

Auburn Aviation Association

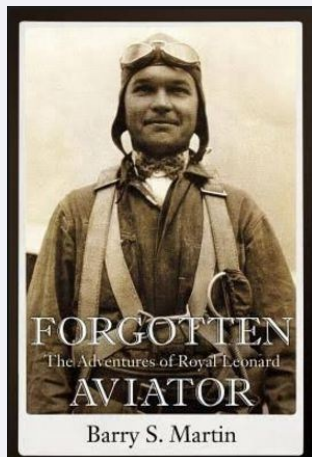


PROP WASH

May 2017

President's Message

MEETING



Wednesday May 3rd

Membership Meeting & Potluck

Socializing starts at 5:30 p.m.,

meeting at 6:00 p.m. Barry Martin, author of **Forgotten Aviator: The**

Adventures of Royal Leonard will present at our May 3rd meeting. Royal Leonard (1905-1962) flew in and out of aviation history - just on the edge of fame.

His exploits mirror important developments in the Golden Age of American Aviation (1925-1941) and the Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945). "If Royal's story were told in a novel," says long-time China pilot and author Felix Smith, "nobody would believe it all could have happened to one man." Copies of the book will be on sale for \$18.00.

MAY POTLUCK MENU

Bring a dish to share:

A-L—Main Dish

M-Q—Dessert

R-Z—Side or Salad

Remembering 42 Years Ago

Saigon Evacuation April 29-30, 1975

As a veteran of that much maligned war, I look back at what the Navy, Marine Corp and Military Sealift Command ships undertook and am proud of what we accomplished. In JUST TWO DAYS the following transpired including the largest helicopter evacuation in humanitarian history.

- 44,000 seaborne evacuees
- 5,595 Vietnamese evacuated via helicopters
- 1,373 Americans evacuated via helos
- 81 American military helos flew refugees to aircraft carriers
- 45 UH-1 Hueys were pushed overboard
- 38 Americans choose to stay behind
- 4 Aircraft Carriers: *Enterprise, Coral Sea, Midway & Hancock*
- 2 Casualties - the last two deaths of the Vietnam Conflict.

The Vietnam War's final count 58,220 died, 303,644 wounded out of the total 2,594,000 U.S. Armed Forces personal who served. The math works out that 14% of our troops either died or were wounded.

As we sailed out of Subic Bay, Philippines, the harbor was jammed with U.S. amphibious troop landers full of men, women and families who were soon to be known collectively as "Boat People". My thoughts were they are glad they had escaped Communism rule. What they faced was unknown for them or for our country absorbing so many refugees. In just eight months, 42 years ago, during 1975, a staggering 125,000 left their country and moved to four Tent Cities to be "absorbed" into American culture.

When seen over the last 4 decades just how industrious they have been and how happily they live here it's reaffirming that American is a "melting Pot" for refugees. There are now 1,300,00 Vietnamese in the U.S. and they make up the 6th largest minority in our country.

Out of the War Zone chaos of seeing South Vietnam fall, our country has gained new citizens who have strengthened the fabric of this nation.

During the last weekend in May, take a moment and acknowledge my fallen brethren – from any of our country's wars. All service personnel gave some, some gave all. THAT is the purpose of Memorial Day; to honor fallen military personnel.

Fair Winds,
Tim

Photo: Ensign Pinkney ready to serve his country and would 3 years later during the Evacuation of Saigon ending the Vietnam War in April 1975.



April showers bring May Flowers and our rains should be stopping any time now. This would be a perfect time to visit the wild flowers in Death Valley. It's a two hour flight in a 172 to Furnace Creek Airport there. Death Valley has an FBO, camping, and other lodging nearby. By landing at Furnace Creek, you get the distinction of having landed below sea level. You can make an entry in your logbook of landing at 211 feet below Mean Sea Level. (Or 211 feet BSL-Below Sea Level). Of course, we will have our own flower display soon in the foothills.



The following people have reached a milestone in flying since our last column. Ahmed Elebiary soloed a Cessna 172 with Mike Poteet as his instructor. Blake Sortor passed his Commercial check ride. Blake found himself in a predicament before his check ride because the airplane he was going to use for his check ride had broken

down. He went searching for an airplane and found Sunshine Flyers. We felt pretty good in being able to help him out even though all we did was rent him an airplane for a couple of hours. Waylon Hall passed his Private Pilot Knowledge Test. Waylon already earned his LSA Certificate last year and is now moving up with his ratings. Doug McDougall passed his Instrument Rating – Airplane Knowledge Test. Not to be out done, Dan Garcia passed his Fundamentals of Instruction (FOI) and Certified Flight Instructor – Airplane knowledge tests. Dan is now on his way to earning one of the hardest of all the pilot rating; Flight Instructor. Congratulations to all on a job well done.

