

The Outer Marker



Volume 18 Issue 6

Bonnie Gottschalk - Editor



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2022

“Important Dates”

General Meeting

June 11th

8:30 AM

Gateway EAA Chapter 1401

Merced Regional Airport

Hangar 10

Board Meeting

June 30th

7:00 PM

Mike Bodine

2519 Sea Breeze Ct.

Merced, CA



Bonnie Gottschalk
Editor

Happy Father's Day!

Hello Flight Enthusiasts!

John is out of the sling! Just a few more weeks of therapy and he should be able to pilot the plane again! Cannot wait!

Sorry we missed last month's meeting, but the Travis Airshow was so worth it for John and Xavier. I unfortunately spent most of the time in the car due to the heat. I am afraid that was my last airshow. Just not up to it physically anymore. John took photos that I shared in the Photo/Video section.

June's Young Eagle Event is right on course. The children from Monica Grasley's group are excited to be flying! The classes that Kathleen and Linton put on were well attended and received. Linton, Eric and Wes are all set to fly the group. John is going to miss flying the children but will be there along with Xavier to help.

Memorial Day at Castle Air Museums Open Cockpit Day for John and our grandchildren was a great time! My granddaughter's husband had never been to the museum. Benjamin had but when he was too young to appreciate it. He especially liked having his picture taken with several of the Star Wars characters. (see Photo/Video section)

As always, I pray God blesses you all with good health, prosperity and clear blue skies!

Bonnie

President's Post

June 11, 2022

Gateway EAA Chapter 1401



Mike Bodine

Our June General Meeting is our Young Eagles Event, June 10th at 8:30AM at Merced Yosemite Regional Airport, Hangar 10.

Young Eagles

We will have a small group of selected children for the event. It will not be open to the general public.

July General Meeting July 9th

Speaker for the July general meeting will be Mike Smith from the FAA. He will discuss the FAA requirements, inspections, and issues at Merced and other large and small airports. Don't be confused, there is more than one Mike Smith

August General Meeting August 13th

Linton Wollen who will be the presenter at the meeting. His topics have not been totally defined.

We have a lot of good aircraft equipment in our hanger. These items need to be identified with pictures and written descriptions for a future sale.

EAA National Air Venture is in Oshkosh July 25 – 31, 2022. This may impact the August board and general meeting, with the President and the Secretary traveling to the event.

Mike

2022 Gateway EAA Tentative Meeting Schedule

Board Meetings	General Meetings	Meeting Location	Meeting Agenda and Activity
	Jun 11	EAA Hangar #10	Aircraft display and Social
Jun 30	July 9	EAA Hangar #10	Aircraft Display and social
Aug 4	Aug 13	EAA Hangar #10	Aircraft Display and social
Sept 1	Sept 10	EAA Hangar #10	Aircraft Display and social
Sept 29	Oct 8	EAA Hangar #10	Aircraft Display and social
Nov 3	Nov 12	EAA Hangar #10	Aircraft Display and social
Dec 1	Dec 10	EAA Hangar #10	Chapter Christmas Party and Aircraft display

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[Tom Cruise Terrifies James In 'Top Gun' Fighter Jet](#)

A BIT OF HISTORY

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The Douglas SBD Dauntless Dive Bomber: The Navy's Most Daring Aerial Weapon ~By Dan Doyle



[The Terrifying Physics of WWII Dive Bombing](#)

The Douglas Aircraft Co. built the SBD for the United States Navy as a carrier-based dive bomber and torpedo plane. It proved to be a formidable weapon in the Pacific against the Japanese naval forces.

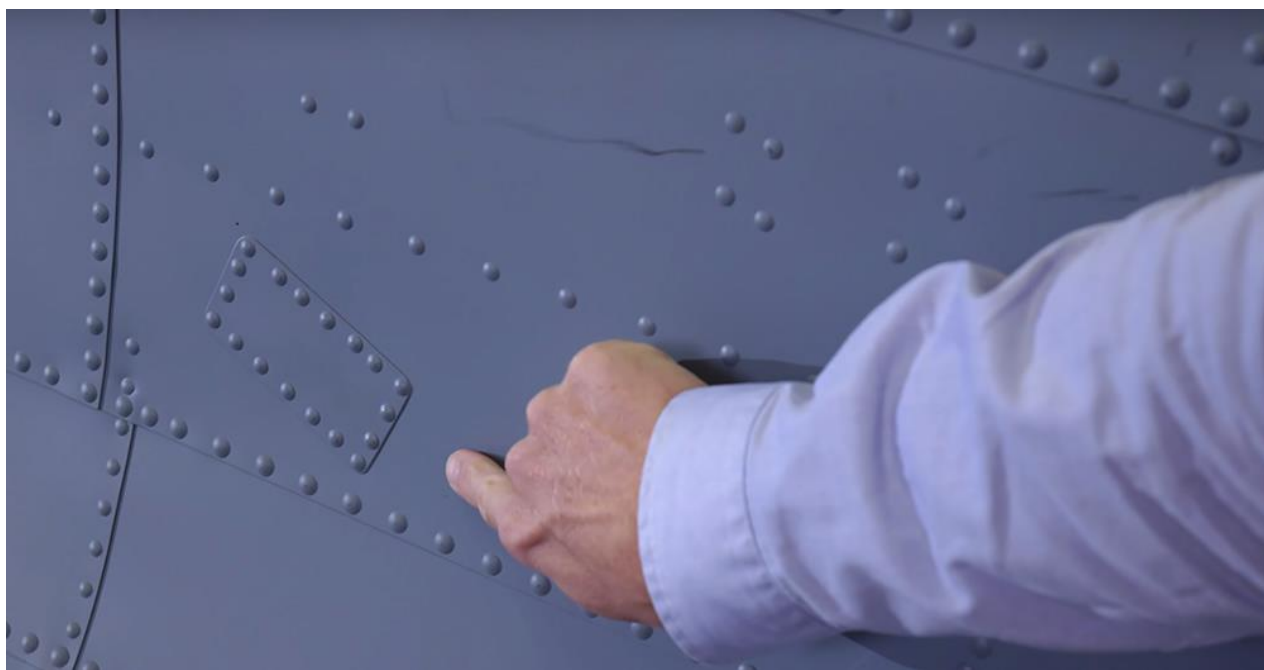
If you have seen the recent movie, “Midway,” about the decisive two-day battle only a couple short months after the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, you have a good sense of what it was like to fly one of these Dauntless dive bombers in battle.

