

Volume XIII Number 6 June 2007

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

## A Letter to the Membership of the Pacific Coast Air Museum From: Mrs. Harrison Rued

Harrison's family and I wish to thank all of you for your many kindnesses during the last month.

We knew he was a great guy, but did not know of the many lives he touched in his quiet, low key way. We are overwhelmed by the memorials to him.

Although not really conducive to good housekeeping, a great portion of our home has been devoted to his collections, but we were proud of his avocation, and encouraged him at every turn.

In our early years, I don't think we missed a military air show any where in the West. Before strollers, we carried our infants in our arms or over our shoulders across the hot tarmac and rested in the shade of a bomber's huge wings. And it was fun. We were at the very first Reno Air Races enduring sand storms, snow, heat, hail, rain, wind and rarely missed a year. And it was fun. When he got passes to walk the line or get out by the pylons for a photo shoot, it was a bit scary, but always fun.

The history of the SRAAF training base for P-38's that he and Doug Olson worked on for so many years is about ready for the publisher, I believe. We were all excited about that: closure at last.

Although he was such a modest man and eschewed praise and attention, I know that Harrison is with us in spirit and that he is secretly very pleased with the recognition of his accomplishments. I know that we are.

Thank you all. As soon as possible, you shall receive personal thank-you's. If any one is overlooked, believe me it is unintentional.

PS: And lets get that new museum built really soon!

Signed:——Margo Rued

## 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 <a href="https://www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org">www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org</a> 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

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 o	f Directors
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Norma Nation		707 525-9845

Pacific Coast Air Museum (707) 575-7900

Gift Shop Manager:

707 575-7900

Bob Conz



## **Spring Trip—Air Museum Tours**

This year's Spring tour took us to two Air Museums.—the brand new Aerospace Museum of California (AMC) at the old McClellan AFB and the Travis AFB Air Museum.

Bright and early on Friday, May 4th, 52 Pacific Coast Air Museum members boarded an Airport Express bus and headed to Sacramento. We visited the new Aerospace Museum of California, which was also hosting the Da Vinci Experience—60 models and exhibits of Leonardo Da Vinci's concepts from his drawings. Major General Jim Hopp, USAF (Retired), President of AMC, met and hosted our group. We had a chance to see their newly restored F-106 and to tour all their aircraft on the new ramp behind the main museum building. The photo shows our group eating lunch inside the AMC in an area set up for our group.

Then it was off to Travis AFB. We were given a specially guided tour of the Travis museum by their Executive Director and docents. Their museum is a classic Air Museum, with every exhibit "telling a story". For you challenge coin buffs, one case contained a collection of 600 military challenge coins; (Jim Cook —eat your heart out!). After visiting the museum, we were given a windshield tour of the base which included a briefing on the history of Travis AFB and their current mission. The group photo is just inside the main entrance of the Travis Museum.

We arrived back at our museum at 6:00pm, and from the comments overheard, most thought it an interesting and rewarding day.

If you have any ideas or suggestions as to where our Spring Tour next year should visit, give Dave Pinsky a call or shoot him an e-mail with your suggestions.



Aerospace Museum of California



Travis Air Force Base Air Museum

Pacific Coast Air Museum (707) 575-7900

## This article provided by:

Art & Lyn Magill

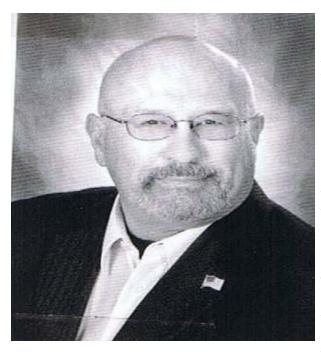
Charles Brown was a B-17 Flying Fortress pilot with the 379th Bomber Group at Kimbolton, England. His B-17 was called "Ye Old Pub" and was in a terrible state, having been hit by flak and fighters. The compass was damaged and they were flying deeper over enemy territory instead of heading home to Kimbolton. After flying over an enemy airfield, a pilot named Franz Steigler was ordered to take off and shoot down the B-17. When he got near the B-17, he could not believe his eyes. In his words, he "had never seen a plane in such a bad state". The tail and rear section was severely damaged, and the tail gunner wounded. The top gunner was all over the top fuselage. The nose was smashed and there were holes everywhere. Despite having ammunition, Franz flew to the side of the B-17 and looked at the pilot. Brown was scared and struggling to control his damaged and bloodstained plane. Aware that they had no idea where they were going, Franz waved at Charlie to turn 180 degrees. Franz escorted and guided the stricken plane to and slightly over the North Sea towards England. He then saluted Charlie Brown and turned away, back to Europe. When Franz landed, he told the C/O that the plane had been shot down over the sea and never told the truth to anybody. Charlie Brown and the remains of his crew told all at their briefing, but were ordered never to talk about it. More than 40 years later, Charlie Brown wanted to find the Luftwaffe pilot who saved the crew. After years of research, Franz was found. He had never talked about the incident, not even at post-war reunions.

