

WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Meet and Honor World War II and Korean War Veterans is just one of the many events that represent your membership dollars and donations hard at work.

We thank you! Our Veterans thank you!
We couldn't do it without you!

Meet our Veterans at our second annual event...

Celebrating the Living Historians of WWII & Korea

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, May 19, 2018 10:00 to 2:00
Free Admission

Bring the kids to the Pacific Coast Air Museum on Saturday, May 19th from 10:00 to 2:00. The event is designed for people of all ages, but especially for young people, to meet the heroes of the 1940s and 1950s, and talk one-on-one with them and hear their stories first-hand!

Admission is free. Food will be available for purchase. Additional attractions include:

- P-51 Mustang fly-by
- Big Band/Swing Music
- Sonoma County Calendar Girls in clothing from the era
- Kids' activities
- Warbirds on display

Some of the Veterans who will be there were B-17 pilots, P-51 and P-47 pilots, a Navy WAVE, ships' gunners, army officers, Navy TBM Avenger pilots, aircraft gunners and navigators, a USMC F4F and F4U pilot, F-86 and B-47 pilots, a P-38 Ace, a USN Higgins boat operator, a Red Cross nurse, and many more.

We look forward to seeing you on May 19th! For more information:

<http://pacificcoastairmuseum.org/vets> ★



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Heritage Fly-by—2004 PCAM
Air Show

The PCAM Mission

“To Educate and Inspire both young and old about our aviation heritage and aerospace technology, to Preserve historic aircraft and artifacts, and to Honor veterans.”

President's Message

Last year was my first year as a truly active member of PCAM, and as Vice President, time seemed to vanish at the snap of a finger. As I write this, there are five weeks left in the first quarter of 2018. Compared to most members, I consider myself a "short timer". But during that short period of time I have had an opportunity to observe and reflect upon what PCAM is. PCAM is an interesting acronym, it denotes a physical place...a museum...a dormant, physical collection of aircraft that rest lifeless in an open area, a structure that houses a collection of artifacts and a gift shop. From the road and as people drive by it appears lifeless.

However, there is an army of people called "volunteers" who, on certain days and hours, show up and breathe life into PCAM and give it personality. When that happens, it is no longer dormant and lifeless. It is the volunteers who inject their enthusiasm and devotion into creating that special place we call the Pacific Coast Air Museum. It is the volunteers who make PCAM unique on any given day. The volunteers give meaning to "PCAM" in different ways... ways that dignify who they are: P=PROUD; C=COMMITTED; A=AND; M=MOTIVATED.

You volunteers have all those characteristics. You are special people and make PCAM what it is. You put all this together and this is why PCAM will move forward and be a success... it will be a success because of you, the volunteer.

We need more like you! ★

W. David Ford, President
Pacific Coast Air Museum

**THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!
WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Your Museum really needs your help! If you have an interest in the ongoing success of the Pacific Coast Air Museum, please come out and join us for some fun. We have opportunities for everyone with every skill level. We are looking for volunteers in the following areas:

Administrative
Data Entry
Docents
Events (of which there are many!)
Gift Shop
Yard Maintenance
Help with our move

Please contact Jim Mattison, Volunteer Coordinator, at either jmatti@sonic.net or 707.291.4719. ★

AN UPDATE ON CONNIE

I would like to bring you up to date and tell you about someone we are going to miss on a regular basis who has had a dynamic impact on PCAM. As you may or may not know, Connie Reyerse, our Director of Museum Operations (DMO) has been dealing with a health issue for some time. Recently, it has taken a toll to the extent that Connie felt he could no longer contribute to the extent he wanted to. Consequently, he has decided to step down as the Director of Museum Operations. Connie's health is more important than playing the role of DMO. However, he will continue to be an asset to PCAM as a volunteer and participate in the activities and events that he enjoys. For that we are extremely grateful, as Connie has been with the Museum for over three years and has an outstanding knowledge of the inner workings of PCAM.

