

President's Message

By Don Miller

During our November General Membership meeting, we will once again conduct our annual election of 2009 Chapter Officers and Directors. At this month's (October's) meeting we will review and finalize the election slate of candidates. Most years (and this one is no exception), we tend to have one candidate for each of the officer positions and three candidates for the three Directors-at-Large positions. Everyone on the slate will be 'swept' into office.



While it's flattering for those of us who are running for office to think that we won by a landslide, it is somewhat troubling to me, as your President, to know that you do not necessarily have the choice you should have in electing the leadership of your EAA Chapter.

Here are a few of the questions that I believe you may want to ask the candidates before you cast your vote:

- o What issues do you see Chapter 723 facing in the next 2 to 3 years?
- o What are your qualifications for the position that you seek?
- o How do you feel about the future of the annual event we call Air Expo?
- o What are your thoughts on the Chapter's scholarship program?
- o Should we be making any changes to our Chapter's operational policies?
- o Etc.

You get the idea.

You need to know where the candidates stand, and the candidates need to know what's important to you. If you've got an idea for the future of the Chapter, or you're concerned about what you hear, think about running for one of the positions yourself.

During our October meeting, we're going to take some time to review the slate of candidates and allow you to ask your questions. Please think about what's important to you, and participate in the discussion. We need your thoughts and comments.

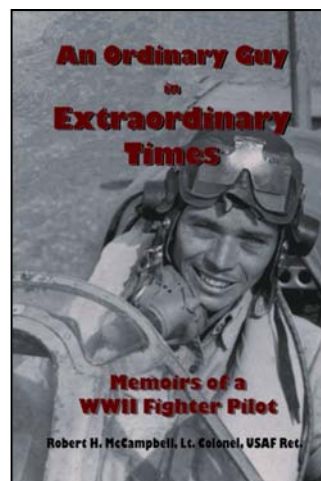
See you on Saturday,

Buckle up, it's going to be an exciting ride.

Don

Ventura P-51/Spitfire Pilot featured speaker at October meeting

Robert (Bob) H. McCampbell, Lt. Colonel, USAF Ret. Shares a very personal story, this is a fascinating recollection of the early Army Air Corps and of the author's adventures piloting *Spitfires and Mustangs*. It is presented from the perspective of an unpretentious 18-year-old Southern California boy whose thirst for flight was fueled by Roscoe Turner and other great barnstormers of the late 1930s. **Bob McCampbell** lived out his childhood dream in the wartime skies over North Africa, Corsica and Italy. A competitive young tennis player found himself playing a deadly game as he battled the Germans. The author's 82-year-old blue eyes still sparkle when he remembers his WWII adventures and he can chuckle now over missing "Ace" recognition due to several unconfirmed hits.



Bob McCampbell is one of a handful of remaining WWII fighter pilots and one of a very few who had the opportunity to fly both *Spitfires and Mustangs* in combat. He is a gifted storyteller and tells his story in a very personal way. He was twice awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and is holder of the Purple Heart, Air medal and Presidential Unity Citation. Robert was credited with four confirmed kills of German aircraft. Bob retired as a Lieutenant Colonel, USAF.

Please come enjoy this amazing presentation from one of America's "Greatest Generation".

EAA CHAPTER 723 YEAR 2008 OFFICERS AND STAFF

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The Newsletter is distributed to members of Chapter 723 in the interest of promoting Sport Aviation. Chapter 723 welcomes articles, new tips, photos and inquiries from its members and other readers. These articles may be reproduced in full provided they do not carry a copyright and provided proper credit is given to EAA Chapter 723.

The closing date for submissions to the next month's edition is the third Friday of the month. E-Mail submissions to the editor, Avril Roy-Smith, at avrilmh@gmail.com.

Submissions by mail: Send to the editor, Avril Roy-Smith, 11920 Chandler Blvd, #223, Valley Village, CA 91607. EAA Chapter 723 neither assumes any responsibility for the accuracy of these articles nor any liability rising out of reliance upon these articles.

New Santa Paula Airport Project to Feature Residential Hangar Space

Construction will begin this fall on a project of 37 condos atop airplane hangars at the privately-owned and picturesque Santa Paula Airport in Santa Paula, CA.

Developer and recreational flyer of 45 years Robert Banman is at the helm of the Santa Paula Sky Lofts project.

"Over the years I've built residential spaces within my personal hangars, and I developed the plan for the interior of the units after learning what works and what doesn't work," Banman said. The Santa Paula Sky Lofts project is unique in that the land will be owned by the Sky Lofts at Santa Paula Owners Association – the owners will buy and actually own – not lease – their piece of the project.

