

WingNut

EAA Chapter One

Flabob Airport (RIR)

Riverside, CA



Volume 53, Issue 7

July 2006

July 4th Picnic will include monthly Chapter meeting!

ATTENTION CHAPTER ONE MEMBERS! The Chapter Meeting, which is normally held on the second Sunday of each month, will be held in conjunction with the July 4th Picnic at the Chapter 1 Hangar. The chapter picnic will take place from the afternoon into the evening, and is BYOF&D (bring your own food & drinks). The chapter building will be open for access to the bathrooms, and we will have complementary coffee and lemonade in the building. Other than that, each person should bring their own picnic items, including food, drinks, grills, lawn chairs, etc.

At 5:00, there will be a short business meeting, with reports from the Nominating Committee on the results of their search for candidates for the upcoming election of Officers and Board Members.

As usual, Chapter One will provide an excellent view of the Fireworks Display which will begin around 9:00 p.m. Bring your friends and families and join us in the fun and cordial atmosphere as we celebrate the birthday of our nation. Please do not park on the flightline, or to obstruct taxiways.

The Prez Sez...

What with one thing and another, I have not written a full scale Prez Sez for a while. And, that felt so good, that this will be pretty short, also. I must praise the Chapter Board Members and Officers for their quality performance while I was otherwise occupied. They are first class people, and we all appreciate what they do for our Chapter. Now John Durant and his Nominating Committee must find candidates for the replacement of some of us who will be retiring from the Chapter Leadership positions.

If you recognize that it is time for you to take your turn at guiding the Chapter, now is the time to tell John or other Nominating Committee members. Time is short. The Committee's report is due to be given to the Membership at the upcoming Picnic/Meeting on July 4th at 5:00 PM. It is important for each Member to understand that Chapter Officers and Board Members have considerable individ-

ual choice in how these positions are executed. It is, by no means, necessary for the incoming Officer to fit the mold left by the previous officeholder. I think this is especially true of the Presidency. I have tried to do what I thought was the best for the Chapter. Many of my agenda items have not been implemented. The consensus of the Board determines these things.

The next generation of leaders will seek to enact their own agendas. The candidates should pronounce their priorities during the months preceding the election in November, so the voting members can make an informed decision as they cast their vote. Many of our members cannot know the candidates except through the WingNut and the candidate's statements. It is very important for the information to get out in a timely manner so all our members can be informed voters.

(Continued on Page 4)

Calendar



July

4th —4th Annual July 4th Gathering

Chapter One meeting
Nominating committee results
Additional nominations from floor

7th —First Friday Flicks

Chapter One Hangar 5 p.m. (?)

8th —Young Eagles Rally

Chapter One Hangar - 8 a.m.

15th —Design Group Meeting

Chapter One Hangar - 10 a.m.

24th-30th —Oshkosh (b'gosh!)

August

4th -- First Friday Flicks

Chapter One Hangar - 5 p.m.

12th -- Young Eagles Rally

Chapter One Hangar - 8 a.m.

13th -- Chapter Meeting

Chapter One Hangar - noon

13th -- Board Meeting

Chapter One Hangar - 3 p.m.

26th -- Design Group Meeting

Chapter One Hangar - 10 a.m.

September

1st -- First Friday Flicks

Chapter One Hangar 5 p.m.

9th -- Young Eagles Rally

Chapter One Hangar 8 a.m.

10th -- Chapter Meeting

Chapter One Hangar noon

10th -- Board Meeting

Chapter One Hangar 3 p.m.

23rd -- Chapter One Open House!

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6 Ch. 1 members attend “Sentimental Journey”



Chapter 1 member Bern Heimos chats with Bill Piper, Jr. after the Sentimental Journey Awards Banquet.

to Lock Haven. This was Bern’s first time flying his stock J-3 from coast to coast. It was Len’s twelfth time flying his J-3, with a 90-hp engine and wing tanks, to the East Coast Fly-In. Bern’s flying adventures can be found on his website, www.vintageflying.com.

Wednesday, June 21, the opening day of Sentimental Journey, was CAVU and there was a record number of aircraft registered. On Thursday, the weather moved in, and around 7:00 p.m. there were thunder storms with high winds that damaged seven aircraft on the flight line. On Friday, KLHV was socked in and very few aircraft got off the ground. Saturday cleared somewhat, and hundreds of airplanes took the opportunity to head homeward. Still, over 130 intrepid souls remained for the Awards Banquet.



An unfortunate J-3 after Thursday’s thunder storms.

Six EAA Chapter 1 members were present at the annual Sentimental Journey to Cub Haven Fly-In in Lock Haven, PA, from June 21-24.

The Piper Fly-In this year was plagued by bad weather on Thursday and Friday, but still drew hundreds of airplanes from all around the country. Chapter 1 members Bern Heimos and Len Buckel each flew their J-3 Cubs from Southern California



Newsletter Editor Leon Grumling (wearing his Chapter 1 shirt) presents Chapter 1 member Len Buckel with an award for having traveled over 50,000 miles to attend Sentimental Journey Fly-Ins.