They met in the USA at a 379th Bomber Group reunion, together with 25 people who are alive now—all because Franz never fired his guns that day. Research shows that Charles Brown lived in Seattle and Franz Steigler had moved to Vancouver, BC after the war. When they finally met, they discovered they had lived less than 200 miles apart for the past 50 years.





# PACIFIC COAST AIR MUSEUM'S VOLUNTEERS ARE THE BEST



Gary Greenough

Do you ever wonder who that guy is who starts off each of our Air Shows when the National Anthem is played by riding up and down the flight line on his motorcycle with a huge American flag flying on the back of it? Well, it is none other than our long time Pacific Coast Air Museum ramp volunteer Gary Greennough. Gary and another Viet Nam Veteran Doug Newton, got together and contacted the Law Enforcement agencies and Fire Departments between San Francisco and Santa Rosa to bring honor to the memory of our fallen military members. These two men formed what is now the American Legion Motor Escort. In 2005 when the body of Army Specialist Joshua Kynoch was brought home to rest the result was Fire Department members saluting from fire trucks on overpasses, a battalion of Sheriff's Deputies saluting and streets lined with supporters. Since then Gary and Doug have formalized their work, creating a Gold Star banner for the back of their motorcycles and adding a third member to their team. Thanks to them, over 1000 members of the community have shown up to honor a deceased soldier. By honoring the fallen of our military services, Gary and Doug have become heroes themselves, and were recently honored for their efforts by the American Red Cross at their 4th Annual Awards Breakfast in April of this year.

Thanks Gary

## Folks,

Many thanks to all of you for your help in making the Thursday, May 24th, Santa Rosa Chamber Mixer held at the Museum such a success. Your hard work is what made it so. I know how difficult it is to give up an evening when we are all so busy these days, so your pitching in to help us with this event is all the more appreciated. From exposure for our museum, to Air Show and Shrimp Feed advertising, to making several great contacts, to several birthday party inquiries, and on, our museum got a great deal out of this event. I heard rave reviews from the Chamber President, Chamber staff and many Chamber members about what a great event this was, how well it went and how many showed up (well over 100 by the way). So thanks to all of you for your hard work in helping make this so successful. It is truly appreciated.

Roger J. Olson Marketing Director Pacific Coast Air Museum 707-396-3425

Pacific Coast Air Museum (707) 575-7900

## We Have a Winner—Our Pacific Coast Air Museum Parade Float

By: Duane Coppock

The Pacific Coast Air Museum entry in the Windsor Parade and the Rose Parade was titled; "Dogfight at the WINGS OVER WINE COUNTRY AIR SHOW—Aug. 18th and 19th"
For the Windsor Parade, our float won the "Duke and Duchess of Windsor" award. Other categories were the Mayor's Award, the Kiwanis Award and more. Although no prizes were won in the Rose Parade, we had a winner anyway. As the float passed, people were smiling, clapping, waving and taking pictures.

We certainly had a winning crew that got the float ready for these parades. Our Master Sign Maker, Ray Smith prepared all the signs: two large ones, "Dogfight at the Wings over wine country Air show", and a smaller sign, "Curse you, Red Baron". Other crew members constructed and decorated the float, starting with John Henry on construction, Barbara Hollingsworth, Kathy Kumpula and Rose Pattenaude for decorations, especially the roses and the puffs of smoke coming from the Red Baron's airplane. We had more help from our Junior Members, Michael Callen, Taylor Frazier and Anthony Meyers. Paul Heck used and drove his WWII Jeep to tow the float in both parades. Barbara, Kathy, Rose, Michael, Taylor and Anthony all helped on parade days and escorted the float in each parade. For the Rose Parade, we had extra help from Rose's boy friend Ben Martin and Kathy's sister, Nan Kumpula. Thanks so very much to all of you. It was fun having a float for which people clapped, waved, took pictures and many smiles, then said. "O Look, there's Snoopy!". Do not forget that Snoopy and the Red Baron can be seen at this year's Wings Over Wine Country Air Show.



