Thank you, Connie, for your dedicated service and contribution to PCAM. I look forward to working with you as we move forward. ★

W. David Ford, President
Pacific Coast Air Museum

Flight Wing News

By Lynn Hunt

OK, so it's winter time: short days, cold weather and other distractions. That's no excuse not to be productive for the Flight Wing. And we have been busy. There's a lot going on so here's an update.

Marchetti Update

The beautiful Marchetti 1019 has been transferred over to Flight Wing members Bud Eliff and Bob Nicolas for further development. Bud and Bob have room to hangar the aircraft and are better equipped to resolve its engine issues and bring it up to flying standards. You will be seeing the aircraft around the museum in the future. It is quite unique in many respects.

Annual Pilot Refresher Course

Each spring the Flight Wing kicks off the year's schedule of events with a pilot refresher course taught by Master Instructors Art Hayssen and Jim McCord. The course lasts about three hours and includes a review of FAR's, recent changes, additions and updates from the FAA, changes in local airspace and ATC procedures, local facility updates and anything else our local pilots want or need to know. The date of the event will be April 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Flight Wing hangar near the north

entrance gate to Knob Hill. The course is open to the public. A \$20 donation is requested and hot dogs and hamburgers will be available for lunch. Flight Wing aircraft and crews will be on display and available for inspection.

Flight Wing Saturdays

Beginning in April the Flight Wing will be open for business on the third Saturday of each month. Within the Flight Wing we are blessed to have a wealth of skilled and knowledgeable members. We also have a collection of unique aircraft that need restoration work. There are literally jobs for everyone and of every skill level.

These Saturdays will also give us the opportunity and incentive to fly our aircraft, and this means there will be opportunities for Flight Wing and museum members to go for rides. We will also be cooking hamburgers and hotdogs if you get hungry. The dates will coincide with Open Cockpit Weekends so that our crew members can join us. Remember that AOA badges are required to access the Flight Wing hangar area. We will have badged escorts available if you don't have an AOA badge. Please plan to come out and see us and spend some time if you can. Don't be surprised if someone puts you to work. ★



Phil McSpadden - March Guest Speaker

Phil McSpadden's Bio

Phil McSpadden is a self-described Depression Kid born into a coal mining family that came to America in 1720. His dad was an active organizer for miners and found himself often black balled by mining companies throughout the country including Alabama. He recalls at age 7, he and his brothers were informed that his dad was on strike and they moved to southern Illinois. Phil lost a brother fighting in Luxemburg. He lives here in Santa Rosa, California.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 US Army (Ret.)

Memories of World War II -- A Paratrooper's Story

Drafted in March 1941, Phil McSpadden immediately volunteered to become a Paratrooper. Following jump school, he was assigned to the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR). He would participate in combat in Italy, jump into Southern France as part of that invasion and go on to fight in the Battle of the Bulge. Phil's Army career over the next 30 years would include combat in Korea and multiple tours in Vietnam. Clearly Phil has hours of stories, but he will limit his talk to his WWII experiences.



Phil McSpadden Chief Warrant Officer 4 US Army (Ret.)



Phil McSpadden right out of Jump School. ★

PCAM's February Guest Speaker was

Bret Davenport: The Experiences of a Lucky Flight Test Engineer / Test Pilot

- Received his BS in Aerospace Engineering from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and graduated as test pilot from US Navy Test Pilot School
- Flew for two years with ICON Aircraft and eleven years with Naval Air Systems Command
- Built and tested his own experimental Pitts S-IS, as well as the
the
ICON
A5 am-
phibious
light-
sport
aircraft



- Bret is an International Aerobatic Club Competitor

Thank you, Bret, for sharing your experiences with us! ★

Book Review - *Command And Control*

By Andy Werback

A couple of years ago, we visited the Titan Missile Museum, just outside of Tucson, Arizona. It is a decommissioned Titan II site and is open for visits and tours, complete with a Titan II missile in the silo. We spent a couple of hours touring the facility, hearing about its history, and looking at the control panels, living quarters, safety doors, access tunnel and the missile silo. At one time there were 63 missiles deployed at Davis-Monthan AFB (Tucson), McConnell AFB (Kansas) and Little Rock AFB (Arkansas).



