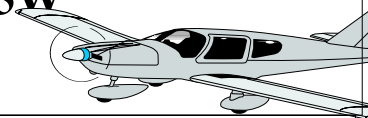


December NEWSLETTER 2008

FROM THE PRES..... CHEROKEE N7655W

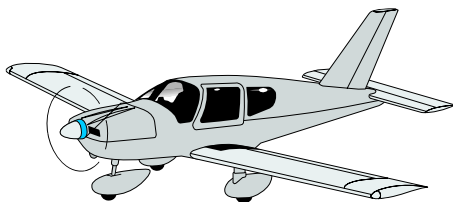


Hello SOPA family,

Just a reminder that it is that time of year to renew your membership to SOPA. We have been receiving the renewals at a steady pace and I thank all of you for your support. The SOPA Christmas Party is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9, 2008 beginning at 7:00 PM. It will be at the Landing Zone Restaurant located at the Salinas Airport. This will be a catered event and will only cost you \$10 per person. It would cost you more but SOPA is covering part of the cost for everybody. Speaking of the Landing Zone restaurant, they were featured in the Food Section of the Salinas Californian. A food critic gave them high praise for their food and airport ambiance. The aviation gas prices are dropping steadily. Don't fly to Marina for fuel when Salinas has it much cheaper. 100LL at Marina is a whopping \$5.66. Salinas is only \$4.70. The winner for prices is Hollister at \$3.58. South County is \$3.59 and Watsonville is \$3.88 for 100LL.&n bsp;The SOPA officer elections were held at the last SOPA meeting. I would like to thank our 2008 officers for sticking it out for another year. SOPA is financially strong and is moving in the right direction. Your 2009 officers are: President, Jeff Soares, Vice-President, Ray Jackson, Secretary, Lori Atkinson, Treasurer, Kay Harmon, Board of Directors, Dennis King, Ron Harmon, John Gianelli. Web Master, Russ Wilcox.

Happy Holidays to you all.

Jeff Soares
SOPA Prez...



SOPA OFFICERS 2009

President --Jeff Soares

Vice President--Ray Jackson

Secretary-- Lori Atkinson

Treasurer--Kay Harmon

DIRECTORS

RON HARMON -- DENNIS KING

JOHN GIANELLI

WEBMASTER

RUSS WILCOX -- WWW.SALINASPILOTS.COM

SALINAS OWNERS & PILOTS ASSOCIATION

Meets 2nd Tuesday each month 7:00 p.m.

in The Landing Zone Restaurant, Salinas Airport

Family Membership

Only \$15.00 Annu ally

(SOPA is a Non-profit California Corporation)

To contribute to the Newsletter

contact Ray Jackson

758-8518 - C150Blue@gmail.com

Start Meeting: 7:05 p.m. by Pres. Jeff Soares, at The Landing Zone Restaurant

Approve minutes of October 2008 meeting

Receive Treasurers report

Election of Officers: Jeff Soares request nominations for SOPA Officers for 2009. Jim Shumaker made a motion to elect the 2008 officers for 2009. Motion was second and approved by those present. Slate of Officers as follows: Jeff Soares –President, Ray Jackson-Vice President, Kay Harmon-Treasurer, Lori Atkinson-Secretary, & Directors Ron Harmon, Dennis King, John Gianelli

Old Business: None to report.

New Business: SOPA membership renewals will be mailed out. The price will remain \$15.00 for member, \$45.00 for sponsors..

Kay made a motion SOPA participate in “Share Your Holidays” with KSBW TV and donate a check for \$500.00. Funds and items are collected every Christmas for the Salvation Army. Kay feels it is important for SOPA to be involved in the community. Lori seconds the motion the motion and the majority present approved.

Jeff gave an update on the AOPA Convention.

Dennis King reports NOAA Officers are paying visits to pilots flying under 1000 ft over the Monterey Bay Sanctuary.

Lori gave an update on the Yanks Air Museum and Thanked SOPA for the letter of support to the County Board of Supervisors. The project is moving forward, and will be located in Greenfield off Thorne Rd.

