

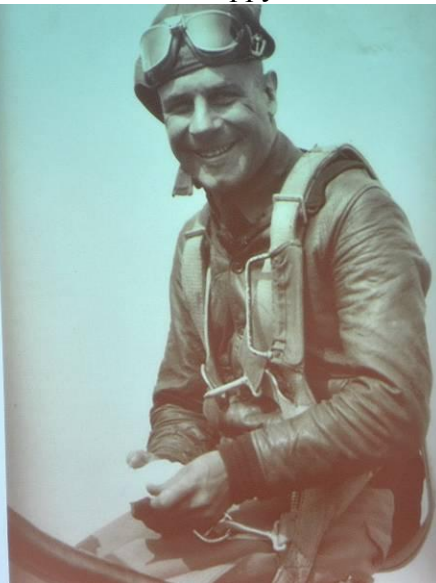
**Plane Crazy Saturday – March 19, 2011**  
**After Action Report by Cathy Hansen**

Another great Plane Crazy Saturday! Aviation Author Jonna Doolittle Hoppes and her cousin, Jimmy Doolittle, III gave an up close and personal glimpse of their famous grandfather, Army Air Corps aviator General Jimmy Doolittle.

“He was best known for leading the Tokyo Raid,” said Jonna. “But the raid was not what he felt was his most important achievement. He firmly believed that his experiments, especially in blind flight, were his greatest contributions to aviation.”

Jonna’s first book, *Calculated Risk: The Extraordinary Life of Jimmy Doolittle*, is a memoir of her famous grandfather, aviator Jimmy Doolittle, and his equally extraordinary wife, Joe.

Josephine Daniels was an “A” student in school with an analytical mind, and her mother expected her to marry well. In high school, she fell for Jimmy Doolittle, a young man who boxed for spending money and followed his father to Nome, Alaska, to find gold. Joe’s parents were not happy with Doolittle!



“Joe” gambled early on a boy who boxed for spending money and fancied finding gold on the beaches of Alaska. She traipsed around the country, pulling up stakes and replanting them every time Jimmy's career led them in a new direction. Never once did she stand in his way. Jonna explained that the book was just as much about her grandmother Joe, as it was about, the legendary aviator.

No stranger to Mojave Airport, Jimmy Doolittle, III, retired Air Force colonel, who served in Vietnam flying A-1 Skyraiders and was Vice Commander of the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards Air Force Base, delighted the crowd with flying stories. Our own history making aviator, Dick Rutan, retired USAF Lt. Colonel, MISTY pilot, combat Veteran of Vietnam, added to the conversation with questions for Doolittle, III.

Jonna completely sold out of her books and made three trips back to her car to get more books, until the last one was gone!

Bill Deaver took many photos of Jonna’s presentation in the EKAD Board Room and even captured some of the early day photos of General Doolittle.

Wen Painter was on hand to sign the aircraft tax exempt forms for pilots displaying their aircraft at Plane Crazy Saturday. “We had twenty-five aircraft sign in, even though the weather was so chancy,” said Painter.

Once again, we were able to have our event before it started to rain! There were quite a few families all bundled up to fight the cold west wind. The little ones looked really cute with their knitted hats and mittens.

Mark Street, XCOR Aerospace, braved the cold and flew his Pitts Special just before the rains began. I saw him landing when the first sprinkles began.

Blake Holifield, member of the Tehachapi Society of Pilots flew his beautiful metalized Tri-Pacer from Tehachapi Airport, which, by



the way, is for sale! Look for the flyer posted at Mojave Airport.



Roy Gant came over from Bakersfield and took some good photos of the eclectic assortment of aircraft on parked on the ramp at



Mojave Air & Spaceport.

Phil and Barbara Schultz flew their historic Beech 18 from Little Buttes Antique Air Park and Roy captured a great shot of the port engine and prop.

Phil and Barbara’s Twin Beech has two Pratt & Whitney R-985 Wasp Junior, nine cylinder

radial engines, each developing 450 horsepower. Nothing sounds better than round engines during takeoff!



On a trip to Alaska last summer in the Beech, the Schultz’s encountered some rain that removed some of the paint on the leading edges of the wings.

Al Hansen's Canadair F-86E; Grumman S-2F Tracker and North American T-28B all made a nice showing of warbirds. Veterans seem to enjoy standing next to these flying pieces of history to reminisce and recall the years gone by.



Ralph Wise brought his original, one-of-a-kind "Wise GT-400" for display. Ralph designed and constructed this aircraft and made his first flight at Mojave Air & Spaceport! What a powerful, fast and beautiful design it is!

Once again the stalwart Mojave Transportation Museum Foundation volunteers, Heather Benes and Rheta

Scott, came through with help at the MTM booth selling posters, Rutan Rocket Fuel and t-shirts. Many thanks and much appreciation for their dedication and devotion to our mission of raising funds to build a transportation museum right here in Mojave!

Thank you to Ron Langford and Ray Hatfield for their help and muscles setting up tables and chairs and just being there for any minor hitch that might arise.

A packed room enjoyed stepping back into history with the Doolittle Family. Jonna Doolittle Hoppes reminded everyone that they had a story to tell and encouraged each person in the room to write down their own history, so family members would have knowledge of their accomplishments and realize that every life has a purpose. "If we don't capture history, if we don't write it down, it's lost forever." Hoppes said.