

The WingNut

EAA Chapter One Flabob Airport (RIR) Riverside, CA



Volume 57, Issue 11

We make flying FUN!

November 2010



Jim Pyle 'Gone West'

One of Chapter One's stalwarts has 'Gone West.'

Jim Pyle, long-time Chapter member, Board member, and past-president, passed away Saturday night, Oct. 23rd, after suffering a stroke on Oct. 14th.

Born July 14, 1928 in Idabel, OK, Jim passed away on October 23, 2010 in Riverside, CA. Jim was raised in Deming, NM where he became interested in airplanes through his local Boy Scout Troop. This turned into a lifelong passion and through most of his life a career as he worked for several aircraft and space product companies. After graduating high school he joined the Army Air corps /Airforce and served as a crew chief on the first jet fighters, F-80's and F-86's. After discharging from the Airforce he went to Wichita, KS to work for Beechcraft and Cessna Aircraft while going to night school. While in Wichita he met Imogene Holmes, and they married in 1953. Jim and Imogene moved

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'Flight of the Human Spirit' pilot to speak at meeting

On April 8, 2010, novice pilot Michael Combs took off from Salina, Kansas, in a Remos light sport aircraft with the goal of flying to all 50 states to spread the message, "It's never, EVER too late to follow your dreams!"

He has now been to every state, including Alaska and Hawaii, traveled over 24,000 miles in more than 50 days of flying, landed at over 150 airports, and has spread his message of positivity from coast to coast. On Nov. 13th, he will be at Chapter One to show and tell us about his exciting adventure. He will also be speaking at the AOPA Expo in Long Beach that same day.

The "Flight for the Human Spirit" started as a dream, and is proof that all things are possible to those who believe that no dream is too large, and no hope is too



Michael Combs

small. It is an outpouring of the true spirit of cooperation. It is a wellspring of proof that every man, woman and child has the support of God, fellow beings, and all of the powers of the universe to bring all dreams to reality.

It's always been Michael's dream to fly—a dream he thought was lost forever after a serious illness nearly took his life in 2003. Nearly seven years later, his dream came true in a big way. But, it's not just about his dream; Michael knows what it's like to face impossible odds and he set out to inspire others to dream again and pursue those dreams

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Plane of the Month:
Ray Stits'
Remos GX

Calendar



November 2010

- 5th – First Friday Flicks**
Chapter One Hangar - 5 p.m.
- 6th – Veterans Day Celebration**
Flabob Airport
- 13th – Young Eagles**
Chapter One Hangar - 8 a.m.
- 13th – Chapter Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 1 p.m.
- 13th – Board Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 3 p.m.
- 21st – Design Group Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 10 a.m.

December 2010

- 3rd – First Friday Flicks**
Chapter One Hangar - 5 p.m.
- 4th – Chapter One Christmas Dinner**
Chapter One Hangar - 6 p.m.
- 18th – Design Group Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 10 a.m.

**Flabob Veteran's
Day Celebration
November 6th!**

Jim Pyle 'Gone West'

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to Tulsa, OK where he earned his A&E License at Spartan School of Aeronautics. In 1959 they moved with their son Jim Jr. to Riverside, CA where Jim had accepted a job at Rohr Industries. In the early 1960's Jim and Imogene welcomed daughters Valerie and Heather into their family.

In 1970 Jim changed careers and started working in the real estate market. In 1973 he opened his own office, Riverside Realty. Jim and Imogene developed a successful business in real estate sales and property management. Jim was active in the local Board of Realtors, serving as president, vice-president and was on the ethics board. During the real estate downturn in the early 1980's Jim was able to return to Rohr Industries while his family ran the real estate business. After retiring from Rohr in the early 1990's Jim continued his real estate business and became involved in the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter One located at historic Flabob Airport. Flabob soon became Jim's home away from home as he was drawn to the people at the airport who shared his enthusiasm for airplanes. The EAA Chapter One was just what Jim had been looking for and he would be active in the chapter serving as chapter president, vice-president and tech advisor. He made numerous trips to the EAA summer fly-in at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He would drive cross county, many times by himself, to attend this annual event. Along the way he would stop at small airports to visit with other EAA chapter members and just talk airplanes. Over the years he developed many friendships and was an ambassador for Chapter One.

