



Watsonville Pilots Association

"Serving Aviation and the Community"



Visit us at: www.watsonvillepilots.org

Our 22nd Year, Issue 3 March 2009

FAA Runway Safety Action Team Meeting

On February 25, 2009 a Runway Safety Team from the LA Regional office spent the afternoon at Watsonville Airport. They looked over the ramps, taxiways and runways. They were very complimentary to our Airport Manager, Don French for his management. They were impressed with the fencing which controls access to the airport and the co-operation between the Airport management, the pilots and FBO's.

That said, they left a lengthy list of items to be corrected or added. Taxiway "C", the 8-26 taxiway, needs repaving. Signage needs updating. The Inspectors were concerned about the bird hazard generated by the dumps south of the airport.

They intend to recheck at appropriate times to find what progress has been made. They stressed that their function was to make recommendations and track what happens to those recommendations not enforcement. Some of the items will require funding from the FAA and the team indicated they will help arrange this.

That evening they spoke at the Watsonville Pilots Association regular meeting. The focus was runway and ramp safety. Afterwards they answered questions about particular issues unique to Watsonville Airport. The team expressed satisfaction about the inspection and the turn-out of pilots at the WPA meeting in the evening. One member of the team said "Invite us back again soon"

OFF INTO THE SUNSET WITH WINE AND ROSES

RETIREMENT BBQ for Airport Operations Supervisor SHARON REEDER

Hosted by the Airport and EAA Chapter 119

The retirement BBQ for Sharon Reeder will be on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at noon at Tom Hoyt Park on Watsonville Airport, weather permitting. The park is located at the end of hangar row "Y". If it rains it will be moved to WAEC hanger.

The catered menu includes tri-tip, chicken, beans, salad bread and desert at a cost of \$16.00 per person. RSVP by March 20 to the Airport office (728-6075) cash/check only. Make check payable to "EAA 119".

For those wishing to contribute to a gift, donations are being accepted by EAA Chapter 119. (Contact Tom Hail at thail@sbcglobal.net)

Loran Among Proposed Budget Cuts By Sarah Brown

President Barack Obama's proposed budget for fiscal year 2010 calls for the decommissioning of loran-C, which could serve as a backup for GPS-based navigation in the future.

The decommissioning is part of a cost-cutting measure which the government claims will save \$190 million over five years. Today many pilots use GPS, but a few still utilize loran. There are currently a limited number of potential backups for GPS, loran being one of them.

If the decommissioning goes forward, it is unclear which systems will be available in the event of a GPS outage. Over the years, AOPA has cautioned the U.S. Coast Guard, which maintains loran, not to make a decommissioning decision until a comprehensive backup plan is in place. Questions remain about whether a backup is needed and if it could be loran.

March 12, 2009

COMING TO A THEATER NEAR YOU!

A Pilot's Story due out in 2010

Will Hawkins will tell you that filmmaking and flying are two of his passions. So it was only natural that he and flying buddy Rico Sharqawi, the forces behind Wilco Films, would combine the two for a documentary about aviation.

Utilizing aerial footage and interviews with well-known aviation figures as well as regular Joe and Jane Pilots, the film aims to show the rest of the world that "aviation is an amazing thing that can take your life in some really amazing places," says Hawkins. "It can take you to the FBO where you're talking with people, but also to the international space station and beyond. It all starts with this thing called general aviation." Hawkins has been blogging and podcasting his aviation experiences since he first began learning to fly in 2006. Accordingly, he has been blogging about A Pilot's Story on his blog as well as for AOPA's Let's Go Flying. Photos and a trailer can be viewed on the film's Web site, and Hawkins also maintains a Facebook page and a Twitter account. A Pilot's Story is ready to begin shooting air-to-air footage, and the crew is traveling around the country to get interviews with pilots

."It's great to talk to California pilots," says Hawkins, "but I want to talk to Florida, Wisconsin, Wichita [pilots]—any pilot who has a good story and wants to share it with the world."

Airshow performer Julie Clark and Late Late Show host Craig Ferguson have been interviewed. Also on the list are Sean D. Tucker and Patty Wagstaff, Southwest Airlines' Capt. Kathy Jensen, John and Martha King of King Schools, Miles O' Brien, and more. Hawkins says he'll also be talking with representatives of groups that use aviation to help the world, including Angel Flight, Able Flight, Build a Plane, and Young Eagles. The goal is to get the film finished early in 2010 and release it at Sun 'n Fun, Hawkins says.

