



Decision Time Coming Up

The litigation between the City of Watsonville and the Watsonville Pilots Association (WPA) and others is scheduled to be heard on July 27th at 0900 at the County Court House, Department 8.

The current situation is that the briefs have essentially been completed and are being submitted to the court. Although I have looked at the WPA's brief, the City's brief, and the Caltrans brief my experience is flying airplanes. But my impression is that excellent work has been done in preparation by attorneys for WPA, Friends of Buena Vista (FOBV), and the State. It would be naive to speculate as to what a court will find.

There is a lot at stake. Houses built off the ends of the runway in safety zones in Buena Vista will create new noise and safety problems. The future of Runway 8-26 would be tenuous at best and would no doubt be restricted and then closed. It's clear from reading the City's response to the Santa Cruz County Grand Jury Report that their idea is to close 8-26.

Encroachment will severely compromise the functionality and viability of Watsonville Airport. History has shown that encroachment has killed off many airports, including locally Santa Cruz Skypark and Carmel Valley Airport. For this reason people in California and throughout the Country are watching litigation.

Win, lose, or draw I think we need to think about what could happen next and what to do about it? Yes, there are things that will need to be done if we win or we lose. A draw, an in-between kind of decision, such as "further study", would be a poor result of the litigation. The City Manager says this "further study" is the result of most of their previous court cases and they eventually get what they want. This simply would prolong the litigation. It looks to me (layman's view) like there is enough specific content in the WPA and State briefs that this may not happen. A knowledgeable friend agrees. Let's hope and pray our contributions and efforts are successful.

If at all possible I plan to attend the Court hearing on July 27th to see what transpires and what is likely to happen in the future.

~ Dan Chauvet ~

~ WPA Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs ~

Watsonville Fly-In & Air Show shatters past year's records

After putting together what they say was the best Fly-In and Air Show in the past nine years, organizers have raised the bar for years to come. Over the Memorial Day weekend an estimated 33,000 aviation enthusiasts made their way to the airport to see the nearly 300 planes that were on display at the 43rd annual event. The attendance mark shattered last year's 25,000.

"Overall it was highly successful," Dave Brockmann, marketing director of the air show, said Tuesday. Brockmann said the low marine layer likely turned away some pilots who choose not to land with limited visibility, but there were still plenty of planes. The antique and home-built aircraft that made it in drew crowds. This year, however, belonged to the military.

"The highlight was the F-18s and the Harriers," Brockmann said. As the Harriers, commonly called "jump jets" for their ability to take off and land vertically, and the pair of F-18 Navy fighter jets took to the sky, they were received with a standing ovation on the ground. The crowd chanted "U.S.A."

Brockmann said it will be several weeks before there's a clear picture of how the show did financially but early numbers are promising, including \$30,000 of advance tickets sold online. Brockmann said the amount is \$13,000 more than the combined ticket sales for last year's event.

"We found a combination of things that worked well," he said. The addition of a classic car show this year and the return of several aerobatics performers are all possibilities for the planning of next year's event that gets under way in two months, Brockmann said. We'll sit down and sort out all the elements," he said.

By Daniel Lopez
Sentinel staff writer

A Fun Flyout

You are cordially invited to join WPA, the 99's and EAA Chapter 119 on a fly-out to the Pacific Coast Air Museum at Sonoma County Airport on Saturday, July 14, 2007. The details of the fly-out will be forthcoming after a pre-flyout scouting flight. We will combine the flight with a picnic if there is no suitable restaurant on or near the field.

Let's take this opportunity to add more flying, socializing and fun to supplement the aviation safety, education and public service we support each year. Flying with EAA 119 and the 99's will add to the enjoyment of this outing. We plan also to invite the CAP.

Stay tuned for more information.

California Flying

Jul 6 - 8 — Lompoc, CA. Lompoc Airport (KLPC). West Coast Piper Cub Fly-In. 23rd annual West Coast Cub fly-in here in the beautiful Lompoc Valley. We have a great little fly-in, small enough to allow all Piper Cub and aviation enthusiasts get to know each other, yet large enough to be lots of fun. Contact Bruce Fall, 805/733-1914

Jul 14 — Livermore, CA. Livermore Muni (KLVK). Young Eagles Rally #3. Young Eagle flights are free and available to children and young adults, ages 8-18. Space is limited for this event. Contact t. Contact Eric Helms, 925/784-7128

Jul 21 — Colusa, CA. Colusa County Airport (O08). Old Time Fly-in. Free breakfast for pilots and passengers, judging and trophies, raffle prizes, and BBQ lunch. Ends at 12:30 PM. Contact Harry Krug, 530/458-0580

Jul 21 — Novato, CA. Gness Field (KDVO). Cirrus Design Open Event. Representatives from Cirrus Design Corp will on hand at Scanlon Aviation to present the SR22. Come see the Avidyne glass cockpit, XM Satellite Weather, Skywatch, and the Cirrus Airframe Parachute System (CAPS). Contact Beth Duff, 925-683-9459

Jul 23 - 29 - Oshkosh, WI. Wittman Regional Airport (OSH) EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, "The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration," just keeps getting better year after year, according to EAA members and other loyal attendees.