It is pretty flat out here – not much to identify a missile site...

David Stumph wrote a very detailed history of the development and deployment of the missile in his book, *Titan II*. (It's interesting how many of the strategic missiles were named after ancient and powerful gods...) In the book, he discusses several of the accidents that occurred at the Titan missile sites. Some of them were pretty significant, involving very volatile and dangerous fuels, not to mention a 9-megaton nuclear warhead.

So, when I received the book *Command And Control* from my daughter Katie (currently studying at the Command and Staff College in Ft. Leavenworth, KS),

I was ready for some more information on how all these things worked.



The control room and a young visitor getting a first-class experience...



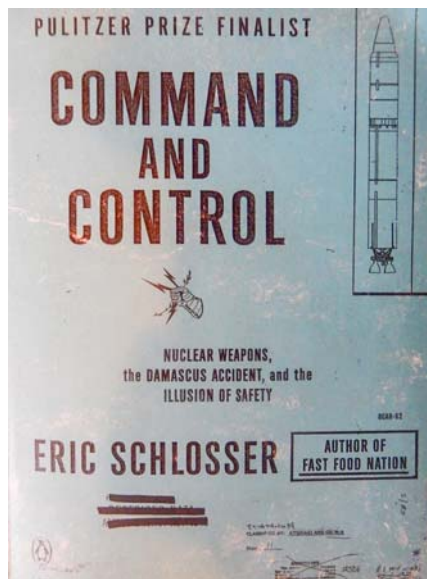
Looking down at the missile and silo...

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The primary focus of *Command And Control* is the reliability of the US nuclear arsenal – from the protective devices in the warheads, the arming and fusing devices, the launch authorization process, to survivability under adverse conditions. Many of the events that occurred during the Cold War, such as mid-air collisions between aircraft carrying nuclear bombs, runway accidents with armed aircraft, and on-board fires while on missions, are discussed in detail. It turns out that there were a lot of cold war accidents and incidents, and it seems that we have been very lucky that none of these actually resulted in a nuclear explosion.

But the core theme of the book is the *Damascus* accident that resulted in a Titan II missile blowing up in its silo, in 1980 at Little Rock AFB. The chain of events that started with dropping a 9 lb. socket wrench down the silo and ended with the explosion of the missile is quite a story, if one can call it that.

And on the other hand, it is very interesting to learn about the things that we do in order to maintain a nuclear deterrent. Why else would we have hypergolic fuels, aircraft flying missions in all kinds of weather, and nuclear warheads with just basic safety devices? It makes one think about the possibilities.



Command And Control - By Eric Schlosser. Penguin Books, 2014

The book is well-written, very well researched, and definitely worth reading if you would like to know a little more about the history of our atomic weapons.★

Aircraft Crew and Maintenance Update

By Andy Werback

Here we are, coming up on March, already. Another dry month, but still lots to do.

A couple of changes:

- Jim Whitten (Crew Chief) and Mike Fenn have volunteered to crew the DC-6 nose, taking over from Barney Hagen. Thanks, Jim and Mike, and Thank You Barney for helping out on the DC-6 nose for the last many years.
- Rob Lanyon has volunteered to take over the F-15. He has been helping Greg Thomas recently and is looking at acquiring some additional parts for it. Greg Thomas has moved away, but hopefully we'll see him now and then. Thanks Greg for taking care of the F-15 for these many years! And Thank You Rob for stepping up!
- Ray Davis has moved away. We'll miss him, he was always out helping with various projects.

