

Volume XVII Number 8 August 2011

PACIFIC COAST AIR MUSEUM

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



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, 7:00 pm at Mesa Beverage Company, Inc. 3200 N. Laughlin Road, Santa Rosa, CA

"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 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: 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, address below. **Address Corrections:** Please send to: Pacific Coast Air Museum, 2230 Becker Blvd., Santa Rosa, Ca 95403

Please visit our web site at www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org or call 707-575-7900 for details or further Information.

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Dave Pinsky

707-575-7900

First Western Pig BBQ A Huge Success

In what many are calling the best event ever held at the Pacific Coast Air Museum, the first Western Pig BBQ on Saturday, July 9th, conceived and headed up by Board Member and Museum VP Allan Morgan was a huge success. Approximately 250 members and guests filled the museum patio and air park, enjoyed wine, champagne, beer, soft drinks, BBQ'd pork and an assortment of salads. The Silent Auction and P-51 Mustang flight raffle were also huge successes, and many took advantage of the tours and briefings at our 9/11 "First Responder" F-15. The overflow crowd exceeded our wildest expectations. We're going to plan for a huge turnout when we do it again next summer! Thanks Allan and Linda Morgan and your volunteers for all your hard work in putting on this great event!



Master BBQ King Allan Morgan and The Pig.



Allan and Linda Morgan finally get to relax a little



Over 250 members and guests enjoyed the event



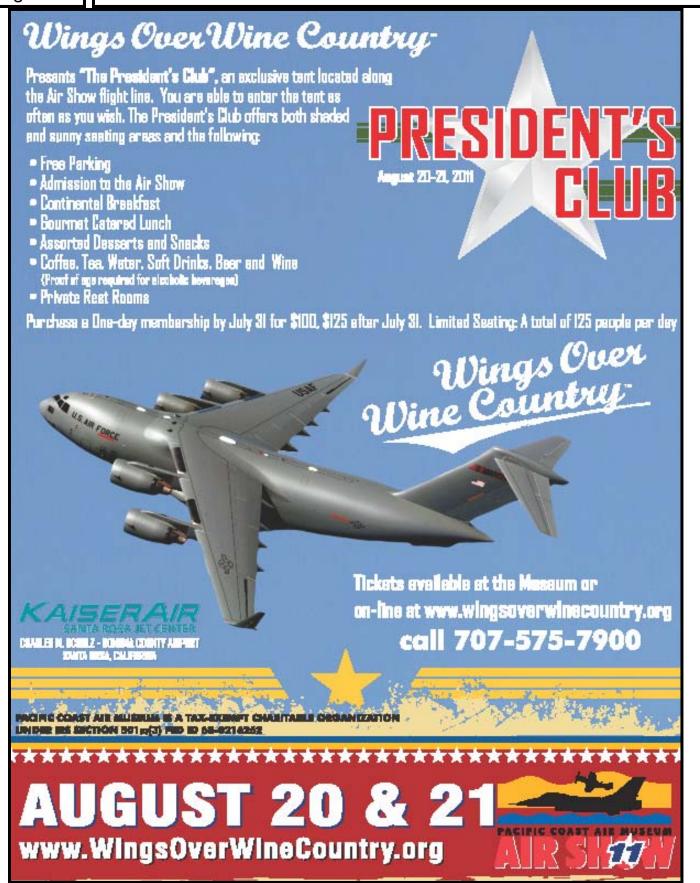
Maggie and Betty smile and greet our guests



The bar was a popular place



Folks lined up for the delicious food.



WWII Veteran Makes 9/11 "First Responder" F-15 Outdoor Exhibit Possible

Hattie Stone, 93 year old WWII veteran and long time Pacific Coast Air Museum member is often seen around town, at veteran's events and at the museum's "Wings Over Wine Country" Air Show in her WWII Navy uniform and driving her 1940s jeep. For years she's been donating to the museum's building fund, in hopes of seeing a new museum built in her lifetime. Difficult economic times have slowed the museum's progress toward a new museum. But the recent acquisition of the 9/11 "First Responder" F-15 Eagle aircraft, the first aircraft to arrive over the World Trade Center on 9/11, has provided the museum the opportunity to build a permanent exhibit to honor those who responded, honor those who fell and tell the story this aircraft and it's pilot played in defending New York City on that tragic day. The museum's goal has been to build and dedicate this historic exhibit, the only one on the west coast at this time, on the tenth anniversary of 9/11 this year.

