



Snaproll II

New Year Brings New Projects & Goals

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 1

JANUARY, 2008

**INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE**

The year 2007 is over - the Museum made some giant strides. The renovation of the building was a monumental project, and the Museum has never looked better. The staff deserves a standing ovation.

We have more to accomplish in the coming year. Here are just a few:

January 19 Board Elections: The first board meeting of the year, we hold elections for 4 of the board seats, and then elect officers for the year. All paid members are eligible to vote. The elections start at 9 AM.

Finish Kitchen and Conference Room: Plans to re-do the kitchen are underway, and the adjoining room has been dubbed the Conference Room. Our vision is to use the room for meetings, with a conference table. Several desks will give staff members room to work. We have several computers ready to go.

Finish North Room Library: The walls and ceilings are covered, carpeting is down, and the fireplace is there. We need to figure out shelving for all of our books and our Video Library. Lighting, tables and chairs are also needed.

Finish Restoration of Vehicles: The 1945 GMAC Fire Truck is being re-assembled after major undercarriage work. Our 1940 Plymouth Staff Car is being prepped for a new paint job, as is the trailer for our Ford jeep.

Re-Activate the Gift Shop: We need to find a manager for the Gift Shop - it's a profit center that needs guidance. We want to put an E-Bay store on-line. We are missing the boat.

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Founder's Day Banquet - Make Reservations Now

CALENDAR

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
14- Board Meeting
8:30AM—Museum

March, 2008

15—Board Meeting
8:30AM—Museum

April 19th, 2008

Warbirds In Action Air Show

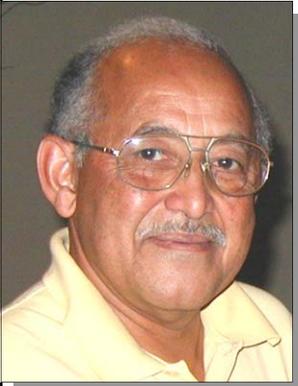
It's time to make reservations for the Annual Founder's Day Banquet to be held at the Bell Tower Club on Truxtun Avenue in Bakersfield on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2008. Our guests will be Bryan Allen and Sam Duran of the Gossamer Condor team which won the Kramer prize of \$70,000 by completing a human-powered flight over a prescribed figure-8 course.



The successful flight was completed on August 23, 1977 right here at Minter Field, Shafter, CA. A new Museum display is being prepared now.

The original Gossamer Condor hangs in the Smithsonian in Washington D.C. between the X-15 rocket plane and the Wright Flier.

Make your reservations using the form on Page 4. (Or visit our website: www.minterfieldairmuseum.com. You may send payment now, or pay at the door. We just need to know how many and what your menu choices are. See you there for a great evening.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Minter Field Air Museum Board wishes all the members and friends of the Museum a healthy and prosperous 2008.

In the November 2007 issue of the Snap Roll II, The Right Seat by Dean Craun, Vice-Chairman of the Board, presented an excellent description of some of the many Museum projects that are presently active. Also in 2008 we will focus on returning two original Minter Field buildings to become part of the Museum. They will provide much needed storage for our artifacts plus additional space for display and community programs.

Our 2007 Air Explorer program was a success. However, 80% of last years Explorers graduated from high school with almost all of them attending either a 2 year or 4 year college. There are now openings for students from age 14-18. For information contact me at 661-837-1551 or Ann Strader at 661-746-2489.

The Museums Five Year Strategic Plan establishes that each year there will be three main areas of endeavor, Flourish, Organization and Education. The Board will hold an annual offsite meeting in February to design and implement programs for 2008 based upon those three main areas.

Flourish must be a major program in 2008. Normally, Flourish entails fundraising, marketing, community programs and membership. In the latter part of 2007, the Museum partnered with community organizations in their programs and hosted their events at the Museum. These type activities should be greatly expanded and will be discussed at length during our offsite.

YOU are one of our best sources for suggestions to improve our Museum, its operations and programs. Please contact the Board through email, call the Museum and leave a message or call one of the Board members. We need and desire your input!

The Board is very pleased with the accomplishments of 2007 and is confident that through your support, we will attain the ambitious goals established for 2008.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Whitehead".

Museum Breaks Ground For New Hangar



Herman Ruddell(MFAD), Don Westfahl (MFAM) ,Jerry Ezell (MFAD), Jim Whitehead (MFAM,) Kathy Prout (Mayor, Shafter), Tom Eichman (Colombo Construction).



Museum Board Members Dig It: Don Westfahl, Dave Patterson, Gary Ebel, Scott Fieber, Fred Evenson and Steve Manning—It's been a long time coming!



