

Auburn Aviation Association



September 2017

President's Message



MEETING

Wednesday

General Membership Meeting & Potluck

Socializing starts at 5:30 p.m.
and the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Women in Aviation is our
topic. Historian Carolyn
Martin will focus on Americans
from the first licensed pilot, the
daring and beautiful Harriet
Quimby, to the famous racers
and the WPA's Air Marking
Project in the 1930's to the
WWII WASP's.

SEPT POTLUCK

Please bring a dish to share

A-J: Side Dish
K-U: Main Dish
V-Z: Dessert

Fun Flying in Baja

Look out Wright Brothers! Here I come!

A week ago, while vacationing in Baja, near Ensenada, I had the opportunity to experience a new form of aviation. It was a powered ultralight hang glider.

It had a nose wheel way out front of the seats, two main landing gear and was powered by a 2 cycle engine with pusher prop. Like the Kitty Hawk Flyer, it only had fabric covering the "lifting device," because the patch of triangle shaped fabric, from my perspective, can't be called a "wing."

My pilot spoke pretty good English as he instructed me to place my left foot on the front seat and climb over it to my higher seat perched behind his, which I easily did. He buckled my narrower-than-a-car-seatbelt and, to my great surprise, there were no shoulder straps. He then told me to take my feet off his seat (which I thought would serve as a footrest.) Like SO many things in Mexico, it's not what it appears. I was instructed to spread my legs and let my feet dangle over the edge of the aluminum frame and once airborne, into the airstream. There was nothing to set place my feet on so I could brace or push myself into the seat. It felt pretty precarious!

Since the two cycle engine was going to be so noisy, the indicating of my state of mind or health was to shove a thumbs up or down in front of his face. I indicated my understanding with a thumbs up. He shouted over the idling engine, "Here we go!"

The engine behind my head came to life (I think flying jets was quieter) and we began slowly moving in the beach sand. I expected he'd "taxi" to the ocean's edge, for a firmer and much runway surface. Nope! Not in Mexico!! We bumpily started rolling and then he gunned the whirring engine even more! Two more bumps and he pulled back on the cross bar in front of his shoulders and we were airborne.

It was at that point, hanging on for dear life, I realized this was not going to be a fun-filled leisurely aeronautical experience. As we climbed away from the sand runway, it was good to see we were not going to fly over the ocean, because I didn't think my seat cushion could also be used as a floatation device. For the next 10 minutes I vacillated between being enthralled flying 300 feet above the beach goers to thinking I only had a football field to learn what the engine-out glide ratio would be. Then I remembered, I was just a passenger and it was the pilot who would controlling the flying wedge in a crisis.

As we flew by our cliffside condo, I snapped photos. But, we were too close to the rugged rocks, so I stuck my hand in front of the pilot's face and made circling motion. He responded immediately with a 20 degree left turn (that felt like 60 degrees bank) as my body quickly slid left and over the edge and into the wind stream just as we began flying over the beautiful blue Pacific Ocean. But, I was too worried about remaining a passenger and not a free fall object to enjoy the scary-but-scenic sensation. With photos retaken we headed back down the coast to



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As the Prop Turns

September 2017

Well summer is about over. Vacations are done and hopefully everyone had a good one. Labor Day is almost upon us. Folks are getting ready for school and for cooler weather. Skylar Noble earned his Private Pilot License with Greg Pellerin as his instructor and Ashley Snider as his Designated Pilot Examiner (DPE). John McCain (no, not the Senator) soloed in Auburn with Reuben Meeks as the instructor in a C-172. Additionally, Greg Pellerin soloed Andrey Petrashishin in a Cessna 172 at the Lincoln Airport. Susie Klemann got thru one of the less glorious but necessary parts of learning to fly and aced her Private Pilot Knowledge test. Paolo Melendez received his Private Pilot License out of Lincoln PGAA with Jeremy Larsen as his Instructor and Rhonda Rajaofera soloed at KAUN in a Cessna 172 with CFI Mike Poteet. Congratulations to all on a job well done.