Lagging donations and difficulty raising the necessary funds placed that worthy goal in jeopardy. Step in Hattie Stone, who walked into Executive Director Dave Pinsky's office in early July, asked what she could do to hasten the construction of the 9/11 F-15 exhibit, and then told Dave to take the \$50,000 she had previously donated for a new museum building and put it toward completing the exhibit. We hear there wasn't a dry eye in the room. Thanks to this generous WWII vet, at least part of the permanent exhibit will be completed and dedicated on 9/11 of this year, and you can be sure that Hattie will be cutting the ribbon. Plan to attend the opening and dedication on Sunday, September 11th, at 2:00pm at the museum.

Additional donations are sorely needed to complete the exhibit - - to donate or for further information, contact Dave Pinsky at 707-575-7900 or director@pacificcoastairmuseum.org



Pacific Coast Air Museum (707) 575-7900



Famous Red Bull Air Racer Kirby Chambliss coming to "Wings Over Wine Country"

Kirby Chambliss has spent so much time up flying his Zivko Edge 540's he now jokes that the plane controls and wings are a mere extension of his own arms. It's second nature. The former Red Bull Air Race World Champion, was raised racing motocross but always knew he'd be a pilot. He began flying at age 13 and by 24 became the youngest commercial pilot at Southwest Airlines. By the time he made it to captain at 28 he was already polishing his aerobatic skills, an interest acquired during aerobatic training for his job flying a business jet.

After his first aerobatic flight Kirby was immediately hooked. The idea of turning a plane upside down opened up a whole new world of opportunities for the young pilot. He now viewed commercial flying as a day job to pay for his love and new, expensive hobby of aerobatic flying.

As years continued Kirby tirelessly trained, perfecting each maneuver and routine. His persistence paid off with increased recognition at air shows, mounting fan base and acceptance onto the U.S. National Aerobatic Team. To date, Kirby is a five-time U.S. National Aerobatic Champion (FAI World Aerobatic Championships, bronze & team bronze in 2005, silver & bronze in 2003, bronze & team silver in 1998).

Named one of the top 15 aerobatic pilots in the country, Kirby was invited to compete in the first Red Bull Air Race events held in the early 2000's. He is a two time Red Bull Air Race World Champion and will look to reclaim the title in 2010.

Normally a friendly and jovial American, Kirby turns into an intense warrior when he climbs into his cockpit. His flying style is smooth yet often aggressive as he goes all-out for the wins. Chambliss loathes second place, regularly disparaging it the "first loser".

After sorting out his engine woes mid-season last year, Kirby had a strong second half with two podiums in Windsor and Budapest. With a powerful engine in his Edge 540, Chambliss is optimistic about challenging for the title in 2010.

Kirby is married to fellow pilot, Kellie. They live on the "Flying Crown Ranch" with their daughter, Karly,



Patty Wagstaff to Fly "Sneak Preview" Performance before Air Show - -10:15am Sat & Sun

Patty Wagstaff is a six-time member of the US Aerobatic Team, Patty has won the gold, silver and bronze medals in Olympic-level international aerobatic competition and is the first woman to win the title of US National Aerobatic champion and one of the few people to win it three times.

Patty flies one of the most thrilling, low-level aerobatic demonstrations in the world. Flying before millions of people each year, her breathtaking performances give airshow spectators a front-row seat view of the precision and complexity of modern, unlimited hard-core aerobatics. Her smooth aggressive style sets the standard for performers the world over.