1945 GMC Fire Truck Then — and — Now —Back on it's



Gossamer Condor Flies at Minter Field 1977 with Bryan Allen Power

**Make Reservations for the February Banquet—
You May Pay Now or Pay at the Door**



MINTER·FIELD
AIR MUSEUM

Presents
2008



Founder's Day Awards Banquet

Saturday, February 2, 2008

Bell Tower Club - Truxtun & L St, Bakersfield

Commemorating the Flight of the

Gossamer Condor

Guests: Bryan Allen & Sam Duran
And Members of the Team

\$40 per person - \$75 per Couple

Social Hour 6:00PM - Dinner 7:00PM

Limited Seating - Reserve now

Name: _____ #Tix _____



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Ticket#(s) _____

Buffet Menu: Beef__ Chicken__ Fish__ Vegetarian-Ravioli__

Tickets _____ Total\$: _____ Check # _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Please call reservation to (661) 393-0291 & Leave a Message
or Call Dean Craun -(661) 703-5005 Or Fax to 661-393-3296
Mail to: Dean Craun, 9217 Hoxie Ct, Bakersfield, CA 93311 by 1/22/08
Tickets will be at will-call

Minter Field History

From Snap Roll Dated Sept. 23, 1943 - A Major Promotion for Minter Field

Brig. Gen. Leland R. Hewitt Here As Commanding General

Minter Field took the biggest step forward in its history last week with the arrival of Brigadier General Leland R. Hewitt and his Staff, thus making this station the site of the 56th Flying Training Wing Headquarters.

"The arrival of General Hewitt,¹ a spokesman for the General said, "marks the definition of Minter Field as a functional wing, instituted to coordinate and supervise training procedures emanating from higher Headquarters for all Basic Pilot Schools in the Western Flying training Command."

Director of Training is Major E. D. Edwards, Captain A. H. W. Cayhue is Personnel, Intelligence and Public Relations and Supply Officer, and Lieutenant O. P. Ellington is Aide De Camp to the General.

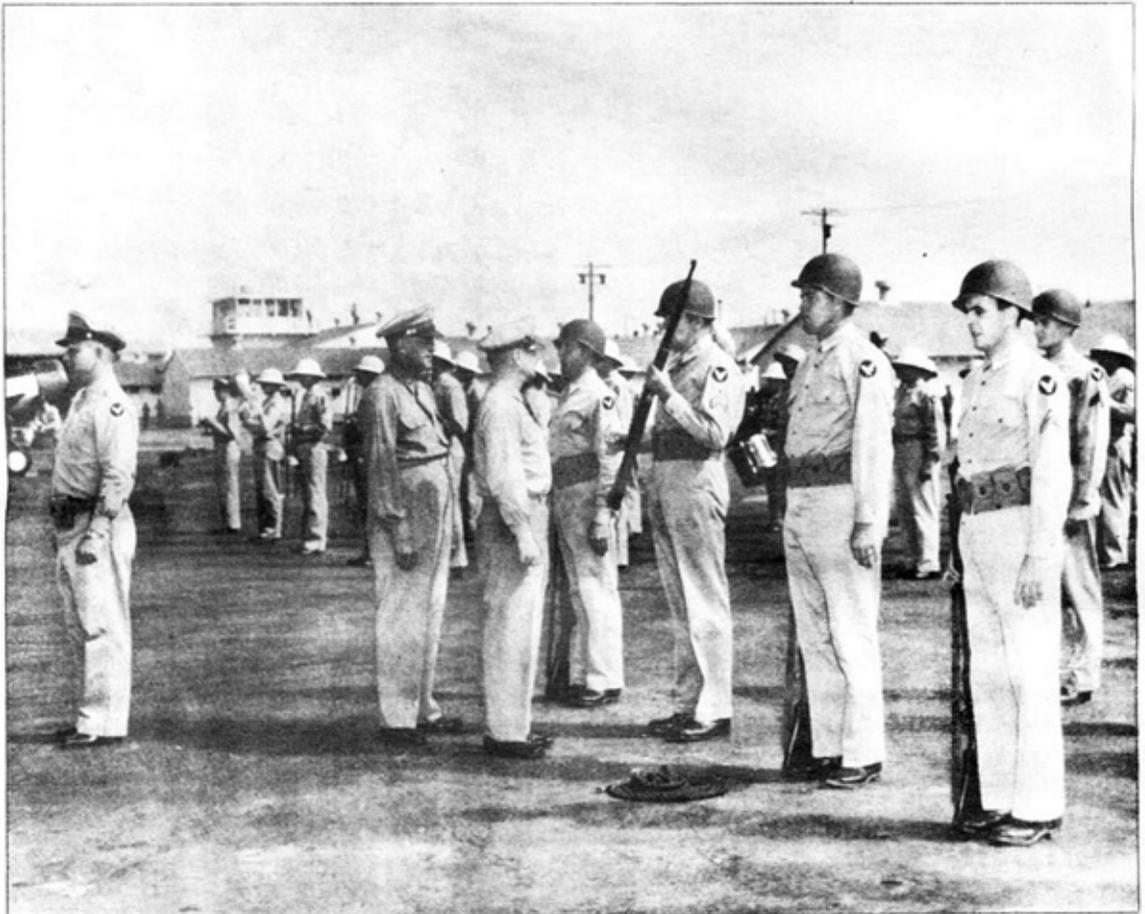
General Hewitt entered the Air

Corps in 1917 and received his training at Brooks field in this country and later attended the Pursuit School at Issoudon, France. Upon completion of that training he was assigned to ferrying pursuit planes from England to the front.

