

## PASO ROBLES PILOT



Monthly Newsletter of EAA Chapter 465- [www.EAA465.org](http://www.EAA465.org)

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Next Meeting on December 5 @7pm  
**Upstairs in the Terminal Building**

### Presidents Message

By Ralph Richards

I hope that everyone had a great Thanksgiving. My wife and I had booked airline tickets to Washington t,o see our grand kids (7 of them all boys), on the 7th through the 14th so we were not here for our November meeting. Our December meeting is as usual on Thursday the 5th of December at 7 p.m. (also my B-day) at the airport terminal building. Please let me know if you have something you can share at the meeting. See you there.

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## Editors Message

### ***“Whale” vs. Russian Trawler***

During the Vietnam War, Russian "Trawlers" (NATO designation: AGI for Auxiliary General Intelligence), with what looked like one thousand "fishing" antennas, plied the Gulf of Tonkin on a daily basis.



They played a cat-and-mouse game to see what havoc they could cause with our two carriers who operated there 24 hours a day.



### ***The Rules in International Waters***

Since the U.S. government had proclaimed the waters of the Gulf of Tonkin three miles off the coast of North Vietnam and Hainan Island – property of the People's Republic of China – to be international waters, American ships in the Gulf were bound to obey the international rules of the road for ocean navigation.

This meant that if the Russian ship maneuvered herself into the path of an aircraft carrier where she had the right of way, the carrier had to give way even if she was engaged in launching or recovering aircraft.

The navigation officer was constantly trying to maneuver the ship so that the trawler wouldn't be able to get into position so that it could abuse the rules of the road and gain the right of way. Sometimes he was successful in sucking the trawler out of position, but the room available for the ship to maneuver was limited by our on-station requirements, and sometimes the trawler interrupted our flight operations.

### ***The Red Baron***



The pilots of the air wing were strictly forbidden to take any action against the Russian ship, but one day CDR John Wunche, the commanding officer of the heavy tanker KA-3B detachment, had finally had enough of the Russians' antics.

John Wunche was a big man with bright red hair and a flaming red handlebar mustache. He was a frustrated fighter pilot whom fate and the Bureau of Naval Personnel had put into the cockpit of a former heavy bomber now employed as a carrier-based tanker.

CDR Wunche flew the tanker like a fighter and frequently delighted the tactical pilots by rolling the "Whale," as we all called the KA-3B tanker, on completion of a tanker mission.

Consequently, John's nickname was "*The Red Baron.*"

On 21 July 1967 John Wunche proved just how appropriate his nickname was.



The Landing Signal Officer (LSO) hit the wave-off lights when The Red Baron's "Whale" was just a few yards from the ramp.



### ***Crop Dustin' in the Gulf***

The UNS carrier, Bon Homme Richard, had nearly completed a recovery. The Russian trawler had been steaming at full speed to try to cut across our bow, and the bridge watch had been keeping a wary eye on the intruder. For a while it looked as if the Russian would be too late and we would finish the recovery before having to give way to the trawler. But a couple of untimely bolters (go-arounds) extended the recovery and the Bon Homme Richard had to back down and change course to comply with the rules.

John crammed on full power and sucked up the speed brakes for the go-around. The Bon Homme Richard began a sharp right turn to pass behind the Russian, causing the ship to list steeply, and there, dead ahead of John, was the Russian trawler.

He couldn't resist. He leveled the "Whale" about a hundred feet off the water and roared across the mast of the Trawler with all fuel dumps open like a crop duster spraying a field of boll weevils.

The Russian disappeared in a heavy white cloud of jet fuel spray, then reemerged with JP-5 (Navy's brand of jet fuel) glistening from her

superstructure and running lip-full in the scuppers, (the openings in the side of a ship at deck level that allow water to run off).

The Russian trawler immediately lost power as the ship's crew frantically tried to shut down anything that might generate a spark and ignite the fuel. She was rolling dead in the water in the wake of the Bon Homme Richard. The Russians broke out the fire hoses to wash down the fuel, as the Bon Homme Richard steamed out of sight and completed the recovery of John's "Whale".



The "Red Baron" was an instant hero to the entire ship's company.

### **Chapter 465 Minutes (November)**

No minutes



by Phil Corman

**PRAA Update:** [Click Here](#) for Details  
[Click Here](#) to join the PRAA mailing list.

Please encourage your family and friends to join the PRAA by sending an email to [philcorman@hotmail.com](mailto:philcorman@hotmail.com) or [CLICK HERE](#) to join. Our membership has increased from 150 to 181 in just one month. Please join and pass this along to others interested in the airport.

