The Legendary Service Wife
By
Col. Jerry Hoblit, USAF (RET)

Her name was Rosalie, Rosalie Hoblit. She was not a Navy wife, although certainly many of those legendary ladies have resided at China Lake. She was the Wife of an Air Force exchange officer at Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Five or VX-5, during the Vietnam War. She was the third generation Service Wife in her husband Jerry’s family. His grandmother was married to B. F. Holl, a signalman in the Army during the Philippine Insurrection, a follow on campaign during the Spanish-American War. Holly’s daughter married an Army dentist. They were together on Schofield Barracks, living in base quarters adjacent to Wheeler Field, on December 7th 1941. Their quarters were strafed that morning by a Japanese pilot who hadn’t done his target study very well. (He can be excused as this probably was his first combat mission and he was a little green and jumpy.) Following this event she was evacuated for the first time back to the states with her son. Her second evacuation came ten years later when she was sent home from Alaska following her husband’s death in a C-124 accident. This time with another son, Fred, and Jerry, now sixteen. Ten years later, Rosalie married Jerry and joined the Air Force in Spangdahlem, Germany and almost immediately moved with Jerry to Itazuke Air Base on the Island of Kyushu in Japan. While in Japan Jerry flew two combat tours in South East Asia (SEA) and Rosalie became pregnant with their first child who was born at Nellis AFB in Las Vegas, Nevada where Jerry was a F-105 instructor and attended the Fighter Weapons School - which was later the pattern for the Navy’s Top Gun school. (Catchy name for an upstart.) Immediately after the birth of Holly, the first of their beautiful three daughters – fighter pilots always have daughters – Jerry returned to SEA as part of a force dedicated to the destruction of the Surface to Air Missiles in North Vietnam. Hoping to become an Astronaut, Jerry next got to Edwards AFB and the AF’s Test Pilot School. There being no Astronaut slots available, Jerry weaseled an assignment to VX-5 at NOTS, later NWC, which had 21 airplanes, all different, and bunches of neat things to test. (There was another factor in this; Hoblit Haus, was then and still is, a ski house in Mammoth Lakes.) Rosalie in her two years at China Lake birthed Heather and Heidi under the supervision of the famous Dr Zumwalt. (His son also became well known.) This contributed to an anecdote that started Rosalie on her way to Legendary Service Wife status.

In those long ago days, way before the feminist movement and attendant Political Correctness, Navy officers particularly admired and recognized, “Control.” The appellation of “Control” was awarded to the rare officer who demonstrated superiority in his home. It was he who called the shots and “wore the pants” at his place of duty - other than the ship, ramp or cockpit. “Control” had to be earned by manliness, guile, and an ability to communicate his appreciation of the finer sex’s attributes almost never encountered in the egocentric attack/defense/test pilot. Even when present it was at best temporal, usually tentative and almost never acknowledged by squadron mates. If it was mentioned, say at Happy Hour at a TAD location, it was done so quietly, in hushed admiring tones. Should word get back to the wives, it would be very bad for the awardee(s) of “Control” and worse than fatal for the awardee. Now Jerry was not the type who came softly or hid his light under a basket. He would arrive last at squadron meetings and, entering by a back door, would call the squadron to attention so that his entry was met by the same respect that was due to the skipper. (He really only tried this once.) He never used the assigned call sign when flying. He was always, “the Air Force” when addressing the tower or Charlie Range. So imagine the delight that Jerry felt at being awarded “Control” at his going away party after his tour was over. The reason: “Not only has Rosalie been pregnant for almost all of your tour with the Navy, but you are the only guy in the squadron too cheap to buy a power mower, and have one of those long obsolete reel type pushers, which only Rosalie has ever been seen to use and then always barefoot!” Jerry reveled in the recognition. (But for only a short time.)

Lest you believe that Rosalie was a Legendary Service Wife because she was a submissive and dutiful servant the previous anecdote has, (intentionally) misled you. In addition to being smashingly good looking and a typical redheaded, she was brought up on a farm in Virginia. Tended chickens, instead of a doll she had a pet pig and raised a steer for 4H. Not a farmers daughter she, but a Virginia planter’syoung lady. But, another story more illustrates the point:

