

# NEWS

**CHAPTER ONE** held a Membership Meeting on Tuesday March 6. Twenty-three (23) members attended. The meeting started at the **Lyon Air Museum** [www.lyonairmuseum.org](http://www.lyonairmuseum.org) located adjacent to the John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana, California.

**Tour of the Museum and Living History Speakers** - Founded by Major General William Lyon, the Lyon Air Museum exhibit is comprised of restored and flight worthy B-17G, B-25, and C-47 aircraft along with numerous ground vehicles of that era. The Chapter was most fortunate to engage two Living History Speakers as tour guides. Mr. Jack Hammett is a Pearl Harbor Survivor, D-Day Landing Hospital Ship Corpsman, and Korea Conflict veteran. He was accompanied by Mr. Bob Muyer who was a D-Day inland assault glider pilot. Together they provided an inspiring first-person account of those significant events, their

familiarity with the



Chapter One attendees (L-R), Les Shobe, Mike Beckage, Tony Osborne, Randy Boss, Barry Shope, Dave Martin, John DeWitt, Luke Xi, Chris Culbertson, John Boyer, Steve Mitchell John Churilla, Kirsten Larsen, Rick Ralston, Jack Hammett-(Guide/Hugger), Tom Cronin, Gordon Cress, **Tom Lee**—, Charles VanDruff, Tom Webster



Pictured Above: Living History Speaker Mr. Bob Muyer (cap) explains operations of the D-Day C-47 transports and glider-towing/insertion during the inland assault on 6 June 1944.

Pictured Right: Museum Guide and Living History Speaker Mr. Jack Hammett (center) addresses the Chapter One group. He explained -how important it is to educate today's youth on the events of the Pearl Harbor attack and America's entering and ultimately prevailing during WWII.



equipment used and some stories of the missions facing the Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines involved. The presence, service and vitality of these two gentlemen continue to demonstrate how hundreds of thousands like them earned the most deserved title -The Greatest Generation.

■ 1 ■ **Business Meeting. Presentations & Dinner** - After the Museum tour members held a business meeting at a local Olive Garden. Chapter Officer Reports were presented by Treasurer Tom Cronin and Secretary Kirsten Larsen and Election nominations opened for the coming year. After the nomination process ended Kirsten Larsen, Tom Cronin, Mike Beckage and Barry Shope were elected as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President, respectively, for the 2012 term.

■ 2 ■ **Presentation – Member Company- Millenworks, [www.millenworks.com](http://www.millenworks.com) Tustin, CA.** - Chapter members and Millenworks Program Managers Chris Culbertson and Charles VanDruff presented a video overview of military land, air and watercraft vehicle occupant safety and restraint programs being performed by their company. Also presented were programs involving military vehicle chassis and suspension upgrades and other related performance improvements that have evolved from the company's founding capabilities in high performance endurance racing.



Pictured above: Presentation of Appreciation gifts to Millenworks Program Managers Chris Culbertson (left) and Charles VanDruff (right). Also shown Chapter Secretary Kirsten Larsen and President Barry Shope

■ 3 ■ **Escape System History Presentation by Guest Speaker: Mr. Gordon Cress** After dinner Mr. Gordon Cress gave a video presentation on his 37 years in the aerospace industry working on aircraft and spacecraft escape systems ranging from the Gemini and Apollo to the F-22. He provided videos of the Lunar Landing Research Vehicle that trained astronauts (in Earth atmosphere & gravity) the control characteristics needed to land on the Moon. The LLRV was a difficult craft to control. Gordon explained there were three emergency ejections from the LLRV by three different pilots in 1968 alone (one was by Neil Armstrong who was not yet selected for the first landing attempt). Gordon also showed the classic late 1950's spoof of ejection seat test track operations titled

'Tough Sledding' and explained the controversy that surrounded its existence by a prime airframer that didn't agree with the humor value.



**Appreciation-** At the conclusion of the meeting President Barry Shope expressed the Chapters thanks to our guest speakers. They were presented an acrylic memento designed by Chapter Secretary Kirsten Larsen for their efforts in participating in our program. After the presentations the attendees were thanked for their continuing participation and support of the Chapter. The meeting was then adjourned.

Pictured above: Gordon Cress and Barry Shope  
All photos courtesy of Chapter Vice President Mike Beckage