



Welcome New Board Member Julia Hochberg

The Pacific Coast Air Museum welcomes Julia Hochberg as the newly elected member of the Museum's Board of Directors. Julia's wealth of corporate experience in both business and aviation brings a valuable depth of knowledge to the Board. A graduate of George Washington University with a BA in Mechanical Engineering, Julia went on to work as an intern for The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy/ Aerospace Industries in Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison's office. After that she was a research associate at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and a mechanical engineer at Motorola before earning her MBA at Southern Methodist University. From there, Julia worked in Strategic Business Development for 3M and Epsilon before becoming co-owner and VP for South River Aviation LLC with husband Josh Hochberg. In 2010, Julia and Josh acquired Sonoma Jet Center and moved their growing family to Santa Rosa last summer. They are the parents of two little girls, one five years old and one ten months. Welcome aboard, Julia! ✨



Save these Dates!

Movie Night — Saturday, May 18

We will extend Open Cockpit hours into twilight as we welcome members, guests and volunteers to join us for our very first Movie Night! We're setting up a huge screen in the grassy field to show a classic movie. Bring your family, a picnic blanket, lawn chairs, your picnic and beverages, and enjoy a lovely Sonoma County evening. Stay tuned for more info!



Salute to Veterans — Saturday, October 19

This will be an elegant event and dinner to honor our veterans - a fundraiser for the museum and for a selected veterans' group - featuring an outstanding guest speaker and other noteworthy guests. Details to come! ✨

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The PCAM Mission

“To promote the acquisition, restoration, safe operation, preservation and display of historic aircraft, preserve aviation history and provide an educational venue for the community”

President's Message

At the January board meeting the Board of Directors elected me President for 2013. I suppose I should thank them for placing me in this lofty position and I will do my very best to make this year successful for the museum. I was blessed to hold this position once before and I have been reflecting on the job then as compared to now.

Seventeen years ago the museum was much smaller with fewer issues and certainly fewer challenges. However, several of the qualities that made the museum successful in those early days are still thriving in our museum today. The true spirit of volunteerism found us early and has remained very strong. What powered our museum in those early days was the strength, will and enthusiasm of its members and the same is just as true today.

There is a reason for my excitement over this recent appointment. From my own perspective I can see our museum is on the verge of something very special and



PCAM President Lynn Hunt examines a visiting T-28 during the 2012 Air Show Volunteer Barbeque last October.

frankly monumental. In just the last few months several events have taken place that may very well shape the course and speed of the museum should we elect to take advantage of them. The vacancy and potential

availability of the Dragonfly leasehold may very well present us with a logical and affordable growth opportunity, one we so desperately need. The pending arrival of flyable aircraft in our inventory presents a sizable challenge, but also provides us a growth opportunity and brings a genuine level of excitement to our membership. This year we will begin organizing events in addition to our air show that will lend additional depth to the museum and help our fund-raising activities.

One of my favorite quips is “how do you spell the word ‘opportunity?’” In 2013 it could be spelled in any number of ways. I cannot foretell how the future of our museum will unfold. What I

can tell you is that I am excited and willing to roll up my sleeves and go to work. I look forward to doing so with all of you. 🌟

— Lynn Hunt

Plastic Model Show and Hobby Expo February 9 in Petaluma

If you like prototype-accurate models, right down to the nose art, check out the International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS) Hobby Expo 2013. The central attraction is the model show and contest. This year's theme is “Models from the Movies” so watch for your favorite aircraft from the big screen. Military and aircraft buffs will appreciate the extreme accuracy and realistic finishing these master modelers impart to their creations. Every year the vast majority are aircraft, which provides a special attraction for PCAM folks. You'll also find operating R/C aircraft, tanks, cars, and boats, HO trains, Civil War re-enactors, military displays, model vendors, and much more!

PCAM will host a table and our Director of Museum Operations Christina Olds will be there promoting her book "Fighter Pilot: Memoirs of Legendary Ace Robin Olds" on behalf of PCAM. There is a lot of buzz in the local modeling community about models of her dad's P-38, P-51 and F-4, and we expect to generate some added interest in our museum by being there.

Check out the show website at http://www.ipmsantarosa.org/hobby_expo.html. The show is at the Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd. Saturday, February 09 2013, 9:30am - 4:00pm. 🌟

Kids from Mark West Charter School Land at PCAM

On Tuesday January 29 PCAM was privileged to play host to a fun and enthusiastic group of sixth-graders from Mark West Charter School.

John Menth of the Mark West Charter School has organized this excursion each of the last five years. It involves the kids hiking from their campus on Faught Road to the museum for a combination scavenger hunt and tour. They learned about the history of flight and the significance of our aircraft, while getting a close-up look at some important pieces of U.S. history.

