

# Wings of History Air Museum

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## VINTAGE FLYER FROM THE MUSEUM ... FROM THE PAST



Museum Pietenpol in flight

Volume 53, Number 4 ♦ December 2015

## MUSEUM NEWS

### President's Propwash

Dan Petroff

The end is near!! It is amazing how fast the year whistles by. I think we had a fantastic year. The open house was the best yet since I have been at the museum and all of you have again blessed us with your continued generous support. We have been able to increase our bank accounts while at the same time continue to invest and expand the museum. We have brought on board new members and volunteers giving us the ability to accomplish the work that needs to be done. We still need more.

The Airster now has a full time person working on it to finish the woodwork on the folding wings. Chris, a new member, is doing a fine job on that. Doug and Jim are redoing the tunnel enclosing the control cables in the cockpit and the instrument panel. Jerry is preparing the firewall for test mounting the engine.

The Stinson is in for annual and we found a few issues that need to be addressed before we can complete the annual. One may require an engine change or overhaul.

We are in the process of reviewing our displays in anticipation of obtaining a PT-20 and a Curtiss-Robin on loan. Dave Masters is looking to loan us his PT-20 and a friend of Jerry Impellezzeri asked if we would be interested in the Curtiss Robin. Both aircraft are the type we are looking for to add to our collection. We will be selling some aircraft and storing others to make room.

Many thanks to Todd Minier for taking the lead on our energy reduction program. With his help we just completed Phase 1 of the program that is improving our lighting efficiency. When completed the estimated annual savings will be just under \$1000/year. The cost to us is \$80 for the entire project.

Merle Ensign is a new volunteer docent in training and a potential marketing person. I hope Merle will put us on the map and bring more good tidings our way.

Dave Masters indicated that he and a friend of his may help us get the OXX6 on the Eagle going. That would be great to see the Eagle airborne again.

Paul Agliotos is the proud new owner of the Stitts Flutter bug which he plans to return to flying condition. Our thanks to Paul for doing this.

We have a Facebook page so look at that for some of our activities. Type [https://www.facebook.com/Wings-of-History-Air-Museum-108111942545203/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/Wings-of-History-Air-Museum-108111942545203/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel) in the browser and bookmark it.

I believe that the museum is growing. We continue to look for people to serve on the board that have fund-raising and/or advertising experience as well as people to come out and help us as docents or to maintain the property and displays. This can be done any time we are open. ♦

### Mark Your 2016 Calendar!

- The January Member meeting, January 14 at Holder's. Speaker information forthcoming.
- The February Member meeting, February 11 at Holder's. See page 2 for more information about this meeting. It promises to be a treat!
- The 15th annual Fly-in and Open House will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2016.

# February Speaker

Holders, February 11

## Program description: The Erie Canal, The Silicon Valley of 1825

The construction of the Erie Canal, nicknamed "America's First School of Engineering," provided one of the most dramatic examples of the can-do attitude and ingenuity that continue to define the American character. Just as Silicon Valley start-ups push the envelope of our notions about what is possible, the Erie Canal overcame technological, financial, and political hurdles before it became known as the 8th Wonder of the World.

In her program, author Martha Kendall tells the inspiring story of the construction of the Erie Canal, projects colorful images of the canal today, and plays music of the canal era on banjo, penny whistle, fiddle and guitar.

Martha Kendall holds a B.A. (Phi Beta Kappa) in English and Spanish from the University of Michigan, an M.A. in English from Stanford, and an M.A. in Social Science from

San Jose State University. She taught for many years at San Jose City College until retiring as Dean of Language Arts. She has written twenty books ranging from college texts to picture books for children. Published by National Geographic, her book about the Erie Canal was awarded the Jefferson cup for excellence in writing about history.

Martha grew up in Rochester, New York, a stone's throw from the canal. However, it wasn't until she moved to California that she became intrigued by the history of the Erie. She and her family have now cruised it three times, savoring each trip "in the past lane."

