



Volume 53, Number 3 ❖ September 2015

## Museum News

### President's Propwash

*Dan Petroff*

**H**as it been three months already? Seems like every time I turn my head Evie is drumming up a new newsletter. Good thing she is watching the store. We did very well at the open house and after putting liniment on our aching joints we think we will do it again next year. We did well at Hollister except for the wind but we got the tent back together and are getting ready for Watsonville. We have a few more volunteers, so that is helping in getting the Airster moving and doing some repairs on the Clubhouse. We are developing some new methods of helping visitors learn about our display objects and Jeff will discuss that in this newsletter. I would like to thank Ed Ferner and Jeff for making this happen.

We will have the gift shop tent at Salinas September 26–27 where we will be promoting ourselves but not selling. We can use volunteers for this event and for the Watsonville Fly-in on September 5. Contact Susan or Sita if you can lend a hand.

We will be starting our monthly dinner get together on September 10, so mark your calendar. The presentation will be a second look at the results of the accident investigation of the crash of X-15-3 by Dr. Immanuel Barshi of the Human Systems Integration Division, NASA Ames Research Center. I think you will enjoy the presentation.

We have had two occasions of sad news this month. On August 13 Dick Denesha made his final flight. Dick was a strong supporter of the museum and a great friend to all of us. We will miss him. On August 24 Bill Mette took off on his final flight. Bill was very active with the Antiquers. I would see him at our dinner meetings and enjoyed talking with him and Gary Niva. All will miss him. Also, on August 6th there was a fatality at Frazier Lake. Doug Jackson was killed while mowing the runway. Two of our members Gary Niva, and Mark Guerrero were injured. Let's wish them a

### Member Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 6:00pm

Topic: Re-examining the X-15 accident report using human factors.

Speaker: Dr. Immanuel Barshi of the Human Systems Integration Division, NASA Ames Research Center

Holder's Country Inn  
998 S. De Anza Blvd., San Jose, CA 95129

speedy recovery and our deepest condolences go out to the Jackson family.

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

## Save the Date!

Our annual Christmas celebration will take place on Sunday, December 13, 2015. Social hour will start at 1pm; luncheon will be at 2pm. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the day.

# QR\* Codes

Jeff Liebgold

QR codes have been added to our displays. These codes present interesting details about each individual aircraft, engine, model, and artifact. This information has been compiled by Ed Ferner and published on our website by Jeff Liebgold. Display information is available from the Wings of History website for any device from a small smart phone to tablet to desktop computer. Each device must be able to scan the QR code (free applications exist for all devices.) QR codes have been placed next to most WOH displays. They can be used to highlight displays and inform visitors with text, photos, and other material. In future, the display QR codes can be used for free by teachers to present WOH displays that explain aviation instruments, aircraft configurations, aircraft types, and diagrams of physical principles involved and much more.

The QR codes can be made the basis of visitor self-guided tours using their smart phone, tablet, or WOH loaned tablet (donations welcomed to fund loaner tablets.)

These codes can be used to provide short pre-tour videos about the museum, the Propshop, and short “what to look for” talks before visitors see the actual real, QR-augmented displays. There are now more than 124 web pages of QR-coded displays on the Wings of History website, and more will be added. These pages are accessed easily in seconds by the following means:

- ❖ WiFi which is now available now during museum hours in hangars 1 and 2. The Restoration hangar and clubhouse will be added later.
- ❖ Any smart device (phone, tablet, laptop, notebook) connected to an outside cell phone network.

Any of these web pages can be augmented with sound and/video to enhance the visitor experience. The web manager just needs text, suggestions or links to add to the current pages or suggestions for additional pages.



\* QR code (abbreviated from Quick Response Code) is the trademark for a type of matrix barcode (or two-dimensional barcode) first designed for the automotive industry in Japan

## Gilroy Chamber of Commerce

Sita Kern

Peggy and I went to a “Power Lunch” sponsored by the Gilroy Chamber of Commerce. It gave Peggy and me a chance to interact with other businesses in Gilroy and since we had a Wings of History table set up, we were able to also advertise the Museum.



