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Upcoming Events

February 7, 2015 Saturday 4:00pm-9:00pm
Squadron 4 Annual Banquet - William Tell
6201 Joliet Rd Countryside, IL

As always please check our web site for the most up to date information:

www.warbirdsquadron4.org

From the C.O.'s Desk

By Tom Buck



Happy New Year!! 2015 has started!

Squadron 4 is planning a great line up of meetings for you! Feb. 7th is our starter with our annual banquet-dinner. Warbird pilot Mike Gillian will be telling us all about his Fm 2 Wildcat. Make sure to get tickets online or call Brian Churchill, so you do not miss this event.

The TBM is quiet now with the cold winter weather, but the SNJ got a make-over. Chris Thomsen [195 owner] headed our group to clean and treat the SNJ to a revitalized blue color , with his new "Plane Perfect Products". She looks like a new airplane!

Hope to see you at the banquet and consider bringing a friend.

Buzzing the Airfield

By Jerry Czupryn

Happy New Year to all my fellow Squadron 4 members. 2014 was a fun and exciting year for me. I'm looking forward to 2015 and attending many air events and air shows with my family. I hope everyone likes the look of the newsletter. I will continue to make minor changes. Please send me any articles or stories that your fellow members would be interested in reading. They don't have to be lengthy. I want to say thanks for all the articles submitted this month. I enjoy reading them while putting them in the newsletter. I hope to see many of you at the Annual Squadron Banquet on February 7.

If you have any questions, suggestions, articles, pictures, or stories please send them to me at nyrs9229@comcast.net.



Young Eagle Report

By Butch Bejna

Another year has come to a close and 51 Young Eagles have flown with Warbird Squadron 4. To date there have been 1,900,077 flown worldwide since July 1992 and 64,841 flights given this year. Once again IFR conditions cancelled the last 2 planned rallies in December. Flights were given at these airports: Schaumburg, Campbell, Lewis, Joliet, DuPage, Clow and Gary, IN. Steve Pagels helped out at one of the events at Schaumburg. Thanks Steve! Each year from July 1st - July 1st EAA recognize the leading Young Eagle Flight Leader for EAA Warbirds. With 60 flights given between that time period, I received a plaque right after Air Venture. Looking forward to more flights and to spread the word of Warbird Squadron 4 next year!





Leading
EAA Warbirds
of America Division

Flight Leader

Butch Bejna
60 Missions

July 2013 - July 2014

Veterans Forum Recap

By Gordon Millerin

Sunday Nov.9, Warbird Squadron 4 members and guests were at Courtesy Aircraft Sales Rockford Illinois enjoying the day at our annual Veterans Forum, it was pretty chilly so the TBM was left at its home base, Tom did however fly his Cherokee Six to Rockford, Stacy made her famous Navy Bean and Chicken noodle soup a squadron staple at our events, thanks Stacy.

My Son Mike and I drove there in record time, but beware of the Ogle County Sheriff's department using their radar guns on the overpasses, Mike made a 1/48 scale model of the AD-5 Skyraider that I was plane captain of 1958-59, it was pictured in Volume 2 1957-1963 squadron/signal publications at N.A.S. Miramar. In 1968 it was transferred to the Air Force and re-designated A1E and painted in Camouflage, it ended up with the VNAF and was lost 1/11/74.

