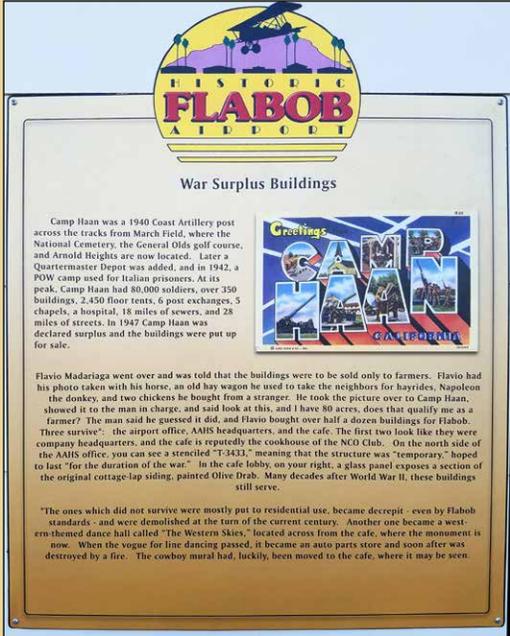


AAHS Log Book

There is a lot going on behind the scenes at your AAHS headquarters that does not get regular coverage. The following provides a snapshot of activities during the last quarter. Don't forget that there are opportunities for you to actively help further the objectives of the Society. Just contact Membership and volunteer.

AAHS Flabob Headquarters

The AAHS Headquarters building at Flabob Airport, Riverside, Calif., is located in a former (and much rennovated) WWII barracks building. A palque has recently been attached to the building that reads:



War Surplus Buildings

Camp Haan was a 1940 Coast Artillery post across the tracks from March Field, where the National Cemetery, the General Olds golf course and Arnold Heights are now located. Later a Quartermaster Depot was added, and in 1942, a POW camp used for Italian prisoners. At its peak, Camp Haan had 80,000 soldiers, over 350 buildings, 2,450 floor tents, 6 post exchanges, 5 chapels, a hospital, 18 miles of sewers, and 28 miles of streets. In 1947 Camp Haan was declared surplus and the buildings were put up for sale.

Flavio Madariaga went over and was told that the buildings were to be sold only to farmers. Flavio had his photo taken with his horse, an old hay wagon he used to take the neighbors for hayrides, Napoleon the donkey, and two chickens he bought from a stranger. He took the picture over to Camp Haan and showed it to the man in charge, and said look at this, and I have 80 acres, does that qualify me as a farmer? The man said he guessed it did, and Flavio bought over half a dozen buildings for Flabob. Three survive.* The airport office, the AAHS headquarters, and the cafe. The first two look like they were company headquarters, and the cafe is reportedly the cookhouse of

the NCO Club. On the north side of the AAHS office, you can see a stenciled "T-3433," meaning that the structure was "temporary," hoped to last "for the duration of the war." In the cafe lobby, on your right, a glass panel exposes a section of the original cottage-lap siding, painted Olive Drab. Many decades after World War II, these buildings still serve.

The ones which did not survive were mostly put to residential use, became decrepit - even by Flabob standards - and were demolished at the turn of the century. Another one became a western-themed dance hall called "The Western Skies," located across from the cafe, where the monument is now. When the vogue for line dancing passed, it became an auto parts store and soon after was destroyed by a fire. The cowboy mural had, luckily, been moved to the cafe, where it may be seen.

AAHS at EAA AirVenture 2022

The Society made a formal appearance at EAA AirVenture 2022 this past July. We had a 10x10 booth in one of the main exhibit halls and were able to establish contact with a large number of attendees. Questions ranged from "Who are you?" to "I thought this organization had died years ago" (not a good sign of how well we've let the world know about us).

We had a number of people sign up as members and establish new contacts with existing members. And, most importantly, learned a lot about how to do it better next time. This event is one of the few where we have the opportunity to spread our message to individuals most likely to be interested in supporting the Society.

You can read more about this event in FlightLine 206.

