



STRAIGHT SCOOP

Volume XII Number 6 June 2006

PACIFIC COAST AIR MUSEUM

To promote the acquisition, restoration, safe operation, and display of historical aircraft and provide an educational venue for the community



PACIFIC COAST AIR MUSEUM'S

1st Annual Fundraiser

An all you can eat



SHRIMP FEED

Wine, Bread, Salad, Pasta, Shrimp
Catered by Guy Fieri, Celebrity TV Chef

Tickets \$40 Sold at the Museum or call 707-575-7900 for mail or Will Call pickup. Sorry no Door Sales

Saturday **June 17** 5 till 9 PM *Finley Hall - Sonoma County Fairgrounds*

Your Privacy as a Pacific Coast Air Museum Member

I've recently been asked if we distribute member information, such as addresses and phone numbers. The answer is an emphatic "NO".

We respect your privacy and do not give out member lists or personal information. Member lists are used in the museum office by office staff for Pacific Coast Air Museum business only. The By Laws contain a clause prohibiting us from divulging a member's address or telephone number without the member's permission or if ordered to do so by a court. We have taken precautions in the office of putting a privacy cover sheet on each of our member lists, and typing the name of the individual for whom it was prepared (me, Duane, Bob for example). If you experience someone using our member list for other than Pacific Coast Air Museum business, please call me directly so I can investigate and put a stop to it.

Thanks and smooth landings
Dave

www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org

(707) 575-7900

The Pacific Coast Air Museum

Location: At the Charles M. Schulz-Sonoma County Airport, North of Santa Rosa, West of Highway 101, at 2230 Becker Blvd, off North Laughlin Road.

Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. 10:00am—4:00pm.

“Climb Aboard”: A selected aircraft is available to “Climb Aboard” the third weekend of each month (weather permitting). Please visit our web site at www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org or call 707-575-7900 for details or further Information.

Member Meetings: Normally held on the third Wednesday of each month, 7:00pm, at the Sonoma County Office of Education, near the airport at the intersection of Airport and Skylane Boulevards. Interesting speakers are featured at each meeting.

“Straight Scoop”: The museum newsletter, “Straight Scoop” is published monthly and is available on line on the museum’s web site. Members are highly encouraged to submit articles for possible publication. The deadline is the 20th of the month prior to publication. All articles in the newsletter are covered by copyright. If you wish to submit articles or use any of the content, please contact:
Chris Tart, Editor
1064 Maple Drive
Windsor, Ca 95492
707-836-9226
sctartusaf@yahoo.com

Membership Renewals: \$30 per year individual; \$45 per year for families. Send renewals to the museum at the address below.

Address Corrections: Please send to:
Pacific Coast Air Museum
2230 Becker Boulevard
Santa Rosa, Ca 95403

Board of Directors

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Ben Snow		707 544-8558
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Bob Conz		707 575-7900
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Linda Wright		707-484-2380

“Battle History of the U.S. Air Force: Struggling into the Air”

(Program for June 21st Member Meeting)

The History Channel and the Air Force Association have put together an outstanding video program detailing the “Battle History of the U.S. Air Force. Our program outlines the birth of military airpower with some outstanding video and narration.

Not long after the Wright Brothers made their historic flight, the U. S. military was investigating the possibility of using these new air machines –with the Wrights providing both the planes and the training. While today’s supersonic fighters, stealth bombers and massive transports are a far cry from the kite-like creations that launched the aviation age, they are a part of the same story.

This program is filled with extraordinary footage from the cockpit and from the ground of encounters throughout the 20th Century. The “Battle History of the U. S. Air Force: Struggling into the Air” is a panoramic look at airborne combat from the dawn of military aviation and the birth of the U. S. Army Air Corps.

Our June 21st program features interviews with pilots, engineers and military scholars and includes footage from World Wars I and II and is a definitive history of U. S. Air Force combat from the Wright Brothers through WWII.



1903 Wright Flyer

BEALE AIR FORCE BASE TOUR

As reported by Dave Pinsky

On Friday, April 28th, 50 members of the Pacific Coast Air Museum boarded an Airport Express charter bus, departed the museum at “oh dark thirty”, and went to Beale Air Force Base for the day.

The tour was a most interesting and fascinating day for everyone. It started at the Main Gate, while Security personnel checked our identification and a U-2 aircraft took off literally right in front of us. Did someone set this up just for us?