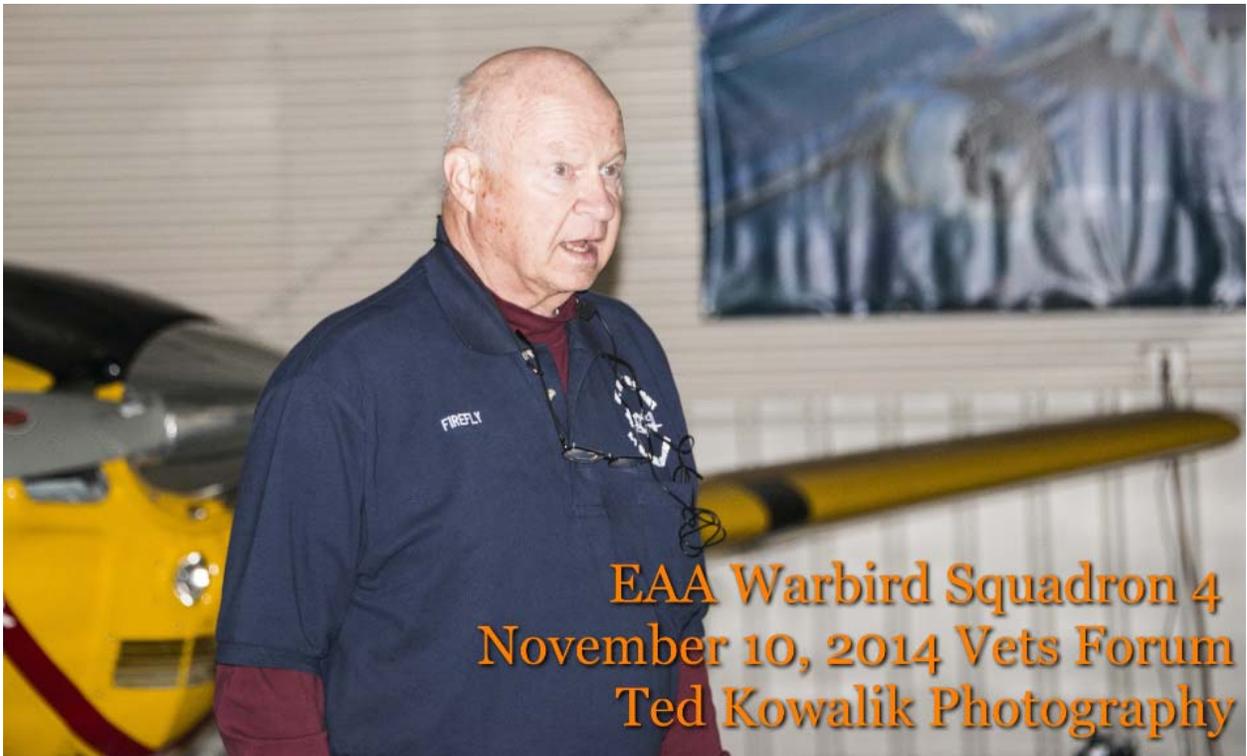
Our guest speaker was a Skyraider Pilot in Vietnam and for me it was most interesting, I may be a little partial towards the Skyraider of course, His name is Richard Diller, Tim Bauer introduced Richard who was born and raised in Princeton Ill. he graduated from the University of Oklahoma, he received an officers commission in the Air force through ROTC, he went to pilot training at Laughlin AFB, Texas where he flew T-37s and T-38s and received a F-102 assignment that changed to F-106s. When the air force needed pilots for the Vietnam War, Diller was assigned to fly A-1 Skyraiders at Nakhon Phanom RTAFB, Thailand, where he flew 203 missions, mostly at night, over Laos.

After his air force service, Diller flew 29 years for Delta Air Lines, he served as captain representative to the Air Line Pilots Association for the Chicago based Delta Pilots, he and his wife live in northern Illinois, Richard Diller has a book called Firefly, A Skyraider's Story, many squadron members purchased it and Richard autographed it for us, I would highly recommend it.

I did not know that Skyraider's flew night missions in Vietnam until listening to Richard, I knew they were mostly used for search and rescue missions in the day time, Richard called the right hand seat in an A-1E (AD-5) a one dollar ride when he would instruct a new replacement pilot for his check ride before a combat mission, I remember my first ride in the right seat as a plane captain and I would add a lot more zero's to that one, I was discharged from the Navy in 1960, however our squadron VA-52 went on to fly three tours of duty in Vietnam, they were on the USS Ticonderoga off the Gulf of Tonkin.



EAA Warbird Squadron 4
November 10, 2014 Vets Forum
Ted Kowalik Photography



EAA Warbird Squadron 4
November 10, 2014 Vets Forum
Ted Kowalik Photography

Oklahoma Museum of Flying

By Gordon Millerin

Gordon and Charlotte Millerin drove from Joliet, Illinois to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to visit friends that they have known for over 65 years.

Ken and Christine Kehlet hosted the Millerins for a very short five days.

Gordy and Ken spent some quality time at the Oklahoma Museum of Flying located at the Wiley Post airport in Oklahoma City.

When Gordy and Char were here in OKC about two years ago, Gordy was all over and inside the 1955 Douglas AD-5 Skyraider

About 24 months ago the AD-5 Skyraider was sold and the B-25J "SUPER RABBIT" was purchased and shipped by truck from Oregon to Oklahoma Museum of Flying.

AAF 44-86725

RCAF 5243 N92889

FAV 5880 FAB 541

N25NA

This particular B-25 Mitchell had the distinction of serving with three Air Forces: the AAF, the Canadian RCAF and the Venezuelan Air Force.

It was brought back to the U.S. from Venezuela in 1983 by Harry Doan.

It has gone through several owners in its long history and is now here at OMOF being fully restored









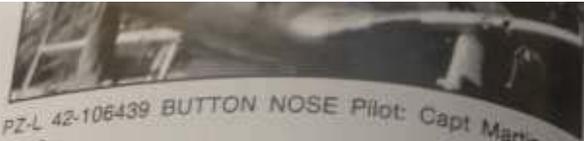








PZ-L 42-106439 THE ZEPHYRUS Pilot: Capt Henry
Blawie, C/C S/Sgt Ames



PZ-L 42-106439 BUTTON NOSE Pilot: Capt Martin Co-
coran



PZ-M 42-106609 Pilot: Colonel Joel L. Mason,
Kenneth Williams, and Lt Donald Markie
lost aircraft on June 10, 1944. The plane
at the time of the loss. C/C (for Mason)
ock.