This past month there were several fund raisers to benefit local non-profit organizations. Mach 5 had their movie night for the local Rotary Club and the Auburn Aviation Association scholarship fund. It looked like they had a great turn out; more about that in the Mach 5 Musings, p.5.



Meanwhile, Diane Hammer and Ben Foss had another successful event thru the Auburn Airport Event group to make a contribution to the Placer County Chaplaincy. Sunshine Flyers gave rides in a Cessna 172 and Don Gwinn gave rides in the Big Red Stearman for a contribution. Diane's band StickinWithIt supplied the live music and Bite My Buns did the food service. The following sponsors also made Friday Flydays possible thru

their generous donations: The Ridge Golf Course, Long Horn Meats, Royal Graphics, Eldorado Tile and Marble, Sourdough & Co. sandwiches, Doctor PC, 40 Licks Art, Auburn Needle Works, Polisso Insurance Agency, TGH, Flyers, Sunshine Flyers, Mel's Diner, Re/Max - Marcie Lerski, 49'er Printing, Thunder



Bundle, Funfinity - Indoor play Ground, Auburn Roofing, Shaker Maker, K9-101 - dog training, Cyrus Music Foundation, Blue Moon Designs, Anytime Fitness, General Gomez - arts and events, Pass Labs, Grocery Outlet, and O'Shay's Flowers. Placer County Sheriff displayed their aircraft along with a flight demonstration by the helicopter for a simulated rescue. The CHP's airplane and helicopter

were both on display and the officers there for questions. In addition to flying his Big Red Stearman, Al Casner had several of his classic motorcycles on display. The Placer Chaplaincy had a booth serving snow cones along with a booth for crime victim advocacy. Everyone seemed to have a good time and the event raised more than \$2500.00 for the Chaplaincy. Thank you all for your generosity.

Labor Day is upon us and I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday. Good Night Miss Daisy.

The Prop Turner Mike Duncan



Photos: Top left—A very happy Andrey Petrashishin soloed at Auburn in a Cessna 172. Congrats to Andrey & his CFI Greg Pellerin. Bottom left—John McCain soloed at Auburn in a Cessna 172 shown here with his CFI Reuben Meeks. Nice job John! Upper right—The skies have a new pilot, Skylar Noble passed his check ride! Shown with CFI Greg Pellerin & DPE Ashley Snider. Bottom right—California Highway Patrol Public Information Officer Traci Pierce was on hand at Friday Flydays to talk with the public.

More

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

Our local EAA group runs a Young Eagles program. Click the link for the website:
[EAA Chapter 526 Young Eagles Flights](#)

Next Auburn dates:
September 16
October 14

Registrations begin at 8:00am and end at 11:30am. In case of inclement weather, a rally will normally be postponed until the following Saturday.



Above: WINNERS from right to left, yes, right to left—Michelle Hanson (previous scholarship recipient), James Jacobson (2014 scholarship recipient), Chad Schutze (Mach 5 instructor), Grant Kaestner (Mach 5 intern), Christian Watt (2017 scholarship recipient).



Center: WWII veteran Mel Cleo visits with an old British Navy plane, the Hawker Sea Fury. Bottom: Don Meyers (far right) sent in a photo of Anderson with Mel Cleo Weston (plaid shirt), both WWII Vets. Mel was a gunner in the Navy.

Snippets

AUGUST MEETING RECAP

Traditionally there is no speaker at our August meeting, but we spontaneously asked members to tell a 3 to 5 minute "story" about an event in their aviation career - sort of an "open mic" event. We had 5 stories of near death to nearly laughing to death. Thanks to Dave Rohlfs for the idea.

Michael & Brandon Brown were the behind-the-scenes heroes as the Chefs Supreme grilling home-made hamburgers & hotdogs.

Special recognition goes to Clytie Vogt for all the shopping she did ahead to ensure enough hamburgers and Polish dogs, plus the condiments and soft drinks. Rose Horsman and Babs Crowell helped set up the food with the extra "stuff" required to make it a special meal.

All in all, it was a BBQ in the finest tradition of AAA and raised the bar for future August meetings.