The first stop was to tour the immaculately maintained KC-135 of the Air Force Reserve unit at Beale. With its new turbo-fan engines, this 40 year old aircraft looked like it had just come off the assembly line. A former Air Force fighter pilot took some of the group underneath the KC-135 and showed them the air refueling positioning lights, boom and how the receiver pilot maneuvers into position for air refueling. While we were on the ramp looking at the KC-135, two U-2 aircraft were shooting “touch and go” landings right in front of our eyes.

Then it was down to the headquarters of the 9th Reconnaissance Wing where Brigadier General Larry Wells gave a fascinating Wing Mission Briefing to our group. He and his wife Kathy were gracious hosts and we’re sorry to see them head off to a new assignment at Langley Air Force Base in mid May. But we learned some amazing facts about the mission of the Beale Wing and its important role in the anti-terrorism efforts of our nation.

Then it was off to lunch at the “chow hall”, except now they call it the “dining facility”. It’s easy to see why, as it is a beautiful facility that serves delicious food.

Then it was back to the flight line for one of the highlights of the day—time to see, touch and feel a real SR-71 aircraft. The sounds of cameras clicking could be heard hundreds of times as everyone marveled at this tremendous aeronautical achievement which still holds the world speed and altitude records for air breathing aircraft.

Next, we were off to the Physiological Support Division. That's the place where they fit, store and maintain all the pressure suits worn by the U-2 pilots (and SR-71 pilots in the past). We got to see how the suits are fitted to the new pilots. Some of us got to see a pilot actually "suit up" and pressure breath before a high flight in a U-2. Dave Pinsky had a chance to reunite with Tom Bowen, "Mr. Pressure Suit", a civilian employee who was there when Dave Served at Beale.

The 99th Reconnaissance Squadron was our next stop. We got a very interesting briefing on flying the U-2, how the pilots are selected for the program, and what the life of a U-2 pilot is like. Then, into the famous "Heritage Room" (bar!) where we were treated to beer, soft drinks, peanuts and popcorn, and an amazing array of U-2 memorabilia. We even saw the name of someone we know on the U-2 "solo board". Could it have been that long ago?

The final stop of the day was a visit to static displays of the U-2, Global Hawk unmanned aerial vehicle and the T-38; all up close and personal. The young Global Hawk maintenance personnel, so proud of their new technology, briefed us in detail on the capability of this amazing new system. The shiny black Beale T-38 had a paint job that even Hawley's Paint was proud of.

On the ride home, a lot of reminiscing could be heard among the former military and airline pilots, and one of our group was heard to say that it felt like just yesterday that he was at Beale and that he would go back there again in a heartbeat.

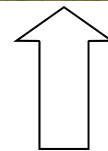
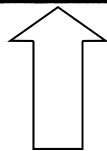
All in all, from the feedback, it was a wonderful day and a most interesting experience for everyone.



“Horizon Air Coming to Our Airport

As many of you know, commercial air service is coming to our Charles M. Schulz—Sonoma County Airport. Horizon Air will commence flights to Los Angeles and Seattle in March of next year. It is hoped that now that Horizon is coming, other airlines will follow suit and offer flights to even more destinations (I want one to Salt Lake City for skiing!!). The airport and Sonoma County are actively seeking approval and funding to extend Runway 14/32 to 6,000 feet, which would allow regional jets to land at STS. Next time you see Airport Manager Jon Stout, or one of our current County Supervisors, you might say thanks for all they have done to make these things possible. More people coming to our airport means more visitors to the Pacific Coast Air Museum.

Dave



Construction Begins on Our New East Patio

Who are those two guys?

Answer on page # 10

Executive Director's Update

The excitement and energy level around the Pacific Coast Air Museum is amazing these days. First, work on the long awaited "East Patio" has begun, thanks to a generous donation to the museum in the memory of Fred Zanutto, a Sonoma County Airport pilot who lost his life in an aircraft accident last year. Jim Long is heading up the project and we hope to have it completed by early July.

Challenge Coin sales are going great guns, with 25% of the original order already sold. You can get your Challenge Coin at the Gift Shop or at a Member Meeting. They make great gifts for friends and family and help raise money for our Air Museum.

A Comcast TV show about the Air Museum, hosted by radio and TV personality Miles Cameron, aired in Santa Rosa on Comcast Channel 6, Thursday, May 25, at 8:00pm. It will air in Marin County for two weeks from May 22-June 2 on Channel 26 down there. This should be some terrific publicity for the Museum and for the Air Show.

