



STRAIGHT SCOOP

Volume XVI Number 6 June 2010

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



Aviation Explorer Post 707 Presents Charter to Museum

At the May 19th Member Meeting, the Aviation Explorer Post sponsored by the Pacific Coast Air Museum presented its charter to President [Mike Voorhees](#). Post 707 is only the second Aviation Explorer Post in Sonoma County. The adult leaders of the post are [Bob Archibald](#), [Allan Morgan](#), [Robin Dotti](#), [Maggie Heck](#), [Roger Olson](#) and [Allan Olson](#).

The Post is already participating in Pacific Coast Air Museum activities such as the recent Rose Parade and Cloverdale Airport Open House. You will see them at our upcoming Shrimp Feed as well.

If you've got some aviation related ideas for the Aviation Explorers to gain insight, knowledge or experience in aviation, please give [Bob Archibald](#) or [Allan Morgan](#) a ring.



The Pacific Coast Air Museum's A-26, #41-39303, was purchased by members of the museum with hopes of restoring and flying the aircraft. With the cost of flying it out of reach for now, it is being lovingly restored and readied for static display. The picture at the left is A-26 tail #17676 which is almost the same as our A-26.
A history of the PCAM A-26 is on Page #7

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 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 at the address below.

Address Corrections:

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

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From The President

By Mike Voorhees

As we approach the 2010 Wings Over Wine Country Air Show, we need people who want to volunteer to contact Richard Dow at 707-433-1594, as soon as possible. Many jobs need only be worked during the days of the Air Show. Others, like some of those I'll describe below, need to be filled and worked now, in the several weeks leading up to the Air Show.

Many jobs worked during the Air Show are performed in half-day shifts and when you are not working, you're free to take in the rest of the show just like any other attendee. Some of the jobs entail greater responsibilities, such as:

Perimeter Security - Several people are needed to be gate guards and to staff some checkpoint locations. This would be for the Friday night Performer Reception and all day Saturday and Sunday. No, you don't have to work both days of the show, unless you want to!

The Will Call & Information Booth- needs a coordinator to schedule and train staff. Last year's coordinator will help train you.

We need someone to be the Traffic Czar - This job is to coordinate Traffic Control and Parking. We will provide training and assistance. The Boy Scouts will assist with the Parking. This job could be split between two people, so one could do it each day.

The Air Show Volunteer Coordinator needs two people to **help make telephone calls** to volunteers from past Air Shows to schedule them for this year's show. This assignment can be done from the museum, home or office which ever is most convenient.

We need several **volunteers to staff the phones in the museum the week of the Air Show** to answer questions about the show.

We need **2 more people to help with our Vintage Vehicle Venue (car show)**. This will be mostly directing ingress, parking and egress of the classic cars.

If you perform volunteer work for the air show you'll enjoy a delicious hosted lunch each day of the air show and a wonderful barbecue on Saturday night after the show. Best of all, you'll be helping to make possible the 2010 Wings Over Wine Country Air Show!

REACH For Life

Our supporters at REACH have offered Pacific Coast Air Museum members a 33% discount on their REACH for Life program. REACH for Life covers all costs of emergency medical helicopter transport. A \$45 annual family membership is \$30 for museum members. For more info, go to <http://www.reachairambulance.com/membership/>. To enroll at the PCAM discount, call Joyce Gilmore at 866 767-3224.

Editor's Note.

Effective June 1st.

Any and all articles received after the deadline of the **26th** of each month will be placed in the following month's newsletter. **There will be no exceptions unless it is an emergency.**

Support the "Snoopy" License Plate Program

Check out the "Snoopy" plate below.

Supported by the Schulz family and the California Associations of Museums (CAM).

7,500 people need to indicate on line, by going to www.snoopyplate.com, that they support the [Snoopy plate](http://www.snoopyplate.com).

Your support does not mean that you are committed to buy the plate (although it's a pretty cool plate!)

The money made by issuing this new California plate will go to California museums. It would be great if as many Pacific Coast Air Museum members and their families and friends supported this effort and helped make this happen.