And finally, I'd like to mention the passing of Don Barry. Don was a great guy, volunteering with Joe Cholewa's F-5 and airshow team, and I got to know him a little bit over the last couple of years. He will be missed.

As you can see, we need Volunteers!! Things change, so bring your friends and help make it a team effort.

Continued on next page

**THANK YOU, CREW CHIEF VOLUNTEERS!
WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!**

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A-26 Invader

Stop by on most weekends – Carol, Michael and Greg are doing some really exciting things on the A-26 periscope sight and gun turret. The A-26 uses an electronic control system – selsyns, dynamotors, amplidyne, servo amplifiers – to allow the gunner to be inside. This system is closely related to the one used on the B-29 – in that aircraft, they added a really fancy gyro-stabilized analog/mechanical computer to compensate for parallax and lead aiming. Interesting stuff. Thank you Ron Stout for the donation of the B-29 fire control system technical manual. ★



Museum Tour

By Jim Mattison

Recently, PCAM hosted a field trip for Lycie Francais, a French bilingual school in Sausalito. The group consisted of thirty 5-10 year olds and their teachers.

The guests arrived around 10:30 a.m. They were greeted by PCAM President Dave Ford. LeeAnn Sacchi provided a safety briefing, then the students broke into four groups for the tour. The tour groups were led by Jim Mattison, Tony Basignani, Duane Coppock, and Andy Werback. Greg Ervice served as roving safety monitor.

The kids then had lunch on the patio, followed by teacher-led activities and “exploration time” on the grounds. At 2:00 p.m. the group bade PCAM *adieu* and boarded their bus to return to Sausalito. Feedback from the teachers was all positive and the kids seemed to thoroughly enjoy their visit.



**THANK YOU, DOCENTS!
THIS STUDENT TOUR WOULDN'T HAVE
BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOU!
AND THE KIDS LOVED IT!**

Member Meeting — Join Us!

March 21, 2018



Our monthly Member Meetings typically include updates on important Museum news, a raffle, video presentations, a chance to visit with other Museum members, snacks, and a presentation by a featured speaker. Speakers may include military Veterans, historians, civic leaders, and other people with interesting stories to tell of their historical research or their aviation or military experiences.

March 21, 2018 Member Meeting

Time and Location:

Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Columbia Distributing.
3200 N. Laughlin Road. Santa Rosa, CA
Cost: Free for Members and Guests. ★

Help Us Spice Up Facebook, Instagram, and our Blog

Do you love PCAM? Do you have interesting ideas for things we could share online?

Anyone who has photos or ideas for Facebook, Instagram posts, or our Blog should email them to pcamevents@gmail.com. ★

Open Cockpit Weekend

H-34 Choctaw Helicopter - Mar. 17 & 18

Look inside this vintage aircraft, and learn about its history from the crew who has lovingly restored it.

The H-34 was the last of the really powerful piston-engined helicopters built in the US. It saw extensive use as a submarine chaser, utility/liaison, troop transport, airborne ambulance, cargo ship, and even gunship. This one served with Air America during the Vietnam War.



Find out more about the [H-34 Choctaw](#)

F-16N Viper- April 21 & 22

Although an Air Force jet, the F-16N is the Navy version of the famous and well used “hot rod” of the Air Forces of the NATO countries, the F-16 Fighting Falcon. The F-16N was developed as a “chase plane” and used in an aggressor role at Top Gun, Miramar California, where it would play the role of the “bad guy” in air combat maneuvers (ACM) and training. The F-16 closely resembles the performance of the Warsaw Pact countries’ Mig-29, and so the F-16N was painted in Warsaw Pact colors.



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Open Cockpit Weekend

F-14 Tomcat—April 21 & 22

The Tomcat was the mainstay air superiority fighter of the [US Navy](#) from 1974 until 2006. During its 32 years in service, it earned a reputation as one of the most awe-inspiring combat planes of all time. The Tomcat's variable geometry "swing-wing" design allowed the wings to swing forward to allow slower speeds for landing and takeoff, and to swing back into a delta shape for high-speed supersonic flight.