They were not built for speed, but for accuracy in the particular mission of destroying and sinking enemy naval vessels. Bombing even a large ship like a carrier from high altitude during WWII was difficult enough already. Ships appear only as specks on the wide ocean from 20,000 ft and they are moving at top speeds and are capable of maneuvering fairly rapidly, making it close to impossible to hit them with high altitude bombings. Smart bombs were still decades away from the arsenals of any military forces at that time. The only way to improve the accuracy of delivering a one-thousand-pound bomb was to use the airplane itself to “aim” the bomb.

This meant that the pilots of these SBD Dauntless dive bombers would have to put their planes into a steep dive hitting up to 275 mph, keeping their eye on the altimeter gauge and the bomb site. They would descend toward the enemy ship which would be pouring heavy anti-aircraft fire and heavy machine gun fire at them as they dove. They too would be “small” targets to the gunners, that’s why they would be pouring so much and such fierce amounts of lead at the dive bombers as they approached on their runs.

We can only imagine the tense moments of a diving run for the pilots of those Dauntless dive bombers and the man in the rear seat, facing backwards with twin 30 cal. machine guns firing away with all he had at any enemy fighters that might be trying to take them out. The heavy curtain of bullets and shrapnel from the anti-aircraft guns would be striking the plan. The immense forces of speed and gravity on the plane would make it a noisy, bumpy, soul-shaking few seconds.

The bombs would be released at about 1,500 ft above the enemy ship and then the pilot would have to pull back hard on the stick to pull out of the dive and get away from the intense barrages of bullets and shrapnel coming from the ships below.



In this second video you will meet the then last living SBD Dauntless dive bomber pilot from the Battle of Midway, Capt. “Dusty” Kleiss. He has since passed away. He will tell you how he was able to drop a bomb on one of the Japanese carriers that were destroyed by he and his fellow pilots on June 4th, 1942 during that battle near Midway Island.



[The last dive bomber of Midway](#)

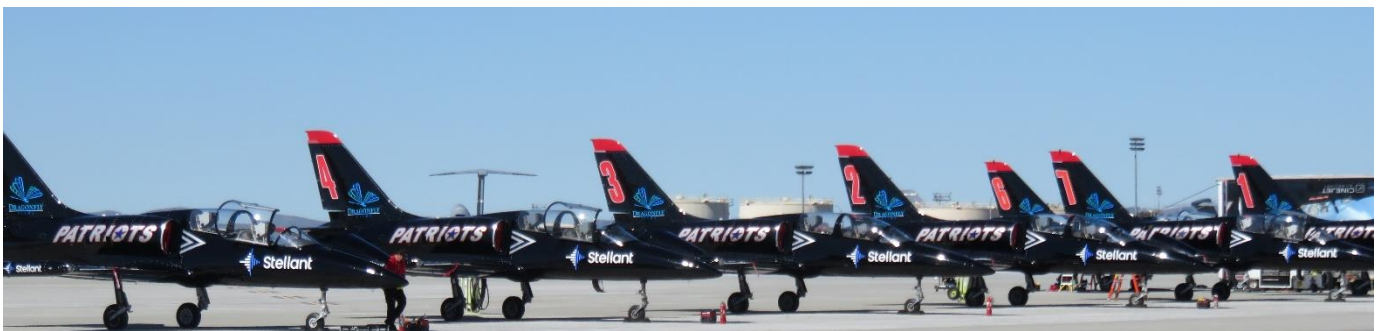
The Veterans Site honors the memory of these brave pilots and gunners who flew the Douglas SBD Dauntless dive bombers during WWII. Their heroism and skill was critical in the Battle of Midway and throughout the rest of the war.