See below and then go to www.snoopyplate.com



Pacific Coast Air Museum's First Paid Life Member

The Board of Directors, Officers and Members of the Pacific Coast Air Museum would like to thank and acknowledge our first paid in full Life Member - - [Robert M. Wicklund, Captain USN \(Ret.\)](#). Captain Wicklund will be recognized on the Life Member plaque and received a distinctive Life Member card.

Captain Wicklund joins Honorary Life Members [Butch Causey](#), [Carl Thompson](#), [Jim Cook](#), [John Parmer](#) and [Hattie Stone](#) in the select group of Life Members of the Pacific Coast Air Museum.

Thanks for your significant contribution and wonderful support of the Pacific Coast Air Museum.

2010 Pacific Coast Air Museum Annual Bus Tour

This year's tour on May 7th took 55 Pacific Coast Air Museum members and guests to the Oakland Aviation Museum in Oakland and to the Moffett Field Historical Society. Both offered fascinating glimpses into aviation history, particularly of the Oakland area and Moffett Field.

The photos show the group in front of a huge flying boat at the Oakland Aviation Museum and the even larger airship hangar at Moffett Field (the airship hangar is large enough to hangar six inflated Goodyear blimps).

A great day was had by all. If you have some ideas about future museum bus tours, please send them to director@pacificcoastairmuseum.org.

We are getting prices for a possible trip to the Evergreen Aviation Museum ("Spruce Goose" and SR-71 "Blackbird") in McMinnville, Oregon, by either bus or air for next year. Start saving your pennies and stay tuned in. We are also thinking about a trip to the Planes of Fame in Chino by bus or air if the Evergreen trip is successful. Who knows, maybe we could even together a trip to the wonderful Pima Air Museum in Tucson, with a tour of the AMARC Boneyard too.



GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

A great response for help

On April 30th and May 1st, volunteers responded to the Museum's call for help to mow and trim grass at the Museum facility. On Friday, the 30th, [Ed Nelson](#) mounted the Museum's riding mower and started the cleanup. On Saturday, [Chuck Morris](#) brought in his mower, and along with [Ron Stout](#) using the Museum's mower, took care of most of the open areas. The husband and wife team of [Rob and Nancy Heath](#) used weed trimmers to mow in and around the airplanes and in other hard to reach areas. [Mary Lavezzoli](#) and [Bob Stratos](#) helped out too, using an electric lawn mower.

Now the grounds are looking well trimmed (and green) thanks to a great crew. We will have to ask for help during the summer because the normal crew is not available until September. So when we put out the call for help, please let Duane know and come on out! We need to keep the grounds looking really good for our members and our visitors. Thanks again for a great response.

Cloverdale Airport Open House

On Saturday, May 8th, the Pacific Coast Air Museum participated in the Cloverdale Airport Open House. Thanks to a great group of volunteers, our display consisted of the BD-5 and a large museum, Shrimp Feed and Air Show booth. Our Air Explorer Post was also there passing out info about the Air Explorers.

Many thanks to [Ed Nelson](#), [Duane Coppock](#) and [Rich Lewis](#) for taking the BD-5 apart, transporting it to Cloverdale, re-assembling it and putting it on display, then reversing the entire process. And more thanks to [Phyllis Morton](#), [Robin Dotti](#), [Ellie Cook](#), [Mike George](#), [Gail George](#) and [Dave Pinsky](#) for carrying our booth supplies up to Cloverdale and staffing our booth.

It was a fun day for everyone and helped spread the word about the museum, the Shrimp Feed and the Air Show.

Thanks everyone!