They paused at our F-15 First Responder exhibit for a group portrait, and spread their wings to demonstrate how they'd take off and fly themselves.

There were also ten parents and two grandparents present, a testament to the high level of energy and parental involvement at the school. We'd like to thank



the kids for the thirty heart-felt hand-written thank-you notes they sent us. We only wish we had enough room in this newsletter to print them all.

PCAM extends its heartfelt thanks to this wonderful group for the \$180 they collectively left in the donation box, but more importantly for their interest, enthusiasm, and great questions. Groups like this are the reason we do what we do! 🌟

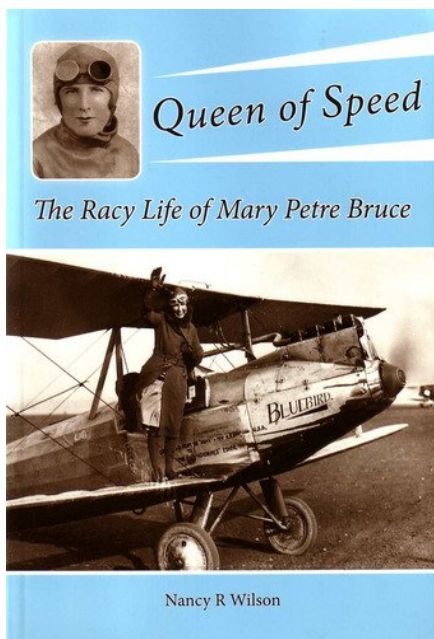
Did You Know...

PCAM has in its collection the nose and cockpit of a U.S. Navy RF-8 Crusader. Did you know that fifty years ago this past October, similar RF-8s from the Navy and Marine Corps, along with RF-101 Voodoos from the Air Force, played a key role in the Cuban Missile Crisis? Dedicated pilots flew these unarmed planes on reconnaissance missions over Cuba in October 1962, first proving that the Soviets really were building nuclear missile sites just 90 miles from U.S. soil, and then providing verification of the removal of those same missiles as the crisis subsided. Our RF-8 cockpit (photo at right) is open for selected climb-aboard weekends.



In Case You Missed It: January 16 Member Meeting Guest Speaker

Nancy Wilson and her book “Queen of Speed – The Racy Life of Mary Petre Bruce”



Our guest speaker at the member meeting on January 16 was long-time Sonoma County resident Nancy Wilson, who wrote a book about Mary Petre Bruce, a fascinating woman flier of the early 20th Century.

Nancy was an emergency room nurse in Petaluma. One day in 1990 she found a San Francisco news-

paper in the staff break room. A long obituary caught her eye. It began...

Mrs. Victor Bruce, the dare-devil aviatrix, racing driver, and speed-boat pilot, who has died aged 94, made her mark on the 20th century by breaking records in the air, on land, and at sea...

There was a picture of a young woman wearing makeup, pearls, and a leather flying helmet. Nancy was immediately captivated. Who was this amazing woman, who made such an impact in her time, but whom the world had forgotten? Thus began Nancy's quest to discover more about Mary Petre Bruce and her fascinating life. Nancy's book is based largely on period newspaper clippings, personal effects found in Mary Petre Bruce's former home, and on Mary's own published accounts of her motoring trips and world flight.

Mary was born in 1895 to a father with a large estate but little money, and a mother who was either a cele-

brated Shakespearian actress or a burlesque dancer. The record is somewhat unclear on this latter point.

A Young Speed Demon

Mary always loved going fast. At the age of fifteen, and at a mere five feet tall, she took it upon herself to learn to drive her older brother's motorcycle, which he had (naively it seems) left in her care while he was away. Her mother was mortified at first but dropped her own objections once Mary gave her a ride in the sidecar.

Several speeding citations and other brushes with the law later, Mary turned her attention to automobiles, which were all the rage after the First World War. Naturally, Mary started racing. Women race drivers – a rarity even now – were far more rare back then and she made quite a stir and set several world records. She met the Honorable Victor Bruce who worked for the AC motor car company. He set her up racing the company's cars as a publicity device, and she started winning. Victor won the 1926 Monte Carlo Rally and the two were married five days later. She entered the 1927 Monte Carlo Rally, and came in sixth overall, beating out over fifty of Europe's top male drivers. Then they circumnavigated the Western Mediterranean in a car over the next several weeks.

She also took to racing speedboats, and one time crossed the English Channel twice in one day (from England to France and back) in a diminutive outboard.