At the Saturday night Awards Banquet, your humble newsletter editor (who is also a member of the board of directors of Sentimental Journey) got to present Chapter 1 member Len Buckel with the first E. J. “Doc” Conway Memorial Award for outstanding contribution to Sentimental Journey. Len has flown over 50,000 miles in a J-3 to attend the Fly-In.

Doug Maxwell, and his wife, Mary, are enjoying their vacation in Bradford, PA. They drove over to the fly-in on Wednesday, and had a great time for a few hours. Other EAA Chapter 1 members in attendance were: Leon E. Grumling, newsletter editor and board member; Len J. Buckel, of La Mesa, CA; Bern Heimos, of Laguna Nigel, CA; and David B. Gurkin, of Harrisburg, PA.

One other pilot, from Napa Valley, flew his J-3 to Lock Haven. He said he read about Len Buckel’s trips to Sentimental Journey, and figured if 75-year-old Len can do it, he could, too.

Gathering of Cubs slated for Flabob Aug. 19

Flabob Airport will be the scene for what is predicted to be the largest Gathering of Cubs in the west this summer. The event, scheduled for Saturday, August 19th, is expected to draw nearly 100 J-3, J-4 and J-5 Cubs to the one-day fly-in.

The Gathering is open to everyone and except for food, there are no charges. Hosted by the Short Wing Piper Group, Cub owners are expected to get together for a luncheon, guest speaker and awards ceremony in the Experimental Aircraft Association's Chapter One Hangar.

The rest of the day will be devoted to socializing and fly-bys in the popular yellow Cubs. For further information on the event contact Kathy Rohm at 951.683.2309, ext. 104.



Photo by Andy Anderson

The Prez Sez... *Continued from Page 1*

Congratulations are also due for the continued improvement of the WingNut and of the Website. Leon and Jan put a lot of strong technical ability into their products and it shows in the many positive comments I receive from our members and the interested aviation community. It continues to amaze me that so many people around the aviation world are following the events at Flabob and Chapter One. As I traveled extensively, airport to airport, through the Midwest and Southwest states recently, I found great knowledge and interest in Flabob current events. In fact, in two gatherings, I was asked to speak on the programs and events at Flabob, and I found an attentive and interested audience in surprising locations.

This won't be a short Prez Sez if I don't stop soon, SO IN CONCLUSION; I need to mention one more thing. Chapter One members have been finishing a project that Bill Schicora was unable to finish in this lifetime. Over time, a significant amount of work has resulted in an almost complete 1946 Aeronca Chief that needs some new volunteers to help pick up where others have already taken their turn, and we need to continue to complete this great project. Skills needed now relate to final assembly and painting. Please see Roger Farnes and Jan Buttermore at Hangar 22 on Saturday afternoons. Or whenever else you can talk with these busy men.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Pyle, L.D. President

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Thanks, Doc!

Wathen Aviation H.S. graduates first class

Friday June 10th, was another historic day on Flabob's colorful calendar. An award ceremony/graduation recognition was held for the four seniors who were Wathen Aviation High School's first graduating class. These four were: Kristina Cruz, valedictorian and yearbook editor, Aaron Kiss, Don Kettinger, great grandson of Flavio Madriaga, the former owner/operator of the airport, and Kyle Saldana.

Some serious and not so serious awards were given. In the serious category were scholarships to the three boys to complete their airframe and powerplant license at San Bernardino Valley College. These were the courtesy of the Thomas W. Wathen Foundation. Needless to say, these three were surprised and very excited about attending in the fall. In the more light hearted category was the start of a tradition of giving white flying scarves to each senior. This has nothing to do with education, but everything to do with flying traditions that date back to WWI Aviators. The ceremonial first scarf was presented by 95-year-old Flabobian Sam Pratt. Sam was a soldier on the ground in WWI and watched the aviators duel it out in the skies above the trenches and ground fire. Also assisting was Jim Pyle, EAA Chapter 1 Lam Duck President, who came dressed in a leather jacket, cloth helmet and flying goggles. He displayed his genuine WWI replica flask/body armor and talked about the battle in the skies against the Folkers and the Messerschmits. He has such a compelling way about him and was so convincing that the uninitiated would be hard pressed to know that he had never been there.

There can only be one Wathen Aviation High School first graduating class, and this was it. We did not have the press and government officials and a big band, but we did have the important people there: Flabobians. Andy Andersen captured these moments on film and many of these photos will find their way into the soon to be published WAHS Yearbook. Dena Saldana videotaped the event and it will be available for future graduating classes to see what it was like "back then."

-Wes Blasjo



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No long term contracts, lay-out help available.

Newest Members...