In the early twenties he was commissioned a permanent 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Corps and instructed at various schools. For four years he flew pursuit planes on foreign duty in the Philippine Islands. Upon his completion of foreign duty he was Director of Training at Randolph Field, Texas for an additional four years.

When flying training was begun on the West Coast in 1941, General Hewitt was stationed at Moffett Field, in May of 1941 he was made Commanding Officer of Mather Field. In February of 1943 he was advanced to Brigadier General and given command of the 35th Flying Training Wing at Merced, California.

MINTER SITE OF 35th FLYING TRAINING WING HEADQUARTERS



BRIG. GENL. LELAND R. HEWITT, new commanding general, shown inspecting the home guard made up of the 407th upon his arrival here last week. Behind the General is Colonel Carl W. Pyle.

As the New Year dawns, we send out a call for members to renew their annual memberships. Your annual dues are the lifeblood of this all-volunteer Museum. We need over \$8,000 a year just to keep the doors of the Museum open. This covers our monthly operating costs: office supplies, postage, insurance, maintenance costs, utilities. It also pays for rent for hangars and storage, printing and mailing costs, and other day-to-day expenses. This does not include any of our special projects.

If you are not a current member, please take this opportunity to lend your support to this living WW II artifact and it's volunteers. We have many levels of participation. You can lend your personal validation to the efforts to keep alive the history of Minter Field as a WW II pilot training center. We also commemorate the "Greatest Generation" who gave so much of themselves so America could continue to lead the world. We take our roll of keeping history alive for young and old alike very seriously.

New Photos From Warbirds In Action 2007

Courtesy of Photographer Anthony Taylor (www.warbirdfotos.com)



Tiger's Strega—A Thing of Beauty



Kent Carlomagno's Yak-11 "Blyak Moose"



Chuck Wentworth's Corsair Waves Hello



A Gaggle of Mustangs

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 S M L XL	Warbird Golf Shirt & Buckle S M L XL	Life Member – One-Time Fee	**Warbird Flt. in WWII Trainer	** Warbird flight WWII Trainer & Leather Jacket	Sponsor Plaque	*** VIP Status
Pilot (Basic Individual - \$40* Membership) Family - \$50* (Annual) 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.



Name: _____ Phone: _____

Company: (if applicable) _____

Address: _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Spouse: _____ E-Mail: _____

Membership Level: _____ #Members: _____

Payment: Check Enclosed _____ Total: _____ **OR** Charge to my Credit Card ->

Card # _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____ 3Digit Code on Back _____ Total _____

Please Charge \$ _____ to my   card for _____ month(s)

Authorized Signature: _____

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

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

MINTER-FIELD AIR MUSEUM

SHAFTER AIRPORT
401 VULTEE ST.
PO Box 445
SHAFTER, CA 93263

Phone: 661-393-0291

Fax: 661-393-3296

Email:

MFAM@MinterFieldAirMuseum.com



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
Specials

Good Food
Great Prices



Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org
US Postage Paid
Bakersfield, CA
Permit 1128

Air Show April 19th Planning Well Underway

The Air Show Committee is moving ahead for this year's air show. Here are just a few of the things we're working on:

Air Show Theme: We are targeting a very historic theme, but until we get a couple more firm commitments, we'll hold off on promotion.

Pilot Invitations: Invitations are out to several hundred pilots; We have confirmations from over 40 already, plus aerobatics and sky diving performers. Fuel prices will be a major factor again this year.

Marketing: The search for sponsors for the show is a top priority. The more we can raise before the show, the more returns to the Museum.

Ramp: The ramp crew is fabricating all new rope stanchions for crowd control. We are also working on new barricades that we could make ourselves, but rent out to other organizations for events.

Volunteers: If you would like to help our all-volunteer staff with the air show, contact the Museum. We could use a Volunteer Coordinator.

Fuel Truck: Awhile back, Eddie Van Fossen donated a 1960s vintage fuel truck. Our motor pool is working hard to get it back in full pumping condition for the air show. It will be a great asset in getting fuel to all the aircraft in a timely manner.

FAA & Military paperwork: You would be surprised at how much work it is to put on an air show. Airspace must be approved by the FAA for aerobatics; military aircraft must have clearance to appear.