Jim was devoted to his family and friends. He was always on call to discuss business matters or technical issues and will be missed for his knowledge, wit and humor.

Jim was preceded in death by his loving wife, Imogene, and leaves his son, Jim Jr., daughters Valerie and Heather. And Grandchildren Cori James, Courtney and Kelley. Other surviving family members include niece Rita Holmes of Oklahoma and her family, Elmer and Martha Brawley of Kansas and Mildred Samuskewicz and Kathryn Kier of Nebraska and their families.

A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday November 4, 2010 at 11:30 am in the EAA Chapter One Hanger. The family request that in lieu of flowers donations are made to the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter One in the name of Jim Pyle at P.O. Box 3667, Riverside, CA 92519



Join us at EAA Chapter One for
**'An Old Fashioned
Christmas Pot Luck'**
Saturday, Dec. 4th, at 6:01 p.m.

Turkey and Ham will be provided by the Chapter.
Members are to bring side dishes and desserts.
No ticket sales-\$5 donation requested at dinner.
Music, games and gift certificate give-aways.



Sign-up sheets for side dishes and desserts will be available at the Veterans Day Celebration, Young Eagles, and our Membership Meeting. For information, contact Nancy Acorn, Maribeth Cortez, or Dick Staley. Come join us for some old-fashioned fun and a delicious dinner!



From the Editor's Desk

On the Loss of a Leader

My good friend Jim Pyle has gone on to that great Pietenpol Fly-In in the sky, and we will miss him!

Chapter One had a "Lessons Learned" Open House Committee meeting on Oct. 14th, and Jim wasn't present. I was somewhat concerned, because Jim had been in attendance at every Open House Committee meeting from when we began holding them, back in mid-June. Jim rarely missed a chapter event or meeting. Apparently on the day of our meeting, Jim was not feeling well, and was taken to the hospital, where he suffered a stroke which put him in a coma from which he never recovered. He expired Oct. 23rd at a hospice to which he was moved from the hospital.

Another aviation comrade gone. But Jim's spirit will live on and haunt the hallowed grounds of EAA Chapter One. His smile, his infectious laugh, his ingratiating mannerisms, his enthusiasm for and dedication to Chapter One will linger on in our memories and continue to touch those of us who remain. His wisdom and moderating influence will be missed at chapter board meetings. There will be an empty chair at the daily late-evening hangar flying sessions at FarWest Aviation that won't be able to be filled. Chapter One events won't be the same without Jim's ubiquitous presence, as he was usually seen here and there, moving around, meeting and greeting each and every person who attended.

Jim's desire in the past few years was to be seen as "Mr. Pietenpol." He had a special love for the Pietenpol design, and was instrumental in putting together the West Coast Pietenpol Fly-In, which drew in a handful of Piets for a fun week-end of flying at Flabob for the past few years. He managed to get a Pietenpol project, which was donated to Chapter One, as his very own. He hoped to make it a chapter project, a project that would involve Flabob high schoolers. But that never worked out too well, and Jim spent a few hours here and there building ribs and wings for the airplane. Observers opined that the project would be completed by the time Jim was near the oldest age of Methusalah.

One of Jim's greatest thrills was realized this past July, as he got to take a ride in a Piet at the annual Pietenpol gathering in Brodhead, WI. Jim talked his way into a free ride at the fly-in. He called me, all excited, to tell me the news, and said that it wasn't easy getting him in and out of the front cockpit of the antique-design plane. But he enjoyed the ride tremendously, and made sure that I got emailed a picture of the event which could be put into *The WingNut*. He was extremely proud of that picture.