Aug 4 — Livermore, CA. Livermore Muni (KLVK). Young Eagles Rally #4. The Young Eagles Program has been developed by the EAA Aviation Foundation to welcome young people into the world of aviation. Young Eagle flights are free and available to children and young adults, ages 8-18. Space is limited for this event. Contact Eric Helms, 925/784-7128

Aug 18 - 19 — Camarillo, CA. Camarillo Airport (CMA). Camarillo Air Show. Air Show presented by EAA Chapter 723 in affiliation with the 99's and Commemorative Air Force. Aerial acts include John Collver and his AT-6, Rob Harrison in a Zlin 50 LX, Bill Cornick flying the Pitts S-2C and Dr. D. in a clipped-wing Taylorcraft. Contact Larry Beckett, 805/646-7053

Aug 25 — Big Bear City, CA. Big Bear Airport (L35). Wings Over Big Bear 2007/Honoring Those Who Serve. The skies will be filled with the sights and sounds of vintage Warbirds, antique aircraft and many others. We will also have many aviation booths, souvenir, and food vendors. Contact Nancy Jones, 909/585-3219

Aug 25 — South Lake Tahoe, CA. Lake Tahoe Airport (TVL). Lake In the Sky Airshow. The 18th annual Lake In The Sky Airshow on August 25, 2007 will include an exciting air show, military and general aviation aircraft displays, a warbird fly-by, the Flying 5k Run and many other exciting events. Warbirds, homebuilts and experimental aircraft. Contact Krista Eissinger, 530-541-0480

Sept 15 - Watsonville, CA. WVI Airport Open house Saturday

User Fee Petition Online

There's no place for user fees in the world's largest, safest, most efficient air transportation system. So far nearly 60,000 pilots agreed when they signed AOPA's petition against general aviation user fees. You can help by signing this same online petition by going to https://www.aopa.org/faafundingdebate/petition_form.cfm. For complete coverage of the FAA Funding Debate, please see <http://www.aopa.org/faafundingdebate/>.

Weather Web Page

As a pilot I found myself always looking for timely and accurate weather information, but tailored to where I live or where I was going. NOAA and the National Weather service have a lot of great information along with the FAA and DUATS. Some time ago, I created a web page to collect all the good stuff that I would need as a pilot living on the Monterey Bay. It includes many web cams for this area, including the three at WVI, (so I could see what the fog was really doing), along with visible, infrared, and full motion satellite shots. There are real time RADAR shots for this area, along with full motion loops. There are also standard and full motion graphical forecasts (for wind and weather) along with one tailored for pilots by the NWS. There are also links to text forecast, discussions of area forecasts (by a certified NWS meteorologist), and on and on. If you'd like, check it out at: <http://bob.olmsted.googlepages.com/weather>

~ Bob Olmsted ~

Watsonville Pilots Association Minutes

The June meeting of the Watsonville Pilots Association was called to order by John Cowan at 7:10pm.

Minutes

- ◆ The minutes of the April meeting were approved as printed in the May newsletter.

Treasures Report

- ◆ Sarah reported that the WPA funds are sufficient for operations.
- ◆ Several months ago, there was a \$1,000 reward offered to help stop the rash of hangar break-ins. A suspect was apprehended and the reward was paid. The WPA paid \$150 towards that reward.
- ◆ The WPA donated \$120.00 to the family of Ed Nervino for a bench honoring his memory. It is placed by the terminal building facing the airport. Ed had been an active member of our association since 1988.

New Business

- ◆ On **July 27th** there will be a court hearing concerning the urban development project proposed in the Buena Vista area by the City of Watsonville and its developers. The safety of the general and the flying public are an issue here along with the future of the Watsonville Airport. **The hearing will be at the Santa Cruz County Courthouse, Department 8, at 9 AM.** Dan Chauvet and others said that they would attend. Several in the group remarked that we are very fortunate to have such an excellent and thorough attorney to help our airport in times such as these. There were also several in attendance that had reviewed the three briefs and all were rather shocked to see the cities use of language in their brief. Some words really carried a strong and misleading negative connotation. Many words were just plain derogatory.
- ◆ John Cowan asked if WPA members were up to putting together a phone tree to help solicit email addresses from some of its members. John said that "The fact we don't have these email addresses might just be an oversight and not necessarily an objection to it. I guess we should at least ask." He said that email was such an efficient way to bring vital and timely information to its members that it was worth a try. The response was positive and there were several volunteers for the task.