Each unit will include a two-bedroom loft style residential space on the second floor above an airplane hangar. The Sky Lofts will be located at the east end of the airport and sell for \$650,000 to \$850,000. The residential spaces will range from 1,373 to 1,757 square feet, while the hangars will measure from 39-by-39 feet to 39-by-47 feet.

With a briefing room, covered deck, granite countertops, fireplace, vaulted ceilings, stainless steel appliances, over-sized windows and doors and a large master bathroom, the floor plan and amenities are well-suited for relaxing after a day of taking in views of coastal California from the air.

The development team at Sky Lofts includes lead construction manager Pat McCarthy of Pat McCarthy Construction, project civil engineer Don Jensen of Jensen Design & Survey, and local contact Bill Lindsey, who ran the gauntlet of entitlement process which has taken the better part of seven years.

Established in 1927, the Santa Paula Airport is nestled among acres of citrus orchards and the Santa Clara River.

"The airport is known among flyers as unique because of its rich aviation history and small-town, community feel," Banman said. One might believe they have stepped back in time upon visiting the airport, as many of the original structures and hangars from the 1930s are still intact and functioning. The Golden Age of Aviation, an era marked by the greatest advancements in aviation history, has certainly left its mark upon the airport.

The Santa Paula Airport is also home to the Aviation Museum of Santa Paula. The Museum is selling the land for the development of the Sky Lofts at Santa Paula. The proceeds from the sale of this land will provide funding for the Aviation Museum to establish a permanent residence at the Airport – gift shop and office space included.

The combination of the museum and a flying community with a deep-rooted love for airplanes are what make the Sky Lofts project a natural fit for the Santa Paula Airport, Banman said.

Only licensed pilots will be approved to purchase the units. For more information, call (805) 633-2214 or visit www.santapaulairpark.com.



Bill Melly Memorial

.... KCMA September 6, 2008

By Harlis Brend

The life and legend of long time EAA Chapter 723 member Bill Melly were celebrated at the Camarillo airport on September 6, 2008, in the hanger that he occupied for many years. Melly passed away on August 3, 2008. The memorial program was led by former chapter president, John Slais. Slais stated that the members have come together to honor Melly. "This day is a gesture of their love and respect for Bill." Don and Martha Miller, current hanger tenants, donated the use of the hanger for the memorial.

John Slais reminisced about the great flying trips to Baja Mexico that Bill organized. "Some people fished, but most people drank margaritas and had a party," said Slais. It was an interesting experience to fly with the group. On the radio everyone lied to each other about how fast they were going --- and Bill always reported in miles per hour because the numbers sounded better than in knots!

Melly's son Patrick introduced the family members that were present, and acknowledged Phyllis and Bill's care givers, Betty Warren and Meryl Sabino. Daughter Sana Krusoe extended her thanks to everyone for attending. "This hanger was such a large part of Dad's life -- this was the center of the 'Melly Universe'. We grew up with the airport, we grew up with flying," she stated. Her early memories are very romantic -- "Dad flew 'loopy-loops' over the house, and he finally talked Mom into not only flying, but also into learning to land the plane. He was also a race car driver." Melly was an accomplished artist, painting in oil and water colors. "He loved things that were beautiful, he

was tough, but he was really tender," said Krusoe. "It's been a wonderful long life, and you have all been a part of it. We are very grateful to send Dad off this way. This is the way he wanted to be sent off," she concluded.

Daughter Sana Krusoe and son Patrick Melly thanked everyone for attending the memorial.



Some of the friends and family related stories from the past.

Neil Fowler: Friends since 1973 and the Civil Air Patrol. After the Air Force moved out of the base, they built and flew three Super Cubs before it was an official airport. It was their 'private' airport for three years! Later Melly helped build the CAP and EAA hangers.

Tony Brown: Friends for many years, since about 1980 when Melly bought the C-210. He also traveled on the amazing trips to Baja Mexico. "You may all remember the famous 'Melly Thorpe', that Bill purchased," said Brown.

Richard Sweet: Joined EAA Chapter 723 about 1995. Melly was one of the first members to make him feel very welcome. He did a lot of "hanger flying" with Melly at the hanger -- always felt welcome. "Melly was a mentor -- a great guy that built and flew airplanes," stated Sweet.



Mae McGirr: Melly's sister from Long Island, who flew out yesterday to attend the memorial. She was the oldest, Bill was the middle of the three children. She told stories about attending Catholic High School, crossing Queens Blvd., --- he was a dare devil. "Bill always was a likeable kid with good common sense, had a good outlook on life and he enjoyed life," McGirr said.