Ray and Dennis gave an update on the search for Andy Cowan’s relatives, sadly no luck to date.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by: Lori Atkinson

AEROCAR SERIAL NUMBER 2 ON EBAY

The Moulton B. Taylor Aerocar registered N103D and built in 1956 has become available through auction on eBay. The seller claims it is a Model One and carries the manufacturer serial number of "2." The Aerocar is an FAA-registered aircraft that can cruise at 100 mph for about 300 miles in the air. When operated without its removable wings and tail, it becomes a roadable vehicle capable of legal highway driving while towing its aerodynamic appendages. This particular one comes complete with 1,103 hours of flight time and 303.3 hours of road time. The vehicle is powered by a 160-hp Lycoming O-340B1A that's seen 22 hours since its last major overhaul. Those interested in flying it should know that the vehicle had its last annual inspection in 1976. Those interested in purchasing it should know that the listed "buy it now price" is \$3.5 million. Merry Christmas. For reference, at the time we posted this story, the same seller was offering a 1973 Boeing 727-200 for just under \$3 million. The Aerocar auction ends Dec. 16, and all potential buyers must be approved by the seller before they're allowed to bid. Or you can bypass the whole bidding war and contact the seller directly through the Web site

NASCAR SUES CESSNA

The fatal crash of a Cessna 310R into a Sanford, Fla., neighborhood on July 10, 2007, has spawned a lawsuit prior to release of the NTSB's final report on the crash. Michael Klemm, a NASCAR pilot, and Bruce Kennedy were killed when the aircraft attempted an emergency landing, clipped a tree and crashed into two houses, in which three more people died as a result of the crash. NASCAR has already paid at least \$1 million to Klemm's family and is seeking reimbursement for its payments to family members of those killed on the ground. Early investigations by the NTSB cited an aircraft mechanic's testimony that Klemm was aware of squawks with the aircraft, though the extent of his understanding of the reported problem is unknown. Aircraft records found at the accident site record a notation written by the pilot of the previous day's flight, which described a "smell of electrical components burning." According to the NTSB, there is no evidence that action was taken to address the issue. There were no witnesses found by the NTSB who could recall seeing either Klemm or Kennedy (who held a commercial pilot certificate) reviewing the aircraft's discrepancy log prior to the flight. NASCAR believes the accident was caused by faulty wiring installed by Cessna when the aircraft was built, back in 1977. Its attorneys allege that "the incident was entirely due to the negligence or fault" of Cessna and "not the negligence or fault" of NASCAR, according to Daytona Beach's News-Journal Online. Cessna's lawyers were not available for comment

AOPA: EXPECT INFO SHARED FROM YOUR MEDICAL APPLICATION

Changes on your application for a medical certificate will lead to more information collected by your AME that can be shared with other federal agencies, all with the blessing of changes made to the Privacy Act Statement covering the application, according to AOPA. The information sharing is intended to provide other federal agencies with access to your responses for the purpose of checking the accuracy and completeness of other information available to those agencies. For example, pilots seeking a medical from their doctor will respond to a new question that inquires about whether or not they receive medical disability benefits, and other agencies may use that information to help discover Social Security fraud. .



CITY COUNCIL APPROVES HANGAR RENT INCREASE

December 2, 2008, the Salinas City Council approved a 2.8 % Consumer Price Index rent increase for all hangars at the request of Salinas Municipal Airport Manager, Gary Petersen. In conjunction, with the request, an added 40 % increase was included for the North side hangars, the oldest hangars and least expensive on the airport. According to Mr. Petersen, "A discussion with the Salinas Airport Commission recognized a need for increasing the rent of lower priced hangars, separate from CPI, to equalize the rents for these hangars with similar hangars on the Airport." The CPI rent increase falls in line with Mr. Petersen's policy to use the San Francisco Bay Area Consumer Price Index (CPI), measured each year from February to February, for review of hangar rent increases the coming year. The Salinas Owners & Pilots Association, with exception of some who have hangars on the North side of the field, accepted Mr. Petersen's recommendation for the increase based on his presentation. Mr. Petersen indicated, in his presentation, the need to fully recover the costs of operating and maintaining Airport hangars. In addition, the Airport Enterprise Fund would remain effective for future funding of airport projects. SOPA President, Jeff Soare's, suggested the rent increase be divided into two year segment to alleviate the tenants cash outlay. That suggestion was also approved by the Airport Commission and passed on to City Council .