Captain Charlie Fritz, VX-5’s most famous skipper, treated his Air Force guest very well. Jerry was checked out in all the airplanes and got some of the best jobs and test projects. This resulted in the fleet A-7E pilots getting a Tac Manual before they got an airplane. (Believed to be a Navy first) NWC’s Focus missile’s combat Ph exactly equaled what the OPEVAL predicted. There were ten or twelve other good projects, but there were some hicups. Both originating from NOL White Oak, who had endeavored to take their undersized
Jerry writes that his post-V-5 tour included: Schools: AFSC, AWC, Auburn/ MBA, US Philippines/M A/ Asian Studies, assignments with the Airstaff (Pentagon desk job), Commander, First Test Squadron, Deputy Command- er 34 Tactical Fighter Wing, Vice Commander 27th TFW. Civilian jobs since his USAF retirement include the Assistant to the President, Magnum Marine (Offshore Oil Drilling), Planning and Safety on the B-2 Program with Northrop Corp., and Financial Planner. He and the Legendary Rosalie are retired in Texas, and they spend several weeks each summer golfing and few in the winter skiing at their Hobilis Haus in Mammoth, CA. In summary, he says he retired four times, quit four times, and was fired three times, and is writing a book that we should buy.

**WILLS AND TRUSTS**

The China Lake Museum Foundation now has a process by which you can include consideration of the Museum as a part of your will or estate. It is a fairly simple and straightforward process which involves adding a sentence stating your attention to your will or trust with an appropriate witness (not a Foundation officer or staff member). Please consider providing a gift to the China Lake Museum Foundation in your will and/or estate. Gifts can include monetary (fixed dollar amounts or percentage of residuary estate), property items, artifacts. Tax benefits can be realized through the reduction of the size of your taxable estate. Family needs are met first. Special instructions can be stated. Otherwise the donation will be applied to the general fund, which can be used to support new facilities, exhibits, operations and education initiatives. If you have any questions, please call the Foundation office. The process was provided courtesy of the law office of Steve Boster.

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**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**BY BOB CAMPBELL**

It is an honor to have been elected as the CLMF President. I hope that I can nurture and expand upon the progress we have realized over the past five years. My thanks to Paul for his dedicated leadership over the past four years and to Burrell Hays for his dedication and overall leadership of the Foundation and its goals. I look forward to their continued support and advice as we forge ahead. My goals are to pull together a concrete and realistic plan for expanding the Museum facility and establishing a presence on the land the Navy and the City of Ridgecrest have set aside for our future use within the next five years. In order to step up the process of soliciting funding support, we are actively soliciting members to the Trustee Board. The purpose of the Trustee Board Members will be to assist us in the fund raising activities. RADM Bert Johnston (retired), Stuart Witt, John Lehman, Jim Simmons, Paul Valovich, Dotsy Cronin Volunteer Coordinator 760-371-7527/legacchic@aol.com. They have started with at least one additional exhibit for the next five years. PRESIDENT'S REPORT will make a lot of difference and many volunteers to make an event. Generally this task takes about 4 hours per week. Also we are looking for a newsletter editor to take over getting our quarterly newsletter compiled and published. This would take approximately 2 days every 3 months. Finally my thanks to Jim and Betty Seanan who have agreed to chair our annual auction this year. As you know the auction is our prime fund raising event. They have already started the planning process and need many volunteers to make the event happen. Two hours a week will make a lot of difference and help ensure that the event is a success. So let us know if you are interested. Thanks, and remember to set aside the date of Saturday, 2 June, and plan to attend
AUCTION-----AUCTION-----AUCTION-----AUCTION

Remember the All New Auction & Dinner Program will be 2 June 2007

Your Foundation’s Planning Committee is creating a new program for the dinner and auction. The program promises to be bigger and better each year, so don’t miss it! The main event and evening’s excitement will be the Live and Silent Auctions, which are planned this year to ensure everyone can participate and take home outstanding and top quality items. The Auction and Dinner Program is a main fundraiser for the Foundation and for it to be successful we not only need your participation at the Auction & Dinner, but we need your donations of items to be auctioned off. Therefore:

START NOW CONSIDERING WHAT YOU CAN DONATE TO THE AUCTION. JUNE 2 IS LESS THAN FOUR MONTHS AWAY, SO DON’T DELAY IN GETTING THOSE GOOD DONATIONS UNDER WAY. THEY CAN RANGE FROM: FINE ART YOU HAVE GROWN WEARY OF (AND FOR WHICH YOU CAN USE A TAX DEDUCTION) TO -----GREAT BUT NOT NEEDED CHRISTMAS GIFTS (AND YOU CAN USE A TAX DEDUCTION) TO -----ITEMS YOU LOVE TO PURCHASE FOR THE THRILL OF THE SHOPPING TO -----GOOD STUFF IN THE HOUSE OR GARAGE THAT YOU HAVE OUTGROWN TO -----GREAT HOBBY, CRAFT, COLLECTION, ANTIQUES, NOTABLE BOOKS AND HISTORICAL ITEMS, ETC. ITEMS YOU HAVE. IN OTHER WORDS “USE YOUR IMAGINATION”.