Jim loved to go to AirVenture every year, and he was always after me to travel with him. I always begged off, because walking, for me, is a somewhat painful chore, and walking is what you do most at Oshkosh. The other reason I declined was because, as much as I wanted to go to Oshkosh, it was always a one-way trip with Jim. Jim drove to Brodhead, WI, for the Pietenpol Fly-In, then to Oshkosh for AirVenture, then it was 'So long' as he headed eastward to Michigan to spend some time with a lady friend—a trip for which he needed and wanted no company. He made that trip alone this year. I hope he and his lady friend had a marvelous time!

Last year, Jim made the trip and totaled his Crown Victoria on the way home. Fortunately, he walked away from the crash. After he got back to SoCal, his insurance agent found him a Mercury Gran Marquis that was nearly identical to his Crown Vic, and Jim bought it. He loved the ride of the big Fords.

Jim Pyle was President of Chapter One in 2005 when I took over as editor of *The WingNut*. He once told me, "The best thing I ever did as President was recruit you as newsletter editor." Jim said such things. He was glib, and could charm a bird out of a tree. He could make anyone feel special. When the Chapter One Board wanted to ask a favor of someone, or wanted something worded in a special way, we turned to Jim. He had a way with words. He wasn't always a salesman, but many think he missed his calling. He was articulate, persuasive, and never lacked the right words to say.

We love you, Jim! And we will miss you! I will miss you!

May Jim freely soar forever in a perfectly constructed Pietenpol! His spirit and memory will live on forever at EAA Chapter One. His love of the Chapter, his dedication to it, must not die. His body must return to dust. His spirit must not.

We salute you, Jim Pyle!

LG

Christmas dinner to be a 'pot luck'

Times are tough all over. Even Chapter One is feeling the financial pinch, as we've watched our bank balance shrink month after month. Four years ago we were flush with funds; today we are pinching our pennies, like everyone else.

For the past few years, the Chapter has treated us members to a delicious catered Christmas Dinner, charging us less per ticket than the caterer charged for the meal. We charged \$12 per meal; the caterer charged us close to \$18. Plus there was the cost of the decorations, the Christmas tree, the drinks, etc. The loss we incurred was seen by the Board as a gift to the members...a way of thanking them for their support throughout the year.

This year, we're not flush. We're hanging on, but the funds were not available to subsidize Christmas dinners for our members. Board members wanted to continue the Christmas Banquet tradition...it's one of the high points of our year. So we appointed a committee, chaired by our treasurer Nancy Acorn, to come up with a plan.

And a brilliant plan they conceived! On Dec. 4th, we will hold our annual Christmas Banquet as a old fashioned "Pot Luck" dinner. Chapter One will provide the traditional turkey and ham, plus drinks; members will provide everything else—side dishes and desserts. There are no ticket sales...only a suggested \$5 donation to off-set the cost of the main dishes and decorations.

Do you make a mean potato salad, mashed potatoes, scalloped potatoes, succotash, or ham and green beans? Whip it up and bring it! Let us all enjoy it. One tip: Bring enough to feed your family plus one other person. If everyone does this, then no one goes home hungry, there's extra food, and we end the evening opening our vests.

In order to get a good count of people to know how much food to bring we are asking members and non-members to please RSVP by using the email eaone@hotmail.com. Sign-up sheets for side dishes and desserts will be at the Veterans' Day celebration and Young Eagles and at our Membership Meeting November 13th. See Nancy Acorn, Maribeth Cortez or Dick Staley. They will be looking for you, too. If you don't sign up, bring something to share anyway. There will be a wrapped ornament exchange for those who wish to participate, and the ornament should cost no more than \$5. We will have a surprise guest playing

songs on a keyboard for us to join in singing some of our favorite carols. We will be honoring our volunteer of the year that evening. Everyone who attends will be given a ticket and will have a gift card giveaway for the lucky ticket holders from our random drawing. Come join us for some old fashioned Christmas time fun and a delicious dinner.