Martha Kendall  
(408) 472-2719  
MarthaEdithKendall@gmail.com

## Museum Work

Dan Petroff

### Airster

We are making progress on the Airster despite the appearance. Chris is nailing the end closure to the stub wing on the left side. He will be starting the closure on the right side next. The workmanship is superb. Thank you Chris



*continued on page 3*

*Vintage Flyer* is published 4 times a year for Wings of History members and others interested in aviation history and aircraft.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Jack Bowlus, Director  
Evelyn Liebgold, Secretary  
Jeff Liebgold, Director

Dan Petroff, Chair  
Susan Talbot, Treasurer

WINGS OF HISTORY Mission Statement: *Wings of History is a non-profit organization dedicated to aviation history through education, preservation, restoration, and flight.*

Docent Coordinator and Guided Tours: Susan Talbot  
Prop Shop: Dan Petroff  
Library: Frank Nichols  
Facilities Manager: Dan Petroff

Please send address changes to the Wings of History, P.O. Box 495, San Martin, CA 95046 (408) 683-2290.

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This newsletter available on our website at [wingsofhistory.org](http://wingsofhistory.org)

Do you have an interesting story to tell? Send us your story and we'll consider it for publication in the *Vintage Flyer*. You can e-mail Frank Nichols at [fhnichols@mac.com](mailto:fhnichols@mac.com) or Evie Liebgold at [eveliebgold@gmail.com](mailto:eveliebgold@gmail.com). The deadline for articles is the 20th of the month preceding publication.

Please visit our website at <http://www.wingsofhistory.org>  
E-mail us at [wohoffice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wohoffice@sbcglobal.net)

Yearly dues: General \$40.00; Student \$10.00; Sustaining \$100.00

## Museum Work *(continued from page 2)*

### Mobile Gift Shop

We are progressing on building the mobile gift shop. Here are some photos of the progress. It currently looks like a big box that will be mounted on a trailer chassis 10 feet long x 6 feet wide x 6 feet high. The rectangular cutout on the side is for the display table to slide out on, and there will be 2 TV's mounted on the same side to show videos of the museum. Stop by and see the progress. You can also donate to help defray the construction costs. Kudos to Doug for design and construction and to Peggy, Sita, and Susan for their input.



*Side view of the unit*



*Interior view*



*Cutout for the display table*



*Completed*

### Frank and Pat Nichols

Frank and Pat Nichols will be moving to Oregon to be closer to their daughter. They have been great supporters of the museum and I expect they will continue their support from afar. A lot of us will miss seeing Frank in the library and I will miss his counsel. We wish them the best in their new venture. ♦

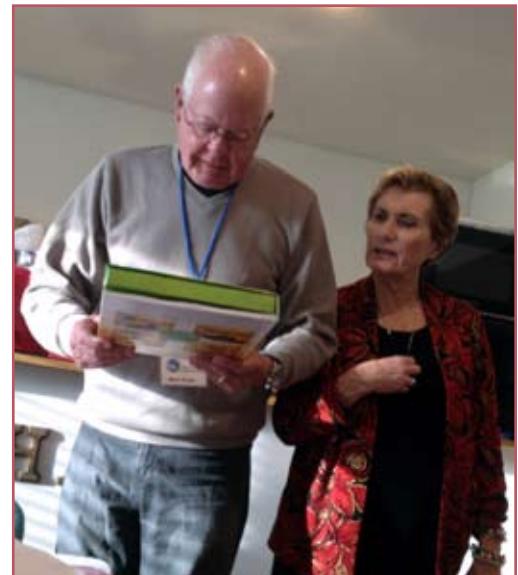
# 2015 Holiday Party



One of the more elegant gifts received



Lego??



Yep, Legos



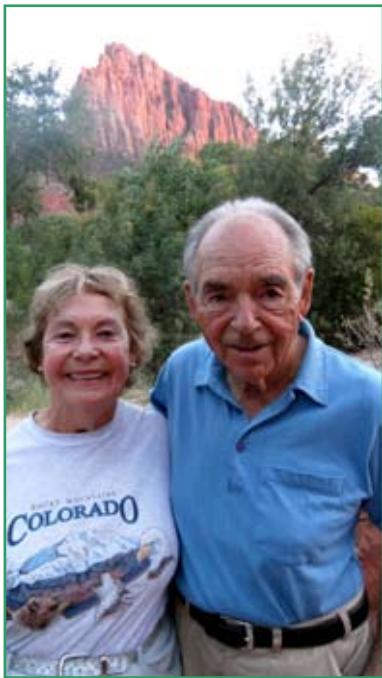
What did Jerry get?



Jeff and Peter ruminating

# September Car Trip to Idaho, Utah, Nevada, and California

Gunther and Sita Kern



The Lincoln MKZ got a good workout on this trip. Wonderful weather, beautiful scenery and some fall colors the whole trip.