Some sponsors have been acquired, including Virgin America, Scheyden Eyeware, and Lightspeed. Contributions are welcome; see the Web site for details. Hawkins said he plans to give some of the proceeds of sales back to the aviation community.

Many local pilots and their airplanes are featured in this film.

March 12, 2009.

Wings Registration Cheat Sheet

So you attended the recent Watsonville Pilot's Association (WPA) WINGs seminar and learned a lot. However, you forgot to register on-line at FAA Safety.Gov but you remember signing in before you left. How do you get credit?

This has happened to quite a few pilots and to assist you here's a "cheat sheet":

Remember it only works if you have a "profile" on FAA Safety.Gov. If you don't have a profile, why not sign up today!

- (1) Log on to FAA Safety.gov...
- (2) On the left hand side look for the Events/Seminars link; select it...
- (3) Now on the "Event Search" page enter the airport ID and check the "Only Past Events" box...
- (4) Select "Perform Search"...
- (5) Look at the bottom of the page (last entry)...
- (6) Mouse over the icons to the right (the red pen on paper is "Request Credit")...
- (7) You are now on the Validation page; you'll need to "Find a "Validator"
- (8) Pull down menu: Find = FAAST Reps; within=50; miles of = 95076....
- (9) You are looking for the FAAST Safety Rep who hosted the seminar...
- (10) Click submit!!

That's it. Easier than the engine out procedure on a twin! Well maybe?

Rayvon Williams FAAST Rep - KWVI



60 Aviation Way, Watsonville, California 95076

Hi fellow users of the EAA 119 hangar,

EAA Chapter 119 would like to install Wi-Fi access in the meeting hangar. Once installed it would be useable by all visitors to the hangar. In addition to providing access to individuals, we plan to use Internet access for programs during our meetings (in combination with the computer projector), during Young Eagle events.

We have an initial cost estimate to bring in the DSL line and to cover the first year of service. The estimate is \$500. After the first year, the service cost is approximately \$20/month.

I am requesting that WPA contribute towards the initial cost. The 99s annual contribution to the EAA 119 will go towards this also. The EAA will make up the rest of the initial cost and will pick up the on-going service fee.

Thanks for considering joining us in making the hangar an even more user friendly facility.

Sincerely, Mary Doherty, Treasurer
Experimental Aircraft Assoc., Chapter 119
February 26, 2009

2009 Safety Seminar Schedule

January - Civil Air Patrol:
February – FAA-Runway Safety
March - VFR into IMC: Dan Chauvet
April - Mountain Flying: Michelle Ruprecht
May - no seminar-Fly-In
June - Stall/Spin: John Cowan
July - Flight Planning: Abe Hazbun
August - Tower Controllers: James Babcock
September - Emergency Landing: Rayvon Williams
October: Ramp Check: Matt Hill
>> November - no seminar
>> December - no seminar

FROM THE TREASURER:

Dues are due for 2009.
\$20.00 per year
Make your check payable WPA and mail to:
PO Box 2074,
Freedom, CA 95019

WPA
PO Box 2074
Freedom, CA 95019

NEXT MEETING

7:00PM Wednesday,
March 25, 2009 at EAA-WAEC Building
60 Aviation Way, Watsonville Airport
Dan Chauvet and Mike McIntyre

VFR into IFR?

WPA Officers

Mike McIntyre	President
John Cowan	Vice-Pres
Charlene McIntyre	Secretary
Sarah Chauvet	Treasurer
Hal Zamora	Sec. Legal Affairs
Dan Chauvet	Assist. Sec. Leg. Aff.

Committee Heads

Dan Chauvet	WAAG
Richard Lippi	Web Site Editor
Randy Pesce	Field Security
Rayvon Williams	AOPA/WINGS
John Cowan	Public Relations
Brian Moffet	Video & Media
Airport Manager	Don French

Feedback wpanews@yahoo.com

WPA Airport Legal Fund

Please help WVI with your contribution

Write check to "WPA" or
Watsonville Pilots Association.
On the memo line note "legal fund"
Mail to: PO Box 2074,
Freedom, CA 95019
Thank you for your support