Patty's skill is based on years of training and experience. She is a six-time recipient of the "First Lady of Aerobatics" Betty Skelton Award. In July 2004, Patty was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame and was the recipient of the National Air and Space Museum's Award for Current Achievement in 1994. Having received many awards for her flying, she is particularly proud of receiving the Airshow industry's most prestigious award, the "Sword of Excellence", and the "Bill Barber Award for Showmanship". Recently she was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Air Force Association, was inducted into the EAA/IAC Hall of Fame and in 2005 received the NAA/99's Katherine Wright Award.

In March, 1994, her airplane, the Goodrich Extra 260, went on display in the Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum in Washington DC. You can see Patty's airplane and exhibit in the Pioneers of Flight Gallery.

Patty has trained with the Russian Aerobatic Team and has flown Airshows and competitions in such exotic places as South America, Russia, Europe, Mexico and Iceland. She is a member of the <u>Screen Actors Guild</u>, <u>Motion Picture Pilots Association</u>, <u>United Stuntwomen's Association</u>, working as a stunt pilot and aerial coordinator for the film and television industry.

She was the "Demo" pilot for Raytheon's (now Hawker Beechcraft's) military trainer, the T6A/B Texan II in international Airshows such as Paris, Singapore and Farnborough and continues to coach their Demo Team.

In 2010 Patty started flying for Cal Fire as an Air Attack pilot in the OV-10 Bronco and is flying out of the Santa Rosa Cal Fire Attack Base at the Charles M. Schulz—Sonoma County Airport this summer.

Pacific Coast Air Museum (707) 575-7900

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Why a long time member became a Life Member of the Pacific Coast Air Museum!

The following was received by the Executive Director of the Pacific Coast Air Museum.:

Dave,

I received your letter today confirming my Life Membership. Thank you!

If by chance you might have wondered who the heck would drop off \$1000.00 in cash at the gift shop...My wife and I have had a Family membership for somewhere between 5-10 years (time flies and neither one of us can remember exactly).

My interest in helping further the goals of the museum is, in large part, due to my having served in the USAF for 4 I/2 years, from 1977-1981. Four of those years were spent with the 38th TRS at Zweibrucken AB as a photographer and Photo Processing/printing Specialist. Our weapon of choice, as I'm sure you know, was the Phantom RF4-C. What a great experience. After separation, I remained in Europe and for the next 9 years worked as a contractor with the Army's TSA as a Food Broker. After the Berlin Wall came down, that contract slowly came to an end. We came back to the States in '91 and have been hanging out in Healdsburg ever since.

Your "challenge" last July to become a Life Member got me thinking about making a \$ commitment to the Museum (the Cessna flight offer didn't hurt either). However, on Saturday, June 25th after having heard Lt. Col. Duffy's presentation and then wandering over to the Phantom and by chance meeting Tony and speaking with him about my helping out with needed F-4 maintenance, I had a very positive feeling about recent Museum efforts and direction. Making the decision to become a Life Member after that day was easy.

Thank you for all your efforts on behalf of the Museum.

The Western Pig BBQ was fun!

GO AIR FORCE

Justin S. Rains

How about you considering supporting your Pacific Coast Air Museum at this critical juncture by becoming a Life Member as Justin Rains did (he is Life Member #4) or consider making a donation to help build our 9/11 "First Responder" F-15 exhibit (we are part of the way there for the outdoor exhibit, but badly need funding to complete the indoor portion of this historic exhibit.

Please contact Dave Pinsky, Executive Director, at 707-575-7900 or director@pacificcoastairmuseum.org for more info, to become a Life Member or to make a donation.

