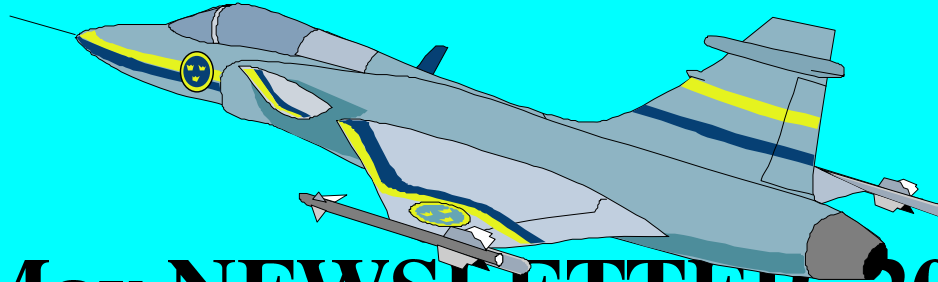
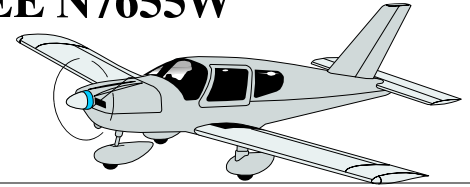


SALINAS OWNERS & PILOTS ASSOCIATION



May NEWSLETTER 2007

FROM THE PRES..... CHEROKEE N7655W



Hello SOPA Family,

The April meeting was an attendance record breaker. The guest speaker, Allie Metcalf, Salinas Tower Chief, packed them in for us with her presentation of flying IFR in the Salinas Valley. Even if you were not an IFR pilot, you still got something out of her presentation. I am pleased to announce that this years Tenant Appreciation Day is scheduled for June 23, 2007. On a sad note, Debbie Beale, Airport Secretary, for many years, turned in her resignation. She had back surgery about two months ago and is still making a recovery. She and her husband plan on opening a business of their own. Good luck Debbie! We will miss you. On another sad note. One of the Blue Angels crashed in Beaufort SC., killing the pilot. This was going to be the start of their season. I hope to see all of you at our next SOPA meeting May 8, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.

Please fly safe.

Jeff Soares

SOPA Prez



SOPA OFFICERS 2007

President ... Jeff Soares

Vice Pres ... Ray Jackson

Secretary ... Lori Atkinson

Treasurer ... Kay Harmon

Directors

Ron Harmon ... Dennis Hill

Past Pres... Pete Leonardich

WEBMASTER

Russ Wilcox ... www.salinaspilots.com

Salinas Owners & Pilots Association
Meets 2nd Tuesday each month 7:00 pm
Landing Zone Restaurant, Salinas Airport

Family Membership

Only \$15.00 Annually

(SOPA is a Non-Profit California Corp.)

To contribute to the Newsletter

contact Ray Jackson

831-758-8518 .. C150blue@sbcglobal.net

Minutes of SOPA Meeting Tuesday April 10, 2007

Start Meeting: 7:10 pm by President Jeff Soares, at The Landing Zone Restaurant

Approve minutes of March 2007 meeting

Receive Treasurers report

Communications: The SOPA members send condolences to the family of Pete Leonardich who passed away on April 6,2007. Pete was a long time SOPA member and past president. SOPA also sends condolences to the family of Tim Kelly.

Old Business: New SOPA member Dan Chauvet gave an update on the legal battle to keep Watsonville runways 26/8 open.

Jeff reports on the following: Bing Lantis is no longer with Columbia Aircraft.

John & Martha King were involved in an incident involving an ultralight they were flying ending up in lake, but all are ok.

The User Fees proposal is expected to be defeated.

There was a small single engine plane accident during the week at San Martin, no injuries reported.

A House committee probe indicates there is wide spread fraud in pilots hiding medical conditions. A number a pilot's have been caught since computer systems now link to other systems that report disability benefits and other medical conditions. These pilots are being charged with fraud.

New Business:

Light Sport Aircraft West will have their grand opening on Saturday 4-28-07. Please R.S.V.P to the invitation if you plan on attending.

