

**PLANE CRAZY SATURDAY
MAY 21, 2011
AFTER ACTION REPORT**

(photos by Alan Radecki and Cathy Hansen)



Can you believe this picture that Alan Radecki took of Orbital Sciences Stargazer? Great shot! Reminds me of when the Antonov 124 was here at Mojave in 2002! *Old Mother Westwind* did her thing after lunch, but the temperature was really lovely. The Mojave Transportation Museum Foundation crew at the MTM booth kept running down the ramp to retrieve items that sailed off the table! Many thanks to Rheta Scott, Bill and Billye Deaver, Heather Benes, Chris and Riitta Martin for answering questions and selling Rutan Rocket Fuel (chili sauce), toys, books and posters



throughout the day.

Alan Radecki was kept busy driving the tram and giving flightline tours, while Dick Rutan showed visitors his beautifully painted Berkut airplane.

Visitors came from miles around, enjoying a day at the airport, while learning aviation history and getting up close and personal with a Lockheed L-1011, one of Aerospace Valley's most beloved aircraft.

There are two airworthy L-1011s in the United States, and Orbital has

converted this one to a mothership airborne launch platform for the Pegasus rockets for the deployment of small satellites into low-Earth orbit.



A future woman pilot checks out the business end of the Rolls Royce engine with a little help from her dad. Ted Hodgkinson shows his grandson one of the big jet engines that powers the Tri-Star.



Pretty in pink, is delighted with her nerf rocket from Orbital Sciences and a glider from the MTM booth.



Visiting aircraft parked right under the tail of the Stargazer and former Lockheed employees told Ed Dunlap, Manager, L-1011 Operations at Orbital Sciences, how they helped build 250 L-1011s at Palmdale from 1968 to 1984.



Ed sent an email and said, "We enjoyed meeting so many people, listening to their L-1011 stories and we told a few of our own!"

Wen Painter said that 24 aircraft signed in for the tax exempt status and there were another 10 or 12 that flew in just to visit.

Maggie Geimke set up a booth for Usborne Books At Home with wonderful and intriguing books for children. www.AVUsborneBooks.com and aviation artist, Doug Castleman brought his collection of aircraft prints, plus a couple of commissioned paintings, www.dougnart.com, including the beautiful Beech 18 owned by Barb and Phil Schultz.



Barb Schultz holds painting that shows the Beech over Alaska.

Castleman was so taken with the Stargazer that he talked to Ed Dunlap about doing a painting of the rare aircraft. We gained permission to go on top of the tower and get a better vantage point for some good photos. I couldn't get the whole airplane in, but did get some good shots of the other aircraft on the ramp!

The length of the L-1011-200 Tri-Star fuselage is 174-feet, 7.5-inches and the wingspan is 155-feet, 4-inches.

Two Pegasus launches are scheduled for 2012, including a trip to Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands.



Alan Radecki took a few photos when he wasn't driving the tram. The Stargazer looms over all of the General Aviation birds.





Admiring fans are always attracted to Dick Rutan. This new friend wanted to see the Voyager aircraft and we told him that he would have to have his Dad take him to Washington D. C. to view the Voyager as she hangs in the Air and Space Museum in the Milestones of Flight Gallery. We also have a much smaller version of Voyager in Legacy Park hanging about the full-size replica of SpaceShipOne.

Next month, June 18 Plane Crazy Saturday, we will honor all veterans with "A Salute to Veterans!" Many veterans from the Pete Knight Veterans Home in Lancaster will be traveling to Mojave Air & Spaceport to enjoy the P-51 Mustang and Douglas A-26 that will be on display. Also, the Model A Club from Visalia

will be here showing off their beautiful cars from yesterday.

Thank you to Erika Westawski, Ron Langford and Lewis on Unicom for all of your help and support for the day!

See you next month on June 18th!