While on the subject of the next generation supporting aviation, Diane Hammer and Ben Foss have taken on the task of creating several fundraising events over the next six month. Ben made a presentation at our last AAA meeting for his “Friday Flyday” events and is preparing the first event for the third week in June. The event will feature airplane rides, live music, both aircraft and car static displays, and free food (That should get all of the pilots there). All of the money raised will

be given to a local non-profit organizations. Each month a different non-profit will benefit from our generosity. If anyone wishes to help, please call Diane at Sunshine Flyers. Julia Roberts and John Herndon, of Mach 5 fame, are planning their movie nights on the Saturdays following the “Friday Flydays.” Give them a call for more details. It sure is nice to see this kind of activity to help bring in people from town to experience our airport. This is the next generation to take over what we have all started many years ago and should go on for many years to come. Thank you Ben Foss, Diane Hammer, Julia Roberts, and John Herndon for all your efforts now and in the future.

This past weekend we had the interviews for the AAA Scholarships. Approximately fifteen candidates applied and interviews were conducted for most of the day with three more to be scheduled at a later date. Because of the delay in completing all of the interviews, the results will be announced at the June meeting and perhaps in the next newsletter. It really is nice to see the next generation taking an interest in flying at whatever level they wish to achieve. Congratulations to all for applying to our scholarship and starting this great



adventure of flying. Read a report from the Scholarship Committee on page 6.

Well that is about all for this month, so may everyone go out and enjoy the blue skies and warm weather to come. I look forward to next month's article by Diane Hammer about her ride along with the CHP. Good Night Miss Daisy.

The Prop Turner
Mike Duncan

Photos: Above, our scholarship committee from left to right: Walt Wilson, Marcia Winborne-Graven, Tim Pinkney, Wayne Mooneyham, Don Wolfe and Robert Hewett. Credit: Bonnie Wilson. At left: Ahmed Elebiary has a lot to smile about. Besides his special shirt he wore just for this occasion, he soloed Monday Apr. 3, 2017 in a Cessna 172! Shown here with his Instructor Mike Poteet, not shown Jeremy Larsen & best of all his proud Mom Soad Elesawy. Congratulations Ahmed!"

Mach 5 Musings

By John Herndon, General Manager

Keeping with the theme of spring flowers, planting seeds and nurturing new growth, we had the pleasure to host the kids from Sierra Hills Elementary School. Our very own Nick DiPeso was their guide. If you saw the smile on Nick's face as he talked with the kids, you would wonder who was really having all the fun! Besides getting to see the planes at Mach 5, the kids got a tour of the Flyers Energy hanger. Special thanks to Ken Dwelle for taking the time to show the kids around. Both Ken and Nick know how important it is to plant the aviation seed in the minds of our young.

How many of you got to see the French flight demonstration team Patrouille de France perform at Mather Field? Mach 5 owner and California Capital Airshow Executive Director Darcy Brewer brought the French to Sacramento for their only West Coast performance. Kudos to the California

Capital Airshow and its multitude of volunteers for putting together such a great event.

Achievements for the month saw Andy Massagli getting his commercial pilot license and Ed Jayousi adding instrument and multi-engine ratings. After celebrating his accomplishment with family and friends, Andy immediately left Auburn for an interview with a regional airline. Not to be outdone, Ed will be heading overseas shortly building multi-engine time ferrying planes around Europe and the Middle East.

On the lighter side, Mike Callaham and his buddy loaded surfboards into the Warrior and headed to Santa Cruz to catch some waves. Cowabunga!

Some final notes, Private Pilot Ground School coming up June 20th and come grab a burger and hotdog on Fridays. We'll keep the grill on for you!



Photos



Left top and left center: But will it fit? It took some maneuvering, but Mike Callahan and his buddy loaded their surfboard into the Warrior and headed to Santa Cruz to catch some waves.



Above and at left: A class from Sierra Hills Elementary School visited the airport and got a tour at Mach 5 and in the Flyers hangar. Thanks to Ken Dwelle and Nick DiPeso for talking with the group. I'll bet the kids can't wait until they can reach the rudder pedals.