The Tomcat was a dogfighter, and was armed with an internal 20mm revolving cannon and various missiles on external pylons. The gun muzzle was on the lower left side of the nose, behind a small fairing.

Rumors abound that PCAM's Tomcat participated in filming the 1986 blockbuster movie "Top Gun" starring Tom Cruise. These rumors are incorrect. Our F-14 Tomcat (160889) was assigned to VF-24 on board the USS Kitty Hawk for a Western Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean cruise while the movie was being made. This aircraft served long and honorably and its record needs no Hollywood embellishments.

**THANK YOU, CREW CHIEF VOLUNTEERS!
PCAM VISITORS LOVE SITTING IN THE
COCKPIT OF ONE OF OUR JETS!
WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!**

Open Cockpit Weekend

F-5E—April 21 & 22

The F-5 was designed as an economical lightweight supersonic fighter that the US could sell to friendly nations. Its performance was very good and it continues to serve with some countries to this day, notably Switzerland.

Our F-5E Tiger II is painted as an "aggressor". The F-5 was armed with two simple but effective 20mm cannon, not a large and heavy revolving cannon as found on other US aircraft. Our F-5 served as an aggressor at the Navy's "Top Gun" school, helping our fighter pilots learn to combat the enemy aircraft they were likely to encounter. F-5 performance closely



matched the Soviet-built MiG-21, which was widely used by unfriendly nations.

This aircraft was used by the Naval Fighter Weapons School or "Topgun", later the Naval Strike Air Warfare Center or NSAWC. It was part of Fighter Squadron Composite VFC-13, the "Saints", which is the "aggressor" squadron. Rumor has it that our F-5 starred in the 1986 blockbuster movie "Top Gun" but this is incorrect. She was still with the U.S. Air Force when that movie was made. ★



GIANT HOT DOG, CHIPS, AND SODA

ALL FOR \$5.00 OR 2 DOGS FOR \$8.00

AND CHILI AND CONDIMENTS FOR THE DOG ARE FREE,
BUT A CHARGE IS MADE FOR ICE CREAM DESERTS.

11:30 AM TILL 1:15 PM

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**SO YOU DON'T FORGET TO HAVE PATIO LUNCHESES AT THE
PACIFIC COAST AIR MUSEUM**

**ONE AIR MUSEUM WAY, OFF BECKER BLVD
SANTA ROSA, CA 707 575 7900**

Passed Away: Don Barry

PCAM Volunteer Don Barry died at home in Windsor, California on Sunday, February 4, 2018 at the age of 63 after a courageous battle with cancer. Don is survived by his wife Pat, daughters Tina and Dana, granddaughters Kaylee and Gianna, brothers Mike (Sherry), Danny (Debbie) and sisters Judy and Holly, plus numerous extended family members. His family meant a lot to him and he loved the title of Papa and Uncle Don. Don was born on January 28, 1955 in Santa Rosa, CA and proudly served his country in the U.S. Army. He was stationed in Germany before returning stateside with his young family. Don worked as a heavy equipment operator and was known for his superior skills in operating anything on wheels. He acquired the nickname "Don Hoe" for his use of backhoes. In recent years he loved volunteering with different Veterans' groups in the area. During this time he formed many close relationships with other Veterans and they all have meant the world to him -- his brothers. ★



The Pacific Coast Air Museum's Platinum Sponsors

The Pacific Coast Air Museum thanks its Platinum Level Sponsors, whose contributions help make our museum the thriving community resource it is! If you would like to find out about sponsorship opportunities with the Pacific Coast Air Museum, contact Doug Clay, PCAM Development Chair, 925-997-2774 or dougclay@gmail.com. ★





STRAIGHT SCOOP

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

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed on major holidays.

