



Snaproll II

Warbirds In Action Air Show— April 19th



OK—Tell me what this is! (Answer on Page 6)

When Spring arrives, we think of the sound of Warbirds at Minter Field. This year's air show promises to be another outstanding event.

We've been working on this show for nearly 6 months now, and we're pleased with the variety of aircraft and performers that are committed to the show. We are expecting 80 or so Warbirds (always subject to last minute mechanical problems or weather).

You'll see the tumbling aerobatics of Rob Harrison (Pg 4) the amazing Flying Colors of Dan Buchanan's Hang Glider show (Pg 4) and the Just In Time Sky Divers. And we'll have Warbirds, jets, helicopters and various other aircraft for you to see—most of them in the air flying.

For more details, we invite you to bookmark our website on your browser: www.MinterFieldAirMuseum.com. We'll be updating it right up to show day.

We invite you to come early and visit our Museum. It's changed since last year!

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 2

MARCH, 2008

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CALENDAR

April, 2008

19th-Warbirds In Action Air Show
Gates Open at 8am
Show runs 11am—4pm
 26—Board Meeting
 8:30AM—Museum

May, 2008

17- Board Meeting
 8:30AM—Museum

June, 2008

21—Board Meeting
 8:30AM—Museum

Salute to the Doolittle Raiders Brings B-25s



It was April 18th, 1942 when a brave group of Army Air Force pilots led by Jimmy Doolittle took off from the USS Hornet on a one-way mission to bomb Tokyo, Japan.

Doolittle, who earned fame as a pioneer of instrument flying as well as the pilot of the famous Gee Bee racer, was tapped by Gen.

Hap Arnold to select and train a crew for this top secret mission. Designed to raise the morale of the troops in the Pacific by bringing the fight to the Japanese homeland, the raid did marginal damage, and all 16 planes were lost on the way back, crash landing in China. 11 of the crewmembers were killed or captured.

We salute the 66th Anniversary of the raid by featuring two B-25s who actually participated in the 50th Anniversary by taking off from the USS Ranger in the San Diego Bay in 1992. Bring your cameras.



EXCITING TIMES – That is the only way to describe what is presently and will continue for the remainder of this year. The following are the events that will make 2008 one of the most successful for the Museum.

The hangar progress has been slow but will really “ramp up” in the next two weeks. The Quonset hut, given to us by the Kern County Museum, will be returned to Minter Field approximately the first week in April.

We have entered into an active partnership with The Oak Valley Charter School with a student body of approx. 1000 students including elementary through high school. The school is under the auspices of the Kern Valley Superintendent of Schools and receives support from the Kern County Museum.

The partnership with the Oak Valley Charter School provides the quantum leap in youth programs and community education always desired. We will be involved with their annual four 5 week aviation programs, rotate displays, vehicles and aircraft from the museum to the school, plus form an Air Explorer troop to compliment their present scouting activities. The displays and other artifacts will be displayed in their 13,000 sq. ft. warehouse which has classrooms and extensive display space.

Aggressive marketing has begun and will continue, examples being Shafter Chamber meeting and Downtown Rotary “brown bag luncheon” at the Museum in January and February.

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) will partner with the Museum for an event on November 1st titled “A Leap Back in Time”.

We are also talking to the Harley motorcycle group for a run to the Cody Prosser Memorial to replace the American flag on June 14th Flag Day.

In addition, we are looking forward to an exciting airshow with events not seen for quite awhile at Minter Field.

Finally, we have two new board members, Dorene Cates and Scott Fieber. Both have been very active and effective members of the Fox Theater Foundation. We are looking forward to their board involvement.

As you can see, we are in very **EXCITING TIMES**. Of course we are operating at the max and really could use additional volunteers. If you see yourself helping in any of ONE these great projects, please give me a call and let’s see how we can **EXCITE YOU** with the Museum’s activities.