We are looking for a Santa and a photographer, so if anyone would please be willing to fill those shoes contact Jerry Cortez via email jerrywc1@yahoo.com. We need a few helpers to help set up, serve and clean up dinner. Contact Nancy Acorn at nacorn@aol.com or 951-788-5694 after 5 p.m. We also need some people to help decorate the hanger on December 3rd from 5:00 until the job is done. Pizza for all of those that help with this job. The more people, the sooner the job is done. Contact Nancy Acorn for that event, too, at nacorn@aol.com or 951-788-5694 after 5 p.m.

Flight for the Human Spirit pilot to speak at meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

with vigor and determination...and do it now!

He says that his mission is to reach 50 million people with his positive message. Inspiring them to follow their dreams no matter what they are or what obstacles may stand in their way.

As usual, the Chapter Meeting will be held around 1 p.m., following a Saturday morning of Young Eagles flights and a chick'n lunch served at noon. Come early and watch the Young Eagles get their wings, then join us for lunch and an interesting and inspiring Chapter Meeting.



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Ch. 1 pilots big hit at Imperial County

Imperial County Airport held their second annual Airport Day and Chapter One pilots and others provided flights for 168 youth. In talking with these youth, most of them had never even been near an airplane, much less flown in one. How many aviation fires were kindled? We may never know, but the excitement shown would lead us to believe the number will be sizeable.

Everyone flew down to Imperial County (IPL) on Friday and stayed in the motel that is adjacent to the airport. On Friday night they had food set up in an area around the motel pool and there pilots met with local pilots and Airport Day VIP's.

Flying started a little after 8:00 a.m. and we were finished by mid-afternoon. Our three pilots were joined by three from that area, one from Borrego Springs and two from the Reno, NV, area. Things ran smoothly and everyone there loves what Chapter One does for them, as we are sort of the catalyst to make things happen.

We are scheduled to go down there again on Jan 29, 2011, and fly 70 "at risk" youth. Who knows how many will get a totally new perspective on life when exposed to life from the air.

Ground support was provided by Greg Younge and Dusty Younge doing the data entry for the certificates and Ron Headlee selling T shirts and other merchandise. Greg and Dusty drove their car down filled with all the items we had for sale. Unfortunately we did not sell a lot of merchandise. One reason is that everyone was given a T shirt as they entered the airport area.

Thanks is such a small gesture for the great effort our pilots and ground support people provided. In the list below, note where some of the pilots came from.

- Wes Blasjo

Young Eagles flown At Borrego Springs

Many of you know that three of our Flabob pilots fly competitive aerobatics. You will often find these three tweaking their airplanes in the hangar just in from the DC-3. You can easily recognize these three because of the big smiles on their faces (Pulling G's in their airplanes puts a permanent smile on their face). These three pilots are Conrad Nordquist, Ray Key and Norm Manary. Norm recently invited Flabob Young Eagle pilots to help fly Young Eagles during the first day of a three day competition at Borrego Springs. In case your geography is a little bit fuzzy, Borrego Springs is about 60 miles east of Temecula, or 20 miles west of the Salton Sea. It is

Pilots Who Flew:

Glen Angus	Cessna 175	Fernley NV (Reno)
Tom Cook	Cessna 172	Fernley NV (Reno)
Jerry Cortez	Vans RV6	Flabob
Irvin Craig	Cessna 182	Flabob
Frank Himmerick	Cherokee 235	Borrego Springs
Jim Meeker	Taylorcraft	Flabob
Greg O'Donnell	VeriEasy	IPL
Jim Piper	Bellanca 260	IPL
Joel Shank	Cessna 152	Brawley

frequently the site for aerobatic competition. The first day is a practice day and then the next two days are judged competition.

During the practice day all the local school fifth graders were brought out to the airport and given an aviation education by CFII, educator and columnist Michael Church. The fifth grade teacher is also an aviation supporter, and does this each year. These youth were given their first taste of flight by some pilots from San Diego and Ch. 1 pilots Irvin Craig and Walt Wasowski. "Piggybacking" down there in Irvin Craig's Cessna 182 were Jessica Martinez, Greg Younge and myself. Walt Wasowski and Dusty Younge flew down after Walt finished giving instruction to one of his students. When the day was done, 41 youth were treated to a memory of a lifetime.

