hurricane fighter outnumbered the Spitfire 2:1.

- True
- False

6. The legendary Spitfire power plant was manufactured by:

- A. Pratt & Whitney
- B. Allison
- C. Rolls Royce

7. The main Luftwaffe fighter opponent was:

- A. The Messerschmidt 109
- B. The Heinkel III
- C. The Ju 87 "Stuka"

8. The "Achilles" heel of the ME 109 was its limited range.

- True
- False

9. The raids by the Luftwaffe into Britain were called:

- A. The Blitz
- B. Adlertag
- C. Sea Lion

10. Who declared " never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few".

- A. Franklin Roosevelt
- B. Winston Churchill
- C. Dwight Eisenhower



WAD- Veteran drivers from the Kearney Bowl Speedway days paid a visit to Woodland Auto Display on January 11 for an impromptu tour of the Museum ushered by Dick Woodland, a fellow Kearney Vet. I like Dick's description:

"...Kearney Bowl was a race track in Fresno that ran weekly races on Friday nights under NASCAR sanction. In the earlier days, the homemade racecars were known as hardtops. Over time, they morphed into modifieds and later to super modifieds. On a bad night, Kearney Bowl would draw 8,000 to 10,000 spectators and close to 20,000 for special races such as their annual Grapestakes 200 lap race.

. In addition, we ran several Open-Comp races at the end of the year which included Champion Speedway in San Francisco, Sacramento at both Capital Speedway and the Sacramento Fairgrounds, Ascot Park in Gardena and Manzanita Speedway in Phoenix, Ariz. In all these races, there were virtually no rules, just **"run what you bring"**.

So There! Sounds like huge fun. Welcome, Gents!

VISITORS FROM OUTSIDE THE WIRE. . . VISITING THE DUCKPOND



"Relative" of Pink Lady Comes to Visit and Remember Dad's Ride



Toni Moore started it by going to the EWM phone:
"Several months ago I returned a call from Leslie Porter. She said she was told that a race car named the Pink Lady we display is in our Museum. I told her that it was indeed in the Woodland Auto Display. She stated that her husband's father had driven that car. Leslie and her sons, Adam and Ian brought Brett to the museum and surprised him with the "Lady". Brett's father unfortunately died when Brett was only 7 years old. Thanks to Dick Woodland for his hospitality and suggesting Bret sit in the cockpit of the car. This was a very heartwarming visit for all."



EWM Photos Mike Levine

Estrella Warbirds Museum Woodland Auto Display

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

Directors

Dennis Johansen
Margi Bauer
Kim Clarke
Toni Moore
Bill Lander
Charles Rooks
Carol Verstuyft

Staff

Ron Boyte Restoration
Ron Brooks Facil. Mgr.
Vicky Conger Hall Rental
Gary Corripo Acquisitions
Marci Rice Librarian
Jason Holland Assist. Coordinator
Jerry Jones Museum Coord.
Bob Kelly Membership
Mike Kelley Tech
Mike Levine PIO
John Everett Transportation
Steve Lochen Newsletter
George Marrett Guest Speaker
Wayne Rice Kitchen Mgr.
Peter Snyder Vol. Program Mgr.
Dr. Jill Thayer Curator
Peter Visel Webmaster
Carol Verstuyft Advertising
Jenny Walker Bookkeeper

Advisors

Sue Dollemore
Mike Huff



Now Hangar 1 is ready for SERIOUS Event Hosting. Scott Stelzle and his staff bid out the work and here is the result: new insulation in the hangar. YOUR SPECIAL EVENT amongst the airplanes of Estrella. This is a first class upgrade, attracting new clients daily!

Bomber's New Ticker Arrives. Transplant Time

The C-47 has a new starboard engine. Installed on January 12th, the new mill has but 100 hours on it. The "old" one is now on its way to the shop for an overhaul. All of this is in preparation for the **flight to Normandy later this year** for the **75th Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion** activities. All of this takes an enormous amount of cash. Note the following. . .

**HELP GET BETSY TO NORMANDY
JUNE 2-9**

75TH D-DAY COMMEMORATION
Please Visit And Give Generously At

BetsysBiscuitBomber.com

Or, for more info;

info@gooneybirdgroup.com



New power plant sits in its proper position on Jan 12



**NON PROFIT ORG.
PERMIT 163
PASO ROBLES, CA
93446**

**805-238-9317
Thursday—Sunday
10am till 4pm**

**HAVE AN INTEREST IN AVIATION?
LIKE AIRPLANES?
LIKE MECHANICS, PHYSICS, ENGINES?
STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL?
CHECK OUT:
PASO ROBLES/TEMPLETON
AVIATION CLUB
CALL BRAD EATON
ESTRELLA WARBIRDS MUSEUM
805-550-8755**

PREZ SEZ CONT FROM PAGE 1

interesting cars and trucks to see. The Cackle Fest will be returning and we hope to have visiting airplanes and tractors. We are working with the City to make sure the road repairs will have minimal effect on the event.

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.

Rob

Volunteers Wanted. . .
Docents: Call Coordinators Jerry Jones or Jason Holland 805-238-9317
GIFT SHOP: Thursday through Sunday, 10am until 4pm.
Call Toni Moore at 805-238-9317
LIBRARY: Open when the Museum is open. Contact Marci Rice, Librarian at 805-238-9317
RESTORATION: Hands On! "Get Dirty"! Just show up Monday, Wednesday or Saturday, startin at 9am.
Gourmet Lunch on Saturday provided by Wayne Rice.

From The Editor:
If you see or experience anything concerning airplanes and/or automobiles that you think may be of interest to our membership, send it to The Editor via email:
eagleeditor@ewarbirds.org
Send it by the 12th of the month deadline.
Everything will be considered. Send names with any photos. Submissions will belong to Estrella Warbirds. Easy as that! Thank You! Steve Lochen, Editor

Answers 1,b---2,a----3 true---4, true----5, true----6, C
---- 7, a----8, true---9, a-----10, b