Please keep present board member and docent Frank Franceschi in your prayers as he goes through a few serious medical procedures. Frank is a WWII survivor having performed duties as a B-17 crew member.

SEE YOU AT OUR WARBIRDS IN ACTION AIRSHOW APRIL 19TH.

Featured Airplanes To Fly at Minter Field



B-25s Executive Sweet & Heavenly Body



CAF Riverside - C-53



Army's UH-60 Blackhawk



TBM Avenger



Hawker Sea Fury



Thunder Delfins

Rob Harrison—The Tumbling Bear



The Zlin 50XL

The aircraft is manufactured in the Czech Republic and powered by a modified Lycoming AE10-540-B4D5, of 325+ horsepower, driving a special composite constant-speed propeller designed and built by Whirlwind Propeller of El Cajon, California.

The Zlin is of all-metal construction, and utilizes many different thickness of aluminum sheet, as well as titanium landing gear, to achieve light weight along with incredible strength.

Rob Harrison—The Tumbling Bear

Rob has earned a Certificate in Flight Test Engineering from the University of Tennessee Space Institute; FAA Statement of Aerobatic Competency, Level I (waiver) for unrestricted aerobatics; Aerobatic Competency Examiner (ACE); He is also a licensed attorney

The Bear has a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Oregon State University; J.D. (law degree) from La Verne (CA) University; has done graduate work at UCLA; attended U.S. Navy Test Pilot School.

Rob was an Engineer with the United States Forest Service for 28 years with much of his time spent in San Dimas, CA in charge of technical aspects of firefighting aircraft and helicopters.

Dan Buchanan's Flying Colors

Dan was a New England home builder and flat-track motorcycle racer, and enjoyed the thrill of flying off mountain tops, when in 1981, he paralyzed his legs trying to land in stormy weather. Losing his ability to walk, he returned to college to pursue a career in mechanical engineering and worked in Silicon Valley, CA.

Despite his handicap, Dan returned to flying within six months, and since then his tenacity and adventurous spirit has allowed him to accrue more than 2,800 hours of flight time in hang gliders and sailplanes. Performing principally across North America, his international venues include Australia (8 times), Thailand, El Salvador, The United Arab Emirates, Canada, and Mexico.

Dan is also a Federally and State licensed pyrotechnician trained by Hollywood experts. He installs, wires and sequences all of the special effects on the fabric wing himself. Can you blame him?

He is also a FAA Commercial Glider pilot, enjoying sailplane aerobatics and giving glider rides to friends at Minden, Nevada when not on the Airshow tour. Dan took instruction from Sky Sailing near San Diego, CA from airshow performer Brett Willat, who's school has one of the few "rudder hand control" equipped sailplanes in the US. Some of his other adventurous pursuits still include flat-water kayaking, SCUBA diving on wrecks and caves, and long distance ATV cross-desert riding and racing.



Photo courtesy of Clark Cook, www.AirshowPic.net

Minter Field History

B-25s at Minter FieldSnap Rolls- May 1945.....Celebrate VE Day

Minter Field's basic pilot training program which began nearly four years ago and sent more than 11,000 aviation cadets into the advanced flying phase, ended with the recent graduation of cadet class 45-D.