Photos

HONORING DUANE RUEB

Long-time member and Auburn airport supporter Duane Rueb was recognized at the April meeting for his many contributions and years of service to just about every airport event and cause we've had over the years. Duane was interviewed by Wayne Mooneyham and Don Wolfe and presented with a certificate of appreciation. Clearly, Duane is a beloved member of the Auburn Airport community.



Upper left, Wayne Mooneyham, Duane Rueb, Tim Pinkney. Left: Carolyn and Duane. Above: Cake with friends. Bottom left: Tom and Peggy Dwelle at a reception for the French acrobatic team Patrouille de France before the performance the following day. Below right: Tim Pinkney visits with the number 3 pilot of the French team in front of a Dassault-Breguet/Dornier Alpha Jet, which they have flown since 1981. The gun placements have been replaced with smoke generators. Peggy Dwelle says it's a bear to clean that red smoke residue off your plane.



AAA Scholarship News

By Don Wolfe

I've been invited to join the AAA Scholarship Committee. This month we've been interviewing young adults for the 2017 scholarship monies. As a new committee member, it has been exciting to see the energy and enthusiasm that these individuals bring to their interviews.

Aviation is a field with a strong history of mentorship. Young people with an interest in aviation are guided and supported by people like you and me. We offer advice, training and money which allow them to progress towards a career in aviation. We promote young individuals who demonstrate good behavior, good educational habits, exhibit the will to succeed, and have great attitudes.

You may remember that AAA for the first time this year will award scholarships for aircraft mechanics as well as student pilots. The two winners of the aircraft maintenance scholarships will attend the May meeting with their teacher Larry Johnson from the Sacramento City College program. The winners are Bethany Roberts and Kristopher Anselmi, both sophomores graduating in May.

It is also rewarding to see the success of our scholarship recipients. Two of these individuals, Jack Bell and James Jacobson excelled in aviation and academics while attending their first year of college this year. Jack was accepted and is attending the prestigious USAF Academy. He is working towards becoming an instructor pilot in the USAF Glider Program. Jack also hopes to become a member of the USAFA Aerobatic Glider Team.

James is attending University of North Dakota. As a member of the UND Aerobatic Team. James flew a Super Decathlon to a Second Place Finish in Sportsman category at The 2016 U.S. Nationals! Frankly, this is a remarkable achievement for anyone let alone a young man at the beginning of his aviation career.

Jack Bell and James Jacobson are Ambassadors for our Scholarship Program. They represent our community values, our scholarship program and demonstrate how far our young people can go when given the chance.

Even though our Scholarship Program is doing well, the Committee is concerned about future donations to the program. The end of the Auburn Air Fair resulted in large revenue loss. We are looking for new revenue streams to fund the program.

In a small effort to replace some of this money we've added a NEW (optional) "**Scholarship Fund Donation**" Line to the AAA Membership/Scholarship Donation Form. This will enable you to make a voluntary, tax deductible contribution to the Scholarship on an annual basis.

Thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause. The Auburn Aviation Association is "Paying It Forward to the Next Generation!"

Above right: Jack Bell was home from USAF Academy on Spring Break. At left, James Jacobson met airshow pilot Sean Tucker at a UND Aviation Scholarship Dinner.



Membership and/or Scholarship Donation Form

Auburn Aviation Association—Membership and Donation Form

Fill out and return the form payment or log on to www.auburnaviationassociation.org to use PayPal or credit card to join or to pay your annual renewal. Scholarship donations are welcome at any time.

Date: _____

Member Name:(Please PRINT) _____ Spouse: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

eMail: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Type of License (Circle One or More): Student Glider Rotorcraft Other _____

Ratings: Private Commercial CFI Instrument Other _____

Aircraft: _____

Annual Family Membership: \$30.00 Dues: _____

Name Badge: \$13.00 each Name to be printed: _____ Amount: _____

Scholarship Fund Donation (optional): Amount _____ Total: _____

Grand Total: _____

Mail form plus check payable to:
Auburn Aviation Association
PO Box 6454
Auburn CA 95604-6454

Contact:
Larry Borchert
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AAA is a 501(c)3 Corporation. Donations to the Scholarship Fund are deductible using Tax Exempt ID number: 68-0083066

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Send us your news, events, and photos!

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