Bring donations to the Museum or call and we will pick them up. If you have ideas for making this our most successful event ever, or if you would like to volunteer to participate in preparing for the Dinner Program, please call:

Betty Seaman at 702-283-3634
seamanb@aol.com
Or
Bob and Alice Campbell at 760-377-0056
alicerbob@verizon.net
Or
Call Chris McKinley at the Museum
760-939-3530
clmf1@ridgenet.net

CHINA LAKE MUSEUM FOUNDATION / CARRIAGE INN
WEEKEND PACKAGE

When: June 1-3, 2007

What: Includes:
~ Two (2) Nights (Friday and Saturday) at the Carriage Inn
~ Two (2) Tickets to the Saturday Petroglyph Tour on the Naval Air Warfare Center’s North Range
~ Two (2) Tickets to the Saturday CLMF Dinner/Auction at the Kerr McGee Center
~ Two (2) Tickets to the Sunday Breakfast at the Carriage Inn

Price: Weekend Package - $150.00* per couple
*Note: Final prices are being negotiated at this writing, but will be about $150.00 based on previous years experience.

For reservations and details contact the China Lake Museum Foundation
(760) 939-3105/3530
New Members received since Fall 2006 Newsletter

Business Sponsor Member ($500.00)
Union Bank of California - Ridgecrest CA

Lifetime Members ($1,000.00)
Clavet, Joseph & Beverly - Ridgecrest CA
Davis, Ken & Rose Marie - Ridgecrest CA
Lehman, John - New York NY
Suhr, James & Cleoie - Ridgecrest CA
Wimberly, CAPT Tom & Gay (USN Ret.) -
Corpus Christi TX

Enlisted Military Members (Free, from Sponsor Members)
Barnes, SPC Joseph P. - Ridgecrest CA
Bratton, E-6 Matt & Lyn - Fremont CA
Gilbert, Christopher & Colleen - Ridgecrest CA
Hunter, PFC Shane Michael - Ridgecrest CA
McIntosh, AMEAN Shawn - Somerset KY
Storts, LCpl Gary & Kim - Wildomar CA
Vazquez, AD Gaspar & Sionney - Ridgecrest CA
Zehendner, E-6 Jason - Ridgecrest CA

Regular Members ($25.00 Annually)
Cheshire, Justin & Marion - Ridgecrest CA
Christie, Charles L. & Ruth A. - Ridgecrest CA
Dyer, Joseph W. - Burlington, MA
Dykema, Bill & Rosemary - Ridgecrest CA
Hentges, Don & Sarah - Ridgecrest CA
Jackson, Kristin - Ridgecrest CA
Johnson, Lee & Carol - Ridgecrest CA
Johnson, Lt. Col. Mark - Ridgecrest CA
Killinger, Tony & Kathryn S. - Inyokern CA
Mattei, Lt Col Christopher, USMC - Ridgecrest CA
Miles, Paul & Jeanne - Plano TX
Skinner, Mark - Ridgecrest CA
Spearow, William & Katherine - Ridgecrest CA
Staab, Gary & Barbara - King City CA

PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES WHICH SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION AND MUSEUM

DONORS 2006-2007
(includes cash or cash equivalent donations over $200 the last year)

Advanced Transmissions & Specialized Auto
Aegir Systems
State Senator Roy Ashburn
ASI/SRS
Booz Allen Hamilton
CACI Dynamic Systems
Carriage Inn
Country Feed Barn
Coldwell Banker Best Realty
DCS
Disneyland, Anaheim CA
Double Eagle Resort, June Lake CA
Dr. Phil (McGraw)
Electronic Warfare Associates (EWA)
Edward Jones Investments-Vincent Avalos
First American Title
Firequick Products
Furnace Creek Lodge, Death Valley CA
J.P. Gorman Metal Fabrication
Griffin Backhoe & Construction
Hays Engineers & Scientists
Jacobs Naval Systems Group
Jewelry To Go
LaCarra's Body & Paint
Lamar Advertising
Harold Manning CPA
Lockheed Martin Services
Congressman Kevin McCarthy
McDonald's, Sierra II, Ridgecrest, Inc.
William McEwan Sculptor
Supervisor Jon Quinlan
Montana Trails Gallery, Bozeman MT
Mystique - Chef Patrice
Neely Accountancy Corp., Granada Hills CA
New Directions Technologies (NDTI)
Picture Perfect Studio & Gallery
Quilt 'N' Home
Raytheon
Sears
Snow Creek Golf Course, Mammoth Lakes CA
Betty Spindler Ceramics
The Stockdale Group, Walnut Creek, CA
Sur-Clean Car Wash/Speedy Lube
Staples
Swap Sheet
Systems Applications & Technologies
T&I Alignment
Hon. Bill Thomas (Ret.)
Tokyo House
TOSS/Servicemaster
Union Bank
Wal-Mart
Wienschnitzl/Taste Freeze
Windows Walls 'N Floors