The A-26

The A-26 was an unusual design for an attack bomber of the early 1940s period, as it was designed as a single-pilot aircraft (sharing this characteristic with the [RAF's de Havilland Mosquito](#), among others). The aircraft was designed by [Edward Heinemann](#), Robert Donovan and [Ted R. Smith](#).^[4] The Douglas XA-26 [prototype](#) (41-19504) first flew on 10 July 1942 at Mines Field, [El Segundo](#), with test pilot [Benny Howard](#) at the controls. Flight tests revealed excellent performance and handling, but there were problems with engine cooling which led to [cowling](#) changes and omission of the [propeller](#) spinners on production aircraft, plus modification of the nose landing gear after repeated collapses during testing.^[5] The A-26 was originally built in two different configurations. The A-26B had a "solid" nose, which normally housed six (or later eight) [.50 caliber machine guns](#), officially termed the "all-purpose nose", later commonly known as the "six-gun nose" or "eight-gun nose". The A-26C's "glass" nose, officially termed the "Bombardier nose", contained a [Norden bombsight](#) for medium altitude precision bombing. The A-26C nose section included two fixed M-2 guns, later replaced by underwing gun packs or internal guns in the wings. After about 1,570 production aircraft, three guns were installed in each wing, coinciding with the introduction of the "eight-gun nose" for A-26Bs, giving some configurations as many as 14 .50 in (12.7 mm) machine guns in a fixed forward mount. An A-26C nose section could be exchanged for an A-26B nose section, or vice versa, in a few man-hours, thus physically (and officially) changing the designation and operational role. The "flat-topped" [canopy](#) was changed in late 1944 after about 820 production aircraft, to a clamshell style with greatly improved visibility.^{[6][7]}

The History of Pacific Coast Air Museum's A-26

- The A-26B-15, S/N 41-39303, was manufactured by Douglas Aircraft, Long Beach, CA, and delivered to the USAAF on 9 Oct 1944.
- Oct 1944, Departed US for 9th Air Force (European Theater of Operations) via Hunter AAF GA.
- Jul 1945, Returned US via Hunter AAF GA.
- Dec 1945, To 4160th AAF Base Unit (Air Material Command), Grenada AAF MS (storage).
- Sep 1947, To 4135th AAF Base Unit (AMC), Hill AAF UT (storage)
- Apr 1952, To Ogden Air Materiel Center, Hill AFB UT (modified to B-26C)
- Jul 1952, To 126th Bombardment (light) wing (US Air Forces Europe), Laon AB France.
- Nov 1952, To 38th Bombardment (light) wing (USAFE), Laon AB France.
- Feb 1953, To 48th Fighter-Bomber Wing (USAFE), Chaumont AB France
- Mar 1954, To 66th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing (USAFE), Sembach AB Germany.
- Apr 1954, To 38th Bombardment (light) Wing (USAFE), Laon AB France (later 38th Bombardment (Tactical) Wing).
- Jun 1956, To Aircraft Storage Branch (AMC), Davis-Monthan AFB AZ.
- Dec 1956, To 1400th Field Maintenance Squadron (Military Air Transport Command), Keflavik AP Iceland.
- Sep 1957, To Middletown Air Materiel Area, Olmstead AAF PA.
- In 1958 it was declared excess and sold on the civilian market.
- Its last assignment was as a water bomber fighting forest fires.
- The Pacific Coast Air Museum acquired the aircraft in 1992 intending to restore it to flying condition.
- The A-26 Invader is the only aircraft type to see combat in W.W.II, Korea and Vietnam.

Memories

By Barbara Beedon, Development Director

On May 15th, we took our “Huey” helicopter down to join the revitalized Rose Parade in downtown Santa Rosa. Watching the children and the floats, and feeling the hometown spirit surrounding me, I remembered the parades of years past— and the memories of family, friends and the fun they evoke. Growing up in Southern California, it was a rite of passage to sleep overnight on the curb of Colorado Boulevard to be on the front line of THE Rose Parade. Later, living in a tiny town in Kansas, our big parade happened on the 4th of July. Krystal, the shapely but shy bank teller in town would don her bikini and solemnly grace the bank’s float. The parade usually lasted about 20 minutes, enough time for 2-3 home made floats, the high school band and Senator Bob Dole to pass by. The highlight of the day was the hometown pot-luck barbeque that gathered virtually the whole town (all 500 of us) in the civic plaza for the homemade potato salad, deviled eggs, fried chicken, cherry pies and BBQ brisket. The town fireworks display was always augmented by the not so safe, and definitely not sane firecrackers we could legally buy there. Usually, we would end the day out at the lake where we would shoot bottle rockets into the water, where they would explode under water like mini depth charges. We would usually fall asleep on the beach and go home the next day with one sunburned cheek.

