



Snaproll II

February Awards Banquet Honors Gossamer Condor

VOL 14 ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER, 2007

**INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE**



Bryan Allan peddles the Gossamer Condor at Minter Field

One of the most historic aviation events of all time took place right here at Minter Field on August 23rd, 1977, as the Gossamer Condor human powered aircraft designed by Dr. Paul MacCready won the first Kremer Prize for completing a figure 8 course. The craft was piloted by cyclist and hang-glider pilot Bryan Allen, and it covered the 1.15 mile course in 7 minutes 25 seconds, and cleared a 10' obstacle at the beginning and end of the flight.

Bryan Allen and Condor team coordinator, Sam Duran, will be our special guests at the Founder's Day Banquet, to be held Saturday, **February 2nd, 2008** at the Bell Tower Club in Bakersfield. You can check the December Snap Roll or watch our website for

more details on reservations: www.minterfieldairmuseum.com

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CALENDAR

December, 2007

15—Board Meeting
8:30 AM—Museum

15—HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
10:00 AM—2 PM—Museum

January, 2008

19—Board Meeting
8:30AM—Museum
Board Election—9 AM
(Open to all Current Paid
Museum Members)

February, 2008

FOUNDERS DAY BANQUET
Sat, Feb. 2, 2008—6PM
Bell Tower Club, Bkfld

April 19th, 2008

Warbirds In Action Air Show

Warbirds In Action Returns—Sat, April 19, 2008



The 22nd Warbirds In Action Air Show will return to Minter Field in April. The 2008 Air Show will feature a salute to one of WW II's most impressive events. More details will follow as arrangements for aircraft and guests are made. We will have aerobatics provided by Rob Harrison, "The Tumbling Bear" in his amazing Zlin.

Plans for aircraft, performers, exhibitions and vendors are underway by the all-volunteer Museum staff. Watch for more details in upcoming issues.



The activity at the Museum is at an all-time high as we move forward on a variety of projects. As usual, we have much to do, and not nearly enough funding and manpower to get it done.

Major projects involving the Blue Moon Rec Hall and the Quonset Hut are on hold pending finding sufficient funding. We are moving ahead on several other projects

I'll try to give you a quick rundown of what is keeping our all-volunteer group busy these days.

1) Hangar Construction: We are working with Colombo Construction to finally get our hangar put up after 2 years. We have the building permit, and the ground has been graded and compacted thanks to help from our friends . We're moving ahead to get concrete poured and the hangar erected.

2) Shade Port - We have been offered a hard-topped shade port by a local company to give some shelter on work done outside the Museum. We're trying to get engineering information to obtain the building permit.

3) Air Show - Plans are underway for the Warbirds In Action Air Show to be held on Saturday, April 19th, 2008. We are working to finalize the theme and primary performers. We're sending out invitations to nearly 400 pilots. New rope stanchions are being constructed and painted. This is a monumental effort. We need your help.

4) Vehicle R&R

A) 1945 Fire Truck - The vehicles is going back together and is currently on its wheels. The pump engine is running, and it's starting to look like a fire truck.

B) 1939 Staff Car - Our pride and joy will receive a new paint job. Preliminary work is underway.

C) Jeep Trailer - To complement our Ford jeep, it is being primed for painting. This little gem will give us additional hauling potential.

D) Fuel Truck - Donated by Eddie Van Fossen of Old River Crop Dusting, this GMC truck will be used for refueling aircraft at the Air Shows. Our dedicated motor pool crew is going over the vital systems, including the pumping system. It will be repainted and put to good use.

5) Work continues on the interior of the Museum. We still have a lot of displays to put back in place after the rewiring project. We have several beautiful new display models from master modeler Ed Herman.

6) The new library in the recently finished North Room is ready for shelving for our many books and over 700 hours of aviation and WW II documentaries and movies which have been saved on archive quality DVDs. These resources will be available for all to review.

These are some of the many projects we are working on. We are still looking for a full-time Gift Shop Manager to market our large array of items.

We Need Your Help - Won't you come join us!

Dean Craun

MFAM Vehicles in Vets Day Parade



Museum's Follow Me Jeep with Air Show Sign—1940 Plymouth Staff Car—Complete with Staff



Fred Guthrie's Command Car

— John Yerry's General's Jeep



Al Goines & His Korea Jeep

- 5 Vehicle Parade Entry

New Gift Shop Items—Warbird DVD's

ROARING GLORY WARBIRDS PUTS YOU IN THE PILOT'S SEAT



P-40 WARHAWK

Pilot Jeff Ethell takes you aboard a 1941 Curtiss P-40 Warhawk, the powerful fighter made famous by the legendary Flying Tigers. Crank up the volume and launch into the skies, back to the days following Pearl Harbor.



F4U CORSAIR

Pilot and Unlimited air racer Steve Hinton takes you along on an aerial adventure in the legendary US Marine Corps fighter flown by ace pilot Major Gregory "Pappy" Boyington and his Black Sheep squadron.



P-51 MUSTANG

The roar and crackle of the mighty 1500 horsepower Rolls Royce Merlin engine surrounds you as you shove the throttle forward and take off in every fighter pilot's dream machine.