According to Membership Chairperson, Nancy Acorn, our new Chapter One members since May 1 are:

Jack Delay of Fair Oak, CA

Robert Stark of Olney, TX

Donald Dobbs of Mission Viejo, CA

Welcome aboard!



68 Young Eagles flown in June Rally

The June Young Eagle Flight Rally ran like a well oiled machine. Ten pilots flew 68 kids in good weather and everyone went home happy. One of those ten pilots was Leo Doiron, the airport manager. He hasn't flown with us for quite a while, but we welcome him back among the flying. We also welcome back pilot Allyn Auck who hasn't flown since last fall, not because she hasn't wanted to, but because of a series of little maintenance problems with her airplane.

As is often the case, Boy Scout troops provided the majority of participants. Troop 636 from Trabuco Canyon and Rancho Santa Margarita, under the leadership of Mrs. Terry Buning, brought 38 boy scouts. Boy Scout Troop 90 and Weblo Troop 90 of Woodcrest and Orangecrest brought 5 scouts. Bob Barton conducted the ground school for the scouts and Tiffany Felton conducted the ground school for the non-scouts. Chris Felton conducted all the pre-flight inspection demonstrations as Andy Andersen watched and recorded the event on camera film. Brian Blasjo and Greg Younge printed the certificates, and with two computer gurus present, the computers did not dare to "do their own thing" and create problems. A host of other "behind the scenes" ground support people helped make this a memorable event for those 68 new Young Eagles. A great big thanks to all who are part of this great team.

Pilots who flew:

- Wes Blasjo

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Allyn Auck | C 172 | Irvin Craig | C 182 | James Meeker | Taylorcraft |
| Martin Britton | Stinson 108 | Leo Doiron | C 172 | Ray Stits | C 182 |
| Jerry Cortez | C 150 | Barry Duble | Cherokee 235 | Larry Van Dam | Bonanza |
| | | | | Loreen Wynja | C 172 |

Elderhostels held at Warner Springs

For the second summer, the Wathen Foundation has sponsored a grandparent/grandkid Elderhostel at Warner Springs Ranch. Each participant received a flight in a sailplane at Brett Willet's sailplane flight school. In addition to the flights, a wild range of aviation classes were conducted in the mornings. Instructors were Wes Blasjo, Doug Edwards, John Durant and John Lyon. Typical recreation/sports activities were available each afternoon, and dynamite guest speakers made presentations each evening. These speakers were: Jon Goldenbaum on "Celebrating Flight," General Pat Halloran on "Flying above 60,000' in a U-2 and a SR 71," Doug

"Aviation Careers" and Brett Willet on "The Magic of Sailplane Flight."

Thanks goes to Dr. Arthur Peterson for putting together this great program and to all the "worker bees" for pulling it off. It is being repeated four times this summer.

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DC-3 to become flying classroom for WAHS

Jon Goldenbaum recently ferried a DC-3 into Flabob Airport, initiating a new program on behalf of the historic airport and all the student-oriented activities going on there. The DC-3, total time XXXXX hours, will be repainted and refurbished before taking to the skies with students from Wathen Aviation High School and members of the high school recruiting team. They will visit EAA Chapter events, Fly-Ins and other aviation events considered appropriate to their objectives. There will likely be some trips to the annual EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The DC-3 began its existence as a C-47 in service to the RAF and later to the RCAF. Originally configured as a transport for military brass, it is believed to have been used for a period by Winston Churchill. In 1958, changes were made for conversion to DC-3 status, whereafter it served for a number of smaller airlines and charter operations before winding up in the hands of Jerry Barto, who took his first flying lesson at Flabob Airport when he was 12 years old. Barto, a successful real estate developer, donated the aircraft to the Wathen Aviation Organization this spring.

The aircraft will become an integral part of presentations by the Wathen Recruiting/Ambassador Team headed up by First Lt. Mary Guest, USAF Reserves, Hualdo and Leandro Mendoza and SRA Justin Taylor, all of whom have had close ties with Flabob. Jon Goldenbaum will share piloting responsibilities with several other people.

“The DC-3 will become a kind of flying classroom for our high school students,” said Goldenbaum, vice president of Poly Fiber, which is located at Flabob. “When it’s not winging its way to or from aviation events, it will be used for classes relating to aviation literature, aircraft maintenance, or meetings that might benefit from the ambience.”



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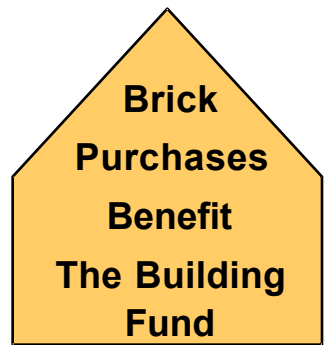
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EAA Chapter One

Membership Meeting



July 4th, 2006

5:00 to dusk

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



SEE YOU THERE!

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