NEW MEMBERS

Daniel & Cathryn Rose – Healdsburg
Gabe Lindeman Family – Santa Rosa
Gil Igleheart - Healdsburg
Tanya Wagner – Waipahu, HI
Charlie Crowley – Santa Rosa
Randy Cochran Family – Santa Rosa
Michael Parsons – Calistoga
Ed Slingland Family – Rohnert Park
Craig W. Stone – Santa Rosa
Eric Slaughenhaupt Family – Forestville
James Fitch – Santa Rosa
Susan Wood Family – Santa Rosa
Peter Testi – Santa Rosa

DONATIONS SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

Daniel & Cathryn Rose
Bill Greene
Jim Cook



McDonnell RF-4C

When Barbara Beedon spoke to the Rotary Club of Sonoma Valley about the museum, she met a gentleman named Delmar Sparrowe, who said he had a model of a B-17 he'd like to donate to the museum. Little did she know it was not your ordinary, garden-variety model! Del had a very interesting story to tell, and we invited him to tell it to us at the January Member Meeting. While serving in Australia, Del witnessed the crash of his squadron's B-17C which crashed after takeoff on June 14, 1943, at Bakers Creek, killing 40 on board with one survivor. This was the worst single aviation accident in the Pacific during WWII. Del has crafted a model of the B-17C aircraft lost on June 14, 1943 which was replicated in bronze on the Memorial to the incident at Mackay, Australia.

Recently, Del brought his model back to the museum, and archivist Mary Jane Brown, board member and crew chief Bill Greene, Barbara Beedon and Del's wife Ellie, were on hand to help him hang it in our Annex. He is also preparing a panel that will tell the story, to hang on the wall near the model. So, next time you are at the museum, check out the new B-I7C model, and some other models Mary Jane has hung up for display.



Del, hanging the B-I7C model



Del, Mary Jane Browne & Bill Greene



Del with his wife Ellie and Mary Jane

In case you missed it

Del Sparrowe Guest Speaker - January 19, 2011

Our January 19, 2011 speaker is Del Sparrowe, is a WWII Veteran who served in the US Army Air Corps as a flight crewman and mechanic assigned to the 46th Troop Carrier Squadron which ultimately flew in the Australia – New Guinea area of the Pacific Theater. Del is also one of our most recent WWII veterans to join the Pacific Coast Air Museum as a member. He was trained in factory new C-47s but after arriving in the Pacific Theater, his unit was assigned older C-47s and a single B-17C Flying Fortress bomber (an unarmed/supercharged version) converted to airlift troops from Port Moresby to Mackay, Queensland, Australia on ten day R&R visits.

While serving in Australia, Del witnessed the crash of his squadron's B-17C which crashed after takeoff on June 14, 1943, at Bakers Creek, killing 40 on board with one survivor. This was the worst single aviation accident in the Pacific during WWII. That crash was memorialized with a stone carving that most recently was transported to the Australian Embassy in Washington DC and is waiting the selection of a site for permanent placement. There have been steps taken to place the memorial at Arlington Cemetery or nearby Fort Myers VA.

Del has crafted a model of the B-17C aircraft lost on June 14, 1943 which was replicated in bronze on the Memorial at Mackay. He will be speaking about his experiences during WWII. Del Sparrowe was born in Berkeley, CA on April 27, 1922 and graduated from Berkeley High School. While attending his first year of college, the Japanese hit Pearl Harbor. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps on January 9th, 1942, as soon after December 7th as possible. He joined the Army because the recruiter said if he got a certain score or better on the General Classification Test they would send him to Sheppard Field, Texas, for basic training and then send him to airplane mechanics school. And that's exactly what they did. They also sent him to Santa Monica where he spent a month at Douglas Air Craft Factory. While stationed in Santa Monica, he married his high school sweetheart (and they have celebrated their 68th anniversary).

Del was returned to his squadron in Townsville and assigned to crew a C-47 again. He flew over most of Australia and all of New Guinea for eighteen months. New Guinea was marked by rather rugged flying and difficult landings. He accumulated almost 150 combat hours which led to his receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal along with other WWII decorations.



B-17C S/N 40-2049 Photo courtesy of U.S. Air Force

Pacific Coast Air Museum (707) 575-7900



August 20-21 "Wings Over Wine Country" Air Show

REMEMBER THESE DATES

August 3rd @ 8:30am Board of Directors Meeting at the Museum

August 9th @ 12:00pm Executive Director's Staff Meeting at the Museum

August 17th @ 6:00pm Required Orientation & Safety Briefing for ALL Air Show volunteers on he

museum patio

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Santa Rosa, Ca 95403