Started on September 15 and headed to Reno, Nevada. Departed for Twin Falls, Idaho and stayed overnight in Jack Pot at a Casino/Hotel – very nice with swimming pool and Jacuzzi. Saw the Snake River (Evil Knievel attempted to jump this canyon) – it was very impressive and the new power plant being built is amazing. Through Salt

Lake City with a visit to the Mormon Temple downtown and a drive by the State Capitol building.

On to Park City, Utah. We had dinner at the Red Rock Brewery close by the motel which had wonderful food and beer. Then to the site of the Winter Olympics. Visited the Jordanelle Reservoir with our grandson, Roshan, to prepare for his sailing Regatta competition. We then headed to the magnificent Bryce Canyon with its spears extending high from the valley floor. The various colors in the formations are awe-inspiring – high elevations with the highest lookout point of 9,115'. Drove through Zion with its valleys and very high elevations. Sita did a lovely 1 1/2 hour hike up to one of the peaks (Canyon Overlook Trail - probably an elevation gain of 800') – it was lovely at the top to see the valleys and other peaks from that height. Gunther was feeling the effects of the altitudes and rested in the car.

We then met the Santa Clara County Airmen's Association members at the Nuclear Power Office Building in Las Vegas where we all boarded a government bus which took us to the Nuclear Test Site area where we were giving a tour of the craters, test site monitoring stations, a 100% mock-up nuclear bomb and buildings from that era and those still being used by scientists now (although now down-scaled). We were also vaguely shown approximately where the infamous area 51 is (ostensibly aliens discovered and studied). This was an all-day event and we were informed that in 1951 the first atmospheric nuclear test was detonated with a total of 100 tests conducted through 1963 when a Nuclear Test Ban was entered into with Russia and France. This gave birth to underground testing with a total of 828 underground tests until 1992.

Spent the next day on the "Strip" with a stroll through Ceasar's Palace then a walk to see the huge Ferris Wheel. Then back to the Mirage for the Cirque du Soleil

show "Beatles "Love"" – a very lively and entertaining event.

Tioga Pass into Yosemite (lots of people because it was a celebration of 125 years of being a National Park– still our favorite park. Dinner at Casa de Fruta in Los Banos completed our trip home.

Interesting facts:

Miles driven: 2,400 (Sita did all the driving except 1/2 hour which Gunther did in Yosemite)

Highest altitude driven: In Zion National Park – 9,115'

Nuclear Test Site: now inactive – thank goodness

Yosemite National Park: established 125 years ago

Gunther's health: It has been determined that he had a heart attack either at a high altitude or in Las Vegas. He is being treated for some damage to the heart and much to his chagrin needs to take lots of pills. He is getting super good care and love from wife, Sita. ♦♦



Bryce Canyon



Utah



The subtlety that is Las Vegas

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

### September 2015

There was a motion during the August meeting which read:

Susan proposes that the Museum deposits \$40,000 in a 1 year CD account at 1% per annum at First Internet Bank of Indiana, an on-line only bank that is FDIC insured. Signers will be either the President (Dan Petroff at this time) or the Treasurer (Susan Talbot at this time)

This motion passed without dissension. Susan will increase the dollar amount to \$50,000. The Board concurred.

#### Strategic Planning

Where are we in our strategic goal #1? We are progressing slowly. Strategic goal #1 states: Increase volunteer base to support the operations of the Wings of History Museum.

Susan will talk to Lia about concentrating on new members and keeping in touch with present members.

Progress on assignments to develop items for Grants/Funding

Todd – Energy. Dan will take on this item.

Susan – Cataloging (incorporate Peter's CD into our catalog.) This process is ongoing.

Expand BOD and Membership – Ad. Dan is asking for feedback from people. He will follow up on social media (Facebook, LinkedIn)..

#### Old Business

Fund-raisers – Consider asking Stinson club to hold a fly-in at San Martin; get a breakfast and 30 minute ride in the Stinson for \$60; afternoon BBQ as fund raisers. Jack will contact Pat Smith. Perhaps we can task Peggy Jones to organize a spaghetti dinner.

Dan will write job descriptions for the Museum and send them to the Board for review. Two descriptions which need identifying first are Volunteer Coordinator and Model Repair.

Accession/Deaccession of artifacts. This committee hasn't met yet.

Pilot qualifications. Where are they and need review. We need to get a backup to Mark (have out for review – please complete)

Dinner speakers – How can we get them? Board members need to help

#### New Business

Where should we maintain Museum information (for example, the inventory of displays)?

