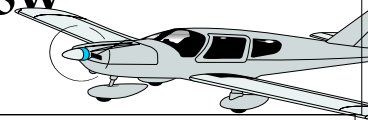


## April NEWSLETTER 2009

**FROM THE PRES..... CHEROKEE N7655W**



Hello SOPA Family,

For those of you that had not heard, Jim Cheatham, owner of Air Trails, Verticare and front man for the Show Copters passed away March 11, 2009. Jim was a former member and sponsor of SOPA. Jim will be dearly missed. The airport had a dedication to the new mural painted on the terminal building on April 4, 2009. If you have a chance, stop and take a look. The mural was painted by Art Sirordia. This looks like a lot of fun. EAA Chapter 90 will be having a Poker Run on April 11th. Details can be found at [www.eaa90.org](http://www.eaa90.org). Prizes will be awarded for Best and Worst Hand, as well as door prizes. Chapter 90 is located at the Oakdale Airport (O27). I will be going so email me if you want to caravan to Oakdale. HELP, HELP! Saturday, April 18, 2009, is the big special event in which Watsonville provides airplane rides for about 500 kids with disabilities. These are Yong Eagle flights. They are short a lot of pilots and need your help. Contact Dean McCully [dean@dmccully.com](mailto:dean@dmccully.com). Come join us at our next SOPA meeting on the second Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 7:00 PM. A lot of us meet at the Landing Zone restaurant at 6:00 PM before the meeting for dinner and great conversation.

Fly Safe!

Jeff Soares  
SOPA Prez...



### **SOPA OFFICERS 2009**

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**in The Landing Zone Restaurant, Salinas Airport**

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**(SOPA is a Non-profit California Corporation)**

**To contribute to the Newsletter**

**contact Ray Jackson**

**758-8518 - C150Blue@gmail.com**

## Minutes of SOPA Meeting Tuesday March 10, 2009

**Start Meeting: 7:30 p.m. by Pres. Jeff Soares, at The Landing Zone Restaurant.**

**Approve minutes of February 2009 meeting with correction: Young Eagles event is Saturday April 4th 2009, not the 14th.**

**Receive Treasurers report**

**Communications: The SOPA website is temporarily down due to technical problems.**

**SOPA sends best wishes to Mark Nicolayev and Buddy Robinson.**

**Old Business: Jeff reported on the Intercollegiate competition at Salinas in February, and Central Coast Aviation's Spring Fling fuel special. Fuel was discounted \$0.20 and included a bottle of wine.**

**New Business: Jeff reported on an AOPA article regarding the increase of low flying incidents and how ground witnesses can be inaccurate in their reporting.**

**Jeff reports on aviation news, including the failing TSA LASP ruling. SOPA sent a letter of support opposing the ruling.**

**Marina airport's AWAS is working, frequency 134.025.**

**The Hayward Air Rally to Oregon will take place in June. This event is a proficiency race. Jeff will get more information.**

**Watsonville Post Northern Central Ca. Pilots will be flying disabled persons on April 18th and ask for pilot volunteers.**

**March 1, 2009 the Monterey Tower declared an "Area of Non Visibility" for the runway 28 left run up area.**

**The March mystery trip was postponed. It will be rescheduled at a later date.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Submitted by: Lori Atkinson**

## EAA 204 Young Eagles fly-out

Saturday, April 4, 2009. The sun was shining and the weather was just right to give the youngsters a ride.

Members of Monterey Bay chapter, EAA 204, in conjunction with members of the Salinas Owners & Pilots Association, rose to the occasion and treated 23 children to their first ride in a small plane. Chapter President, Pat Smith, led the ground crew with his assistants, Sheridan Smith, Lori Atkinson, Roc Trout, Bob Belcher, Pete Fernell, and Ray Jackson. Pilots for this fly-out were Russ Wilcox, Jim Shumaker and Dennis King. The children were treated to a free turkey dog, punch and chips after their ride. They were also presented with a certificate indicating they are now a member of the EAA Young Eagles. Our thanks to all who assisted in this event. Check out the photo's on the following page. Photo's taken by Ray Jackson, Vice President of SOPA.

### FLIGHT DESIGN'S HYBRID AIRCRAFT AT AERO (AvWeb4-6-09)

Flight Design GmbH, the German creators of the popular CT line of light sport aircraft, used AERO Friedrichshafen to announce details of their work on a new hybrid engine concept. The propulsion package consists of a standard Rotax 914 turbocharged engine to which is mated a 40-hp (30 kW) electric motor. The electric motor is coupled to the propeller hub using a poly-V-belt drive that has no overloading impact on the crankshaft and, thus, allows the motor to transmit its power directly to the point where it's needed. Since the basic Rotax is left mostly untouched, its 130-hp output, combined with the electric motor's 40 hp, provide for a combined 170-hp output for the hybrid. The electric motor will be used for takeoffs and climbs, and makes use of its full capacity over a maximum five-minute span. In cruise, power comes entirely from running the gas engine at full power. Twenty minutes is required for a full recharge on the 25 kilos of lithium ion batteries that power the electric motor.

### Student pilot arrested after flying stolen plane from Canada (AOPA e-Brief)

The student pilot suspected of stealing a single-engine, four-seat Cessna airplane from a flight school in Thunder Bay, Ont., was arrested on a rural road in southeastern Missouri, where he landed the airplane on Monday. The pilot failed to respond when the Cessna 172 was intercepted by U.S. F-16 jets over Wisconsin, where it prompted the evacuation of the state capitol in Madison. AOPA President Craig Fuller praised U.S. and Canadian authorities for their handling of the matter and noted that the outcome "demonstrates the effectiveness of today's security procedures." The Guardian (London)/The Associated Press

### GA is not a "luxury item" (AOPA E-Brief)

By reaching out to educate state legislators about the importance of general aviation to the economy, AOPA has stopped a damaging bill in Illinois that would classify GA airplanes as "luxury items" and impose an additional tax on them. But fundamental misperceptions about the role of GA persist across the country. That's the case in Oregon, where state legislators recently proposed a similar tax that classifies airplanes as luxury items, along with purchases such as fur coats, cosmetic surgery, and even expensive artwork

## SOME SILLY STUFF

1. Why is it that most nudist are people you do nt want to see nude
2. Isn't having a smoking section in a restaurant like having a peeing section in a swimming pool?
3. How long a minute is; depends on what side of the bathroom door you are on.

**PHOTO'S FROM THE YOUNG EAGLE 'S FLY-OUT April 4,2009**



**Lori, Roc and Bob at sign in table**



**EAA 204 Prez. Pat Smith "Zero's" in on next Eagle**



**Russ Wilcox explains how his plane fly's**



**Jim Shumaker and co-pilot gives the "Ready sign"**



**Dennis King seats "Hoodie" in his Bonanza**



**Mom & kids wave good-bye to their brother in Russ's plane.**



**"Hey" where's the pilot?**



**Peter Fernell shows off his home built as Lori and others examine his work.**



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