The First Annual Charles M. Schulz – Sonoma County Airport Open House will take place June 17-18, and we are playing a major role in it. The F-5, the Blue Angels Cockpit Simulator and the PCAM Flight Foundation C-45 will all be on display on the ramp by the terminal, and we will have several cockpits open that weekend at the museum. There is the potential for a very good turnout and more terrific publicity for the Pacific Coast Air Museum. If you can help out that weekend, please let Norma Nation or Jim Cook know with a phone call or e-mail.

Our First Annual Shrimp Feed Fund Raiser will take place in the evening of Saturday, June 17, 5-9:00pm, at Sonoma County Fairground's Finley Hall. It's all the shrimp you can eat, pasta, salad, bread and wine. We'll have some cool raffle prizes, aviation displays and a great time. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Gift Shop, from any Board member, from me or from Linda Wright. Come on out with friends and family for some great shrimp and to support your Pacific Coast Air Museum.

Our "Wings Over Wine Country" Air Show planning is in the serious stages. You won't want to miss this year's Air Show - a U-2 from Beale will make one or more low passes on Saturday; Beale T-38s will do the same on Sunday. The Air Force's newest airlifter, the C-17, will perform an amazing aerial demonstration of its capabilities on both days. We'll also have a Stearman and a wing walker. The Navy's F-18 will perform, as will the Air Force's A-10 Warthog and T-6 Texans, and we're planning more exciting civilian performers, lots of war birds, plus a tribute to Art Vance. The dates are August 19 & 20 and as always, we can use lots of volunteers.

Finally, a plea for help. We are in dire need of volunteers to help out at the museum and in the Gift Shop on Saturdays and Sundays. Surely you can spare one weekend day every month or two to come out, be around airplanes and aviation and help your Air Museum. Please contact Norma Nation at 525-9845 or by e-mail at nationpromo@netzero.com. As I've said to many of you, thanks again for all you do. You are the Pacific Coast Air Museum, you make it work, you make it successful, and you make it an important contribution to Santa Rosa and all of Sonoma County. Thanks!!

Smooth landings,

Dave

Our Aviation Education Program for Schoolchildren



The Pacific Coast Air Museum Educational Tours have actually been quite busy this year, in spite of the long, wet spring. As of mid-May, 13 schools have participated in the Tour program. These 13 schools represent 419 children and about 47 educators and parents. To play “catch-up”, once the weather improved, we actually did several double headers, two groups a day.

A good example of this was May 16th. We had 51 students and 31 teachers tour at 10:00 and over 90 high school students and 3 teachers at 11:30, for a total that day of 148 people through the museum.

Projecting this further; by June 10th, some 740 students and 96 educators will have heard about the principles of flight, common misconceptions of aviation, aircraft safety, toured out HUEY, Albatross and T-37.

Another 131 youngsters and 64 parents have celebrated with our birthday program, contributing about \$431.00 to the museum fund. In addition, two adult groups totaling 67 have paid \$320.00 for their Saturday tours.

It should be noted that the people who make these numbers work are the docents. They have conservatively put in over 114 man-hours of volunteer time with these tours in the past several months.

This has been a busy time, but a good one, as we further one of our important missions—”to provide an educational venue for the community”.

Thanks to Al Morgan, who heads up this important program, and to all the volunteers who help make it so successful.

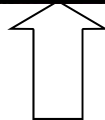
Pacific Coast Air Museum Volunteers do it everyday, with pride!

Donations to your Air Museum Badly Needed

1. Laptop computer with wireless capability
2. Flat screen monitor.
3. Computer with Windows XP operating system
- 4.
5. **Help Wanted**

Volunteers needed to staff your Pacific Coast Air Museum Gift Shop on Saturdays and Sundays 10 AM to 4 PM

Contact Executive Director Dave Pinsky or Duane Coppock-(575-7900)



Can you name this aircraft?

Answer on page #10

The Pacific Coast Air Museum recently received a \$500.00 grant from the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West.. The letter to Barney Hagen accompanying the check stated; " Dear Mr. Hagen, I am pleased to inform you that the Pacific Coast Air Museum is receiving a grant from the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West in the sum of \$500.00. Your check is enclosed. With Best Wishes,
Very Truly yours, Chris Parr-Feldman, President".

Our Thanks to Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West.

CHARLES M SCHULZ – SONOMA COUNTY AIRPORT FIRST ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE JUNE 17 & 18

The Charles M. Schulz - Sonoma County Airport is holding their First Annual Open House on June 17 and 18 to invite neighbors and the community to learn about the airport and all that is here. The terminal and the new security building will be open and the Pacific Coast Air Museum is participating. Aviation fuel will be available both days at discounted prices

The Pacific Coast Air Museum will participate on the airport's ramp by displaying our F-5E Tiger II and the "Blue Angels" F-4 Phantom cockpit simulator. The Flight Foundation will display their C-45 Expediter.