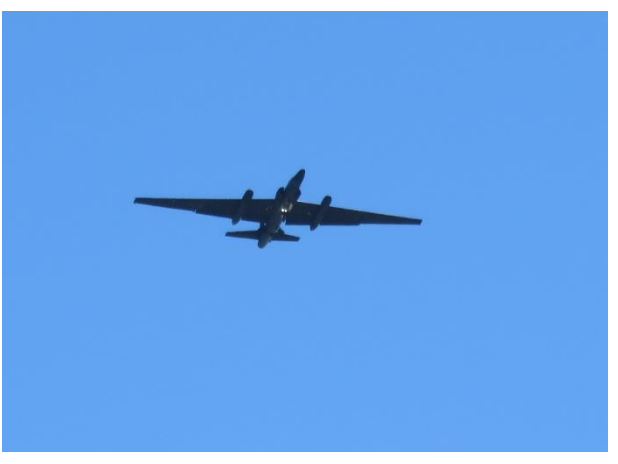
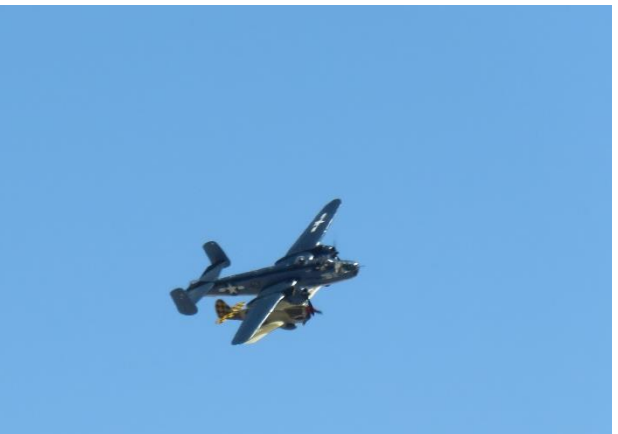


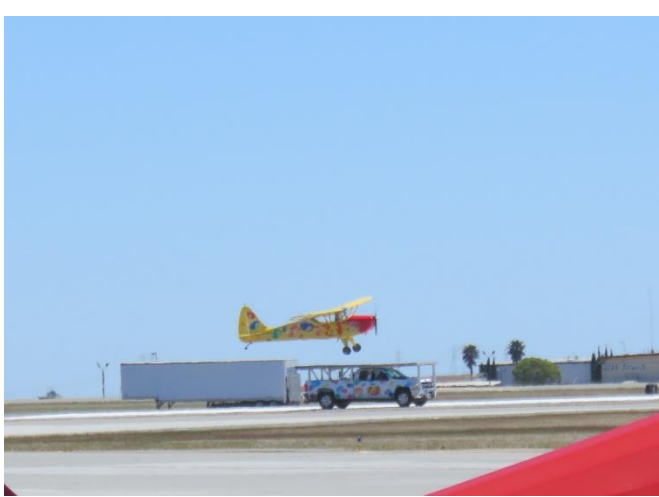
Photos & Videos

Click blue hyperlinks to see video's

Wings Over Solano









Open Cockpit Day



Top Gun Films Highlight Fly-In Theater at AirVenture 2022



The Fly-In Theater films, which are included in AirVenture daily and weekly admission, are shown nightly from Saturday, July 23, through Saturday, July 30 (weather permitting), beginning at 8:30 p.m. For many of the films, special guests connected with the film or the aircraft involved will help introduce the screening. Fly-In Theater presentations are included with AirVenture admission.

This year's stellar schedule includes:

- Saturday, July 23:** *Top Gun* (1986) – The all-time favorite film about naval aviation starring Tom Cruise, Anthony Edwards, and Val Kilmer.
- Sunday, July 24:** TBA
- Monday, July 25:** *Air Force One* (1997) – This Harrison Ford fan favorite, also starring Gary Oldman and Glenn Close, features Ford as President of the United States whose aircraft is hijacked by terrorists.
- Tuesday, July 26:** *The McConnell Story* (1955) – A Korean War fighter pilot hero returns home to test fly the new F-86 Sabre jets despite his wife's uneasiness regarding his job. Starring Alan Ladd, June Allyson, and James Whitmore.
- Wednesday, July 27:** *Jet Pilot* (1957) – Starring John Wayne and Janet Leigh, "The Duke" portrays an Air Force colonel tasked with escorting a defecting Soviet pilot who is trying to lure the American to the U.S.S.R.
- Thursday, July 28:** *Wolf Hound* (2022) – The new film stars James Maslow and Trevor Donovan in a story inspired by the real-life German special operations unit KG 200 that shot down, repaired, and flew Allied aircraft as Trojan horses.
- Friday, July 29:** *Top Gun: Maverick* (2022) – Tom Cruise, Jennifer Connelly, and Miles Teller update the story of Capt. Pete Mitchell as a legendary test pilot called back to train a new group of hot shots.
- Saturday, July 30:** *Toward The Unknown* (1956) – William Holden, James Garner, and Lloyd Nolan star in this depiction of Edwards Air Force Base test pilots pushing themselves to the limit at the dawn of supersonic flight.

FLYING



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Audio speakers and a broadband internet connection are required to participate in the webinars.

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