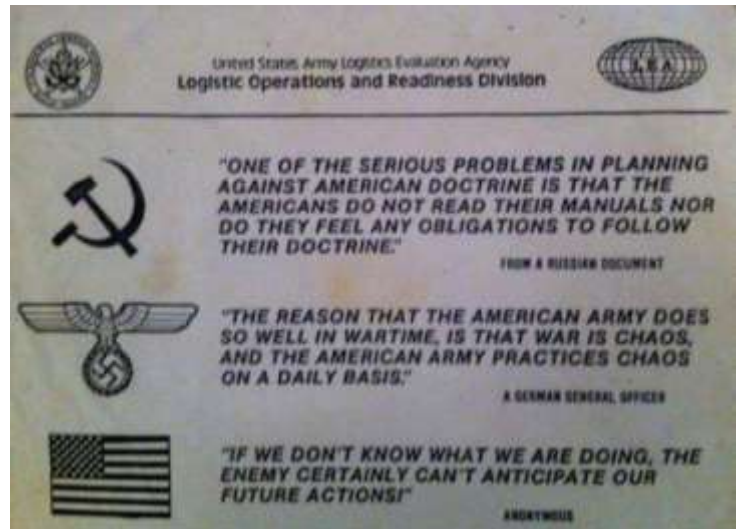
**ALERT:** Please be aware that there have been a rash of hangar break-ins on the east side of the field, in the Nunno lease. Seven hangars have been burglarized and thousands of dollars of stuff stolen.

### **Fly-In Events for this coming month**

**Dec 8:** Fullerton Antique Airplane, 10am-2pm at KFUL (Fullerton)

**Dec 15:** Antique Airplane Display, 10am-2pm at KPOC (LaVerne)

**Dec 21:** Display Day & Breakfast, 8am-12pm at Hanford



## **EAA Information**

### **EAA Member Benefits**

- EAA Insurance - Aircraft, Non-Owner, Renters & Personal
- EAA Aircraft Financing
- EAA Flight Planner
- Discounts on FAA written tests at LaserGrade
- EAA credit card 10% savings from Aircraft Spruce
- You can save 'hundreds – even thousands – of dollars' on your next Jaguar or other Ford car
- You can buy your John Deere Tractor for less money
- EAA has discounts for Hertz and Enterprise car rentals

### **Interesting EAA Chapter Web Sites**

EAA Chapter 1 at Flabob [www.eaach1.org](http://www.eaach1.org)

EAA Chapter 7 at Long Beach [www.eaa7.org](http://www.eaa7.org)

EAA Chapter 14 at San Diego [www.eaa14.org](http://www.eaa14.org)

EAA Chapter 1000 at Muroc [www.eaa1000.org](http://www.eaa1000.org)

EAA Chapter 170 @SLO

[www.eaa170.blogspot.com](http://www.eaa170.blogspot.com)

### **PRB Websites**

Paso Robles Airport Association

<http://www.prb-association.com>

Paso Robles Airport

<http://prcity.com/government/departments/publicworks/airport/index.asp>

**Corrections** – Please send any newsletter comments, corrections, suggestions, or your new e-mail address to:

Phil Corman <[philcorman@hotmail.com](mailto:philcorman@hotmail.com)>

## EAA CHAPTER 465 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

**Chapter membership dues are \$20/yr. Please help us to verify your personal info.**  
 Members with e-mail will receive the chapter newsletter via e-mail for their review.  
 Members without e-mail can receive copies of the newsletter by mail or at the meetings.  
**Return the completed form to the Chapter Treasurer, or any Chapter Officer.**

Name: *(Please Print)*

Address *(Number, Street, City, State, Zip)*

Email

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Work Phone

EAA National Membership #

Expiration Date *(MM/YYYY)*

FAA Ratings

Student	<input type="checkbox"/>	Glider	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tailwheel	<input type="checkbox"/>	CFI	<input type="checkbox"/>	A&P	<input type="checkbox"/>
Light Sport	<input type="checkbox"/>	ASEL	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seaplane	<input type="checkbox"/>	CFII	<input type="checkbox"/>	IA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Instrument	<input type="checkbox"/>			Avionics	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rotocraft	<input type="checkbox"/>					Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
ATP	<input type="checkbox"/>								

Aircraft Project Underway

I need help in:

Selection  Design  Construction  Other

Aircraft Now Owned

Newsletter: I prefer to receive my newsletter via e-mail , printed via U.S. mail , or at meeting

Special Skills *(That might be helpful to members)*

Payment Enclosed \$20.00

Make checks payable to **EAA Chapter 465**

Please mail this form with payment to:

EAA Chapter 465, c/o Dale Ramey  
 7460 Pinal Ave  
 Atascadero, CA 93422

Or bring with you to any Chapter meeting

<http://www.eaa465.org/site/index.php>