This is Climb Aboard weekend for the museum and our featured airplane is the Ilushin IL-14 Crate plus we will open other airplanes to support the Open House.

Other airport tenants are also participating, including Sonoma Jet Center, Apex Aviation, Dragonfly and more. The Civil Air Patrol is providing a pancake breakfast both mornings from 8 to 11, and the Experimental Aviation Association is holding a "Young Eagles" event on Saturday, 9 to 1. The "Young Eagles" briefings start at 8 am.

Airport Management is offering door prizes, one of which is two tickets on Horizon Airlines anywhere they fly and good until June 2007. You can get your winning ticket at the terminal and you need not be present to win. The drawing will be held Sunday afternoon.

The Pacific Coast Air Museum Welcomes These New Members

David Harmeson—Geyserville

Louis Justin—Healdsburg

Paul Peloso—Healdsburg

George Fenisey—San Bruno

Wallace Davitz—Santa Rosa

"Skip" Graham—Santa Rosa

Walter Taylor—Santa Rosa

Sabrina Braham & Tim Warren—Sebastopol

Steve Hendrickson—Windsor

Chris Wettstein—Windsor

Patrick Scanlon & Theresa Mataria Scanlon and sons Bradley and Patrick D. Scanlon

Answer from Page #9

North American

B-45C Tornado

Answer from page # 6

Board President Jim Long

And

Board Secretary Steve Kwok

Welcome Aboard

April Member of the Month:

By: Linda Wright

Once again I sat in awe listening to our next member of the month. When the hat was passed down from Ron Stout to Mike Fenn, I knew this would be another learning opportunity as I had no recollection of meeting the man known as “the Machinist”. I had hopes that this was no ordinary fellow and when our visit was over I knew it to be true.

Mike has been a member of the Pacific Coast Air Museum since 98 and was recruited by Ron Stout when the two found similar interests while taking an aeronautical refresher course at the JC, taught by none other than our esteemed Lynn Hunt. Mike has been a machinist for 30 years now and his career has taken an extraordinary path. Mike began his work as a machinist in Micro electronics. Like many of us when I hear that someone is a machinist I think of the types of design work one creates for large motors or applications that are bigger than a 16th of an inch in diameter. With the help of a microscope, Mike was designing and making tools to work with wire the size of 1/1000 inch. These tools are called “wire bonding tools” and are used to bind circuits to the human world as we know it. Mike moved on to a company in which he designed and made both the tools and products for eye glass lens. From this conversation I learned the process of lens making as well as knowledge of the ever changing environment with the tools that make the lenses. In short, a wet goopy plastic, a precise finely curved mold and a special oven creates the prescription glasses you and I wear. Mike shared with me that it was Benjamin Franklin that came up with the lens to lens application which today we wear as one lens and call them bifocals. Mike is a wealth of knowledge and brings to PCAM an expertise that saves our organization an amazing amount of time and money. He is capable of making parts for our old birds in restoration that would essentially cost us bundles if we were to go out to purchase them. It is not uncommon that these parts are not attainable as well.

Mike holds PCAM near and dear to his heart and has great hope for the future of the Air Show and Museum. When I asked what he would like to see in PCAM’s future he stated, “A dedicated building, a bigger gift shop and workshop and a opportunity where the public could come and watch the restorations of the old birds.” Listening to Mike, his ideas are quite articulate and in depth, much like the kind of guy that he is.

The dedication and sincere desire to see the Pacific Coast Air Museum flourish tends to be a common thread with all those folks I have the good fortune to talk with. I truly believe I speak for the membership when I say thank you Mike for all that you do. You are greatly appreciated.



Visit PCAM
June 17-18
CLIMB ABOARD
Featuring the IL—14
Russian Transport Aircraft

REMEMBER THESE DATES

June 7th @ 8:30 AM—Board of Director's Meeting at the Air Museum.

June 17th @ 11:00 AM— New Member Orientation.
Learn the ins and outs of your air museum's operations and programs.

June 20th @ 12:00 Noon—Executive Director's Staff Meeting at the Air Museum.

June 21st @ 6:00 PM—Air Show Planning Meeting at the S.C.O.E.
June 21st @ 7:00 PM— Member Meeting at the S.C.O.E.

PACIFIC COAST AIR MUSEUM

2230 Becker Blvd.
Santa Rosa, Ca 95403