



June NEWSLETTER 2009

FROM THE PRES..... CHEROKEE N7655W

Hello SOPA family,

Saturday, June 6, 2009 is the 7th Annual Salinas Airport Tenant Appreciation Day. This is a day to appreciate all of the tenants at the airport from the City of Salinas and the Airport Manager and his staff. SOPA is a cosponsor and so that means all SOPA members are invited. Registration begins at 8:30 am. You will receive some cool swag just for registering. You will also receive a free raffle ticket for a chance to win some great prizes donated by the airport and community businesses. If you bring your plane out and park it on the ramp you will receive a special raffle ticket which can be obtained at the SOPA table. This is for a chance to take a ride with Sean D. Tucker. The bomb drop and spot landing contest mandatory safety briefing starts at 9:30. After that we will all walk out to the heliport for a plaque dedication for Jim Cheetham who passed away earlier this year. After the contest, we will honor our good friend Dennis King for all of his contributions to all of us at the Salinas airport. Our airport manager Gary Petersen will provide us with a state of the airport address and then it is lunch time. Lunch is catered by the Landing Zone Restaurant. This event is totally FREE!

I hope you find the time to attend.

Jeff Soares

SOPA Prez...



SOPA OFFICERS 2009

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

in The Landing Zone Restaurant, Salinas Airport

Family Membership

Only \$15.00 Annually

(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 May 12, 2009

Start Meeting: 7:10 p.m. by Pres. Jeff Soares, at The Landing Zone Restaurant.

Approve minutes of April 2009 meeting.

Receive Treasurers report

Old Business: Airport Tenant's Day is Saturday June 6th. Dennis King will be honored.

New Business: Jeff gave an update on the Stimulus funds grant and the first phase of improvements to include the south side of the airport.

Bill Sabo reported on the ALUC training for Airport Commissioners, it was well attended.

Jeff reports the latest news;

The Transportation Dept has conformed in Fiscal year 2011 G/A User Fees will take affect.

Pilots flying internationally as of 5-18-09 will have to ID the passengers on the aircraft, and flying to Canada will not require a 406 mz ELT.

The Department of Transportation reports last year the FAA Services website was highly prone to hacker attacks.

The 7th Annual Aviation Planning Symposium was held in Pacific Grove May 3-6. They focused on the future of GA and expect a projected growth of 1.3% through 2025.

Jeff reports on his participation in the Air Rally at Tracy.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Submitted by: Lori Atkinson



DENNIS KING TO BE HONORED

Tenants Appreciation day will be Saturday, June 6 and Dennis King will be the special honoree. Dennis is a retired 747 pilot who used to fly for the old Flying Tiger company, which is now

End Ex

Fed Ex. Above, Dennis is assisting a young man in Dennis's Bonanza during an EAA Chapter 204 Young Eagles Fly-Out. His enjoyment working with the kids is one of his favorite past times but his volunteering doesn't stop there. Many of his fellow pilots as well as the Airport business's have enjoyed the help Dennis has given them. He is one of the Directors of planning for the Salinas Owners & Pilots Association, a member of Monterey Bay EAA Chapter 204, a member of the Quiet Birdmen Organization plus an A&P mechanic. I can personally state if it were not for Dennis's help many of the pilots aircraft would be grounded today. He is a super person that is just always there to assist and we are all thankful for his generosity. Come out and meet Dennis next Saturday.

PRESIDENTIAL TFR BUSTED SIX TIMES (Have you checked TFR's before flight)

Flight restrictions in place Wednesday and Thursday last week relating to President Barack Obama's visit to Los Angeles apparently caught six pilots unaware and they may now all pay for their it. Each one may now face anything from certificate suspension to revocation. During Obama's overnight in Los Angeles (where he attended a Democratic Party fundraiser) the FAA placed temporary flight restrictions on flights near LAX, Santa Monica, Hawthorne Municipal, Van Nuys and Burbank airports. Five pilots managed to violate provisions that allowed them to fly 12 to 30 miles from Santa Monica airport and one pilot violated the 12-mile restriction that surrounded that airport, FAA spokesman Ian Gregor said. The TFRs were broadly announced, including non-specific mention in newspapers and local TV news broadcasts ahead of the president's visit.

Light sport aircraft: Little giant (AOPA)

Light sport aircraft are no longer the curiosity they once were. With many manufacturers bringing new models to the U.S. market, you might not take more than a passing glance at an LSA if one were to taxi by at your airport. But if you should happen to see a Tecnam Eaglet on the ramp with futuristic-looking wheelpants and a one-piece windshield, walk over and give it a once-over.

NO HANGAR RENT INCREASE THIS YEAR

Normally, this time of year. Gary Petersen, Salinas Airport Manager, has checked the Consumer Price Index, in the San Francisco Bay Area to see if it will be necessary to raise hangar rents again. At the last Airport Commission meeting he stated he would not be doing that this year. Obviously, the economy is so devastated it would not support raising rent on the hangars. Mr. Petersen stated all City employees consented to a 10 percent decrease in salary to help the City pay its bills.

Piston aircraft still in search of the perfect fuel (AOPA)

It's been about two decades since general aviation adopted 100-octane, low-lead avgas, and plane makers say the need for unleaded fuel has become intense. Besides environmental concerns over emissions from tens of thousands of piston aircraft, there is also the issue of availability. Only one major supplier produces the additive needed for all of the world's piston aircraft, so an interruption in supply -- or a sharp increase in price -- could wreak havoc. The two most likely replacements for today's avgas both come with unique disadvantages. An unleaded, petroleum-based fuel would require physical modifications of high-performance aircraft, while synthetic biofuels require further testing and proof they can meet demand.

Neither rain, nor snow, nor budget cuts...

A change of heart by the U.S. Postal Service means that a few residents scattered throughout a remote section of rural Idaho will continue to see Ray Arnold every Wednesday, just as they have for 34 years. The 72-year-old pilot and mailman uses a Cessna 185 to deliver letters and packages in a region so inhospitable that surface delivery is impossible. To residents, Arnold is more than just a mailman. "There's a tremendous community among the people in this canyon," says rancher Doug Tims, adding that Arnold is "the thread that ties it all together." The New York Times (5/29)

North Las Vegas flight ban averted (AOPA)

Whether you fly light general aviation, business, or experimental aircraft, you are welcome to fly into Nevada's North Las Vegas Airport. State legislators made that clear May 26. Instead of restricting certain aircraft from the airport, they adopted a resolution focusing on enhancing safety

California airport to open new Museum of Flying

The Santa Monica Airport has announced plans to build a Museum of Flying that is scheduled to open by the end of the year. The California museum will exhibit the history of the Douglas Aircraft Co. and feature a Douglas World Cruiser in addition to about 20 other aircraft. The new museum will also feature a flight simulator, library and 25 parking spaces. Santa Monica Mirror (Calif.) (5/28)



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