Paul Craig: Melly loved to ride motorcycles. They had a group of eight guys that met on Tuesday mornings. They rode together and traveled around all day, but they always tried to get home by 5 pm because that was the time when their wives that were still working got home!!

Jenna Ware: Related a story from ten years ago.. "Joe and I showed up on our first 'Harley' ..." (Ask her about the rest of the story !!!)



Mae McGirr entertained the group with stories about her brother Bill's childhood.

The Ventura Military Explorers Post 2861 provided the Color Guard and Honor Guard 21 volley salute under the leadership of VME/Chapter 723 member Dave Howells. The formal ceremonies were presented to honor Melly for his military service.

The traditional 'missing man' formation was flown by Chapter 723 members. Flight lead was flown by Kent O'Brien in his bright color trimmed RV-8 (N747OB). On his right wing was Norm Hall in his RV-6A (N225H). As Hall pulled up from the formation, Chapter 723 member Gregg Healy played Taps at the hanger flightline.



The Ventura Military Explorers Post 2861 performed the formal ceremonies to honor Bill Melly.

The memorial concluded with a Flag Folding Ceremony, and a reading, "The Symbolic Thirteen Folds of the American Flag", by Dave Howells. The reading concludes with: "The thirteenth fold, when the flag is completely folded, the stars are upper most

reminding them of their nation's motto -- *In God we trust*". The flag was presented to Melly's widow Phyllis by VME/Chapter 723 member Robert Siteman.



"The Symbolic Thirteen Folds of the American Flag" was read by Dave Howells.



The flag was presented to Phyllis Melly by VME/Chapter 723 member Robert Siteman.

Friends and relatives enjoyed a buffet lunch at the hanger that was provided by EAA Chapter 723, and a time to visit and continue reminiscing about their departed friend and pilot, Bill Melly.



The family enjoyed viewing pictures of happy moments from the past.

Bill (William) Melly was born in New York City in October 1922. He married Phyllis Stonie in 1945 in Hartford, Connecticut. Before they moved to Camarillo in 1961, they moved every three years, living in Charleston, Rhode Island; Jacksonville, Florida; Chincoteague, Virginia; Solomons Island, Maryland; and Melly's last Navy base, Point Mugu, California. His Navy duties took him to Iceland, Newfoundland, the Azores, Canary Islands, Guam, Einewitoc, Kwajelin, Hawaii, and Alaska.

He is survived by his wife Phyllis; Daughter Sana Krusoe; Son Patrick Melly and his wife Susan Melly; Grand Children: Halle Pickering (husband Andy Bialk), Kate Pickering, John Pickering,

Jennifer Su (Husband Paul Su), Dylan Melly (fiance Lauren Strong); Great Grand Children: Rose and Lena Bialk. Sister: Mae McGirr; Brother: Frank Melly (Both of Long Island, New York).

Melly joined the U.S. Navy in 1941, retiring in 1961 as a Chief Petty Officer. He served as a flight engineer on PBYs based in Bermuda flying submarine patrol during WWII and later on Lockheed Constellations based at Point Mugu, California. He also held an A & P mechanic license. Following his Navy career, Melly worked as a Real Estate Broker and in Civil Service at Port Hueneme, California.

He owned three airplanes at various times: Thorpe T-18, Cessna C-210 and C-170; and had a hanger at KCMA since it became a civilian airport. His airplanes were easily seen, being painted international orange and white.



Great Granddaughter Rose applauds the flag presentation.

Melly's favorite places to fly included Baja Mexico and the annual EAA show at Oshkosh.

Friends and relatives enjoyed a buffet lunch at the hanger.



May Bill Melly rest in peace

Agenda – October 11, 2008

- Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- Guests and new members
- Membership – Joe Tischler
- Board Actions and Discussions
 - Old Business
 - a. Volunteers for meeting set up in November
 - New Business
 - a. Treasurer’s Report – Mike Reed
 - b. December Officer Recognition/Installation Dinner update – Mike Reed
 - c. 2009 Air Expo update – Ernie Salmon
 - d. Slate of candidates – Len Goodman
 - e. Open discussion and questions for November elections
 - f. Additional new business
- Member Feedback
- Builder Activities
 - Jim Ayers – Flight Advisor Activities
 - Owen Smith – Tech Counselor Activities
 - Ken Clunis – Tech Counselor Activities
- Officer’s Comments
 - John
 - Jim
 - Mike
 - Dave
 - Steve
 - Joe
- Young Eagles – Neal Fowler
- Safety – Ken Coolidge
- Chapter Store – Tom Ridderbush
- Break