What really stands out in those memories is the people, some who are still with us and many who are not. The memories sustain us, and the stories of those who have passed on provide a framework of the past for our future.

Memorial Day is a formal reminder that asks us to take a moment to reflect on what we have gained, what we have lost and what blessings we still have in our lives. It is also a time to take their opportunity to honor those family members, friends and leaders who have inspired our lives. Even though the day has passed, it is always appropriate to honor those loved ones with a gift “In Memory of” to an organization which is of value in your life. While these gifts have traditionally been for those whom we have lost, many people also make such a gift to remember a birthday, anniversary, birth of a new child or grandchild or for any person or event that is worthy of remembrance.

Here at the Pacific Coast Air Museum, we hope you will take a moment to honor someone special to you with a gift to the museum. While you will be honoring that person or event, you will also be helping us to preserve aviation history, increase our education programs for young people and remembering the heroism of those who have kept our lives safe so that we may continue to reflect on our memories.

Many of you may still have a response envelope from one of our mailings which can be used for your donation. You may also call us with your credit card number or ask for an envelope or go to our website; www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org, and click on either the “donate” button or go to the “giving” page.

As always, thank you for your support of our museum and our mission. And with your help we will also be able to move forward on plans to build a new, permanent facility for our collection.

New Master Crew Chief (MCC)

The following message was sent May 17th from Jim Cook to all Crew Chiefs and we want to share it with all Pacific Coast Air Museum members and friends: As of today, [Ron Stout](#) will be Master Crew Chief (MCC). Ron has been appointed by PCAM President, [Mike Voorhees](#) to take my place as MCC. Ron has been with the Museum for ten years. He first served on the F-16N with his brother and myself. Our first task was to power up the F-16N canopy. No one else had been able to do that. Ron did it in an afternoon. That is the type of person Ron is. When the A-26 Invader looked like it was a jigsaw puzzle with little future in the Museum, Ron took the project on. He and his crew have put together the "City of Santa Rosa" and have truly shown the life and spirit of being a volunteer. His massive amount of hours at the Museum have been spent on many projects. I don't think there is an Museum aircraft that hasn't gotten his finger prints on it. He has helped all of us on our aircraft. I have known Ron for 41 years. From the days when he ran Lake Ralphine Boat house Guards, us "kids" have always looked up to him. When he ran the Santa Rosa Sailing Club, he won the annual "Keeping us together" award many times. He used to run the weekly Bike races and won awards for his "Bike Elves" program where he fixed thousands of abandon bikes and gave them to kids. At PCAM, his broad smile and great attitude has been a fixture among the Crew Dawgs. Always helping others, he gained the respect of all in the Museum. I know of no other person that I would want to take my place. He will do great things for this Museum as he has done in the past. Good Luck Ron. I would like to thank all the 24 current and many past Crew Chiefs, Plane Captains and Crew Dawgs. You truly are the backbone of this Museum. I am honored to have served with you. I have also seen three Crew chiefs pass away while on my watch and many museum members. Thanks to all, for your hard work and dedication in representing your aircraft and Museum. I also thank the Five Museum Presidents and Board members who have allowed me to have a lot of fun while doing the best I could do to serve this Museum. I also thank the two Executive Directors who have guided me and this gang of Merry Men and Women Crew Chiefs through our growth. And many thanks to my mentor, [Bill Canavan](#). Under my tour of duty, of almost 9 years of being MCC, we have added 17 aircraft for display and we have two more coming this year. It's just unbelievable when you look at what we all have done. And it all because of you, our volunteers. Crew Dawgs, Keep it up Ron, it's all yours.....
Good Luck. Jim Cook (MCC)

June Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker for the June 16th Membership meeting is [Robert Fischer](#) who will speak about his just released book "Plane Jane" - an adventure involving a female US Air Force fighter pilot who refuses to don a Burka while serving in Saudi Arabia and eventually plays a key role in the repossession of a luxury aircraft from a middle eastern county. Bob is a Bay Area native living in Santa Rosa with his family. He has written several works related to military service and aviation. His latest book will be offered for sale at the meeting and he has indicated he will autograph books sold at our meeting. One copy will also be among the raffle prizes for the evening.