F6F HELLCAT

This "Cat from Hell" was designed by Grumman "Ironworks" for one purpose: to blow the Japanese Zero out of the sky and win the battle for strategic air space over the Pacific Islands.



B-25 MITCHELL BOMBER

Experience the coughing start-up of 1700 horsepower engines and the roar of raw power as you lift off the grassy airstrip. Fly a mission in the bomber made famous by Doolittle's Raiders.



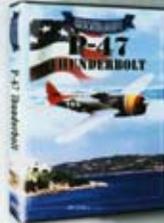
TBM AVENGER

Starting up the TBM Avenger is thrilling for any home theater pilot equipped with heavy duty amps and speakers. Experience the sound and fury felt by pilots in battle over Midway, Guadalcanal and the Philippine Sea.



B-17 FLYING FORTRESS

An unforgettable experience flying with a full crew of ten men: turret gunners, waist gunners, bombardier, nose gunner, radioman and cockpit crew; they're all here and the mission is sheer excitement.



P-47 THUNDERBOLT

This rare World War II pursuit fighter has been fully restored: panel, paint, guns and ammo belts. Dive, roll and dogfight your way to victory, powered by a roaring 2,300 horsepower Pratt & Whitney engine.



P-38 LIGHTNING

Pilots proclaimed it the hottest fighter of World War II. Now you can decide. Fly in this incredible turbo-charged, twin-engine interceptor, the first fighter to top 400 miles per hour.



A6M5 ZERO

Nothing could match the power, speed, range or handling of the Japanese A6M5 Zero fighter at the start of World War II. Go on a mission with the only remaining, flyable Zero left in the world today.

Recorded in Dolby Sound, these outstanding DVDs of famous Warbirds are now available from our Gift Shop. Each DVD gives a personal tour of each airplane, inside and out, as well as procedures for starting engines, take-off, flying, and landing. A wonderful Holiday Gift Idea, they sell for \$25.00 (including tax). Pick up a couple for that aviation enthusiast on your Xmas list at our Holiday Open House on Saturday, Dec. 15th at the Museum.

Minter Field History

Photos taken from March 27, 1944 Snap Roll Newspaper published by Minter Field.

MAJ. STURGEON TAKES OVER MINTER COMMAND



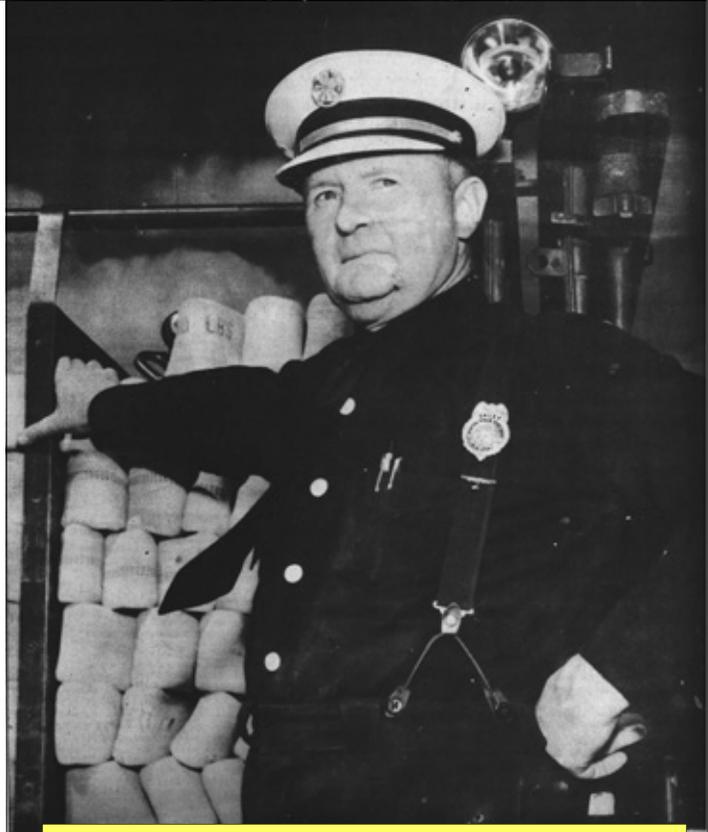
MAJ. M. G. STURGEON

Maj. Marvin G. Sturgeon, Air Inspector, has assumed command of Minter Field, replacing Col. Robert W. Hall. The latter replaced Col. James L. Grisham Wednesday, March 15 and three days later left for another post where he hoped to obtain overseas duty.

Col. Hall took over Col. Grisham's post as the latter went to the 35th Flying Training Wing. Prior to being named Commanding Officer, Col. Hall had been Director of Training.

Maj. Sturgeon whose home is in Fillmore, California, has been a flying officer since October 4, 1940, following his graduation from the Air Corps Flying schools at Randolph and Brooks Fields, Texas. Prior to being named Air Inspector, he had been Director of Training, and was a Group Commander. The Major has been here since 1941.