## Speaker of the Month (June 20, 2007, 7:00PM, at SCOE)

By: Chuck Root

## **STU EBERHARDT**

Stu is a Wing Col. in the Commemorative Air Force Golden Gate Wing.

He was born in the Midwest, and began flying by mowing grass and pumping gas in exchange for flight lessons. He earned all his licenses, including commercial, instrument and flight instructor. Since he didn't see any future in private aviation, while still a teenager, he interviewed the Navy and Air Force recruiters, and was accepted into a new Aviation Cadet program. At preflight training in Randolph AFB, he was offered a spot in the first Air Force Academy class. He declined because he wanted to fly.

After a year and a half of training, including flying the new T33, he was assigned to an F-86 squadron. He was stationed in Northern France.

After a 3 year tour of duty, he came home and went to UC Berkeley to complete his college education. Following graduation, he began flying for the airlines, starting with DC-3s and retiring as a 747 Capt.

During his time at the airlines, he was a Marine Reserve pilot flying A4Ds, and retired as a Major.

He stopped logging his time at 50,000 hours.

His passion is the Reno Air Races and he will talk about the races with some video footage.

## The Pacific Coast Air Museum is proud to welcome these newest members.

Mike Tovani—-Windsor	Amanda Cole—-San Mateo
Dick Hill—-Santa Rosa	Jack Lyon (Junior Member)—-Sebastopol
Paul & Mary-Jane Stimson—-Santa Rosa	John O'Hare Family—-Santa Rosa
Brad Rodgers—-Geyserville	Mary Artibee & Milt Mallory—-Mountain View
Duncan Brown (Junior Member)—-Sebastopol	Craig Stainbrook Family—-

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## STRAIGHT SCOOP

## **Executive Director's Update**

The outpouring of donations in Harrison Rued's memory has been heartwarming. The Denner family suggested a memorial for Harrison, and after talking to a lot of folks who knew him well, a decision has been made to have a memorial park bench made in Harrison's honor. Thanks to the Denner family for the idea, and for their generous contribution towards this fitting memorial bench for Harrison. Margaret Rued's letter to the membership, on page I of this newsletter, makes it clear that his family is very appreciative of the Pacific Coast Air Museum's feelings about Harrison. Thanks to all of you who have donated so generously in Harrison's memory.

Thanks are in order to Lunardi Electric, Lunardi supervisor Steve Rhamn, and Lunardi electrician—Mike Franceschi and Shaun Garrison. They are the folks responsible for the brand new weatherproof outdoor lights and electrical receptacles on the East Patio. Yes, we have lighting and power out there now. Lunardi donated the material and labor. Check out the new lights - - you'll never see a more professional and well done electrical installation. Thanks Lunardi!

And many thanks to Duane Coppock for his hard work on our "Dogfight at the Wings Over Wine Country Air Show" float. As you'll see elsewhere in this newsletter, it won 2nd Place in the Windsor Day Parade and was a crowd favorite in the Santa Rosa Luther Burbank Rose Parade. If you want to see this great float during it's last performance, it'll be on display at the Finley Center during our Shrimp Feed, Saturday, June 9th. Great job, Duane!

And more thanks are in order - - the other night Kathy Kumpula handed me an envelope, telling me that her boss wanted to make a donation to the museum. Imagine my surprise when I opened the envelope and found a check for \$5000 from the Robert & Shirley Harris Family Foundation. Thanks Robert and Shirley!

And yes, even more thanks are in order. This time to Craig Schulz and his family. Craig called and told me that his family was doing several "Joe Cool Snoopys" in the current Snoopy paint off. He wondered if the museum would like to have one outside our museum during the period when they are spread all over town and the tourists come to find them and look at them. Of course I could not say "yes" fast enough. It should be here soon - - keep checking outside the Gift Shop. Expect an increase in museum visitors as they drive around looking for "Joe Cool Snoopys" and they find one right outside our Pacific Coast Air Museum. There are also "Joe Cool Snoopys" outside the airport terminal and Reach's facilities.