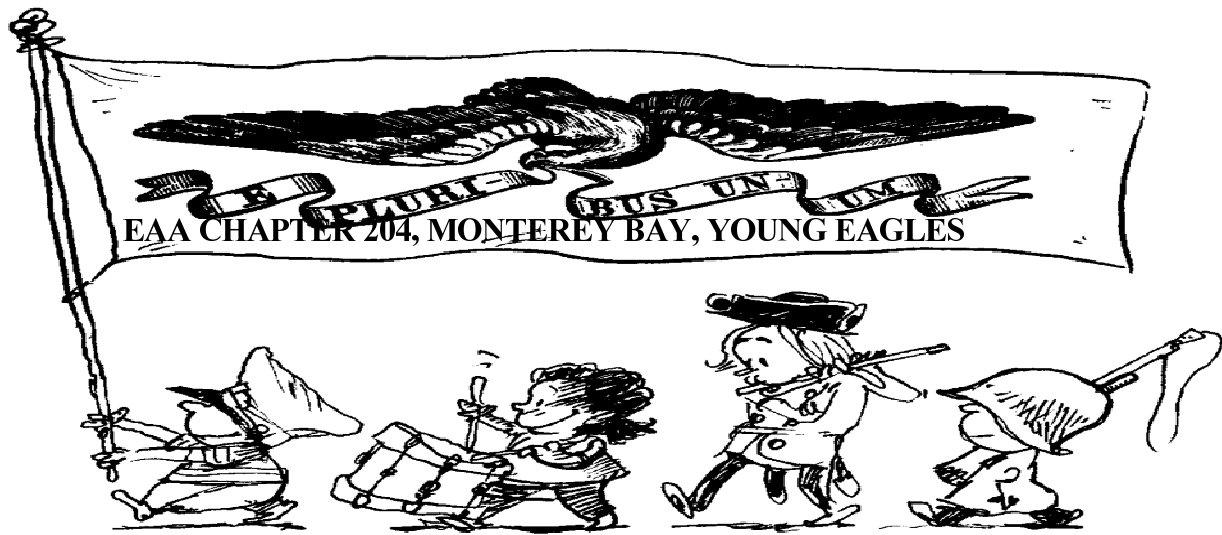
Lori reports there will be an Airport Tenants Day this year, planning sometime in June.

The next Young Eagles event at Salinas Airport has been moved up to Saturday May 12,2007.

Meeting adjourned 7:25 pm

Submitted by: Lori Atkinson

The SOPA meeting was adjourned early so ATC Manager Allie Metcalf could make a presentation on "Flying IFR in the Salinas Valley".

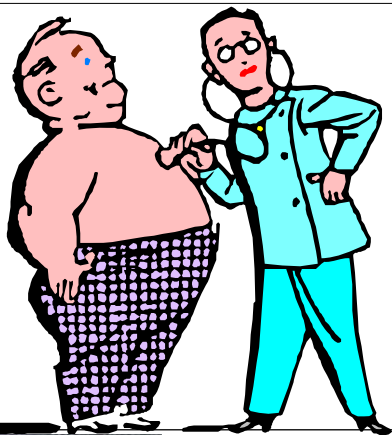


YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE ! The Young Eagle fly-out, for May, has been changed to Saturday, May 12, 2007. It was originally scheduled for May 19, but another event interfered with the outing. We will need pilots to help fly the youngsters around the Salinas Valley for their indoctrination to General Aviation. This outing will be held at the Salinas Municipal Airport starting at 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Younsters from the age of 8 to 18 are eligible to fly, as long as their parent is present to sign them in. Free hot-dog, chips and beverage for the Young Eagles and pilots who participate. Pilots, please, mark this date on your calendar we really need your help to make this outing a success. Can't you just see the smile on the kids faces? See you there!

MAINTAINING PILOT HEALTH

SNS Pilots have the rare opportunity to hear from Richard A. Hansen, M.D., AME, and a leader in preventative medicine. Dr. Hansen currently has a newspaper column and is a contributing writer/columnist with In-Flight Magazine.