WHAT'S COMING UP FOR 2009?

According to Salinas Municipal Airport Manager, Gary Petersen, here is some of the items on next years agenda: The California International Airshow will be August 8th & 9th this coming year. The "Blues" will be here, that is, the United States Navy Blue Angels.

The airport expects to receive Federal Grants to rehabilitate taxiway "D" so that it is more clearly separated from the transient ramp. They also plan to extend the taxi lane in front of the "R" hangars to connect with the south side run up area at runway "8" and continue to improve gates and fencing. Additionally, the airport plans to use Grant funding to complete the Airport Master Plan that will look at development over the next ten years. This will include working closely with the City and Hartnell College to make the best possible use of our eastside airport property. Included in the Master plan will be the painting of the hangars and build stronger ties with the local community by supporting the Young Eagles Program. Last, but not least, in these tough economic times the management will closely watch the airport enterprise fund bottom line to ensure that our airport remains solvent well into the future. Ensuring that this airport remains vital and self supporting is the most important work we all have to do.



A Thank You To Our Sponsors

CENTRAL COAST AVIATION SERV.

Gary Vincenz, Owner-President
50 Mortensen Ave. Salinas Ca 93905
(831)422-7488

RAPID PRINTING SERVICE

Glynn Dennis, managing owner
554 E. Alisal St. Salinas, CA
(831) 757-3636

NEW STAR CERES, Fresh Foods

Mitch Secondo, Managing Director
900 Work St. Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 758-7958 (831) 758-7514 fax

CAL PACIFIC AIRMOTIVE, INC.

FAA certified repair station
North American P-51 Airframe
Assemblies. Art Teeters, Owner
1330 Mercer Ave. Salinas, CA
(831)422-6860

CALIFORNIA INTL. AIRSHOW

Harry Wardwell, Executive Director
P.O. Box 1448, Salinas, CA 93902
831-754-1983 , Business
831-754-0808 Fax

GOLD COAST AVIATION SERV.

general aircraft & helicopter service
Municipal Airport, Salinas, CA
Larry Lujan, Owner, 831-424-9218

AIRMOTIVE SPECIALTIES, INC.

Aircraft services, structures & restorations
Dave Teeters, Owner
37 Mortensen Ave. Salinas, CA
831-757-7154 bus., 831-757-1373 fax

NORM YOP REALTORS

1418 S. Main Street. Ste.102
Salinas, CA 93908
831-424-1593

TIERNEY VAWTER

MEDICAL CORPORATION (AME)
530 Ramona Ave. Monterey, CA
831-647-8700
Dr. Vawter, good A.M.E.

RUSS WILCOX

STATE FARM INSURANCE
688 E. Boranda Rd.
Salinas, CA (831-443-1001)

GARY TOUVINEN, CFI

Professional Pilot
18 Hitchcock Road
Salinas, CA (229-0815 cell)

J. GRIGG De WITT, D.D.S.

restorative, prosthetic & general
dentistry. 408 S. Main Street, Salinas
Old Town Dental care, 831-424-7878

AIRPLANE COMPANY

Aircraft Maintenance
Dave Reek, Owner.
1585 Moffett St. Salinas, CA
831-753-1077

CECO. CUSTOM EQUIPMENT

.Fabrication & Design, Steel,
Aluminum, Stainless
771 Vertin Ave. Salinas, CA 93901
Buddy Robinson, President
Bus. 831-758-9891 Cell 809-0938

SCOTT BOGDEN

13370 Llagas Avenue
San Martin, CA 95046
408-683-9131

ADVANCETECH AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE, INC.

Bruce Pittenger, Owner
1605 Moffett St. Salinas,
CA, 93905
Bus. 831-422-2167