ADVERTISING POLICY

The For Sale and For Rent Ads are Free to EAA members and run for two issues unless you notify the editor at least two weeks in advance. Send Ad to: Avril Roy-Smith, 11920 Chandler Blvd., #223, Valley Village. Ca. 91607
 Or email to: avrilmh@gmail.com

Wanted: Hanger space for low wing LSA
 Bob Reid 376-8221

For Sale:

Rutland Mill Heavy duty 2hp \$550
 Horizontal/Vertical Metal band saw \$150
 Phase Generator 220 single phase to 220 three phase \$350
 Clark fork lift, propane with extra tanks \$2500

David Vanoni
 805 647 1092
Mvanoni@sbcglobal.net



For Sale
1976 Cessna Cardinal RG
\$59,900
Oxnard Airport, CA

Aircraft Registration Number: **N34949**
 Aircraft Serial Number: **177RG1030**
 TT: **3000 HRS**
 SFOH: **1841.4 HRS**
 Apollo GX50 GPS, IFR Approach & Enroute Certified, Apollo SL50 IFR Enroute Certified, GPSS Roll Steering - coupled to autopilot & GX 50 GPS, S-TEC System 30 Autopilot with Alt. hold, 2 Narco MK12D Nav/Coms, Glideslope, Dual VORs, King K176A Transponder, 4 place intercom, **NEW** Garmin340 Audio Panel, **NEW** Mags, **NEW** windshield, **NEW** Tires, **RECENT** Annual (April 08),
 Additional items include, JPI EDM700 Engine Analyzer with oil temp readout, WX-900 Stormscope, S-TEC 6406 DG, Digital clock & stop watch



Mike Bastine Meltb2@msn.com 805.451.6256



NEXT MEETING

October 11, 2008

Doors Open at 9:00 AM at Chapter Hangar Number One

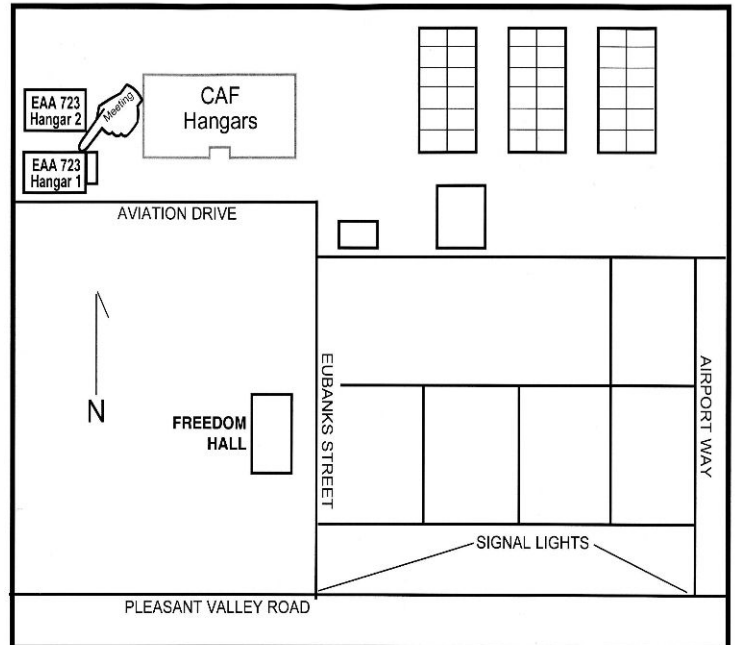
Get Acquainted Time.....9:300 - 9:30
Business Meeting.....9:30 - 10:15
Guest Speaker.....10:30 - 11:30

Chapter 723 Board of Directors Meeting
before the regular Saturday General Meeting
8am Chapter Hanger

Calendar of Events:

1st Sat - Young Eagles Rides (EAA 723 Hanger)
1st Sun - Young Eagles Rides (Santa Paula)
Classic and Vintage Aircraft Display at Waypoint
Cafe (Camarillo Airport) 9am - 1pm 2nd Sat each
month.

Go to our Chapter Website for more information
about our events. <http://www.eaa723.org>



From 101 Ventura Freeway get off at Los Posas going South, turn right at 2nd signal, then right at second signal (Eubanks), go to end, turn left on Aviation Drive. Our two hangars are on the right. You can see the EAA sign on the hanger.

EAA Chapter 723

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