Circumnavigating the World

Somewhere along the line she became interested in aeroplanes, which were even more exotic and thrilling than motor cars. Her determination to fly was solidified when Amy Johnson became the first woman to fly solo from England to Australia, winning fame and fortune in the process. Mary decided to up the ante and aim for an around-the-world flight.

With her usual determination, Mary bought a Black-

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burn Bluebird. She completed her flying lessons, and got some air time. After her plane had been outfitted with an auxiliary fuel tank and some other modifications, she took off on September 25, 1930 with minimal instrumentation and practically no experience. The first day she made Munich, Germany. Five months later, she returned to England, becoming the first woman to complete a solo circumnavigation in an aeroplane.

Along the way she...

- Had to land in a soccer stadium in Ankara during a game when she could find no other landing strip...
- Nosed into the beach after her engine nearly failed over the shark-infested Straits of Hormuz, and spent several days as a guest of the local Baluchis tribe...
- Contracted malaria after being forced down in French Indo-China by the monsoon...
- Folded the wings in Yokohama and shipped the plane to Vancouver, presumably enjoying a nice rest during the voyage...
- Interrupted a full-dress military review in San Diego when she mistakenly buzzed an admiral and then tried to land on the parade ground.

Obscurity and Financial Success

Back in England, she did not receive the recognition and money she expected, though this was the most spectacular of the seventeen flying, boating, and driving records she set. The world was in the grip of the Great Depression by then, and flying was commonplace. She did meet and consult with Amelia Earhart, and there is speculation that Mary's input influenced Earhart's plans and equipment. Mary went on to earn a

fortune in her own right by running commercial airlines, an RAF repair facility during World War II, and a glove manufacturer.



Says the author: "Mary had to make a number of forced/crash landings, in this case nose diving into a bog!" We are pleased to see she maintained decorum by wearing a skirt rather than trousers.

"Queen of Speed" is available in the PCAM gift shop, and a generous portion of the proceeds will go to PCAM. It is also available at Copperfield's, through Amazon, and in the Sonoma County Library. There is further information and photos at <http://www.queen-of-speed.com>, and a Facebook page for Mary's world flight at <https://www.facebook.com/marypetre.bruce.7?fref=ts>

About Nancy

Nancy grew up in Santa Rosa, graduating from Santa Rosa High School in 1957 and Santa Rosa Junior College School of Nursing in 1963. After raising a family and several years of ER nursing, she added a secondary career as a travel agent and organizer of tours for women ('Broads Abroad'.) A love of writing led her to Sonoma State University, where she earned her BA in English in 1997. Since retiring from nursing, she has continued to travel and write. She volunteers as a Local History Docent at the Petaluma Library and as Head House Manager and Volunteer Coordinator at Cinnabar Theater. Nancy lives in Petaluma with her husband Tom. 🌟

February 20, 2013 Speaker Information

On Wednesday evening February 20 our guest speaker will be Mr. Don Fraser, former Captain, USMC, speaking about his experiences as one of the first to fly the F-8 Crusader with VMF-323, the first West Coast USMC squadron to operate that fighter. Don served with the squadron from 1958 through 1960. 🌟

Aircraft Crew Report

By Ron Stout

New Radial Engine for Display

A fellow out in Occidental has donated what we think is a Continental R-670 engine. Formerly used as a wind machine, it comes with its own stand and propeller. We hope to put it on display with our 4360 and 2800.

Ordinance Acquisition

In addition to the 18 inert 500 pound Mk. 82 bombs we recently obtained, there are now two 2000 pound Mk.84 bombs on the way. They should be here in February or March. Our own Mark Fajardin has made key contacts within the Navy and at Lemoore NAS that are providing us this conduit that could provide us more ordinance in the future. Thank you Mark!

AGE (Aircraft Ground Equipment)

Bomb loader: Jim Mattison has been fighting a fuse problem and we have found some rollers that fit. We intend to use it to actually load our new inert bombs. Airstairs and ladders: Dave Sandine and Ron Coleman have been refurbishing and painting them.

A-26

We are in the process of replacing the web structure of the rear spar of the left wing, drilling out hundreds of rivets and making new pieces. Work is also continuing on installing the gunner's compartment and mounting the nose glass. Our early model A-26 is a fraction of an inch narrower than the later models from which we have obtained parts. This has meant cutting and re-riveting some parts and gently bending the nose glass.

A-6

Don Davis and crew have finished working their sheet metal magic on the A-6's rudder, which blew off for the second time early this winter. We also hope to repair the lower mount which has been broken for several years. We are looking at ways to lock the rudder to prevent future damage.

