

The WingNut

EAA Chapter One Flabob Airport (RIR) Riverside, CA



Volume 58, Issue 4

We make flying FUN!

April 2011

Ray Stits Receives Top 3 FAA Awards

Ray M. Stits, inventor of Polyfiber aircraft covering, founder of EAA chapters, and designer and builder of 15 airplanes, recently become one of a handful of pilots who have received the top three FAA awards--The FAA "Master Pilot" Award, the Charles Taylor "Master Mechanic" Award, and the FAA Aviation Safety Award in recognition of over 50 consecutive years of safe flying.

Ray received his A&E mechanic certificate in 1943 and his private pilot certificate in 1945. Since then, he has accrued the commercial pilot, single and multi-engine land and sea, single and multi-engine instrument, helicopter, gyroplane and glider ratings.

Ray received a lot of attention in the late 1940s for building the "world's smallest airplane," the Stits Junior, then later an even smaller plane, the Stits Sky Baby. The proven airworthiness of these tiny planes resulted in a large number of requests from homebuilders for plans; but the tiny planes were very complicated to build and difficult to fly. So Stits designed and built what he thought was the ultimate homebuilt, which he called the Stits Playboy. Other popular Stits designs included the Flut-R-Bug, the Skycoupe, and the Playmate.

The first Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) chapter was started by Stits at Flabob Airport in Riverside in 1953. There are now more than 1,000 chapters active world-wide.

Ray also developed and marketed the Polyfiber fabric covering products, which have become the world standard for aviation fabric covering.

P-38 National Association Speaker for April Meeting

Come and learn about "the plane that changed the course of history" as Bob Alvis from the P-38 National Association speaks at our monthly Chapter Meeting on April 9 at 1:00 p.m.

The beautiful twin-engined P-38 Lightning served as a fighter, bomber, reconnaissance and escort plane during World War II. The sight of the P-38 so terrified the enemy that the Luftwaffe dubbed it "the fork-tailed devil."

As usual, we will start the day with our Young Eagles Flight Rally at 8 a.m., then have a chapter luncheon at noon, and the Chapter Meeting will begin at 1 p.m. Hope to see you there!



Sun 'n Fun hit by storm, but the show goes on

A tornado tore through the grounds at the Sun 'n Fun fly-in at Lakeland, FL, on Thursday, mangling scores of airplanes, blowing down display tents, and closing the airshow for the day. After the tornado, many wondered if the show would resume, but volunteers worked through the night cleaning up debris and getting the airport ready to open on time Friday morning.

By Friday morning, the weather was beautiful and the crowds returned, growing throughout the weekend. On Sunday, the Navy's Blue Angles performed in beautiful weather before a huge crowd.

Sun 'n Fun officials were amazed at the "quality and intensity and passion" of the Sun 'n Fun volunteers.

EAA Chapter One

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**Plane of the Month:
P-38 memories**

Calendar



April 2011

- 1st – First Friday Flicks**
Chapter One Hangar - 5 p.m.
- 9th – Young Eagles**
Chapter One Hangar - 8 a.m.
- 9th – Chapter Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 1 p.m.
- 10th – P-38 Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 2 p.m.
- 9th – Board Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 3 p.m.
- 16th – Design Group Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 9 a.m.

May 2011

- 4th – First Friday Flicks**
Chapter One Hangar - 5 p.m.
- 8th – P-38 Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 2 p.m.
- 14th – Young Eagles**
Chapter One Hangar - 8 a.m.
- 14th – Chapter Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 1 p.m.
- 14th – Board Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 3 p.m.
- 21st – Design Group Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 9 a.m.

June 2011

- 4th – First Friday Flicks**
Chapter One Hangar - 5 p.m.
- 11th – Young Eagles**
Chapter One Hangar - 8 a.m.
- 11th – Chapter Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 1 p.m.
- 11th – Board Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 3 p.m.
- 12th – P-38 Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 2 p.m.
- 18th – Design Group Meeting**
Chapter One Hangar - 9 a.m.

Puddle Duck Racer a quick homebuilder's project

It's not surprising that many pilots are sailors. After all, a sail is an airfoil, except when running...when it's a barn door flap. Many pilots I've known over the years have owned sailboats, enjoying the interplay of wind and sail on the water, as they enjoy the interplay of wind and wing in the air.

A pilot friend of mine recently introduced me to a fairly new class of sailboat racers that are homebuilt, extremely cheap, easy-to-build, and look like a ton of fun to sail. They are Puddle Duck Racers, designed by David "Shorty" Routh. The PD Racer design was first published and released on July 7, 2003, and the first PD Racer hull

was built in January 2004. Despite the design's young age, as of September 23, 2010, there were 500 PD Racers registered globally, primarily in the United States, but with growing fleets in other countries also, such as Australia, Canada, England, Ireland, and South Africa on a total of five continents with a scattering of other locations such as Hong Kong, Switzerland and Africa.