Open Cockpit Weekends

One or more aircraft are open for close examination the third weekend of each month (weather permitting) and you can even climb aboard some of them! For more info phone 707-575-7900 or visit www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org.

Member Meetings

Normally held on the third Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at Columbia Distributing, 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 encouraged to submit articles for possible publication. Deadline: 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 the Museum at 707-575-7900.

Membership Renewals

\$50 per year individual; \$100 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

Visit our web site at www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org
or call 707-575-7900 for more Information.

Read the "Red Baron Flyer," the quarterly newsletter of the Charles M. Schulz-Sonoma County Airport:
<http://www.sonomacountyairport.org/red-baron-flyer>

Board of Directors

Ben Barker	707-838-0238
Chris Brown	707-695-8261
Julie Conklin	707-486-4914
Lynn Hunt	707-235-2552
Dana Johnson	707-545-3177

Officers

President

W. David Ford	707-544-4437
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Vice President

Andy Werback	707-823-5616
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Chief Financial Officer

Nancy Heath	707-477-4307
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Secretary

Julia Hochberg	707-523-2800
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Board Emeritus

Immediate Past President

C.J. Stephens	707-799-2878
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Ex-Officio Bd. Members

Director of Museum Operations

Open Position

Controller

Judy Knaute	707-545-7447
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Valuable Assets

Administrative Assistant

Duane Coppock	707-575-7900
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Gift Shop Manager

Mike Lynch	707-575-7900
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Planned Giving

Barbara Beedon	707-695-3683
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Project Coordinators

Aircraft & Assets

Lynn Hunt	707-235-2552
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Flight Wing

Lynn Hunt	707-235-2552
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Marketing

Julie Conklin	707-486-4914
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Volunteer Coordinator

Jim Mattison	707-291-4719 (Saturday - Thursday)
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Air Show Director

Nancy Heath	707-477-4307
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Vol. Coordinator: Air Show

Anita Forbes	415-987-4163
--------------	--------------

Education

Charley Taylor	707-477-0061
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Safety Officer

Open Position

Exhibits

Mary Jane Brown	707-566-9032
-----------------	--------------

Guest Speaker Coordinator

Bob Matrecci	707-291-5472
--------------	--------------

PCAM Development Chair

Doug Clay	925-997-2774
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Membership Records

Open Position

Sunshine & Sympathy

Diana Watson	707-578-6883
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Oral History Program

John Nelson	707-239-1002
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Website Administrator

Peter Loughlin	707-704-6498
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PCAM YouTube Video Channel

<http://www.youtube.com/user/PCAMvideos>



STRAIGHT SCOOP

March, 2018

SAVE THE DATE:

Open Cockpit: H-34 Choctaw Helicopter

Saturday, March 17, 2018 - Sunday, March 18, 2018

Hot Dog Thursday

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Open Cockpit: F-14, F-16, F-5E

Saturday, April 21, 2018 - Sunday, April 22, 2018

Open Cockpit: T-38, F-4, F-106

Saturday, May 19, 2018 - Sunday, May 20, 2018

Celebrating the Living Historians of

WWII & Korea

Saturday, May 19, 2018

Open Cockpit: AV-8

Saturday, June 16, 2018 - Sunday, June 17, 2018

Wheels & Wings Car Show

TBD

Swing Dance Gala and Auction

Friday, September 21, 2018

Wings Over Wine Country Air Show

Saturday, September 22 - Sunday September 23, 2018

2018 Calendar of Events

The Pacific Coast Air Museum hosts many family-friendly and child-friendly events all year 'round. We host an annual Santa Fly-In around Christmastime, monthly Member Meetings, monthly Hot Dog Thursday lunches from April through October, our annual Wings Over Wine Country Air Show in late summer, and special events like car shows and guest lecturers, and more!

Most events focus upon aviation and our collection of over 35 historic aircraft including military jets, helicopters, and other classic airplanes. ★