Announcements

- ◆ John Cowan spoke about the upcoming WPA fly-out with the Monterey Bay 99's and EAA Chapter 119 to the Pacific Coast Air Museum at Sonoma County Airport on Saturday, July 14. He said that we would combine the flight with a picnic if there were no suitable restaurants on or near the field. Please plan on joining this fun event with some of our local pilots.
- ◆ Rayvon Williams announced that The FAA Wings program would be undergoing some really big changes starting next year that would amount to a complete revamp of the system. In order to help with the transition and understanding of it, he will try to bring Jack Hocker of the FAA to a couple of our future meetings. These dates will be announced on our WPA web site and in future newsletters.

Spatial Disorientation

Rayvon Williams presented our WINGS Safety Seminar this month on Spatial Disorientation. He remarked that even he had experienced spatial disorientation on a couple of occasions. It was his IFR training that helped keep him safe. The presentation consisted mainly of viewing a DVD titled "Spatial Disorientation, The Confusion that Kills". This is an excellent video and presentation. It is a fact that 90% of all spatial disorientation accidents are fatal.

Three main rules that can help avoid this danger are:

- 1. Maintain VFR.**
 - ➔ Continued VFR into IMC is a major cause of fatal accidents caused by spatial disorientation.
 - ➔ Expectation of success, thinking, hoping that things will clear up and get better is a fatal mindset.
- 2. Fly within your capabilities.**
 - ➔ All pilots should have a well thought out set of personal minimums. You should stick to them, and only make changes to them as your ability changes. Flying into IMC is not the time to ignore this point.
- 3. Get an Instrument rating.**

Some other very smart practices are:

- ➔ Be familiar with the aircraft that you are flying.
- ➔ Be familiar with and use the Autopilot.
- ➔ Get a redundant power source. Don't just rely on one vacuum source, especially for an Attitude Indicator. Maybe a redundant electrical Attitude Indicator is the answer. Just don't put all your eggs in one basket.
- ➔ Get timely and accurate weather reports.
- ➔ Encourage PIREPS.

Next WINGS Seminar

The next Safety Presentation will be on July 25th at the next scheduled WPA meeting. The topic will be: **Using Internet Weather.** For further information on upcoming WINGS Seminars, go to the WPA Home page at <http://www.watsonvillepilots.org/> and press the **WPA "WINGS" Seminar Calendar** button.

~ Bob Olmsted ~

Fuel Prices

At WVI Fuel Island, 100LL is **\$4.16** and Jet A is **\$3.34**
(06/29/2007)
At K301 (Gustine), SS 100LL is **\$3.96** (06/29/2007)

Local Events

WPA -- meet on the last Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM in the Watsonville Aviation Ed. Center, Watsonville Airport.
EAA Chapter 119 -- meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:30 PM in the Watsonville Aviation Ed. Center, Watsonville Airport
Monterey Bay 99s -- meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM in the Watsonville Aviation Ed. Center, Watsonville Airport.
Civil Air Patrol Squadron 13 -- meet 2nd & 4th Tuesday, beginning at 7:30 PM in the Watsonville Aviation Ed. Center, Watsonville Airport.
Northern CA Aerobatics Club IAC38 -- meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month at the Livermore Municipal Airport

WPA Airport Legal Fund

Please Help WVI with Your Tax Deductible Contributions. Checks should be made to "WPA" or "Watsonville Pilots Association". On the memo line note: "legal fund". Send your contribution to: 137 Falmouth CT., Aptos, CA 95003
Thanks for Your Support

WPA Officers

Mike McIntyre:	Chairman
John Cowan:	Vice-Chairman
Charlene McIntyre:	Secretary
Sarah Chauvet:	Treasurer
Hal Zamora:	Secretary of Legal Affairs
Dan Chauvet:	As. Sec. of Legal Affairs

Committee Heads

Dan Chauvet:	WAAG
Richard Lippi:	Web Site
Randy Pesce:	Field Security
Bob Olmsted:	Newsletter Editor
Chris Olmsted:	News Ed./As. Sec.
Rayvon Williams:	AOPA/WINGS
John Cowan:	Public Relations
Brian Moffet:	Video & Media

Airport Manager: Don French

Feedback: wpanews@yahoo.com

WPA Newsletter
PO Box 135
Brookdale, CA 95007-0135

Next Meeting

7:00 PM, Wednesday, **July 25**
@ the EAA-WAEC Building
60 Aviation Way, Watsonville Airport