The PD Racer is a one design racing sailboat that is basically an 8 foot (2.44 m) long, 4 foot (1.22 m) wide, 16 inch (40 cm) high racing sailboat or day sailer---a plywood box with a curved bottom. It is a one design hull shape with wide options in other areas. Billed as "the easiest sailboat in the world to build," the scow hull is a simple box, usually built of plywood. A simple hull can be made from three sheets of plywood, titebond II glue, and latex house paint. If you work hard for two weekends, you can go sailing on the third weekend.

With a focus on a simple design that uses low cost materials, PD Racers are meant to be accessible to as wide a variety of people as possible. All the materials needed to build the boat can be found at a well-stocked hardware store. While the boats are required to conform to a specific shape for use in class racing, the hull can also be used for recreational sailing, paddling, and motoring.

As the official PD Racer website states, "Our boat is not just for racing, she is great for all sorts of other purposes - and in most states a boat this small does not need to be titled or registered. The hull shape carries 630 lbs. One member took 2 adults and 3 kids for an afternoon sail. Another went on a 3 day cruise with his wife and slept aboard at anchor every night. If you think about it, many people go backpacking for long periods, a PDRacer can hold much more gear and water than a backpack. She also works good as a row boat, and motor boat. I often take my kids out rowing in mine, instead of a sail rig I put a big beach umbrella in the mast sleeve so they can sit in the shade. If you like fishing, you can row her into the shallow areas that power boats can't get to. She is very stable, enough that you can stand up and cast."



Hundreds of PD Racers have gathered for class races, where the emphasis is not as much on speed as it is on fun. This looks to be a fun project for youth groups and bored homebuilders. If you're building one, why not build a couple? Pile them on a Harbor Freight trailer, and head for the water.

Maybe next year, if it rains like it did this year, we could have PD Racer class races at Corona Airport!



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SALE!

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SALE!

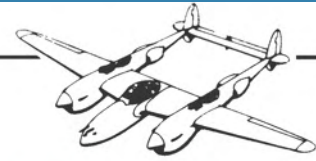
**April
Special!**



**Price good
this month!**

Get 'em before they're gone!
2008 Open House Shirt

Another great deal! These 2008 Open House commemorative T-shirts are on sale during the month of April for only \$5! These quality T-shirts are available in various sizes—call for availability, or see us at the Chapter Meeting. Mail orders add \$5 shipping/handling (\$10 total; extra shirts add \$2). If you're local, pick up your shirt at the hangar for \$5 during our April 9th membership meeting, or through the week contact Jan Buttermore at 951-318-5215. Get 'em now! *April will soon be over!*



P-38 National Association



“Aviation Sunday” at Flabob Airport April 10, 2011 2:00-4:00 PM



The P-38 National Association
proudly presents

Flora Belle Reece

World War II WASP

(Women Airforce Service Pilots)

Reece was one of only 1,074 daring young women who tested and flew military aircraft during WWII. They climbed in the cockpits of trainers, target-towing planes, fighters and bombers to free up the men so they could fly in combat missions.

Hear Flora Belle’s personal story and relive her experiences as one of the original “Fly Girls.”

Flabob Airport
4130 Mennes Ave.
Riverside, CA 92509

(60 Pomona Fwy., exit Rubidoux to the south end of Twining. Meeting is in the last large hangar to the right-follow signs)

For details call 661.886.1946

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

P-38 National Association P.O. Box 6453, March ARB, CA 92518
Website: <http://www.p38assn.org> • Visit us on Facebook



Wicks Aircraft aids Wathen projects

The Thomas W. Wathen Foundation has received a grant from Wicks Aircraft Supply in Highland, IL, to supply two aircraft restoration projects being worked on by high school students. Most of the students are from the Flabob Airport Preparatory School. They are currently restoring a Stinson 108-3 and a Sky Coupe aircraft designed by Ray Stits.

Several years ago, local students completed work on a 1940 Aeronca Super Chief that was then flown to EAA's AirVenture, where it was displayed in front of the famous "Red Barn." Students spend time working on the restorations and are rewarded with subsidized flying lessons.

"The restoration program tends to use up our list of superlatives," said John Lyon, President of the Wathen

Foundation. "We consider the restorations an extremely valuable program for introducing young people to aviation. A number of former students have taken up careers in aviation as a result of what they experienced in our restoration shops and through the flying lessons they received. It's a great influence."

Wicks Aircraft is a source for virtually all the types of materials needed for restorations. "It was a perfect fit," said Scott Wick, President of Wicks Aircraft. "We believe in providing meaningful experiences for young aviators and that's what the Wathen Foundation is committed to. It's a joy to help out, especially with those kinds of aircraft projects."

For more information on the Wathen Foundation visit www.WathenFoundation.org.

Bill Nye, "The Science Guy," Planetary Society and Traveling Space Museum team up with The Wathen Foundation for educating young

The Thomas Wathen Foundation, the Planetary Society and the Traveling Space Museum have formed a coalition to explore common goals, develop funding initiatives and to develop and expand on educational programs for young people.