PZ-M 42-106609 Pilot: Col Joel L. Mason, C/C S/Sgt Wayne
Stock. Colonel Mason flew this bird on May 8 '44 mission
for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.
Lt Waldo C. Raub lost in this aircraft June 20, 1944.



PZ
C/
cl

Report From The Western Front

By Tim Dunavin

As I make this report, the airstrip near our home is still fully functional, but is very quiet - not much activity. No bugs to spray and Squadron 4 hasn't ventured out this way since last May. Would be my guess, one day of bad weather will cure the runway being functional. And I really look forward to this May, (date pending per Squadron 4 Board, as of this writing) when I can fix the "Chicken Lips", "Hot Lips" and brats!

I haven't seen very many of you since Jerry took over the newsletter. I had to give it up because of some health issues with my sweet wife. 2014 wasn't very kind to us, but seemed to be well supplied with special blessings. Things got better right at the end, and hopefully 2015 will be much kinder to us.

Recently I chatted with Captain Chuck Downey on the phone. He was bright and chipper, but like the rest of us, suffers from sight and hearing problems, incident with getting older (we all seem to have those challenges). It was great talking to him - he is in Florida now for the winter, maybe we will get to see him again.

This year I have been asked by the Squadron 4 to build a model for the Squadron dinner - to be auctioned off. It will be a Navy F4F Wildcat, sitting on a carrier deck ready for its pilot and action against the Japanese. No motor this year.

Hope to see you all at the Squadron dinner the 7th of February!

Capt.Henebry in B-25 Raid

By Mike Hudak

Today my article is a story that appeared in the Joliet Herald News on 17 February 1943. The headline was "Nazis Gain 18 Miles in Tunisia" and the left-hand column was a late news flash about local pilot Jack Henebry (whom I believe knew Clancy Hess) it read as follows:

Capt. Jack Henebry, Plainfield ILL, piloted one of the B-25 medium bombers which emulated strafing tactics of lighter attack craft over New Guinea to silence all Japanese anti-aircraft batteries on Salmaua peninsula, the AP reported this afternoon.

Capt.Henebry and his fellow pilots "returned home as cheerful as a bunch of kids who had come up with new toys better than the playthings sported by other youngsters in the block".

The formation let loose its bombs from hundreds of feet off the ground, against thousands of feet altitude for previous attacks.

"There was no doubt a lot of startled Japs when these medium bombers, flying abreast, swooped across Salamaua at low level, right thru a thick anti-aircraft barrage. So accurate was the fire from the planes that, from the instant they opened up, there was not a single return pop from a Jap gun pit," the dispatch said.

As a side note Jack Henebry had a long and storied career in the military and there is a book out that tells his story, I purchased one from our dear friend Clacey who was selling them for the family and it well worth a read.

Another interesting fact is that Henebry was Squadron 4's own Bill Brown's commander.

Squadron Officers

(Partial listing – see website for full board)

C.O. Tom Buck (815) 744-1263	5bucks@sbcglobal.net
E.O. David Stevens (630) 323-6619	stevens15@mindspring.com
SEC. Ted Kowalik (630) 289-2785	thaddeusk@ameritech.net
TRE. Brian Churchill (847) 356-9056	brian.churchill@warbirdsquadron4.org

Warbird Squadrons

You can find all of these links on our site under the "WOA Squadron" button.

Listed below is the text for the links.

Warbirds of America Link: <http://www.warbirds-eaa.org/>

Seattle, WA Cascade Warbird Squadron 2 Link: <http://www.cascadewarbirds.org/>

Eugene, OR Warbird Squadron 13 Link: <http://www.squadron13.org/warbirds/>

Chino, CA Warbird Squadron 16 Link: <http://www.warbirdsusa.org/>

Cincinnati, OH Warbird Squadron 18 Link: <http://www.cincinnatiwarbirds.org/>

Florida Warbird Squadron 24: <http://www.floridawarbirds.org/>

Squadron 4 Warbirds

Spitfire	Rudy Frasca
F8F Bearcat	John O'Connor
TBM Avenger	Tom Buck
T6	Rick Siegfried
SNJ	Vic Krause
T6	Rudy Frasca
T6	John O'Connor
SNJ	Tom Buck
Yak	Bob Fitzpatrick
OW Meyers	Chuck Downey
T34	Rudy Frasca
Wildcat	Rudy Frasca

Merchandise

Visit the website for more information.

www.warbirdsquadron4.org

Keep'em Flyin

EAA Warbirds of America Squadron 4 is dedicated to the appreciation of military aviation, its people and its history. EAA Warbirds of America fosters an environment that celebrates all past and present members of the U.S Armed Services.