Dr. Hansen is a well-known international speaker on prevention and nutrition who takes a strong interest in helping pilots maintain good health. He will be speaking on Thursday, May 10th , 6:00 p.m. at AirTrails, 280 Mortensen Avenue. Drop in for some healthful information.



SOPA PAST PRESIDENT PASSES ON

Peter Paul Leonardich, 83, passed away Friday April 6, 2007, at the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital with his wife and children by his side. Born in Watsonville on October 2, 1923, Pete made his home in Salinas since 1956.

Many of the SOPA officers were present at Pete's funeral which was held at the Madonna del Sasso church in North Salinas. SOPA Vice President, Ray Jackson, was honored to be a pall-bearer and assist Pete to his resting place in Watsonville. Pete was such an intricate part of SOPA for several years and will surely be missed by all.

Some of Pete's accomplishments: He was both an Airport Commissioner and a Traffic Safety Commissioner for the City of Salinas. He served as Vice President of Government and Community Relations for the Air Force Association, Chapter 122. He was area 21 Governor for Sons In Retirement, and was also a member of the International Air Show Committee. In Addition, Pete held other positions such as, President of the American Air Force Association, Monterey Bay Chapter, and a member of the Knights of Columbus, 4th Order. His diligent work to establish a veteran's cemetery at the previous Fort Ord Monterey site continued until his death. Pete is survived by his wife Agnus and his two children, Michael and Christine. Our most sincere condolences to Agnus and Pete's children, Michael and Christine. In a section of Pete's past history we copy this quote, "Second only to his family, Pete's love of his country, respect for those who participated in the armed forces, and flying remained the focus of his life."

A quote from his Mother Ana who was always nervous about Pete flying: "Remember Pero, fly low and slow"

Well Pete, we know you are up there watching us. Tail winds buddy! Keep a spot open for us ...your friends at SOPA.





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TENANT APPRECIATION DAY

It is just about that time again for a great Bar B. Q. ,spot landing and flour bombing contest. In addition, we will have a guest speaker and a presentation award for the Tenant of the Year. Two individuals will be honored this year, former Airport Manager, Jim Chappell and former Airport Secretary, Debbie Beale. Our guest speaker will be former United Airlines 747 Captain, Phyllis Cleveland, now retired. She was flying a 747 back to the states when 9-11 occurred. You will have to hear this story. This all will take place on June 23, 2007 and all tenants are invited. This event is solely for Salinas Municipal Airport tenants and invited guest. It is not open to the general public. Raffle tickets will be given out to those who park their airplane out on the ramp. The Airport Business Association will be donating some great gifts for the raffle drawing. This is your time to come out and have fun by participating in the event which starts an 9:00 A.M. See you there!

GRAND OPENING FOR LIGHT SPORT AIRPLANES WEST

L.S.A.W. will have its Grand Opening on April 28, 2007 at good ole SNS (Salinas Airport, for those who do not recognize the identifier) . The event will take place between 2:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M. at the terminal building and their Showroom, 70 Mortensen Ave. They will feature a ribbon cutting ceremony and an aircraft demonstration. If you are going to attend you will have to (RSVP) 888-335-1247. I understand food is involved. Light Sport Airplanes are designed to be flown under less restrictive instruction and medical-qualification rules than other general aviation aircraft. This provides opportunities for older pilots to fly longer or fly again if their medical endorsement has expired. Light Sport Aircraft currently offer eight (8) different models and is a full service business offering, sales, flight training and maintenance.

Quotations of famous people: (submitted by Milt Kurtz)

By Mark Twain: " Last week, I stated this woman was the ugliest woman I had ever seen. I have since been visited by her sister and not wish to withdraw that statement."

" Be careful of what you read in health books. You may die of a misprint."

" I am opposed to millionaires... but it would be dangerous to offer me the position"

By Eleanor Roosevelt: " I had a rose named after me and I was very flattered. But I was not pleased to read the description in the catalog: " No good in bed, but fine against the wall."

Winston Churchill: " Don't worry about avoiding temptation... as you grow older, it will avoid you"



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