Meeting at historic Flabob Airport, the three groups spent a day making plans to bring aviation and space history and technology to grade schools, middle schools, high schools and universities. The Wathen Foundation hosts an aviation-oriented charter school, Air Academies, an in-school program for 5th and 6th grade students that provides an introduction to aviation activities, hands-on aircraft restoration projects for high school students, and a very active EAA Young Eagles program. The Traveling Space Museum has been touring the United States for over a decade, bringing inter-active space exhibits to students across the United

States. The Planetary Society, which promotes space exploration, plans to launch a wide range of activities designed to inspire students from age 6 to 22.

"We have a much better chance of achieving our goals by working cooperatively with like-minded organizations, than we do by working alone," said John Lyon, President of the Wathen Foundation.

"Each group has resources that can enrich the other," said Bill Nye, Executive Director of the Planetary Society. "Working collectively, we can leverage our reach and inspire young people with curiosity and the drive to learn more."

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51 Young Eagles flown in March

Overcast weather threatened the Young Eagle flight rally for March, but determined Chapter One pilots prevailed and transformed 51 youth into happy smiling Young Eagles.

The mini ground school was done by Tiffany Fellton, Friend Deming did the preflight inspection instruction and Bob Barton, Al Gester and Bob Lum did the additional instruction for the boy scout merit badges.

Things ran smoothly due to so many dedicated ground support people who did all the "behind the scenes" work. Thanks to everyone who helped out, you do make a difference!

-Wes Blasjo, Young Eagle Coordinator

Pilots Who Flew:

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Kevin McKenzie | Marquart Charger | Barry Duble | Piper Cherokee 235 |
| John Alling | Piper Comanche 250 | James Meeker | Taylorcraft BC 12D |
| AllynAuck | Cessna 172 | Anthony Oshinuga | Cessna 152 |
| Larry Conley | Ercoupe | Ray Stits | Remos |
| Dave Cudney | Piper Cherokee 180 | Walt Wasowski | Piper J-3 Cub |
| | | LoreenWynja | Cessna 172 |

Gone West...



JOY DUNN, 67, Chapter One member and wife of past Chapter Secretary Lloyd Dunn, passed away on March 14, 2011, surrounded at home by her family. Her funeral service was held at Crossroads Christian Church on March 24. Joy was born on June 1, 1943, in Albert Lea, MN. She married her Marine, Lloyd Dunn, 47 years ago and they moved to California. At the age of 55, Joy completed her education with a Bachelor of Science Degree at Hope International University.

For the past 28 years Joy and Lloyd owned and ran a small business, Evans Leak Detection. Helping run their business didn't keep Joy from volunteer community work. She was Corona Parks and Recreational Commissioner for 18 years, a Mentor Mom for "Moms of Pre-Schoolers", and a Home Fellowship Leader. She worked with the Corona Police Community Partnership. Joy was a very active member of Crossroads Christian Church for 43 years. She was a church elder. Joy had a special passion for her work and her friendships with the Circle City [Rotary Club](#), where she had served as president. She was an active member for over 20 years. Through the Hurricane Katrina Stars (Service to American Rotarians) Joy and Lloyd traveled on their Harley from California to the Gulf Coast to help in the rebuilding of little league baseball field and a Rotarian home. She was a Rotoplast Medical Team Member traveling to Cumana, Venezuela, to make the lives of the people better. Joy was a part of the selfless endeavor of Rotary Mission trips to Costa

Rica, bringing medical supplies, dental care and school supplies to students.

Joy was diagnosed to Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) in September 2008. Her nomination for "Woman of the Year" 2011 for the State of California was a great honor. She was looking forward to going to Sacramento on March 21, 2011 for the award ceremony. She determined to make each day special. That determination was important for her as she worked hard to maintain peace and acceptance of her disease. She and Lloyd ventured out on several major trips following her diagnosis. They traveled to Costa Rica, Chile, Mexico, Minnesota, Washington, and even rode their Harley from Corona, California to Abilene, Texas in April of 2010. They met their goal to make each day special.

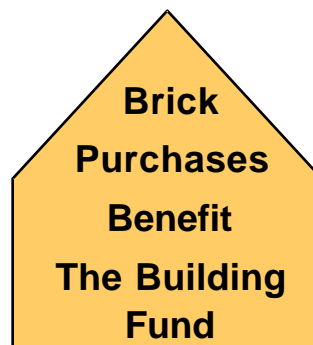


RICHARD CHRISTOPHER AUCK, 59, Chapter One member and husband of Young Eagles pilot Allyn Auck, passed away March 21st at Riverside Community Hospital due to complications from surgery.

Born September 4, 1951, in Ridgecrest, CA, he lived most of his life in southern California. Rich earned an A.A. and then a B.A. in History and taught high school for Riverside Unified School District from 1992 to 2010, mostly at Abraham Lincoln Continuation High School. He was loved by many and respected by many more.. A remembrance potluck barbecue for friends and family was held on April 3 in the EAA Chapter One hangar.

EAA Chapter One

Join us for our Chapter Meeting!



Some fixin's will be provided. Please bring salads, side dishes and desserts! Thanks!

*April 9th, 2011
at noon*

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

SEE YOU THERE!

Flabob Airport (RIR)

4130 Mennes

Riverside (Rubidoux), CA

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

(951) 682-6236

Check our website at www.eeach1.org

We Make Flying FUN!!!

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