Members 2006-2007

A Ridgecrest Septic Service
Alta One Federal Credit Union
Best Western
Center Professional Pharmacy
Coso Operating Company
Daniel T. Kus, D. D. S.
DCS Corporation
Farris' Diner
Hays Engineers and Scientists, Inc.
IWV Insurance - Daryl G. Silberberg, Sr.
Jacobs Naval Systems Group
McDonald's, Sierra II, Ridgecrest, Inc.
Neely Accountancy Corp., Granada Hills CA
New Directions Technologies Inc. (NDTI)
Raytheon Company
Ridgecrest Moving & Storage Company, Inc.
Roger Dorman - State Farm Insurance
Systems Application & Technologies, Inc.
The Boeing Company - NAS Lemoore CA
Tommy T's
TOSS
Wienschnitzl/Taste Freeze

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The China Laker  
Winter 2007

ANNUAL DONOR PROGRAM

The following businesses and individuals/families are Annual Donors at the designated levels. Donors who have donated either cash or items which provide cash to the Foundation at the $200 level or more for two consecutive years, and those who have committed to do so, are in the program. Their financial support of the Museum increases funds for the building program, daily operations, programs and displays and is very much needed and appreciated. The “+” shows the number of continuous years the donor achieved at least the lowest level and the size indicates the donor level each year, including Annual Business Memberships, which recognizes annual commitment by our Business Members. In the event we have inadvertently missed someone who is a part of this donor program we apologize, and please call the Foundation office 760-359-3530 so we can make the correction.

<table>
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<th>Platinum (55,000 and up)</th>
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| Jacobs Naval Systems Group +++
| Kern Board of Trade ++++

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<th>Gold (5,000-5499)</th>
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| Bob & Alice Campbell ++++++

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<th>Silver (1,000-2,999)</th>
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| Alta One Federal Credit Union +++++
| Coldwell Banker Best Realty ++
| First American Title ++
| Givers to Combined Federal Campaign +++
| Wayne & Pat Doucette ++
| Firequick – Beth & Bill Sumners ++
| Merrie Giles, inlay artist ++
| Burrell & Lesta Hays - Hays Engineers & Scientists +++++
| Paul & Pat Homer ++++++

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<th>Bronze (500-999)</th>
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| Curt & Gretchen Bryan +
| Jack & Pat Connell -
| Edward Jones Investments - Vince & Gloria Avalos ++
| Ken & Jeannette Kelley +
| Rocky & Nina Lane +++
| Harold Manning, CPA ++
| Mammoth Mountain +
| Supervisor Jon & Brenda McQuiston +++
| Ridgecrest Moving & Storage +++

| CACI Dynamic Systems +
| Carriage Inn ++++++

| DCS Corporation +

| Lamar Advertising +
| Jewelry To Go – Al & Mary Alvarado ++++
| Bill & Jean McEirdre ++
| New Directions Technologies Inc. +++
| Raytheon +++
| The Stockdale Group - Jim Simmons +++
| The Swap Sheet - Peggy Breeden & Dick Swift ++
| John & Bobbe Ward +++++

| Commerative—Memorial Brick Program |

The China Lake Museum Foundation has a brick purchase program. We have several donors who have purchased bricks as part of this program. We are currently working to place our first order and proceed with the display of the purchased brick at the Museum. The bricks are an excellent way of lasting recognition. They will be moved to the new museum once it is in place. Prices for the bricks are $100 for a 4x8 brick with three lines of inscription. For $250 one can purchase an 8x8 brick with more lines of inscription. Please contact the Museum Office for details.