We will maintain this information on our website

Sell Quickie and Pitts; Disposition of Spad: These two items will be dealt with by the Accession/Deaccession committee.

How do we do this meeting. Our meeting went well.

Jeff and Evelyn propose a change in meeting times. Meeting at 6:00 on a Tuesday is becoming more difficult with traffic increasing. We decided to meet during the day (late morning or early afternoon). Susan will check to see if the Challenger meeting room will be available. If not, we could perhaps meet at someone's home.

Our meetings every other month at the Museum won't change.

Should we consider changing our charter from a 501(c)(3) to 501(c)(7)? A 501(c)(7) is described by the IRS as a social club, rather than a Museum. A Board is not necessary in a 501(c)(7).

We decided not to go any further with this idea at this time.

Set next meeting date – Susan will let us know.

### October 2015

#### Strategic Planning

Where are we in our strategic goal #1? Lia has done a good job in preparing the volunteer training manual. Strategic goal #1 states: Increase volunteer base to support the operations of the Wings of History Museum. Susan will contact Diane Ventner with regards to marketing the Museum.

Progress on assignments to develop items for Grants/Funding

Todd – Energy. Dan will take on this item. New lamps will be installed starting next Tuesday (November 3)

Susan – Cataloging (incorporate Peter's CD into our catalog.) Jeff and Evelyn have taken this on.

Expand BOD and Membership – Ad. Dan is asking for feedback from people. He will follow up on social media (Facebook, LinkedIn).

## Old Business

Fund-raisers – Consider asking Stinson club to hold a fly-in at San Martin; get a breakfast and 30 minute ride in the Stinson for \$60; afternoon BBQ as fund raisers. Jack will contact Pat Smith. Perhaps we can task Peggy Jones to organize a spaghetti dinner. Perhaps we can recruit Peggy to help with this.

Dan will write job descriptions for the Museum and send them to the Board for review.

Accession/Deaccession of artifacts. The committee will come to the Board with any transaction worth more than \$1,000.

Pilot qualifications. Where are they and need review. We need to get a backup to Mark (have out for review – please complete)

Dinner speakers – How can we get them? Board members need to help

Disposition of Spad – Has been given to Julie Belanger

## New Business

Changing our IRS designation. Not necessary at this time.

Christmas party. Will be held at the Museum on December 13. Evelyn will inform the membership. We'll ask folks to bring a dessert or an appetizer. We'll charge \$25 a person.

Disposition of assets if we fold. Not an issue at this time.

How do we do this meeting. Our meeting went well.

Set next meeting date – November 23, 1:00 at the Jet Center

2:25pm adjourn. Next Board of Directors Meeting: Monday, November 23, 1:00 at the Jet Center.

## November 2015

### Strategic Planning

Where are we in our strategic goal #1

Evie – Developing file organization for database. Evie has transferred Ed Ferner's inventory to FileMaker Pro 12. She will send a PDF to all Board member.

Susan – Accession/Deaccession committee

The Accession/Deaccession committee has met. First of all, the name of this committee is really Operations. They discussed criteria for accepting donations and the disposition of assets. They recommend selling the Quickie and the Pitts Special.

Dan – Position Descriptions for volunteer positions. Dan presented his list of volunteer positions for the Board to consider.

## Old Business

Fund-raisers - Consider asking Stinson club to hold a fly-in at San Martin, Get a breakfast and 30 minute ride in the Stinson for \$60, Afternoon BBQ as fund raisers

Jack is in contact with Pat Smith. Pat agrees that we can work on a fund-raiser together, but probably not until the spring.

Pilot qualification document – complete review. New pilot Josh Watson. Josh has been added to our insurance.

Dinner speakers. Have possible January and February speakers.

Sell Quickie and Pitts. Recommended by the Operations committee.

## New Business

Plans for increasing storage (estimated cost \$3500–\$5000)

Spend up to \$5,000 to cover the quonset hut and to move the storage shed donated by Jack.

Motion passed, no dissension

Move Flybaby and Safari out to Quonset hut for storage

Bowlus SP-1 Paper Wing. Jack going to check with the Smithsonian Museum to see if they would be interested in our donating it to them

How do we do this meeting. Our meeting went well.

Set next meeting date – January 28, 2016, 1:00 at the Museum

2:10pm adjourn. Next Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, January 28, 2016, 1:00 at the Museum.