At left: That's scholarship winner Robert Hewett, Scholarship Committee Director Walt Wilson, and scholarship winner Mikaela Sawaya at the August meeting.



At right: Friday Flydays founder Ben Foss presented a donation check for \$1338 to President Tim Pinkney for the scholarship fund at the August meeting.



At left: AAA member Michael Brown manned the barbecue at the August meeting. Thanks, Michael!

Below: Mach 5's fly out to Half Moon Bay ended up in Petaluma due to weather. Nevertheless, it was a worthwhile and fun event.



Above: Jon Saunders bought a Cherokee PA 28-140 which will reside here in Auburn. He and instructor Mike Poteet flew it back from the Midwest.



Mach 5 Musings

by Julia Roberts

Hot August days and nights have been happening here at Mach 5! We had another successful fly out this year, and though the marine layer thwarted our plans for the original destination to Half Moon Bay, there was still much fun had at the Petaluma Airport. Our group entirely ambushed the Two Niner-Diner, and with full stomachs and happy hearts we snapped our memorable group photo. See page 4.

There's also been much to celebrate, and for one lucky four year old it was a huge surprise! Our chief flight instructor, Andrew Moon, surprised his son Maverick with a birthday flight for him and the whole family. What a way to turn four: in the sky! Speaking of being in the sky, our latest student accomplishments include Mr. Joe Bittaker earning his private pilot's license August 19th with Josh Landry as his instructor. Brian Main had his first solo on July 28th with his instructor Josh Landry, and last but certainly not least, our student Cody Page earned his private pilot's license under the instruction of Chester Gault, August 21st.

Talk to me Goose! The movie Top Gun at our hangar was a smashing success! A large group of 200 plus moviegoers gathered for our Hangar Movie Night event on August 19th. Mach 5 was the major sponsor for the free community event, along with our other generous sponsors: The [California Capital Airshow](#), Landmark Construction, Sierra Air, and VanGo Girl Paint Parties. We had food trucks, Moonraker Brewing, and a few other vendors, all committed to donating a portion of their proceeds to the AAA in order to promote aviation to the next generation.

Julia Roberts



The Auburn Gold Country Rotary was also present with their margarita booth, and successfully raised money for their mission as well. Also, a huge thank you to our awesome group of cadets from the Civil Air Patrol's squadron 92, who donated their time and energy to aid with parking. With the awesome community involvement and satisfaction, it's safe to say there will be more Hangar Movie Nights to come! Until next time, "kick the tires and light the fires!" We'll see you around KAUN.

Blue Skies,



Events Photos



Background photo: It was a beautiful evening and the turnout was great for Hangar Movie Night at Mach 5. At left: Sunshine Flyers' own Diane Hammer plays percussion with StickinWithIt at the most recent Friday Flydays event at Sunshine Flyers. Center: Armed Services members in uniform at Hangar Movie Night. Right: A Mach5 family ready for the August fly out.

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our "airport." It was at that point, straight and level and now a 15-minutes experienced passenger, that I began to relax. I was comfortable enough, in fact, to use both hands to strangle hold my iPhone in the windstream and take a selfie.

At that point it was a fantastic sensation to buzz the beach strollers at 100 feet AGL (really AMSL) as we continued our straight in final to "Sand Dune 36R" landing on the beach at the same departure point we had 30 minutes earlier.

As the old credit card TV ad stated, "The cost was \$60, but the experience was priceless!"

Fair Winds, Tim Pinkney

The AAA Nominating Committee

presents a recommended slate of officers at the October meeting and will solicit nominations from the floor. Then the General membership will vote on the officers for the coming year. All offices are open for nomination. The term is one year starting in January. Please see the bottom of the very last page of the newsletter for a list of the officers. Contact Wayne Mooneyham (530) 878-0434.

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): __ \$20 __ \$70 __ \$120 Amount: _____

Grand Total: _____

Mail form plus check payable to:

Auburn Aviation Association

PO Box 6454

Auburn CA 95604-6454

Contact:

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Send us your news, events, and photos!

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