Sita Kern and Peggy Jones

*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	Dan Petroff, Chair
Evelyn Liebgold, Secretary	Susan Talbot, Treasurer
Jeff Liebgold, Director	

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 [fnichols@mac.com](mailto:fnichols@mac.com) or Evie Liebgold at [evieliebgold@gmail.com](mailto:evieliebgold@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



## Dick Denesha

July 7 1935 – August 13, 2015

Dick Denesha passed away suddenly on August 13, 2015. He was born and grew up in Massachusetts where he was an Air Explorer and Boy Scout. He joined the Air Force in 1953 where he became an aircraft mechanic. He served in Germany as well as other locations. After leaving the Air Force he worked for Pratt and Whitney Aircraft in Connecticut, then went to work for Pan American Airways starting in New York then on to Berlin, Fairbanks, Freeport in the Bahamas, and San Francisco in 1972.

Dick enjoyed flying gliders from Calistoga until his Cherokee met its demise one unforgettable day. As Dick says "Oak and spruce don't mix; oak wins."

Dick married Ursula Hauschild in 1966 while working for PanAm in Germany. They enjoyed 40 years together before Ursula passed away in 2006.

Besides being involved with the Wings of History during his retirement, he spent time at the Moffett Field Historical Society. Time was spent at these museums assisting in the restoration of several vintage aircraft and other items such as jet engines and a Link Trainer.

Dick is survived by his long time life partner, Jenny Wong and her two daughters Tiffany, and Vivian Chan



## William Derald Mette Jr.

March 15, 1928 – August 24, 2015

William "Bill" was born in Fremont, CA to William Mette Senior and Wilda Carter Mette. He was raised and educated in Alameda County and attended Irvington Elementary School, Washington Union High School, and San Jose State University. He served in the United States Army just before the Korean War. He worked for the Campbell Union School District at Campbell Middle School "Cherry Lane" as a Wood Shop, Metal Shop, and Drafting teacher. He was married to Edith McDowell Mette for 60 years and raised their son Robert Mette in their Campbell home. He had a passion for Aviation and flying single-engine planes. He loved working on antique aircraft, meeting and talking with pilots of all ages, and attending Fly-In's around the country. He was a loving father, grandfather, and friend and is survived by his son Robert Mette, daughter-in-law Cathleen Mette, and grandchildren Christina and Ryan Mette.

*Bill was a very long time friend of the "Antiquer's", an original. He was there in very early years of Watsonville, had his PT-22 at all the fly-ins, held down the fort at the museum after the Harold Boshart Bldg. was built! A special gentlemen! Grateful to have known him. Love, frank and gayle Womack*

All of Bill's friends are welcome to join our family in a memorial and interment at Oak Hill Funeral Home, 300 Curtner Ave. in San Jose on Saturday, September 26 at 11:00 AM.



Some May event photos that didn't make the last edition of the *Vintage Flyer*.



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

### June 2015

We had sales amounting to \$887.82 from the Hollister air show.

Our open house had a net income of approximately \$7,000.00. Part of this was revenue from sponsors: \$2,590.00

Additions/changes to the agenda

Sale of the Pitts fuselage. Change in Board of Directors meeting day. Gift shop trailer. Crowdfunding  
Elect Board Members (Officers)

The following officers were elected: President, Dan Petroff; Vice-President, Jeff Liebgold; Treasurer, Susan Talbot; Secretary, Evie Liebgold

### Strategic Planning

Progress on assignments to develop items for grants/funding

Todd – energy. OK on lighting. Todd is also investigating using solar energy in the hangars.

Susan – cataloging. Ed Ferner has cataloged a big portion of our displays. He started with aircraft and is now cataloging our models. As he finishes one project he sends it to Jeff to put on our website. He has a lot left to do, but has made significant progress. Dan has promised him some help in cataloging items in the trailers.

Ed requested that we don't move, add to, or remove any models he's already cataloged, or at least to let him know what has changed. Dan will talk to Vernon about this since he usually the one to move models.

Jack – main entry building. Tabled.

### Old Business

Docent/volunteer training – we all have received Lia's write-up; now it's time for all of us to review it. She and Susan will complete this training.

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

Dan will contact Pat Smith regarding the Stinson Club. Will they be interested in a joint effort for fund-raising?

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

Accession/Deaccession of artifacts. We had along discussion regarding accession/deaccession of artifacts.

We concentrated mostly on the models we received from The Flying Lady 20 years ago. We postponed contacting Fry's regarding these models until we determine what paperwork we have regarding these models.

Proposal from CC Culver. Cathy Culver has given Susan further information about this proposal. Susan will let us know what that information is.

