



NORTHERN YOSEMITE EAA CHAPTER 1337

On Line @ www.eaa1337.org

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From the Left Seat

Chapter 1337 President's Message: By Jim Thomas

April Poker Run

Our Chapter has held a springtime Poker Run in April for the last several years. It is an event that is always popular and also an opportunity to get our planes back in the air after the winter slowdown in flying activity.

This year's Poker Run will include a picnic lunch at Georgetown Airport. Each plane should bring its own picnic lunch. This will keep the planning to a minimum and eliminate the need to get a pre-event head count.

In the past we have headed south and west to Mariposa, Turlock and Oakdale. This year we plan to go north for some different scenery and some longer cross country flying with stops at Calaveras, Amador, Placerville, and Georgetown with lunch planned in the picnic area at Georgetown.

The event is planned for Saturday, April 22nd. We will meet at Columbia Airport at 9:00 AM where the flight plan will be distributed. So mark your calendars and polish up your plane. Get ready for our first flying event this year.

Last Meeting

Don Denhard did a great job showing us his LongEze airplane. It was fun and educational to learn about this unique Rutan design that combines numerous innovative features to provide an extremely efficient aircraft. As with any design, there are areas for improvement and Don has been slowly changing things to make it an even better aircraft.

For those of you that missed the meeting, I'm sure Don would love to give you a personal tour sometime. He is an active member who participates in many of our events.

Non-Profit Status

Our Chapter's five year qualifying test period for non-profit tax status ended last year and with the help of John and Barbara Hessler, we submitted the necessary financial records to the IRS for their review and evaluation. We received a letter back from the IRS indicating that we do, and will continue to, meet the qualifications and

requirements for a non-profit organization. Thanks John and Barbara for all your help.

Chapter Board Meeting

There was no Board meeting in March and at this time we do not have a Board meeting scheduled for April.

Membership Chairman Wanted

As was mentioned in the last newsletter, we are looking for someone to take on the job of Membership Chairman. This is really not a big job and consists mostly of keeping our roster up-to-date and looking for ways to attract new members to our group. We have lost several members due to circumstances not related to our Chapter and we need to build up our ranks once more. If you are interested in contributing some time to making our Chapter successful, this just might be your big chance. Give me a call and I'll provide you with more details of the responsibility.

Bi-Monthly Newsletter & Meetings

I mentioned in previous newsletters that we would be sending out the newsletter every two months and also having events every other month. This seems to be a pace that meets with our Chapter size and desired activity level. If we have the need to publish the special newsletter or notice or if we need to hold a special meeting, our members will be notified.

Fly Safe



April 22nd Poker Run

Three hard working guys have been organizing our April Poker Run. Dick Collier, Dennis Smith and Paul Purifoy have been planning this even which, with cooperation with the weather, should be a really fun time. The Flight Plan is to meet at the Columbia Airport ramp at 9:00 AM to purchase your poker hands and draw your first card(s). Poker hands can be purchased for \$5 each. The Poker Run will proceed to Calaveras, Westover (Amador County),

Placerville and then Georgetown where participants will pick up an additional card at each airport. At Georgetown, we will have a picnic lunch and present our poker hands. Prizes will be awarded to the best hands. A listing of the prizes will be mailed out next week.

Each plane should bring its own picnic lunch. Make sure you bring cold drinks, too. There is no food at Georgetown so don't plan on eating at a local restaurant. We will rendezvous at the campground on the west side of the Georgetown airport for our picnic. After the prizes have been given out and everyone has had a chance to digest their lunch, we will depart back to our individual home bases or destination of the pilot's choosing.

It will be nice to visit our neighboring foothills airports to the north, so invite your friends to fly along. Let's make this a fun filled, well attended event. Now, what cards do I need for a royal flush?

Airport News

By Jim Thomas

Webcam Coming to Columbia

There has been a lot of interest in installing a web cam at Columbia Airport. Our Chapter has taken the lead in working to make this happen. Don Denhard has purchased an all-weather camera and we have tested it out to see if it will meet our needs. The initial assessment is that it should work just fine. Don is still working on video card and software issues but he hopes to have the system installed in the near future. TCAA and our Chapter have donated funds towards the effort. Anyone wishing to help Don with the installation should contact him. There are wires to pull, camera mounts to fabricate, and software to program. Aero Resources is providing the internet connection and Mike Jones the bird's eye perch for the cameras.

Historic Grumman S-2A Air Tanker Displayed

The Airports Department and the Columbia Air Attack Base have been working for 18 months to acquire a surplus Grumman S-2A air tanker for permanent static display at Columbia Airport. On Friday, April 7th the tanker flew in from McClellan Airport where it had been stored. Jim Dunn, local CDF tanker pilot and Sonora resident flew the plane under a special ferry permit issued by the FAA. The aircraft that we acquired was the first S-2A air tanker based at Columbia and it began its service in 1974.

The tanker is parked on the ramp in front of Bald Eagle Aviation until the ground dries out and we can move it over by the windsock where it will be permanently displayed. If you are interested in taking a cockpit tour, just stop by the Administration office and we will open up the aircraft for you.

Father's Day Fly-In

It is time to begin thinking about the Father's Day Fly-In. This year's event is the 40th Annual Fly-In so there is quite a bit of history behind it. Our Chapter will once again set up our booth and sell food, aviation gifts and promote the EAA. Hopefully, the team that brought in record donations last year will return for another outstanding effort. Last year's team captain, Candy Man Collier, has offered to lead the charge for the big 40th.

The Father's Day Fly-In is our June Chapter event and biggest money maker. We hope that all of our Chapter members will contribute to either our booth or work as a Fly-In volunteer. There is a lot to do, but it is also a very fun event. I know everyone that volunteers has a good time because the Father's Day Fly-In is one of the best small town fly-ins there is. We have a history of obtaining a good balance between drawing interesting aircraft to the airport and showing the local Tuolumne County residents a good time. Promoting aviation and the airports is good public relations that all local pilots should participate in. This year, the Fly-In is on June 17th and 18th.

Chapter Meeting and Events Schedule

April 22	Poker Run & Fly-out Picnic
June 17 & 18	Father's Day Fly-In
August	Fly-out Breakfast to Auburn
October	Hangar Visit - TBD
December	Potluck Dinner and Elections

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