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| California Senator Roy Ashburn +++
| Howard & Barbara Auld ++++
| Russ & Linda Bates +
| Bob & Pat Berry +
| Skip & Jan Bennett ++
| Carl & Celia Barkley +
| Joseph & Beverly Clavet +
| Electronic Warfare Associates (EWA) ++
| Fred & Barbara Eisoh ++
| Gary Charlon Insurance +++
| B.J. Holden & Al Berryman +
| Ed & Carol Jener +
| John & Bobbie Ward ++
| The Swap Sheet +
| The Stockdale Group +

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<th>Friend (200-499)</th>
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| McDonald’s +
| McEwan Sculptures - Bill & Muriel McEwan +++
| Neely Accountancy +++
| Harvey & Audrey Nelson ++
| Ted Ribultan +
| Milt & Ethel Ritchie +
| Sears ++
| Staples ++
| Sun-Clean Car Wash/Speedy Lube ++
| United Way ++
| Fred Weals +++
| Windows, Walls ‘N Floors ++
| Charlie & Nancy May +

| IRS GUIDANCE ON IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER |

The Internal Revenue Service released new guidance on the IRA Charitable Rollover, enacted as part of the Pension Protection Act. The IRS clarifies that checks may be delivered to a charity by the IRA holder, as long as they are made to an eligible charity. In addition, the guidance specifies distribution limits and age restrictions, the timing of distributions, and other factors. Members should note that the China Lake Museum Foundation is eligible to receive such distributions.

The January 10, 2007 press release from the Treasury Department can be viewed at:
http://www.treasury.gov.press/releases/hp222.htm

View the new guidance (PDF), Notice 2007-7 at:

See the IS website for additional resources on the IRA charitable rollover, http://www.independentsector.org/programs/gr/IRARollover.html
Dinner & Auction Information

Museum Mission: The Museum mission is to educate naval personnel and the public about the extraordinary heritage of the Nation’s and China Lake achievements in naval armament and technology, including the role of the military / civilian / industry teams which forged solutions for the operational forces.

Auction Objective: Principal objective of the auction is to raise funds for the construction of a new museum building outside the main gate within the next five years. 100% of the proceeds from the auction will be placed in the Building Fund.

Why a new Museum? The current facility requires major refurbishment, and because of its location on the base is not easily accessible by the general population. The current facility has limited exhibit space, with a capability of exhibiting only 30% of the collection and story.

Museum Vision: The proposed new Museum will have over 40,000 square feet of inside space plus outside exhibit space. Enough to exhibit the collection and also have meeting facilities and staff office space for administrative purposes. The museum is and will be a unique national asset with an unmatched display of U.S. Navy Weapons Systems history. The Museum will be located just outside the main gate of the base on 12 acres of land provided by the Navy and the City of Ridgecrest.

Benefits to the Community: Once the new facility is located outside the base, it will serve as a significant tourist draw, which will directly benefit the Community. Conservative estimates indicate that over 60,000 visitors a year could visit the museum and the Community.

How the Community can help: Community membership and participation in the auction is a visible indicator of the community support, and provides leverage for gaining outside grant support.

What will it cost? The overall goal of the China Lake Museum Foundation (501(c)(3) corporation) is to raise $10M over the next 5 years and to have the building built with new exhibits by that time. The Foundation is aggressively seeking outside donor support from Aerospace Corporations, Private Foundations, State and Federal Funding sources and other interested corporations and individuals.

Forms of Participation

Several alternatives are available.

Advertising: to be included in the Dinner & Auction Program:
- $500-full page, $250-half page, $125-quarter page, $50-business card size

Event Sponsorship
- $1000 Sponsor: includes dinner and table for 8, CLMF membership for non-member table guests, dinner wine, advertising (name in program, newspaper and in the Museum), chance for prizes worth $1000 (Sidewinder giclee, 4 nights at Mammoth cabin, lifetime personal or one year business membership.)
- $200 Sponsor: includes 2 dinner tickets, reserved seating, name in program, name in newspaper, and Museum plus 10 raffle tickets.

Membership
- Individual/Family per year: ($25), Contributor ($100), Benefactor ($500), Sponsor Member ($33)—includes one enlisted membership, Enlisted ($8).
- Business per year: Member ($1000), Sponsor ($500), Contributor ($100)
- Lifetime Individual/Family: $1000

!!!!!! WE NEED YOU !!!!!!!

The China Lake Museum Foundation is seeking volunteers to help plan the upcoming Annual Dinner Auction Fundraiser on June 2.

Volunteers get to meet new people, learn new skills, create deep friendships, and never say “I am bored and have nothing to do”!

We have volunteer opportunities large and small in the areas of advertising, publicity, donation solicitation, auction planning, program planning, logistics, data base input and management, decorations, invitations, program publication, reservations, and more! Please come be a part of this opportunity to help “Share the Dream” of our future Naval Museum of Armament and Technology building.

Contact:

Betty Seaman 702-283-3634 seamanb@aol.com
OR
Bob and Alice Campbell 760-377-0056 alicerbob@verizon.net