Crew Dawg News

The May open cockpit was the A-26 Invader and the F-86H. [Ron Stout](#) and Crew have made great progress on the Invader. It's always popular and it came on the same weekend of the City of Santa Rosa's Rose Parade. [Greg Thomas](#), in between injuries has the F-86H looking good. He will be installing a new gun door this summer in time for the Air Show. The Huey UH-1 was loaded for transport to the Rose Parade. Duane and Steve have spear headed the project. Our good friends at Precision Crane provided the truck and the crane to hoist and the group decorated the float with Air Show adverting. A BIG Thanks to Precision Crane.



Recently a prospective donation by [Mr. David Coddling](#) of his Comanche 400 and hangar was offered to the Museum. [Roger Olson](#) was handling the details and the Board was looking at this as asset that we could sell in a few years to raise money. Mr. Coddling decided that he'd rather donate to a group that would continue its flight operations. Somehow the PCAM Flight Foundation got involved and thus, got the donation of this rare Hot Rod of a Comanche. We congratulate [Don Doherty](#) and the Foundation. I understand they will operate the aircraft.

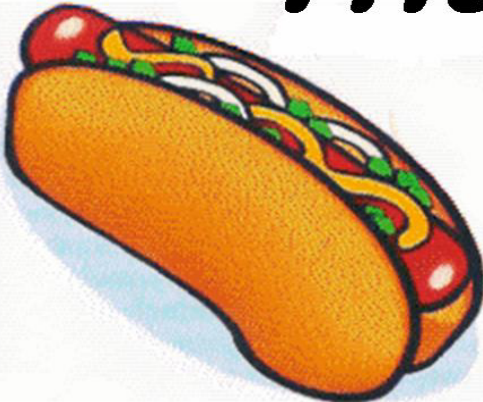
Air Show is almost here. Time to get going on your projects for the August show. We need some open aircraft on Thursday June 3rd. Its the annual Chamber of Commerce gathering. From 3-7pm, PCAM will play host to several hundred people. We would like a few aircraft open to help promote the museum and the Air Show. If you can help, please let me know. There is a group headed by [Dave Pinsky](#), [Ron Stout](#), [Lynn Hunt](#) and [Garry Beverlin](#), looking into increasing our band of merry men/women (Aircraft Crew Members). If you have ideas or things you think we should be doing, please forward them on to us. Also, there is a new Volunteer Center at the museum. They will help direct members to join our ranks. They need to know existing aircraft crew members. Please send an email to the MCC with all your existing crew members to be included in the volunteer data bank. Keep up the good work, [Jim Cook](#) (past MCC)



PACIFIC COAST AIR MUSEUM

Presents

Hot Dog Thursday!



***\$5.00 donation includes
Admission, Large Hot Dog,
Chips and Soda!***

11:30am to 1:30pm

**Don't miss our Special for
May! Chili Dogs with
Bob's famous DragonFuel
Chili!**

**Provided by DragonFly
Aviation 575-8750**



FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

***April 1st — May 6th — June 3rd — July 1st —
August 5th — September 2nd — October 7***

2230 Becker Blvd—Cross Laughlin Rd Santa Rosa, CA 95403 707 575 7900



“Climb Aboard”

June 19 & 20

AV-8C

“Harrier”

REMEMBER THESE DATES

- June 2nd @ 8:30am—Board of Directors Meeting at the Museum
- June 5th @ 5:00pm—5th Annual All You Can Eat Shrimp Feed Fundraiser at Finley Center
- June 8th @ 12:00pm—Executive Director’s Staff Meeting at the Museum
- June 16th @ 6:00pm—Air Show Planning Meeting at SCOE
- June 16th @ 7:00— Monthly Membership Meeting at SCOE
- August 21st & 22nd “Wings Over Wine Country” Air Show**

PACIFIC COAST AIR MUSEUM

2230 Becker Blvd.

Santa Rosa, Ca 95403