Again, thanks to the great support, both on the ground and in the air.

- Wes Blasjo

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62 Young Eagles flown in October

October's Young Eagle Flight Rally went off with a typical number (62) of youth getting their first taste of flight. It was an easy load for the 15 pilots. We welcome Flabobian Leandro Mendoza to the ranks of Chapter One pilots. Thanks to everyone who helped, both on the ground and in the air, and made things run smoothly. I was in Corona at the Aircraft Spruce's Supersale, their once a year big sale. It was a bonanza for Chapter One (See the article below).

- Wes Blasjo, Young Eagles Coordinator

Pilots Who Flew:

Allyn Auck	Cessna 172	Jim Hayes	American AA5A
David Belford	Cessna 150	Ray Heyman	Cessna 150
Chick Cechini	Vans RV6	Kevin McKenzie	Marquart Charger
David Cheney	Cessna 180	James Meeker	Taylorcraft
Larry Conley	Ercoupe	Leandro Mendoza	Cessna 152
Jerry Cortez	Vans RV6	Allen Teets	Cessna 172
Dave Cudney	Cherokee 180	Loreen Wynja	Cessna 172
Barry Duble	Cherokee 235		

YE earns funds at Aircraft Spruce Supersale

Each year Aircraft Spruce has a giant sale on the second Saturday of October. They have had different Southern California EAA Chapters assist with breakfast and lunch sales and the sale of raffle tickets. This year they asked Chapter One to do it. That was both good news and bad news. The good news was that Chapter One got all the proceeds from the food and raffle tickets. The bad news was that it was on our Young Eagle Flight Rally Saturday, and many of our members were involved with our Young Eagle activities. True to the great "can do" attitude of Chapter One members, enough volunteers were rounded up to adequately handle this without making a big dent in the Young Eagle activities.

Aircraft Spruce had a big tent set up in the parking lot where 20 vendors displayed and demonstrated their aviation products. Yes, Flabob's Poly Fiber was there. To give the whole event an aviation ambiance, Aircraft Spruce had three aircraft taxi from the Corona Airport to their parking lot. They were a Stearman, a Ryan PT 22 and a Vans RV6A. This added a great deal to the event.

We're Still Around!

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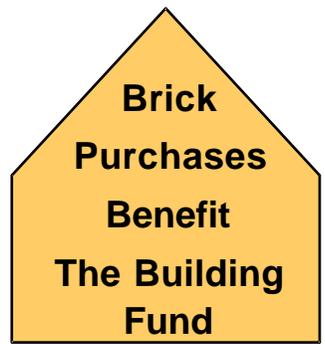
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 P. O. Box 462
 Hales Corners, WI 53130
 (414) 529-2609

Initial set up for breakfast of coffee and doughnuts was done by Jim Spee, Gerald Perry, his two nephews, and myself. Later in the morning Jim had to leave to help with the airshow in Redlands, but those three handled the food sales very nicely. Shortly after I started selling raffle tickets, Shelby Blasjo and Kaveh Kamravani arrived and finished the day with lively raffle ticket sales. The raffle ticket sales table was set up next to the main entrance to the store and there was a steady stream of people into the store. A number of individuals bought \$100 worth of tickets and in some cases it paid off very well. They had great prizes that were raffled off each hour and some really great grand prizes that any aviator would be delighted to have. A great big thanks goes to Jim Irwin of Aircraft Spruce. and Desiree Chupanski, the person who made it happen. They are anxious to work with us in our Young Eagle program and you will read more about it in these pages in the next few months.

- Wes Blasjo

EAA Chapter One

Membership Meeting



Chick'n to be provided.
Please bring salads
and/or desserts!
Thanks!

November 13th, 2010
at noon

Join us at the Chapter One Hangar for a
full day of fellowship & fun!!

SEE YOU THERE!

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
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