### New Business

Sale of Pitts fuselage. This is still on-going. There is some dispute with the buyer regarding the size of the fuselage. Payment to us is being held up pending review by PayPal and the buyer's bank.

Thursday instead of Tuesday for our Board meetings at the Museum.

Change the day we meet at the Museum for our Board meetings from the fourth Tuesday of the month to the fourth Thursday. We meet at the museum every other month.

Motion passed.

Our next Board meeting to be held at the Museum will be Thursday, August 27, 2015

Gift shop trailer. This trailer will be refitted to use at off-site events.

Crowdfunding for the Airster. Dan will look into this.

How do we do this meeting. Our meeting went well. We all agreed that when our meetings are held in a professional, courteous manner that it goes well and everyone has an opportunity to contribute.

Next Board of Directors Meeting: Tuesday, July 28, 2015 6:00pm at Atlantic Aviation.

## July 2015

Additions/changes to the agenda

Under Strategic Planning, Susan – cataloging remove “Jim Roberts will create a database in Access”

### Strategic Planning

Progress on assignments to develop items for grants/funding

Todd – energy. Tabled

Susan – cataloging. Ed Ferner has cataloged a big portion of our displays. He started with aircraft and is now cataloging our models. As he finishes each catalog item he sends it to Jeff to put on our website for access by menu or QR code.

Jack – main entry building. Tabled.

Expand Board of Directors and membership. We're trying to figure out how to get more Board members, preferably from outside the organization, and how to increase our membership.

Jeff had an idea of using our website as a teacher resource. He will contact a school in our area and talk to teachers and administrators to find out how we can offer this service at no cost.

### Old Business

Docent/volunteer training

We've given the OK for this training manual to be printed.

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

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

Accession/Deaccession of artifacts.

Susan will ask that this group meet and set some procedures.

Proposal from CC Culver.

We're grateful for this proposal, but we must decline. It doesn't fit our Museum.

### New Business

Tolly offered \$1,000 for some parachutes, packs, and other items lying on the floor where the uniforms are. Do we sell?

Unless the Accession/Deaccession group decides otherwise, we will sell these items to Tolly.

We've been offered a donation of a Christabria. Do we accept?

We decline this offer.

Jim Roberts offered to develop a database of us using Access. Do we accept?

We decline this offer.

Pilot qualifications. Where are they and need review. We need to get a backup to Mark.

Mark will evaluate a pilot he knows, but unfortunately, this pilot has only 25 hours in a taildragger. Susan will speak to Lonnie Autry and Jeff will speak to Larry Reed and see if they're willing to fly our aircraft.

Can Lia follow up on potential volunteers?

Susan will talk to her.

Dinner meeting speakers. How can we get them?

Board members need to help. Someone from NASA will speak at our September meeting.

Dave Jones has resigned as a member of the Board. He will continue to docent and be involved in the Museum.

How do we do this meeting.

Our meeting went well.

Set next meeting date – Thursday, August 27, 2015. Please mark your calendar now.

7:10pm adjourn. Next Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, August 27, 2015 1:00pm at the Museum.

## August 2015

Todd Minier has resigned from the Board, effective immediately.

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)

Motion passed

### Additions/changes to the agenda

None

### 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.

We strive to pair a new volunteer with an existing volunteer for training.

We need someone to teach us how to restore the models. This would be a good project for teenagers wishing to donate some time.

Progress on assignments to develop items for Grants/Funding

Todd – Energy. Todd will continue with this item.

Jeff – Cataloging (Ed Ferner). This process is ongoing.

Expand BOD and Membership – Ad. Dan is asking for feedback from people. Who would be a good prospect for the Board and membership.

### 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. Vern will look into food trucks for an event – maybe even for our May event.

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

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)

Can Lia follow up on potential volunteers?

Yes. Susan will ask her to follow-up on potential volunteers.

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

### New Business

Regarding the sale of the Pitts, it's been resolved in our favor. Jerry kept good records which helped a lot. From now on items such as this will be sold "as-is" and will be advertised as such.

Our Christmas party will be held at the Museum on Sunday, December 13.

How do we do this meeting.

Our meeting went well.

Set next meeting date – Tuesday, September 22, 2015. Please mark your calendar now.

2:15pm adjourn. Next Board of Directors Meeting: Tuesday September 22, 2015 6:00pm at the Jet Center.