Maj. Marvin Sturgeon Named Commander



Minter Field Fire Chief L. W. Munn

Jive Bomber photos from June 8th, 1944 Snap Roll published by Minter Field.



JIVE BOMBERS--Attired in their new uniforms are the popular Minter Field Jive Bombers. The musicians wear the above clothes at formal functions. They are shown playing at the opening of the new Officers' club. The Jive Bombers play at numerous social functions outside the post.

Jive Bombers—Attired in their new uniforms are the popular Minter Field Jive Bombers. The musicians wear the above clothes at formal functions. They are shown playing at the new Officers' Club. They also play at numerous functions outside the post.



JIVE BOMBERS--Attired in their new uniforms are the popular Minter Field Jive Bombers. The musicians wear the above clothes at formal functions. They are shown playing at the opening of the new Officers' club. The Jive Bombers play at numerous social functions outside the post.

Flying High is a popular half hour radio program which emanates from the new Band Room on Minter Field from 1630 to 1700 every Saturday afternoon featuring the Jive Bombers. On the Don Lee Network, "Flying High" is heard over 33 stations throughout the coast.



Shafter Mayor Kathy Prout Presents Museum with Plaque

The Museum has been showing off its stuff for visitors lately with recent visits by the Bakersfield Rotary club and members of the Shafter business community.

Members of the Bakersfield Rotary made a road trip to Minter Field to visit the Museum with a catered lunch hosted by Chairman Whitehead. The members attending included contacts with a grant foundation which could be a source of funding for the Museum. If you have experience with writing grants, we could certainly use your assistance.



Shafter Chamber browses Museum Displays

Members of the Shafter Business community held a Chamber Mixer at the Museum recently. The after-work affair gave local business and government officials a chance to see how much has been accomplished at the Museum in the past couple of years. We made a lot of new friends, and we hope to develop a closer relationship.



Refreshments served in newly finished Library area.

If your group or organization would like to have a presentation by the Minter Field Air Museum staff, we are developing a video program that we can present at your meeting that gives an overall picture of the history of Minter Field and the Minter Field Air Museum, as well as Warbirds In Action Air Show highlights. To discuss a program, call the Museum at (661) 393-0291 and leave us a message with a phone number and e-mail. We will reply.

MEMBERSHIP– Join or Renew Now for 2008



MINTER FIELD AIR MUSEUM



Membership Program

The support of our members allows the Museum to preserve the rich history of the San Joaquin Valley and educate the community on the important role played by Minter Field during WW II.

***Veterans receive 20% Discount on Pilot Level Annual Renewable Membership Levels**

<u>Member Recognition Level</u>	Newsletter & Warbird Pen	Warbird Cup	Warbird T-Shirt			Warbird Golf Shirt & Buckle			Life Member – One-Time Fee	**Warbird Flt. in WWII Trainer	** Warbird flight WWII Trainer & Leather Jacket	Sponsor Plaque	*** VIP Status
			S	M	XL	S	M	XL					
Pilot (Basic Membership) (Annual) Individual - \$40* Family - \$50* Student (6-18) \$20	+		^			^							
Senior Pilot (Annual) \$100*	+	+											
Command Pilot (Annual) \$250*	+	+	+										
Squadron Commander (Life) \$500	+	+	+			+		+					
Wing Commander (Life) \$1,000	+	+	+			+		+					
Division Commander (Life) \$2,000	+	+	+			+		+	+				
Air Force Commander (Life) \$5,000	+	+	+			+		+	+	+	+		
Supreme Commander (Life) \$10,000	+	+	+			+		+	+	+	+	+	

Your contribution is tax deductible – US Tax ID #953646320

**Warbird Flight in a WW II trainer for 2 people (individual flights)

***VIP Status receives 6 tickets to the annual Warbirds In Action Air Show with VIP Parking, 6 tickets to the Annual Fall BBQ & Auction and 2 tickets to the Annual Founders Day Banquet in February.

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Make Checks Payable to: Minter Field Air Museum
PO Box 445, Shafter, CA 93263

E-mail: mfam@minterfieldairmuseum.com - Website: www.minterfieldairmuseum.com

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We're on the Web

www.MinterFieldAirMuseum.com



Tail-Spin Café



211 Aviation St
Minter Field
(Next to the
District Office)

Monday - Friday
7A-2P
Weekly and Daily
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Good Food
Great Prices



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Bob Hope & Stars Come to Minter Field

Thanks for the memories



To Frances Langford for the charm she lent in her songs.



To Betty Hutton for sitting still enough for this glamour shot.



We thank Bob Hope for the memories this time for the show he gave Minter a couple of weeks ago. We're not trying to steal his stuff, but in his parlance that's the best way to put it over that we think he's tops.

The same goes for Jerry Colona, LEFT as well. Colona's inimitable routine went over in a big way. And to Frances Langford, RIGHT, who is reacting to Jerry's "song." Hope seems stymied for the moment—but only for the moment.

And to the songs and gags presented by Miss Langford and Hope, BELOW. We missed Stan Kenton in our picture memories, but he and his orchestra made a definite hit in the way they kept the show rolling with their jive.



From October 16, 1943 Snap Roll