Donations Since the Last Newsletter

Nadine Anderson	Mike & Jacque Jumper
Ed Bale	Eugene Korney
Monica Cavagnetto	Frank Lamb
Don Davis	Terry Nelson
Larry Ford	Ysidor Sanchez
Howard Hall	George Schneider
Rob Heath	C. J. Stephens
Nancy Horton	Heidi Telesforo
Brian Hutchison	Chuck Thomas

T-28

The slow, steady work is progressing. We found a cracked fuel line, and when we found all our supplier's were also cracked we bought a large flaring tool to make our own. This tool has more than paid for itself in making rather than buying this and additional lines.

F-8

Dave Carlson and Jim Mattison have started working on the F-8 in their "free" time when not working in the office or on the T-37/F-106 respectively. This will be a multi-year project due to the amount of corrosion.

F-105

Our F-105 has been missing its front instrument panel, gun sight and scope. We were able to find a collector in Texas with the parts and although the deal almost fell through, they are being shipped and will arrive shortly.

A-7

Don Callen has been making new skin panels to replace those missing. Work on the canopy operating system has been completed so we can start on the cockpit. We hope to paint her this summer. ✨

Gift Shop News, Specials, and Crew

The PCAM Gift Shop is all spiffed up and looking great. Stop in and see our wide selection of aviation related gifts and apparel. There's something for everybody!



This month's specials include 25% off polo shirts (at left - reg. \$31.99, now \$23.99) and fleece wear (reg. 38.99 to 45.99, now 29.99 to 34.99). The clearance rack has a collection of must-have and 'must-go' items at 50% off.

Come in and say hi to the gang! Below we see, left to right, Chris Wall, Allan Chensvold (who obviously remembers how to stand at attention!), gift shop manager Mike Lynch and Bob Conz. Not present but destined for future photos are additional volunteers: Denny Hutton, Vanessa Guzman, Larry Houghton, Karen Eakle, Bob Bergeron, Kiyomi Bilok, Carol & Richard Louis and Dian Coleman. In the background are some of our great aircraft miniatures and other products in newly re-designed displays that put a real shine on our limited retail space. Nice work everyone!



Tribute to a Fighter Pilot

Major Ed Rasimus (USAF, Ret.), co-writer with Christina Olds of "Fighter Pilot; Memoirs of Legendary Ace Robin Olds", flew west on January 30th from his home in Texas after a long battle with cancer. Christina says, "Ed was a dear friend, coach and mentor throughout my effort to pull together my father's memoirs into book form. He was the quintessential fighter pilot, flying more than 250 combat missions during the Vietnam conflict in F-105 Thunderchiefs and F-4 Phantoms. He received the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross and numerous Air Medals. After retiring from the Air Force, Ed became an award-winning author, penning two Vietnam era novels, "Palace Cobra" and "When Thunder Rolled". I will miss Ed's gruff, gravelly voice and his ceaseless and irreverent sense of humor. I can just imagine the scene in that fighter pilot bar in the sky when he arrived. Rest well, Ed. We love you." ★



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Air Show Flashback

Radial engines snarl as a formation of Nanchang CJ-6 trainers crosses show center. The CJ-6 is popular among civilian warbird fans because of its fighter-like styling and sturdy construction. Photo courtesy Thomas Belka.





The Pacific Coast Air Museum

Location

One Air Museum Way, Santa Rosa, CA, 95403
www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org
707-575-7900

At the Charles M. Schulz-Sonoma County Airport, north of Santa Rosa. Hwy 101 north to Airport Blvd. and go west. Turn left on North Laughlin Rd, right on Becker Blvd. then right on Air Museum Way.

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 more information.

Member Meetings

Normally held on the third Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm at Mesa Beverage Company, Inc. 3200 N. Laughlin Road, Santa Rosa, CA

“Straight Scoop” Newsletter

The museum newsletter, “Straight Scoop” is published monthly and is available online on the museum’s web site. Members are highly encouraged to submit articles for possible publication. The deadline is the 26th 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: Peter Loughlin, Editor, in care of the Pacific Coast Air Museum, One Air Museum Way., Santa Rosa, CA 95403, pcam-news@loughlinmarketing.com 707-575-7900.

Membership Renewals

\$30 per year individual; \$45 per year for families. Send renewals to the museum, address below.

Address Corrections

Please send to:
Pacific Coast Air Museum
One Air Museum Way
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Please visit our web site at

www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org

or call 707-575-7900 for details or more information.

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STRAIGHT SCOOP

February 2013

*Climb Aboard
DC-6 Cockpit
February 18 & 19*

REMEMBER THESE DATES

Wednesday, February 11	8:30 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting at the Museum
Wednesday, February 20	7:00 p.m.	Membership Meeting

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