As I mentioned above, our 2nd Annual Shrimp Feed Fundraiser will take place on Saturday, June 9th, at the lovely and air conditioned Finley Center. You can still get tickets if you let us know not later than Wednesday, June 6th. Sorry, but no ticket sales at the door. In addition to great shrimp, pasta and salad catered by Guy Fieri and Johnny Garlic's, we've got some terrific raffle prizes - - aircraft flights, dinners at some great local restaurants, wine, and lots more. Get your tickets now!

The 2nd Annual Charles M. Schulz-Sonoma County Airport Open House will take place on Saturday, June 16th. We'll be taking part on the main ramp outside the terminal and at our museum's Climb Aboard the same weekend. Come on out and check it out!!

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Pacific Coast Air Museum (707) 575-7900

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This year's "Wings Over Wine Country" Air Show is shaping up to be one great show. We hope to have both an F-18 and F-16. Civilian performers include famous aerobatic performer Gene Soucy, Dan Buchanan, Eddie Andreini, Doug Jardine, Team Rocket and Spencer Suderman. Beale AFB is planning on sending us a U-2 for a flyby on Saturday and a flight of their beautiful black T-38s on Sunday.

Many thanks to Allan Morgan and his dedicated team of docents who put on many schoolchildren aviation education tours each month. Few realize how many schoolchildren come through our museum each month, but some months they number in the hundreds. The feedback from these tours is fabulous. Thanks Allan, and to your helpers as well.

Thanks are in order for Chuck Root, our fearless program chairman. Chuck gets all of our Member Meeting speakers, a thankless and tough job. If you haven't been out to a monthly Member Meeting lately, come on out, the third Wednesday of each month, and hear some of the terrific speakers and programs Chuck lines up for us.

And thanks to Cynthia Furst, our web administrator. Quietly, behind the scenes, our wonderful Cynthia keeps our web site up to date, posts the Climb Aboard and Member Meeting information each month, and responds to all kinds of inputs from me. Thanks Cynthia - - you make us all look good via our wonderful web site. (cont'd on next page)



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## STRAIGHT SCOOP

(cont'd from previous page)

Finally, thanks to Chris Tart, our newsletter editor. The terrific "Straight Scoop" you see every month is created by Chris. He does a wonderful job, quietly, behind the scenes, without fanfare. But the newsletter Chris puts out is first rate and I get lots of compliments about it every month.

What a great group to work with, achieving our mission of restoring and displaying aviation history, and providing an educational program for the community.

Smooth landings,

Dave

## "NEWS FLASH" - - SANTA ROSA CA, 22 MAY 2007

Nationally known nose restorer Bill Greene announced today the completion of the long awaited paint job on the nose of DC-6B # 44087. The nose, made by Douglas in 1953, received the beautiful fore and aft sparkling blue stripe at the hands of MCC Jim Cook, well known "guru of the spray gun." Greene, President of B&B Enterprises, NLE, has been assisted in the restoration by V.P. Bill Carpentier and Chief Engineer Barney Hagen from the onset and today was further assisted by design and quality expert, Rich Stout. The completion of the actual painting today was marred by a sudden onset of gale force winds which caused a slight overspray to occur. This required said overspray removal by the competent crew mentioned in this dispatch. The Pacific Coast Air Museum of the above city is the proud owner of this historical "piece" of aircraft where it sits proudly on its beautiful custom made stand near an adjacent public road for all to admire. Pictures below:







#### **HELP WANTED**

Our Air Museum is in dire need of a Grant Writer. If you have any experience in grant writing, please contact me so that the museum can submit grant proposals for needed educational resources. Even if you are not experienced and want to aid the museum in this effort, give Dave Pinsky a call at 575-7900 or e-mail him at <a href="mailto:director@pacificcoastairmuseum.org">director@pacificcoastairmuseum.org</a>. We really need some help in this area.

Pacific Coast Air Museum 707-575-7900



Visit Pacific Coast Air Museum
June 16th & 17th
"Climb Aboard" an
A-6 Intruder
10 am-4 pm

#### REMEMBER THESE DATES

June 6th @ 8:30 AM—Board of Director's Meeting at the Air Museum.

<u>June 16th @ 11:00 AM</u>—New Member Orientation. Learn the ins and outs of your air museum's operations and programs

<u>June 19th @12:00 Noon</u>—Executive Director's Staff Meeting at the Air Museum.

June 20th @ 6:00 PM—Air Show Planning Meeting at S.C.O.E.

June 20th @ 7:00 PM— Member Meeting at the S.C.O.E.

PACIFIC COAST AIR MUSEUM
2230 Becker Blvd.
Santa Rosa, Ca 95403