



Watsonville Pilots Association

"Serving Aviation and the Community"



Visit us at: www.watsonvillepilots.org

Our 25th Year January –March 2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR

A Look Ahead; a Look Back

2011-2012

The next and last public hearing by the City of Watsonville on its General Plan update will be Wednesday January 18th, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the City Hall. (see p. 3) The best way to get there is to enter the parking garage from Rodriguez Street and park on Level 6 (the top). The General Plan will profoundly affect KWVI's future.

The two previous public hearings at the Armory and City Hall demonstrated that airport land use planning was consistent with the "understanding" between WPA and the city planning department. If the General Plan update continues to reflect the understanding, there should be no further squabble—on airport land use planning.

The understanding provides that, in Buena Vista, there should be no future development in runway safety zones. The California State Land Use Planning Handbook says, "Maintain current zoning, if less than density criteria for suburban setting." The current zoning is primarily Agricultural for zones 1 through 5. The City seems to be listening to their hired airport land use planning consultants. The County plans to adopt the consultant's plan which includes WPA input. You may have read in the papers that WPA has filed a "Stipulation" reserving the right to litigate, if necessary, over zone sizes. Zone sizes are influenced by runway classification, medium vs short General Aviation runway.

In the Freedom area approach to runway 26, because of existing development, small size zones are part of the understanding.

In zone 6 (which surrounds the airport) the proposed General Plan contains 1300 homes in Buena Vista. However, at the last public hearing, Bert Post, a member of *The Friends of Buena Vista*, pointed out to the City that the courts required a reduced housing alternative. That's not the maximum 1300 planned (the total left after compliance with airport land use planning). So what would be a reduced alternative, 650 homes (a 50% reduction)? Or would it be 1299 homes (a .0076% reduction)? So the City still has some loose ends.

Looking back, in 2011, the Caltrans Division of Aeronautics completed updating of the Handbook, and issued the October 2011 edition. There is a lot of rewriting and organizational change. Of special note is page 3-20 which deals with "Adjusting Generic Safety Zone to Individual Airports." That's particularly pertinent to KWVI, as it is indicating larger zones are warranted.

Airport supporters should be commended on their attendance at the Armory public hearing on November 9th. It indicates that we are vigilant when it comes to maintaining a safe and fully functional airport.

Dan Chauvet
147 Mesa Verde Dr
Watsonville, Ca 95076

FAA Safety Team | Safer Skies Through Education

"Aircraft Accidents-Why Do They Happen"

Topic: What have we learned that can be useful in preventing us from becoming a statistic

On Wednesday, January 25, 2012 at 7:30 PM

Location:

Watsonville Aviation Education Center (WAEC)

60 Aviation Way

Watsonville, CA 95076

Description:

Twenty years of aircraft accident investigations has told me one thing. We still crash airplanes, and we still do it for the same basic reasons. Come listen to one investigators opinion on how you can prevent becoming one of the statistics. Learn a simple concept that can help you make that go no go decision next time you and your family climb into the aircraft for a weekend trip.

Lonnie Autry Receives Highest Award

The FAA once a year presents the Charles Taylor award for excellence in aircraft maintenance. It's a national award.

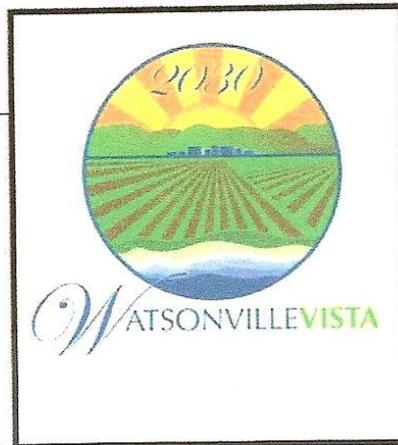
You remember Charles Taylor? Yes, he is the one who built the special engine for the Wright Brothers. Without that engine they could not have made their historic flight. Throughout his exemplary career Charles Taylor continued building the aircraft engines which allowed progress in early aviation.

On Saturday January 7th, approximately 75 pilots and mechanics, met at Frazier Lake Airpark. When Lonnie, Sr arrived at the airport he asked Lonnie Jr "How come all these chairs and tables are set up in my hangar?" "We have decided to have a barbeque lunch here" answered Lonnie Jr. When three members of the FAA's Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) from San Jose showed up, Lonnie (Sr.) became suspicious that something was going to happen, good or bad. The FAA presented the award to Lonnie honoring his 50-year distinguished career as an aircraft inspector and mechanic for General Aviation, as well as United Airlines.

It was a class act by the FAA; and a moving experience to see this fine man received this well deserved, distinguished national award.

Thanks to Jozie, lunch was good, too.

Dan Chauvet
January 11, 2012



Community Meeting on the Watsonville Vista 2030 General Plan Update

Wednesday, January 18, 2012 6-8 p.m.

*Watsonville Civic Plaza Community Room,
275 Main Street, 4th Floor*

Please join us at this community meeting to hear about and give input on the Watsonville General Plan Update. This meeting will provide a summary of the 2030 General Plan Issues identified in two previous community meetings, and provide details about the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and General Plan update process. This meeting will also serve as the General Plan (EIR) Scoping Meeting for the update of the General Plan.

For more information call: 831-768-3050

and visit our website!

<http://www.ci.watsonville.ca.us/>

Coming Events 2012

Jan 25 WPA Meeting 7:00PM
Feb 7 EAA 119 meeting 7:30
Feb 29 WPA Meeting
Aug 31, Sept 1,2 WVI Fly-In & Air-show
Oct 14 WVI Open House

DUES

DUES

WPA Dues are now due.
Please send your check for \$20.00 to:
WPA
PO Box 2074
Freedom, CA 95019

Thank you to those members whose checks have
come in already!!

WPA
PO Box 2074
Freedom, CA 95019

NEXT MEETING

7:00PM Wednesday,
Jan. 25, 2012 at EAA-WAEC Building 60
Aviation Way, Watsonville Airport

Aircraft Accidents---Why do they happen?

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. Affairs.

Committee Heads

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

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