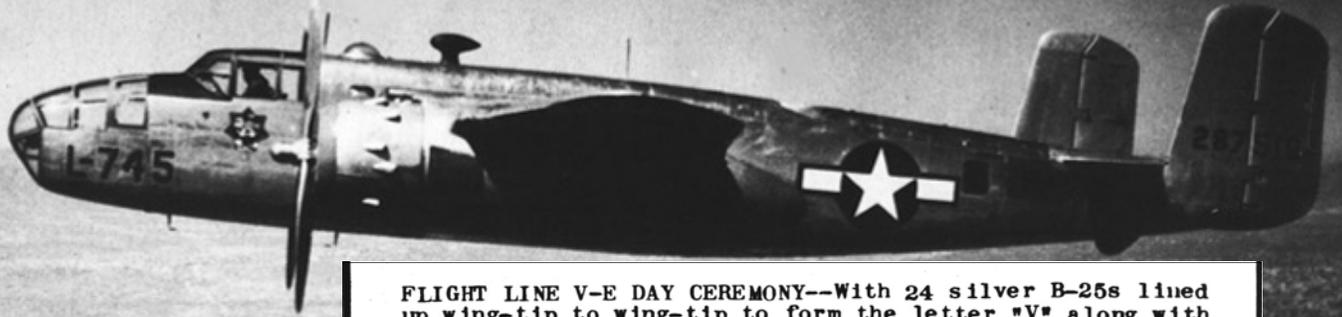
Colonel Newton H. Crumley, commanding officer, announced the end of the Minter cadet training program simultaneously with release of information that the field is to become a specialized bombardier school at which officer students will be taught the latest methods of aerial bombardment.

Activities of the basic pilot school officially closed with presentation of awards to outstanding cadets of the graduating class by Colonel Crumley, followed by a banquet and a cadet graduation dance at the Base Gymnasium.

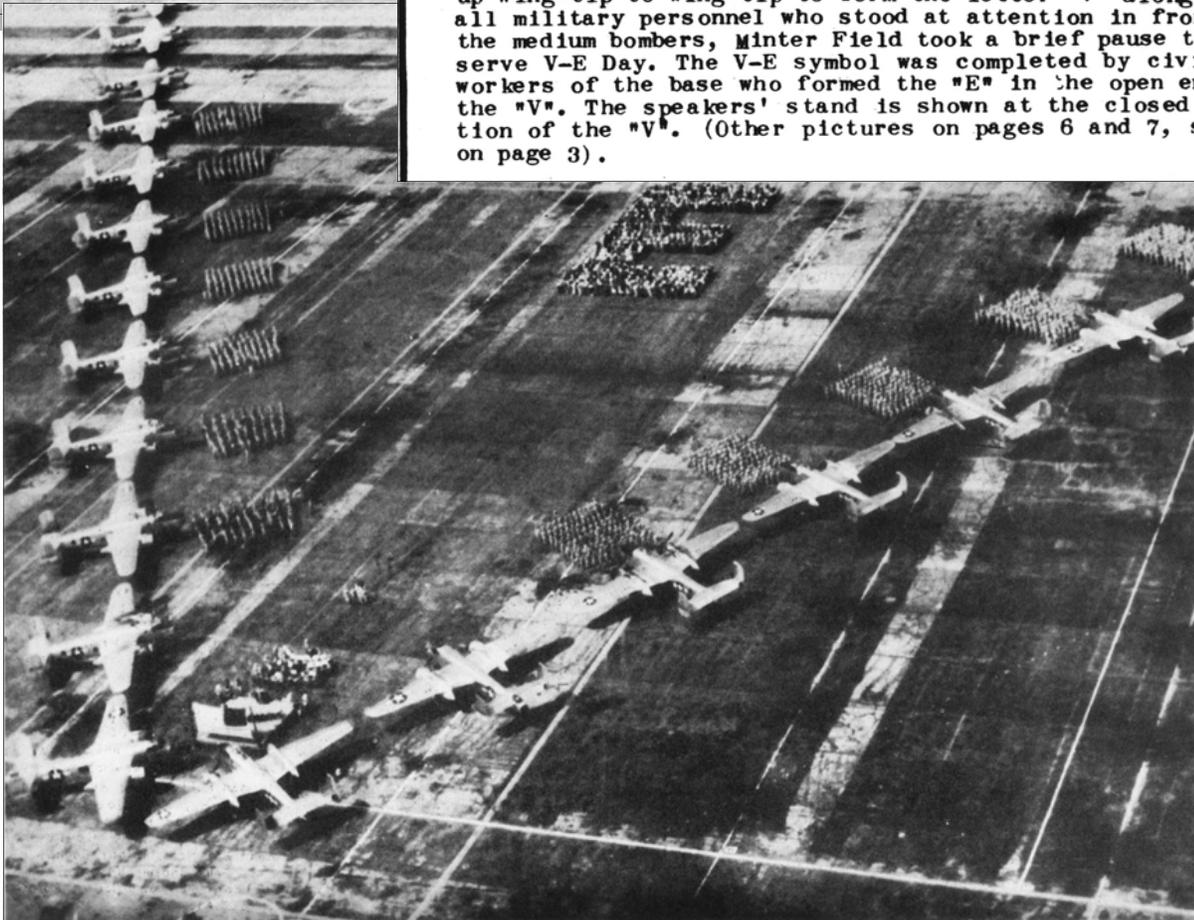
Minter Field officially opened its cadet training program June 5, 1941, when members of cadet class 41-H arrived after taking their primary flying work at Oxnard, California. This class left August 9, 1941 for advanced training at Luke Field, Arizona. The second class, 41-I, arrived at Minter on July 15 and left September 20 for Mather Field, California.

Since that time Minter has been training hundreds upon hundreds of cadets each month and 45-D's graduation brought the total of those who have completed basic pilot training at the field to 11,265.

The training program reached its peak in numbers late in 1943 and early in 1944. Class 44-D, which arrived December 7, 1943, and left February 8, had 546 graduates. The following class, 44-E, had 526 members who completed basic flying.



FLIGHT LINE V-E DAY CEREMONY--With 24 silver B-25s lined up wing-tip to wing-tip to form the letter "V" along with all military personnel who stood at attention in front of the medium bombers, Minter Field took a brief pause to observe V-E Day. The V-E symbol was completed by civilian workers of the base who formed the "E" in the open end of the "V". The speakers' stand is shown at the closed portion of the "V". (Other pictures on pages 6 and 7, story on page 3).



We've had a good response of new and renewing members for the Museum for 2008. The membership dues are what keeps the daily activity of the operation going. They allow us to print and distribute the Snap Roll, both by mail and by posting it in color on our Website. The website is our window to the world - It allows us to present the Museum and our Air Show to a worldwide audience. We hope to establish a store on E-Bay to offer our Gift Shop items to this same audience.

If you have not renewed your membership, or if you've never been a member, won't you please consider doing so.

Check your mailing label if you receive this by mail, or your e-mail address if you receive notice of the Snap Roll on-line. The year of your last membership appears - If you've never been a member, you'll see some other letter.

PLEASE JOIN OUR EFFORTS TO KEEP KERN COUNTY AVIATION HISTORY ALIVE !

More to See At Warbirds In Action 2008



BT-13s (See Website for Rides)



Beech Staggerwing



T-28 Trojan with a Punch



Australian CA-25 Winjeel -Pg 1

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	L XL	S	M	L XL					
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

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We're on the Web

www.MinterFieldAirMuseum.com



WARBIRD CAFE



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

Monday - Friday
7A-2P

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Specials

Good Food
Great Prices



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

Rusti & Richard Satchell - Volunteers for 20 Years

This dapper couple cleans up real good - but on air show day, they are hands on - sleeves rolled up and giving us the benefit of their many years of going to air shows.

Richard has been a top-notch freelance photog for many years. You've no doubt seen his pictures over the years in the *Pacific Flyer* as well as other aviation publications. He's been shooting Warbirds In Action since 1986. He recently presented all of his air show negatives since 1986 to us, which we transferred to CDs for easy access to our publications. He also volunteers as a Press Coordinator at the air shows.

Rusti is well-known to California Air Show pilots, having been the official "Hugger" and working pilot registrations at many air shows. She'll be back this year, lending her positive attitude to our air show pilots.

The Satchells are examples of many of the volunteers to give of their resources to help us put on the air show. We could not possibly accomplish our even without their generous help. **Thanks guys!**

